



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## July 23, 2012

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)

Released, July 23, 2012

Week Ending, July 22, 2012

No. 977-14-12

**WEATHER:** Temperatures were above normal at the beginning of the week to around normal by the end of the week. Precipitation was generally near normal where thunderstorms occurred and below normal where thunderstorms did not occur. Leading up to the cold front passage from July 17<sup>th</sup> to July 19<sup>th</sup>, temperatures went from around normal on July 15<sup>th</sup> to well above normal for the entire state through July 18<sup>th</sup>. Some record high temperatures were set on Tuesday. The state was under an area of high pressure at the beginning of the week which gave the region above average temperatures. After the front passed through temperatures from northern New York to southern New York were closer to normal to even slightly below normal, especially for northern regions by the end of the week. Precipitation was mainly due to showers and thunderstorms associated with the cold front passage. On July 17<sup>th</sup>, northern New York had severe thunderstorms. On July 18<sup>th</sup> the cold front passage gave showers and some severe thunderstorms to the mid to lower Hudson Valley. The passage of the front on July 19<sup>th</sup> produced more stratiform precipitation in the lower Hudson Valley and coastal New York areas. After the cold front passage, dry conditions were present throughout the region.

**CROPS:** There were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 42 percent very short, 43 percent short, and 15 percent adequate. Hay crops were rated 26 percent poor, 46 percent fair, 26 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Condition of oats were 3 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 70 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Wheat was rated 2 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 73 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Corn was rated 12 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 8 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. The second cutting of alfalfa hay was 81 percent complete compared with 77 percent last year. Clover-timothy second cut was 68 percent complete compared with 59 percent a year ago. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Dry soil conditions persisted across Jefferson County. Corn was in desperate need of rain. Winter wheat yields were very good. Second generation armyworm is showing up in grass and mixed alfalfa grass stands. Hay yields are down significantly. Dry conditions in Lewis County continued to stress all crops. Potato leafhopper is adding additional stress to the alfalfa crop. In St. Lawrence County, crop conditions continued to slowly deteriorate. Extreme dry weather in Genesee County continued to hurt hay crops, corn and soybeans. Wheat harvest was complete – the earliest ever. Yields were good and quality excellent. In Livingston County, wheat harvest went well with average to above average yields. The vast majority of the county is in dire need of rain. In Ontario County, a trace of precipitation received will help the extremely dry conditions but the county is still in need of rain. Corn and soybean fields were stressed from the high temperatures and no measurable rain. Second cut forage is minimal as there is no regrowth from the lack of moisture. In Cayuga County, second cutting hay was mostly complete with losses averaging 60 percent. Corn was starting to tassel. Corn was also tasseling in Cortland County, but it is much shorter. Fields are very ‘wavy’ with conditions ranging from excellent to curled/spiked/dried. Late planted corn has spotty germination. Hay crops are not growing well. Alfalfa is getting hit by leafhopper. Madison County hay crops were also affected by leafhopper. In some areas only ¾ of a normal first cutting was realized. Second cutting was mostly just clipped. Corn is about 50 percent tasseled but brown leaf under the ears. Oats look good. Weeds are the only thing that is green. Otsego County had a couple days of much needed rain. Fields and streams are still very dry. Second cutting isn’t coming back like it should. Corn is still in need of more rain. Albany County received some showers that helped crops but more rain is needed in most areas. Corn is starting to tassel in many fields. Montgomery and Fulton Counties continue to need rain as all crops are suffering. Washington County received no rain during the week. Corn is curling in a lot of fields. Without rain, ears will not develop normally. Most of Steuben County needs a good soaking rain. A few areas have had some rain but most of the corn shows signs of stress due to drought. Late week rain fell in Broome County, bringing slight relief to the dry conditions. Corn uncurled, absorbing a much needed drink. Crops were becoming even more stressed in Seneca and Schuyler Counties due to another week of no rain and high temperatures and wind. Columbia and Greene Counties finally received much needed rains, but it has been very spotty with some parts receiving a good shower and other parts receiving nothing. Corn and soybeans are in desperate need of rain and hay fields have stopped growing. Dutchess County field corn has started to tassel and is curling.

**FRUIT:** Warm temperatures have accelerated development in Long Island vineyards. Growers were hedging canopies and adjusting the crop. Strawberry condition was reported 16 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Apples were 70 percent poor, 20 percent fair, and 10 percent good. Grapes were 22 percent poor, 44 percent fair, 27 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Peaches were 74 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 8 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Sweet cherries were 69 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 14 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Harvest reached 73 percent complete, behind last years 96 percent. Tart cherries were 89 percent poor, 8 percent fair, and 3 percent good. Harvest was 46 percent complete, compared with 82 percent last year.

