



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 2, 2007

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Week Ending, July 1, 2007

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WEATHER: The week began cool and dry with high pressure in control. However, the high moved off the Mid-Atlantic coast by Tuesday and a return southerly flow brought very warm and humid conditions to New York. Temperatures soared into the upper 80's and 90's on Tuesday and Wednesday. A cold front approached from the Great Lakes region on Wednesday spawning strong to severe thunderstorms across central and eastern New York. The front cleared eastern New York and Long Island on Thursday. A broad upper level low over eastern Quebec funneled chilly air in the wake of the front across New York for Friday and Saturday. Humidity levels were much lower these days with temperatures below normal for late June. Overall, precipitation for the week was below normal, except for locations hit by the thunderstorms. Some of these locations ended up near normal or slightly above normal for the week. For example, Binghamton had an inch of rainfall, and LaGuardia had close to an inch. Despite the cool start and ending to the week, temperatures still finished well above normal for the state.

CROPS: There were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 8 percent very short, 43 percent short, and 39 percent adequate. The condition of winter wheat was 11 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Oat condition was 6 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. The condition of the hay was 11 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Dry beans were 94 percent planted ahead of last year's 67 percent. The first cutting of alfalfa was 95 percent completed compared with the previous year's 74 percent. Ninety-one percent of the clover-timothy mixed hay was cut compared with last year's 58 percent. Grass silage was 91 percent harvested compared with 71 percent last year. The following are comments from across the state: Cooler temperatures and some rain in Jefferson County. Parts of Lewis County had frost on June 23rd. Hay crop was heavy. Several producers have finished 2nd cutting of alfalfa. Most of the corn will meet the "knee high by 4th of July" criteria, but as usual there are some fields that won't. Potato leafhoppers in Jefferson County have forced some to begin harvesting their second cutting of alfalfa a little earlier than anticipated. There were a few corn fields that showed evidence of moisture stress with rolled leaves in mid-afternoon. St. Lawrence County could use a lot more rain. Creeks and ponds are either very low or have even dried up. Crops are looking very good. Corn is at an all time high, and with a nice dark green coloring. Weather has been excellent for growing, but rain is much needed. Corn looks the best it has in at least 10 years, very few poor crops in Clinton County. Northern sections got a nice rain; southern sections and Essex County got little or none and can really use some rain. Corn isn't suffering yet, looks really good even where the showers have missed. Second cut grass yields are excellent and second cut alfalfa regrowing fast. Hay crop is very short in Livingston County. Still very dry throughout Ontario County with a little rain on Saturday afternoon but the rain was not county wide. The second cutting hay has been very low yielding due to the lack of rain. Scattered showers in Cortland County have helped all crops – most corn is looking good, although height varies throughout the county. Hay fields have started regrowing, but need more moisture to get a good second cutting. Barley and oats are short on several fields. Much dry hay being made. First year in about 10 when dry hay successfully made in May. For early hay harvesters of alfalfa and grass, 2nd cutting underway or completed. Early planted corn at least knee high if not taller. Some areas of Onondaga County have received some much needed rainfall, but other areas received little to nothing, and corn is curling, hay is short, and small grains are maturing prematurely. Corn and soybean crops in Albany County are excellent. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties second cutting hay is underway. The alfalfa looks really good however; grass hay has not had enough rain to come back. In general, Saratoga County could use some moisture.

FRUIT: Apples were 5 percent poor condition, 10 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 44 percent excellent. Grapes were 8 percent poor, 8 percent fair, 25 percent good and 59 percent excellent. Peaches were 12 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 13 percent good and 50 percent excellent. Pears were 6 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 31 percent good and 38 percent excellent. Sweet cherries condition was 8 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 33 percent good and 34 percent excellent. Tart cherries rated 6 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 26 percent good, and 55 percent excellent. In the Finger Lakes fruit region some vineyards in the northern Seneca and Cayuga Lake areas reported heavy hail damage with significant crop lost from a thunderstorm cell that went through the area last week. Results of hail in Seneca County hurt some sweet cherries. Otherwise the crops look pretty good. Most varieties of grapes should be through bloom with later blooming varieties at 20-80 percent bloom, Concord at fruit set. Post-bloom sprays will be due in most vineyards. In the Long Island fruit region, berries were sizing up quickly. Growers were leaf pulling, getting wires up and dealing with pest management issues.

