



WEATHER AND CROPS

August 27, 2012

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, August 26, 2012

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WEATHER: It was another mainly dry week across New York State with almost the entire state not even getting close to reaching weekly precipitation normals. The only rainfall came from isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms which generally fell across the eastern half of the state early in the week. Temperatures started below normal through the first half of the week especially with overnight low temperatures due to lower humidity levels. However, temperatures then warmed to above normal for the last half of the week as high pressure moved to New England and a warmer flow regime set up.

CROPS: There were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 18 percent very short, 36 percent short, and 46 percent adequate. Hay crops were rated 15 percent poor, 46 percent fair, 30 percent good, 9 and percent excellent. Condition of oats was 10 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Oats were 86 percent harvested compared with 71 percent last year and the average of 80 percent. Corn was rated 13 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 3 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. The second cutting of alfalfa hay was 99 percent complete, the same as a year ago and ahead of the average of 95 percent. Clover-timothy second cut was 93 percent complete, the same as a year ago and ahead of the average of 85 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Corn silage harvest began on some farms in Jefferson County. Some corn is ready for harvest but much is still too wet. Dry weather has slowed growth of hay crops. In Lewis County, crops are once again suffering from the lack of moisture. Ontario County had another week of no rain. Conditions continue to be extremely dry and producers have concerns over the development of the corn and soybean crops. Hay continues to be low yielding with the lack of rain. Corn silage harvest also started in Cortland County. Some was green chopped for livestock feed. Regular rainfall has benefitted ear fill and pod fill on corn and beans, respectively. Overall, oats yielded well and test weights were good. In Madison County, fields were getting dry again. Corn was starting to roll and soybeans are only so-so. Corn silage harvest is expected to begin during the upcoming week. A lot of 3rd cutting hay was harvested with good quality but a bit short on yield. Otsego County is still in need of more rain. Streams are dry and hay fields are not growing as well as they should. Corn is showing signs of stress. Fulton and Montgomery County crops continue to respond to the rain and heat. Third cutting hay is very good. Corn is short but ears are looking better. Soybeans are looking better also, but there is concern about pod counts on the plants. Corn silage harvest began as farmers run out of last year's carryover. Broome County producers are gearing up for corn silage harvest with early planted corn reaching the soft dough stage. Delaware County crops are looking good and it won't be long before the producers are out in the fields chopping corn. Other than some short corn, most producers report the corn looks good all in all.

FRUIT: Apple harvest was 9 percent complete, behind the 20 percent last year and the 18 percent five year average. Apple conditions were 56 percent poor, 15 percent fair, and 29 percent good. Peach harvest was 70 percent complete, below the 73 percent last year and the 72 percent five year average. Peach conditions were 30 percent poor, 7 percent fair, and 63 percent good. Pear harvest was 32 percent complete, equal to previous year. Pear conditions were 18 percent poor, 32 percent fair, and 50 percent good. Grape conditions were 28 percent poor, 38 percent fair, and 34 percent good. Strawberry conditions were 40 percent poor, 25 percent fair, and 35 percent good. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Ontario County, apple producers had limited to no crop for harvest. In Broome County, u-pick operations were open for early varieties. Quantity of apples was slightly below normal, with quality of the apples showing some dimpling and frost, freeze damage. Blueberry harvest was wrapping up with above normal quantity and quality of berries.

VEGETABLE: Vegetable producers continued harvest on crops. Sweet corn was 65 percent harvested compared to 59 percent last year and 59 percent average. Condition of sweet corn was 11 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Onions were 40 percent harvested compared to 60 percent last year and 41 percent average. Onions were 7 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Snap Beans were 54 percent harvested compared to 51 percent last year and 55 percent average. Condition of snap beans was 11 percent poor, 20 percent fair, and 69 percent good. Cabbage was at 57 percent harvested compared to 62 percent last year and 55 percent average. Condition of cabbage was 11 percent poor, 28 percent fair, and 61 percent good. Tomatoes were 60 percent harvested compared to 44 percent last year and 50 percent average. Condition of tomatoes was 2 percent poor, 8 percent fair, 87 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Lettuce was 80 percent harvested.

