



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## October 12, 2010

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Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets  
10B Airline Drive, Albany, New York 12235  
(518) 457-5570 · (518) 485-8719 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

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Released, October 12, 2010

Week Ending, October 10, 2010

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**WEATHER:** The week started with a developing upper level low pressure system across the northern Appalachians and a surface low off the Mid-Atlantic coast Sunday. This combination of systems brought widespread rainfall and below normal temperatures to much of the state Monday into Tuesday. As the surface low moved northward along the northern Mid-Atlantic coast into eastern New England, additional rainfall fell much of central and northern New York State Wednesday before gradually tapering to showers on Thursday. By Friday, weak high pressure built east from the Ohio Valley region bringing generally clear skies and more seasonable temperatures. A weak cold front then settled southward across the state late Friday night into early Saturday, accompanied mainly by some clouds. For this week, temperatures averaged below seasonal levels across western portions of the state and near to above normal across eastern portions of the state. Precipitation generally averaged above normal.

**CROPS:** It was a cool, wet week across the state. Rainfall pushed soil moisture to 51 percent adequate and 49 percent surplus. There were on 3.4 days suitable for fieldwork. Corn condition was rated 2 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 30 percent excellent. Silage corn harvest reached 92 percent complete, ahead of last years 63 percent and the average of 76 percent. Grain corn was 18 percent harvested, compared to 3 percent a year ago and 12 percent average. Soybeans were rated at 3 percent poor condition, 17 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 35 percent excellent. Harvest was 21 percent finished, ahead of 15 percent last year and average of 20 percent. Potatoes were 70 percent harvested, behind last years 85 percent and average of 82 percent. Dry bean harvest, at 50 percent complete, also lagged last year, at 67 percent, and average, at 57 percent. The following are comments from throughout the state: Silage harvest is nearly complete, and combines are rolling through corn and soybean fields and manure pits are being emptied in Jefferson County. The continued wet weather has basically put an end to any more winter grain planting in the county. As fields conditions permit in Lewis County, farms will be finishing corn silage and working on High Moisture Corn. Another wet week in St. Lawrence County. Fields are sodden and any farmer expecting to make any hay crop silage runs the risk of rutting up fields and making a mess. All of the rain the last couple of weeks in Clinton County has made it difficult to harvest corn. There is still corn silage to be chopped, many producers are struggling with the mud. Rain slowed/stopped all field operations Tuesday – Friday in Erie County. Wheat planting resumed Sunday. Very light frost, but not killing on Sunday morning. Early planted wheat looks excellent. Rain continued for most of the week in Ontario County with substantial rainfall at times. The rain has caused some prevented planting wheat and delayed the corn and soybean for grain harvest. Heavy steady rainfall in southern part of Cayuga County has considerably slowed harvest. Fields are slowly drying out from the torrential rain last week in Cortland County. Corn silage harvest slowly continues with the aid of 4-wheel drive tractors. The last of the corn silage has been harvested in Herkimer County. Corn grain harvest is in full swing. In Fulton and Montgomery Counties, corn silage is winding down and corn grain harvesting is really moving into full swing and the soybean harvest has begun. Corn silage harvest in Saratoga County is winding down and should be complete in a week to ten days. Third cutting haylage and dry baled hay harvesting is continuing with yields at or above average. Some fourth cutting haylage harvest is underway. Grain corn harvest for dry and high moisture is also underway with average to above average yields noted. Crop appraisers were completing appraisals on flooded soybeans and silage corn in Broome County. Rain at the beginning of the week again slowed the drying down of grain corn. Harvesting continues to progress steadily in Dutchess County.

**FRUIT:** Apples were 5 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Grapes were 3 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 32 percent excellent. Pears were 9 percent poor, 6 percent fair, and 85 percent good. Apples were 78 percent harvested, compared to 51 percent last year and the 5-year average of 64 percent. Grapes were 71 percent harvested, compared to 52 percent last year and the 5-year average of 63 percent. Pears were 99 percent harvested, compared to 99 percent last year and the 5-year average of 95 percent. Apple harvest continued across the state. Some apple producers in Ulster County lost the end apple crop due to hail. In the Lake Erie grape region, Concord harvest continued with vineyards starting to show signs of shelling and leaves shutting down. Late season reds were still hanging with a minimum of berry splitting. Finger Lakes vineyards continued to focus on the Riesling harvest, and some red varieties were also being harvested. Most varieties have been harvested in the Hudson Valley, with the exception of Cabernet Franc. On Long Island, a few Merlot blocks designated for rosé have been picked, as well as a few early ripening blocks on dry sites.

