



WEATHER AND CROPS

September 23, 2013

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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WEATHER: Most of the week was dry as high pressure dominated the state, but the week ended with a cold front moving into the region on Saturday which produced very heavy rain from the western part of New York to the Lake Ontario region and into the Saint Lawrence Valley. Further to the south and east rainfall amounts averaged between a half an inch and one and a half inches. Temperatures averaged below normal during the week primarily because the period from Sunday through Wednesday ranged from five to fifteen degrees below normal with some areas experiencing their first frost or freeze. By later in the week temperatures warmed to a few degrees above normal.

CROPS: There were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 29 percent surplus. Oats for grain were 99 percent harvested compared to 100 percent in 2012 and were below the 100 percent five year average. Condition of oats was 19 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Hay crops were 3 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. The second clover timothy cutting was 100 percent complete compared to 100 percent in 2012, and was above the 99 percent five year average. The third clover timothy cutting was 82 percent complete compared to 75 percent in 2012, and was ahead of the 75 percent average. The third alfalfa cutting was 87 percent complete compared to 83 percent in 2012, and was equivalent to the 87 percent five year average. Condition of corn was 5 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 22 percent excellent. Silage corn was 32 percent harvested compared to 54 percent in 2012 and below the 38 percent five year average. Soybeans were rated 4 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 31 percent excellent. Potatoes were 67 percent harvested compared to 70 percent in 2012 and ahead of the 59 percent five year average. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Jefferson County, wet field conditions halted field operations in certain areas. Corn silage harvest continued in other areas. Winter grain plantings progressed slowly due to the delayed corn silage harvest. Lewis County reported frost hit most of the county last week but was very spotty. Even within one field the high spots were okay while the low spots had light frost damage to leaves. It didn't appear to be a killing frost for corn. Soybeans were affected more than corn but most bean fields were at a stage of maturity where the frost had little impact. In St. Lawrence County, corn silage harvest got rolling and unless a large amount of rain comes, the coming week should be very busy with harvest. The frost did little damage to soybeans so prospects for the crop improved. Farmers were hoping for two more weeks without a killing frost. Niagara County reported there was 2.7 to 3 inches of rain Friday night which set a one day record at the Buffalo Airport for that date. Wheat planting, hay crop harvest, and corn silage harvest stopped. Wheat planting was well ahead of normal for this date. Corn and soybeans matured quickly and grain harvest will start soon. Corn silage harvest had generally good yields estimated. In Ontario County, corn silage harvest continued as well as hay. Producers prepared for the harvest of corn and soybeans for grain. Wayne County reported corn silage harvest began. Yields were average, around 16 to 20 tons per acre. Field conditions were much better before the weekend rain. There was one inch measured during the day Saturday so that slowed up the progress of harvest. Soybeans were turning but weed control seemed to be an issue as a result of the wet summer weather. There was heavy northern leaf blight and rootworm damage. In Cortland County, corn silage harvest was in full swing, but was a challenge to get equipment through the mud. Dump wagons replaced chopping directly into trucks, which slowed progress but avoided the trucks getting stuck. There was patchy frost across the county, but heavy fog prevented frost in some areas. Soybeans began to turn. In Madison County, there was an incredible push to harvest third cutting hay and over the last four days weather cooperated. Corn silage harvest began in earnest, especially in the northern tier, but much less so in the middle and southern parts of the county. Planting of rye grass and some oat cover crops were planned or going in. Montgomery and Fulton counties were harvesting corn silage and even got some dry hay.

FRUIT: Apples were 38 percent harvested compared to 62 percent in 2012 and below the 46 percent five year average. Apples were rated 2 percent poor, 2 percent fair, 69 percent good, and 27 percent excellent. Peaches were 100 percent harvested compared to 100 percent in 2012 and above the 97 percent five year average. Pears were 69 percent harvested compared to 92 percent in 2012 and below the 85 percent five year average. Pears were 8 percent poor, 9 percent fair, 78 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Grapes were 31 percent harvested compared to 44 percent in 2012 and ahead of the 29 percent five year average. Grapes were 1 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 49 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Apple and grape harvest continued in Ontario County. In Suffolk County, Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc were being harvested from Long Island vineyards. Growers were please with both quantity and quality. The long stretch of sunny, dry weather really benefited local vineyards.

