



WEATHER AND CROPS

April 25, 2011

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

Released, April 25, 2011

Week Ending, April 24, 2011

No. 977-01-11

This is the first edition of the New York “Weather and Crops” for the 2011 season. The New York Agricultural Statistics Service looks forward to working with the Agricultural Weather Information Service, National Weather Service personnel, Agricultural Extension agents, USDA Farm Service Agency agents, and independent volunteer observers who collectively make this report possible.

WEATHER: A rather cool and unsettled period across the state with periods of showers and ample cloud cover as a series of storm systems impacted the region through most of last week. However, by Friday a large Canadian high pressure system settled across the entire region with below normal temperatures but dry weather. Another storm system approached to start the holiday weekend with more clouds and periods of rain.

CROPS: Another cold and rainy week resulted in very little progress in fields across the state. There were 1.7 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 28 percent adequate and 72 percent surplus. Oat seedings were 3 percent completed compared to 71 percent last year. Potatoes were 22 percent planted compared to 57 percent last year. The following are comments from throughout the state: Wet field conditions in Jefferson County prevented most farmers from any tillage operations. Manure spreading continued. In Lewis County, cool, wet weather continued to delay the start of field work. Fieldwork in St Lawrence County remained at a standstill with wet fields, especially in low lying areas. There was limited topdressing of winter wheat in Genesee County. Hay and wheat fields in Livingston County were greening up, but very saturated. Ontario County experienced excessive rain showers that caused some flash flooding. Winter wheat and hay seedings were being monitored for potential damage. Cayuga County perennial crops were delayed in development due to cold temperatures. Noticeable water was sitting on top of fields and pasture in Chenango County. Most fields in Cortland County were too wet to work. Grass was starting to turn green, and dairy herds were beginning to turn out on pasture, although many cows were still in the barn awaiting better pasture. Standing water was an issue in Madison County, with limited plowing being done. Some tillage was done in Otsego County, but no planting was accomplished. Field corn plantings and seedings were being delayed in Albany County, while pastures were greening up. In Fulton and Montgomery County, pasture was still short and some manure was being spread. Washington County had a hard frost on Friday morning and some light snow Saturday. A few well drained fields in Broome County were plowed, but field work was far behind normal. Pasture fields were greening, but limited livestock grazing occurred due to wet conditions. Delaware County saw snow on Thursday and farmers continue to fix fencing. Some corn and oats were being planted in Dutchess County.

FRUIT: Apples were 88 percent green tip or earlier and 15 percent half-inch green to pink. Peaches were 93 percent green tip or earlier and 10 percent half-inch green to pink. Pears were 90 percent green tip or earlier and 10 percent half-inch green to pink. Sweet cherries were 86 percent green tip or earlier and 11 percent half-inch green to pink. Tart cherries were 90 percent green tip or earlier and 10 percent half-inch green to pink. Orchards in Albany County were finishing up pruning and started to spray. Vineyards on Long Island were not yet in budbreak due to the cool spring.

VEGETABLE: Sweet corn was 2 percent planted compared to 6 percent last year. Onions were 17 percent planted compared to 20 percent last year. Onion growers in Yates County were behind on planting due to the wet conditions and cold ground. Albany County vegetable crops were being planted, although sweet corn has been slow to emerge due to cool soil temperatures. Producers in Broome County were well behind the normal schedule of planting early spring crops.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was 9 percent very poor, 29 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 24 percent good, and 1 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, April 24, 2011

