



NEW JERSEY WEEKLY CROP WEATHER

New Jersey Field Office

In Cooperation With:
 U.S. Department of Agriculture
 National Agricultural Statistics Service
 Agricultural Marketing Service
 U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A.
 Rutgers University

NOAA WEATHER RADIO STATIONS

- Allentown**
WXL-39 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.
- Atlantic City**
KHB-38 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.
- New York City**
KWO-35 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 160.55 Megahertz.
- Philadelphia**
KIH-28 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.475 Megahertz.

NEW JERSEY AUCTIONS

- Vineland**
Phone: (856)691-0721
Sales 10:00AM Daily except Sunday.
- Landisville**
Phone: (856)697-2273
Direct Sales Daily
- Swedesboro**
Phone: (856)476-0313
- Hightstown**
Phone: (609)448-0193
Auction Sales Mon-Wed-Fri-7pm

Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania Issued by Rutgers University New Brunswick NJ 8 am EDT Monday, September 18, 2006

Rainfall amounts none through tonight, one to two tenths of an inch with locally higher amounts Tuesday.

Winds for spraying south 5 mph today, south 5 to 10 mph tonight, south 5 to 10 mph Tuesday then becoming late relative humidity in percent 40 to 50 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 50 to 60 Tuesday.

Dew points mid to upper 60s through Tuesday afternoon then dropping late in the day.

Drying conditions good today, fair at best Tuesday.

Frost freeze or dew heavy dew tonight, moderate dew Tuesday night.

Percent of possible sunshine 90 today, 20 Tuesday.

There is a near zero percent probability of precipitation during the 12 hour period beginning at 8 am and ending at 8 pm that could adversely affect the performance of pesticides that require a rainfree period after application.

Temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs will remain above freezing tonight and Tuesday night, but are likely to fall below freezing the second half of the week. Conditions do not appear favorable for cranberry scald today and Tuesday.

Hay cutting will see good drying conditions today but then a chance of showers on Tuesday. Drier air will return to the region on Wednesday and continue through the remainder of the week.

Estimated soil moisture in percent of field capacity should decrease slightly today and increase slightly on Tuesday and then decreasing the remainder of the week.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period September 25, 2006 to October 1, 2006 is calling for temperatures to average near normal and precipitation to total below normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8 am September 18, 2006

Temperatures averaged near normal, averaging 62 degrees north, 65 degrees central, and 66 degrees south. Extremes were 83 degrees at Hammonton, Pomona, and Seabrook on September 18, 2006, and 42 degrees at Charlotteburg on September 12, 2006.

Weekly rainfall averaged 2.65 inches north, 2.42 inches central, and 1.40 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 4.14 inches at Toms River on September 15, 2006 to September 16, 2006.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 94 percent north, 87 percent central, and 79 percent south. Four inch soil temperatures averaged 63 degrees north, 65 degrees central, and 66 degrees south.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending 8 am Monday, September 18, 2006

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days		Soil Moisture
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				1/		
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
- Inches -			- Degrees -				- Base 50F -			
NORTH										
Belvidere Bridge	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
Canoe Brook	1.64	28.13	-.05	80	45	63	0	3060	570	96
Charlotteburg	2.40	32.41	3.96	78	42	62	2	2594	617	94
Flemington	2.56	33.90	6.93	80	44	63	-1	2912	359	96
Newton 3/	4.00	37.80	11.58	77	44	61	0	2358	126	96
CENTRAL										
Freehold	2.16	30.56	4.34	80	44	64	-1	3004	298	95
Long Branch	2.31	29.79	3.23	79	50	64	-2	2948	298	92
New Brunswick	1.67	27.66	1.04	82	47	65	0	3135	292	96
Toms River	4.80	25.26	-1.89	80	47	65	-1	3053	398	94
Trenton	1.17	26.97	1.77	81	49	66	0	3200	250	91
SOUTH										
Cape May C.H.	.57	18.07	-5.46	80	48	65	-3	3130	458	71
Downtown	1.11	24.26	-.47	82	47	65	-2	2970	8	92
Glassboro	1.00	27.10	1.15	80	53	67	0	3401	470	86
Hammonton	2.62	26.04	.11	83	47	66	0	3325	386	89
Pomona	2.45	27.46	3.83	83	46	65	0	3199	457	94
Seabrook	.67	29.83	6.05	83	52	67	0	3613	633	71
South Harrison	.85	29.65	5.35	81	51	66	NA	3233	NA	NA

*Departure from normal.
 1/Growing degree days since March 1, 2006, total and departure from normal or long term average.
 2/Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.
 3/Some cumulative values estimated due to earlier missing data.

