



WEATHER AND CROPS

August 13, 2012

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, August 12, 2012

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WEATHER: Temperatures averaged above normal across the state by as much as 7 degrees in Oneonta. Highs reached 92 degrees in Syracuse while lows only dipped to 47 degrees in Franklinville. Growing Degree Days were also above normal, by as much as 654 in Syracuse. Rainfall amounts ranged from 0.48 inches at Niagara Falls to 2.36 inches at Rochester. Rainfall since April 1st was below normal in most areas. The largest deficit was 5.90 inches at Buffalo.

CROPS: There were 5.0 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 14 percent very short, 44 percent short, 41 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. Hay crops were rated 18 percent poor, 47 percent fair, 32 percent good, 3 and percent excellent. Condition of oats was 6 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Oats were 65 percent harvested compared with 47 percent last year. Wheat was 99 percent harvested compared to 98 percent last year. Corn was rated 13 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 47 percent good, 4 and percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 7 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. The second cutting of alfalfa hay was 95 percent complete, the same as last year. Clover-timothy second cut was 82 percent complete compared with 83 percent a year ago. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: The corn crop is looking better in Jefferson County. Hay crops have also responded to the recent rains. Late summer seedings were planted during the week. In Lewis County, more rain is benefitting alfalfa and grass regrowth. In St. Lawrence County, the effects of a month of rainless weather lingers, but crops now have enough moisture. Recent rains in Livingston County have improved the overall crop outlook. Some spotty showers were received in Ontario County, but there were still reports of dry crop conditions. In Madison County, late week rains arrived just in time for some of the late planted corn. Alfalfa stands have greened up. In Otsego County, much needed rains were received and should bring some relief for corn and hay yields. Showers received in Albany County continued to improve the outlook for the corn crop. Haying continued with second cutting grass hay being made and third cutting alfalfa/grass being chopped. Montgomery and Fulton Counties received needed rain again and all crops are responding. Crops in Washington County vary greatly depending on when and how much rainfall they have received. In Dutchess County, downy mildew had been detected in soybeans as well as bacterial blight. Corn is at record heights with ears developing. Farmers are worried about yields.

FRUIT: Apple harvest was 4 percent complete, behind the 13 percent last year and the 12 percent five year average. Apple conditions were 30 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Peach harvest was 51 percent complete, below the 58 percent last year and 53 percent five year average. Peach conditions were 35 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Pear harvest was 7 percent complete, behind the 17 percent previous year. Pear conditions were 25 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Sweet cherry harvest was 95 percent complete, down from the 100 percent previous year and 98 percent five year average. Tart cherry harvest was 91 percent complete, behind the 100 percent harvested this time last year and 97 percent five year average. Grape conditions were 28 percent poor, 45 percent fair, and 27 percent good. Strawberry conditions were 27 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 36 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. In Long Island vineyards, hedging of vines had begun, in preparation for application of protective bird netting.

VEGETABLE: Vegetable growers were harvesting a wide variety of crops and many farmers markets were in full swing. Sweet corn quality was very good and prices were stable. Vegetables were still being irrigated as needed. Sweet corn was 33 percent harvested compared to 32 percent last year and 32 percent average. Condition of sweet corn was 14 percent poor, 43 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Onions were 29 percent harvested compared to 35 percent last year and 31 percent average. Onions were 23 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 11 percent good, and 48 percent excellent. Snap Beans were 33 percent harvested compared to 26 percent last year and 37 percent average. Condition of snap beans was 10 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Cabbage was at 44 percent harvested compared to 37 percent last year and 35 percent average. Condition of cabbage was 11 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Tomatoes were 29 percent harvested compared to 30 percent last year and 31 percent average. Condition of tomatoes was 7 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Lettuce was 46 percent harvested.

LIVESTOCK: Pastures continued to improve with the additional precipitation and slightly cooler temperatures. Pasture was rated 8 percent very poor, 34 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 19 percent good, and 2 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 12, 2012

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 County AP	89	55	74	+4	169	2143	+404	0.99	+0.22	16.55	+2.01
Glens Falls AP	87	52	71	+3	148	1874	+352	1.49	+0.66	16.65	+2.54
Poughkeepsie AP	89	58	76	+5	183	2294	+478	1.97	+1.13	14.95	-2.07
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	84	52	67	+3	123	1445	+249	1.00	-0.05	15.62	-3.76
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh Int AP	89	54	72	+4	152	1778	+226	1.29	+0.36	11.12	-2.27
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	86	54	69	+3	136	1675	+293	1.65	+0.74	15.15	+1.09
Massena	91	56	70	+3	144	1805	+341	1.25	+0.41	12.56	-0.36
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo Int AP	86	56	72	+2	155	2166	+508	0.81	-0.12	8.31	-5.90
Wales	82	49	67	0	123	1717	+371	0.85	-0.03	14.16	-2.40
Niagara Falls	87	58	72	+2	153	2123	+455	0.48	-0.37	9.04	-4.72
Rochester NY	87	57	72	+3	152	2129	+520	2.36	+1.59	13.43	+1.09
Watertown Intl	88	58	71	+4	151	1908	+515	2.55	+1.86	12.38	+1.42
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville AP	90	54	72	+3	155	2199	+586	1.54	+0.84	11.85	-1.91
Geneva Research	88	56	71	+3	152	2004	+406	0.68	-0.02	11.72	-1.98
Honeoye	88	52	71	0	145	1909	+248	1.74	+1.04	13.17	-0.31
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	88	50	71	+4	148	1872	+423	0.78	+0.01	11.46	-3.32
Penn Yan	87	56	72	+3	154	2103	+505	0.99	+0.29	12.01	-1.69
Syracuse	92	56	75	+6	179	2284	+654	0.84	+0.07	10.34	-5.20
Warsaw	82	51	66	+2	117	1650	+398	0.94	+0.10	16.15	+0.16
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Hornell Almond Dam	86	50	67	0	120	1681	+326	0.89	+0.33	15.11	+1.62
Elmira	91	51	71	+3	149	1998	+463	0.98	+0.31	10.84	-3.37
Franklinville	86	47	66	+2	115	1579	+452	1.79	+0.92	16.64	+0.46
Jamestown 4NE	85	49	66	+1	116	1749	+482	0.88	-0.10	15.35	-2.64
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton/Broo	88	52	71	+3	146	1876	+385	1.93	+1.21	16.03	+1.16
Cobleskill	87	50	70	+3	139	1789	+406	0.81	+0.04	13.40	-2.57
Morrisville	87	53	71	+5	146	1602	+282	1.44	+0.67	14.94	-0.83
Norwich	87	52	70	+3	139	1767	+381	1.29	+0.56	14.71	-1.13
Oneonta	90	54	72	+7	157	1887	+605	1.34	+0.50	14.47	-2.89
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	85	59	76	+5	183	2032	+386	1.23	-0.46	14.99	-0.63
New York LGA	91	71	81	+6	221	2737	+489	0.61	-0.23	16.82	+0.10

^{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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