



WEATHER AND CROPS

August 23, 2010

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, August 22, 2010

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WEATHER: The week began with high pressure anchored off the eastern seaboard with dry conditions on Sunday. However, this gave way to a fast moving cold front that passed from west to east on Monday night into Tuesday morning. This front was preceded by showers and thunderstorms on Monday, some of which produced damaging winds and heavy rainfall mainly across southeastern parts of the state. High pressure returned for later on Tuesday and into Wednesday with generally fair conditions and lower humidity. Another weak front passed through the state for Thursday, allowing for isolated thunderstorms. High pressure and mainly dry weather returned to end the week for Friday into Saturday, although Saturday featured little sunshine as high level clouds rolled into the area of the next storm system as well as some light showers for far western areas. Despite a few places in central and eastern portions of the state having high temperatures below normal on Sunday, the week was generally dominated by near to above normal temperatures statewide. Warm and muggy conditions returned for Monday and Tuesday ahead of a frontal system. Temperatures were near normal across much of the state on Wednesday. As another frontal system approached, temperatures warmed to above normal for Thursday. Finally in the wake of the boundary, near to slightly below normal temperatures were found across the state on Saturday.

CROPS: There were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 11 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 19 percent surplus. Condition of corn was rated as 2 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 45 percent excellent. Soybean condition was 2 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 45 percent excellent. Hay condition was 6 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 29 percent excellent. Alfalfa second cutting was 99 percent completed, ahead of both last year's 88 percent and the five year average of 92 percent. Third cutting alfalfa was 69 percent completed, ahead of both last year's 41 percent and the five year average of 52 percent. Ninety-five percent of clover timothy second cutting was harvested, ahead of both last year's 68 percent and the five year average of 79 percent. Third cutting clover-timothy was 62 percent completed, ahead of both last year's 38 percent and the five year average of 37 percent. Ninety-two percent of the oats for grain were harvested, ahead of last year's 63 percent and the five year average of 79 percent. Potatoes were 31 percent harvested, ahead of last year's 22 percent, but behind the five year average of 32 percent. The following are comments from throughout the state: Corn looks very good in Jefferson County, and corn chopping activity will pick up later in the week. Much needed rain fell over the weekend, and the dry ground conditions handled the rainfall quite well. Even after 3.5 inches of rain in a 24 hour period, there was very little standing water in the fields. Lewis County corn harvest began in limited areas. Huge change in soil conditions in St. Lawrence County over the past two days as heavy rains moved in and stayed. Erie County producers were reporting an excellent crop of corn and soybeans and an early harvest is expected. Corn silage harvest started in Genesee County, and many forage crop seedings were planted. Weekend rains will get them off to a great start. Rain was helping some of the shorter beans in Niagara County. Ontario County hay farmers continued to have a difficult time making quality dry hay with the rain showers. The positive side of the rain was that the corn and soybeans looked good. Showers and poor drying conditions hindered haying operations in Cortland County. Corn silage was nearing readiness for chopping and early harvest could start this week. Lots of rain over the weekend in Madison County with some reports of localized flooding. Third cutting was underway all over the county. Sorely needed rain fell over the weekend in Albany County, and the oat harvest began in earnest. Some corn was chopped for silage. Montgomery and Fulton County producers continue to describe their hay and row crops as great. Delaware and Sullivan Counties still have areas that were dry and it was affecting the crops grown there. Drought conditions continued in Dutchess County. Second cutting was a disaster in most areas with no re-growth, and was only cut in order to be able to get a third cutting. Corn was distressed, but soybeans seem to be thriving.

FRUIT: Apples were 1 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 75 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Grapes were 4 percent poor, 5 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 42 percent excellent. Peaches were 3 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 79 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Pears were 1 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 76 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Apples were 15 percent harvested, comparable to last year. Grapes were 2 percent harvested, compared to none last year. Peaches were 84 percent harvested, compared to 73 percent last year. Pears were 85 percent harvested, compared to 60 percent last year. U-pick apple operations in Broome County were advertising heavily since apples were two weeks ahead of normal picking times. The Lake Erie grape region reported that Concord grapes have reached veraison.

