



WEATHER AND CROPS

USDA, Agricultural Statistics Service, NY Field Office, 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, July 23, 2006

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WEATHER: It was hot and humid much of the week as high pressure dominated the region. Tropical Storm Beryl impacted extreme southeastern New York as it passed just to the south Thursday and Thursday night. On the toes of Beryl, a cold front pressed south across the area Friday. This front became stalled across the lower Hudson Valley Friday night. A wave of low pressure formed on the front to our west. As the wave of low pressure moved eastward, the frontal boundary gradually moved northward reaching as far north as the greater Capital Region. To the north of this frontal boundary very heavy rains fell Saturday, dumping generally 1 to 3 inches with portions of the western Mohawk Valley and the Lake George Saratoga region receiving 3 to 5 inches leading to flash flooding.

CROPS: Favorable weather prevailed. Weather conditions provided 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent short, 79 percent adequate and 20 percent surplus. Hay was rated 13 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. Corn was rated 11 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 30 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 6 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 54 percent good and 28 percent excellent. Alfalfa second cutting was 50 percent harvested. Alfalfa third cutting was 5 percent complete. Clover Timothy second cutting was 28 percent harvested. Clover Timothy third cutting was 2 percent complete. Oats for grain was 16 percent harvested. Potatoes were 6 percent harvested. Winter Wheat was 40 percent harvested. Following are comments from reporters across the state: In Jefferson County, there was work between rains. Dry harvest continued to be a challenge, but producers indicated yields were above average. Corn had tasseled. In St. Lawrence County, some rains fell but not enough to cause major problems. Most crops looked excellent for the amount of rain received. Late first cut grass hay was made. In Clinton County, corn made good progress. Moderate rains were welcomed for a change. Forages were growing well. In Ontario County, dry hay was baled between rain showers and wheat harvest was in full swing. In Cortland County, it was another week of hot, mostly dry weather that helped the corn to grow. Flooded fields were now dry enough to disk and replant. At the same time, hay and haylage were harvested. Some fields of first cutting still stood until the second cutting on other fields was finished. In Herkimer County, flash flooding hit a new and different area. In Madison County, heavy rain dealt another blow to farmers. The saga of trying to dry fields out to get the hay continued. In Otsego County, storms stayed north and spared previously flooded areas. In Albany County, producers were able to receive a week of nice weather. Despite the hot humid conditions, producers were able to harvest their hay. Many producers were still on their first cutting harvest. Some producers planted corn for the third or fourth time. Corn was looking better but fields were still bare where too much rain settled. In Fulton and Montgomery Counties, hay was made; much of it was first cutting which was of poor quality. Corn was growing, however most fields were of poor color and very uneven due to wet spots. In Cattaraugus County, field corn was now tasseled. In Steuben County, around two inches of rain over the 21st and 22nd halted fieldwork. Third cutting alfalfa was coming back quickly. Early planted field corn was silking and looked very good. Oats had gone down in many fields due to wind and rain. In Schuyler County, additional rains affected wheat quality. In Delaware County, dry hay harvest continued last week during very hot weather. Farmers were still assessing crop damage and trying to make the best of their time harvesting quickly and looking around for more hay to replace crop damage. Some farmers were reseeding with sorghum or small grains to make up for lost crops.

FRUIT: Apples were in 6 percent poor condition, 16 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 38 percent excellent. Grapes were 5 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 20 percent good and 55 percent excellent. Peaches were 17 percent fair, 17 percent good and 66 percent excellent. Pears were 4 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 28 percent good and 48 percent excellent. In the Lake Ontario region, strawberry renovation was active. In the Southern part of the Lake Erie Grape Belt, Concord berries were about 14.5 mm in diameter and 1.5 grams in weight. There was no change in berry weights over the last week of hot, dry weather. Steady rains on the 22nd benefited Lake Erie Grape Belt vineyards. Growers were winding down their fungicide spray programs in this region. In the Long Island fruit region, cluster closing took place in many Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grape blocks. Growers were hedging, leaf pulling and cluster thinning. Many growers reported sunburned berries, due to late leaf removal and possibly the hot weather from the past week.

