



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## June 29, 2009

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](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

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Week Ending, June 28, 2009

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**WEATHER:** Generally wet conditions continued for the entire week. At the start of the week, an area of low pressure was situated off the coast of Long Island. This storm system was nearly stationary through Wednesday allowing for several rounds of showers and thunderstorms, mainly across eastern parts of the state. Another cold front approached the region for Thursday and Friday allowing for additional showers and thunderstorms. Some thunderstorms were severe across western and central New York on Thursday and thunderstorms also produced wind damage and hail across eastern and southern parts of the state on Friday as well. The upper level disturbance responsible for the cold front remained situated for the area on Saturday allowing for a few more light rain showers over the eastern half of the state. Temperatures were generally cool to start the week with associated coastal low and cloud cover. Temperatures warmed for Wednesday and Thursday ahead of the cold frontal boundary but became cool once again behind the passage of the boundary as an upper level storm remained over the area for Saturday.

**CROPS:** Scattered showers again passed through a majority of the state hindering haying activities, and limiting fieldwork. There were 3.2 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 29 percent surplus. Condition of winter wheat was rated as 4 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 71 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Oat condition was 7 percent fair, 68 percent good, and 25 percent excellent. Condition of hay was 4 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 22 percent excellent. Corn planting was completed. Alfalfa 1<sup>st</sup> cutting was 82 percent completed, ahead of last year's 81 percent. Clover-timothy hay was 68 percent harvested, ahead of last year's 61 percent, but behind the five average of 69 percent. Eighty-nine percent of the grass silage was harvested, ahead of last year's 82 percent, and ahead of the five year average of 83 percent. Soybeans were 96 percent planted, the same as the five year average, but behind last year's 98 percent. Dry beans were 80 percent planted, ahead of the five year average of 77 percent, and ahead of last year's 72 percent. The following are comments throughout the state: Heat and sunshine promoted growth of spring plantings in Ontario County, and the break in the rain allowed some dry hay to be made mid-week. Cayuga County's corn and soybean development was behind due to a lack of sunny days. Lots of first cutting remained standing in Cortland County awaiting a stretch of dry days for harvest. Storms moved through the area knocking down hay stands, but no damage was reported yet. Hay harvest was behind schedule in Madison County due to rain. Corn looked better due to warmer temperatures in Albany County, and the rainy weather continued to impede dry hay harvest. Montgomery, Fulton, and Herkimer Counties all need some dry, warm weather to help promote corn growth, and allow dry hay to be harvested. Second cutting of grass silage began in Cattaraugus County on those farms that had an early first cutting. Thunderstorms in Broome County limited hay making, but the first and second cutting production was good. Excessive rains in Delaware County continued to hinder field work and erode hay quality. Hay production in Dutchess County was poor due to very poor drying conditions. Some hail storms passed through Ulster County. In Jefferson County the corn crop continued to lag due to the moderate day time temperatures and cool nights. Hay crop was very heavy with several producers baling dry hay this week. Warm weather in the early part of the week was conducive for making hay in Lewis County, and also helped the corn to grow out of its sluggish yellow stage. There was still some first cutting haylage being cut, but the quality was low. St. Lawrence County had a fine week for fieldwork with some sidedressing of nitrogen being applied to the corn, and a lot of hay was put up. Early planted grain corn was over a knee high in Niagara County, and the grain crops continued to look good.

**FRUIT:** Apples were 3 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 32 percent excellent. Grapes were 10 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Peaches were 18 percent fair, 27 percent good, and 55 percent excellent. Pears were 2 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 29 percent good, and 51 percent excellent. Sweet cherries were 54 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 27 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Tart cherries were 15 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Strawberries were 19 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, cherry fruit flies and black cherry fruit flies were flying. Codling moth trap counts significantly increased with the warmer nighttime temperatures. Apple scab was still an issue in many orchards. In Long Island vineyards, most varieties were in bloom, and Chardonnay was in early fruit set. Continued rainfall kept disease pressure high. Strawberry harvest continued throughout the state, and both Madison and Albany Counties reported a good season. In Broome County, excessive rains limited strawberry picking and caused some to rot in the fields. Rain continued in the lower Hudson Valley, and cherries were splitting due to excess moisture. There were hail storms in Ulster County, but no reports of damage yet.

