



WEATHER AND CROPS

April 29, 2013

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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This is the first edition of the New York “Weather and Crops” for the 2013 season. The USDA/NASS, New York Field Office looks forward to working with the Agricultural Weather Information Service, National Weather Service personnel, Agricultural Extension agents, USDA Farm Service Agency agents, and independent volunteer observers who collectively make this report possible.

WEATHER: Weather for the week was generally cool and dry. However, most locations saw some light precipitation during the week. Temperatures averaged below normal across the entire state with frequent and widespread frosts and freezes.

CROPS: There were 5.0 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 4 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 20 percent surplus. Oat seedings were 30 percent complete compared with 63 percent last year and lower than the five year average of 51 percent. Condition of oats was 57 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Wheat was rated 1 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Corn was 2 percent planted compared to 8 percent in 2012 and below the five year average of 7 percent. Potatoes were 9 percent planted compared to 41 percent in 2012 and below the five year average of 37 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Manure spreading continued in Jefferson County with certain areas seeing tillage activity in the field. In Lewis County, a great deal of manure was spread in the last week as well as tillage and a few new seedings. St. Lawrence County reported fields were being tilled, but no rush to plant corn since soil temperatures were below normal. Farmers in Erie County finally received a break from unseasonably cool temperatures and rain allowing them to begin working ground. In Niagara County, grass, alfalfa and wheat were making rapid growth. Corn planting has started, while oat and forage crop seedings continued to be planted. Wheat topdressing and weed control was moving rapidly. With some sunshine and warmer temperatures, Ontario County producers were able to get in the fields mid to late week, prepared the fields, and planted some spring seedings. Producers in Cayuga County were busy spreading manure and starting field work. There is very little corn planted to date. Oswego County producers worked the fields, but activities were limited as well. In Cortland County, field prep and small grain seedings continued. Ground was very dry in most areas, but some wet spots still remained. New hay seedings were being planted, though farmers in southern Madison County and in the northern tier still reported planting conditions were too wet. Weather was favorable for drying fields. Otsego County had many producers out spreading and plowing, while in Fulton and Montgomery County plowing began and producers were hoping that with warm weather planting will begin soon. In Albany County, a great deal of plowing occurred and the first plantings of barely were going in. Other small grains were planted along with forage seedings. With the exception of a few showers, it was a dry week in Saratoga and Washington Counties. Many new seedings went in during the week and farmers were busy with spreading manure & tillage activities. Delaware County reported crop growth varied on location with some areas reporting good growth and others had little to no growth. Farmers in Dutchess County were working ground getting ready to plant, spreading manure on fields, and alfalfa hay was starting to grow.

FRUIT: Apples were 79 percent green tip, 20 percent half-inch green to pink, and 4 percent full bloom or later. Peaches were 63 percent green tip, 25 percent half-inch green to pink, and 2 percent full bloom or later. Pears were 74 percent green tip, 28 percent half-inch green to pink, and 8 percent full bloom or later. Sweet cherries were 88 percent green tip, 51 percent half-inch green to pink, and 4 percent full bloom or later. Tart cherries were 90 percent green tip, 78 percent half-inch green to pink, and 1 percent full bloom or later. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Long Island grapevines have swollen buds but no bud break as of April 26. Whites and early reds will break bud within the next week. In Albany County, apple growers were starting to spray the orchards and were finishing up pruning.

VEGETABLE: Sweet corn was 4 percent planted compared to 9 percent last year and was close to the five year average of 7 percent. Onions were 2 percent planted compared to 3 percent last year and was under the 12 percent planted five year average. Snap beans are 2 percent planted compared to 3 percent last year, which was consistent with the five year average. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Albany County, vegetable producers were putting down plastic, putting in raised beds, and planting early crops. In Delaware County, various vegetables and sweet corn have been planted. The warm weather had everyone busy in Columbia and Greene Counties. Fields were worked and corn was being planted. In Livingston County, field conditions improved and many acres of peas were planted.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was rated 5 percent very poor, 18 percent poor, 41 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In St. Lawrence County, grass started growing and was making good progress after a late start. In Cortland County, grass was green, but still short for intense grazing. Albany County reported poultry producers were putting on birds for direct marketing and sheep shearing was underway for those with flocks to trim. In Delaware County, producers were pasturing on fields that weren't fully ready, but since the producers have little or no feed left, they were turning them out in the fields.

