



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

Fact Finders for Agriculture
10B Airline Drive
Albany, New York 12235
(518) 457-5570
www.nass.usda.gov/ny/

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

Released, October 23, 2006

Week Ending, October 22, 2006

No. 977-27-06

This is the last edition of the New York "Weather and Crops" for the 2006 season. The New York Field Office gratefully acknowledges the weekly cooperation of the Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc., National Weather Service personnel, Agricultural Extension agents, FSA representatives, and independent volunteer observers who collectively make this report possible.

WEATHER: The week started out dry and unseasonably cold with high pressure over the Mid-Atlantic region and northeast. The air mass was cold enough to cause widespread freezes and frosts Sunday and Monday mornings. This ended the growing season over most of the state, except across portions of the lower Hudson Valley and Long Island. A complex storm system with a pair of low pressure systems over the lower Great lakes region and the Tennessee Valley brought significant rainfall to the state Wednesday. A weak surface anticyclone produced a brief period of dry weather Thursday before a slow moving cold front that extended from southern Quebec; southwest to the lower Mississippi River Valley brought another period of unsettled weather to close the week. A wave of low pressure formed along the boundary near the Mid-Atlantic region Friday morning and moved northeast over southern New York and central New England with moderate to heavy rainfall over portions of northern and central New York. Flooding occurred in the western Mohawk Valley and the Adirondack region. The precipitation changed to heavy wet snow in the Adirondacks and higher elevations of western and central New York. High pressure moved back in Saturday from the Tennessee Valley with drier weather. Precipitation was well above normal for the week and mean temperatures were below normal by a few degrees. The highest rain totals were over central New York.

CROPS: Wetness limited the number of days suitable for fieldwork to only 3.0. Topsoil moisture was rated 40 percent adequate and 60 percent surplus. Corn condition was reported as 15 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Potato harvest was 85 percent complete compared with 86 percent last year. Soybeans were 37 percent harvested equal to last year's progress. Silage corn harvest reached 91 percent complete behind last years 95 percent. Grain corn harvest was 25 percent complete compared with 35 percent last year. Dry beans were 66 percent harvested, behind last years 86 percent. Following are comments from reporters across the state: Tough week in Jefferson County to "keep your powder dry". Rain and snow left fields saturated. Not a lot of activity; what little did get done looked a lot like a "mudfest". Lots of wet weather in St. Lawrence County. Still corn around the county to be harvested, even though the majority of farmers are completed. Fields have become quite soft. Cool weather seems to be here to stay. Crop harvest fast winding down in Clinton County. Some farmers were getting caught with overly dry corn silage and high moisture corn. Lots of manure being spread. In Genesee County 23 inches of snow melted by Monday, 3 inch rainfall through the week. Rain and more rain dampened fall harvest with farmers in Ontario County. They had trouble getting their kidney beans, soybeans, and corn harvested due to this excessive moisture. There was no crop harvest going on in Wyoming County. The soils were saturated from excessive rains. Concern should be placed for soybeans and grain corn in the fields. Ear drop became a problem in Cortland County for some producers, so harvest must continue despite wet weather-chains were being added for better traction and any extra weights taken off to lighten the load. A week of rainy weather brought field work to a standstill in Washington County.

FRUIT: Apples were judged to be in 18 percent poor condition, 38 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Harvest reached 86 percent finished compared to 72 percent last year and 82 percent for the average. Grapes were 39 percent poor condition, 43 percent fair, 16 percent good and 2 percent excellent. Harvest reached 80 percent finished compared to 92 percent last year and 89 percent for the average. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, molds were observed on the grape crop and the quality of the grapes was being monitored due to recent rains received. In the Lake Erie fruit region, Concord grape harvest has finished for most producers. Unfavorable, rainy weather conditions made harvesting difficult. Many vineyards have ruts in them. In the Southern part of the Lake Erie Grape Belt, many growers were concerned about acceptable sugar levels, but recently accessing the muddy vineyards has been more of a problem. In Albany County, apple harvest was winding down. In the Long Island fruit region, the season has been winding down and post harvest work was beginning in the vineyards.