**VEGETABLE:** The rains of the past week have left cabbage limp in wet spots in fields across the state. However, the rains have really helped sweet corn plants take off from their slow start. Lettuce was 70 percent planted with reported conditions of 91 percent poor, 3 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Onions were 100 percent planted with reported conditions of 25 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Sweet corn was 90 percent planted with conditions of 10 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Snap beans were 84 percent planted, cabbage was 92 percent planted, and tomatoes were 96 percent planted.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pastures were rated at 3 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 30 percent excellent condition. Rainfall has promoted good growth. However, wetness has limited access.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, June 28, 2009**

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° <sup>1/</sup>			Precipitation (Inches) <sup>1/</sup>				
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm	
<b><u>Hudson Valley</u></b>												
Albany	86	60	71	+3	150	844	+98	0.80	-0.04	10.21	+0.41	
Glens Falls	85	55	70	+3	139	684	+57	0.31	-0.39	8.97	-0.59	
Poughkeepsie	84	60	71	+3	151	892	+94	1.90	+1.04	15.30	+3.93	
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>												
Boonville	83	53	65	+2	109	441	-26	0.42	-0.62	14.43	+1.08	
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>												
Plattsburgh	84	55	70	+3	140	607	-37	0.27	-0.43	7.74	-0.81	
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>												
Canton	86	54	68	+4	127	552	-2	0.70	-0.07	10.54	+1.65	
Massena	90	51	71	+5	146	628	+31	1.66	+0.89	8.81	+0.69	
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>												
Buffalo	85	59	71	+3	148	779	+79	0.60	-0.21	7.49	-1.85	
Wales	84	52	66	+2	112	584	+39	0.72	-0.24	10.21	-1.04	
Niagara Falls	88	57	73	+5	159	773	+57	1.16	+0.40	9.75	+0.46	
Rochester	86	56	70	+4	143	737	+40	0.83	+0.13	10.40	+2.27	
Watertown	87	50	69	+5	137	593	+46	0.09	-0.48	9.72	+1.97	
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>												
Dansville	86	54	67	-1	124	733	+42	0.77	-0.12	7.97	-1.32	
Geneva	86	56	69	+2	135	708	+39	0.38	-0.46	9.51	+0.15	
Honeoye	86	50	68	-2	125	715	+21	0.73	-0.10	11.53	+2.27	
Ithaca	87	50	66	0	114	629	+28	0.94	+0.06	10.21	+0.46	
Penn Yan	87	57	70	+3	139	802	+133	0.25	-0.59	8.46	-0.90	
Syracuse	87	57	70	+3	141	816	+110	0.10	-0.81	10.49	+0.35	
Warsaw	83	55	67	+4	120	555	+54	0.72	-0.25	10.07	-0.80	
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>												
Angelica	85	47	64	+1	102	516	+27	1.74	+0.64	9.14	-0.95	
Elmira	89	50	67	+1	123	739	+97	0.35	-0.53	7.53	-1.88	
Franklinville	85	46	65	+3	106	537	+102	1.34	+0.36	9.78	-1.02	
Jamestown	86	54	68	+4	125	665	+157	0.38	-0.67	10.65	-1.37	
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>												
Binghamton	85	56	68	+3	127	734	+114	0.74	-0.10	11.01	+1.16	
Cobleskill	86	57	68	+4	128	631	+61	0.79	-0.19	10.56	-0.30	
Morrisville	86	53	67	+3	119	537	+3	1.53	+0.61	12.80	+2.19	
Norwich	88	51	67	+3	124	623	+54	0.70	-0.21	13.65	+2.72	
Oneonta	85	57	68	+4	126	635	+116	1.30	+0.32	11.91	+0.20	
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>												
Bridgehamton	81	61	68	0	127	721	+66	0.41	-0.39	17.15	+5.99	
New York	85	65	73	-1	163	1092	+55	1.22	+0.38	16.88	+5.94	

<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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