



WEATHER AND CROPS

October 9, 2012

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, October 7, 2012

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WEATHER: A moist south to southeast flow dominated the weather across the region much of the week producing widespread cloudiness and relatively small diurnal temperature changes. Temperatures for the week averaged several degrees above, primarily the result of near or slightly above normal daytime highs but much above normal nighttime lows. The exception was Friday when the cloud cover broke and high temperatures soared to around 10 degrees above normal. Weak disturbances acted on the persistent south to southeast flow to produce periods of light rain or drizzle during the week. Most of the time precipitation amounts from these systems were quite light. However, a stronger upper level system resulted in some convection across the region on Thursday along with some heavy precipitation amounts. The scattered nature of the convection helped to produce a wide range in total rainfall for the week from a third of an inch to one and three-quarters of an inch of rain.

CROPS: There were 4.4 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent very short, 14 percent short, 75 percent adequate and 8 percent surplus. Hay crops were rated 9 percent poor, 43 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Potatoes were 81 percent harvested, ahead of the 68 percent harvested last year and the 78 percent average. Dry beans were 44 percent harvested compared to 42 percent last year and the average of 51 percent. Corn was rated 10 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Grain corn was 11 percent harvested, slightly ahead of the average of 8 percent. Corn for silage was 77 percent harvested compared with 62 percent last year and the average of 70 percent. Soybeans were rated 5 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Soybean harvest was 18 percent complete compared with 5 percent last year and the average of 14 percent. The third cutting of alfalfa hay was 96 percent complete compared with 85 percent last year and the average of 94 percent. Clover-timothy third cut was 92 percent complete compared with 80 percent a year ago and the average of 89 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Genesee County, soybean harvest was being followed by wheat planting. Soybean yields are down significantly from last year. Corn silage harvest was virtually complete. In Cortland County, cold temperatures halted hay growth. Corn silage harvest continued. Final hay harvest has been delayed by wet weather. In Madison County, the first hard freeze still had not arrived, giving producers an extra margin of time to harvest late planted corn silage at the appropriate moisture content. Soybean harvest started and probably will peak in the next couple of weeks. New hay seedings look much better than six weeks ago. Montgomery and Fulton County corn silage harvest continued and corn for grain began during the week. Soybeans were drying down but none have been harvested as yet. In Broome County, corn silage harvest slowed down to a standstill while producers took advantage to harvest fourth cutting alfalfa and third cut grass. Production reports indicate that these cuttings surpass all prior cuttings this year combined. Rains in Columbia and Greene Counties hampered the finishing of the corn silage and grain harvests. A rainy week in Dutchess County brought corn silage harvest to a screeching halt.

FRUIT: Apple harvest was 80 percent complete, ahead of the 60 percent last year and the 63 percent five year average. Apple conditions were 52 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 23 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Pear harvest was 98 percent complete, the same as last year and above the 97 percent five year average. Grape harvest was 80 percent complete, ahead of the 41 percent last year and above the 57 percent five year average. Grape conditions were 20 percent poor, 41 percent fair, and 39 percent good. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Apple harvest is in full swing in Dutchess County with reports of below normal yields. In Long Island vineyards, harvest of reds for rose wine took place this past week and is just about done. Growers are now patiently waiting for Merlot and other reds.

VEGETABLE: Harvests for most New York vegetables are almost complete. Onions were 98 percent harvested compared to 91 percent last year and the 92 percent average. Snap Beans were 96 percent harvested compared to 95 percent last year but below the 97 percent average. Cabbage was at 94 percent harvested compared to 91 percent last year and the 89 percent average. Tomatoes were 96 percent harvested compared to 88 percent last year and 93 percent average.

LIVESTOCK: Cool nights and warm days brought on new growth of pastures with high quality grasses. Pastures were above normal in production and quality for this time of year. Farther North, cold temperatures halted hay and pasture growth. Pasture was rated 4 percent very poor, 27 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 28 percent good, and 6 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, October 7, 2012

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 County AP	74	44	60	+7	75	3026	+572	0.37	-0.26	24.17	+3.92	
Glens Falls AP	73	37	59	+8	63	2578	+458	0.63	+0.00	22.34	+2.25	
Poughkeepsie AP	78	41	63	+8	89	3256	+665	1.62	+0.92	23.72	+0.46	
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>												
Boonville	66	37	54	+5	34	1967	+316	0.72	-0.30	23.52	-5.48	
<u>Champlain Valley</u>												
Plattsburgh Int AP	73	41	57	+6	51	2493	+346	1.20	+0.63	17.27	-2.33	
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>												
Canton	69	38	55	+5	41	2400	+469	1.68	+0.91	21.79	+0.48	
Massena	71	38	57	+7	52	2544	+530	1.59	+0.94	19.39	+0.00	
<u>Great Lakes</u>												
Buffalo Int AP	71	45	59	+5	64	3058	+670	1.03	+0.33	14.07	-6.94	
Wales	71	41	56	+4	45	2355	+428	0.78	-0.09	19.28	-5.46	
Niagara Falls	72	42	59	+5	64	2960	+567	0.83	+0.18	15.78	-4.75	
Rochester NY	74	42	60	+5	69	2965	+646	0.97	+0.41	19.22	+1.25	
Watertown Intl	72	36	59	+7	64	2694	+704	1.44	+0.81	18.41	+1.40	
<u>Central Lakes</u>												
Dansville AP	76	46	60	+6	74	3076	+754	0.67	+0.03	16.28	-3.52	
Geneva Research	75	43	59	+5	62	2802	+505	1.26	+0.58	16.61	-2.98	
Honeoye	74	41	57	+3	56	2636	+213	0.83	+0.16	18.93	-0.44	
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	75	38	57	+5	57	2567	+496	0.69	-0.08	18.61	-2.59	
Penn Yan	76	43	60	+7	73	2949	+652	0.86	+0.18	16.56	-3.03	
Syracuse	76	45	60	+7	75	3225	+888	1.00	+0.23	15.56	-6.72	
Warsaw	69	37	54	+4	38	2269	+506	0.88	+0.10	24.76	+1.52	
<u>Western Plateau</u>												
Hornell Almond Dam	74	40	56	+5	47	2291	+374	0.48	-0.14	19.74	+0.85	
Elmira	78	37	59	+7	65	2756	+570	0.35	-0.28	17.50	-2.30	
Franklinville	74	38	54	+4	38	2129	+532	0.66	-0.18	22.82	-0.71	
Jamestown 4NE	74	37	56	+5	46	2379	+569	1.10	+0.17	21.55	-4.89	
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>												
Binghamton/Broo	75	40	58	+6	61	2580	+470	0.44	-0.23	23.77	+2.83	
Cobleskill	76	42	59	+7	62	2466	+503	0.66	-0.06	20.84	-1.75	
Morrisville	74	39	57	+6	51	1550	-314	0.72	-0.08	21.63	-1.17	
Norwich	75	37	57	+6	52	2431	+470	0.64	-0.12	22.56	+0.07	
Oneonta	76	38	59	+9	63	2662	+867	0.38	-0.39	20.36	-3.59	
<u>Coastal</u>												
Bridgehamton	73	45	62	+5	86	2969	+472	0.46	-0.25	18.49	-3.49	
New York LGA	80	53	68	+8	128	4038	+713	0.50	-0.18	24.22	+1.17	

^{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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