



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

WEATHER AND CROPS

Fact Finders for Agriculture
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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

Released, August 1, 2005

Week Ending, July 31, 2005

No. 977-15-05

WEATHER: Temperatures averaged above normal in almost all regions of the state. Only a few northern areas fell slightly below normal. New York City reached a sweltering 100 degrees during the week, and averaged 5 degrees above normal. Rainfall was mostly below normal with amounts ranging from 0.03 inch at Cobleskill to a drenching 2.03 inches at Warsaw.

CROPS: There were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent very short, 33 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Oats were 28 percent harvested. Winter wheat was 54 percent harvested. Corn was rated 2 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 51 percent good 37 percent excellent. Hay was rated 6 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 1 percent poor, 6 percent fair, 65 percent good and 28 percent excellent. Alfalfa second cutting was 75 percent harvested. Alfalfa third cutting was 21 percent harvested. Second cutting Clover Timothy was 59 percent harvested. Potatoes were 9 percent harvested. Following are comments from reporters across the state: In Jefferson County, based on corn silk emergence, it appeared that a majority of the corn silage acres would be ready for harvest about September 1. Soybeans looked good with soybean aphid populations remaining low. Third cutting grass harvest was underway for some farms. In St Lawrence County, corn was doing real well. There was lots of heat and moisture. Army worms were found in some fields, but not widespread. In Clinton County, from $\frac{3}{4}$ to over 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches of rain fell that was not needed in most areas. Third cutting was coming on fast. Corn was continuing to make good progress and was expected to mature a week or so early. There was heat and plenty of rain. Crops were growing well. In Franklin County, corn was looking very good. Most of the corn that was planted in a timely manner has tasseled or was expected to tassel very soon. The expectation was for an excellent corn crop. Soybeans were developing pods. There were some aphids around Franklin County, but they were holding well under the threshold. Some new seedlings of alfalfa had potato leafhoppers near the threshold. Ontario County received much needed rain that helped the corn and soybeans. The dry hay continued to be made and yields and quality were good. In Cortland County it was another good week for fieldwork. Most all corn fields were tassled with some starting silk stage. Rain showers were few and scattered. Second cutting was being mowed. Tompkins County looked like it needed some rain; corn on field edges was curling and much shorter than Cortland County. Some severe thunderstorms passed through parts of the area. Moisture was sorely needed. Actual rainfall was variable. Overall crops were holding on well. Corn and soybeans looked good. Hay crop was mixed. In Otsego County, rainfall extremes continued—from gully-washers to drought. Re-growth of hay was an obvious concern in droughty areas. In Saratoga County, dry hay harvest continued to be a challenge due to humidity and threat of thunderstorms that hindered good drying. Some harvest improved for first cut baled hay and second cut baled hay. Haylage third cut got underway with most yields reported to be good. Oat and rye for grain harvesting was expected to begin shortly weather permitting. Washington County had a dry week with only a few showers in isolated areas. Corn still looked good to excellent, but rain was needed for the corn that was starting to look stressed.

FRUIT: Apples were judged to be in 11 percent poor condition, 28 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Grapes were 21 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 32 percent good and 22 percent excellent. Peaches were 28 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 38 percent good and 3 percent excellent. Pears were 28 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 52 percent good and 4 percent excellent. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, peach harvest continued and brown rot was seen among the susceptible fruit. In the Lake Erie fruit region, most if not all vineyards were relatively free of diseases. However, since mid July, several downy mildew infection periods have occurred. According to the Fredonia Vineyard Lab, the average number of leaves 2 centimeters or greater was 14 leaves per shoot. The average shoot length was 100.3 centimeters in the center vineyard. In the Lake Champlain fruit region, apples were growing well, but small in size. Due to the heat, growers were unable to do as much thinning on clusters as they wanted to do. In the Long Island fruit region, the East End continued to suffer from a severe drought. Mature vines on heavier soils were holding up well, though a much needed rain would be beneficial. Young vines, on dry non-irrigated sites, had basal leaves turn yellow, shoot tips stop growing, and the vines looked pale and droopy. Disease pressure appeared moderate, insects and mites varied from one vineyard to the next. Heat stress was evident by the sunburn and browning of exposed berries.

VEGETABLE: Cooler temps gave vegetables a break from the heat. Vegetable crops continued to come on strong and appear to be doing well. Planting of processing snap beans is complete and harvesting of the crop has begun in western New York. Snap Beans have suffered from hot and dry conditions earlier in the summer which has caused split sets. Reports show that snap beans conditions vary widely throughout western areas. Some bean yields were good and some were marginal. Beets for processing were being dug in Ontario County. Processing sweet corn harvest began. Reports indicate that the crop looks good although some areas were dry. Cabbage harvest continues to go on strong. Thrips and diamondback moths have been the main cabbage pests.

LIVESTOCK: Producers and cattle alike welcomed a break from the hot weather. Pasture condition estimates are beginning to reflect the slow re-growth associated with this time of year. Pasture conditions were 7 percent very poor, 19 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 30 percent good, and 4 percent excellent.

