



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New  
Jersey



# Crop Progress & Condition

Bruce Eklund, State Statistician

P.O. Box 330, Trenton, NJ 08625

Phone: 503-308-0404

Fax: 609-633-9231

[www.nass.usda.gov/nj](http://www.nass.usda.gov/nj)

Week ending September 2, 2018

Issued weekly on the internet, April - November  
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

[nassrfooner@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nassrfooner@nass.usda.gov)

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**Excellent Week for Field Work:** New Jersey had an average of 6.5 days suitable for field work. Temperatures were well above normal across New Jersey with highs in the low- to mid-90's. All stations reported less than a third of an inch of precipitation with the exception of Andover, which had nearly 2.5 inches.

Reporters in New Jersey were relieved to have a week of primarily good weather to allow crops to recover after several months of erratic weather and poor growing conditions. Some crops being harvested: White potatoes, beets, cabbage, collards, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, okra, peppers, summer and winter squash, tomatoes, peaches, pears, and apples.

The wet weather conditions continue to increase disease pressures on some vegetable, fruit, and corn growers. Rutgers's Plant and Pest Advisory warns that, "Continuous wet weather has created a perfect environment for the development of northern corn leaf blight, which attacks older tissue first, but can move further up the plant when wet conditions permit spore production and germination." They also report that some farms in northern counties have developed anthracnose fruit rot infections in pepper fields. This disease can spread rapidly under wet conditions.

Another issue reported by Rutgers's Plant and Pest Advisory newsletter is downy mildew, which has been found on pumpkins and other cucurbit crops across New Jersey. Downy mildew "...can defoliate fields in a matter of several days during wet conditions such as we are currently enduring. Our present weather pattern has New Jersey cucurbit crops under constant threat of infection from spore sources locally and from more southern sources." The heavy dews now occurring will increase in-field spread in currently infected fields.

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending September 2, 2018

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	8	11	63	18
SUBSOIL	0	9	75	16

## Crop Conditions as of September 2, 2018

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	0	0	70	9	21
CORN	8	18	30	43	1
HAY, ALFALFA	2	5	51	40	2
HAY, OTHER	1	3	36	59	1
PASTURE AND RANGE	1	7	43	48	1
SOYBEANS	2	17	36	45	0

## Crop Progress as of September 2, 2018

(in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
CORN: MILK	92	70	97	N/A
CORN: DOUGH	29	0	84	69
HAY, ALFALFA: THIRD CUTTING	29	0	50	56
HAY, OTHER: SECOND CUTTING	98	87	94	94
SOYBEANS: BLOOMING	93	87	100	N/A
SOYBEANS: SETTING PODS	64	50	88	78
PEACHES: HARVESTED	95	90	93	N/A
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	83	76	83	64
BELL PEPPERS: HARVESTED	85	73	67	N/A
TOMATOES: HARVESTED	83	70	79	N/A

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit [www.usda.gov/oce/weather](http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather) and click on "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin."

## September 2, 2018 New Jersey Weekly Weather Summary

*Notice please be advised, the Weekly Crop Progress and Condition Report's Weather Data Tables may be discontinued for budget reasons. This includes the possibility of discontinuing the weather data narratives and graphics Please contact your local NASS Regional Field Office with comments or compliments regarding this issue. The Weekly Crop Progress and Condition Report's Crop Progress and Condition data will remain and be available.*

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2018					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
ANDOVER AEROFLE	91	63	75	+7	2.47	1	28.78	+7.33	76	2496	+206	3870
BELVIDERE BRIDG	93	58	76	+6	0.27	1	28.62	+7.47	67	2340	-8	3648
CAPE MAY 2 NW	96	71	81	+8	0.29	2	21.09	+3.14	51	2872	+136	4282
ESTELL MANOR	95	62	80	+8	0.23	2	25.09	+4.62	60	2991	+329	4442
FLEMINGTON 5 NN	93	61	77	+7	0.15	2	30.59	+7.97	69	2706	+269	4110
FREEHOLD-MARLBO	97	62	79	+7	0.08	1	25.16	+3.95	73	2932	+266	4364
HAMMONTON 1 NE	95	60	78	+6	0.33	3	21.76	+1.23	67	2988	+218	4443
MANASQUAN	95	64	81	+10	0.35	1	31.15	+10.01	61	2592	+88	3978
MILLVILLE MUNIC	93	69	78	+6	0.22	3	26.29	+7.95	77	2964	+298	4421
MT HOLLY WFO	95	64	78	+6	0.06	2	25.09	-2.80	63	2816	+42	4214
NEW BRUNSWICK 3	96	62	78	+7	0.30	1	22.85	+0.55	67	2822	+201	4228
NEWARK LIBERTY	96	68	81	+8	0.05	2	26.50	+5.52	80	3142	+236	4612
PENNSAUKEN 1N	96	64	79	+7	0.30	2	24.85	+2.58	62	2937	+78	4374
SEABROOK FARMS	94	69	80	+6	0.04	1	19.93	-0.45	43	2616	-276	3928
SUSSEX 3 WNW	93	61	74	+7	0.31	1	27.97	+5.89	66	2383	+280	3708
TRENTON MERCER	95	66	80	+8	0.06	1	28.06	+6.45	75	3018	+358	4467

