



WEATHER AND CROPS

September 3, 2013

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WEATHER: The first half of the week was dominated by a warm and moist air mass that spawned scattered showers and thunderstorms Monday and Tuesday across New York as a series of upper-level disturbances moved across the region. An expansive area of high pressure then built across the state beginning Wednesday and persisted through the early portion of the weekend with dry weather. A cold front approached New York to end the weekend bringing a return of scattered showers and thunderstorms, some with locally heavy rainfall. Rainfall during the week generally ranged from a quarter of an inch to near two inches with high variability resulting from the scattered nature of the showers and thunderstorms that opened and closed the week. Temperatures were near to slightly above normal to start the week before increasing to slightly above normal to end the week.

CROPS: There were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 5 percent short, 86 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus. Oats for grain were 94 percent harvested compared to 90 percent in 2012 and were above the 89 percent five year average. Condition of oats was 12 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Hay crops were 4 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. The second clover timothy cutting was 93 percent complete compared to 96 percent in 2012, and was ahead of the 90 percent five year average. The third clover timothy cutting was 49 percent complete. The second alfalfa cutting was 99 percent complete compared to 100 percent in 2012, and slightly above the 98 percent five year average. The third alfalfa cutting was 67 percent complete. Condition of corn was 7 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 4 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 24 percent excellent. Potatoes were 33 percent harvested compared to 59 percent in 2012 and behind the 42 percent five year average. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In St Lawrence County, row crop conditions improved slightly due to the warm days and particularly the warm nights. they need at least a couple more weeks of these conditions. Niagara County farmers were busy planting new seedings as well as hay crop silage and dry hay harvests. Corn silage harvest was just beginning. Ontario County experienced off and on rain showers throughout the week. Above average chopped hay yields were reported but there were some challenges for dry hay reported. In Cortland County, farmers continue to catch up on dry hay. Oats and straw harvest was nearing completion. Tree leaves were changing and starting to drop – fall is coming! In Madison County, corn growers in the northern tier report that their corn for silage is getting very close to the maturity stage for harvest. Most of the corn and soybeans look good, but those areas that were affected by the rain never caught up. In Albany County, corn continued to mature with another good week of warmer weather and adequate soil moisture. Second and third cutting of hay continued with good quality forage being made. Corn silage harvest began this week in Montgomery and Fulton Counties as producers need the feed. Other crops need more degree days. Rensselaer County remains dry – any rains received have been in short downbursts. Washington County had a week of hot, humid weather with thunderstorms moving through on several occasions. Corn is looking better than it had earlier in the summer. There is still a lot of late planted corn that has not tasseled and needs a lot more time to develop ears. Very little corn has been chopped for silage.

FRUIT: Apples were 24 percent harvested compared to 18 percent in 2012 and above the 22 percent five year average. Apples were rated 1 percent poor, 5 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 30 percent excellent. Peaches were 79 percent harvested compared to 83 percent in 2012 and below the 82 percent five year average. Peaches were 3 percent poor, 5 percent fair, 83 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Pears were 57 percent harvested compared to 52 percent in 2012 and equivalent to the five year average. Pears were 7 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 74 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. Grapes were 3 percent harvested compared to 9 percent in 2012. Grapes were 1 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 52 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Albany County, apple harvest was increasing in pace as more varieties became ready to pick. In Ontario County there was report of above average apple yields. In Suffolk County, weather was moderate, pushing red grapes through veraison. Disease has been minimal, but birds are starting to make an appearance. If they cause too much damage, bunch rots may be a problem.

VEGETABLE: Sweet corn was 71 percent harvested compared to 70 percent in 2012, and was above the 67 percent five year average. Sweet corn was 4 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 23 percent excellent. Onions were 31 percent harvested compared to 50 percent in 2012, and were behind the 56 percent five year average. Onions were 11 percent poor, 6 percent fair, 26 percent good, and 57 percent excellent. Snap beans were 60 percent harvested compared to 67 percent in 2012, and behind the 61 percent five year average. Snap beans were rated 5 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Cabbage was 56 percent harvested compared to 63 percent in 2012, and was behind the 63 percent five year average. Cabbage was rated 28 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 20 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Albany, pumpkins fields are hit or miss with heavier ground severely impacted by the wet June, well drained fields have good pumpkin crops. Late sweet corn quality is excellent.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was rated 1 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Albany County, pastures are benefiting from the recent precipitation.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, September 1, 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	87	63	75	+8	173	2424	+338	0.54	-0.23	26.06	+9.28
Watertown Intl	88	57	72	+8	155	2081	+393	0.25	-0.59	16.48	+3.25
Boonville	81	49	67	+6	122	1502	+63	0.84	-0.40	26.88	+4.14
Bridgehampton	81	59	71	+3	150	2193	+166	1.17	+0.33	15.46	-2.49
Binghamton/Broome	83	60	72	+8	156	2010	+216	1.11	+0.34	24.14	+7.08
Buffalo Intl AP	86	64	75	+9	176	2317	+321	0.97	+0.01	21.09	+4.15
Canton	83	54	69	+7	136	1855	+192	0.81	-0.17	20.64	+3.84
Cobleskill	88	51	70	+7	144	1891	+222	1.62	+0.78	23.93	+5.67
Dansville AP	88	62	77	+11	188	2435	+492	0.59	-0.18	14.85	-1.04
Elmira	89	60	75	+10	177	2197	+350	1.70	+1.00	16.67	+0.50
Franklinville	83	49	70	+9	143	1664	+300	1.62	+0.68	22.67	+3.89
Geneva Research	84	58	73	+7	160	2121	+194	1.10	+0.33	21.52	+5.74
Glens Falls AP	86	61	73	+9	165	2125	+299	1.02	+0.19	20.15	+3.67
Honeoye	83	57	72	+6	158	2035	+25	1.08	+0.31	20.18	+4.54
Hornell Almond	88	56	72	+9	155	1803	+171	0.83	+0.19	18.30	+3.12
Jamestown 4NE	86	58	73	+10	160	1963	+431	0.82	-0.27	19.18	-1.79
Niagara Falls	84	63	74	+9	172	2204	+200	0.87	-0.07	22.08	+5.72
Ithaca Cornell	84	53	72	+8	153	1951	+203	1.49	+0.68	22.06	+5.06
New York LGA	86	69	78	+6	200	3121	+411	0.11	-0.73	19.21	+0.09
Morrisville	83	53	71	+9	148	1946	+356	1.44	+0.56	28.74	+10.60
Massena	85	59	71	+8	148	1968	+219	0.61	-0.30	21.01	+5.65
Norwich	86	49	70	+7	142	1900	+229	1.50	+0.66	28.03	+9.93
Oneonta	84	52	68	+7	129	1823	+281	1.68	+0.84	27.06	+7.32
Penn Yan	86	60	74	+9	172	2274	+347	0.77	+0.00	14.95	-0.83
Plattsburgh Intl	82	58	71	+7	147	1958	+106	0.43	-0.47	21.58	+5.54
Poughkeepsie AP	86	63	75	+7	174	2525	+341	1.17	+0.35	24.51	+5.22
Rochester NY	86	64	75	+10	176	2373	+444	0.74	-0.03	19.95	+5.40
Syracuse	88	62	75	+10	177	2408	+451	0.90	+0.06	20.06	+2.22
Wales	82	57	71	+8	149	1896	+269	0.41	-0.64	20.16	+0.80
Warsaw	84	59	71	+9	148	1756	+248	0.62	-0.32	22.05	+3.48

^{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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