

Released, July 5, 2005

Week Ending, July 3, 2005

No. 977-11-05

WEATHER: For the first part of the week the region's weather was dominated by high pressure centered off the east coast of the country, which pumped hot and humid air into the region off the Atlantic and Gulf. Thunderstorms broke out the afternoon and evening of the 29th and again with a cold frontal passage on the evening of July 1st. These storms brought heavy rains and localized flooding to some areas including the Capital Region and the Lake George region, but areas to the west including the western Mohawk Valley and the St. Lawrence Valley had hardly any rain at all. Temperatures for the week averaged 6 to 8 degrees above normal.

CROPS: There were 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 12 percent very short, 24 percent short, 54 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus. Winter wheat was 2 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 64 percent good and 14 percent excellent. Oats were rated 3 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 59 percent good 15 percent excellent. Hay was rated 5 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Soybeans were 99 percent planted compared to 97 percent last year. Dry beans were 98 percent planted compared to 70 percent a year ago. Clover Timothy was 83 percent harvested compared to 75 percent last year. Grass silage was 94 percent harvested compared to 87 percent a year ago. Following are comments from reporters across the state: In Jefferson County, it was still extremely dry. With another hot dry week came scattered thunderstorms, but not a lot of rain fall in Jefferson County. Reports of less than 1.6 inches of rain since May 1st in northern portions of Jefferson County revealed hay yields that were significantly lower than last year, but the quality was quite good. Haying continued in Jefferson County, with second cutting underway or finished for many. In Lewis County, very scattered thunderstorms dropped a few tenths of rain, but not enough to slow 2nd cutting. Hot humid weather in Lewis County made dry harvest very difficult, but really pushed second cut hay crop regrowth. In Clinton County, thunderstorms dropped an inch or more of rain in many locations, hampering field activity. Corn was growing fast where it was not hampered by wet soils with a lot more weed problems in corn than normal in Clinton County. Ontario County operators continued to make dry hay with low yields reported and the challenge of avoiding localized rain showers effected quality. In Wayne County, there was some rain on Wednesday for the southern part of the county, but the remainder was very dry. In Yates County, oats were extremely short in height. In Herkimer County, hay was coming off on schedule, but most growth was lagging due to showers that were very spotty. Montgomery and Fulton Counties' 2nd cut grass needed rain, but corn and soybeans looked good. Haying continued with a lot of winter kill on the alfalfa in Montgomery and Fulton Counties. In Saratoga County, operators did not need any more moisture. Dry baled hay harvest was approximately 50% done and behind last year's percentage with quality that dropped off in Saratoga County. Second cut haylage harvest was underway with quality and quantity rated as good in Saratoga County. Also in Saratoga County, field corn looked excellent and was way ahead of "knee high by the 4th of July". Oats and Barley headed out and grain set appeared to be very good in Saratoga County. In Washington County, hot humid weather and thunderstorms brought hay harvest to a stand still for most of the week. On well-drained soils, corn really took off with some corn in Washington County at 5-6 feet tall by the 4th of July. In Delaware County, corn looked very good. In Dutchess County 1-2 inches of rain fell and crops were putting on a lot of growth in a short period of time.

FRUIT: Statewide, apples were 11 percent poor condition, 24 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 23 percent excellent. Grapes were 6 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 37 percent good and 39 percent excellent. Peaches were 14 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 58 percent good and 2 percent excellent. Pears were 12 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 57 percent good and 18 percent excellent. In the Lake Erie fruit region, fruit set appeared to have gone well. Most vineyards had clusters with average to above average berry numbers. The lack of rainfall has been a major concern, providing ideal conditions for fungal infection and weed growth. Only a few Concord leaves were observed to have powdery mildew due to the warm weather. Shoot growth on some vineyards were behind schedule. Shoot thinning by growers was needed to improve ripening. Fredonia Vineyard Lab began berry weighing. Concord berries were up to approximately 5 to 6 millimeters in size. In the Long Island fruit region, grapes were into fruit set. Chardonnay berries have increased in size. Strawberry harvest has been winding down fast. Quantity and quality of strawberries suffered slightly, but on a whole ended well despite the hotness received early in the season.

VEGETABLE: Dry and extremely hot weather early in the week forced producers to turn all irrigation pumps on. Thunderstorms toward the end of the week relieved dryness in some regions. High temperatures pushed crop development rapidly ahead. Sweet corn was over knee high in many fields. Lettuce harvest picked up momentum and was available at local farmers markets. The first of the season sweet corn went on sale at local farm stands in the Schoharie Valley. Planting of other vegetable crops neared completion.

LIVESTOCK: Hot weather seen in many areas allowed producers to begin second cutting hay; many reported yields below normal but of good quality. Pasture re-growth was slow due to the dry weather. No livestock problems were reported despite the above average temperatures. Pasture conditions were 5 percent very poor, 18 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 6 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 3, 2005

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50°			Precipitation (Inches)			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season 1/ 2	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season 1/ 2	Dep. from Norm
<u>Hudson Valley</u>											
Albany	94	54	77	+7	187	1054	+205	3.41	+2.62	9.33	-1.02
Glens Falls	91	49	73	+6	165	833	+114	0.78	+0.09	11.35	+1.30
Poughkeepsie	93	54	76	+6	183	1018	+117	1.69	+0.79	12.45	+0.44
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Utica	92	49	75	+7	174	914	+163	0.00	-0.92	9.88	-1.84
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	91	51	74	+6	167	795	+57	0.31	-0.39	12.58	+3.53
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	93	51	74	+9	171	799	+162	0.00	-0.77	5.79	-3.65
Massena	91	50	74	+7	168	807	+123	0.01	-0.72	8.56	-0.07
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	95	55	77	+9	192	959	+161	0.06	-0.69	8.30	-1.57
Colden	90	49	73	+8	164	785	+160	0.89	-0.02	10.18	-1.72
Niagara Falls	95	51	77	+9	193	1007	+194	0.08	-0.63	7.30	-2.49
Rochester	91	50	74	+7	172	878	+88	0.00	-0.67	7.82	-0.78
Watertown	92	48	73	+7	162	787	+157	0.29	-0.22	8.19	+0.09
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	94	47	74	+6	168	850	+65	2.02	+1.20	9.57	-0.30
Geneva	92	51	74	+6	167	895	+132	1.58	+0.79	11.42	+1.51
Honeoye	92	44	74	+5	168	846	+55	0.58	-0.19	10.84	+1.04
Ithaca	90	47	73	+7	166	814	+128	1.81	+0.97	11.54	+1.19
Penn Yan	92	52	75	+7	177	947	+184	0.46	-0.33	9.33	-0.58
Syracuse	94	51	76	+8	183	1026	+227	0.25	-0.66	8.36	-2.43
Warsaw	87	48	71	+7	147	717	+141	0.06	-0.85	11.11	-0.40
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Alfred	90	46	73	+8	159	767	+136	1.18	+0.17	10.15	-1.25
Elmira	92	42	72	+5	159	824	+91	1.06	+0.22	9.91	-0.10
Franklinville	90	40	70	+7	144	653	+148	1.08	+0.15	9.90	-1.55
Sinclairville	90	50	73	+8	161	779	+195	0.88	-0.13	9.85	-2.88
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	90	50	73	+6	163	859	+151	1.07	+0.23	8.42	-2.03
Cobleskill	92	47	73	+8	164	810	+157	1.19	+0.27	8.67	-2.83
Morrisville	89	50	72	+8	159	758	+145	0.97	+0.07	10.42	-0.83
Norwich	93	49	74	+8	167	800	+149	1.39	+0.50	12.40	+0.84
Oneonta	94	56	76	+12	185	890	+294	2.42	+1.47	13.04	+0.66
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	85	59	72	+4	159	786	+33	0.97	+0.22	9.47	-2.22
New York	92	66	77	+4	193	1257	+96	1.16	+0.29	8.02	-3.55

1/ Season accumulations are for April 1st to date.

R20July409

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.

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. G-38
RALEIGH, NC 27601

NEW YORK AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
SERVICE
Dept. of Agriculture & Markets
108 Airline Drive, Albany, N.Y. 12235-0001
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for Private Use \$300
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED