



Cranberry Growers were preparing for Harvest

For the week ending Sunday, September 16, 2012, there were 7 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture was rated at 30% short, 65% adequate, and 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated at 15% short and 85% adequate. Pasture and range condition was rated at 5% poor, 20% fair, and 75% good. Temperatures reached highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 40s across the Garden State.

Some field corn has been harvested. Corn was being chopped for silage. Harvest of cantaloupes, peppers, sweet corn, and fresh-market tomatoes were winding down. Cranberry growers were preparing for harvest. Milk production was average and livestock condition was good. Other activities included irrigation, equipment maintenance, hay work, and spraying for insects.

NASS is currently conducting our annual September surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of September, NASS is surveying U.S. small grains growers for final production. We are also asking hog producers about their summer pig crop, next year's farrowing intentions, and current inventory. The responses will provide the foundation for 2012 production estimates. All participating farmers should respond. Your information matters!

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 9/17/12

Temperatures averaged 62 degrees north, 64 degrees central, and 65 degrees south. Extremes were 83 degrees at New Brunswick on September 14, 2012, and 44 degrees at numerous locations on September 11, 2012.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.02 inches north, 0.00 inches central, and 0.00 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.08 inches at Belvidere on September 15, 2012 to September 16, 2012.

**Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued By Rutgers University- New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Monday, September 17, 2012**

Rainfall amounts none today then rainfall totals from late tonight through early Wednesday could exceed an inch. Winds for spraying south 5 to 10 mph today and tonight, south 10 to 20 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 35 to 45 today, near 100 tonight, 80 to 90 Tuesday. Dew points mid to upper 40s today, near 60 tonight, mid to upper 60s Tuesday. Drying conditions very good today, poor Tuesday. Dew tonight but wetting in showers is possible, wetting in showers Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 80 today, near zero Tuesday.

There is less than a 10 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 will be very good today but then with a high likelihood of wetting Tuesday. Conditions will be unfavorable for cranberry scald today and Tuesday. Temperatures in the bogs will remain above freezing tonight and Tuesdays nights.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period September 24, 2012 to September 30, 2012 is calling for temperatures to average below normal and precipitation to average below normal.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, September 17, 2012³

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	0.08	27.12		80	44	62				
Canoe Brook.....	0.00	21.63		82	47	64				
Charlotteburg.....	0.02	19.47		81	44	62				
Flemington.....	0.00	25.44		82	44	63				
Newton	0.02	28.56		79	44	61				
Central										
Freehold	0.00	23.90		82	45	65				
Long Branch	0.00	31.02		76	50	64				
New Brunswick	0.00	22.95		83	46	65				
Toms River	0.00	25.34		79	48	64				
Trenton	0.01	22.05		80	49	64				
South										
Cape May C.H.	N/ A	N/ A		N/ A	N/ A	N/ A				
Downstown	0.00	18.78		82	46	64				
Hammonton	0.00	23.30		82	48	65				
Pomona	0.00	26.80		77	48	64				
Seabrook	0.00	23.66		81	50	65				
South Harrison.....	0.00	16.15		81	51	66				

Departure from normal.

¹ Growing degree days since March 1, 2012, total and departure from normal or long term average.

² Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

³ Due to a computer program corruption, only the abbreviated data was available.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR SEPTEMBER 17, 2012

APPLES	Gala, McIntosh, Courtland, Honeycrisp, Early Fuji, & Ginger Gold in storage. Red Delicious, Empire, Jonagold, and MacCoun winding down. Golden Delicious & Rome harvesting. Cool nights are helping in the development of color. A late April frost has had spotty and erratic effects upon the volume & quality of product available this year from the entire region. Expect volume to be off somewhat this Fall.
ARRUGULA	Harvesting good quality in fair to increasing quantity as supply ramps up with a flush of Fall product.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality in fair to good quantity.
BASIL	Harvesting good quality in fair to decreasing volume.
BEETS	Harvesting good quality product in fair to good volume.
CABBAGE	Harvesting excellent quality product in light to increasing volume as a Fall flush of product starts to become available.
CILANTRO	A fair volume of good quality product harvesting as supply rams up a bit over the next week or so w/ a flush of Fall product.
COLLARDS/KALE	A fair to increasing volume of good quality products harvesting.
CUCUMBERS	Good quality Pickles & Cukes harvesting in light to fair volume w/ supply ramping up a bit with a flush of Fall product.
DANDELIONS	Good quality bunched Spring planted Italian and San Pasquale varieties both harvesting in fair quantity.
DILL	Harvesting very good quality in light to fair volume.
EGGPLANT	Harvesting very good quality product in good to decreasing supply.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting good quality products in light to increasing/fair volume w/ the return of cooler weather.
LEEKS	A fair volume of good quality harvesting.
LETTUCES	Growers should start harvesting their Fall crops later this week or early next week, a little later than normal, because the mid-Summer heat discouraged early planting.
MINT	Harvesting a fair to decreasing volume of excellent quality product.
NECTARINES	Finishing up.
PARSLEY	Harvesting a light to increasing volume of good quality curly and plain.
PEACHES	Finishing up.
PEPPERS	Harvesting a good to decreasing/fair supply of good quality product. Hot peppers in rare quality due to great growing conditions.
RADISHES & TURNIPS	Harvesting good quality product in light to increasing/fair volume as supply is ramping up a bit with the return of cooler weather.
SPINACH	A light to increasing/fair volume of good quality product harvesting as supply is ramping up with a flush of Fall product.
SQUASH	Very good quality green, yellow, acorn, butternut, & spaghetti squash harvesting in fair to decreasing volume.
SWEET CORN	Very light to finishing volume of good quality corn.
SWEET POTATOES	Harvesting and curing. Volume starting to become available.
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting a light to fair & increasing volume of good quality product as supply is ramping up a bit with a flush of Fall product.