



WEATHER AND CROPS

May 20, 2013

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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WEATHER: It was a dry and cool week across the state with little rainfall, most of which fell on Wednesday ahead of a cold front. A large ridge of high pressure associated with cold air from Canada was in place for the first half of the week and frost occurred across parts of the state early each morning from Monday through Wednesday. The air mass over the region moderated later in the week in the wake of the cold front with more seasonable temperatures Thursday through Saturday.

CROPS: There were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 32 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Oat seedings were 88 percent complete compared with 91 percent last year and slightly above the five year average of 83 percent. Condition of oats was 18 percent fair, 74 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Winter wheat was rated 1 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 68 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Corn was 58 percent planted, compared to 52 percent last year and was ahead of the 53 percent five year average. Potatoes were 52 percent planted, compared to 58 percent in 2012 and below the five year average of 63 percent. Soybeans were 15 percent planted compared to 21 percent in 2012 and slightly below the five year average of 19 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Corn and soybean planting continued in Jefferson County. Haylage harvest was underway. In Lewis County, after a cold start to the week, including snowfall, field work was going full tilt again by the end of the week. Some dairy farmers reported that they will begin taking their first cutting of hay this coming week. St. Lawrence County saw field activity progressing slowly. Producers expected to plant more corn in the coming days. Corn planting proceeded rapidly in Niagara County. Early planted corn growth was slow due to cool nights and lack of rain. Hay crop harvest started on Tuesday, as well as grass hay, triticale, and alfalfa. Wheat growth was rapid with flag leaf emerged. Occurrences of disease and cereal leaf beetles were minimal. Corn planting was near completion in Cortland County and soybean planting started. Fields were mowed and harvested for haylage, baleage, and dry hay. The harvest was pushed by the fact that many producers have run out of forage. In Madison County, oats emerged while field work and corn planting continued. The first hay crop was harvested in southern Madison County. Grass fields in the northern part of the county were harvested as well. New seedings were mostly complete, and corn planting will be winding down soon. Spotty showers were reported, but rain was needed. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties the corn planting was underway and some switched to get the haylage put up. Much needed rain was received, but not enough yet. Albany County reported that dry weather kept farmers in the field planting a variety of crops and some started the first cutting haylage. Corn was up throughout the Capital region. This was one of the earliest years on record for corn planting progress. Farmers chopped the first cutting haylage in Washington County where yields were below normal due to the dry weather. In Cattaraugus County, first cutting grass haylage harvest started on many farms. In Delaware and Sullivan Counties, days stayed on the cold side and there were three full rainy days with two other cloudy and windy days with showers off and on. Dutchess County received some much needed rain with more predicted for the better part of next week. Farmers were planting field corn. Alfalfa was ready to be cut.

FRUIT: Apples were 100 percent half-inch green to pink, 85 percent full bloom or later, and 49 percent petal fall or later. Peaches were 92 percent half-inch green to pink, 75 percent full bloom or later, and 46 percent petal fall or later. Pears were 88 percent half-inch green to pink, 69 percent full bloom or later, and 48 percent petal fall or later. Sweet cherries were 94 percent half-inch green to pink, 72 percent full bloom or later, and 58 percent petal fall or later. Tart cherries were 100 percent half-inch green to pink, 88 percent full bloom or later, and 73 percent petal fall or later. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Livingston County, a heavy frost was reported on Monday. Ontario County experienced frosts on Monday and Tuesday this week with some reports of frost damage to the strawberries and sweet cherries. In Madison County, apples got hit by frost but producers waited to see what the impact was. In Albany County, apples made it past full bloom with dry weather for pollinators to work in. Suffolk County reported irrigation started at vineyards. Frost was reported on Monday and Tuesday mornings in Washington County. Temperatures were down to 27 degrees. Apples were in full bloom, but it was unclear to what level the crop may have been hurt. In Schuyler County, there was a mild frost on Monday, but no apparent damage. Delaware and Sullivan counties had a heavy frost on Tuesday and then on Wednesday some areas had a light frost. In Dutchess County, frost hit the area during the beginning of the week with unknown damage to the fruit trees. Cool, dry weather continued to prevail on Long Island.

