



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## May 6, 2013

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets  
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**WEATHER:** The weather for much of the week featured a semi-permanent area of high pressure positioned over the northeast, which resulted in plenty of sunshine, above normal daytime high temperatures, and near normal low temperatures. The only day in which some precipitation occurred was Monday when a weak trough of low pressure moved across the state with light rainfall amounts.

**CROPS:** There were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 32 percent short, 61 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Oat seedings were 67 percent complete compared with 72 percent last year and slightly higher than the five year average of 64 percent. Condition of oats was 32 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Winter wheat was rated 1 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Corn was 16 percent planted compared to 14 percent in 2012 and at the five year average. Potatoes were 32 percent planted compared to 46 percent in 2012 and below the five year average of 45 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Corn planting was underway in Jefferson County with many new seedings. In Lewis County, drier conditions allowed for a great deal of field work. Also, corn planting started and was expected to advance rapidly in the next week. St. Lawrence County reported corn planting was expected to start in the coming days. Soil temperatures should rise quickly given the recent warm and dry conditions. Farmers in Franklin County reported field conditions were quite dry allowing producers to get out into the fields, but some rain was needed to increase hay growth. In Erie County it was an excellent week for field work, but there was much dust in the air for this time of year. A shower would be welcomed on most farms. In Niagara County, winter wheat advanced rapidly, oat planting was nearly complete, and alfalfa, grass and corn seedings progressed rapidly. Ontario County producers were busy all week with prepping and planting fields as a result of the recent dry and warm temperatures. In Cortland County, field work was going full speed with the stretch of clear weather. Seedings and small grains were sprouting, while corn planting was underway. The ground was getting dry, some rain needed soon to keep crops growing. The warm dry weather is drying out the fields in Madison County. Many spring seedings were planted along with oats and corn. With nice weather this week, Otsego County producers were busy with plowing and planting new seedings. In Albany County, field work progressed significantly. Corn was planted and spring forage seedings as well. The warm, dry weather had producers in the fields planting in Rensselaer County. It was a week of perfect weather for field work in Saratoga and Washington Counties. Manure spreading, tillage, new seedings, and corn planting occurred across the area. There was little rain reported and conditions were getting dry. The weather gave farmers a great start planting corn, but rain was needed for a normal first cutting of hay. Columbia and Greene Counties started to get very dry. Farmers began to worry about the hay harvest and recent plantings. In Delaware County, plantings were in full swing. Many acres planted and many more expected as the warm weather continues. Rain was needed since the ground was on the dry side throughout both Sullivan and Delaware County. Suffolk county reported that rain was needed.

**FRUIT:** Apples were 95 percent green tip, 57 percent half-inch green to pink, 30 percent full bloom or later, and 4 percent petal fall or later. Peaches were 88 percent green tip, 57 percent half-inch green to pink, 32 percent full bloom or later, and 1 percent petal fall or later. Pears were 93 percent green tip, 66 percent half-inch green to pink, 27 percent full bloom or later, and 2 percent petal fall or later. Sweet cherries were 97 percent green tip, 71 percent half-inch green to pink, 34 percent full bloom or later, and 1 percent petal fall or later. Tart cherries were 98 percent green tip, 92 percent half-inch green to pink, 42 percent full bloom or later, and 1 percent petal fall or later. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Long Island vineyards were in bud break starting April 29. In Albany County, apple trees are moving quickly with the warm weather.

**VEGETABLE:** Sweet corn was 22 percent planted compared to 16 percent last year and was slightly ahead of the five year average of 17 percent. Onions were 24 percent planted compared to 48 percent last year and was under the 47 percent planted five year average. Snap beans are 3 percent planted compared to 5 percent last year, which was consistent with the five year average. Cabbage was 2 percent planted compared to 13 percent in 2012 and is below the five year average of 9 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Albany County, vegetable producers were planting seedlings and direct seeding a variety of vegetable crops. In Cortland County, sweet corn planting was underway.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pasture was rated 2 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 41 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Jefferson County, conditions were good for most of the county. Franklin County could use some rain to increase pasture growth. Albany County reported dry hay was in short supply so livestock producers were turning their animals out to pasture.

