



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## June 23, 2008

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Released, June 23, 2008

Week Ending, June 22, 2008

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**WEATHER:** A series of cold fronts brought cooler than normal temperatures to much of the state during the period. Showers and thunderstorms accompanying these fronts brought above normal precipitation to much of central and western New York State, with near to slightly below normal precipitation to southeast New York where areal coverage was more scattered. Reports of a severe hail event Monday afternoon, June 16<sup>th</sup> were widespread.

**CROPS:** There were 3.9 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated as 9 percent short, 79 percent adequate and 12 percent surplus. The condition of the winter wheat was 16 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. Oat condition was 3 percent poor, 8 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Hay condition was 5 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Dry beans were 69 percent planted compared with last year's 78 percent, and a five year average of 71 percent. Virtually all of the corn was planted, the same as last year, and 96 percent as the five year average. Soybeans were 98 percent planted compared with 97 percent last year, and the five year average of 89 percent. Seventy-nine percent of the first cutting of alfalfa was completed compared with 84 percent last year. The clover-timothy mix of hay was 55 percent cut compared with 72 percent last year. The grass silage was 80 percent harvested compared with 82 percent last year. The following are comments from across the state: Jefferson County reported rain and cool weather making the week bad for baling hay. Some producers took off a cutting of hay and then planted field to corn or soybeans. In Lewis County, threats of rain slowed forage harvest but very little rain had actually materialized. Crops could use moisture and heat. A rainy week in St. Lawrence County. Some areas experienced quite a bit of rain, in fact 2.5 inches was reported over night on Wednesday. Clinton County had a washout of a week as frequent rains made hay crop harvest all but impossible. Some fields were too wet for manure application. Corn continued to make good progress and second cut forages were coming along well. There is a lot of first cut still to be harvested. Almost daily rain over the last several weeks in Franklin County has taken its toll. Heavy rains at times resulted in corn needing to be replanted. In some cases, they may not get to replant. There is still a great deal of hay to bale. If it wasn't chopped early between the rain showers, the first cutting hay diminished greatly in quality. In Livingston County, much needed rain fell. First cutting of hay is late in Monroe County so the quality probably won't be good. Wayne County experienced severe hail storms but field crops, while injured by the hail, may bounce back since they are young enough. Corn spraying was done between the showers in Cortland County. Hay and silage harvest nearly stopped, there was not enough time to dry the hay. Hail was scattered across the county with one producer reporting corn leaves shredded. Hail damage in Albany, Schoharie, and Schenectady Counties caused damage to crops. Hay production slowed significantly. Corn is growing but fields in need of spraying are nearly impossible to get on now. All crops continued to look very good in both Montgomery and Fulton Counties. Saratoga County received much needed rain making second cut alfalfa and legumes look good and in some areas are ready to harvest. In Steuben County, second cutting alfalfa looked good. Corn and hay fields looked greener after the rain in Washington County but the week was difficult for farmers to make baled hay. In Sullivan County, strong local storms slowed cropping progress. Steuben County reported good emergence for soybeans. Hay crop is normal so far and corn had good development.

**FRUIT:** Apples were 23 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 39 percent good and 13 percent excellent. Grapes were 5 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 29 percent excellent. Peaches were 12 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Pears were 31 percent poor, 25 percent fair, and 44 percent good. Hail on Monday devastated several growers from Lake Ontario to the Hudson Valley. Wayne, Monroe, and Ontario counties received reports of severely damaged fruit trees. Wayne County reported much of the stone fruit and berry crop now unmarketable, while as much as 80 percent of fresh fruit apples may have to be sent to the processing market. The Hudson Valley also reported severe damage to fruit trees, with many apples at 100 percent loss. Strawberries in Monroe and Albany counties showed spotty damage. On Long Island, grapes were in bloom. Vines looked good, and there were no major pest problems. Growers were preparing to leaf pull the cluster zone.

**VEGETABLE:** Isolated hail damage to vegetable crops was reported in Dutchess, Albany, Orleans, and Wayne Counties. Processing pea harvest began in Franklin County with reported low yields. Lettuce was 73 percent planted, up from 54 percent planted last week, with reported conditions of 8 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 35 percent excellent. Onions had reported conditions of 3 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 75 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Sweet corn was 88 percent planted with conditions of 2 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 63 percent good and 24 percent excellent. Snap Beans were 65 percent planted, cabbage was 83 percent planted, and tomatoes were 82 percent planted.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pasture conditions continued to improve. Livestock across the state enjoyed the growth. Pasture conditions were estimated to be in good condition. Pasture conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 46 percent good and 24 percent excellent.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, June 22, 2008**