**VEGETABLE:** Areas across the state received frost during the week, ending the growing season in these localities. Tomatoes were 94 percent picked. Sweet corn harvest reached about 98 percent complete. Onions were 85 percent harvested, snap beans 99 percent and cabbage 95 percent. Progress for all crops was about equal to last year and average.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pastures were very wet. Pasture conditions were rated 2 percent very poor, 18 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 7 percent excellent.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, October 10, 2010**

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° <sup>1/</sup>			Precipitation (Inches) <sup>1/</sup>				
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm	
<b><u>Hudson Valley</u></b>												
Albany	71	34	55	+2	35	3092	+630	1.76	+1.13	20.60	+0.08	
Glens Falls	71	29	53	+3	26	2573	+447	1.14	+0.51	21.29	+0.92	
Poughkeepsie	74	32	56	+2	40	3260	+659	0.53	-0.17	19.40	-4.17	
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>												
Boonville	66	32	48	-1	6	1987	+332	2.44	+1.44	34.80	+5.37	
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>												
Plattsburgh	69	32	51	0	23	2504	+351	0.88	+0.32	23.95	+4.11	
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>												
Canton	65	32	49	-1	12	2412	+475	1.78	+1.02	27.94	+6.34	
Massena	67	33	51	+2	23	2587	+567	1.80	+1.17	27.26	+7.61	
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>												
Buffalo	67	36	52	-3	21	2884	+486	0.87	+0.19	22.17	+0.89	
Wales	66	34	49	-4	9	2329	+395	1.01	+0.16	22.60	-2.50	
Niagara Falls	70	33	52	-3	23	2958	+555	0.96	+0.33	18.63	-2.18	
Rochester	69	36	53	-2	24	2905	+576	1.67	+1.11	23.48	+5.27	
Watertown	65	31	51	-1	17	2593	+596	1.60	+0.97	23.32	+6.05	
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>												
Dansville	73	34	52	-2	20	2778	+446	1.80	+1.17	25.85	+5.79	
Geneva	70	36	53	-2	25	2751	+445	1.18	+0.52	27.60	+7.75	
Honeoye	71	31	50	-5	16	2693	+259	1.86	+1.21	27.86	+8.22	
Ithaca	71	29	50	-2	14	2575	+496	1.25	+0.48	23.07	+1.56	
Penn Yan	72	35	54	+1	30	2911	+605	0.74	+0.08	23.24	+3.39	
Syracuse	73	36	54	+1	33	3028	+681	0.87	+0.12	27.27	+4.68	
Warsaw	63	36	49	-2	10	2259	+490	1.66	+0.89	28.33	+4.77	
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>												
Angelica	70	33	50	-1	11	2483	+737	1.41	+0.71	26.95	+4.78	
Elmira	74	28	52	0	23	2762	+568	1.10	+0.47	22.37	+2.31	
Franklinville	69	27	48	-3	3	2149	+546	1.24	+0.40	25.98	+2.11	
Jamestown	70	35	49	-2	10	2471	+655	1.08	+0.17	26.82	+0.00	
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>												
Binghamton	70	34	51	-2	18	2738	+621	1.01	+0.36	23.62	+2.40	
Cobleskill	69	35	51	-1	14	2462	+493	2.08	+1.38	27.33	+4.44	
Morrisville	67	34	49	-2	8	2315	+445	1.56	+0.78	30.47	+7.36	
Norwich	72	30	51	0	19	2394	+427	1.48	+0.74	25.91	+3.12	
Oneonta	70	32	51	+2	15	2513	+712	1.76	+0.99	29.34	+5.07	
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>												
Bridgehampton	74	36	57	+1	54	3273	+762	0.97	+0.27	17.29	-5.02	
New York	76	52	62	+2	84	4340	+995	0.34	-0.32	17.34	-6.01	

<sup>1/</sup> Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> 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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