



WEATHER AND CROPS

August 19, 2013

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

Released, August 19, 2013

Week Ending, August 18, 2013

No. 977-16-13

WEATHER: It was a very dry week across the state with the exception of Monday into Tuesday when a cold front brought showers and isolated thunderstorms. Most of the rainfall for the week occurred with this front and an upper level disturbance. Rainfall generally ranged from a third of an inch to an inch and a half. The higher totals tended to be across East Central New York and the Finger Lakes region. Canadian high pressure built in over the state with cool and dry weather from the mid week into the first half of the weekend. The warmest day of the week was Monday before temperatures fell below normal. Max temperatures started to moderate back to seasonal readings by Saturday. Overall, average or daily mean temperatures were below normal for the week by five to ten degrees.

CROPS: There were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent short, 86 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Oats for grain were 69 percent harvested compared to 76 percent in 2012 and were slightly above the 66 percent five year average. Condition of oats was 5 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Winter wheat was 100 percent harvested compared to 100 percent in 2012, and was ahead of the 96 percent five year average. Hay crops were 7 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. The second clover timothy cutting was 81 percent complete compared to 87 percent in 2012, and was ahead of the 79 percent five year average. The third clover timothy cutting was 33 percent complete. The second alfalfa cutting was 95 percent complete compared to 98 percent in 2012, and above the 91 percent five year average. The third alfalfa cutting was 40 percent complete. Condition of corn was 8 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 3 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Potatoes were 22 percent harvested compared to 49 percent in 2012 and behind the 29 percent five year average. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In St. Lawrence County, half an inch of rain kept crops moving ahead, but cooler than normal temperatures weren't needed for the many fields of corn and soybeans planted late. Warm weather is needed for the plants to have a chance of maturing. The hay harvest was good. Niagara County reported the oat harvest was essentially finished. Oat straw baling was almost finished up. Soy made excellent progress with good moisture for pollination and pod fill. Crop looked better every day. Ontario County received rain again at the beginning of the week and mid-week experienced cooler than usual temperatures. Dry hay continued to be a challenge with high yields, but poor quality due to the continued off and on rain. In Cortland County, dry hay harvest resumed with the dry weather and some producers took third cutting hay. Oats were harvested in Cortland and Tompkins County. Corn silage harvest began early in Tompkins County due to blight. Madison County reported corn caught up with height, but ears were two weeks behind. Hay yields were high, but quality still impacted. In Albany County, it was a fine summer week with one day of rain which gave farmers the opportunity to make hay and harvest oats. Hay barns were filling up as yields were good due to early wet weather. Corn continued to mature with silage harvest likely to begin soon on some of the April and early May planted acres. Montgomery and Fulton Counties had another full week of hay harvest and the corn responded to the sunshine. Rensselaer County reported similar advantageous conditions for the hay harvest. In Delaware County, it was a good week to put in hay after the rain early in the week. Corn and soybeans looked good in Dutchess County and farmers were busy putting up much needed dry hay.

FRUIT: Apples were 20 percent harvested compared to 7 percent in 2012 and above the 16 percent five year average. Apples were rated 1 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 26 percent excellent. Peaches were 47 percent harvested compared to 63 percent in 2012 and below the 63 percent five year average. Peaches were 2 percent poor, 5 percent fair, 84 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Pears were 41 percent harvested compared to 22 percent in 2012 and below the 39 percent five year average. Pears were 3 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Grapes were 1 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 44 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Suffolk County reported the sunny dry weather was ideal for ripening grapes on Long Island. Veraison progressed rapidly on both white and red varieties. In Dutchess County, overall fruit condition was good. In Albany County, apple harvest began on early varieties and apple size was good.

