



WEATHER AND CROPS

August 20, 2007

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, August 19, 2007

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WEATHER: The week was dominated by a series of relatively fast moving frontal systems, moving from west to east across the state. Despite frequent frontal passages, temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal for the week, although temperatures fell to below normal levels by the 18th. Precipitation generally averaged below normal, except for southeast New York and Long Island where precipitation averaged near to above normal, as showers and embedded thunderstorms associated with the frontal systems lingered a bit longer.

CROPS: Warm, dry conditions dominated the region last week as farmers continued to harvest small grains and put up hay. There were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 13 percent very short, 30 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Corn condition was rated 2 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 46 percent excellent. Soybean condition was rated as 2 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 47 percent excellent. Hay condition was rated as 7 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Winter wheat was 98 percent harvested compared to last year's 99 percent. Forty percent of the potatoes were harvested ahead of last year's 35 percent. Oats were 87 percent harvested ahead of last year's 77 percent. Second cutting of alfalfa was 96 percent completed compared with 97 percent from last year. Fifty-four percent of the third cutting of alfalfa was completed compared with last year's 57 percent. Second cutting of timothy hay was 88 percent completed ahead of last year's 84 percent. Thirty-six percent of the third cutting of timothy was completed compared with last year's 29 percent. The following are comments from across the state: In Wyoming County the dry weather impact was really showing the hay yields. Forage supplies will be tight there this winter. While in Montgomery and Fulton Counties the harvest of dry hay and grain continued and the crops continued to look good. Field crops were in excellent shape in Albany County. Cortland County experienced some strong storms Thursday and Friday with strong winds, heavy rain, and some areas received small amounts of hail. Some parts of Ontario County received some rain last week, but not enough to help out the low yielding hay crop currently being harvested. Rain fell in Clinton County last week, along with some hail, and a tornado touched down near Lake Champlain. Crops in Jefferson County could use a good soaking rain and the hay cutting continued. Some of the corn in St. Lawrence County could be harvested because it looked to have reached its peak. Other parts of the county need some rain to finish and fill the ears.

FRUIT: Apples were judged to be in 7 percent poor condition, 21 percent fair, 31 percent good, and 41 percent excellent. Apples harvested were 20 percent compared to 8 percent 2006. Grapes were 8 percent poor condition, 12 percent fair, 32 percent good and 48 percent excellent. Peaches were 8 percent poor condition, 8 percent fair, 34 percent good and 50 percent excellent. Peaches harvested were 63 percent; 32 percent previous year. Pears were 12 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 25 percent good, and 50 percent excellent. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, some rain fell but it was not widespread and varied in amounts throughout the county. A severe wind, hail, rain storm did hit a small part of the county but appears to have missed most fruit trees. Fruit harvest is in full swing throughout Ontario County.

VEGETABLE: Farm stands are very busy, and vegetable harvest is in full swing throughout the state. Harvesting of tomatoes continued and was 35 percent complete. Condition of tomatoes was mostly fair to good. Lettuce was in good condition throughout the state. Condition of onions was reported to be mostly fair to good. Harvest has just begun in most of the state, and producers are reporting smaller than normal onions and smaller yields due to heat and the lack of moisture. Sweet corn harvest continued and was 50 percent complete. Sweet corn condition was reported to be good to excellent. Snap bean harvest was 40 percent complete with varying yields reported. Snap bean condition was fair to good. There are some reports of virus damage on the snap bean crop. Cabbage harvest was 40 percent complete, and condition was good.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture conditions across much of the state were estimated to be in fair condition. Pasture conditions were rated as 9 percent very poor, 17 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 29 percent good, and 9 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 19, 2007

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° ^{1/}			Precipitation (Inches) ^{1/}				
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm	
<u>Hudson Valley</u>												
Albany	86	48	69	-1	137	2059	+201	0.07	-0.75	21.48	+6.14	
Glens Falls	85	47	66	-2	115	1693	+65	0.15	-0.69	14.75	-0.18	
Poughkeepsie	89	52	71	+1	151	2212	+271	0.55	-0.25	22.28	+4.47	
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>												
Boonville	82	44	63	-2	93	1370	+88	0.21	-0.90	16.24	-4.25	
<u>Champlain Valley</u>												
Plattsburgh	90	43	66	-3	111	1593	-63	0.51	-0.47	17.01	+2.70	
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>												
Canton	85	46	65	-2	106	1628	+148	0.53	-0.44	15.73	+0.75	
Massena	87	43	64	-3	102	1683	+119	0.46	-0.38	14.51	+0.79	
<u>Great Lakes</u>												
Buffalo	85	53	70	+1	141	2049	+276	0.14	-0.84	9.16	-5.98	
Wales	84	47	65	-2	105	1544	+102	0.57	-0.35	11.62	-5.85	
Niagara Falls	85	50	69	-1	132	1983	+201	0.32	-0.59	9.94	-4.70	
Rochester	90	51	69	+2	138	2087	+370	0.07	-0.70	8.72	-4.36	
Watertown	84	44	66	-2	115	1665	+170	0.21	-0.55	9.10	-2.60	
<u>Central Lakes</u>												
Dansville	89	47	67	-2	122	1816	+91	1.18	+0.46	11.25	-3.21	
Geneva	89	47	68	-1	130	1867	+157	0.32	-0.38	10.96	-3.42	
Honeoye	91	45	66	-4	114	1719	-60	0.58	-0.16	13.32	-0.89	
Ithaca	87	45	66	-2	114	1678	+127	0.34	-0.43	14.00	-1.53	
Penn Yan	91	49	69	0	133	2022	+312	0.35	-0.35	11.28	-3.10	
Syracuse	89	47	69	+1	133	1989	+248	0.59	-0.18	13.41	-2.90	
Warsaw	86	46	65	+1	109	1548	+207	0.31	-0.57	14.66	-2.19	
<u>Western Plateau</u>												
Angelica	85	42	63	-2	95	1346	+25	0.16	-0.64	13.62	-2.56	
Elmira	89	46	69	-2	118	1787	+145	0.06	-0.61	12.11	-2.76	
Franklinville	83	42	65	0	97	1414	+205	0.32	-0.59	13.12	-3.94	
Jamestown	84	44	66	0	110	1578	+220	0.08	-0.93	16.59	-2.39	
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>												
Binghamton	86	49	69	0	123	1832	+237	0.01	-0.76	16.06	+0.43	
Cobleskill	83	46	63	-4	96	1593	+111	0.24	-0.53	21.23	+4.50	
Morrisville	85	46	65	-1	108	1531	+118	0.51	-0.28	17.00	+0.46	
Norwich	85	45	65	-3	103	1580	+96	1.28	+0.51	19.64	+3.04	
Oneonta	89	46	69	+3	123	1905	+533	0.42	-0.42	20.07	+1.89	
<u>Coastal</u>												
Bridgehamton	86	55	72	+1	154	2023	+250	0.17	-0.60	17.34	+0.93	
New York	89	62	79	+4	203	2850	+449	0.80	-0.04	30.18	+12.62	

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning.

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension, USDA Farm Service Agency, the National Weather Service, Agricultural Weather Information Service and other knowledgeable persons associated with New York agriculture. Their cooperation is greatly appreciated.

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