



## WEATHER AND CROPS

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USDA, Agricultural Statistics Service, NY Field Office, N.Y. Dept. of Agriculture and Markets, Division of Statistics  
Cooperating with  
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Released, August 28, 2006

Week Ending, August 27, 2006

No. 977-19-06

**WEATHER:** Temperatures averaged in the mid-sixties. The high was 91 degrees in New York City and the low was 42 degrees in Canton. Rainfall varied from only 0.04 inches at Glen Falls to 1.66 inches in Dansville. Totals since April 1<sup>st</sup> ranged as high as over 14 inches above normal in Morrisville. Growing Degree Days since April 1<sup>st</sup> were also above normal in all locations by as much as plus 598 at Oneonta.

**CROPS:** Warm, sunny conditions provided 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture was rated as 15 percent short, 71 percent adequate and 14 percent surplus. Hay was in 8 percent poor condition, 33 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Third cutting was 70 percent complete compared to 54 percent a year ago. Winter wheat harvested was finished. Corn condition was 11 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 25 percent excellent. Oats were 91 percent harvested compared to last years 95 percent. Soybeans were in 6 percent poor condition, 13 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 30 percent excellent. Potatoes were 41 percent harvested, behind last years 42 percent. Following are comments from reporters across the state: A much needed soaking rain fell in Jefferson County on Sunday. Hay baling dominated the work week. Corn is maturing and in some cases, may be ready for chopping, but haven't seen choppers rolling yet. Intermittent showers and overcast skies have slowed third cutting in Lewis County. Everyone is contemplating corn chopping. Weather all week in St. Lawrence County has been good. Could use some rain around the county, hard to believe after the wet spring that we are in need of rain for the most part crops are good. We finally got a little rain over the weekend. It will help but a long ways from being enough. Grass hay not growing due to dry soils, this rain should get it started again. This rain should help any corn that is filling now. Another great week for fieldwork in Clinton County. Timely rains have kept crops moving ahead without delaying work much at all. Expect some corn harvest will start soon after Labor Day, but much of the corn crop was planted very late and has a long way to go. Ontario County continues to get positive reports on the condition of the field corn and soybeans. Bumper crops are forecasted. Week started out dry and ended in all-day showers on Sunday in Cortland County. Temperatures have dropped, getting very cool at night, not very warm during the day either for this time of year. Some rain during the week and cooler temps at night in Madison County but lots of hay got finished. Corn looks good for the most part. Corn for grain and silage continues to improve in Albany County. Rain received at week's end will help move the crop along. Corn chopping will begin soon but to date, little has been harvested. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties first cutting hay is finally done and corn silage has begun. However, reports on the corn are still all across the board.

**FRUIT:** Apples were 7 percent poor condition, 31 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 27 percent excellent. Grapes were 5 percent poor condition, 27 percent fair, 27 percent good and 41 percent excellent. Peaches were 25 percent fair, 25 percent good and 50 percent excellent. Pears were 5 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 35 percent good, and 37 percent excellent. Apple harvest advanced to 12 percent complete compared with 13 percent last year. In the Lake Erie fruit region, veraison for Concord grapes was reported at the Vineyard Lab on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. This was two days ahead of the long-term average of August 24<sup>th</sup>, and exactly 69 days after bloom. Despite the warmer than average weather this summer, time between bloom and veraison was not reduced from its average span. In the Southern part of the Lake Erie Belt, Concord berries were at about 8 brix, Vignoles at 14-15 brix, and Chardonnary was currently at 11-12 brix. In the Long Island fruit region, veraison progressed rapidly for grapes. Grape clusters were no longer susceptible to powdery and downy mildew. Bird nets were still being applied, but the biggest concern has been the increased bird populations. Birds continue to eat the netting and have been a major nuisance. In Albany County apple harvest is on with early varieties being picked, size is good but damage from hard to control scab and hail is apparent.

