



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

## WEATHER AND CROPS

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Week Ending, October 9, 2005

No. 977-25-05

**WEATHER:** The week started out dry with above normal temperatures, as a ridge of high pressure anchored off the upper mid Atlantic and southern New England coast provided above normal temperatures and dry weather. The weather changed drastically Friday into Saturday, as a slow moving cold front interacted with the remnants of Tropical Storm Tammy. A series of low pressure systems moved along this boundary as it became stationary along the Atlantic seaboard Saturday into early Sunday. Extremely heavy rainfall fell across portions of central and eastern New York Friday night into early Sunday morning. Most locations received 2 to 5 inches from the Capital Region north and west. Albany received 3.33 inches Friday into early Sunday. Locations in the eastern Catskills, mid and lower Hudson Valley and Taconics received 5 to 12 inches of rainfall. Long Island and the New York City Metropolitan received generally 2 to 5 inches of heavy rainfall. Extreme western and northern New York mainly received a half an inch to 2 inches of rainfall. Flooding occurred in a number of locations, mainly south and east of Albany. Temperatures for the week finished above normal due to the abnormally warm stretch Monday to Friday. Precipitation for the week was way above normal due to the tremendous rainfall event Friday into early Sunday across the state.

**CROPS:** There were 5.1 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 7 percent very short, 7 percent short, 63 percent adequate and 23 percent surplus. Corn was rated 5 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 46 percent good and 26 percent excellent. Silage corn was 88 percent harvested compared to 63 percent a year ago. Corn for grain was 21 percent harvested. Hay was rated 6 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Alfalfa third cutting was 96 percent harvested. Potatoes were 69 percent harvested compared to 100 percent last year. Dry beans were 65 percent harvested compared to 28 percent last year. Soybeans were 27 percent harvested compared to 14 percent last year. Following are comments from reporters across the state: In Jefferson County, soybean harvest was just getting started. Recent warm and sunny weather aided in drying out the fields. The remainder of the corn silage was getting too dry. In Lewis County, good weather allowed many to finish corn silage. Some started high moisture corn harvest, though heavy rains made fields treacherously damp. In St. Lawrence County, an abundance of great quality corn was gone from the fields. In Clinton County, it was another great week for fieldwork. Manure was spread on recently harvested corn silage land. Forage harvest was winding down with some 4<sup>th</sup> cut alfalfa yet to be harvested. In Franklin County, corn harvest for silage was wrapping up. Most hay was harvested with some producers taking a 4<sup>th</sup> cut. In Ontario County, dry conditions allowed for corn to be harvested for silage and grain. Soybeans started to be harvested with good yields being reported. In Cortland County, seasonable cool, wet weather moved in late after a warm start. Silage was finishing and grain corn was starting along with soybeans. There was one report of grain coming off not as dry as hoped, but threat of ear drop outweighed the cost of drying. In Herkimer and Otsego Counties, corn was drying fast; too fast for some high moisture silage corn. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, corn silage harvest continued and some high moisture corn was being harvested. Hay was growing and with the weather people continued to harvest 3<sup>rd</sup> and some 4<sup>th</sup> cuttings.

**FRUIT:** Apples were judged to be in 18 percent poor condition, 24 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Grapes were 25 percent poor condition, 30 percent fair, 32 percent good and 13 percent excellent. Peaches were 50 percent poor condition, 40 percent fair, and percent 10 good. Pears were 25 percent poor, 75 percent fair, percent good and percent excellent. In the Lake Erie fruit region, berry sizes were small due to the warm and dry spring and early summer weather. Due to the remains of past hurricanes Katrina and Rita, some of the rains gave an additional boost to both berry weight and juice soluble solids. In the Southern part of the Lake Erie Grape Belt, a good combination of high yields and high sugar was expected to transpire. Concord harvest was winding down. Expected rainfall and dramatic temperature drops may affect weather conditions for harvest. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, grapes ranged from good to poor condition depending on where the hard frosts from the winter and spring had taken place. However, overall grapes have been reported in good quality. The Hudson Valley region and also Albany County, reported severe dropping of apples from the heavy rains that occurred. Due to the adverse weather, apple orchards and farm stands did not do as well as expected over the holiday weekend. In the Long Island fruit region, harvest was in full swing in the vineyards. Chardonnay grape harvest has been completed and Merlot grape harvest should begin shortly. The fruit quality has been in good to excellent condition.

