



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## August 20, 2012

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Released, August 20, 2012

Week Ending, August 19, 2012

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**WEATHER:** A series of weak cold fronts brought scattered showers and thunderstorms to New York State during the week. East of Interstate 81 and south of Interstate 90, precipitation for the week was generally near to slightly above normal. West of Interstate 81 and north of Interstate 90, precipitation for the week was generally near to below normal. Daily average temperatures for the week started near seasonable, and rose to slightly above normal by the end of the period.

**CROPS:** There were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 19 percent very short, 34 percent short, 46 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. Hay crops were rated 16 percent poor, 47 percent fair, 32 percent good, 5 and percent excellent. Condition of oats was 1 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 71 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Oats were 78 percent harvested compared with 58 percent last year and the average of 70 percent. Corn was rated 10 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 50 percent good, 6 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 5 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. The second cutting of alfalfa hay was 98 percent complete, the same as a year ago and ahead of the average of 91 percent. Clover-timothy second cut was 88 percent complete compared with 88 percent a year ago and the average of 70 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Several late summer seedings were planted in Jefferson County. Hay crops continue to show signs of improvement. Crop conditions in Franklin and Clinton Counties are somewhat better than those in St. Lawrence County. High levels of Japanese beetle are feeding on corn silks. June planted corn is more at risk than that planted in May. In Genesee County, corn silage harvest will start during the upcoming week. Western Orleans and Niagara Counties continued to be very dry except for scattered areas of heavy showers. The limited rain has been enough to help alfalfa regrowth and grasses are looking green again. Many new seedings were planted. Winter wheat has been the bright spot so far this season. In Livingston County, producers have started chopping corn that will not make grain and because of short feed supplies. Ontario County reports significant losses to all types of hay. In Madison County, rains during the week really helped the crops. Hay is looking better. In Albany County, the corn crop continues to show improvement given the now adequate soil moisture and good weather. Farmers were making second cutting grass hay. Montgomery and Fulton County crops continue to improve with the recent rains. It now looks like they will need a late frost to allow for the growth that is needed for all crops. Both Delaware and Sullivan County producers report that most corn is looking good after all of the worry when it got so hot and dry. The next cutting of hay looks good for most producers if the rains hold off as predicted. Dutchess County crops are responding nicely with much needed rains over the past few days.

**FRUIT:** Apple harvest was 7 percent complete, behind the 15 percent last year and the 15 percent five year average. Apple conditions were 50 percent poor, 25 percent fair, and 50 percent good. Peach harvest was 65 percent complete, below the 67 percent last year and above the 64 percent five year average. Peach conditions were 30 percent poor, 7 percent fair, and 63 percent good. Pear harvest was 25 percent complete, equal to previous year. Pear conditions were 18 percent poor, 32 percent fair, and 50 percent good. Sweet cherry harvest was complete. Tart cherry harvest was complete. Grape conditions were 27 percent poor, 45 percent fair, and 28 percent good. Strawberry conditions were 37 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Albany County, apple harvest began, but the crop remains very short and prices are high as a result. Veraison, the start of ripening, began in Long Island vineyards.

**VEGETABLE:** Vegetables were reported as very good in some cases, however, total loss in other cases. Sweet corn was 43 percent harvested compared to 45 percent last year and 45 percent average. Condition of sweet corn was 14 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Onions were 34 percent harvested compared to 49 percent last year and 33 percent average. Onions were 5 percent poor, 6 percent fair, 77 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Snap Beans were 48 percent harvested compared to 35 percent last year and 42 percent average. Condition of snap beans was 8 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Cabbage was at 49 percent harvested compared to 47 percent last year and 46 percent average. Condition of cabbage was 11 percent poor, 28 percent fair, and 61 percent good. Tomatoes were 44 percent harvested compared to 39 percent last year and 40 percent average. Condition of tomatoes was 3 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 73 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Lettuce was 62 percent harvested.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pastures were improving after rainfall with cooler days and nights. Pasture was rated 10 percent very poor, 28 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 23 percent good, and 1 percent excellent.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 19, 2012**

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 County AP	84	50	70	+2	145	2288	+411	0.29	-0.54	16.84	+1.47
Glens Falls AP	84	46	69	+2	134	2009	+364	0.02	-0.82	16.67	+1.72
Poughkeepsie AP	86	51	72	+2	155	2449	+488	0.56	-0.23	15.51	-2.30
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>											
Boonville	77	45	63	-1	95	1540	+244	0.50	-0.62	16.12	-4.38
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>											
Plattsburgh Int AP	83	46	69	+2	132	1910	+237	0.49	-0.49	11.61	-2.76
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>											
Canton	79	47	66	+1	116	1791	+295	0.38	-0.60	15.53	+0.49
Massena	82	48	68	+3	128	1933	+353	0.59	-0.25	13.15	-0.61
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>											
Buffalo Int AP	83	53	70	+1	139	2305	+514	0.32	-0.66	8.63	-6.56
Wales	79	47	65	-2	108	1825	+368	0.48	-0.45	14.64	-2.85
Niagara Falls	83	51	69	-1	132	2255	+455	1.06	+0.15	10.10	-4.57
Rochester NY	81	51	69	+2	132	2261	+527	0.29	-0.48	13.72	+0.61
Watertown Intl	80	49	68	+2	129	2037	+526	0.27	-0.50	12.65	+0.92
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>											
Dansville AP	83	50	69	+1	134	2333	+590	0.24	-0.49	12.09	-2.40
Geneva Research	82	50	68	-1	129	2133	+405	0.37	-0.33	12.09	-2.31
Honeoye	82	48	67	-3	121	2030	+232	0.52	-0.23	13.69	-0.54
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	80	46	66	-1	116	1988	+421	1.78	+1.01	13.24	-2.31
Penn Yan	81	49	68	0	131	2234	+506	0.06	-0.64	12.07	-2.33
Syracuse	83	51	71	+3	147	2431	+672	0.69	-0.08	11.03	-5.28
Warsaw	78	47	65	0	106	1756	+401	0.70	-0.19	16.85	-0.03
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>											
Hornell Almond Dam	80	44	65	-1	108	1789	+323	0.60	+0.04	15.71	+1.66
Elmira	83	45	68	0	124	2122	+463	0.51	-0.17	11.35	-3.54
Franklinville	79	42	63	0	95	1674	+452	0.49	-0.42	17.13	+0.04
Jamestown 4NE	82	44	65	-1	103	1852	+479	0.54	-0.48	15.89	-3.12
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>											
Binghamton/Broo	78	49	66	-2	114	1990	+378	2.21	+1.44	18.24	+2.60
Cobleskill	80	44	67	0	119	1908	+410	0.46	-0.31	13.86	-2.88
Morrisville	80	48	67	+2	120	1722	+294	0.92	+0.12	15.86	-0.71
Norwich	81	47	67	+1	118	1884	+384	0.72	-0.05	16.23	-0.38
Oneonta	86	50	70	+5	138	2025	+639	0.61	-0.23	15.08	-3.12
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>											
Bridgehamton	86	55	72	+1	156	2188	+394	0.18	-0.59	15.17	-1.22
New York LGA	92	66	78	+4	199	2936	+511	1.05	+0.21	17.87	+0.31

<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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