



WEATHER AND CROPS

June 2, 2008

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WEATHER: It was another cool week across much of upstate New York with temperatures averaging 5 to 10 degrees below normal. The coolest morning was Wednesday, when patchy frost occurred. Slightly warmer temperatures occurred across southeast New York and Long Island, where temperatures averaged near, or slightly above normal. High pressure dominated much of the state during this week with several reinforcing surges of cooler air moving southeast from central Canada, accompanied by scattered showers mainly across southeast New York and Long Island producing rainfall amounts of one quarter of an inch or less. A low pressure system moved into the Great Lakes on Saturday. A warm front, followed by a cold front associated with this system brought widespread showers and thunderstorms to much of the state on Saturday producing locally heavy rainfall of one to two inches.

CROPS: Dry, cool week with some scattered showers over the weekend allowed farmers to finish their spring planting and begin cutting hay. The lack of rain allowed 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 2 percent very short, 27 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Oat condition was 11 percent fair, 71 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Winter wheat condition was 16 percent fair, 62 percent good, and 22 percent excellent. Eighty-eight percent of the corn was planted compared with 90 percent last year and the five year average of 81. Potatoes were 87 percent planted, behind last year's 89 percent, but ahead of the five year average of 70 percent. Soybeans were 68 percent planted the same as last year, and ahead of the 49 percent five year average. Oats were 98 percent planted compared with 99 percent last year, and a five year average of 96 percent. The following are comments from across the state: Lewis County was busy with the first cutting of hay, but the yields were low. The week was sunny and cool with some scattered showers in St. Lawrence County, but not enough to keep farmers out of the fields. Clinton County received some heavy rains over the weekend. Corn planting was nearly completed in Washington County and the first cutting of hay was progressing at a rapid pace. Some frost was reported in Ontario County for the 28th and 29th with an unknown amount of damage. Frost was also reported in Steuben County. Hail and strong winds were reported in Dutchess and Ulster Counties with damage to crops not known at this time. Corn was emerging and looked good in Montgomery and Fulton Counties.

FRUIT: Apples were at 99 percent petal fall, pears and cherries were at 96 percent petal fall, and peaches were at 92 percent petal fall. This was ahead of last year's progress. With high temperatures this past weekend, the Lake Ontario fruit region was alerted to a possible fire blight infection in apple varieties that still had blossoms. Additionally, oriental fruit moths were still flying and hatching. Green peach aphids were infesting peach orchards, and treatment was recommended. Hail fell across the lakeshore on Saturday, but there were no damage reports yet. In Monroe County, frost conditions caused strawberry losses, and parts of the county were still in need of rain. In Ontario County, there were frost conditions on May 28 and 29, and damage was unknown. On Long Island, the strawberry harvest started. Grape shoot growth began to pick up, and the first catch wire adjustments were taking place.

VEGETABLE: The state as a whole experienced mixes of sunshine along with less than normal temperatures. Counties along the western side of the state even had a few days of patchy frost. Weekend rainfall came but wasn't enough to satisfy most crops. The recent spell of abnormal weather has left all crops planted acreage percentage down from previous year. Sweet corn planted was at 69 percent, minus 7 percent from previous year. Onions were at 89 percent, minus 5 percent previous year. Snap beans were at 42 percent, down from 54 percent last year and cabbage was at 52 percent, minus 15 percent previous year.

LIVESTOCK: Pastures conditions continue to show good growth. Late week precipitation was beneficial to pastures. Pasture conditions across most of the state were estimated to be in good condition. Pasture conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 54 percent good and 14 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, June 1, 2008

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	39	64	+2	101	382	+74	0.19	-0.65	4.15	-2.40	
Glens Falls	82	34	60	-1	73	245	0	0.26	-0.55	4.68	-2.03	
Poughkeepsie	87	38	65	+3	105	415	+64	0.22	-0.75	6.71	-1.27	
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>												
Boonville	73	32	55	-3	43	165	-7	1.01	-0.04	7.35	-1.84	
<u>Champlain Valley</u>												
Plattsburgh	79	41	61	0	78	241	-6	0.93	+0.23	4.83	-0.96	
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>												
Canton	74	30	56	-3	54	246	+35	1.75	+1.05	6.11	+0.16	
Massena	75	36	58	-3	58	240	+6	1.86	+1.23	5.19	-0.09	
<u>Great Lakes</u>												
Buffalo	75	37	58	-4	61	334	+49	1.01	+0.22	4.62	-1.54	
Wales	77	33	56	-4	46	202	-10	0.93	+0.04	4.91	-2.61	
Niagara Falls	76	37	58	-4	63	296	-6	0.95	+0.22	4.61	-1.62	
Rochester	83	36	61	-1	79	379	+74	0.39	-0.27	3.35	-2.10	
Watertown	76	30	57	-2	53	243	+29	1.37	+0.74	6.38	+1.08	
<u>Central Lakes</u>												
Dansville	86	32	59	-3	63	292	+5	0.34	-0.43	2.96	-2.92	
Geneva	83	35	60	-1	72	285	+12	0.51	-0.26	4.27	-1.78	
Honeoye	81	31	59	-3	67	276	-5	0.27	-0.47	3.36	-2.58	
Ithaca	82	32	57	-3	58	235	-4	0.33	-0.50	4.06	-2.31	
Penn Yan	85	40	63	+3	92	368	+95	0.30	-0.47	3.21	-2.84	
Syracuse	83	37	60	-2	74	335	+27	0.24	-0.54	5.19	-1.54	
Warsaw												
<u>Western Plateau</u>												
Angelica	81	30	55	-4	37	144	-43	0.31	-0.56	4.90	-1.06	
Elmira	86	30	60	-1	75	283	+23	0.24	-0.57	4.78	-1.27	
Franklinville	81	30	56	-1	48	159	+5	0.71	-0.18	5.74	-1.24	
Jamestown	80	32	56	-3	46	190	-1	0.15	-0.83	4.76	-3.16	
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>												
Binghamton	79	38	62	+2	85	302	+52	0.46	-0.33	5.19	-1.44	
Cobleskill	80	37	61	+2	77	225	+1	0.89	-0.04	5.05	-2.07	
Morrisville	77	35	59	0	65	216	+6	0.56	-0.35	5.56	-1.41	
Norwich	81	32	57	-3	55	185	-43	0.53	-0.38	5.04	-2.24	
Oneonta	84	34	61	+3	75	277	+76	0.70	-0.30	5.15	-2.82	
<u>Coastal</u>												
Bridgehamton	78	43	62	+2	82	276	+25	0.27	-0.58	5.62	-2.28	
New York	85	53	69	+4	137	537	+51	0.49	-0.35	6.31	-1.42	

^{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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