



**Agricultural Weather Advisory For New Jersey
And Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued By Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Tuesday, August 16, 2011**

Rainfall amounts tenth of an inch with some locally higher amounts through this evening, then none later tonight and Wednesday. Winds for spraying north 5 to 10 mph today, north 5 mph tonight, southwest 5 to 10 mph Wednesday.

Relative humidity in percent is 50 to 60 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 40 to 50 Wednesday. Dew points are upper 50s to low 60s through Wednesday. Drying conditions are fair today but with some poor areas, good Wednesday. Moderate dew tonight and Wednesday night. Percent of possible sunshine is 20 today, 90 Wednesday.

There is 40 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.

Hay cutting still runs the risk of wetting in a shower today. Drier air will be in place for Wednesday and most of Thursday but then with another chance of showers later Thursday through Friday.

Conditions will likely be unfavorable for cranberry scald today and Wednesday.

Soils are saturated over most locations with only a few southeast New Jersey stations below 100 percent.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period August 22, 2011 to August 29, 2011 is calling for temperatures to average below normal and precipitation to average above normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am August 15, 2011

Temperatures averaged near normal, averaging 71 degrees north, 74 degrees central, and 75 degrees south. Extremes were 93 degrees at Pomona and Seabrook on August 9, 2011 and 52 degrees at Charlotteburg and Newton on August 13, 2011.

Weekly rainfall averaged 2.65 inches north, 5.29 inches central, and 5.00 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 10.64 inches at Seabrook on August 14, 2011 to August 15, 2011. Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 92 percent north, 79 percent central, and 72 percent south.

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

Recent Rainfall Improves Soil Moisture

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, August 14, 2011, were 5.5. Topsoil moisture was rated as 5% short, 75% adequate, and 20% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 5% short, 85% adequate, and 10% surplus. Pasture and Range condition was rated at 5% poor, 50% fair, 40% good, and 5% surplus. There were measurable amounts of rainfall during the week in all localities. Temperatures were near normal across the Garden State.

Much needed rainfall relieved heat-stressed field crops. Agricultural producers continued planting fall-vegetables, irrigating, scouting pests, and spraying herbicides. Early planted corn was chopped for silage. Soybean pod development varied across the state. Pod setting was complete in the central district, while pod-fill progressed in the northern and southern areas. Hay fields were re-seeded for fourth cuttings as producers continued harvesting and baling alfalfa and other hay varieties. There were reports of mildew on fruit and vegetable crops. Harvest of summer vegetables included cucumbers, eggplant, peppers, sweet corn, and tomatoes. Growers began picking early-season grapes. White and yellow peach varieties were harvested at a steady volume.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, August 15, 2011

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.*							
	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>			<i>Percent</i>
North										
Belvidere Bridge ³	0.63	27.27	5.36	88	54	71	0	1,896	12	83
Canoe Brook ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Charlotteburg	2.23	40.38	17.15	87	52	70	1	2,133	646	100
Flemington	5.00	33.02	10.78	89	53	72	0	2,438	498	100
Newton	2.74	31.16	9.76	86	52	71	2	2,205	483	100
Central										
Freehold	6.10	28.32	6.69	90	55	73	0	2,557	487	100
Long Branch	6.88	30.97	9.24	91	60	74	1	2,368	377	100
New Brunswick	5.94	28.34	6.61	92	55	74	1	2,566	412	100
Toms River ³	2.88	20.97	-1.34	90	56	74	2	2,387	407	100
Trenton	4.67	25.86	5.15	92	59	76	1	2,818	564	100
South										
Cape May C.H. ³	0.80	13.02	-6.22	90	58	75	0	1,037	NA	76
Downtown	7.43	26.79	6.44	90	56	74	0	2,561	298	100
Hammonton	3.00	16.54	-4.81	92	58	76	1	2,883	643	100
Pomona	0.84	19.41	-0.11	93	59	77	4	2,828	739	68
Seabrook ³	12.92	31.74	12.18	93	61	76	2	2,881	609	100
South Harrison ³	0.00	11.59	-9.68	92	60	75	N/A	2,797	N/A	N/A

* Departure from normal.

