



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 18, 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, July 18, 2011

Week Ending, July 17, 2011

No. 977-13-11

WEATHER: The week started out with high pressure over the region and above normal temperatures. A cold front tracked through the region Tuesday afternoon through Wednesday morning with most areas seeing less than two tenths of an inch of rain and many areas receiving a few hundredths of an inch of rain or less. Parts of the northern New York including the Adirondacks received up to a half inch locally. High pressure and dry weather returned to the area later Wednesday through Saturday with normal temperatures at the end of the week trending to above normal by Saturday.

CROPS: There were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 22 percent very short, 37 percent short, 40 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Condition of corn was rated as 10 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Hay condition was rated as 7 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Oat condition was rated as 7 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Condition of soybeans was rated as 7 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. The first cutting of alfalfa was 99 percent complete, slightly ahead of the average of 98 percent, while the second cutting of alfalfa was 63 percent complete. The first cutting of clover timothy was 97 percent complete, ahead of the average of 90 percent, while the second cutting of clover timothy was 50 percent complete. The first cutting of grass silage was 98 percent complete, ahead of the 96 percent average. Oats were 99 percent planted, behind the 100 percent planted a year ago and the 100 percent average. Dry beans were 99 percent planted, behind last year's 100 percent, but ahead of the 95 percent average. Soybean planting was virtually complete. Winter wheat was 37 percent harvested, behind the 64 percent harvested last year. Oats for grain and potato harvests were starting. The following are comments from throughout the state: A small amount of rain in Jefferson County was welcome, but more was needed as corn began showing signs that it was lacking adequate soil moisture. St Lawrence County had a mix of sun and rain, and corn shot up another foot. Lots of baled and silage hay was also harvested. Corn conditions in Franklin County were variable and there were reports that second cut grass was light. Corn in Genesee County was suffering from heat and dry weather. The Ontario County dry spell continued. The lack of rain caused poor re-growth on hay fields and both corn and soybeans were struggling and in need of rain. Wheat harvest was well underway. Corn in Yates County was so dry it was spindling. Additionally, soybeans were not growing. Dry conditions persisted in Cayuga County. Some crops were showing signs of stress from the hot, dry weather. Crops in the northern portion of Chenango County were in excellent shape, while crops in the southern portion had very spotty conditions. Recent heat and dry weather allowed corn to shoot up, but rain was much needed. Hot, dry weather in Cortland County had all of first cutting and most of second cutting caught up. Corn showed signs of needing rain as it began to point and curl, but heat really pushed the corn up. Hay was suffering from the dry heat. In Madison County, it was a good week for harvesting hay, however, the soil was starting to dry out. More late corn was planted in the central part of the county. Some plantings were only 7-10 inches tall, while the vast majority of corn was just on the verge of tasseling. Hot weather in Otsego County pushed corn along well. Hay quality was low, but overall it looked like a decent crop year. Montgomery and Fulton Counties finished planting corn, but sorghum planting continued. Second cutting of hay was completed on farms that took first cutting during the window of opportunity. Corn and third cutting alfalfa could use a few showers. Second cutting of haylage was well underway in Saratoga County, and producers were reporting average to above-average yields. The dry weather allowed a lot of dry baled first cut hay to be completed. Some producers also baled a minor amount of second cut dry hay as well. Rye for grain harvest was expected to start next week. Washington County had a week of warm and dry weather. Some corn was curling in fields that were under water only a few weeks earlier. It appeared that root systems for crops were very shallow due to excessive moisture this spring, and were more susceptible to heat stress. Warm, sunny days in Broome County brought on corn development and tassels were peeking out from earlier planted fields. However, late planted corn was at a standstill. Fields that were too wet initially were now turning to brick without any rain to keep the soil soft. Second cutting yields were low, but producers were cutting off hay in hopes of a good third cutting. Conditions in Schuyler County were extremely dry. Wheat harvest had started. Delaware County experienced a nice stretch of sunny, dry days. Second cut harvest was going smoothly and a large amount of dry and silage hay went into storage. Dutchess County producers were happy making hay, and corn was thriving in most places. Dry weather in Sullivan County was beneficial for producers to get in hay and second cutting of grass silage.

