



WEATHER AND CROPS

May 24, 2010

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, May 23, 2010

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WEATHER: The week started warm and dry with temperatures near or slightly below normal on the 16th and 17th. High temperatures were in the 70's in most areas both days. Lows were the 40's with some 30's in the mountains. An area of low pressure brought rain and below normal temperatures on the 18th and 19th. High temperatures were in the 50's and 60's with lows ranging from the upper 40's to mid 50's. Rainfall ranged from a quarter inch or less in western and northern areas to between three quarters of an inch and an inch in southern areas. Sunny and dry weather returned for the rest of the week, the 20th through the 22nd, with temperatures in the upper 70's to mid 80's and low temperatures in the 40's and 50's.

CROPS: With near perfect weather, fieldwork and haying activities rapidly progressed. There were 5.2 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 13 percent short, 82 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Condition of winter wheat was rated as 1 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 25 percent excellent. Oat condition was 11 percent fair, 69 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Corn planting was 73 percent completed, behind both last year's 77 percent, and the five year average of 74 percent. Ninety-eight percent of the oats were planted, ahead of both last year's 96 percent, and the five year average of 95 percent. Potatoes were 71 percent planted, behind last year's 74 percent, but ahead of the five year average of 66 percent. Thirty percent of the soybeans were planted, behind both the previous year's 37 percent, and the five year average of 39 percent. The following are comments from throughout the state: Montgomery and Fulton County both reported corn and soybean planting was in full swing with some farmers already finished. Haylage harvest was also underway with reports varying from short, headed out, or nice stand with good yields. Grass hay harvest was underway in Cattaraugus County with a few farms already finished with first cutting. Corn planting was ahead of normal in Steuben County with many producers all done planting, and the haylage harvest was started. Cooler temperatures in Broome County put crop growth back to "normal", and the grass silage was 20 percent completed. Grass silage in Delaware County was moving into storage and most of the 1st cutting will be done by the end of the week. Haylage harvest began in Sullivan County on some of the drier soil types, and farmers were continuing to plant corn. Grass and alfalfa harvest began in Otsego County. Corn was emerging in Madison County and the hay harvest was in full swing. Early hay crop harvest was underway in Cortland County, and the corn had emerged. Although some large farms typically harvest hay this early, this was much earlier for the majority of farms. Producers in Cayuga County started hay harvest and the yields were low. Ontario County producers were well underway green chopping and filling Ag bags with haylage. Genesee County's haylage harvest was well underway, and reports indicated excellent quality and good yields. Early planted corn had excellent stands with minimal pest problems, oats needed some rain, and the wheat was heading. Farmers in Franklin County were able to get caught up on planting, and some started cutting hay. St. Lawrence County had an excellent week for fieldwork, with plows and planters working on most operating farms. Corn planting continued in Lewis County and the hay harvest got underway. Continued dry weather in Jefferson County made for near perfect conditions for tillage, planting, and forage harvesting. While much of the grass and alfalfa mixed stands are ready to harvest, the yields were lower than expected. Haylage harvest was moving along in Albany County with some 55 percent complete, and dry hay harvest began in earnest, ahead of normal. Corn was emerging and the stands looked good. Haylage harvest was nearly complete in Saratoga County, and the yields were reported as average to just a little below average.

FRUIT: Apples were at 100 percent petal fall, compared to 81 percent last year. Peaches were at 98 percent full bloom and 97 percent petal fall, compared to 88 and 79 percent last year. Pears were at 99 percent full bloom and 98 percent petal fall, compared to 88 and 79 percent last year. Sweet cherries were at 99 percent full bloom and 97 percent petal fall, compared to 98 and 97 percent last year. In Ontario County, producers were monitoring the effects of last week's frost, and damage to strawberries, grapes, and fruit trees has been reported. Saratoga County fruit growers were still assessing yield loss due to frost damage on May 10th, 11th, and 13th. In the Hudson Valley, spotty damage from last week's frost and high winds was reported by fruit producers. Some strawberries were doing fine, while others died from frost damage. Warm, sunny weather on Long Island accelerated shoot growth in vineyards. Bloom was expected to be early.