VEGETABLE: Lettuce condition was mostly fair to good. Condition of onions throughout the state was fair to good. Madison County onions are in mostly fair condition because of heavy rain. Sweet corn condition was mostly good to excellent. Condition of tomatoes, cabbage and snap beans was good to excellent, compared to last year when condition of all three crops was reported as mostly good. Harvest of tomatoes was approximately 8 percent complete, while harvest of sweet corn and snap beans was approximately 10 percent complete. Onion harvest is progressing nicely in Orange County and is approximately 16 percent complete. Reports from the field indicated that the supply of onions is very short, and some producers are harvesting onions at smaller sizes in order to keep up with demand. Cabbage harvest is approximately 5 percent complete.

LIVESTOCK: Hot weather promoted growth in pastures while mostly dry weather helped conditions improve after many pastures had been saturated. Conditions were rated as 2 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 24 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 23, 2006

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° ^{1/}			Precipitation (Inches) ^{1/}			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
Hudson Valley											
Albany	92	63	78	+6	196	1518	+232	1.53	+0.83	21.50	+9.12
Glens Falls	91	58	74	+5	174	1266	+151	3.25	+2.57	22.30	+10.40
Poughkeepsie	97	63	78	+7	199	1562	+218	1.32	+0.41	20.28	+5.67
Mohawk Valley											
Utica	90	58	75	+4	174	1304	+151	1.60	+0.76	19.91	+5.72
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh	94	58	75	+5	176	1328	+185	1.08	+0.38	15.67	+4.75
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	89	54	73	+5	162	1235	+233	0.91	+0.14	12.27	+0.71
Massena	90	53	73	+4	162	1273	+204	0.21	-0.49	12.63	+2.00
Great Lakes											
Buffalo	88	61	76	+5	183	1523	+303	0.21	-0.48	9.81	-1.98
Wales	87	57	72	+4	153	1131	+155	1.72	+0.95	13.90	-0.28
Niagara Falls	92	57	75	+4	178	1426	+193	0.20	-0.43	8.14	-3.44
Rochester	93	63	77	+7	188	1524	+329	0.60	+0.00	13.57	+3.27
Watertown	89	52	74	+5	167	1256	+255	0.45	+0.03	11.11	+1.83
Central Lakes											
Dansville	92	59	75	+5	175	1313	+123	2.66	+2.03	14.19	+2.35
Geneva	91	58	74	+4	172	1303	+133	1.74	+1.11	14.44	+2.63
Honeoye	91	56	74	+2	167	1290	+74	0.77	+0.20	10.58	-1.00
Ithaca	92	56	74	+6	170	1184	+126	1.21	+0.44	16.77	+4.20
Penn Yan	91	57	75	+5	180	1387	+217	0.78	+0.15	9.68	-2.13
Syracuse	92	57	77	+6	188	1458	+252	0.83	-0.01	19.33	+6.06
Warsaw	87	58	71	+5	149	1061	+154	1.42	+0.70	15.80	+2.10
Western Plateau											
Angelica	90	52	70	+3	140	976	+89	2.38	+1.61	14.14	+0.96
Elmira	92	58	74	+5	170	1199	+73	1.82	+1.08	15.65	+3.43
Franklinville	89	53	71	+6	149	1005	+196	1.22	+0.45	13.36	-0.42
Jamestown	91	55	72	+6	158	1130	+213	0.47	-0.39	11.78	-3.40
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton	90	57	74	+5	167	1225	+134	1.40	+0.63	20.89	+8.18
Cobleskill	91	58	74	+7	170	1169	+160	1.00	+0.23	20.74	+6.97
Morrisville	91	54	73	+5	160	1069	+111	1.64	+0.87	25.67	+12.12
Norwich	94	59	74	+6	169	1157	+147	2.53	+1.77	21.61	+7.80
Oneonta	96	60	75	+8	177	1328	+396	1.25	+0.38	23.49	+8.55
Coastal											
Bridgehamton	94	67	77	+6	192	1423	+242	0.44	-0.19	23.48	+9.89
New York	100	71	83	+7	231	2084	+396	2.64	+1.70	23.79	+9.58

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning. R27July416

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained from reports from Cornell Cooperative Extension agents, IUSDA 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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