



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## October 29, 2012

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Released, October 29, 2012

Week Ending, October 28, 2012

No. 977-28-12

**This is the last edition of the New York “Weather and Crops” for the 2012 season. The USDA/NASS, New York Field Office gratefully acknowledges the weekly cooperation of the Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc., National Weather Service personnel, Agricultural Extension agents, FSA representatives, and independent volunteer observers who collectively make this report possible.**

**WEATHER:** Temperatures ranged from 5 to 12 degrees above normal. High temperature for the week reached 82 degrees at Dansville while the low dropped to 29 degrees at Franklinville. Rainfall was sparse, ranging from none to 2.03 inches. Growing degree day accumulations for the week ranged from 14 in Plattsburgh to 81 in New York City. Departures from normal since April 1 were above normal in nearly all locations by as much as 929 GDD in Syracuse.

**CROPS:** There were 4.6 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 4 percent very short, 3 percent short, 76 percent adequate and 17 percent surplus. Hay crops were rated 15 percent poor, 48 percent fair, 32 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Potato harvest was complete, ahead of the 93 percent harvested last year and the 93 percent average. Dry beans were 77 percent harvested compared to 69 percent last year and the average of 84 percent. Corn was rated 13 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Grain corn was 45 percent harvested, compared with 26 percent last year and the average of 30 percent. Corn for silage was 98 percent harvested compared with 93 percent last year and the average of 95 percent. Soybeans were rated 7 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Soybean harvest was 71 percent complete compared with 35 percent last year and the average of 49 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Dry weather was ideal for haylage harvest in Jefferson County. The forecast for high winds and rain pushed growers to harvest corn and soybeans as fast as they could. In St. Lawrence County, all harvest activities except grain corn harvest have been completed. Ontario County producers continued to harvest grain corn and soybeans as weather permitted, as off and on rain showers were received throughout the week. In Madison County, overcast and dreary weather was holding up grain corn and soybean harvest. The last of the fourth cutting hay was going in especially on larger dairy farms. Winter wheat was growing well, especially given the recent rainy weather. In Albany County, producers were working long hours to harvest as much as possible before Hurricane Sandy arrives. Field conditions are on the wet side following a rather wet October. It was not a great week for harvest in Fulton and Montgomery Counties, but a lot of corn and soybeans were combined during the last few days as they wanted to get it off of the flats along the Mohawk and Schoharie Creek due to Sandy. Haylage was being harvested again as producers tried to catch up for the second cutting hay lost due to the drought. In Delaware County, several days of rain and the lack of sun caused things to come to a standstill.

**FRUIT:** Apple harvest was 97 percent complete, ahead of the 87 percent last year and the 86 percent five year average. Grape harvest was 98 percent complete, ahead of the 94 percent last year and above the 93 percent five year average. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Many vineyards on Long Island have finished harvest. This is one to two weeks earlier than normal. Growers were very pleased with both the quantities and quality of fruit.

**VEGETABLE:** Vegetable harvest was winding down. Farm stands have had a less than ideal October due to weather.

**LIVESTOCK:** Pastures were slowing down although grazing continued. Pasture was rated 6 percent very poor, 32 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 24 percent good, and 2 percent excellent.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, October 28, 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	64	41	55	+9	37	3112	+606	0.00	-0.65	27.12	+4.96
Glens Falls AP	66	36	53	+10	23	2627	+477	0.01	-0.69	26.27	+4.22
Poughkeepsie AP	68	40	56	+9	44	3361	+709	0.43	-0.28	25.62	+0.30
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>											
Boonville	65	39	50	+9	16	1989	+314	0.27	-0.80	28.00	-4.03
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>											
Plattsburgh Int AP	64	32	50	+6	14	2536	+355	0.00	-0.63	18.95	-2.40
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>											
Canton	70	35	50	+8	16	2457	+494	0.00	-0.74	24.43	+0.97
Massena	74	33	51	+8	18	2595	+548	0.00	-0.63	21.54	+0.27
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>											
Buffalo Int AP	79	41	56	+9	52	3157	+703	1.73	+1.00	17.77	-5.31
Wales	80	39	55	+10	44	2420	+450	2.03	+1.15	23.11	-4.17
Niagara Falls	78	41	55	+8	40	3038	+577	1.74	+1.09	18.95	-3.46
Rochester NY	81	42	57	+10	51	3059	+675	1.16	+0.60	21.29	+1.69
Watertown Intl	78	39	56	+12	44	2791	+760	0.09	-0.55	19.64	+0.79
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>											
Dansville AP	82	40	58	+11	55	3188	+800	0.97	+0.41	18.01	-3.50
Geneva Research	73	43	55	+9	36	2866	+511	0.77	+0.11	18.47	-3.04
Honeoye	81	38	56	+9	44	2712	+217	1.01	+0.36	21.09	-0.19
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	70	36	54	+9	32	2628	+508	1.09	+0.39	20.74	-2.63
Penn Yan	78	43	56	+11	46	3042	+687	0.86	+0.20	18.31	-3.20
Syracuse	76	44	57	+10	49	3331	+929	0.36	-0.38	18.22	-6.20
Warsaw	76	37	53	+10	35	2324	+526	1.41	+0.64	27.95	+2.47
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>											
Hornell Almond Dam	78	36	53	+9	28	2342	+381	1.28	+0.72	22.01	+1.44
Elmira	77	33	56	+11	47	2839	+603	0.89	+0.26	19.19	-2.50
Franklinville	78	29	52	+10	32	2177	+547	1.39	+0.57	26.38	+0.40
Jamestown 4NE	81	31	54	+10	41	2433	+586	0.95	+0.03	24.87	-4.29
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>											
Binghamton/Broo	62	39	54	+9	29	2637	+486	0.69	+0.03	25.92	+3.06
Cobleskill	68	40	52	+8	22	2505	+504	0.22	-0.48	23.31	-1.30
Morrisville	68	38	53	+9	25	1596	-302	0.35	-0.42	24.47	-0.59
Norwich	65	35	52	+8	25	2475	+479	0.43	-0.32	24.69	+0.05
Oneonta	72	38	54	+11	33	2712	+881	0.40	-0.37	23.32	-2.91
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>											
Bridgehamton	66	46	56	+5	41	3071	+482	0.05	-0.79	20.46	-3.83
New York LGA	70	54	61	+8	81	4238	+771	0.03	-0.69	25.64	+0.57

<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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