



## WEATHER AND CROPS

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USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, N.Y. Dept. of Agriculture and Markets, Division of Statistics  
cooperating with  
U.S. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA National Weather Service and Cornell Cooperative Extension

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Week Ending, June 12, 2005

No. 977-08-05

**WEATHER:** Temperatures averaged above normal in all regions of the state ranging from 71 to 79 degrees. Oneonta recorded an average that was 16 degrees above normal. The high temperatures were 94 degrees at Syracuse while the low only dipped to 52 degrees at Watertown. Hot weather pushed Growing Degree Day totals to 574 in Albany and 721 in New York City. Departures from normal were on the plus side in all areas by as much as 130 in Oneonta. Rainfall was sparse and was mostly the result on thunderstorms. Totals ranged from only 0.02 inches at Canton to a high of 2.28 inches at Buffalo. Departures from normal for the season were mostly on the negative side. Albany showed a deficit of 3.39 inches.

**CROPS:** Most areas experienced dry weather with varied amounts of rainfall. There were 6.4 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture was rated 15 percent very short, 50 percent short, 33 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Winter wheat condition was 2 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 68 percent good and 10 percent excellent. Oats were rated 5 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 58 percent good 11 percent excellent. Field corn was 98 percent planted compared to 84 percent a year ago. Soybeans were 92 percent planted compared to 60 percent last year. Following are comments from reporters across the state: In Jefferson County, producers experienced a week of oppressive heat, including at least one daily record of 90 degrees. Scattered thunder storms dropped much needed, but all too brief rain showers. The second cutting of hay was not coming along very well in Jefferson County and corn, soybeans and small grains all needed a good soaking. Crops in St Lawrence County were beginning to feel the effects of dry weather. In Franklin County, conditions were looking very good for hay and for corn as there was enough rain to activate pre-emergence herbicides. Corn was coming out of the ground very well, populations were looking good and hay was harvested. Farmers in Clinton County reported a great week for field work that included the rest of corn planting and great acreages of hay crops that went onto silos and haylofts. Highly variable rainfall totals went from over an inch to only a tenth in some areas of Clinton County where hay crop maturity was retarded by a cool May, and forage quality was somewhat better than would normally be expected in early June harvest. Rainfall over the past thirty days in Ontario County varied with the next two weeks critical for getting more rain. Showers off and on helped the recently planted row crops, but added difficulty in making dry hay. In Wayne County, hit or miss showers gave some relief. Despite variations in rain amounts, dry bean planting will be more intent now that there was some moisture in Wayne County. In Cortland County, farmers reported another week of hot, dry conditions and a storm mid-week that provided little relief, only bringing strong winds with little rain. In Herkimer County, hay was being harvested, short but on schedule. Field crops were helped by heat where showers fell. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, crops were planted. Although it was spotty, Montgomery and Fulton Counties received some rain which improved the hay crop. In Delaware County silage quality was better this year than last year.

**FRUIT:** Statewide, apples were 14 percent poor condition, 25 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Grapes were 18 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 50 percent good and 6 percent excellent. Peaches were 30 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 32 percent good and 5 percent excellent. Pears were 12 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 45 percent good and 24 percent excellent. In the Lake Erie region, trace bloom was reported in some vineyards. Minimum disease was observed in vineyards with the exception of some basal leaf spotting caused by the phomopsis fungus. Due to high temperatures bloom was expected to be earlier than the average of June 16<sup>th</sup>. In the Southern part of the Lake Erie grape belt, growers were planning their critical immediate pre-bloom spray. Vineyards had an average of 17 inches of growth on Concord shoots and about 6 leaves per shoot. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, Heritage raspberries and some summer bearing raspberries were at early pre-bloom. Blueberries were still in bloom. In the Long Island grape region, warmer temperatures led to rapid shoot growth but no signs of bloom as of June 10. Growers were shoot thinning and doing the first lifting of catch wires on advanced blocks. In the Finger Lakes, grapes were about 1 to 2 weeks behind in their average development. The dry weather in May has reduced or delayed appearance of perennial diseases such as powdery mildew.

**VEGETABLE:** Late day thundershowers brought much needed rain to many areas. Vegetable crops benefited from the hot weather and moisture as growth was pushed ahead. Despite getting scattered rainfall, producers in many areas turned to irrigation to relieve dryness. Strawberry picking began. Locally grown asparagus and lettuce continued moving to market. Sweet corn in the Schoharie Valley was reaching knee high height.