Summary based on NOAA Regional Climate Centers (RCCs) data. DFN = departure from normal.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. Climate normals used are for the 1981-2010 period.

## Reporters Comments, By County

*Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

**Monmouth County, Bill Sciarappa** - Finally good weather for a week. Crops are recovering from months of erratic weather and poor growing conditions - nonetheless yields and profits will be low.

## JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR SEPTEMBER 4, 2018

<b>APPLES</b>	Harvesting Gala, Ginger Gold, & Honeycrisp. Starting to harvest MacIntosh & Early Fuji with Cortland next. More cool nights would help in the development of color in many varieties.
<b>ARUGULA</b>	Harvesting good quality product in light to fair & increasing volume as seasonal warmth starts to cool.
<b>BABY SPINACH &amp; ARUGULA</b>	Harvesting very good quality products in good volume.
<b>BASIL</b>	Harvesting mostly good quality in fair volume.
<b>BEETS</b>	Harvesting a good volume of very good quality product.
<b>CABBAGE</b>	Harvesting a good volume of good quality green, savoy, & red.
<b>CILANTRO</b>	Harvesting good quality product in light to fair & increasing volume as seasonal warmth starts to cool.
<b>COLLARDS</b>	Harvesting a good volume of very good quality product.
<b>CUCUMBERS</b>	Harvesting mostly good quality pickles and cukes in fair volume as seasonal warmth starts to cool.
<b>DANDELIONS</b>	Good quality bunched product harvesting in fair to good volume.
<b>DILL</b>	Harvesting a light to fair & increasing volume of very good quality product as seasonal warmth starts to cool.
<b>EGGPLANT</b>	Harvesting a good volume of good quality product.
<b>ESCAROLE &amp; ENDIVE</b>	Harvesting a light to increasing volume of good quality products as seasonal warmth starts to cool.
<b>KALE</b>	Good quality product harvesting in good volume.
<b>LEEKS</b>	A fair to good volume of good quality product is available.
<b>MINT</b>	Harvesting a good volume of very good quality product.
<b>NECTARINES</b>	Harvesting a fair to decreasing volume of excellent quality Fantasia variety for the next couple of weeks w/ full color and good size.
<b>PARSLEY</b>	Good quality curly & plain product harvesting in fair to good volume.
<b>PEACHES</b>	Harvesting excellent quality yellow & white freestone varieties. This is the last week of good volume for yellow varieties with a fair to decreasing volume of white varieties.
<b>PEPPERS</b>	Harvesting mostly good quality product in good volume.
<b>RADISHES</b>	Harvesting good quality product in light to increasing volume as seasonal warmth starts to cool.
<b>SPINACH</b>	Harvesting a light to increasing volume of good quality product as seasonal warmth starts to cool.
<b>SQUASH</b>	Harvesting a fair to decreasing volume of good quality zucchini & yellow squash. Hard squashes like butternut and acorn, are in good volume
<b>SWEET CORN</b>	Harvesting mostly good quality in fair to decreasing volume. Quality will vary a bit now as seasonal insect pressures mount.
<b>SWEET POTATOES</b>	Harvesting, but with curing, volume won't be available for another week or two.
<b>SWISS CHARD</b>	Harvesting very good quality product in fair to good volume.
<b>TOMATOES</b>	Harvesting mostly good quality in good volume.
<b>TURNIPS</b>	Harvesting good quality in light to increasing volume as seasonal warmth starts to cool.
<b>WHITE POTATOES</b>	Harvesting excellent quality round white, red, yellow, & Russet varieties in good volume. Source your N.J. potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags.

### JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

<b>LETTUCES</b>	Growers won't start harvesting their Fall lettuces for a few weeks, a little later than normal, because the mid-Summer heat followed by weeks of rainy weather discouraged early planting. Subsequent pollination & germination issues also portend a smaller crop than normal.
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