



WEATHER AND CROPS

September 8, 2009

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, September 6, 2009

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WEATHER: High pressure dominated New York State much of this period after a cold front moved east of the state Sunday accompanied by isolated showers. Another weak cold front settled south across the state on Saturday, again accompanied only by isolated showers across northern and central New York. Temperatures and precipitation averaged below normal statewide during this period.

CROPS: Warm, dry weather promoted crop maturity, and allowed dry hay harvest to continue. There were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil Moisture was rated 4 percent short, 85 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Condition of soybeans was 7 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Hay condition was 9 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Winter wheat harvest was completed. Ninety-five percent of the oats were harvested, ahead of both the five year average of 94 percent, and last year's 93 percent. Potatoes were 44 percent harvested, behind both the five year average of 50 percent, and last year's 45 percent. The second cutting of alfalfa was 97 percent harvested, ahead of both the five year average, and last year's 95 percent. Seventy-one percent of the third cutting of alfalfa was completed, ahead of the five year average of 68 percent, but behind last year's 74 percent. Second cutting of timothy hay was 86 percent completed, behind the five year average of 89 percent, but ahead of last year's 84 percent. Third cutting of timothy hay was 49 percent harvested, behind both the five year average of 54 percent, and last year's 58 percent. The following are comments from across the state: Field corn in Cayuga County was looking better and better, but the soybeans still had a lot of catching up to do. The stretch of dry weather allowed producers in Cortland County to catch up on their haying. Second and 3rd cuttings looked excellent, but the 1st cutting was very poor quality. Great haymaking conditions in Madison County allowed farmers to finish 2nd cutting and some 3rd cutting was started. Corn and soybeans looked good, but are still 2-3 weeks behind. Albany County had people working on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd cuttings of hay. Concern was still growing in Herkimer, Fulton, and Montgomery Counties over whether or not the sunny weather will stay around to push the corn and soybeans into maturity. A few farmers in Washington County were starting to chop silage, but most corn needed more time to mature. Broome County finally had five days without rain (a first since April), and allowed farmers to catch up their dry hay harvest. Corn was in late milk, early dent stage and concern was growing that the 110 day corn would not make test weight without more growing degree days. Hay quality was down in Dutchess County with some of it going to mulch, but the corn was looking good. With most of the corn silage crop still a couple weeks away from maturity, farmers in Jefferson County were putting up dry hay. Depending on the occurrence of the first frost and the temperatures through the rest of September, some of the soybean crop will be at risk of not maturing. Weather conditions in Erie County improved allowing hay harvest, but producers report that field corn crop maturity was way behind. Corn and soybean maturity were looking better every day in Niagara County with the warm, dry weather. Some corn producers in St. Lawrence County started to chop it, and hay was still being cut. Sunshine and stable temperatures have helped all the crops in Schuyler County.

FRUIT: Apples were 1 percent poor, 2 percent fair, 11 percent good, and 86 percent excellent. Grapes were 5 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Peaches were 2 percent poor, 8 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 47 percent excellent. Pears were 7 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 29 percent good, and 47 percent excellent. Apples were 22 percent harvested, compared with 17 percent last year and the average of 27 percent. Peaches were 93 percent harvested, compared with 66 percent last year and the average of 78 percent. Pears were 72 percent harvested, compared with 45 percent last year and the average of 57 percent. In the Lake Ontario Fruit Region, apple scab was still active in orchards where primary scab was not controlled this spring. In Albany County, apple harvest was in full swing. The size and quantity of the apples was good, although hail damage was evident on many. In the Lake Erie grape region, harvest was well under way for many growers, and others were getting the harvesters out in preparation. Aurora was being harvested, with some of the other hybrids soon to follow for the processors and wineries. On Long Island, adult oriental fruit moths were still flying, and damage from larvae was seen in late-ripening peaches. In vineyards, most growers have either finished or almost finished bird netting.

VEGETABLE: Late blight reports on tomatoes continued. Some winter squash and pumpkin fields looked lush and green with decent crops. The sweet corn season was winding down in many locations. Lettuce conditions were 25 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Tomatoes were 74 percent harvested, ahead of the 64 percent five-year average. Tomato conditions were 37 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 22 percent good, and 27 percent excellent. Onion harvest was 70 percent complete, up from 60 percent five-year average. Onion conditions were 22 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 28 percent excellent. Sweet corn harvest was 64 percent complete, behind the 75 percent harvested last year, and 75 percent five-year average. Sweet corn conditions were 4 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Snap bean harvest was 71 percent complete, down from 77 percent five-year average. Snap bean conditions were 8 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Cabbage harvest was 71 percent completed, ahead of the 52 percent five-year average. Cabbage conditions were 16 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 11 percent excellent.

LIVESTOCK: Pastures remain above normal for this time of year. Pasture conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 56 percent good and 18 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, September 6, 2009

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	80	46	64	-2	98	2239	+79	0.00	-0.76	23.87	+6.55
Glens Falls	80	41	61	-3	78	1894	+5	0.00	-0.78	19.91	+2.88
Poughkeepsie	83	44	65	-3	106	2362	+97	0.01	-0.83	27.29	+7.40
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	75	44	58	-3	59	1376	-111	0.08	-1.20	23.94	+0.28
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	77	43	61	-3	81	1819	-96	0.00	-0.85	17.65	+1.01
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	79	41	60	-3	69	1693	-27	0.21	-0.77	18.10	+0.60
Massena	79	41	61	-2	77	1860	+53	0.47	-0.41	17.62	+1.64
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	79	50	63	-3	95	2086	+14	0.00	-0.91	17.65	+0.06
Wales	74	44	58	-5	59	1633	-55	0.42	-0.68	19.84	-0.32
Niagara Falls	77	47	62	-4	85	2075	-3	0.00	-0.91	20.55	+3.54
Rochester	77	45	61	-4	81	1985	-17	0.01	-0.76	17.66	+2.56
Watertown	78	39	59	-5	65	1820	+70	0.04	-0.80	15.25	+1.42
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	77	43	61	-6	76	2051	+35	0.00	-0.80	15.33	-1.14
Geneva	78	47	61	-4	81	1953	-47	0.07	-0.70	16.82	+0.49
Honeoye	78	42	60	-7	70	1909	-179	0.09	-0.68	21.93	+5.74
Ithaca	78	40	60	-4	71	1779	-33	0.03	-0.81	19.12	+1.52
Penn Yan	77	46	61	-4	82	2085	+85	0.02	-0.75	15.20	-1.13
Syracuse	79	46	63	-3	90	2206	+176	0.04	-0.84	17.22	-1.26
Warsaw	77	45	60	-2	71	1582	+21	0.12	-0.86	22.68	+3.41
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	77	43	60	-2	70	1436	-105	0.11	-0.73	21.25	+2.91
Elmira	79	42	61	-4	78	1965	+50	0.02	-0.68	14.09	-2.58
Franklinville	77	41	59	-3	61	1520	+107	0.43	-0.54	25.88	+6.40
Jamestown	77	43	60	-3	70	1749	+160	0.12	-1.00	25.10	+3.33
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	76	44	61	-4	76	1917	+59	0.00	-0.77	20.18	+2.57
Cobleskill	78	42	60	-3	71	1781	+51	0.00	-0.87	21.35	+2.46
Morrisville	77	48	61	-2	80	1658	+11	0.11	-0.80	22.42	+3.63
Norwich	80	42	61	-3	77	1753	+21	0.00	-0.86	26.89	+8.17
Oneonta	77	44	61	-1	79	1815	+220	0.00	-0.84	20.81	+0.47
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	84	49	65	-3	110	2254	+140	0.00	-0.84	22.93	+4.38
New York	85	59	72	-1	153	2927	+109	0.00	-0.84	26.40	+6.68

^{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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