



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New  
Jersey



# Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending October 7, 2018

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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**Good Week for Field Work:** New Jersey had an average of 5.0 days suitable for field work. Temperatures were considerably warmer than normal across New Jersey. Rain varied from a trace at Seabrook Farms to more than two inches in Andover.

The following crops are being harvested: Field corn, apples, snap beans arugula, beets, cilantro, cabbage, collards, sweet corn (finishing), cucumbers, dill, eggplant, escarole, kale, leeks, pumpkins, lettuces, parsley, peppers, radishes, summer squash, winter squash, Swiss chard, scallions, spinach, tomatoes (finishing), turnips, summer dandelion, sweet potatoes, white potatoes and fennel. The following crops are being planted: Cover crops and spinach.

Pumpkin harvest is well under way, and reporters state that the quality is fair. With Halloween approaching, demand for pumpkins is high. Per the vegetable disease update from the Rutgers Plant and Pest Advisory, "excessive rains and high soil moisture during the past month have resulted in extreme levels of fruit rot unrelated to Phytophthora (although this disease was also made worse by the rains). In a number of cases, good looking fruit are found to be partially filled with water, and beginning to ferment internally. This results in a rot that is not necessarily obvious in the field, but manifests itself after fruit have been removed. This condition is certainly related to constant, high soil moisture..."

The warm, wet weather continues to impact other crops as well. Rutgers Cooperative Extension reports downy mildew in bok choy, collards, and broccoli. They advise that "cole crops, as well as leafy greens, need to be scouted on a regular basis and preventative sprays applied as long as wet weather continues." Phytophthora blight, fruit rot and Bacterial leaf spot have been found in pepper and cucurbit crops. Recent weather has been ideal for the development of basil downy mildew as well. Apple and peach yield are reported as low in some parts of New Jersey, but the quality is reported as fair.

Some reporters state that unseasonable, damp weather has delayed corn and soy harvests and is causing lower yields. Sweet corn is reported as very late to harvest this season, in particular. Rutgers Plant and Pest advisory warns that Northern corn leaf blight remains a significant threat to this late sweet corn. The wet weather permits spore production and germination.

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending October 7, 2018

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	0	78	22
SUBSOIL	0	0	78	22

## Crop Conditions as of October 7, 2018

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
CORN	1	18	17	64	0
HAY, OTHER	0	16	47	36	1
PASTURE AND RANGE	0	3	40	57	0
SOYBEANS	0	11	29	60	0

## Crop Progress as of October 7, 2018

(in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
APPLES: HARVESTED	52	49	64	N/A
CORN: DENTED	94	85	N/A	N/A
CORN: MATURE	53	32	90	86
CORN: HARVESTED FOR GRAIN	5	<5	17	10
HAY, ALFALFA: THIRD CUTTING	68	67	85	86
HAY, OTHER: THIRD CUTTING	36	35	79	73
SOYBEANS: COLORING	86	75	89	N/A
SOYBEANS: DROPPING LEAVES	41	21	55	63

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."

## October 7, 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	80	51	64	+8	2.31	3	38.28	+11.06	92	3072	+375	4795
BELVIDERE BRIDG	76	47	62	+5	0.55	3	36.39	+9.99	82	2912	+118	4570
CAPE MAY 2 NW	82	63	72	+10	0.05	2	25.82	+4.03	66	3676	+320	5426
ESTELL MANOR	85	54	69	+11	0.08	4	32.69	+8.16	77	3762	+591	5562
FLEMINGTON 5 NN	79	49	65	+8	0.42	3	37.28	+9.55	88	3326	+432	5080
FREEHOLD-MARLBO	86	54	68	+9	0.44	3	33.16	+7.32	92	3614	+434	5396
HAMMONTON 1 NE	83	53	68	+9	1.04	4	31.83	+6.69	87	3710	+414	5515
MANASQUAN	79	56	67	+8	0.35	1	40.12	+14.53	76	3275	+272	5002
MILLVILLE MUNIC	83	56	71	+11	0.05	1	31.88	+9.81	92	3722	+530	5528
MT HOLLY WFO	81	55	67	+8	0.52	2	32.56	+6.11	79	3513	+301	5261
NEW BRUNSWICK 3	80	53	67	+8	0.47	3	31.75	+4.27	86	3502	+374	5249
NEWARK LIBERTY	82	58	69	+8	0.47	2	32.61	+7.19	96	3866	+382	5686
PENNSAUKEN 1N	82	52	67	+6	0.45	3	33.75	+6.68	82	3638	+228	5426
SEABROOK FARMS	81	60	69	+8	0.01	1	27.78	+2.52	59	3387	-95	5049
SUSSEX 3 WNW	77	45	61	+6	1.55	4	36.95	+9.57	88	2908	+444	4583
TRENTON MERCER	82	56	69	+10	0.80	3	35.79	+9.08	92	3734	+562	5532

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** - Pumpkin quality fair, and demand is high. Apple, peach yield low and quality fair. Corn-soy late/lower yields. Very late sweet corn.

