



**Agricultural Weather Advisory For New Jersey  
And Southeastern Pennsylvania  
Issued By Rutgers University  
New Brunswick, NJ  
8 Am EDT Monday, April 6, 2009**

Rainfall amounts half to one inch with locally higher amounts today and this evening, none later tonight, less than a tenth of an inch Tuesday. Winds for spraying southeast then south 10 to 15 mph but gusty near any thundershowers today, west 10 to 15 mph tonight, west 15 to 20 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 90 to 100 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 40 to 50 Tuesday. Dew points dropping from the low 50s today to the mid 20s by Tuesday. Drying conditions poor today, becoming fair Tuesday. Frost freeze or dew, some overnight wetting from early showers tonight, near freezing temperatures Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 10 today, 20 Tuesday.

There is a near 100 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.

Overnight low temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs will remain above freezing tonight and in the 20s Tuesday night.

Four inch soil temperatures are now averaging in the upper 40s north, low 50s central, and mid 50s south. Soil temperatures will decrease somewhat over the next few days.

Early season hay cutting would not be recommended today or Tuesday. Drier air will move in for Wednesday and Thursday but then with another risk of showers Thursday night and Friday.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period April 13, 2009 to April 19, 2009 is calling for temperatures to average near normal and precipitation to average above normal.

**Climate summary for the week ending 8am 4/6/09**

Temperatures averaged above normal, averaging 49 degrees north, 51 degrees central, and 52 degrees south. Extremes were 74 degrees at Hammonton on April 4, 2009 and 31 degrees at Toms River on April 1, 2009.

Weekly rainfall averaged 1.09 inches north, 0.97 inches central, and 1.60 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 3.00 inches at Glassboro on April 3, 2009 to April 4, 2009.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 99 percent north, 99 percent central, and 98 percent south. Four inch soil temperatures averaged 49 degrees north, 50 degrees central, and 51 degrees south.

**Producers Preparing Fields**

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, November 2, 2008, were 5.0. Topsoil moisture was rated as 90% adequate and 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 85% adequate and 15% surplus. There were measurable amounts of rainfall for the week in all localities. Temperatures were above normal across the Garden State. Producers continued tilling fields for spring planting. Spring vegetables planted included potatoes, lettuce, and peas while others remained in the greenhouse. Farmers continued spreading fertilizer on wheat, rye, and hay. Mechanical pruning of peach trees began in south Jersey, while blueberry spraying continued. Pastures were rated mostly fair as they began to green and grow.

**Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, April 6, 2009**

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures Last Week				Growing Degree Days <sup>1</sup>		Soil Moisture <sup>2</sup>
	Last Week	Since March 1		Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
		Total	Dept.*							
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees			Percent
<b>North</b>										
Belvidere Bridge	0.64	2.19	-2.42	68	34	49	3	20	20	98
Canoe Brook	1.52	2.72	-2.59	69	34	50	4	31	31	100
Charlotteburg	1.49	3.65	-1.32	67	34	48	4	16	16	98
Flemington	1.14	2.80	-2.19	68	33	50	4	32	32	98
Newton	0.68	2.02	-2.29	66	35	50	6	23	23	98
<b>Central</b>										
Freehold	1.21	2.77	-2.41	68	36	52	4	44	44	98
Long Branch	0.86	2.53	-2.86	66	36	50	3	23	23	95
New Brunswick	0.93	2.58	-2.21	68	36	51	3	36	36	98
Toms River	1.18	2.83	-2.24	69	31	51	3	52	52	94
Trenton	0.66	2.12	-2.58	71	32	52	3	52	52	94
<b>South</b>										
Cape May C.H.	0.69	2.52	-2.05	70	35	51	2	52	52	94
Downtown	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Glassboro	3.81	4.71	-0.19	72	37	53	4	42	42	97
Hammonton	0.91	2.01	-2.69	74	34	53	4	75	75	94
Pomona	1.06	2.87	-1.81	72	33	53	5	74	74	92
Seabrook	1.54	2.68	-1.41	71	34	52	2	58	58	99
South Harrison	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

\* Departure from normal.

<sup>1</sup> Growing degree days since March 1, 2009, total and departure from normal or long term average.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

<sup>3</sup> Data not available.

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