



Early Season Blueberries Are Ready For Harvest

For the week ending Sunday, May 27, 2012, there were 5 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture was rated as 20% short, 70% adequate, and 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 15% short, 70% adequate, and 15% surplus. Pasture and Range condition was rated at 10% fair, 75% good, and 15% excellent.

Monmouth county reported severe freeze damage to their peach crop. Early harvest blueberries are ready for harvest. Nearly all corn is planted and most corn is up with some as tall as 6-8". Summer-vegetable fields have either been prepared for planting, or are planted. Farming activities included irrigating, soybean planting, and spraying. Asparagus is being harvested in decent volume, while some squash are beginning to be harvested. Livestock condition was good, milk production was average to slightly below average due to the high temperatures and high humidity. Insect activity is expected to increase from the extremely hot weather this past weekend.

**Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued By Rutgers University- New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Tuesday May 29, 2012**

Rainfall amounts tenth of an inch with locally heavy amounts this afternoon, quarter to half an inch with locally heavier amounts tonight and early Wednesday, little later Wednesday. Winds for spraying southwest 10 to 15 mph through Wednesday.

Relative humidity in percent 50 to 60 today, near 100 tonight, 50 to 60 Wednesday. Dew points near 70 today, upper 60s tonight, dropping through the 60s Wednesday.

Drying conditions fair at best today and Wednesday. Frost freeze or dew moderate dew with wetting in showers possible tonight, light dew Wednesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 30 today 30 Wednesday.

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.

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

Hay cutting runs a risk of showers later today and through early Wednesday along with moderately high humidity levels and limited sunshine. Good drying should move in for Thursday and most of Friday but with a chance of showers later Friday through Saturday.

Soil moisture levels remain fairly high but are decreasing. Four inch soil temperatures are now in the upper 60s to low 70s and should remain steady for 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 June 5, 2012 to June 11, 2012 is calling for temperatures to average below normal and precipitation to average.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR MAY 29, 2012

ARRUGULA	Harvesting good quality in good quantity.
ASPARAGUS	Harvesting a fair to light and declining volume of good quality product as this season is winding down. As temperatures rise over the next few weeks, product will start to "bolt", expect color and volume to fade.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality in fair to increasing quantity.
BASIL	Likes warm weather. Starting to harvest but next week for any volume.
BEETS	Harvesting good quality product in fair to increasing volume.
BLUEBERRIES	Minor quantities of early varieties like Weymouth starting over the weekend. The much more widely planted Duke variety will start 3-4 days later, with volume available in two weeks.
CABBAGE	Transplanted earlier than normal. Harvesting excellent quality product in light to fair volume.
CILANTRO	A good volume of good quality Spring planted product harvesting.
COLLARDS/KALE	A fair to good volume of good quality Spring planted products harvesting.
CUCUMBERS	Pickles starting to harvest, followed by cukes late next week.
DANDELIONS	Good quality Spring planted bunched Italian and San Pasquale varieties both harvesting in good quantity.
DILL	Harvesting very good quality in good quantity.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting very good quality products in fair to increasing volume.
LEEKS	A fair to good volume of good quality Spring planted harvesting.
LETTUCES	Harvesting all very good quality products. Good volume of good quality Boston, Red & Green Leaf, & Romaine. Unseasonable warmth could start to curtail the season.
MINT	Harvesting a good volume of very good quality product.
PARSLEY	Harvesting a good volume of very good quality Spring planted curly and plain.
RADISHES	Harvesting good quality product in good quantity. Unseasonable warmth could start to curtail the season.
SPINACH	A good volume of good quality Spring planted product harvesting.
SQUASH	Field grown green and yellow squash starting to harvest in light to increasing volumes each week.
STRAWBERRIES	Harvesting excellent quality berries in fair to very quickly declining volume. The bulk of the crop was harvested last week, with sharply decreasing volume this week with rising temperatures and rainfall finishing up the harvest.
SWISS CHARD	Harvest of good volume of very good quality product.
TURNIPS	Harvest very good quality in fair to good quantity.

Coming soon - NASS's annual June surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of June, NASS will survey about 140,000 U.S. producers and visit 42,000 tracts of farm land to collect information. Responses to these surveys provide the foundation for estimates in the upcoming growing year and will first be released in the Acreage and other reports on June 29. Watch for the survey and be sure to respond. Your information matters!