¹ Growing degree days since March 1, 2011, 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 for all historic comparison.

Jersey Fresh Availability & Forecast Report

July 2011 was the hottest month ever in New Jersey, with a record of 21 days hitting 90 or higher. Fortunately, most summer crops like it on the dry side. Fortunately, our farmers can irrigate like no other farmers. They have managed to keep crops thriving despite spending much of their time dragging irrigation equipment around their farms trying to take the edge of this heat so that produce quality and shelf-life will not suffer due to stress. Showers the last couple of days have been quite helpful. With cooler temperatures prevalent this week, wetness should not encourage too many problems with fungal and bacterial problems that can occur with high temperatures and wetness. This week's temperatures should be seasonal, in the mid to low 80's.

Please let me know how I can make this report of more use to you. Feel free to respond to William.walker@ag.state.nj.us at any time if you have questions or need more information about Jersey Fresh availability.

BILL WALKER – NJ DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

AVAILABILITY FOR AUGUST 15, 2011

ARUGULA	Harvesting a light to fair quantity of good quality product. Supply will ramp up in a few weeks.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.
BASIL	Harvesting a good volume of excellent quality product.
BEETS	Harvesting very good quality product in fair quantity.
CABBAGE	Harvesting good quality product in fair to good volume.
CANTALOUPE & MELONS	Harvesting good quality in light quantity right now. Expect another bit of volume in 2-3 weeks for the Labor Day marketplace.
CILANTRO	A light to fair volume of good quality product is harvesting in this heat.
COLLARDS	Harvesting very good quality product in fair to good volume.
CUCUMBERS	Harvesting light quantities of very good product as we're between plantings right now. Supply should start to ramp up in a few weeks.
DANDELIONS	Good quality Italian & San Pasquale varieties harvesting in fair volume.
DILL	Harvesting good quality in light quantity in this heat.
EGGPLANT & PEPPERS	Harvesting very good quality in good supplies.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting good quality products in light volume. Doesn't like the increasing temperatures and volume decreases during the Summer heat. Volume will return w/ the cooler weather in mid-September.
KALE	Good quality product harvesting in fair volume.
LEEKS	A fair volume of good quality available with spring planted harvesting.
MINT	Very good quality harvesting in good volume.
NECTARINES	Excellent quality with the widely planted Sunglo variety in good supply, with volume through the early part of September. Good sizing of 2 1/2" primarily.
PARSLEY	Harvesting a light volume of good quality product in this heat.
PEACHES	Harvesting a good supply of excellent quality and widely planted Bounty, Flamin' Fury, and Cresthaven yellow freestone varieties. Klondike and Sugar Giant white peaches in good volume, with Lady Nancy starting. Brix levels are high due to our early hot and dry weather, so sweetness is ensured. Sizing and quality are excellent.
RADISHES	Doesn't like the hot temperatures and volume fades during the Summer heat. Will return with the cooler weather in mid-September.
SPINACH	A light volume of good quality product. Doesn't like the increasing temperatures and volume decreases during the Summer heat.
SQUASH	Harvesting good quantities of excellent quality Yellow & Zucchini.
SWEET CORN	Harvesting great quality in good supply.
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting very good quality product in light to fair volume.
TOMATOES	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.
TURNIPS	Doesn't like the hot temperatures and volume fades during the Summer heat. Will return with the cooler weather in mid-September.
WHITE POTATOES	Harvesting mainly round white varieties, with some Yukon Gold, Redskin varieties, and a bit of Russets as well. Source your N.J. white potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags.

USDA, NASS
 New Jersey Field Office
 Rm 205 Health and Ag Bldg
 P.O. Box 330
 Trenton, NJ 08625