**LIVESTOCK:** Weather conditions last week were variable with high temperatures and humidity coupled with isolated thunderstorms. No livestock problems were reported. Pasture and second cutting re-growth in some areas slowed due to the slightly dry conditions. Many areas reported good quality first cuttings of hay though yield was a bit lower than normal. Pasture conditions were 3 percent very poor, 23 percent poor, 41 percent fair, and 26 percent good, and 7 percent excellent.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, June 12, 2005**

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50°			Precipitation (Inches)				
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season 1/	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season 1/	Dep. from Norm	
<b>Hudson Valley</b>												
Albany	91	59	78	+13	199	574	+119	0.61	-0.26	4.48	-3.39	
Glens Falls	89	50	74	+11	168	415	+43	0.41	-0.36	6.61	-1.30	
Poughkeepsie	93	60	78	+13	198	555	+52	1.24	+0.33	7.76	-1.63	
<b>Mohawk Valley</b>												
Utica	92	57	76	+13	185	479	+78	0.97	+0.01	7.27	-1.57	
<b>Champlain Valley</b>												
Plattsburgh	88	51	71	+8	151	373	-5	0.23	-0.49	7.43	+0.54	
<b>St. Lawrence Valley</b>												
Canton	90	54	74	+13	168	385	+62	0.02	-0.75	3.93	-3.20	
Massena	90	53	73	+12	165	389	+35	0.23	-0.47	5.69	-0.67	
<b>Great Lakes</b>												
Buffalo	90	62	77	+13	188	503	+79	2.28	+1.44	7.32	-0.13	
Colden	88	60	75	+14	173	391	+69	1.64	+0.66	7.46	-1.57	
Niagara Falls	91	63	78	+15	199	520	+78	0.41	-0.40	5.32	-2.15	
Rochester	91	61	77	+14	189	453	+16	0.90	+0.20	6.32	-0.21	
Watertown	90	52	74	+13	169	387	+64	0.20	-0.50	6.32	-0.05	
<b>Central Lakes</b>												
Dansville	93	60	76	+13	186	445	+22	1.03	+0.12	5.48	-1.75	
Geneva	96	60	78	+15	194	474	+69	1.11	+0.24	7.71	+0.35	
Honeoye	92	54	75	+12	179	432	+14	1.49	+0.62	7.29	+0.03	
Ithaca	91	57	76	+14	182	411	+51	0.86	-0.02	6.93	-0.77	
Penn Yan	93	61	77	+14	192	499	+94	0.82	-0.05	6.37	-0.99	
Syracuse	94	60	79	+16	204	562	+119	0.44	-0.42	6.80	-1.26	
Warsaw	86	64	75	+15	174	365	+73	0.53	-0.47	6.92	-1.66	
<b>Western Plateau</b>												
Alfred	89	58	74	+13	171	380	+51	1.52	+0.47	7.28	-0.97	
Elmira	90	53	74	+12	169	426	+38	2.64	+1.77	7.76	+0.40	
Franklinville	89	53	73	+14	159	304	+59	2.01	+1.02	7.63	-0.86	
Sinclairville	87	60	74	+14	172	391	+96	1.46	+0.40	7.36	-2.19	
<b>Eastern Plateau</b>												
Binghamton	89	61	75	+13	176	451	+78	1.38	+0.54	6.66	-1.27	
Cobleskill	90	56	75	+14	174	392	+53	0.15	-0.83	6.35	-2.27	
Morrisville	87	56	73	+13	164	377	+60	0.58	-0.40	6.80	-1.63	
Norwich	92	55	74	+13	171	400	+59	0.55	-0.43	5.87	-2.89	
Oneonta	92	60	76	+16	179	436	+130	0.60	-0.38	7.25	-2.22	
<b>Coastal</b>												
Bridgehamton	90	58	71	+8	146	386	+2	0.00	-0.87	8.25	-1.03	
New York	92	66	79	+10	204	721	+44	0.70	-0.11	6.55	-2.47	

1/ Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> to date.

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The information contained in this weekly release is obtained from reports from Cornell Cooperative Extension agents, USDA Farm Service Agency agents, 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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