| Station                           | Temperature (°F) |     |     |                      | Growing Degree Days<br>Base 50° <sup>1/</sup> |        |                      | Precipitation<br>(Inches) <sup>1/</sup> |                      |        |                      |  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-----|-----|----------------------|---|--------|----------------------|---|----------------------|--------|----------------------|--|
|                                   | High             | Low | Avg | Dep.<br>from<br>Norm | Week  | Season | Dep.<br>from<br>Norm | Week                                    | Dep.<br>from<br>Norm | Season | Dep.<br>from<br>Norm |  |
| <b><u>Hudson Valley</u></b>       |                  |     |     |                      |   |        |                      |   |                      |        |                      |  |
| Albany                            | 85               | 49  | 66  | -2                   | 117   | 816    | +167                 | 2.14                                    | +1.30                | 8.65   | -0.46                |  |
| Glens Falls                       | 83               | 47  | 63  | -4                   | 90  | 600    | +59                  | 0.04                                    | -0.67                | 5.73   | -3.23                |  |
| Poughkeepsie                      | 88               | 53  | 67  | -2                   | 123   | 853    | +153                 | 1.17                                    | +0.33                | 10.50  | -0.14                |  |
| <b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>       |                  |     |     |                      |   |        |                      |   |                      |        |                      |  |
| Boonville                         | 78               | 47  | 60  | -3                   | 69  | 460    | +61                  | 0.59                                    | -0.48                | 10.55  | -1.91                |  |
| <b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>    |                  |     |     |                      |   |        |                      |   |                      |        |                      |  |
| Plattsburgh                       | 81               | 48  | 62  | -5                   | 86  | 566    | +11                  | 1.15                                    | +0.43                | 8.89   | +0.92                |  |
| <b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b> |                  |     |     |                      |   |        |                      |   |                      |        |                      |  |
| Canton                            | 82               | 51  | 63  | -2                   | 93  | 596    | +120                 | 1.10                                    | +0.33                | 10.19  | +1.93                |  |
| Massena                           | 82               | 50  | 63  | -2                   | 96  | 585    | +70                  | 1.45                                    | +0.68                | 8.58   | +1.09                |  |
| <b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>         |                  |     |     |                      |   |        |                      |   |                      |        |                      |  |
| Buffalo                           | 80               | 49  | 63  | -5                   | 91  | 718    | +111                 | 2.25                                    | +1.41                | 8.15   | -0.53                |  |
| Wales                             | 80               | 48  | 60  | -4                   | 75  | 535    | +65                  | 2.49                                    | +1.51                | 8.93   | -1.52                |  |
| Niagara Falls                     | 82               | 49  | 63  | -5                   | 93  | 683    | +59                  | 1.47                                    | +0.67                | 7.10   | -1.55                |  |
| Rochester                         | 84               | 51  | 65  | -2                   | 106   | 806    | +196                 | 0.89                                    | +0.19                | 5.17   | -2.38                |  |
| Watertown                         | 81               | 52  | 63  | -1                   | 96  | 600    | +130                 | 0.61                                    | -0.01                | 7.96   | +0.69                |  |
| <b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>       |                  |     |     |                      |   |        |                      |   |                      |        |                      |  |
| Dansville                         | 84               | 50  | 63  | -5                   | 91  | 689    | +88                  | 1.56                                    | +0.65                | 5.10   | -3.48                |  |
| Geneva                            | 82               | 49  | 63  | -4                   | 95  | 679    | +99                  | 1.40                                    | +0.52                | 6.29   | -2.39                |  |
| Honeoye                           | 81               | 49  | 63  | -5                   | 91  | 650    | +49                  | 1.43                                    | +0.54                | 7.10   | -1.48                |  |
| Ithaca                            | 82               | 47  | 62  | -3                   | 88  | 610    | +90                  | 2.41                                    | +1.50                | 6.84   | -2.20                |  |
| Penn Yan                          | 84               | 53  | 66  | -1                   | 114   | 819    | +239                 | 1.05                                    | +0.17                | 4.51   | -4.17                |  |
| Syracuse                          | 83               | 52  | 65  | -2                   | 107   | 760    | +142                 | 0.93                                    | +0.02                | 7.45   | -1.93                |  |
| Warsaw                            | 81               | 46  | 59  | -5                   | 65  | 526    | +96                  | 2.40                                    | +1.40                | 8.69   | -1.39                |  |
| <b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>     |                  |     |     |                      |   |        |                      |   |                      |        |                      |  |
| Angelica                          | 81               | 43  | 59  | -4                   | 67  | 463    | +43                  | 1.39                                    | +0.27                | 7.77   | -1.46                |  |
| Elmira                            | 83               | 45  | 63  | -3                   | 95  | 677    | +121                 | 1.84                                    | +0.93                | 7.12   | -1.59                |  |
| Franklinville                     | 80               | 47  | 60  | -3                   | 73  | 470    | +100                 | 1.25                                    | +0.24                | 8.10   | -1.90                |  |
| Jamestown                         | 82               | 48  | 61  | -3                   | 83  | 538    | +102                 | 1.46                                    | +0.38                | 7.29   | -3.86                |  |
| <b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>     |                  |     |     |                      |   |        |                      |   |                      |        |                      |  |
| Binghamton                        | 80               | 47  | 61  | -5                   | 81  | 674    | +137                 | 1.39                                    | +0.55                | 7.48   | -1.67                |  |
| Cobleskill                        | 80               | 42  | 61  | -4                   | 79  | 565    | +73                  | 1.17                                    | +0.19                | 9.03   | -1.03                |  |
| Morrisville                       | 78               | 45  | 60  | -4                   | 72  | 539    | +79                  | 1.70                                    | +0.73                | 8.98   | -0.89                |  |
| Norwich                           | 84               | 48  | 62  | -2                   | 89  | 545    | +53                  | 1.04                                    | +0.08                | 6.52   | -3.66                |  |
| Oneonta                           | 86               | 50  | 66  | +3                   | 113   | 685    | +238                 | 1.14                                    | +0.16                | 6.95   | -3.96                |  |
| <b><u>Coastal</u></b>             |                  |     |     |                      |   |        |                      |   |                      |        |                      |  |
| Bridgehamton                      | 81               | 52  | 66  | -2                   | 112   | 677    | +114                 | 1.12                                    | +0.28                | 8.32   | -2.15                |  |
| New York                          | 85               | 60  | 72  | -1                   | 153   | 1069   | +152                 | 0.27                                    | -0.57                | 9.28   | -0.94                |  |

<sup>1/</sup> Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> 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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