**VEGETABLE:** With the dry week and some much-needed rain over the weekend, vegetables are doing well in New York. While Madison County is still struggling with flooded onion fields, the rest of the state is doing better with onion condition ranging from fair to excellent. Sweet corn was rated as 7 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 35 percent good, and 44 percent excellent. Tomatoes were in mostly good to excellent condition, as was cabbage and snap beans. Sweet corn was 58 percent harvested, less than the 66 percent reported last year, but right on target with the 5-year average. Snap beans were 61 percent harvested, behind last year's 84 percent and the five-year average of 70 percent. Onion harvest continued with 50 percent of acreage harvested, below last year's 60 percent but above the five-year average of 40 percent. In Albany County, sweet corn harvest is progressing and the quality is very good; however, pumpkins are fairly scarce due to prevented planting and poor pollination. Reports from the field indicate that vegetable yields are looking better than average.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pasture condition was rated as 7 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Conditions remained good for this time of year due to timely rainfall promoting growth. Livestock benefited from slightly cooler weather.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 27, 2006**

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° <sup>1/</sup>			Precipitation (Inches) <sup>1/</sup>				
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm	
<b>Hudson Valley</b>												
Albany	84	52	67	-2	125	2310	+306	0.22	-0.55	24.54	+8.31	
Glens Falls	83	47	65	-2	105	1934	+178	0.04	-0.80	24.72	+8.83	
Poughkeepsie	88	56	70	+0	139	2411	+315	1.07	+0.30	24.62	+5.93	
<b>Mohawk Valley</b>												
Utica	80	52	66	-2	115	2008	+186	0.09	-0.81	24.29	+5.90	
<b>Champlain Valley</b>												
Plattsburgh	80	46	64	-3	98	2031	+249	0.28	-0.67	19.05	+3.65	
<b>St. Lawrence Valley</b>												
Canton	78	42	63	-2	91	1894	+296	0.47	-0.51	13.91	-2.19	
Massena	77	46	63	-3	90	1938	+254	0.21	-0.66	17.97	+3.26	
<b>Great Lakes</b>												
Buffalo	80	57	68	+2	130	2312	+398	1.19	+0.21	14.39	-1.87	
Wales	76	52	64	-1	102	1749	+189	0.72	-0.28	18.94	+0.33	
Niagara Falls	81	54	68	+0	126	2205	+282	0.62	-0.30	14.29	-1.40	
Rochester	83	56	69	+3	136	2345	+494	0.45	-0.36	17.94	+3.94	
Watertown	78	50	65	+0	107	1965	+346	0.59	-0.23	12.34	-0.29	
<b>Central Lakes</b>												
Dansville	82	53	67	-1	122	2019	+155	1.66	+0.89	19.15	+3.81	
Geneva	80	53	66	-2	116	2011	+163	0.20	-0.55	16.83	+1.60	
Honeoye	80	51	66	-3	117	2001	+75	0.71	-0.06	14.68	-0.41	
Ithaca	80	50	66	+0	112	1861	+185	0.48	-0.29	20.86	+4.45	
Penn Yan	82	57	68	+1	125	2152	+304	0.60	-0.15	12.26	-2.97	
Syracuse	82	54	68	+2	128	2241	+363	0.44	-0.38	23.88	+6.64	
Warsaw	80	52	65	+2	108	1681	+232	0.83	-0.08	21.37	+3.48	
<b>Western Plateau</b>												
Angelica	78	48	64	+0	98	1549	+120	0.76	-0.08	17.98	+0.84	
Elmira	81	53	68	+2	124	1902	+129	0.97	+0.27	20.16	+4.49	
Franklinville	78	49	65	+3	103	1596	+287	0.43	-0.48	17.07	-1.03	
Jamestown	82	52	66	+3	115	1794	+325	0.92	-0.13	16.03	-4.03	
<b>Eastern Plateau</b>												
Binghamton	79	56	66	+0	113	1914	+192	0.93	+0.16	26.12	+9.61	
Cobleskill	80	51	64	-2	101	1827	+225	0.51	-0.31	24.31	+6.65	
Morrisville	79	52	64	+0	98	1696	+169	0.80	-0.04	31.71	+14.21	
Norwich	82	51	66	+2	117	1821	+217	0.44	-0.35	26.09	+8.59	
Oneonta	84	50	66	+4	115	2079	+598	0.84	+0.00	26.88	+7.74	
<b>Coastal</b>												
Bridgehamton	85	60	71	+2	146	2280	+346	0.54	-0.29	25.54	+8.19	
New York	91	66	77	+3	187	3158	+562	1.42	+0.58	27.36	+8.84	

<sup>1/</sup> Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning. R33August418

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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