**** Weather data on last weeks report (week ending July 24) is incorrect. Please call if you need an updated report.****

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 31, 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 | 57 | 74 | +3 | 174 | 1750 | +288 | 0.24 | -0.48 | 14.67 | +1.47 |
| Glens Falls | 90 | 48 | 71 | +1 | 146 | 1454 | +179 | 0.05 | -0.67 | 13.91 | +1.19 |
| Poughkeepsie | 96 | 59 | 76 | +4 | 182 | 1718 | +190 | 0.59 | -0.25 | 15.70 | +0.13 |
| <u>Mohawk Valley</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Utica | 91 | 50 | 72 | +2 | 156 | 1582 | +262 | 0.29 | -0.54 | 12.30 | -2.84 |
| <u>Champlain Valley</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plattsburgh | 88 | 53 | 68 | -3 | 128 | 1409 | +105 | 0.91 | +0.13 | 15.75 | +3.95 |
| <u>St. Lawrence Valley</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canton | 87 | 47 | 67 | -2 | 120 | 1419 | +266 | 0.81 | +0.00 | 12.49 | +0.01 |
| Massena | 89 | 47 | 67 | -3 | 122 | 1416 | +191 | 0.34 | -0.42 | 12.07 | +0.58 |
| <u>Great Lakes</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Buffalo | 89 | 57 | 72 | +1 | 157 | 1693 | +302 | 0.92 | +0.17 | 10.12 | -2.52 |
| Colden | 89 | 53 | 69 | +2 | 136 | 1409 | +289 | 1.08 | +0.29 | 14.36 | -0.72 |
| Niagara Falls | 93 | 55 | 72 | +2 | 156 | 1770 | +368 | 0.90 | +0.23 | 9.79 | -2.55 |
| Rochester | 91 | 55 | 71 | +1 | 147 | 1559 | +201 | 0.99 | +0.34 | 11.19 | +0.15 |
| Watertown | 86 | 45 | 68 | -2 | 128 | 1418 | +265 | 0.79 | +0.30 | 12.12 | +2.29 |
| <u>Central Lakes</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dansville | 93 | 55 | 70 | -1 | 143 | 1489 | +133 | 0.41 | -0.22 | 12.21 | -0.35 |
| Geneva | 91 | 56 | 72 | +2 | 154 | 1568 | +230 | 0.70 | +0.07 | 13.13 | +0.60 |
| Honeoye | 91 | 53 | 70 | -3 | 139 | 1486 | +95 | 0.98 | +0.35 | 14.73 | +2.43 |
| Ithaca | 93 | 53 | 71 | +3 | 150 | 1458 | +248 | 0.08 | -0.68 | 13.15 | -0.29 |
| Penn Yan | 91 | 53 | 72 | +2 | 157 | 1619 | +281 | 0.69 | +0.06 | 13.03 | +0.50 |
| Syracuse | 93 | 53 | 74 | +4 | 168 | 1757 | +384 | 0.40 | -0.42 | 12.92 | -1.29 |
| Warsaw | 87 | 50 | 68 | +1 | 124 | 1303 | +260 | 2.03 | +1.26 | 14.24 | -0.33 |
| <u>Western Plateau</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alfred | 90 | 53 | 69 | +3 | 137 | 1374 | +266 | 0.79 | +0.05 | 14.11 | -0.59 |
| Elmira | 94 | 51 | 72 | +3 | 156 | 1467 | +181 | 0.20 | -0.50 | 11.92 | -1.10 |
| Franklinville | 88 | 48 | 67 | +3 | 122 | 1203 | +269 | 0.84 | +0.04 | 12.76 | -1.93 |
| Sinclairville | 89 | 53 | 69 | +3 | 136 | 1394 | +341 | 1.25 | +0.34 | 14.10 | -2.24 |
| <u>Eastern Plateau</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Binghamton | 93 | 53 | 72 | +4 | 160 | 1497 | +249 | 0.01 | -0.76 | 9.94 | -3.65 |
| Cobleskill | 90 | 50 | 70 | +3 | 144 | 1413 | +259 | 0.03 | -0.73 | 13.62 | -1.02 |
| Morrisville | 88 | 49 | 70 | +3 | 142 | 1352 | +251 | 0.25 | -0.52 | 13.66 | -0.77 |
| Norwich | 90 | 52 | 69 | +2 | 137 | 1411 | +254 | 0.14 | -0.56 | 15.39 | +0.78 |
| Oneonta | 90 | 54 | 72 | +5 | 152 | 1556 | +488 | 0.14 | -0.70 | 17.20 | +1.30 |
| <u>Coastal</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bridgehamton | 95 | 55 | 75 | +3 | 175 | 1451 | +91 | 0.08 | -0.62 | 10.66 | -3.72 |
| New York | 100 | 69 | 82 | +5 | 224 | 2080 | +176 | 0.09 | -0.82 | 10.35 | -4.90 |

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

R29August411

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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