



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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WEATHER: A cold front crossed southeast New York Monday preceded and accompanied by scattered showers and thunderstorms. High pressure then moved east behind this front across the Great Lakes and off the mid-Atlantic coast Tuesday through Thursday providing slightly cooler and much less humid conditions for the region. Another cold front crossed the region Thursday afternoon and evening accompanied by showers and isolated thunderstorms. An unseasonably cool and dry air mass then moved into the region for Friday through Saturday as high pressure moved southeast out of eastern Canada into western New York State. Daily mean temperatures generally averaged 5 to 8 degrees below normal on the 12th. Rainfall for the week was focused primarily around both frontal passages. The first frontal passage on Monday led to rainfall amounts of generally less than one quarter of an inch, with many areas only receiving on tenth of an inch or less. The second cold frontal passage led to rainfall amounts of between one tenth of an inch and one quarter of an inch. However thunderstorms produced isolated rainfall amounts of over one inch across the portions of the New York City area and western Long Island.

CROPS: Warm, sunny conditions provided 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture was rated 14 percent short, 73 percent adequate and 13 percent surplus. Hay was in 9 percent poor condition, 37 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Alfalfa second cutting reached 94 percent finished, ahead of last years 92 percent. Third cutting was 37 percent complete compared to 22 percent a year ago. Winter wheat was 96 percent harvested compared to 86 percent last year. Corn condition was 10 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. Oats were 63 percent harvested about equal to last years 65 percent. Soybeans were in 3 percent poor condition, 23 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 30 percent excellent. Potatoes were 33 percent harvested, ahead of last years 23 percent. Following are comments from reporters across the state: In Jefferson County, day time temperatures moderated, but night time temperatures dropped to the low 40s. Lots of hay was baled, but all the crops needed a drink. Corn and soybeans continued to look very good to excellent. In St Lawrence County, the weather was excellent with sunshine and not much rain. Corn looked excellent. Farmer's markets were going strong. In Clinton County, it was a good weak overall despite one hail storm that shredded some corn. Ontario County producers felt that the corn and soybean crops were the best they had in years. Reports of sunshine encouraged dry hay producers. In Cortland County, corn on dry ground needed some rain. However, corn looked excellent. A full week without rain had hay getting caught up- first and second cutting mixed together in the fields previously left behind, third cutting was also coming off. In Herkimer County, it was another good week for fieldwork.

FRUIT: Apples were 6 percent poor condition, 25 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 29 percent excellent. Grapes were 3 percent poor condition, 25 percent fair, 38 percent good and 34 percent excellent. Peaches were 0 percent poor condition, 28 percent fair, 34 percent good and 38 percent excellent. Pears were 0 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 40 percent excellent. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, the warm, wet weather was conducive for ripe rot on blueberries. Apple maggots are also a concern. Grapes have positive reports on the condition of the crop. In the Finger Lakes Fruit region black rot should be done for the year, although some previous infections many become visible over the next few weeks. Hot, dry weather that occurred may "burn out" the existing lesions limiting the spread at this time. In the Lake Erie Grape region black rot is showing up in vineyards with a vengeance. Downy mildew infections are showing up in Concord vineyards and powdery mildew is making its appearance again this year. In Chautauqua County veriason is predicted next week for Concords. In Clinton County a very strong storm accompanied by hail decimated apples.

VEGETABLE: The dry week helped onion condition to improve to 23 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 40 percent excellent. Sweet corn was rated as 2 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 33 percent excellent. Cabbage was in mostly good to excellent condition. Snap beans were mostly good. Sweet corn was 41 percent harvested, compared to 44 percent last year. Snap beans were 36 percent harvested, behind last year's 40 percent. Onion harvest continued with 33 percent of acreage harvested, above last year's 27 percent. In western New York, harvest of the processing crops is progressing well. Yields have generally been above average. Farmers' markets are going strong in St. Lawrence County and in other counties in the state.

LIVESTOCK: In Jefferson County it was reported that the milder temperatures were a welcome sight to dairy herds. After a very good spring and early summer, two weeks of dry weather have left most pastures in a typical "burned out" summer condition. Pastures were rated 0 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 11 percent excellent.

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	87	47	69	-3	134	2031	+292	0.27	-0.50	22.69	+8.06
Glens Falls	86	41	64	-5	102	1704	+181	0.41	-0.42	23.92	+9.71
Poughkeepsie	89	48	71	-1	148	2109	+293	0.04	-0.80	21.73	+4.60
Mohawk Valley											
Utica	84	45	66	-4	111	1761	+183	0.14	-0.70	23.02	+6.37
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh	87	49	67	-2	121	1789	+237	0.04	-0.89	18.03	+4.56
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	84	40	64	-4	99	1662	+280	0.08	-0.83	13.19	-0.95
Massena	84	46	65	-3	110	1710	+246	0.21	-0.63	17.50	+4.50
Great Lakes											
Buffalo	86	51	68	-2	131	2032	+374	0.01	-0.92	12.52	-1.78
Wales	82	45	63	-5	90	1535	+189	0.47	-0.41	17.04	+0.36
Niagara Falls	86	50	68	-2	129	1935	+267	0.00	-0.85	12.93	-0.93
Rochester	86	50	69	0	134	2054	+445	0.07	-0.70	17.06	+4.64
Watertown	84	39	65	-3	110	1719	+326	0.00	-0.69	11.36	+0.32
Central Lakes											
Dansville	86	46	65	-5	106	1772	+159	0.00	-0.70	16.44	+2.60
Geneva	84	49	66	-4	113	1768	+170	0.00	-0.70	15.90	+2.12
Honeoye	85	43	66	-5	112	1756	+95	0.07	-0.63	13.43	-0.14
Ithaca	85	44	64	-5	101	1625	+176	0.00	-0.77	18.61	+3.74
Penn Yan	86	50	68	-2	127	1885	+287	0.00	-0.70	10.44	-3.34
Syracuse	85	51	68	-2	127	1966	+336	0.65	-0.12	22.84	+7.19
Warsaw	81	46	63	-4	93	1462	+210	0.04	-0.80	19.38	+3.29
Western Plateau											
Angelica	82	38	62	-5	83	1356	+124	0.00	-0.77	15.58	+0.09
Elmira	85	41	64	-5	102	1646	+111	0.04	-0.63	17.31	+3.02
Franklinville	82	39	62	-3	84	1393	+266	0.03	-0.84	15.24	-1.04
Jamestown	85	43	64	-3	101	1563	+296	0.00	-0.98	14.41	-3.58
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton	83	48	66	-3	112	1673	+182	0.07	-0.65	22.04	+7.07
Cobleskill	85	42	65	-3	105	1603	+220	0.03	-0.74	22.55	+6.48
Morrisville	80	45	63	-5	92	1479	+159	0.20	-0.57	29.41	+13.55
Norwich	86	44	64	-3	102	1588	+202	0.21	-0.52	23.73	+7.79
Oneonta	88	46	68	+3	129	1825	+543	0.05	-0.79	24.71	+7.25
Coastal											
Bridgehamton	87	49	72	0	154	1984	+338	0.00	-0.77	23.48	+7.73
New York	90	65	78	+2	194	2770	+521	1.91	+1.07	25.76	+8.92

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning. R31August418

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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