FRUIT: Apples were in 10 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 68 percent good and 5 percent excellent condition. Harvest of the earliest varieties was about to begin. Grape condition was 5 percent fair, 91 percent good and 4 percent excellent. Ideal growing conditions were reported on Long Island. Growers were trimming excess growth from vines and thinning crops to desired levels. Peach condition was 12 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Harvest was 8 percent complete. Sweet cherry condition was 4 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Harvest advanced to 87 percent complete. Tart cherry condition was 2 percent poor, 3 percent fair, 72 percent good, and 23 percent excellent. Harvest was 59 percent finished. Blueberry picking was underway with good yields expected.

VEGETABLE: Local farm stands were full of produce. Vegetables across the state were stressed due to dry weather. Lettuce was 100 percent planted with reported conditions of 2 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 48 percent excellent. Onions had reported conditions of 2 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 63 percent good and 18 percent excellent. Sweet corn was 100 percent planted, 9 percent harvested, with conditions of 8 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Cabbage was 100 percent planted, up from 85 percent last week and 2 percent harvested. Snap beans were 96 percent planted and 1 percent harvested, compared to 2 percent previous year. Tomatoes were at 100 percent planted and 7 percent harvested.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was suffering from dry heat. Some pasture fields being extensively grazed were starting to decline with dry and over mature areas in fields. Managed pastures were adequate to excellent but started to dry at weeks end. Pasture was rated 3 percent very poor, 19 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 9 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 17, 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	91	56	75	+4	177	1443	+290	0.12	-0.58	15.13	+3.35
Glens Falls	90	51	72	+2	152	1224	+229	0.05	-0.58	14.31	+3.00
Poughkeepsie	92	57	75	+3	177	1518	+312	0.01	-0.90	16.52	+2.69
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	85	52	68	+3	128	905	+145	0.17	-0.71	22.25	+6.41
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	89	53	71	+1	148	111	+94	0.45	-0.19	17.69	+7.37
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	87	51	71	+3	147	1145	+257	0.50	-0.24	16.74	+5.84
Massena	91	51	73	+4	162	1240	+291	0.52	-0.18	13.74	+3.71
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	89	57	74	+4	169	1305	+216	0.00	-0.63	18.33	7.14
Wales	88	50	71	+3	146	1061	+193	0.00	-0.78	16.01	+2.49
Niagara Falls	89	52	74	+3	168	1250	+147	0.00	-0.62	14.17	+3.13
Rochester	94	53	74	+5	172	1327	+258	0.00	-0.56	12.00	+2.22
Watertown	90	50	72	+4	157	1149	+262	0.28	-0.12	13.79	+4.87
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	92	53	75	+5	174	1502	+438	0.00	-0.69	11.71	+0.41
Geneva	91	53	73	+3	165	1291	+247	0.01	-0.64	12.26	+0.99
Honeoye	91	45	71	-1	147	1239	+155	0.01	-0.62	14.19	+3.09
Ithaca	89	49	71	+3	149	1197	+253	0.02	-0.75	16.47	+4.56
Penn Yan	92	54	75	+5	173	1379	+335	0.00	-0.65	11.00	-0.27
Syracuse	93	57	75	+6	180	1540	+460	0.01	-0.84	17.32	+4.77
Warsaw	86	53	71	+4	145	1025	+220	0.00	-0.77	17.75	+4.66
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Hornell Almond Dam	91	49	70	+3	142	1105	+228	0.00	-0.73	16.78	+5.55
Elmira	93	48	73	+3	159	1298	+292	0.00	-0.77	13.90	+2.31
Franklinville	87	46	68	+4	132	1029	+316	0.00	-0.81	19.85	+6.73
Jamestown	88	52	71	+5	149	1162	+347	0.00	-0.91	19.41	+4.84
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	87	56	73	+4	162	1237	+266	0.02	-0.75	19.48	+7.43
Cobleskill	85	52	70	+3	145	1103	+202	0.00	-0.77	17.63	+4.52
Morrisville	86	54	71	+4	149	1068	+218	0.05	-0.75	15.74	+2.85
Norwich	88	51	69	+2	136	1133	+234	0.00	-0.77	22.26	+9.10
Oneonta	88	51	69	+3	138	1121	+291	0.00	-0.91	21.04	+6.84
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	89	61	75	+4	178	1341	+292	0.00	-0.66	13.83	+0.78
New York	92	66	80	+4	211	1753	+227	0.00	-0.93	13.69	+0.28

^{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.

Visit our website at www.nass.usda.gov/ny and click on "Subscribe to NY Reports" for instructions on subscribing electronically. You may also visit our website to access all our reports which are available for free online.