



NJ-CW1912

## New Jersey Weather and Crop Bulletin

May 14, 2012

### Warmer Weather brings More Insect Pressure

For the week ending Sunday, May 13, 2012 there were 6 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture 15% short and 85% adequate. Subsoil moisture 15% short, 80% adequate, and 5% surplus. Pasture and Range condition 20% fair, 55% good, and 25% excellent. Temperatures reached highs in the upper 70s to low 80s and lows in the low 30s to upper 40s across the Garden State. Winter wheat condition was 15% fair and 85% good. Field corn planted was at 95% planted with 60% emerged. Some rain throughout the week helped soil moisture improve. Hay harvest is picking up. Insects are showing up in field crops. Producers are noticing frost damage to blueberries and apples. Asparagus and strawberry harvests continue. The strawberry crop is heavy on fruit. Greens were also being harvested. Sweet corn has been planted and is up, but did suffer from frost as well. Fields are still being prepared for planting. Sawflies, gnats, cabbage worms have increased.

### Climate summary for the week ending 8am May 14, 2012

Temperatures averaged above normal north and central and near normal south, averaging 60 degrees north, 62 degrees central, and 61 degrees south. Extremes were 83 degrees at Toms River, New Brunswick, and Flemington on May 14, 2012 and 39 degrees at Newton, Belvidere, and Cape May Courthouse on May 12, 2012.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.52 inches north, 1.13 inches central, and 1.38 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 2.04 inches at Toms River on May 9, 2012 to May 10, 2012.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 95 percent north, 91 percent central, and 89 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 56 degrees north, 61 degrees central, and 60 degrees south.

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**Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania  
Issued By Rutgers University- New Brunswick, NJ  
8 am EDT Monday May 14, 2012**

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Rainfall amounts tenth of an inch but with locally higher amounts today and tonight, quarter to half an inch with locally higher amounts Tuesday. Winds for spraying southwest 5 to 10 mph today, south 5 to 10 mph tonight, southeast 5 to 10 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 60 to 70 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 70 to 80 Tuesday. Dew points upper 50s through tonight, near 60 Tuesday.

Drying conditions generally poor through Tuesday. Frost freeze or dew, little dew but wetting in showers is likely tonight and Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine less than 10 today and Tuesday.

There is a 70 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.

Temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs will remain above freezing tonight and Tuesday night.

Hay cutting is not expected through Wednesday with high humidity levels and scattered showers. Good drying conditions should move back into the region for the second half of the week.

Soil moisture levels have dropped over the past several days but should increase once again over the next few days.

Four inch soil temperatures are in the low to mid 60s and should remain somewhat steady over the next few days.

Growing degree day totals base 50 continue to run well ahead of normal.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period May 21, 2012 to May 27, 2012 is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to average near normal.

### Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, May 14, 2012

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	Base 50°F	Base 50°F	Percent
<b>North</b>										
Belvidere Bridge .....	1.04	6.02	-3.40	81	39	59	0	294	159	90
Canoe Brook .....	0.40	4.90	-5.48	82	42	62	4	341	225	92
Charlotteburg.....	0.43	5.77	-4.45	82	39	58	2	306	244	91
Flemington.....	0.41	6.53	-3.35	83	40	61	2	353	227	87
Newton.....	0.32	5.71	-3.39	81	39	59	2	328	243	87
<b>Central</b>										
Freehold.....	0.63	6.53	-3.29	82	40	63	3	403	237	87
Long Branch.....	1.47	9.78	-0.37	82	46	60	1	282	144	81
New Brunswick.....	0.54	6.96	-2.61	83	41	63	2	408	217	89
Toms River.....	2.41	7.99	-1.87	83	41	61	1	366	215	84
Trenton.....	0.58	6.33	-2.57	82	46	63	1	524	307	76
<b>South</b>										
Cape May C.H.....	0.53	6.10	2.53	78	39	58	-3	284	94	77
Downtown.....	1.62	5.96	-2.92	81	42	61	-1	407	179	88
Hammonton.....	1.90	7.56	-1.59	81	43	61	0	426	217	81
Pomona.....	1.24	6.69	-1.93	80	41	60	0	412	243	84
Seabrook.....	1.63	7.08	-0.96	81	46	64	2	507	275	81
South Harrison.....	0.80	6.06	-2.59	81	46	62	N/ A	474	N/ A	N/ A

\* Departure from normal.

<sup>1</sup> Growing degree days since March 1, 2012, 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.

**JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR MAY 14, 2012**

<b>ARRUGULA</b>	Harvesting good quality in fair to good quantity.
<b>ASPARAGUS</b>	Harvesting a fair to good volume of good quality product. With increasing soil temperatures, harvest volume will increase each week.
<b>BABY SPINACH &amp; ARUGULA</b>	Harvesting good quality in light to increasing quantity w/ volume picking up each week.
<b>BEETS</b>	Harvesting good quality product in light to fair volume.
<b>CILANTRO</b>	A fair to good volume of good quality Spring planted product harvesting.
<b>COLLARDS/KALE</b>	A fair and increasing volume of good quality Spring planted products harvesting.
<b>DANDELIONS</b>	Good quality Spring planted bunched Italian product is harvesting in good quantity. San Pasquale variety also harvesting in fair volume.
<b>DILL</b>	Harvesting good quality in fair and increasing quantity.
<b>ESCAROLE &amp; ENDIVE</b>	Harvesting very good quality products in light to fair and increasing volume.
<b>LEEKs</b>	A fair volume of good quality Spring planted product harvesting.
<b>LETTUCES</b>	Harvesting all very good quality products in increasing quantities. Fair volume of good quality Boston. Light to fair volume of Red & Green Leaf. Romaine harvesting in light to increasing volume.
<b>MINT</b>	Harvesting a fair volume of very good quality product.
<b>PARSLEY</b>	Harvesting a fair to good volume of very good quality Spring planted curly and plain.
<b>RADISHES</b>	Harvesting good quality product in fair to increasing quantity.
<b>SPINACH</b>	A good volume of good quality Spring planted product harvesting.
<b>STRAWBERRIES</b>	Harvesting excellent quality Chandler variety berries in light to fair and increasing volume. The bulk of the crop will be harvested over the next two weeks, with light volume to continue into the first week of June.
<b>SWISS CHARD</b>	Harvest of fair to good volume of good quality product.
<b>TURNIPS</b>	Just starting to harvest very good quality.

**JERSEY FRESH FORECAST**

<b>BLUEBERRIES</b>	Minor quantities of early varieties like Weymouth starting in about 3 to 4 weeks. The much more widely planted Duke variety will start 3-4 days later, with volume available a week after that.
<b>CABBAGE</b>	Transplanted earlier than normal. Harvesting towards the end of the month.
<b>CUCUMBERS</b>	Pickles should begin towards the end of the month, followed a week later by cukes.
<b>SQUASH</b>	Tunnel started should start late month or early June, followed by field grown a week or so later.