



**Agricultural Weather Advisory For New Jersey
And Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued by Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Monday, April 27, 2009**

Rainfall amounts none through Tuesday, quarter of an inch with locally higher amounts possible Tuesday night. Winds for spraying southwest 10 to 15 mph today southwest 5 mph tonight southwest 10 to 20 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 35 to 45 today 90 to 100 tonight 40 to 50 Tuesday. Dew points low to mid 50s through Tuesday. Drying conditions very good today, good Tuesday. Light dew tonight, wetting in showers is possible Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 90 today 90 Tuesday.

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

Overnight low temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs will remain above freezing tonight and Tuesday night.

Four inch soil temperatures are now averaging in the upper 50s north, low 60s central, and mid 60s south. Soil temperatures will increase over the next couple of days and then decrease the second half of the week.

Hay cutting will remain very good today and Tuesday and then cooler and wetter weather for the second half of the week.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period May 4, 2009 to May 10, 2009 is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to average above normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 4/27/09

Temperatures averaged above normal, averaging 56 degrees north, 57 degrees central, and 59 degrees south. Extremes were 94 degrees at Hammonton on April 27, 2009, and 30 degrees at Flemington on April 24, 2009.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.84 inches north, 1.34 inches central, and 1.15 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 1.35 inches at Pomona on April 20, 2009 to April 21, 2009.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 97 percent north, 95 percent central, and 94 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 53 degrees north, 55 degrees central, and 56 degrees south.

Field Preparation Continues

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, April 26, 2009, were 5.0. Topsoil moisture was rated as 2% short, 90% adequate, and 8% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 90% adequate and 10% surplus. There were measurable amounts of rainfall for the week in all localities. Temperatures were variable across the Garden State. Producers continued planting when weather permitted. Tomatoes, potatoes, and cucumbers plantings continued. Asparagus and arugula harvesting continued. Farmers continued spraying hay fields for cereal rust mites. Blueberries and apples were blooming, while peach stages ranged from late petal falls to split-shuck. Other activities included tilling fields, fertilizing crops, and scouting for pests.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, April 27, 2009

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	0.58	3.75	-3.65	91	31	55	1	84	62	89
Canoe Brook	1.56	5.43	-2.73	93	32	56	3	102	87	94
Charlotteburg	0.72	5.24	-2.77	92	31	55	4	81	80	90
Flemington	0.73	4.67	-3.15	93	30	57	4	121	103	92
Newton	0.61	3.46	-3.66	90	32	55	3	87	82	91
Central										
Freehold	1.42	6.97	-0.79	91	36	59	4	130	95	89
Long Branch	1.52	7.20	-0.83	84	36	55	1	83	57	84
New Brunswick	1.39	5.64	-1.79	93	34	57	1	112	62	93
Toms River	1.60	7.87	0.03	92	33	58	3	123	94	80
Trenton	0.75	4.50	-2.54	91	36	58	2	142	79	78
South										
Cape May C.H.	1.40	7.40	0.56	91	37	59	4	140	89	79
Downstown	0.77	6.26	-0.79	92	33	59	3	124	57	82
Glassboro	1.18	8.15	0.73	92	39	59	3	144	81	80
Hammonton	0.77	5.50	-1.70	94	35	60	4	162	103	78
Pomona	1.70	8.01	1.09	92	34	61	6	174	135	78
Seabrook	1.09	6.15	-0.12	91	35	59	2	160	90	79
South Harrison ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

*Departure from normal.

¹ Growing degree days since March 1, 2009, 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 APRIL 27, 2009

ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality in fair to increasing quantity.
ASPARAGUS	Harvesting a fair quantity of very good quality product in fair quantity already due to hot weather increasing soil temperatures.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting light quantities of excellent quality products as the recent hot weather helped to raise soil temperatures.
CILANTRO	A light volume of good quality over-wintered product is harvesting and will be available for at least several weeks. Spring planted should be available by the weekend.
COLLARDS	Harvesting very good quality in fair to increasing quantity.
DANDELIONS	A fair quantity of very good quality over-wintered bunched product is available. Spring planted should be available next week.
DILL	Harvesting excellent quality product in fair to increasing quantity.
KALE	A good quantity & quality of over-wintered product harvesting.
LEEKS	A fair volume of good quality over-wintered product is available.
PARSLEY	A fair quantity of good quality over-wintered curly and plain product is being harvested.
RADISHES	Harvesting good quality product in fair to good volume already.
SPINACH	A good volume of very good quality over-wintered product is available. Spring planted should be available by the weekend.
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting very good quality product in light to increasing volume.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

BEETS	Harvest should begin in a week to ten days.
CABBAGE	Harvest should begin in second to third week of May.
COLLARDS	Should begin harvesting around the third week of May.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Should begin harvesting by mid-May.
LETTUCE	Should begin harvesting Boston & Romaine in a week. Red & Green Leaf in ten days.
STRAWBERRIES	Early harvests of Chandler variety berries are expected to begin in mid-May, while the bulk of the crop will be harvested towards the end of May, with lower volumes to continue through early June.
TURNIPS	Should begin harvesting in mid-May.