LIVESTOCK: Pastures remained short. Pasture was rated 11 percent very poor, 30 percent poor, 36 percent fair, and 23 percent good.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 26, 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	87	53	70	+3	142	2430	+426	0.03	-0.74	16.87	+0.73
Glens Falls AP	86	46	67	+2	118	2127	+371	0.00	-0.84	16.67	+0.88
Poughkeepsie AP	86	55	70	+2	144	2593	+497	0.47	-0.30	15.98	-2.60
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	82	47	64	+2	101	1641	+257	0.01	-1.18	16.13	-5.56
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh Int AP	86	49	67	+2	119	2029	+247	0.54	-0.41	12.15	-3.17
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	87	46	66	+2	116	1931	+333	0.05	-0.93	14.61	-1.41
Massena	91	46	68	+4	127	2060	+376	0.18	-0.69	13.33	-1.30
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo Int AP	91	52	71	+4	146	2451	+537	0.00	-0.98	8.63	-7.54
Wales	85	48	65	0	105	1930	+370	0.00	-1.00	14.64	-3.85
Niagara Falls	90	49	69	+2	137	2392	+469	0.00	-0.92	10.10	-5.49
Rochester NY	88	52	69	+3	131	2392	+541	0.00	-0.81	13.72	-0.20
Watertown Intl	88	47	67	+3	123	2160	+541	0.00	-0.82	12.65	+0.10
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville AP	89	52	69	+3	134	2467	+603	0.00	-0.77	12.09	-3.17
Geneva Research	87	50	68	+2	130	2263	+415	0.08	-0.67	12.17	-2.98
Honeoye	88	45	66	-3	112	2142	+216	0.00	-0.77	13.69	-1.31
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	86	47	66	+1	115	2103	+427	0.00	-0.77	13.24	-3.08
Penn Yan	87	53	69	+2	132	2366	+518	0.20	-0.55	12.27	-2.88
Syracuse	90	52	70	+4	145	2576	+698	0.00	-0.82	11.03	-6.10
Warsaw	82	46	65	+2	104	1860	+411	0.00	-0.91	16.85	-0.94
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Hornell Almond Dam	84	47	67	-2	98	1887	+320	0.10	-0.49	15.81	+1.17
Elmira	87	47	67	0	117	2239	+466	0.00	-0.70	11.35	-4.24
Franklinville	84	46	63	+2	94	1768	+459	0.00	-0.91	17.13	-0.87
Jamestown 4NE	87	45	65	+2	105	1957	+488	0.18	-0.87	16.07	-3.99
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton/Broo	83	50	67	+2	117	2107	+385	0.10	-0.67	183.4	+1.93
Cobleskill	82	48	66	+1	110	2018	+416	0.76	-0.06	14.62	-2.94
Morrisville	85	49	66	+3	115	1844	+317	0.15	-0.69	16.01	-1.40
Norwich	87	46	65	+1	110	1994	+390	0.47	-0.32	16.70	-0.70
Oneonta	86	48	67	+5	122	2147	+666	0.03	-0.81	15.11	-3.93
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	85	57	70	+1	144	2332	+398	0.00	-0.83	15.17	-2.05
New York LGA	87	68	77	+4	189	3125	+530	0.00	-0.84	17.87	-0.53

^{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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To view a map of the U.S. Drought Monitor Index showing U.S. and regional drought conditions please click on the link below.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

NASS is currently conducting our annual September surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of September, NASS is surveying U.S. small grains growers for final production. We are also asking hog producers about their summer pig crop, next year's farrowing intentions, and current inventory. The responses will provide the foundation for 2012 production estimates. All participating farmers should respond. Your information matters!