**Cumberland County, Dr. Wesley L. Kline** – The following crops are being harvested: Field corn, apples, snap beans arugula, beets, cilantro, cabbage, collards, sweet corn (finishing), cucumbers, dill, eggplant, escarole, kale, leeks, pumpkins, lettuces, parsley, peppers, radishes, summer squash, winter squash, Swiss chard, scallions, spinach, tomatoes (finishing), turnips, summer dandelion, sweet potatoes, white potatoes and fennel. The following crops are being planted: Cover crops and spinach.

## JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR OCTOBER 9, 2018

<b>APPLES</b>	Gala, Honeycrisp, & Ginger Gold harvested & in storage. Harvesting McIntosh, Cortland, Jonamac, Jonagold, Fuji, Red & Golden Delicious, Empire, & MacCoun. Rome & Stayman/Winesap starting. Cooler nights would help to develop color. Better harvest than last year.
<b>ARUGULA</b>	Harvesting good quality product in fair volume as seasonal warmth cools.
<b>BABY SPINACH &amp; ARUGULA</b>	Harvesting very good quality products in fair to decreasing volume.
<b>BASIL</b>	Likes warmth so cooler nights are slowing production. Harvesting good quality product in light to decreasing volume.
<b>BEETS</b>	Harvesting a fair to decreasing volume of very good quality product. Available through Thanksgiving.
<b>CABBAGE</b>	Harvesting a good volume of good quality green, savoy, & red. Available through Thanksgiving.
<b>CILANTRO</b>	Harvesting good quality product in fair volume as seasonal warmth cools.
<b>COLLARDS</b>	Harvesting a good volume of very good quality product. Available through Thanksgiving.
<b>CRANBERRIES</b>	Large growers with much acreage started harvesting weeks ago. Smaller growers waited a few weeks to develop more maturity and sugar levels & are now starting to harvest. Like apples, cooler nights would help w/ developing color. The USDA is forecasting a 23% larger yield this year (about a normal yield) than last year, which was a down year.
<b>CUCUMBERS</b>	Harvesting mostly good quality pickles and cukes in light to decreasing volume.
<b>DANDELIONS</b>	Good quality bunched product harvesting in fair volume.
<b>DILL</b>	Harvesting a fair volume of very good quality product as seasonal warmth cools.
<b>EGGPLANT</b>	Harvesting a light to decreasing volume of good quality product.
<b>ESCAROLE &amp; ENDIVE</b>	Harvesting a light to fair volume of good quality products as seasonal warmth cools.
<b>KALE</b>	Good quality product harvesting in good volume. Available through Thanksgiving.
<b>LEEKS</b>	A fair volume of good quality product is available.
<b>LETTUCES</b>	Growers are harvesting their Fall lettuces, a little later than normal, in light volume. The mid-Summer heat, followed by weeks of rainy weather, caused pollination & germination issues which will result in a smaller crop than normal. Less Spring demand for Romaine also lessened Fall plantings.
<b>MINT</b>	Likes warmth so harvesting very good quality in light to decreasing volume.
<b>PARSLEY</b>	Good quality curly & plain product harvesting in fair volume.
<b>PEPPERS</b>	Harvesting mostly good quality product in light to decreasing volume.
<b>PUMPKINS</b>	Harvesting good quality in fair, but less than normal, volume as there was a lighter fruit set due to mid-Summer heat & then constant rain causing less than ideal bee pollination. The weather was very erratic & with a great deal of variation in effects from farm to farm. Timing of planting, as well as slope & drainage of land, caused much yield variation.
<b>RADISHES</b>	Harvesting good quality product in fair volume as seasonal warmth cools.
<b>SPINACH</b>	Harvesting a light to fair volume of good quality product as seasonal warmth cools.
<b>SQUASH</b>	Harvesting a light to decreasing volume of good quality zucchini & yellow squash. Hard squashes like butternut and acorn, are in fair to decreasing volume.
<b>SWEET CORN</b>	Harvesting mostly good quality in light to decreasing volume. Ears mature into a shorter size now. Quality varies a bit now, as seasonal insect pressures & many weeks of wet weather have hurt quality.
<b>SWEET POTATOES</b>	Harvesting excellent quality potatoes in good volume.
<b>SWISS CHARD</b>	Harvesting very good quality product in fair to good volume.
<b>TOMATOES</b>	Harvesting mostly good quality in light to decreasing volume.
<b>TURNIPS</b>	Harvesting good quality in fair volume as seasonal warmth cools.
<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.