| 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 | 57 | 27 | 46 | -4 | 4 | 33 | +17 | 0.96 | 0.26 | 3.37 | +0.98 |
| Glens Falls | 55 | 24 | 43 | -4 | 0 | 24 | +16 | 1.03 | +0.33 | 2.57 | +0.22 |
| Poughkeepsie | 62 | 27 | 48 | -2 | 8 | 41 | +15 | 0.82 | -0.02 | 4.34 | +1.62 |
| <u>Mohawk Valley</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Boonville | 53 | 25 | 37 | -7 | 0 | 6 | -1 | 1.95 | +0.90 | 5.07 | +1.34 |
| <u>Champlain Valley</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plattsburgh | 55 | 30 | 42 | -4 | 0 | 11 | +1 | 1.01 | +0.31 | 3.01 | +0.79 |
| <u>St. Lawrence Valley</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canton | 57 | 25 | 39 | -6 | 0 | 6 | -1 | 1.31 | +0.61 | 3.84 | +1.59 |
| Massena | 64 | 24 | 42 | -4 | 4 | 21 | +13 | 0.54 | -0.09 | 4.12 | +2.00 |
| <u>Great Lakes</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Buffalo | 67 | 31 | 43 | -5 | 6 | 36 | +20 | 1.75 | +1.05 | 4.12 | +1.85 |
| Wales | 67 | 27 | 42 | -4 | 5 | 21 | +14 | 1.91 | +1.01 | 4.44 | +1.39 |
| Niagara Falls | 70 | 30 | 43 | -6 | 7 | 33 | +15 | 1.52 | +0.76 | 3.83 | +1.28 |
| Rochester | 70 | 30 | 44 | -5 | 7 | 40 | +21 | 2.30 | +1.67 | 4.16 | +2.09 |
| Watertown | 65 | 25 | 42 | -4 | 3 | 21 | +13 | 1.19 | +0.57 | 3.83 | +1.85 |
| <u>Central Lakes</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dansville | 72 | 29 | 46 | -3 | 14 | 45 | +28 | 1.51 | +0.81 | 3.25 | +1.01 |
| Geneva | 68 | 31 | 44 | -4 | 4 | 21 | +7 | 2.09 | +1.39 | 4.08 | +1.77 |
| Honeoye | 69 | 27 | 44 | -4 | 7 | 29 | +14 | 2.05 | +1.35 | 4.00 | +1.65 |
| Ithaca | 72 | 27 | 43 | -3 | 5 | 20 | +10 | 1.08 | +0.38 | 5.10 | +2.79 |
| Penn Yan | 68 | 28 | 45 | -3 | 9 | 32 | +18 | 1.15 | +0.45 | 3.26 | +0.95 |
| Syracuse | 70 | 30 | 46 | -3 | 12 | 47 | +30 | 2.58 | +1.79 | 5.08 | +2.41 |
| Warsaw | 65 | 27 | 40 | -5 | 3 | 13 | +8 | 2.65 | +1.82 | 5.18 | +2.47 |
| <u>Western Plateau</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Angelica | 67 | 28 | 43 | -1 | 5 | 20 | +16 | 1.76 | +1.08 | 5.09 | +2.86 |
| Elmira | 73 | 24 | 46 | -2 | 12 | 31 | +19 | 0.99 | +0.36 | 3.45 | +1.33 |
| Franklinville | 71 | 26 | 42 | -2 | 6 | 19 | +16 | 2.15 | +1.37 | 5.00 | +2.38 |
| Jamestown | 73 | 30 | 44 | -2 | 9 | 26 | +19 | 2.26 | +1.35 | 5.36 | +2.31 |
| <u>Eastern Plateau</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Binghamton | 69 | 29 | 43 | -4 | 4 | 18 | +8 | 1.09 | +0.32 | 4.72 | +2.25 |
| Cobleskill | 68 | 26 | 42 | -4 | 1 | 11 | +3 | 1.23 | +0.46 | 3.11 | +0.48 |
| Morrisville | 67 | 26 | 40 | -6 | 0 | 7 | +1 | 1.48 | +0.71 | 5.79 | 3.36 |
| Norwich | 70 | 25 | 42 | -5 | 4 | 19 | +11 | 1.36 | +0.56 | 4.88 | +2.23 |
| Oneonta | 68 | 26 | 43 | -2 | 3 | 15 | +8 | 1.40 | +0.56 | 4.39 | +1.67 |
| <u>Coastal</u> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bridgehamton | 61 | 36 | 50 | +2 | 7 | 13 | +4 | 0.06 | -0.85 | 2.65 | -0.54 |
| New York | 66 | 40 | 52 | -2 | 24 | 59 | +5 | 0.83 | -0.08 | 4.49 | +1.48 |

^{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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