VEGETABLE: Planting continued for all vegetable crops. Onion plantings were near completion. Sweet corn was at 44 percent planted, up from 19 percent previous week and compared to 51 percent previous year, and 55 percent for the five year average. Onions were at 92 percent planted, up from 75 percent previous week and compared to 100 percent previous year. Onion planting in Orange County is complete. Snap beans were at 16 percent planted, up from 12 percent last week and compared to 15 percent previous year, and 33 percent five year average. Cabbage was at 48 percent planted, up from 25 percent last week and compared to 52 percent last year and 47 percent five year average.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture conditions were considered to be in good condition in most areas. Pastures were growing well. Pasture conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 25 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, May 23, 2010

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	85	40	62	+4	86	333	+142	0.20	-0.57	3.02	-2.44
Glens Falls	83	35	60	+3	71	256	+110	0.24	-0.60	3.61	-2.03
Poughkeepsie	86	39	62	+2	82	381	+155	0.64	+0.34	3.51	-3.19
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	80	40	60	+6	71	197	+96	0.05	-0.93	4.82	-3.05
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	81	37	60	+3	69	227	+80	0.01	-0.62	3.33	-1.54
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	81	37	60	+5	74	240	+115	0.00	-0.68	3.46	-1.57
Massena	81	38	62	+6	84	254	+112	0.09	-0.47	2.57	-1.92
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	84	45	62	+5	88	306	+130	0.27	-0.43	4.91	-0.23
Wales	81	39	58	+3	59	235	+108	0.34	-0.47	5.30	-1.09
Niagara Falls	81	43	62	+5	87	316	+125	0.08	-0.57	4.82	-0.48
Rochester	80	42	63	+5	90	355	+158	0.26	-0.37	4.05	-0.55
Watertown	84	35	62	+7	87	261	+132	0.01	-0.62	2.91	-1.57
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	82	38	59	+2	65	290	+110	0.48	-0.16	4.57	-0.32
Geneva	83	41	62	+5	84	314	+145	0.20	-0.48	4.40	-0.66
Honeoye	83	36	61	+4	80	329	+156	0.22	-0.41	4.67	-0.33
Ithaca	83	36	60	+4	71	291	+146	0.22	-0.55	4.65	-0.65
Penn Yan	84	41	62	+5	87	353	+184	0.31	-0.37	4.19	-0.87
Syracuse	84	41	63	+5	94	358	+161	0.02	-0.72	3.72	-2.01
Warsaw	81	42	58	+5	62	229	+118	0.32	-0.46	6.04	+0.13
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	82	39	59	+5	63	251	+141	0.59	-0.08	5.55	+0.71
Elmira	85	36	60	+4	74	317	+157	0.47	-0.26	4.93	-0.06
Franklinville	82	35	56	+3	45	186	+100	0.37	-0.42	5.95	+0.12
Jamestown	82	43	58	+4	57	236	+124	0.93	+0.02	6.58	-0.09
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	81	44	61	+4	77	344	+192	0.30	-0.47	4.75	-0.86
Cobleskill	82	37	59	+4	68	240	+106	0.32	-0.52	3.93	-1.99
Morrisville	84	40	60	+5	74	245	+119	0.02	-0.82	5.49	-0.27
Norwich	84	36	60	+4	68	231	+92	0.05	-0.79	5.01	-1.09
Oneonta	83	38	59	+5	68	247	+127	0.22	-0.76	5.41	-1.24
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	79	42	60	+4	74	306	+157	1.64	+0.80	5.17	-1.65
New York	85	51	65	+3	106	588	+259	0.95	+0.11	5.42	-1.23

^{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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