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.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, April 28, 2012

| STATION | TEMPERATURE | | | | GDD BASE 50F | | | PRECIPITATION | | | |
|------------------|--------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-------|---------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | CURRENT WEEK | | | | CURR | SINCE | APRIL 1 | CURRENT WEEK | | SINCE | SINCE |
| | HI | LOW | AVG | DFN | WEEK | TOTAL | DFN | TOTAL | DFN | APR 1 | APR 1 |
| Albany County AP | 72 | 27 | 50 | +3 | 22 | 32 | +22 | 0.96 | +0.26 | 2.56 | +0.47 |
| Watertown Intl | 73 | 22 | 49 | +6 | 37 | 40 | +35 | 1.21 | +0.62 | 3.41 | +1.70 |
| Boonville | 65 | 19 | 42 | +0 | 1 | 1 | -3 | 1.21 | +0.16 | 4.82 | +1.54 |
| Bridgehampton | 67 | 36 | 49 | +2 | 8 | 33 | +28 | 0.32 | -0.59 | 2.28 | -0.52 |
| Binghamton/Broo | 69 | 27 | 48 | +4 | 16 | 31 | +25 | 1.21 | +0.47 | 3.19 | +1.05 |
| Buffalo Intl AP | 82 | 28 | 51 | +6 | 33 | 41 | +31 | 0.21 | -0.49 | 3.44 | +1.47 |
| Canton | 71 | 23 | 44 | +2 | 8 | 8 | +4 | 0.50 | -0.20 | 1.95 | +0.00 |
| Cobleskill | 70 | 26 | 46 | +3 | 9 | 10 | +5 | 1.49 | +0.72 | 3.28 | +0.98 |
| Dansville AP | 75 | 27 | 54 | +8 | 49 | 71 | +60 | 0.16 | -0.54 | 1.84 | -0.10 |
| Elmira | 73 | 27 | 51 | +6 | 33 | 57 | +50 | 0.67 | +0.04 | 2.85 | +1.00 |
| Franklinville | 71 | 21 | 47 | +6 | 17 | 23 | +23 | 0.76 | -0.02 | 3.99 | +1.70 |
| Geneva Research | 74 | 28 | 49 | +3 | 18 | 28 | +20 | 0.39 | -0.31 | 2.83 | +0.82 |
| Glens Falls AP | 72 | 26 | 49 | +4 | 18 | 24 | +19 | 1.15 | +0.45 | 2.86 | +0.81 |
| Honeoye | 73 | 23 | 49 | +4 | 25 | 39 | +30 | 0.40 | -0.30 | 2.98 | +0.93 |
| Hornell Almond | 71 | 21 | 48 | +4 | 16 | 24 | +20 | 0.41 | -0.22 | 2.85 | +1.01 |
| Jamestown 4NE | 78 | 24 | 51 | +8 | 34 | 44 | +40 | 0.60 | -0.31 | 3.21 | +0.55 |
| Niagara Falls | 81 | 24 | 50 | +4 | 29 | 31 | +19 | 0.17 | -0.60 | 2.73 | +0.50 |
| Ithaca Cornell | 72 | 29 | 49 | +5 | 20 | 30 | +24 | 1.04 | +0.34 | 2.66 | +0.65 |
| New York LGA | 70 | 39 | 55 | +4 | 38 | 84 | +43 | 0.11 | -0.80 | 1.26 | -1.36 |
| Morrisville | 71 | 26 | 47 | +4 | 9 | 12 | +9 | 0.91 | +0.17 | 3.29 | +1.19 |
| Massena | 77 | 26 | 49 | +6 | 28 | 30 | +25 | 0.37 | -0.26 | 1.54 | -0.31 |
| Norwich | 71 | 29 | 46 | +1 | 2 | 7 | +2 | 1.04 | +0.27 | 3.32 | +1.03 |
| Oneonta | 70 | 28 | 47 | +4 | 3 | 12 | +8 | 0.92 | +0.08 | 2.65 | +0.29 |
| Penn Yan | 74 | 27 | 51 | +6 | 38 | 56 | +48 | 0.32 | -0.38 | 1.89 | -0.12 |
| Plattsburgh Intl | 72 | 24 | 48 | +4 | 18 | 18 | +12 | 0.23 | -0.46 | 1.53 | -0.39 |
| Poughkeepsie AP | 74 | 31 | 52 | +5 | 29 | 57 | +39 | 0.69 | -0.13 | 1.48 | -0.88 |
| Rochester NY | 77 | 26 | 53 | +7 | 45 | 56 | +43 | 0.10 | -0.53 | 2.38 | +0.58 |
| Syracuse | 75 | 28 | 52 | +6 | 39 | 52 | +41 | 0.69 | -0.11 | 3.59 | +1.25 |
| Wales | 77 | 22 | 50 | +7 | 32 | 38 | +34 | 0.50 | -0.41 | 3.97 | +1.30 |
| Warsaw | 71 | 20 | 46 | +5 | 18 | 20 | +18 | 0.57 | -0.27 | 3.91 | +1.55 |

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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