



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 12, 2010

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, July 11, 2010

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WEATHER: Temperatures averaged above to well above seasonal levels statewide as a southwest flow around high pressure across the southeast states brought hot and increasingly humid weather to the region. Precipitation amounts were near to above average across central and western New York and below average across much of eastern New York and Long Island. Most of the rain fell Friday into Saturday as a slow moving cold front crossed the state from the west. Showers and thunderstorms preceded and accompanied this front with the areal coverage most numerous across western and central New York and isolated to scattered across eastern portions of the state.

CROPS: There were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 4 percent very short, 22 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. Condition of winter wheat was rated as 1 percent poor, 7 percent fair, 68 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Oat condition was 1 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 62 percent good, and 23 percent excellent. Hay condition was 3 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 22 percent excellent. Ninety-nine percent of the soybeans were planted, behind both the previous year's 100 percent, and the five year average of 100 percent. Alfalfa first cutting was 99 percent completed, ahead of both last year's 90 percent, and the five year average of 95 percent. Ninety-four percent of the clover timothy was harvested, ahead of both last year's 76 percent, and the five year average of 82 percent. Ninety-eight percent of the grass silage was harvested ahead of both last year's 92 percent, and the five year average of 92 percent. Dry beans were 97 percent planted, ahead of last year's 85 percent and ahead of the five year average of 92 percent. The following are comments from throughout the state: Jefferson County had a torrential downpour on Friday that cooled the area down, but the sunny, dry weather during the earlier part of the week provided ideal conditions for dry hay and haylage harvest. Early planted field corn started to push tassels. Dry weather in Lewis County also allowed a great deal of second cut hay to be harvested. Heavy rain over the weekend caused the lodging of some small grains that had not been harvested yet. Hot, humid weather kept producers from staying out too long in St. Lawrence County, and deteriorated crop conditions as well. Some corn was rolling up during the heat of the day, particularly the border rows. Franklin County's corn was greatly improved over the last week with the extremely hot, muggy weather, but the corn on wet, heavy soils had not fared as well. Wheat harvest was proceeding rapidly in Genesee County with good quality and yield reported so far. First cut hay harvest was nearly complete and the second was nearly done on what was harvested for early cut haylage. Ontario County wheat harvest was underway and dry hay continued to be baled. Combining of wheat in Cayuga County started, and the dry weather allowed for baling of good quality straw. Second cut haylage was almost complete, and some corn began to tassel. Dry, hot conditions made for ideal haymaking conditions, and everyone was cutting hay over the last week finishing up second cutting. Earlier planted corn was really helped by the warm temperatures, but later planted corn was showing stress. Soybeans that went in late were looking much more stressed. Rain after the stretch of hot dry weather was very important in Otsego County. Most localities were watered well, and the corn was growing fast. Dry hay production continued in Albany County, and the quality was excellent. Corn was tasseling and could use some rain. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, farmers were reporting the best haying weather in 10 years. Corn was also looking great with much tasseling out already. Rensselaer County needed some rain, and the corn leaves were starting to roll. Saratoga County was also in need of some rainfall. Field corn leaves were beginning to curl, and second and third cut hay re-growth was being adversely affected. Corn was curling in Washington County and showing the effects of the dry weather in some fields. More rain will be needed to keep crops growing. Some reports from farmers in the southern part of Columbia County indicated that corn had yellowed and most likely died from lack of rainfall. Dry weather conditions continued in Dutchess County, and decreased soil moisture levels over the past week prompted growers to establish drip irrigation systems. Second cutting re-growth was hindered by lack of rainfall, and some corn was beginning to show signs of distress. Extensive dry conditions in Sullivan County limited hay re-growth, and corn started to exhibit early signs of drought stress.

FRUIT: Apples were 1 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 71 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Grapes were 3 percent poor, 6 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 44 percent excellent. Peaches were 4 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 72 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Pears were 3 percent poor, 11 percent fair, and 86 percent good. Sweet cherries were 11 percent fair, 85 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Tart cherries were 1 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 22 percent excellent. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, there were continued reports of fire blight in orchards. Peaches were sizing and starting to develop color. In Albany County, apples sized nicely even though the area was dry. The apple crop was variable with some trees in a block having apples while others on the outside had none. Cayuga County blueberry and bramble harvests were in full swing. The Lake Erie grape region saw severe powdery mildew cluster infections, while downy mildew and black rot were kept at bay. The Long Island wine industry experienced one of the longest hot, dry stretches in history. Disease pressure was moderate to low, and insects were spotty. Growers were forced to ratchet up the irrigation, particularly in young plantings with limited root systems.

VEGETABLE: Sweet corn was picked for farmer's markets along with other varieties of produce. Lettuce was 92 percent planted with reported conditions of 7 percent poor, 6 percent fair, 25 percent good, and 62 percent excellent. Onion condition was 23 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 30 percent excellent. Sweet corn was 99 percent planted, up from 97 percent previous week, with conditions of 28 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. Cabbage was 98 percent planted, up from 95 percent last week. Snap beans were 89 percent planted and tomatoes are 100 percent planted.

LIVESTOCK: Some pastures were starting to show signs of heat stress. Excessive dry conditions reduced quality of pasture. Grass in pasture was crunchy and limited in growth. Pasture conditions were rated 3 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 9 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 11, 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	96	60	81	+10	218	1350	+329	0.30	-0.42	8.13	-3.05
Glens Falls	95	54	78	+10	201	1132	+257	0.39	-0.24	7.66	-3.11
Poughkeepsie	102	56	81	+9	215	1439	+366	0.60	-0.31	6.01	-7.04
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	89	59	74	+10	173	895	+231	0.24	-0.67	13.32	-1.77
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	97	62	80	+11	209	1081	+185	0.35	-0.28	8.45	-1.32
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	91	60	78	+11	194	1099	+321	0.94	+0.23	11.30	+1.04
Massena	93	62	79	+11	207	1140	+307	0.89	+0.19	9.79	+0.36
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	92	62	77	+7	189	1266	+303	0.48	-0.20	13.52	+2.87
Wales	88	56	74	+7	167	1029	+268	0.80	-0.04	12.31	-0.55
Niagara Falls	92	59	77	+8	193	1310	+333	0.47	-0.16	10.61	+0.10
Rochester	94	59	78	+9	200	1317	+370	1.26	+0.65	11.25	+1.95
Watertown	90	60	77	+10	191	1112	+339	1.11	+0.69	10.16	+1.58
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	93	56	76	+6	182	1288	+345	1.14	+0.41	10.94	+0.23
Geneva	93	62	78	+9	198	1273	+352	1.10	+0.40	12.12	+1.40
Honeoye	93	56	76	+6	186	1246	+290	2.06	+1.40	13.90	+3.34
Ithaca	94	56	77	+9	188	1170	+340	0.93	+0.15	9.24	-2.01
Penn Yan	94	60	79	+10	203	1333	+412	1.40	+0.70	10.32	-0.40
Syracuse	94	61	80	+10	210	1365	+408	0.67	-0.24	10.96	-0.87
Warsaw	90	57	74	+9	172	1027	+323	1.46	+0.66	15.70	+3.27
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	92	55	75	+10	178	1121	+433	1.14	+0.26	12.47	+0.64
Elmira	97	54	77	+9	194	1246	+360	1.14	+0.34	10.64	-0.29
Franklinville	92	52	73	+8	158	958	+335	1.57	+0.72	12.84	+0.41
Jamestown	91	54	75	+9	175	1096	+383	1.00	+0.08	12.30	-1.49
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	92	60	77	+9	192	1262	+405	0.28	-0.54	10.19	-1.20
Cobleskill	93	59	76	+10	185	1094	+301	0.47	-0.36	9.35	-3.10
Morrisville	94	58	76	+9	182	1085	+339	0.48	-0.36	13.33	+1.12
Norwich	95	34	75	+8	181	1057	+266	0.36	-0.46	11.70	-0.80
Oneonta	94	57	77	+11	188	1117	+389	0.94	+0.03	11.53	-1.89
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	100	61	80	+10	214	1354	+436	0.56	-0.14	6.75	-5.74
New York	103	73	86	+11	256	1929	+562	0.01	-0.90	7.13	-5.48

^{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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