

Peach Harvest Underway

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, August 12, 2007, were 5.5. Topsoil moisture was rated 10% very short, 25% short, 60% adequate and 5% surplus. Irrigation water supply was rated 5% very short, 5% short and 90% adequate. There was trace to measurable amounts of rainfall during the week in most localities, with some localized thunderstorms. Temperatures were above or near normal for the week in most areas of the Garden State. Peach harvest began in northern and central localities. Producers continued harvesting vegetables. Planting of fall vegetables began. Potato harvest began in central and southern fields. A county agent reported localized mildew in some pumpkin patches in the north. In the central district pumpkins started to vine out; while some producers noted bacterial canker on tomatoes. Irrigation was necessary in some central and southern localities. Some livestock stressed by heat.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR AUGUST 13, 2007

ARUGULA & CILANTRO	A light volume of fair to good quality product should continue to be available even with the warm temperatures.
BABY ARUGULA & BABY SPINACH	Harvesting good quality and quantity. Not as affected by the heat.
BASIL	Likes warmer weather. Harvesting good quality and quantity.
BLUEBERRIES	The late variety Elliott is available for another week or so in decreasing volume. Fruit quality is good. Good prices are encouraging growers to get pickers back out into their fields for late maturing fresh market fruit.
BEETS	Harvesting good quality and fair quantity.
CABBAGE	Good quality and quantity.
CANTALOUPE	Harvesting very good quality in light quantity. Expect an increased supply for Labor Day and then finishing up soon thereafter.
COLLARDS	Fair to good quality harvesting in good quantity.
CUCUMBERS & PICKLES	Harvesting light to fair quantities in good quality as some farmers are still between plantings. Volume increasing through next week.
DILL & KALE	Harvesting good quality in fair quantity.
EGGPLANT	Harvesting a good volume of excellent quality product.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Very light supplies. Will be back in volume in mid-September.
LEEK & GREEN ONIONS	A fair volume of good quality product is available.
MELONS	Harvesting very good quality in good quantities.
MINT	Good quality harvesting in good quantity. Likes the warmth.
NECTARINES	Good volume of the widely planted Sunglo and Flavortop varieties are available in very good quality. Red Gold variety beginning to harvest.
PARSLEY	Good quality products available in good quantities.
PEACHES	Harvesting yellow Loring, Flamin Fury, and Bounty varieties. White Lady and Klondike variety white peaches are finishing up while varieties such as Blushing Star and Sugar Giant are being harvested in increasing volume. All peaches are in peak volume and will be available through mid-September. Color, size, and brix are excellent.
PEPPERS	A large volume of excellent quality product is in the marketplace.
RADISHES	Temperature sensitive, a light quantity of good quality is available.
SPINACH	Very light supplies. Will be back in volume in mid-September.
SQUASH	Harvesting light to fair quantities in good quality as some farmers are still between plantings. Volume increasing through next week.
SWEET CORN	Good quality and quantity. Good wholesale availability until the week after Labor Day. Quantity and quality varies after that.
SWISS CHARD	A light to decreasing volume of fair quality available with this heat.
TOMATOES	A large volume of excellent quality rounds and plums are in the marketplace. It is "canning season" for plums.
TURNIPS	Harvesting good quality in light quantity with the heat.
WHITE POTATOES	Harvesting mainly round white varieties, with some Yukon Gold and redskin varieties as well. Source your potatoes in "Jersey Fresh" bags.