



WEATHER AND CROPS

August 12, 2013

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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WEATHER: A large Canadian high pressure started the week with dry pleasant conditions including slightly below normal temperatures for the month of August. This weather pattern carried into the middle of the week. As the high pressure moved off shore a southerly flow brought more humidity and warmth by Wednesday and especially Thursday. Scattered showers and thunderstorms developed Thursday afternoon across western and central New York. A cluster of storms evolved into a multi-convective complex which brought excessive rainfall and flooding to portions of central New York. A spotter to the southwest of Mecklenburg reported 3.79 inches Thursday evening. Most areas saw a lot less rainfall. Friday a series of cold fronts and short waves plowed into a very humid air mass and produced a round of more widespread showers and embedded thunderstorms across central and eastern New York. Most areas received half an inch to nearly an inch of rainfall. However, an area of slow moving and training thunderstorms brought very heavy rainfall to the southern Catskills and mid Hudson Valley. KPOU reported 5.15 inches of rain making it the third wettest day on record ever. Cooler and drier conditions returned to close out the week. Overall, temperatures were slightly below normal during the week and rainfall amounts were extremely variable. While the majority of places were slightly below normal, pockets in central and especially southeastern New York were well above normal.

CROPS: There were 5.0 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 4 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus. Oats for grain were 49 percent harvested compared to 64 percent in 2012 and were just below the 50 percent five year average. Condition of oats was 4 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 69 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Winter wheat was 99 percent harvested compared to 99 percent in 2012, and was ahead of the 92 percent five year average. Winter wheat conditions were rated 10 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 31 percent excellent. Hay crops were 7 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. The second clover timothy cutting was 76 percent complete compared to 81 percent in 2012, and was ahead of the 72 percent five year average. The third clover timothy cutting was 28 percent complete. The second alfalfa cutting was 92 percent complete compared to 94 percent in 2012, and above the 86 percent five year average. The third alfalfa cutting was 34 percent complete. Condition of corn was 8 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 25 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 5 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. Potatoes were 7 percent harvested compared to 44 percent in 2012 and behind the 20 percent five year average. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Rainfall was received by much of Lewis County, but amounts varied greatly with upwards of three inches in the northern part of the county and less than one inch in the central and southern parts. St. Lawrence County reported the best week for making hay this year. In Niagara County, oats were harvested, wheat ran well, and producers still struggled to get hay harvested. In addition, rain helped improve corn and soy condition and hay crop silage harvest had excellent yields. The south half of Cortland County was hit hard with flash flooding with reports of five inches of rain in one night. Roads flooded and eroded, but no crop damage was reported yet. Producers continued to struggle to get dry hay completed. Oats were harvested. In Albany County, good haying weather along with a day of needed rain improved the crop outlook. Many locations in the capital district received two plus inches of rain, which came over a long enough period of time to soak in for the most part. The rain helped the corn crop immensely. Another good week for producers to catch up on haying was reported in Rensselaer County.

FRUIT: Apples were 19 percent harvested compared to 4 percent in 2012 and above the 15 percent five year average. Apples were rated 1 percent poor, 9 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 29 percent excellent. Peaches were 28 percent harvested compared to 51 percent in 2012 and below the 60 percent five year average. Peaches were 5 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Pears were 31 percent harvested compared to 7 percent in 2012 and below the 38 percent five year average. Pears were 5 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 72 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Sweet cherries were 100 percent harvested compared to 94 percent in 2012 and above the five year average of 97 percent. Grapes were 1 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 43 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Suffolk County reported the ripening period began on long Island vineyards. Most varieties started with the exception of late ripening strains such as Petit Verdot.

