

# NEW JERSEY WEEKLY CROP WEATHER

## New Jersey Field Office

### In Cooperation With:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agricultural Marketing Service
U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A.
Rutgers University

#### **NOAA WEATHER RADIO STATIONS**

#### Allentown WXL-39 on the VHF-FM

frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.

Atlantic City
KHB-38 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.

New York City
KWO-35 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 160.55 Megahertz.

Philadelphia
KIH-28 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.475 Megahertz.

#### **NEW JERSEY AUCTIONS**

#### Vineland

Phone: (856)691-0721 Sales 10:00AM Daily except Sunday.

#### Landisville Phone: (856)697-2273

Direct Sales Daily **Swedesboro** Phone: (856)476-0313 **Hightstown** Phone: (609)448-0193

Auction Sales Mon-Wed-Fri-7pm

Volume 68 No. 15

### Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania Issued by Rutgers University New Brunswick NJ 8 am EDT Monday, July 17, 2006

Date: July 17, 2006

Rainfall amounts, none through mid day Tuesday then scattered afternoon thunderstorms on Tuesday will produce variable rainfall amounts with some locally heavy amounts possible.

Winds for spraying, west 5 to 10 mph today, light and variable tonight, southwest 5 to 10 mph Tuesday but strong and gusty near any thunderstorms.

Relative humidity in percent, 40 to 50 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 40 to 50 Tuesday. Dew points, upper 60s to low 70s through Tuesday.

Drying conditions, good today, fair to good Tuesday except locally poor areas during afternoon thunderstorms.

Frost freeze or dew, light dew tonight, light dew Tuesday night as well as possible scattered wetting in thunderstorms.

Percent of possible sunshine, 90 today, 70 Tuesday.

There is a near zero percent probability of precipitation during the 12 hour period beginning at 8 am and ending at 8 pm that could adversely affect the performance of pesticides that require a rain free period after application.

Conditions do not appear favorable for the occurrence of cranberry scald today and Tuesday.

Hay cutting will see fairly good drying conditions over the next few days with scattered areas of wetting in thunderstorms.

Estimated soil moisture in percent of field capacity will continue to decrease over the next several days.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period July 24, 2006, through July 30, 2006, is calling for temperatures to average near normal and precipitation to total above normal.

## Climate summary for the week ending 8 am July 17, 2006

Temperatures averaged much above normal, averaging 77 degrees north, 78 degrees central, and 79 degrees south. Extremes were 95 degrees at Canoe Brook on July 17, 2006, and 62 degrees at Pomona on July 16, 2006.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.90 inches north, 0.61 inches central, and 0.07 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 1.05 inches at New Brunswick on July 12, 2006, through July 13, 2006.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 88 percent north, 74 percent central, and 55 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 75 degrees north, 75 degrees central, and 76 degrees south.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending 8 am Monday, July 17, 2006

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Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days		Soil Moisture
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				1/		worsture 2/
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	_, 
	- Degrees -				- Base 50°F -					
				N	ORTH					
Belvidere Bridge			DATA NOT AVAILABLE							
Canoe Brook	.73	18.08	64	95	64	78	5	1612	396	78
Charlotteburg	1.06	18.83	07	90	63	75	5	1339	358	83
Flemington	.91	24.07	6.03	92	64	77	3	1541	285	83
Newton		DATA NOT AVAILABLE								
				CE	NTRAL					
Freehold	.50	17.25	32	94	63	78	4	1564	207	70
Long Branch	.43	17.73	.22	94	64	76	2	1464	182	54
New Brunswick	1.05	18.04	.66	93	65	79	4	1649	212	83
Toms River		DATA NOT AVAILABLE								
Trenton	.44	17.38	.90	93	63	78	2	1683	186	53
				S	OUTH					
Cape May C.H.	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
Downstown	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
Glassboro	.18	16.22	-1.00	94	68	79	3	1811	322	45
Hammonton			DATA NOT AVAILABLE							
Pomona	.02	14.89	52	91	62	78	3	1621	246	40
Seabrook	.06	17.41	1.80	94	69	80	4	1876	357	41
South Harrison	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									

<sup>\*</sup>Departure from normal.