VEGETABLE: Heavy rains made harvest of beet, carrots, and cabbage a challenge in western regions. Processing beets were 70 percent harvested, processing carrots 50 percent, and cabbage for kraut 70 percent. Pumpkins and other fall vegetables continued to move to roadside markets.

LIVESTOCK: Pastures were rated as 7 percent very poor condition, 15 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 34 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Pasture conditions were slightly poorer than the previous week due to precipitation. Cooler temperatures slowed pasture growth and encouraged supplemental feeding for livestock on pasture.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, October 22, 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	66	30	49	0	19	2828	+331	1.65	+1.02	32.76	+11.16
Glens Falls	63	25	47	+1	13	2306	+160	2.57	+1.94	32.09	+10.64
Poughkeepsie	72	31	51	+2	25	2963	+323	1.29	+0.59	37.19	+12.47
Mohawk Valley											
Utica	66	29	48	-1	13	2446	+174	2.10	+1.40	31.41	+5.79
Champlain Valley											
Plattsburgh	66	26	47	0	12	2450	+275	2.14	+1.58	22.98	+2.18
St. Lawrence Valley											
Canton	60	25	46	0	8	2266	+309	2.22	+1.52	22.70	-0.10
Massena	64	24	46	0	14	2327	+287	1.19	+0.57	22.66	+1.94
Great Lakes											
Buffalo	61	37	51	+2	20	2813	+372	1.66	+0.96	29.30	+6.86
Wales	64	30	47	-1	11	2097	+134	2.17	+1.34	29.85	+3.33
Niagara Falls	61	33	50	0	21	2702	+255	1.54	+0.92	25.07	+3.21
Rochester	66	36	52	+3	29	2927	+556	1.76	+1.22	27.49	+8.37
Watertown	63	31	48	+2	16	2396	+372	1.85	+1.24	21.44	+3.15
Central Lakes											
Dansville	71	31	49	-1	19	2465	+91	2.21	+1.65	29.36	+8.33
Geneva	66	33	48	-2	13	2433	+90	2.56	+1.93	28.37	+7.44
Honeoye	69	30	48	-3	12	2412	-68	2.23	+1.60	24.70	+3.98
Ithaca	70	26	48	0	15	2266	+155	2.47	+1.77	28.98	+6.22
Penn Yan	72	33	50	+2	24	2646	+303	2.38	+1.75	21.66	+0.73
Syracuse	69	32	51	+2	24	2763	+374	3.15	+2.45	32.25	+8.46
Warsaw	65	31	47	+2	11	2009	+218	2.25	+1.53	34.61	+9.80
Western Plateau											
Angelica	65	25	45	-2	8	1839	+69	2.40	+1.77	29.93	+6.65
Elmira	72	24	49	+2	24	2357	+130	2.17	+1.54	29.04	+7.90
Franklinville	61	26	45	-1	7	1919	+296	2.38	+1.59	30.89	+5.63
Jamestown	61	28	46	0	4	2183	+343	2.17	+1.27	27.64	-0.60
Eastern Plateau											
Binghamton	68	32	48	+2	17	2326	+182	2.38	+1.75	35.33	+13.03
Cobleskill	67	27	46	-2	11	2184	+190	1.53	+0.90	32.00	+7.99
Morrisville	64	29	46	-1	5	2010	+119	3.32	+2.60	41.61	+17.23
Norwich	69	25	47	+1	16	2195	+206	2.21	+1.51	37.51	+13.52
Oneonta	69	28	48	+3	17	2528	+704	1.92	+1.16	36.24	+10.68
Coastal											
Bridgehamton	72	33	54	+1	34	2905	+336	0.87	+0.10	40.07	+16.49
New York	74	47	60	+4	69	4096	+662	1.34	+0.67	35.56	+11.09

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning. R46Oct417

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.

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. G-38
RALEIGH, NC 27601

NEW YORK AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
SERVICE
Dept. of Agriculture & Markets
108 Airline Drive, Albany, N.Y. 12235-0001
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for Private Use \$300
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED