



WEATHER AND CROPS

October 15, 2007

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Released, October 15, 2007

Week Ending, October 14, 2007

No. 977-25-07

WEATHER: We began the period with a nearly stationary frontal boundary providing not only cloud cover but much needed rainfall to the region. This frontal boundary lifted north as a warm front early last week and provided one last attempt for summer weather. Then the transition toward more clouds, wetter and cooler conditions prevailed as a series of low pressure systems impacted the northeast. One potent storm developed near New York City Thursday and tracked northeast on Friday providing moderate to heavy rainfall for the eastern half of the upstate New York, New York City and Long Island. Then much cooler weather settled into the entire region by the start of the weekend. With the large fluctuation in temperatures, we averaged at or slight above normal and precipitation amounts near to above normal, especially for the eastern half of upstate New York, New York City and Long Island.

CROPS: There were 4.6 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 7 percent very short, 23 percent short, 66 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus. Wet field conditions slowed fieldwork in most regions. Harvesting silage corn and hay wound down as grain corn harvest picked up momentum. Corn condition was rated as 4 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. Corn for silage was 87 percent harvested ahead of last year's 81 percent, and ahead of the five year average of 82 percent. Twenty percent of the corn for grain was completed ahead of last years 15 percent and the five year average of 16 percent. Dry beans were 58 percent harvested about equal to last year and average. Soybeans were 34 percent completed compared to 29 percent from last year and a five year average of 30 percent. Ninety-eight percent of potatoes were harvested compared to 80 percent from last year and a five year average of 88 percent. The following are comments from across the state: Wet and rainy most of the week in St. Lawrence County. Looks like rain for most of the weekend along with being a bit cooler. Corn silage harvest is almost done. Some corn shelling and soybean combining going on. This recent wet period stopped grain harvesting. Manure spreading and fall soil tillage being done. Seasonable weather in Cortland County moved in along with more rain. Silage harvest slowed and grain corn stopped until the corn dries down again. Reports of high yields for corn silage from across the county. Good showers helped water supplies in Herkimer County. Field work continued. Crop yields reported as good throughout Madison County. Fall harvest activities continued in Albany County. Most corn for silage was harvested. Grain combining started, with high moisture corn a bit too dry in many cases. Dry corn harvest was just getting going in a big way. Corn yields are good. Montgomery and Fulton Counties, corn silage was all but done. There was still some 3rd and 4th cutting hay being cut and harvesting of corn for grain has begun and will pick up this week. Due to drying cost, farmers are holding off trying to let Mother Nature do as much of the job as possible. Grain corn harvest started October 11th in Saratoga County. Mild scattered frost morning of October 13th.

FRUIT: Apples were judged to be in 4 percent poor condition, 10 percent fair, 62 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Apples were 70 percent harvested compared to 76 percent last year and 75 percent average. Grapes were 14 percent fair and 86 percent good. Grapes were 75 percent harvested compared to 73 percent last year and 24 percent average. In Albany County, apple harvest continues at a steady pace, demand is good for local apples. Grape growers on Long Island were just about finishing harvest of white wine varieties. Harvest of Merlot, the most widely planted variety, began in a few blocks. Industry wide harvest will begin shortly.

VEGETABLE: Wet and rainy most of the week along with being a bit cooler slowed fall harvest. Pumpkins were reported as being small this year and low yielding. Pumpkins are visible on all farmstands along with a colorful selection of fall vegetables. Cabbage was rated 10 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 42 percent good and 30 percent excellent. Tomatoes were 98 percent harvested, on schedule with last year and average. Very little sweet corn remained for picking. Onion harvest reached completion, slightly ahead of normal.

LIVESTOCK: Pastures were still being utilized but it is nearing the end of the season in many areas. Conditions were rated as 5 percent very poor, 22 percent poor, 43 percent fair and 30 percent good.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, October 14, 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	75	36	56	+5	51	2924	+447	1.52	+0.89	26.97	+6.09	
Glens Falls	65	27	53	+4	37	2358	+223	1.42	+0.79	20.35	-0.38	
Poughkeepsie	85	35	59	+7	67	3136	+519	2.58	+1.92	28.64	+4.71	
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>												
Boonville	67	31	51	+4	31	1940	+277	2.68	+1.70	24.74	-5.25	
<u>Champlain Valley</u>												
Plattsburgh	65	30	51	+2	23	2240	+77	0.84	+0.28	21.06	+0.90	
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>												
Canton	70	28	50	+2	24	2298	+352	2.07	+1.35	23.00	+1.00	
Massena	66	29	50	+2	18	2313	+285	0.91	+0.28	19.52	-0.49	
<u>Great Lakes</u>												
Buffalo	79	41	59	+7	66	3019	+604	0.09	-0.55	14.39	-7.25	
Wales	81	40	56	+6	54	2291	+345	0.40	-0.44	17.15	-8.43	
Niagara Falls	84	38	58	+6	63	2895	+474	0.13	-0.49	14.35	-6.81	
Rochester	83	37	58	+5	60	3000	+654	0.65	+0.11	13.02	-5.49	
Watertown	71	30	56	+4	40	2448	+439	1.77	+1.17	13.08	-4.52	
<u>Central Lakes</u>												
Dansville	86	36	57	+5	62	2674	+325	0.41	-0.19	15.34	-5.05	
Geneva	83	38	57	+6	57	2693	+371	0.52	-0.11	15.48	-4.73	
Honeoye	83	35	57	+4	60	2522	+69	0.44	-0.19	19.00	-1.00	
Ithaca	83	33	56	+6	60	2454	+362	1.17	+0.40	20.57	-1.38	
Penn Yan	83	39	58	+7	61	2935	+613	0.57	-0.06	15.53	-4.68	
Syracuse	80	42	58	+7	64	2903	+539	1.20	+0.49	19.09	-3.90	
Warsaw	80	35	54	+6	49	2291	+513	0.29	-0.47	19.24	-4.75	
<u>Western Plateau</u>												
Angelica	82	36	55	+6	48	1961	+205	0.27	-0.42	18.87	-3.69	
Elmira	86	32	58	+8	63	2586	+378	1.21	+0.58	18.19	-2.23	
Franklinville	82	40	56	+8	50	2065	+454	0.07	-0.77	18.77	-5.58	
Jamestown	83	37	56	+8	54	2312	+486	0.12	-0.79	22.52	-4.82	
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>												
Binghamton	82	34	57	+7	64	2682	+553	1.37	+0.74	21.93	+0.35	
Cobleskill	75	31	52	+3	33	2211	+231	1.51	+0.81	26.90	+3.61	
Morrisville	74	34	53	+5	45	2202	+323	1.73	+0.96	24.15	+0.60	
Norwich	82	34	57	+9	62	2304	+327	1.47	+0.77	25.67	+2.48	
Oneonta	80	38	59	+11	68	2785	+974	1.65	+0.89	25.61	+0.91	
<u>Coastal</u>												
Bridgehamton	83	43	63	+8	90	2985	+451	0.57	-0.13	20.13	-2.58	
New York	89	49	66	+8	117	4134	+755	2.25	+1.62	34.92	+11.21	

^{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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