



WEATHER AND CROPS

USDA, Agricultural Statistics Service, NY Field Office, N.Y. Dept. of Agriculture and Markets, Division of Statistics
Cooperating with

U.S. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA National Weather Service and Cornell Cooperative Extension

Released, May 30, 2006

Week Ending, May 28, 2006

No. 977-06-06

WEATHER: An upper low over eastern Canada resulted in unseasonably cool weather for the first half of the week. As the low moved farther east warmer and drier air was able to get through with temperatures climbing above normal for the last half of the week. Rainfall varied widely across the region. Rainfall was above normal over much of central upstate New York where 1.7 inches fell at North Brookfield in Madison County and just under 1.5 inches at Cobleskill in Schoharie County. In contrast only 0.15 inches was recorded at LaGuardia Airport in New York City and 0.24 inches at Massena in the St. Lawrence Valley.

CROPS: Cool, wet weather slowed spring fieldwork and planting. Less than ideal conditions provided 4.8 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 6 percent short, 83 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Oats were rated 8 percent fair, 68 percent good and 24 percent excellent. Winter wheat was rated 1 percent poor, 9 percent fair, 66 percent good and 24 percent excellent. Corn for grain was 85 percent planted, the same as last year. Oats planting were completed compared to 95 percent last year. Potatoes were 67 percent planted compared to 59 percent last year. Soybeans were 49 percent planted compared to 62 percent a year ago. Following are comments from reporters across the state: Many producers were busy chopping hay in Jefferson County. Others completed corn plantings. Soybean planting continued. Winter wheat was heading out. In Lewis County grass harvest started for a few. Weather in St Lawrence County was rainy with no planting hold-ups. New seedings of corn were up and looking good. In Clinton County, it was a better week, but the previous week's rain left many fields too wet to plant, or planted corn fields too wet to spray. Forages were growing well. In Niagara County, there were cooler temperatures with some much needed rain. In Ontario County, some much needed rain was received. Dry hay was made for the first time. Producers were also chopping for haylage. In Cortland County, conditions were cold and wet, but turned warm. Most crops were planted and spraying was getting done. Reports of tent caterpillars have come in and aerial spraying with GPS was used. In Herkimer County, most things appeared normal, except invasion of tent caterpillars in many areas. The temperature went from cold to hot--- a repeat of last year in some ways for Madison County. Farm operators were trying to get haying done. In Otsego County, hay harvest began in earnest, and final plantings progressed as fields dried out. In Albany County, fieldwork resumed after two weeks of rain and cool weather. Haylage was harvested in earnest. Due to the rain, hay was past prime. Average hay yields were harvested. In Fulton and Montgomery Counties, haying operations began with nice weather. The first few days of sun were needed to dry things out which put farmers behind. In Cattaraugus County, many corn fields showed defined rows. First cutting of grass was well underway. In Steuben County, the first half of the week was wet with showers every day. Haying was underway and crop looked much better after recent rains. In Chautauqua County, more growers applied their first fungicide spray of the season. In Delaware County, hay harvest was in full swing for haylage. Corn was up and looked good. Hot weather made it ideal to harvest hay before it matured. In Dutchess County, it was a good week for fieldwork.

FRUIT: In the Lake Erie fruit region, growers observed more late frost damage to vineyards that had previously escaped injury, throughout Chautauqua County. Most farmers were also applying their first fungicide spray of the season. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, blueberries were blooming and strawberries were already in full bloom. Farmers will begin pinching shoots and stabilizing trees. Executing proper cultural practices will be crucial in helping maintain a successful crop. In the Finger Lakes fruit region, farmers were beginning to apply a protectant to the grapes. If prolonged cool weather continues, not only will the development be delayed, but it will also increase the chance of disease for susceptible varieties. In Albany County, strawberries were in flower with berries expected by June 10th. Farmers were currently applying thinning agents to the apple trees, which have a heavy crop. In the Long Island fruit region, sunny but cool weather dominated this past week in the vineyards. However, warm weather was received over Memorial Day weekend, which assisted shoot growth. Due to the warm weather, black rot and downy mildew will be possible threats if the weather turns rainy.