**VEGETABLE:** It continued to be hot and dry with detrimental effects on all field vegetable crops. Vegetable crops were being irrigated. Sweet corn was 9 percent harvested compared to 11 percent last year. Condition of sweet corn was 23 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Onions were 9 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Snap beans were at 98 percent planted, the same 98 percent as last year. Snap Beans were 8 percent harvested compared to 7 percent last year. Condition of snap beans was 6 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Cabbage was at 10 percent harvested compared to 8 percent last year. Condition of cabbage was 18 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Tomatoes were 5 percent harvested compare to 7 percent last year. Condition of tomatoes was 23 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Lettuce was 14 percent harvested.

**LIVESTOCK:** Extremely dry weather continues to hurt pastures. Some pastures were burning from the heat and lack of moisture. Most pastures were brown. Many livestock producers with animals on pasture started feeding animals hay. Pasture was rated 17 percent very poor, 42 percent poor, 31 percent fair, and 10 percent good.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 22, 2012**

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 County AP	98	58	75	+3	178	1610	+324	1.21	+0.51	13.36	+1.07
Glens Falls AP	96	52	72	+3	158	1391	+276	1.41	+0.73	13.77	+1.97
Poughkeepsie AP	96	59	76	+4	181	1736	+392	2.09	+1.18	10.83	-3.67
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>											
Boonville	91	52	59	+3	135	1044	+183	0.36	-0.52	12.86	-3.59
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>											
Plattsburgh Int AP	91	49	70	-1	144	1301	+158	0.75	+0.05	8.44	-2.40
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>											
Canton	91	49	70	+2	142	1230	+228	0.83	+0.06	11.68	+0.20
Massena	92	48	71	+2	149	1334	+265	0.79	+0.09	10.40	-0.15
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>											
Buffalo Int AP	88	59	75	+4	177	1632	+412	0.15	-0.54	6.91	-4.79
Wales	91	52	71	+3	147	1286	+310	0.46	-0.31	9.20	-4.86
Niagara Falls	94	57	76	+5	183	1594	+361	0.06	-0.57	7.53	-3.95
Rochester NY	97	58	75	+5	178	1609	+414	0.06	-0.54	8.60	-1.62
Watertown Intl	91	47	73	+5	161	1413	+412	0.04	-0.38	7.41	-1.79
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>											
Dansville AP	96	56	74	+4	171	1678	+488	0.48	-0.15	8.10	-3.66
Geneva Research	94	58	73	+3	162	1507	+337	0.51	-0.12	8.38	-3.35
Honeoye	93	55	71	-2	150	1439	+223	0.22	-0.35	8.95	-2.54
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	95	56	72	+3	153	1393	+335	0.50	-0.27	9.89	-2.59
Penn Yan	95	57	73	+3	164	1594	+424	0.38	-0.25	8.34	-3.39
Syracuse	101	60	77	+7	192	1704	+498	0.15	-0.69	8.03	-5.13
Warsaw	88	54	69	+3	135	1235	+328	0.55	-0.17	12.09	-1.51
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>											
Hornell Almond Dam	92	55	70	+3	142	1264	+279	0.97	+0.28	11.83	+0.09
Elmira	97	56	74	+5	168	1500	+374	0.80	+0.06	9.02	-3.12
Franklinville	91	55	69	+5	137	1188	+378	1.03	+0.26	12.26	-1.42
Jamestown 4NE	92	59	71	+5	152	1328	+411	1.90	+1.04	12.86	-2.32
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>											
Binghamton/Broo	91	57	72	+3	156	1403	+312	1.10	+0.33	12.66	+0.05
Cobleskill	94	52	72	+4	156	1323	+314	0.23	-0.54	10.48	-3.19
Morrisville	95	57	72	+5	157	1185	+227	0.76	-0.01	11.30	-2.16
Norwich	96	56	73	+5	160	1315	+305	0.78	+0.02	11.78	-1.93
Oneonta	98	56	73	+7	166	1373	+441	0.22	-0.65	10.40	-4.44
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>											
Bridgehamton	90	54	74	+3	168	1507	+326	0.57	-0.06	12.91	-0.55
New York LGA	101	64	80	+4	210	2094	+407	2.66	+1.72	15.07	+0.98

<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.

Visit our website at [www.nass.usda.gov/ny](http://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.