



WEATHER AND CROPS

October 22, 2012

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Released, October 22, 2012

Week Ending, October 21, 2012

No. 977-27-12

WEATHER: Temperatures were above normal for most of the week with the coldest weather during the mid week period when another frost occurred in many areas on the morning of the 17th. The growing season had already ended across much of the state on the morning of the 13th when a hard freeze occurred in many areas. Through October 20th only New York City and Long Island have not had a freeze. The week started out mild with some rain as a warm front lifted north through the state on Sunday. This was followed by a cold front on Monday which ushered in the coldest air of the week for Monday night through Wednesday morning. On Wednesday, a ridge of high pressure moved over the state and then offshore on Thursday providing a good deal of sunshine and mild temps. On Friday, a low pressure system moved north up the eastern seaboard and into the state on Saturday morning bringing heavy rainfall and some localized flooding across the eastern half of the state. A second low pressure system dragged a trough of low pressure across the state on Saturday resulting in thunderstorms, some which contained small hail. Overall, precipitation for the week was much above normal across the eastern half of the state and highly variable across the western half of the state.

CROPS: There were 4.6 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 4 percent very short, 5 percent short, 74 percent adequate and 17 percent surplus. Hay crops were rated 12 percent poor, 45 percent fair, 35 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Potatoes were 95 percent harvested, ahead of the 87 percent harvested last year and the 89 percent average. Dry beans were 62 percent harvested compared to 63 percent last year and the average of 71 percent. Corn was rated 13 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Grain corn was 29 percent harvested, compared with 17 percent last year and the average of 22 percent. Corn for silage was 94 percent harvested compared with 87 percent last year and the average of 90 percent. Soybeans were rated 8 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Soybean harvest was 52 percent complete compared with 28 percent last year and the average of 36 percent. The third cutting of alfalfa hay was 99 percent complete compared with 94 percent last year and the average of 98 percent. Clover-timothy third cut was 99 percent complete compared with 87 percent a year ago and the average of 95 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Soybean harvest progressed nicely in Jefferson County. Quite a few farms still hope to continue harvesting haylage if the weather cooperates. In Genesee County, some winter wheat was planted on drier soils. Grain corn and soybean harvests continued when dry enough. Some fourth cut hay crop silage and wrapped baleage continued. Soybean yields in Niagara County were better than anticipated in some fields. Ontario County producers continued to harvest grain corn and soybeans, with average to below average yields being reported. In Cortland County, rain and warmer temperatures has re-triggered grass growth and farmers have taken advantage of the extra forage by chopping more haylage. Corn silage harvest continued. Yields and quality vary greatly dependent on planting date and how dry the field was. Lots of high moisture corn has been harvested in Madison County. Early planted soybeans were also getting harvested. Overall yields have been average. Grain corn harvest in Albany County has been delayed due to wet field conditions and slowly falling grain moisture levels. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, corn silage harvest was winding down for most growers. Grain corn harvest moved ahead and soybeans were beginning to be harvested. In Washington County, potato harvest was slowed due to wet soil conditions. In Delaware County, producers indicate corn yields are better than anticipated and most should have sufficient production. Soybeans look good. Yields may be down a bit, but they are much better than expected in early July. Later plantings appear to have fared better. Hay was still being harvested with the warm days. Heavy rains in Dutchess County put a halt to corn harvest.

FRUIT: Apple harvest was 94 percent complete, ahead of the 75 percent last year and the 78 percent five year average. Apple conditions were 51 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 21 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Grape harvest was 96 percent complete, ahead of the 89 percent last year and above the 86 percent five year average. Grape conditions were 35 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 26 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Apple harvest in Ontario County was limited due to the spring frost and snow. Grape harvest was wrapping up with good quality reported but low yields due to losses from spring frosts.

VEGETABLE: Vegetable growers were finishing harvesting their late crops such as winter squash and late cole crops. Farm stands were busy selling their colorful fall offerings; pumpkins, gourds, corn stalks and straw bales.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture growth slowed down but wet cool conditions supported some regrowth. Pasture was rated 5 percent very poor, 24 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 27 percent good, and 6 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, October 21, 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	70	31	55	+6	43	3075	+578	2.44	+1.81	27.12	+5.61
Glens Falls AP	68	26	51	+5	22	2604	+458	3.33	+2.70	26.26	+4.91
Poughkeepsie AP	71	32	56	+7	48	3317	+677	1.29	+0.59	25.19	+0.58
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	62	31	47	+4	6	1973	+302	2.49	+1.51	27.73	-3.23
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh Int AP	68	28	52	+6	29	2522	+347	1.82	+1.26	18.95	-1.77
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	67	32	51	+6	21	2441	+484	1.49	+0.79	24.43	+1.71
Massena	73	27	52	+7	30	2577	+537	1.41	+0.79	21.54	+0.90
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo Int AP	75	40	55	+6	40	3105	+664	1.01	+0.31	16.04	-6.31
Wales	74	35	51	+5	21	2376	+413	0.97	+0.14	21.08	-5.32
Niagara Falls	74	36	54	+4	35	2998	+551	0.77	+0.15	17.21	-4.55
Rochester NY	76	37	55	+6	41	3008	+637	0.36	-0.18	20.13	+1.09
Watertown Intl	71	33	56	+9	49	2747	+723	0.59	-0.02	19.55	+1.34
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville AP	79	35	56	+8	51	3133	+759	0.53	-0.03	17.04	-3.91
Geneva Research	74	36	53	+5	27	2830	+487	0.66	+0.03	17.70	-3.15
Honeoye	76	32	53	+3	30	2668	+188	0.51	-0.12	20.08	-0.55
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	72	31	52	+5	24	2591	+480	0.73	+0.03	19.65	-3.02
Penn Yan	76	35	55	+8	45	2996	+653	0.60	-0.03	17.45	-3.40
Syracuse	74	36	56	+8	52	3282	+893	1.12	+0.42	17.86	-5.82
Warsaw	71	38	50	+5	20	2289	+498	0.96	+0.24	26.54	+1.83
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Hornell Almond Dam	75	28	51	+5	23	2314	+361	0.74	+0.18	20.73	+0.72
Elmira	74	29	53	+6	36	2792	+565	0.66	+0.03	18.30	-2.76
Franklinville	71	29	49	+5	16	2145	+522	1.36	+0.57	24.99	-0.17
Jamestown 4NE	74	31	51	+5	13	2392	+552	1.52	+0.62	23.92	-4.32
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton/Broo	66	32	52	+5	25	2608	+464	1.10	+0.47	25.23	+3.03
Cobleskill	70	31	50	+4	17	2483	+489	1.58	+0.95	23.09	-0.82
Morrisville	69	31	51	+6	21	1571	-320	1.62	+0.90	24.12	-0.17
Norwich	68	28	50	+4	20	2451	+462	1.28	+0.58	24.26	+0.37
Oneonta	72	30	51	+6	17	2679	+855	2.19	+1.43	22.92	-2.54
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	68	36	55	+3	43	3030	+461	1.29	+0.52	20.41	-3.04
New York LGA	78	48	62	+7	86	4157	+724	0.93	+0.26	25.61	+1.26

^{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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