**VEGETABLE:** The week started out sunny with above-normal temperatures, but the end of the week brought large amounts of rain to some portions of the state. Reports of the condition of the lettuce, onions, sweet corn, tomatoes, cucumbers, and cabbage were mostly good with the exception of snap beans which reported to be mostly fair to good. Harvest of sweet corn, snap beans, and tomatoes were almost complete, and onions and cabbage were approximately 95 percent harvested. Pumpkin picking was at peak as Halloween approaches.

**LIVESTOCK:** Wet weather encouraged producers to bring cattle in from pastures. Pasture condition estimates show a slight rebound due to the recent rain. Pasture conditions were 7 percent very poor, 23 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 26 percent good, and 4 percent excellent.

**This report is available on our website and by email free of charge. Please visit our website at [ww.nass.usda.gov/ny](http://ww.nass.usda.gov/ny) for further information.**

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, October 9, 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><u>Hudson Valley</u></b>												
Albany	80	47	64	+11	102	3152	+694	3.33	+2.70	23.82	+3.39	
Glens Falls	77	44	61	+10	78	2606	+483	3.44	+2.81	25.70	+5.42	
Poughkeepsie	80	46	65	+12	111	3185	+589	8.08	+7.38	26.33	+2.86	
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>												
Utica	79	46	63	+11	97	2837	+601	1.37	+0.58	21.12	-3.18	
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>												
Plattsburgh	80	41	61	+11	82	2569	+419	1.84	+1.28	23.65	+3.89	
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>												
Canton	82	42	63	+13	98	2565	+631	2.21	+1.44	26.00	+4.50	
Massena	81	43	62	+12	83	2549	+532	2.20	+1.56	24.31	+4.75	
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>												
Buffalo	81	44	63	+9	97	3038	+645	0.58	-0.11	21.51	+0.32	
Colden	79	43	61	+9	82	2544	+613	1.12	+0.26	25.59	+0.61	
Niagara Falls	81	44	62	+8	90	3099	+701	1.39	+0.75	19.96	-0.76	
Rochester	83	46	65	+11	107	2919	+595	0.41	-0.15	21.64	+3.51	
Watertown	80	43	62	+11	92	2559	+565	0.93	+0.30	25.11	+7.93	
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>												
Dansville	83	40	62	+9	90	2701	+374	1.08	+0.45	21.43	+1.46	
Geneva	79	44	62	+10	93	2818	+516	1.58	+0.91	22.18	+2.42	
Honeoye	82	44	64	+9	100	2652	+223	1.41	+0.75	24.15	+4.60	
Ithaca	79	44	62	+10	88	2626	+551	2.05	+1.28	20.24	-1.16	
Penn Yan	81	45	65	+12	108	2994	+692	1.00	+0.33	19.65	-0.11	
Syracuse	82	46	64	+11	105	3136	+794	1.68	+0.92	21.85	-0.64	
Warsaw	78	39	61	+12	91	2379	+613	0.93	+0.16	25.54	+2.09	
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>												
Alfred	79	44	61	+10	80	2492	+609	1.64	+0.93	24.80	+2.51	
Elmira	81	45	61	+9	80	2689	+499	2.07	+1.44	20.34	+0.37	
Franklinville	80	42	59	+10	73	2173	+573	0.91	+0.07	23.37	-0.38	
Sinclairville	79	43	61	+11	83	2521	+708	1.04	+0.12	25.02	-1.67	
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>												
Binghamton	75	43	61	+10	85	2742	+628	2.80	+2.14	19.52	-1.61	
Cobleskill	81	44	61	+10	78	2561	+595	2.33	+1.62	21.64	-1.15	
Morrisville	80	44	60	+10	75	2426	+559	2.03	+1.24	23.70	+0.70	
Norwich	79	43	60	+9	70	2519	+555	2.19	+1.44	27.06	+4.37	
Oneonta	80	42	62	+13	87	2835	+1037	2.63	+1.86	27.73	+3.57	
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>												
Bridgehamton	78	49	67	+10	120	2959	+455	0.75	+0.05	13.23	-8.98	
New York	80	54	71	+11	151	4001	+665	4.01	+3.34	18.68	-4.58	

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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