<sup>1/</sup>Growing degree days since March 1, 2006, total and departure from normal or long term average. 2/Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

# Field Activities Progress with Dryer Weather Conditions

Days suitable for field work, the week ending Sunday, July 16, 2006, were 6.0. Topsoil moisture was rated 5% short, 75% adequate, and 20% surplus. Temperatures averaged above normal across most of the state. There were measurable amounts of precipitation in most localities for the week. Agricultural producers continued harvesting. Spraying continued across the state. Planting of soybeans continued. Corn continued to tassel across the state. A reporter in the northern district said there was some sprouting in wheat fields, and some areas of corn and soybean fields were wash-outs. Soybeans continued to bloom in the central district, and it was reported that some fields were uneven. A southern district reporter said that ears were beginning to develop on some corn fields. Harvest of lettuces, cabbage, snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes, herbs, and cucumbers continued. There was a report of some phytophthora blight on summer squash in the southern district. Pumpkins were in flower in the southern district. There was a report in the northern district of some cracking of peaches due to rain. Picking of blueberries continued in the central district. Bees continued to pollinate cranberries. Wheat was rated in fair to good condition. Corn and soybeans were rated in mostly good condition. Pasture was rated in mostly fair to good condition.

## **JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR JULY 17, 2006**

**Arugula & Cilantro** – Fair to good quality products are being harvested in fair to decreasing volume with increasing temperatures.

**Baby Arugula & Baby Spinach** - Harvesting in good quality and volume. Not as affected by the heat.

**Basil** – Harvesting good quantities of very good quality product with the increasing temperatures.

Beets - A good volume of good quality product is available.

**Blueberries** – The Bluecrop variety is being picked in volume for another 1-2 weeks. The late variety Elliott is starting this week and will be available for a few weeks in volume. Fruit quality and size for all varieties looks very good. A better than average crop this year.

Cabbage – Harvesting good quantities of very good quality product.

**Cantaloupes & Watermelons** – Fair quality and quantity of field-grown product.

**Dill & Parsley** – A fair volume of good quality pring planted product available.

**Cucumbers** – Harvesting a good quantity of good quality Pickles (Kirby cucumbers) and Cukes.

**Eggplant** – Harvesting a good quantity of excellent quality product.

**Escarole & Endive** – Finishing up with the heat. Will be back in the fall.

**Greens** - Great quality and good quantities seen of Collards, Kale, Kholrabi, Mustard, and Swiss Chard.

**Leeks & Green Onions** – Transplanted product available in good quality and quantity. Spring planted products becoming to become available.

Lettuce - Finishing up with this continued heat.

**Nectarines** – Light harvest of the early variety Eastern Glo has started with volume expected later on next week. Fruit quality, including size, is very good for all varieties.

Peaches – The yellow clingstone Sentry variety is still being harvested in fair to declining volume. Freestone Red Haven varieties are now being harvested in fair to increasing volume. The white peach harvest has begun with light to increasing volume of the White Lady variety. Yellow and white Doughnut peaches are also available for the next 3-4 weeks. The newer white peach varieties have the look and flavor that consumers desire and the shelf life that allows you to get the peaches to them. Fruit quality, including size and color, is very good for all varieties. We'll have a volume of good quality peaches until mid-September.

**Peppers** – Harvesting a good volume of excellent quality product.

**Radishes** – Although temperature sensitive, a light quantity of good quality product should be available all season.

**Snap Beans** – Harvesting a light volume of great quality beans with the increased temperatures.

Spinach - Finishing up with the increasing temperatures.

**Squash** – Harvesting good quantities of very good quality Yellow and Zucchini. A light volume of good quality acorn and spaghetti squash now being harvested with Butternut expected in three weeks.

**Tomatoes** – Harvesting a good quality and quantity of field-grown product with volume increasing quickly.

**Sweet Corn** – Harvesting a good volume of good quality corn. Peak of season should be next week. Good wholesale availability until at least the week after Labor Day. Quantity and quality varies after that due to fall insect pressures.

Turnips – Harvesting good quality product in fair volume.

White Potatoes – Good quality Redskin potatoes being harvested in light quantity with Superior round variety. There will be a large crop of good quality potatoes this year. Source your New Jersey white potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags. A number of chain stores have made large displays of these in the past and they've sold quite well.