Diseases, Weeds, and Insects Attacking Vegetables; Increased Rain Hinders Spraying

Statewide, six days were suitable for field work, the same as in the previous week. Topsoil moisture was 7% short, 80% adequate, and 13% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 1% short, 86% adequate, and 13% surplus. Pasture and range condition was 1% poor, 6% fair, 63% good, and 30% excellent.

The state’s central and southern regions received much more rain than the week before (1.36 inches versus 0.69 inches in the central region and 1.86 inches versus 0.53 inches in the southern region), while the state’s northern region received a little less rain than the week before (0.99 inches versus 1.10 inches). Average temperatures were a little lower than the previous week, with highs ranging from 77 degrees in Long Branch to 86 degrees in New Brunswick and Downstown.

Vegetable growers continue to battle diseases, weeds, and insects. In Monmouth County, disease pressure is high, insect problems are increasing in sweet corn and tomatoes, and scattered heavy thunderstorms hindered field work, including spraying of crops. Cucumbers in Atlantic County are suffering disease pressure. Organic growers in Mercer County are applying copper to crops to ward off blight infections. In Cumberland County, cucumber yields are down because of excessive rain. Two days of major rainfall saturated the ground in Salem County, but silage chopping is beginning.

Climate Summary for the Week Ending 8/19/13 at 8 AM (Issued by Rutgers University)

Temperatures averaged 67 degrees north, 69 degrees central, and 69 degrees south. Extremes were 86 degrees at Downstown and New Brunswick on the 13th and 48 degrees at Belvidere on the 15th. Weekly rainfall averaged 0.99 inches north, 1.36 inches central, and 1.86 inches south. The heaviest 24-hour total reported was 4.08 inches at Toms River on the 13th to 14th.

Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania

Issued by Rutgers University - New Brunswick, NJ

8 AM EDT Tuesday, August 20, 2013

General: The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period August 27th to September 2nd is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to average above normal.

Rain: None through Wednesday. 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.

Relative Humidity in Percent: 45 to 55 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 45 to 55 Wednesday.

Dew Points: Mid 60s through Wednesday.

Frost Freeze or Dew: Moderate dew tonight, moderate dew Wednesday night.

Percent of Sunshine: 90 today, 80 Wednesday.

Drying Conditions: Fair to good today and Wednesday.

Winds for Spraying: Northwest 5 mph today, light southwest tonight, southwest 5 mph Wednesday.

Conditions for Cranberry Scald: Unfavorable today and Wednesday.

Hay Cutting: Fair to good conditions through most of the week but with scattered showers and thundershowers possible Thursday and Friday.
JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR AUGUST 19, 2013

ARRUGULA
Harvesting a light volume of variable quality product.

BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA
Harvesting a light volume of variable quality product.

BASIL

BEETS
Harvesting variable quality product in fair volume.

CABBAGE
Harvesting variable quality product in fair volume.

CILANTRO
Harvesting a light volume of variable quality product.

COLLARDS
Harvesting variable quality and light volume.

CUCUMBERS
Variable quality Pickles and Cukes harvesting in very light volume.

DANDELIONS
Good quality San Pasquale variety available in fair volume.

DILL
Harvesting variable quality in very light volume.

EGGPLANT
Harvesting fair to good quality in fair to good volume.

ESCAROLE & ENDIVE
Harvesting variable quality products in very light volume.

KALE
Variable quality product harvesting in light volume.

LEeks
Harvesting a fair volume of good quality product.

MINT
Variable quality product harvesting in light volume.

NECTARINES
Harvesting a fair supply of excellent quality Flavortop with the more widely planted Sunglo yellow variety starting. Good sizing of 2 1/2" primarily. There should start to be a good steady volume through early September.

PARSLEY
Harvesting a fair volume of variable quality curly and plain product.

PEACHES
Excellent quality Bounty & Flaming Fury variety yellow peaches harvesting in good volume. White Lady & Klondike variety white peaches in good volume. Sizing looks excellent. There should be a good steady volume expected through early September.

PEPPERS
Harvesting fair to good quality in light to fair volume.

RADISHES
Harvesting in very light volume and variable quality.

SPINACH
Harvesting in very light volume and variable quality.

SQUASH
Harvesting variable quality zucchini and yellow in fair to good volume.

SWEET CORN
Harvesting a fair volume of good to fair quality corn.

SWISS CHARD
Harvesting in light volume and variable quality.

TOMATOES
Harvesting in light volume and variable quality.

TURNIPS
Harvesting in very light volume and variable quality.