VEGETABLE: Sweet corn was 36 percent harvested compared to 33 percent in 2012, and was ahead of the 34 percent five year average. Sweet corn was 9 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Onions were 10 percent harvested compared to 29 percent in 2012, and were behind the 28 percent five year average. Onions were 19 percent poor, 28 percent fair, and 39 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Snap beans were 24 percent harvested compared to 33 percent in 2012, and behind the 38 percent five year average. Snap beans were rated 8 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Cabbage was 20 percent harvested compared to 44 percent in 2012, and was behind the 39 percent five year average. Cabbage was rated 23 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 27 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Albany County, vegetable producers continued to harvest a variety of crops as the season was in full swing. Farm stands and farmer's markets were busy selling the seasons' bounty. Disease and insect pressure was average. Fulton and Montgomery Counties reported that growth moved forward, but there was a strong need for more heat and less rain.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was rated 8 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Albany County, pastures were slow to re-grow with the summer heat and dry conditions. In Chautauqua County, some localized flooding due to heavy rainfall, but no livestock loss reported despite road closures in isolated areas.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, August 11, 2013

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
Albany County AP	85	51	70	-2	141	1995	+297	0.77	+0.00	24.15	+9.74
Watertown Intl	81	43	67	-2	121	1694	+337	0.40	-0.27	15.96	+5.12
Boonville	77	44	62	-4	86	1218	+52	0.06	-0.97	25.06	+5.83
Bridgehampton	83	53	69	-4	137	1786	+184	0.18	-0.57	13.60	-1.93
Binghamton/Broome	79	51	65	-4	105	1640	+185	2.88	+2.15	22.03	+7.27
Buffalo Intl AP	83	50	68	-2	130	1892	+274	0.91	+0.01	19.39	+5.37
Canton	81	45	65	-3	105	1521	+173	1.07	+0.16	18.04	+4.16
Cobleskill	83	45	65	-3	106	1550	+201	1.73	+0.96	20.68	+4.83
Dansville AP	86	49	69	-1	135	2001	+426	0.98	+0.28	13.41	-0.23
Elmira	84	47	66	-3	115	1802	+304	1.23	+0.54	14.62	+0.51
Franklinville	82	41	63	-2	92	1352	+253	1.24	+0.39	19.57	+3.55
Geneva Research	81	52	67	-4	121	1733	+173	1.02	+0.33	18.77	+5.19
Glens Falls AP	83	46	67	-2	123	1749	+262	0.51	-0.30	18.11	+4.14
Honeoye	84	46	66	-5	117	1670	+49	1.23	+0.53	17.50	+4.13
Hornell Almond	86	43	64	-4	100	1467	+146	2.85	+2.29	16.72	+3.31
Jamestown 4NE	81	46	65	-1	110	1611	+376	0.22	-0.75	17.38	-0.45
Niagara Falls	80	51	67	-4	122	1790	+162	0.77	-0.06	20.94	+7.33
Ithaca Cornell	83	47	65	-4	105	1602	+189	2.95	+2.18	19.91	+5.26
New York LGA	89	64	76	-1	185	2573	+376	0.28	-0.56	18.03	+1.43
Morrisville	82	47	65	-3	107	1591	+303	1.70	+0.93	28.44	+12.80
Massena	83	45	66	-3	116	1595	+166	0.22	-0.61	18.27	+5.51
Norwich	83	43	65	-4	105	1556	+204	1.62	+0.91	25.92	+10.20
Oneonta	80	44	63	-4	89	1505	+255	3.06	+2.22	25.30	+8.08
Penn Yan	82	52	68	-3	128	1861	+301	0.98	+0.29	13.49	-0.09
Plattsburgh Intl	82	48	66	-3	117	1586	+70	0.49	-0.42	19.34	+6.15
Poughkeepsie AP	84	50	70	-3	144	2091	+318	4.12	+3.28	23.04	+6.15
Rochester NY	84	51	69	-1	134	1945	+373	1.03	+0.27	18.90	+6.70
Syracuse	88	51	70	+0	139	1966	+374	0.26	-0.51	18.08	+2.65
Wales	81	45	65	-3	107	1555	+243	1.56	+0.70	19.40	+2.98
Warsaw	80	49	64	-3	98	1426	+204	1.46	+0.62	20.63	+4.78

^{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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