



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 23, 2007

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WEATHER: It was an active weather week across New York. A cold front sweeping west to east across the state on Sunday produced scattered showers and thunderstorms. A few of the thunderstorms generated damaging winds from the Hudson River Valley eastward. Weak high pressure briefly ridged into upstate New York for Monday and Tuesday with only isolated instability showers occurring on Monday. A warm front lifted northeast from the Ohio valley and the upper Mid-Atlantic with periods of rain and embedded thunderstorms. Some locations in central and eastern New York received 1 to 2 inches of rain. A thunderstorm over Long Island became severe and a tornado touched down near Islip on Long Island Wednesday morning. The warm front stalled over the lower Hudson Valley and southern New England on Thursday. Scattered showers and thunderstorms occurred once again. A wave of low pressure moved over the region dragging a cold front through in the afternoon. A broad area of high pressure built in from the upper Midwest on Friday, and continued into Saturday with cool and dry weather. Temperatures for the week were near normal to slightly below normal. Precipitation was generally above normal by over an inch.

CROPS: Scattered showers throughout the state continued to provide farmers with some much needed rain last week. There were 4.2 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 5 percent very short, 23 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Condition of the soybeans was 2 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 28 percent excellent. Hay condition was 14 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Condition of the corn was 6 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Alfalfa second cut hay was 59 percent harvested compared to 47 percent last year. Third cutting of alfalfa hay was 8 percent complete compared with 4 percent last year. Second cutting of timothy hay was 52 percent completed compared with last year's 26 percent. Six percent of the third cutting of timothy hay was harvested compared with 2 percent from last year. Winter wheat was 52 percent harvested compared with last year's 34 percent. Ten percent of the oats were harvested behind last year's 14 percent. The following comments are from across the state: Rain finally fell in Ontario County and will hopefully be in time to assist the stressed crops from the dry weather. St. Lawrence County has more water than the ground can handle and the fields are looking soggy in areas. In Cortland County the showers helped the crops, corn is chest high and beginning to tassel, and second cut hay is short, but of good quality. Crop conditions are improving in Herkimer County. Onondaga County finally got some rain and the corn and soybeans have immediately improved.

FRUIT: Apples were judged to be in 12 percent poor condition, 38 percent fair, and 50 percent good. Grapes were 12 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 35 percent good and 38 percent excellent. Peaches were 25 percent poor, 50 percent fair, and 25 percent good. Pears were 25 percent poor, 50 percent fair, and 25 percent good. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, strawberry renovation was occurring. The grape crop continues to be excellent in Onondaga County. In the Finger Lakes fruit region, Concord growers considered thinning. In the Long Island fruit region, grape growers were busy cluster thinning and hedging. The hot humid weather this past week was disrupted by a much needed rain. However, the humid weather and rainfall made conditions ideal for disease development. Veraison will occur on early varieties in the coming weeks.

VEGETABLE: Good rains were received by most of the state last week, alleviating some of the dry conditions. Harvesting of tomatoes began and was eight percent complete. Condition of tomatoes was mostly fair to good. Lettuce condition was reported to be in fair to good condition throughout the state. Condition of onions was reported to be mostly good with some being harvested from transplants. Sweet corn harvest began a few weeks ago and is reported to be five percent complete. Sweet corn condition was reported to be fair to good. Snap bean planting continued and is expected to last through the end of the week. Some snap beans are being harvested and are in fair to good condition. Cabbage condition was fair to good.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture conditions across much of the state were estimated to be in good condition. Pasture conditions were rated 6 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Jefferson and Cortland County pastures are turning green again while Cattaraugus County pastures remain dry.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 22, 2007

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	
<u>Hudson Valley</u>												
Albany	83	54	69	-4	133	1432	+169	2.94	+2.24	18.83	+6.55	
Glens Falls	83	46	66	-5	114	1140	+45	1.86	+1.19	13.35	+1.55	
Poughkeepsie	90	56	72	-2	155	1548	+227	1.18	+0.27	17.51	+3.03	
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>												
Boonville	77	49	62	-5	86	904	+60	0.93	+0.06	14.10	-2.37	
<u>Champlain Valley</u>												
Plattsburgh	80	48	65	-7	104	1055	-67	0.95	+0.26	15.61	+4.79	
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>												
Canton	81	47	66	-4	115	1097	+114	2.10	+1.33	14.62	+3.17	
Massena	82	50	66	-5	112	1135	+86	1.83	+1.13	13.07	+2.54	
<u>Great Lakes</u>												
Buffalo	79	54	68	-4	127	1390	+192	1.94	+1.26	8.71	-2.98	
Wales	77	48	63	-6	94	1020	+62	1.16	+0.39	10.51	-3.56	
Niagara Falls	82	53	68	-4	131	1345	+134	1.51	+0.88	8.28	-3.21	
Rochester	80	52	68	-4	126	1448	+274	0.88	+0.29	7.74	-2.47	
Watertown	80	48	66	-4	111	1099	+117	1.99	+1.57	8.37	-0.85	
<u>Central Lakes</u>												
Dansville	82	48	66	-5	117	1228	+59	2.06	+1.42	9.35	-2.40	
Geneva	81	52	66	-5	117	1269	+120	1.32	+0.69	9.32	-2.40	
Honeoye	79	48	65	-7	108	1174	-20	1.36	+0.78	11.99	-0.49	
Ithaca	81	45	65	-5	108	1138	+99	1.21	+0.44	10.22	-2.24	
Penn Yan	79	53	68	-4	125	1400	+251	1.70	+1.07	9.97	-1.75	
Syracuse	84	54	68	-4	129	1360	+175	1.45	+0.61	12.01	-1.14	
Warsaw	78	51	64	-4	99	1031	+141	0.94	+0.21	13.63	+0.03	
<u>Western Plateau</u>												
Angelica	79	44	62	-6	84	883	+13	2.66	+1.89	12.21	-0.86	
Elmira	83	44	66	-4	117	1220	+114	0.54	-0.21	8.83	-3.29	
Franklinville	78	42	62	-4	87	932	+139	1.76	+0.99	10.94	-2.73	
Jamestown	79	45	64	-4	101	1060	+160	1.86	+0.99	13.51	-1.67	
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>												
Binghamton	81	53	67	-3	119	1260	+189	2.07	+1.30	12.28	-0.32	
Cobleskill	81	49	65	-5	103	1100	+109	1.15	+0.38	17.11	+3.45	
Morrisville	77	50	63	-6	95	1027	+87	1.83	+1.06	12.99	-0.45	
Norwich	83	49	65	-4	107	1067	+76	1.94	+1.17	14.14	+0.43	
Oneonta	88	50	69	+2	131	1309	+394	1.51	+0.63	16.78	+1.96	
<u>Coastal</u>												
Bridgehamton	85	60	73	+2	163	1343	+184	1.01	+0.38	15.58	+2.08	
New York	92	67	78	+2	200	2019	+358	2.88	+1.93	23.42	+9.34	

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

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension, USDA Farm Service Agency, 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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Growing Degree Days Departure from Normal data were revised for week ending July 15, 2007. Please call our office if you would like the updated release at 1-800-821-1276.