



U.S. Department of Agriculture
National
Agricultural
Statistics Service
New York Field Office

WEATHER AND CROPS

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Week Ending, July 17, 2005

No. 977-13-05

WEATHER: Temperatures averaged well above normal across the state. Departures from normal ranged from 3 degrees above at Bridgehampton to 12 degrees above at Niagara Falls. Growing Degree Day accumulations were above normal in all regions of the state by as much as 393 in Oneonta. Totals varied from 936 at Franklinville to 1625 in New York City. Precipitation varied greatly, the result of localized thunderstorms. Amounts ranged from zero at Elmira and Ithaca to 3.37 inches at Syracuse.

CROPS: There were 4.3 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 13 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus. Winter wheat was 1 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 69 percent good and 16 percent excellent. Oats were rated 4 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 59 percent good and 17 percent excellent. Hay was rated 4 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. First cutting clover timothy was 90 percent harvested compared to 86 percent last year. First cutting grass silage was 97 percent harvested compared to 93 percent a year ago. Following are comments from reporters across the state: In Jefferson County, severe thunderstorms brought heavy rains, wind and power outages to parts of the county. There were no reports of crop damage. The rain and temperatures approaching 90 have benefited the corn. Some fields have tasseled. Despite the fact that many farmers in the driest areas purchased additional hay; that crop's condition improved with the rain. In St Lawrence County, there was excellent growing weather. Some areas needed rain and received an adequate amount. Sunshine returned and crops were growing overnight. Lots of harvesting and haying was still in progress. In Clinton County, it was a good week for fieldwork. Thunderstorms in other parts of the North Country held hay crop harvest back for a day or two. Corn looked very good, with good color except in wet areas. In Franklin County, heavy spotty showers were moving through. Most producers were harvesting second cutting in between showers. The early planted corn was starting to tassel. There were some aphids in fields, but nothing to be concerned about yet. Ontario County wheat harvest was in full swing, with some good test weight and moisture readings but low yields of grain and straw. Farmers concerned over how the unharvested wheat crop will hold up with the rain and high humidity. Dry hay continues to be made between rain showers. In Wayne County, good yields of wheat were reported. Corn was looking good, some has tasseled. The central part of the county received 5 inches of rain last weekend, however most areas could use more. In Cortland County, heat, humidity and the occasional shower have corn looking great, much of it starting to tassel. Other low lying areas have some water setting in the field with corn turning yellow. Soybeans were also looking good. Heavy winds and rain were starting to bother the barley and oats. Second cutting was coming on nicely. In Herkimer County it was a rougher week to make hay; many needed rains. Corn was really making a comeback; some ears were in silk with corn beginning to tassel. In Albany County, continued humid, wet weather brought the dry hay making to a virtual halt with fields being abandoned that had been cut and down for a week. Hay quality was quickly deteriorating. Corn on the other hand was looking super. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, the corn crop was looking excellent. Small grains were looking a little short due to lack of rain. Not much good hay was moved this week. In Delaware County, hot and humid weather slowed dry hay production while haylage and baleage second cutting was light in some areas due to less rain than needed. Some areas of the county did not receive rain.

FRUIT: Apples were judged to be in 17 percent poor condition, 28 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Grapes were 17 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 27 percent good and 26 percent excellent. Peaches were 27 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 41 percent good and 5 percent excellent. Pears were 15 percent poor, 8 percent fair, 54 percent good and 23 percent excellent. Sweet cherries were 33 percent poor, 20 percent fair and 47 percent good. Tart cherries were 13 percent poor, 37 percent fair and 50 percent good. Sweet cherry harvest remained active in the Lake Ontario region and many locations have been lucky to avoid rain to crack the cherries. Some producers started tart cherry harvest in this area. Yields will vary greatly. Time has arrived for renovation of strawberries to disrupt diseases and insects in the plantings and to catch up on weed control.

VEGETABLE: Rain around much of the state helped the development of vegetable crops. St Lawrence County had excellent growing weather. Rain that was needed came just in time. Sunshine returned and crops have been growing. Vegetables in Ontario County were coming on strong. Sweet corn in Albany County was available on most farm stands and the quality was reported to be very good. Farmers markets continue to sell early vegetables such as sweet corn, squash, cucumbers and tomatoes.

LIVESTOCK: Hot, humid weather stressed livestock. Pasture conditions were 2 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 46 good, and 5 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 17, 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
<u>Hudson Valley</u>											
Albany	91	66	78	+7	196	1393	+240	0.95	+0.25	13.56	+1.78
Glens Falls	90	62	75	+6	178	1140	+145	0.65	+0.02	13.84	+2.53
Poughkeepsie	90	62	77	+5	191	1350	+144	0.47	-0.44	14.67	+0.84
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Utica	89	60	77	+7	188	1255	+228	0.40	-0.44	11.59	-1.88
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	91	57	76	+6	182	1104	+87	0.10	-0.54	14.48	+4.16
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	90	60	76	+9	186	1133	+245	1.54	+0.80	10.84	-0.06
Massena	90	58	75	+6	178	1129	+180	2.07	+1.37	11.40	+1.37
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	94	66	81	+10	219	1350	+261	0.46	-0.17	9.18	-2.01
Colden	90	57	76	+9	185	1107	+239	1.08	+0.30	12.78	-0.74
Niagara Falls	97	67	82	+12	229	1415	+312	1.54	+0.92	8.88	-2.16
Rochester	93	60	79	+9	205	1236	+167	1.27	+0.71	9.44	-0.34
Watertown	89	65	77	+9	190	1131	+244	1.31	+0.91	11.10	+2.18
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	92	56	76	+7	186	1174	+110	0.24	-0.45	11.72	+0.42
Geneva	91	66	78	+8	197	1240	+196	0.11	-0.54	12.31	+1.04
Honeoye	91	56	77	+7	194	1182	+98	1.03	+0.40	13.31	+2.21
Ithaca	91	55	77	+9	190	1145	+201	0.00	-0.77	12.45	+0.54
Penn Yan	90	59	77	+7	192	1288	+244	1.22	+0.57	12.01	+0.74
Syracuse	93	67	79	+9	207	1406	+326	3.37	+2.52	12.26	-0.29
Warsaw	87	64	76	+10	183	1028	+223	0.27	-0.50	12.13	-0.96
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Alfred	90	54	75	+9	177	1076	+209	0.92	+0.07	12.85	-0.33
Elmira	94	53	76	+7	185	1150	+144	0.00	-0.77	11.47	-0.12
Franklinville	88	48	73	+8	163	936	+223	0.26	-0.55	11.51	-1.61
Sinclairville	90	55	75	+9	179	1093	+278	1.06	+0.15	12.26	-2.31
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	87	59	75	+6	177	1170	+199	0.46	-0.31	9.80	-2.25
Cobleskill	86	57	74	+7	169	1105	+204	2.63	+1.86	13.23	+0.12
Morrisville	89	59	75	+8	178	1062	+212	1.58	+0.78	13.17	+0.28
Norwich	91	56	75	+8	177	1113	+214	0.35	-0.42	14.83	+1.67
Oneonta	90	60	76	+11	185	1223	+393	1.67	+0.76	16.80	+2.60
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	87	63	74	+3	170	1086	+37	0.09	-0.57	10.58	-2.47
New York	92	69	80	+4	209	1625	+99	0.15	-0.78	10.06	-3.35

1/ Season accumulations are for April 1st 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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