VEGETABLE: Harvest continued for all vegetable crops. Lettuce had reported conditions of 4 percent poor, 6 percent fair, 9 percent good, and 81 percent excellent. Onion harvest was 37 percent complete, up from 35 percent five-year average. Onion conditions were 1 percent poor, 58 percent good and 41 percent excellent. Cabbage harvest was 65 percent completed, ahead of 46 percent last year, compared to 42 percent five-year average. Cabbage conditions were 1 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 29 percent excellent. Sweet corn harvest was 58 percent complete, up from 41 percent last year, and 52 percent five-year average. Sweet corn conditions were 1 percent poor, 9 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 48 percent excellent. Tomatoes were 53 percent harvested, up from 41 percent five-year average. Tomato conditions were 8 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 36 percent excellent. Snap bean harvest was 51 percent complete, comparable to the 52 percent five-year average. Snap bean conditions were 1 percent poor, 6 percent fair, 74 percent good, and 19 percent excellent.

LIVESTOCK: Pastures were generally in fair to good condition. Pasture conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 7 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 22, 2010

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	87	50	71	+2	148	2389	+474	0.25	-0.57	11.27	-4.41
Glens Falls	86	43	68	+2	126	2023	+345	1.75	+0.91	12.57	-2.72
Poughkeepsie	88	52	72	+3	158	2527	+526	1.46	+0.69	9.70	-8.44
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	77	50	64	0	97	1624	+302	0.52	-0.62	19.90	-1.09
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	86	45	67	+1	121	1937	+232	0.49	-0.49	15.88	+1.15
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	80	48	65	-2	107	1902	+376	0.81	-0.17	17.32	+1.92
Massena	83	48	66	0	115	2017	+406	0.33	-0.51	15.16	+1.08
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	83	59	71	+4	151	2276	+449	1.11	+0.13	17.84	+2.28
Wales	80	57	68	+3	130	1885	+398	1.78	+0.82	16.49	-1.40
Niagara Falls	87	57	72	+4	155	2344	+508	1.41	+0.50	14.64	-0.39
Rochester	83	58	70	+4	143	2306	+538	1.08	+0.29	17.72	+4.29
Watertown	81	50	68	+3	130	2031	+488	0.52	-0.25	13.41	+1.38
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	82	55	69	+2	133	2181	+402	1.74	+0.99	17.92	+3.13
Geneva	82	53	69	+1	135	2212	+448	2.61	+1.91	19.45	+4.77
Honeoye	83	53	70	+2	140	2175	+339	2.36	+1.59	20.92	+6.38
Ithaca	85	51	70	+4	141	2077	+478	0.96	+0.19	13.35	-2.51
Penn Yan	84	52	71	+3	147	2305	+541	0.86	+0.16	15.02	+0.34
Syracuse	84	54	71	+4	148	2397	+603	0.81	+0.04	16.42	-0.22
Warsaw	78	55	67	+3	119	1852	+469	2.47	+1.56	21.43	+4.19
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	82	55	69	+5	133	2006	+643	1.85	+1.02	19.82	+3.28
Elmira	88	50	71	+4	150	2204	+511	1.27	+0.57	15.81	+0.64
Franklinville	81	50	67	+5	121	1763	+515	1.99	+1.08	19.24	+1.79
Jamestown	82	56	70	+5	140	2001	+600	1.52	+0.48	19.77	+0.34
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	84	54	70	+3	139	2190	+546	1.04	+0.27	14.49	-1.47
Cobleskill	82	48	67	+2	119	1963	+434	0.96	+0.19	15.85	-1.21
Morrisville	79	51	66	+2	116	1927	+469	0.47	-0.35	19.06	+2.16
Norwich	84	49	67	+2	121	1903	+372	1.12	+0.35	16.96	+0.03
Oneonta	83	50	68	+4	126	2002	+588	1.91	+1.07	18.18	-0.36
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehampton	88	61	75	+5	174	2448	+613	0.16	-0.62	9.26	-7.49
New York	92	68	80	+5	209	3272	+796	0.24	-0.60	10.00	-7.92

^{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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