VEGETABLE: Dry conditions continue with drier conditions existing in western and northern New York. Rain received was once again spotty. Farm stands were selling lettuce, cauliflower, zucchini and summer squash. Sweet corn harvest expected to start this week. Planting of tomatoes was basically complete at 99 percent planted, compared to 88 percent last year. Lettuce condition was widely variable, ranging from fair to excellent with some lettuce in poor condition in western New York. Condition of onions was reported to be mostly fair to excellent. Approximately 92 percent of sweet corn acreage was planted, compared to a five-year average of 91 percent and last year's average of 85 percent. Despite the dry weather, sweet corn condition was reported to be good to excellent. Snap beans were 77 percent planted, compared to 90 percent for the five-year average and last year's average of 78 percent. Cabbage planting was 87 percent complete, compared to a five-year average of 90 percent and last year's 85 percent.

LIVESTOCK: Livestock on pasture enjoyed the cooler temperatures. Pasture conditions across most of the state were estimated to be in good condition. Pasture conditions were rated 9 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 32 percent good and 6 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 1, 2007

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	94	52	73	+4	164	1001	+194	0.67	-0.14	12.83	+2.70
Glens Falls	92	44	70	+3	140	794	+113	0.14	-0.56	9.84	-0.02
Poughkeepsie	95	52	74	+5	170	1076	+217	0.29	-0.59	13.74	+1.99
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	86	44	66	+2	111	625	+115	0.35	-0.66	10.93	-2.84
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	90	47	68	0	128	738	+38	0.21	-0.49	9.84	+0.99
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	90	43	67	+2	123	745	+142	0.21	-0.56	7.59	-1.63
Massena	92	44	69	+3	135	787	+139	0.56	-0.19	7.89	-0.54
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	91	53	73	+5	160	983	+225	0.32	-0.46	5.63	-4.04
Wales	87	46	68	+4	128	708	+115	0.04	-0.89	7.04	-4.60
Niagara Falls	92	52	73	+5	160	942	+169	0.00	-0.73	5.66	-3.93
Rochester	93	50	73	+6	167	1028	+276	0.06	-0.63	5.96	-2.46
Watertown	91	45	69	+3	133	739	+143	0.10	-0.43	4.83	-3.13
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	94	48	71	+3	148	864	+117	0.14	-0.72	5.99	-3.66
Geneva	92	50	72	+4	157	870	+145	0.07	-0.74	7.22	-2.47
Honeoye	91	44	69	+1	136	832	+81	0.26	-0.54	8.78	-0.81
Ithaca	91	45	70	+4	141	786	+134	0.36	-0.49	7.28	-2.83
Penn Yan	93	51	73	+6	166	991	+266	0.40	-0.41	7.09	-2.60
Syracuse	92	51	72	+5	155	940	+179	0.26	-0.65	8.89	-1.64
Warsaw	87	49	70	+6	140	716	+170	0.10	-0.84	9.34	-1.92
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	89	41	66	+2	113	637	+104	0.40	-0.66	7.95	-2.58
Elmira	94	42	70	+3	141	851	+155	0.14	-0.71	6.38	-3.39
Franklinville	89	41	67	+4	119	645	+168	0.11	-0.84	7.75	-3.44
Jamestown	89	45	68	+4	127	744	+191	0.15	-0.88	10.29	-2.16
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	90	50	71	+5	146	886	+214	1.00	+0.16	9.23	-0.98
Cobleskill	90	46	69	+4	134	756	+137	0.00	-0.95	14.32	+3.07
Morrisville	86	47	68	+3	127	713	+132	0.13	-0.78	9.76	-1.24
Norwich	91	41	67	+3	123	732	+115	0.40	-0.51	10.67	-0.65
Oneonta	98	44	71	+7	149	891	+327	0.17	-0.80	13.97	+1.85
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	86	55	72	+4	154	879	+166	0.16	-0.61	12.81	+1.32
New York	95	64	80	+6	209	1421	+310	0.97	+0.12	18.47	+7.16

^{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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