VEGETABLE: Sweet corn was 35 percent planted, compared to 32 percent in 2012, and was below the 37 percent five year average. Onions were 92 percent planted, compared to 80 percent in 2012, and was above the 81 percent five year average. Snap beans were 5 percent planted, 17 percent in 2012, and lower than the 15 percent five year average. Cabbage was 25 percent planted compared to 32 percent in 2012, and was below the 31 percent five year average. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Montgomery and Fulton Counties sweet corn planting was well underway. In Dutchess County, the farmers were planting field and sweet corn between showers.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was rated 6 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Cortland County, livestock were back on pasture and the grass was growing well with ideal temperatures. In Delaware County, everything has greened up nicely. Montgomery County was in need of rain to continue greening up pastures. In Albany County, pastures could use some rain.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, May 19, 2013

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
Albany County AP	79	32	53	-6	33	239	86	0.08	-0.69	3.59	-1.43
Watertown Intl	74	32	50	-5	22	215	113	0.08	-0.55	4.45	+0.33
Boonville	69	27	46	-7	10	108	29	0.18	-0.80	6.82	-0.49
Bridgehampton	69	36	54	-3	35	123	6	0.00	-0.84	3.29	-3.05
Binghamton/Broome	76	30	52	-5	35	187	66	0.06	-0.71	5.29	+0.12
Buffalo Intl AP	76	34	54	-3	52	303	162	0.05	-0.65	5.19	+0.45
Canton	71	29	48	-7	15	160	62	0.07	-0.57	3.09	-1.54
Cobleskill	75	28	50	-6	25	131	25	0.10	-0.73	3.96	-1.48
Dansville AP	86	31	56	-1	59	312	167	0.01	-0.62	2.97	-1.55
Elmira	85	26	53	-3	45	227	100	0.03	-0.67	3.62	-0.94
Franklinville	79	25	48	-5	24	129	63	0.15	-0.62	6.09	+0.72
Geneva Research	82	33	52	-5	32	210	75	0.11	-0.53	4.19	-0.47
Glens Falls AP	78	29	50	-7	20	202	87	0.05	-0.79	3.46	-1.70
Honeoye	82	29	53	-4	41	229	91	0.10	-0.52	4.42	-0.22
Hornell Almond	82	26	50	-5	29	133	33	0.05	-0.62	4.30	-0.11
Jamestown 4NE	81	28	52	-2	45	212	124	0.15	-0.72	5.15	-1.00
Niagara Falls	77	33	53	-5	41	246	92	0.12	-0.51	3.78	-1.14
Ithaca Cornell	80	26	50	-5	27	177	62	0.02	-0.73	3.56	-1.30
New York LGA	80	45	62	0	82	341	67	0.06	-0.78	4.66	-1.51
Morrisville	76	30	51	-5	26	157	58	0.16	-0.68	5.72	+0.44
Massena	72	28	49	-7	18	202	90	0.08	-0.48	3.23	-0.94
Norwich	79	28	50	-6	22	127	17	0.12	-0.72	5.10	-0.52
Oneonta	78	26	51	-3	27	154	60	0.13	-0.85	4.07	-2.02
Penn Yan	84	34	54	-3	44	252	117	0.02	-0.62	3.01	-1.65
Plattsburgh Intl	75	29	51	-6	21	177	61	0.09	-0.54	2.06	-2.45
Poughkeepsie AP	83	30	54	-5	42	239	55	0.10	-0.88	3.11	-3.03
Rochester NY	81	32	54	-4	49	299	139	0.22	-0.40	4.18	-0.06
Syracuse	79	34	54	-4	41	263	104	0.23	-0.47	4.79	-0.50
Wales	77	31	51	-4	34	218	118	0.03	-0.74	5.68	-0.23
Warsaw	76	30	49	-5	28	174	88	0.08	-0.69	5.49	+0.03

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning

Alert! The window to respond to the Census of Agriculture is almost closed!

There are only a few weeks left to complete and return the 2012 Census of Agriculture. Because time is running out, NASS may contact you or farmers in your area by phone or in person to collect information for the Census. *Help ensure you and your industry have the most complete set of agricultural statistics available for your country and county.* For more information or for help filling out your Census form, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov or call (888) 424-7828.

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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