VEGETABLE: Sweet corn was 94 percent harvested compared to 94 percent in 2012, and was above the 91 percent five year average. Sweet corn was 4 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 25 percent excellent. Onions were 73 percent harvested compared to 91 percent in 2012, and were behind the 80 percent five year average. Onions were 7 percent poor, 8 percent fair, and 85 percent good. Snap beans were 89 percent harvested compared to 86 percent in 2012, and ahead of the 87 percent five year average. Snap beans were rated 4 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Cabbage was 84 percent harvested compared to 86 percent in 2012, and were ahead of the 80 percent five year average. Cabbage was rated 35 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 24 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Ontario County continued cabbage harvest.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was rated 1 percent very poor, 15 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. There were no comments about livestock or pasture condition from our reporters this week.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, September 22, 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	79	39	60	+0	71	2736	+390	0.92	+0.24	30.87	+11.97
Watertown Intl	81	31	57	-2	60	2346	+443	1.54	+0.79	19.04	+3.46
Boonville	73	32	53	-3	32	1648	+53	1.03	-0.23	30.67	+4.04
Bridgehampton	74	38	59	-6	61	2493	+148	0.78	+0.00	21.04	+0.63
Binghamton/Broome	74	36	56	-3	49	2246	+228	0.57	-0.20	27.04	+7.62
Buffalo Intl AP	83	37	60	-2	72	2599	+332	2.94	+2.16	24.62	+5.16
Canton	79	32	55	-2	46	2039	+181	1.10	+0.21	24.50	+4.93
Cobleskill	79	33	55	-3	44	2108	+230	0.21	-0.66	25.46	+4.53
Dansville AP	84	36	61	+0	78	2744	+539	0.75	-0.02	16.92	-1.39
Elmira	80	36	57	-3	54	2458	+372	1.04	+0.34	18.90	+0.55
Franklinville	79	32	54	-3	31	1836	+305	0.91	+0.00	25.61	+3.97
Geneva Research	80	36	56	-5	49	2355	+170	0.82	+0.05	23.34	+5.25
Glens Falls AP	78	33	57	-2	52	2372	+332	0.61	-0.09	22.57	+3.89
Honeoye	81	33	58	-5	60	2281	-13	0.79	+0.08	21.87	+3.98
Hornell Almond	79	34	54	-5	31	1987	+154	0.69	-0.08	21.87	+4.44
Jamestown 4NE	78	34	55	-3	41	2177	+448	1.25	+0.15	22.11	-2.20
Niagara Falls	79	34	58	-4	60	2466	+195	1.77	+0.93	24.71	+5.69
Ithaca Cornell	78	31	54	-5	39	2158	+183	0.83	-0.01	25.17	+5.65
New York LGA	78	49	66	-2	113	3562	+445	1.00	+0.23	22.50	+0.95
Morrisville	78	34	56	-3	44	2162	+375	0.71	-0.22	32.79	+11.84
Massena	81	35	57	+0	55	2179	+237	2.01	+1.20	26.40	+8.53
Norwich	77	35	55	-4	33	2107	+227	0.61	-0.28	32.30	+11.52
Oneonta	76	32	53	-4	29	1997	+274	0.40	-0.44	30.74	+8.48
Penn Yan	80	34	60	+0	76	2576	+391	0.68	-0.09	17.63	-0.46
Plattsburgh Intl	77	35	57	-2	54	2196	+130	0.34	-0.35	24.49	+6.19
Poughkeepsie AP	80	40	60	-2	73	2851	+381	0.70	-0.07	26.82	+5.10
Rochester NY	83	37	60	-2	75	2666	+470	1.22	+0.54	22.36	+5.66
Syracuse	81	37	60	-1	75	2713	+494	0.74	-0.17	23.26	+2.70
Wales	81	33	56	-3	48	2101	+263	1.24	+0.14	22.79	+0.09
Warsaw	77	35	55	-2	46	1952	+261	1.05	+0.13	24.45	+3.00

^{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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