### **Alert! The window to respond to the Census of Agriculture is almost closed!**

**There are only a few weeks left to complete and return the 2012 Census of Agriculture.** Because time is running out, NASS may contact you or farmers in your area by phone or in person to collect information for the Census. *Help ensure you and your industry have the most complete set of agricultural statistics available for your country and county.* For more information or for help filling out your Census form, visit [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov) or call (888) 424-7828.

# Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, May 5, 2013

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° <sup>1/</sup>			Precipitation (Inches) <sup>1/</sup>			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
Albany County AP	81	44	60	9	73	115	59	0.03	-0.67	2.64	-0.85
Watertown Intl	77	43	61	12	77	125	90	0.06	-0.53	3.94	1.01
Boonville	74	42	56	9	41	42	16	0.06	-0.96	5.44	0.09
Bridgehampton	64	35	50	-3	8	44	5	0	-0.91	2.31	-2.31
Binghamton/Broome	74	44	57	7	51	85	44	0.11	-0.64	3.65	-0.01
Buffalo Intl AP	80	51	65	14	105	169	117	0.14	-0.53	4	0.66
Canton	79	41	59	10	60	70	38	0	-0.7	2.27	-1.08
Cobleskill	77	37	55	6	38	48	13	0.19	-0.58	3.55	-0.29
Dansville AP	79	44	61	11	80	168	113	0.05	-0.58	1.98	-1.28
Elmira	76	36	56	6	46	109	64	0.1	-0.57	3.14	-0.02
Franklinville	76	34	56	10	43	68	49	0.07	-0.7	4.42	0.59
Geneva Research	76	46	60	10	72	105	56	0.16	-0.52	3.14	-0.25
Glens Falls AP	82	40	59	9	67	97	59	0	-0.77	2.93	-0.6
Honeoye	79	40	61	11	78	124	74	0.07	-0.58	3.24	-0.16
Hornell Almond	76	34	55	6	38	62	30	0.08	-0.55	3.09	-0.02
Jamestown 4NE	78	41	59	11	61	110	81	0.07	-0.8	3.69	-0.75
Niagara Falls	78	46	62	11	88	134	75	0.1	-0.6	3.36	-0.29
Ithaca Cornell	76	39	57	8	52	86	47	0.09	-0.61	3.03	-0.38
New York LGA	69	47	58	2	57	171	47	0.03	-0.88	1.29	-3.15
Morrisville	77	40	57	8	50	65	34	0.18	-0.59	3.75	0.11
Massena	82	40	60	11	73	105	68	0.04	-0.53	1.84	-1.21
Norwich	79	34	55	5	37	48	11	0.11	-0.7	3.7	-0.24
Oneonta	80	30	56	8	40	56	25	0.07	-0.84	2.84	-1.29
Penn Yan	77	41	60	9	71	136	87	0.09	-0.59	2.02	-1.37
Plattsburgh Intl	79	37	57	7	52	75	36	0.03	-0.61	1.65	-1.6
Poughkeepsie AP	78	35	57	4	50	120	46	0	-0.95	1.48	-2.7
Rochester NY	78	47	64	12	98	169	107	0.12	-0.51	2.6	-0.46
Syracuse	80	45	61	9	77	137	77	0.24	-0.53	3.93	0.05
Wales	76	44	61	12	76	122	89	0.15	-0.69	4.55	0.18
Warsaw	74	46	59	12	65	88	62	0.13	-0.64	4.3	0.38

<sup>1/</sup> Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension, USDA Farm Service Agency, the National Weather Service, Agricultural Weather Information Service and other knowledgeable persons associated with New York agriculture. Their cooperation is greatly appreciated.

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