Corn and Soybean Harvest Began

Days suitable for field work, the week ending Sunday, September 17, 2006, were 5.0. Topsoil moisture was rated 90% adequate, and 10% surplus. Temperatures averaged near normal across most of the state. There were measurable amounts of precipitation across most of the state for the week. Weekly rainfall averaged 2.65 inches north, 2.42 inches central, and 1.40 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 4.14 inches at Toms River on September 15, 2006 to September 16, 2006. Agricultural producers continued harvesting where conditions permitted. Harvest of potatoes, cabbage, carrots, lettuces, tomatoes, peppers, squash, and pumpkins progressed. In the northern area, there was a report of potato rot and some worm problems in peppers. Mowing and baling of hay continued. Hay condition was rated fair to good. Harvest of corn for grain began in the south. Corn harvested for silage was reported in the central and southern areas. Soybean harvest commenced in the central district. Corn and soybean condition was rated fair to good condition. Peach harvest neared completion, and apple harvest continued. Apples and peaches rated mostly good condition. Pasture was rated mostly fair to good condition.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR SEPTEMBER 18, 2006

Arugula & Cilantro – Variable quality due to weather related issues.

Baby Arugula & Baby Spinach - Variable quality due to weather related issues.

Basil – Variable quality due to weather related issues.

Beets – A good volume of good quality product is available.

Cabbage – Harvesting good quantities of very good quality product.

Dill & Parsley – Variable quality due to weather related issues.

Cucumbers/pickles – Harvesting a good quantity and quality of cukes and pickles (kirby cucumbers) with new plantings being harvested this week.

Eggplant – Harvesting a good volume of excellent quality product.

Escarole/Endive – Harvesting good quality product in fair volume. It will take another week or more for volume.

Greens - Good quantities of fair to good quality collards, kale, mustard, dandelions, and swiss chard.

Leeks & green onions – Harvesting in good quality and quantity.

Peaches – Finishing up. Fruit quality for remaining peaches is good.

Peppers – Harvesting a good volume of fair to good quality product with some weather related quality problems. We also have an excellent assortment of great quality hot peppers available.

Radishes & Turnips – These temperature sensitive vegetables have begun harvesting again in good quality and fair to increasing quantity, with volume expected next week.

Squash – Harvesting a good quantity of great quality yellow and zucchini now. Most of our butternut and acorn were harvested before the recent wet weather and stored for curing and better prices.

Tomatoes & Plum Tomatoes – A light quantity of fair to good quality rounds available as some late plantings are harvested. It will be hard to find a volume of good quality this week. Plums are finished.

Spinach – Weather related issues caused later planting. Although growers are ready to begin harvesting, there is no marketplace demand due to safety concerns related to west coast product. Growers will delay harvesting efforts in hopes that the marketplace demand will soon return.

Sweet corn – Harvesting a fair volume of fair to good quality corn. Quantity and quality varies right now due to recent severe weather.

Sweet Potatoes – Harvesting has begun in light volume, and with the wet weather, many growers decided to wait for drier fields this week. It will be at least another week before much volume is harvested though, and with curing, won't be available for at least another two weeks.

White Potatoes – Tapering off of the Superior round variety and transitioning into the Reba variety in good quantity and quality. Source your New Jersey white potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

Broccoli – Should begin harvesting around the first week of October of Central Jersey.

Brussel Sprouts – Should begin harvesting in Central Jersey by the middle of October.

Cauliflower – Should begin harvesting by the middle of October in Central Jersey.

Cranberries – The main harvest of fresh market dry harvested berries should begin in early October though demand for white cranberries will see some berries beginning to be harvested sometime this week.

Lettuces – The extreme heat and dryness of August caused many growers to replant this acreage. Then, overcast weather and rains began for prolonged periods of time and caused growing problems. As a result, the harvest is later this Fall, beginning in light volume next week.