VEGETABLE: Sweet corn was 44 percent harvested compared to 43 percent in 2012, and was behind the 46 percent five year average. Sweet corn was 8 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Onions were 13 percent harvested compared to 34 percent in 2012, and were behind the 39 percent five year average. Onions were 12 percent poor, 6 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 49 percent excellent. Snap beans were 33 percent harvested compared to 48 percent in 2012, and behind the 43 percent five year average. Snap beans were rated 7 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Cabbage was 26 percent harvested compared to 49 percent in 2012, and was behind the 47 percent five year average. Cabbage was rated 24 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 24 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Madison County, the cool weather had some producers concerned, especially those that had last planted corn, dependent on the elevation and soil type. Dutchess County reported overall vegetable condition was good. In Albany County, farm stands were busy with an increasing variety of crops.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was rated 1 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Albany County, pastures grew back slowly. No major farm-related damage was reported in Cortland County following the flash flooding there the previous week.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 18, 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	82	50	67	-4	118	2113	+274	1.21	+0.40	25.36	+10.14
Watertown Intl	79	48	65	-3	107	1801	+323	0.13	-0.62	16.09	+4.50
Boonville	72	47	59	-6	66	1284	+16	0.64	-0.46	25.70	+5.37
Bridgehampton	82	51	66	-6	114	1900	+148	0.62	-0.15	14.22	-2.08
Binghamton/Broome	76	48	63	-5	93	1733	+155	0.58	-0.18	22.61	+7.09
Buffalo Intl AP	80	53	66	-4	112	2004	+250	0.24	-0.74	19.63	+4.63
Canton	75	47	62	-5	85	1606	+142	0.64	-0.32	18.68	+3.84
Cobleskill	77	48	62	-5	87	1637	+171	1.63	+0.86	22.31	+5.69
Dansville AP	81	48	65	-4	109	2110	+403	0.64	-0.07	14.05	-0.30
Elmira	80	43	63	-6	96	1898	+273	0.29	-0.37	14.91	+0.14
Franklinville	75	42	60	-5	70	1422	+226	1.02	+0.11	20.59	+3.66
Geneva Research	77	51	64	-5	100	1833	+141	1.61	+0.91	20.38	+6.10
Glens Falls AP	79	44	63	-5	94	1843	+232	1.02	+0.18	19.13	+4.32
Honeoye	78	44	63	-8	91	1761	+1	1.29	+0.56	18.79	+4.69
Hornell Almond	78	42	60	-7	73	1540	+105	0.68	+0.12	17.40	+3.43
Jamestown 4NE	78	44	61	-6	76	1687	+344	0.98	-0.02	18.36	-0.47
Niagara Falls	80	51	64	-6	103	1893	+130	0.27	-0.63	21.21	+6.70
Ithaca Cornell	77	45	62	-6	86	1688	+154	0.52	-0.25	20.43	+5.01
New York LGA	82	62	73	-3	165	2738	+362	0.83	-0.01	18.86	+1.42
Morrisville	78	46	63	-4	89	1680	+282	0.76	-0.02	29.03	+12.61
Massena	78	48	64	-4	96	1691	+143	0.70	-0.14	18.97	+5.37
Norwich	80	45	62	-6	85	1641	+173	0.52	-0.25	26.44	+9.95
Oneonta	78	44	62	-5	82	1587	+230	0.12	-0.72	25.42	+7.36
Penn Yan	78	52	65	-4	108	1969	+277	0.58	-0.12	14.07	-0.21
Plattsburgh Intl	79	49	64	-4	99	1685	+46	0.53	-0.45	19.87	+5.70
Poughkeepsie AP	82	49	67	-5	122	2213	+292	0.30	-0.51	23.34	+5.64
Rochester NY	81	49	66	-3	112	2057	+358	0.31	-0.46	19.21	+6.24
Syracuse	81	53	67	-2	121	2087	+364	0.69	-0.08	18.77	+2.57
Wales	75	47	61	-6	80	1635	+209	0.35	-0.56	19.75	+2.42
Warsaw	73	46	60	-5	73	1499	+172	0.57	-0.30	21.20	+4.48

^{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.

Visit our website at 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.