



**WEATHER ADVISORY FOR NEW JERSEY
AND SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
ISSUED BY RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ
8 AM EDT MON JULY 7, 2008**

Rainfall amounts one to two tenths an inch with locally higher amounts today, tonight and again Tuesday. Winds for spraying southeast 5 to 10 mph today, light and variable tonight, southwest 10 to 15 mph Tuesday. Relative humidity in percent 60 to 70 today, near 100 tonight, 60 to 70 Tuesday. Dew points 65 to 70 through Tuesday. Drying conditions fair at best today and Tuesday. Frost freeze or some dew as well as wetting in showers tonight and Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 30 today, 40 Tuesday.

There is a 50 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 rain free period after application. Conditions will be unfavorable for cranberry scald through Tuesday.

Hay cutting is not recommended for the next few days with high humidity and scattered showers.

Estimated soil moisture in percent of field capacity is very variable across the state with irrigation needed in many locations especially in the south.

Growing degree day totals base 50 since March 1, 2008 continue to run well ahead of normal. Precipitation totals are averaging near normal in some locations to below normal in others.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period July 14, 2008 to July 20, 2008 is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to total near normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 7/7/08

Temperatures averaged above normal, averaging 73 degrees north, 75 degrees central, and 76 degrees south. Extremes were 93 degrees at Pomona on July 4, 2008, and 57 degrees at Charlotteburg on July 4, 2008.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.70 inches north, 0.42 inches central, and 0.97 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.96 inches at Trenton on July 5, 2008 to July 6, 2008.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 73 percent north, 67 percent central, and 63 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 73 degrees north, 76 degrees central, and 77 degrees south.

Pumpkin Planting Continues

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, July 6, 2008, were 6.0. Topsoil moisture was rated as 2% very short, 25% short, 70% adequate, and 3% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 24% short, 75% adequate and 1% surplus. There were measurable amounts of rainfall for the week in most localities. Temperatures were above normal during the week across the Garden State.

Harvest of early season cucumbers, peppers, tomatoes, and sweet corn were underway throughout New Jersey. Producers began the second cutting of hay. Irrigation was necessary for various crops including peaches in south Jersey. Minimal rainfall and hot weather continued to affect field corn and soybeans. Pumpkins appeared to be in good condition as planting neared completion. Other activities included planting, harvesting, and spraying.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, July 7, 2008

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures Last Week				Growing Degree Days ¹		Soil Moisture ²
	Last Week	Since March 1		Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
		Total	Dept.*							
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees			Percent
North										
Belvidere Bridge	0.82	16.09	-0.14	90	60	74	3	1,232	237	71
Canoe Brook	0.33	17.03	-0.31	92	59	74	2	1,225	236	68
Charlotteburg	0.84	16.90	-0.64	86	57	71	2	1,049	264	74
Flemington	0.47	16.39	-0.24	92	59	74	2	1,219	197	72
Newton	1.02	15.90	0.02	89	60	73	3	1,247	374	75
Central										
Freehold	0.15	12.61	-3.65	91	60	74	1	1,256	136	62
Long Branch	0.20	15.62	-0.64	91	65	74	1	1,190	143	47
New Brunswick	0.37	17.52	1.56	91	63	76	2	1,288	96	85
Toms River	0.28	14.16	-2.14	91	62	75	1	1,274	222	50
Trenton	1.10	15.71	0.72	92	65	76	1	1,374	132	77
South										
Cape May C.H.	1.31	12.45	-1.91	90	65	76	2	1,342	211	76
Downstown	1.64	15.75	0.97	91	64	75	1	1,391	133	100
Glassboro	0.20	14.25	-1.65	91	67	77	3	1,513	276	45
Hammonton	1.05	12.51	-3.09	92	65	76	2	1,459	229	73
Pomona	0.70	14.79	0.68	93	66	78	5	1,422	289	56
Seabrook	0.94	14.97	0.72	92	65	76	2	1,501	236	84
South Harrison	0.11	13.78	-2.18	91	66	77	NA	1,487	NA	NA

* Departure from normal.

¹ Growing degree days since March 1, 2008, total and departure from normal or long term average.

² Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

³ Data not available.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR JULY 7, 2008

ARUGULA & CILANTRO	A fair to decreasing volume and quality of products with warming temperatures.
BABY SPINACH & BABY ARUGULA	Harvesting in good quality and quantity. Not as affected by the heat.
BASIL	Harvesting good quality product in good volume.
BEETS	Harvesting good quality in good quantity.
BLUEBERRIES	Excellent quality & size for Duke variety harvesting in good volume.
CABBAGE	Now harvesting good quality product in good volume.
COLLARDS	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.
CUCUMBERS/PICKLES	Harvesting a good quantity of very good quality product.
DANDELION	Good quality Spring planted San Pasquale variety available.
DILL	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.
EGGPLANT & PEPPERS	Just starting to harvest good quality in very light volume. Volume increasing each of the next several weeks.
ESCAROLE/ENDIVE	A light to decreasing volume and quality with warm temperatures.
KALE	Very good quantity and quality of product available.
LEEKS & GREEN ONIONS	A good volume of good quality product is available.
LETTUCE	Finishing up. Leaf products in fair quality and very light to decreasing quantities. Romaine tolerates the heat a bit better.
MINT	Good quality harvesting in good quantity. Likes the heat.
PARSLEY	Very good quality Spring planted curly and plain product available in good quantities.
PEACHES	The harvest of excellent quality yellow Sentry “cling” variety started last week and is now in fair volume. Most of these peaches are smaller sizes right now. Redhaven “clingless” varieties starting third week of July with good volume expected by the end of the month through early Sept. White peach volume begins with the White Lady variety in late July or early August through mid-Sept.
RADISHES	Finishing up due to warm weather.
SPINACH	Finishing up. Heat causing a decreasing volume of good product.
SQUASH	Harvesting good quantities of very good quality Yellow & Zucchini.
SWEET CORN	Harvesting good quality and fair quantity. Peak of season should be the third week of July.
SWISS CHARD	A fair to decreasing volume of good quality product available.
TOMATOES	Harvesting very good quality in light volume and high prices. Fair volume expected next week.
TURNIPS	Harvesting good quality and quantity of product.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

CANTALOUPE	Available next week in very light volume and very good quality. Volume available a week or so later. Should have product thru Labor Day.
NECTARINES	Early nectarines starting in mid-July with Eastern glo, with volume building over several weeks. Expect a good steady supply from early August through the early part of Sept.