VEGETABLE: The week started out with cold temperatures and rain and finished with summertime temperatures. There was even a report of snow in Lewis County earlier in the week! Planting of vegetable crops across the state progressed, but at a slower pace than previous weeks. Planting of onions across the state was approximately 70 percent complete. Planting of sweet corn for fresh market was approximately 65 percent complete throughout the state. There was some injury to sweet corn from the frosts earlier in the week. Planting of snap beans was approximately 50 percent complete, and cabbage was also about 50 percent planted in the state. In western New York, planting of green peas and carrots for processing was complete last week. Blooms were emerging on the green peas. Sweet corn for processing emerged, but plants are suffering from the cold temperatures. Planting of snap beans for processing began. Beet planting was about 60 percent complete.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was looking good due to the rain and cool temperatures. Pasture conditions were rated 2 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 53 percent good and 27 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, May 28, 2006

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° ^{1/}			Precipitation (Inches) ^{1/}				
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season ^{1/}	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm	
<u>Hudson Valley</u>												
Albany	81	41	58	-3	63	319	+73	0.77	-0.03	9.26	+3.22	
Glens Falls	78	35	56	-4	48	207	+15	0.40	-0.44	8.23	+1.99	
Poughkeepsie	80	40	58	-4	61	348	+64	0.49	-0.49	9.92	+2.52	
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>												
Utica	79	37	55	-5	49	240	+22	1.71	+0.87	6.37	-0.47	
<u>Champlain Valley</u>												
Plattsburgh	80	40	57	-3	55	246	+52	0.24	-0.44	6.58	+1.21	
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>												
Canton	78	37	56	-3	51	226	+62	0.33	-0.37	5.85	+0.32	
Massena	79	40	57	-2	52	246	+61	0.2	-0.38	6.37	+1.46	
<u>Great Lakes</u>												
Buffalo	73	39	57	-3	59	333	+106	0.49	-0.25	4.04	-1.64	
Wales	71	31	52	-6	39	190	+24	0.38	-0.46	4.82	-2.17	
Niagara Falls	76	35	56	-5	54	271	+28	0.17	-0.53	3.84	-1.96	
Rochester	74	39	57	-4	58	305	+57	0.23	-0.40	4.00	-1.05	
Watertown	77	39	56	-2	49	226	+58	0.44	-0.19	4.68	-0.25	
<u>Central Lakes</u>												
Dansville	74	32	55	-6	47	239	+9	0.65	-0.04	4.01	-1.38	
Geneva	72	37	55	-5	47	222	+5	0.62	-0.10	4.17	-1.41	
Honeoye	73	34	54	-6	47	237	+14	0.52	-0.15	2.87	-2.62	
Ithaca	72	36	53	-6	37	183	-5	0.92	+0.14	4.29	-1.57	
Penn Yan	73	38	56	-4	53	253	+36	0.51	-0.21	3.40	-2.18	
Syracuse	79	40	57	-4	54	290	+40	0.42	-0.35	6.14	-0.14	
Warsaw	71	34	51	-6	33	161	+13	0.55	-0.28	5.57	-0.94	
<u>Western Plateau</u>												
Angelica	72	30	51	-6	35	127	-19	0.41	-0.35	4.62	-0.78	
Elmira	72	32	54	-5	42	179	-28	0.36	-0.41	4.81	-0.73	
Franklinville	72	29	51	-5	31	123	+6	0.79	-0.05	5.82	-0.61	
Jamestown	77	30	54	-4	45	190	+42	0.42	-0.51	5.66	-1.56	
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>												
Binghamton	72	35	54	-5	43	228	+30	0.44	-0.33	4.66	-1.50	
Cobleskill	80	38	54	-4	44	172	-4	1.48	+0.61	8.14	+1.59	
Morrisville	75	33	52	-6	38	155	-10	1.01	+0.12	8.00	+1.59	
Norwich	77	34	53	-6	40	176	-5	1.02	+0.15	7.22	+0.49	
Oneonta	77	36	55	-2	43	242	+84	0.99	+0.01	6.13	-1.22	
<u>Coastal</u>												
Bridgehamton	81	44	61	+2	79	278	+82	0.07	-0.77	9.73	+2.31	
New York	83	48	66	+2	110	587	+183	0.17	-0.67	9.83	+2.58	

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning. R17May423

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained from reports from Cornell Cooperative Extension agents, USDA Farm Service Agency agents, 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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