

# **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. 26 Date: October 2, 2006

Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania Issued by Rutgers University New Brunswick NJ 8 am EDT Monday, October 2, 2006

Rainfall amounts none through Tuesday.

Winds for spraying northwest around 10 mph today, light and variable tonight, southwest around 10 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 30 to 40 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 40 to 50 Tuesday.

Dew points upper 40s today and tonight, low to mid 50s Tuesday.

Drying conditions good today, good Tuesday.

Frost freeze or dew heavy dew tonight, heavy dew Tuesday night.

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 rainfree period after application.

Temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs could fall to 30 to 34 tonight but should remain above freezing Tuesday night.

Late season hay cutting will see good drying today and Tuesday but with a chance of showers late Wednesday and Wednesday night. Dry weather should return for Thursday and continue for several days.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period October 9, 2006 to October 15, 2006 is calling for temperatures to average near normal and precipitation to total below normal.

## Climate summary for the week ending 8 am October 2, 2006

Temperatures averaged near normal, averaging 57 degrees north, 60 degrees central, and 61 degree south. Extremes were 77 degrees at several locations on September 29, 2006, and 39 degrees at numerous locations on the September 30, 2006.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.99 inches north, 0.40 inches central, and 0.55 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.60 inches at Newton on September 28, 2006 to September 29, 2006.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 89 percent north, 74 percent central, and 75 percent south. Four inch soil temperatures averaged 59 degrees north, 62 degrees central, and 62 degrees south.

ather Summary for the Week Ending 8 am Monday, October 2, 2006

	vveat	ner Sumn	nary for the	e week E	nding 8 ar	n wonday	, October		-	
Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days		Soil
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				1/		Moisture 2/
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	<i>=-</i>
	- Degrees -			- Base 50F -						
				N	ORTH					
Belvidere Bridge				DATA NOT AVAILABLE						
Canoe Brook	1.37	29.59	57	76	41	59	1	3224	587	100
Charlotteburg	.75	33.16	2.68	71	39	57	2	2731	647	90
Flemington	.60	34.70	5.94	77	39	57	-1	3057	354	94
Newton 3/	1.26	39.10	11.09	72	39	56	1	2479	139	100
	1			CEN	NTRAL			-1		
Freehold	.38	31.08	3.16	76	44	61	1	3188	303	79
Long Branch	.44	30.49	2.24	76	44	60	-1	3132	302	76
New Brunswick	.49	28.37	03	76	40	60	-1	3312	297	91
Toms River	.25	25.51	-3.40	76	40	60	0	3236	406	61
Trenton	.45	27.53	.67	76	41	60	-1	3387	247	71
				SC	DUTH			· L		
Cape May C.H.	.38	18.91	-6.17	75	43	61	-3	3333	439	79
Downstown	.69	25.15	-1.10	77	39	60	-2	3153	-8	85
Glassboro	.83	28.34	.67	75	43	60	-1	3593	471	92
Hammonton	.47	26.99	63	77	40	61	0	3525	397	81
Pomona	.40	27.89	3.02	76	41	61	1	3400	495	67
Seabrook			DATA NOT AVAILABLE							
South Harrison	.75	30.72	3.65	76	44	62	NA	3436	NA	NA

<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.

<sup>3/</sup>Some cumulative values estimated due to earlier missing data

### **Fieldwork Activities Progressed**

Days suitable for field work, the week ending Sunday, October 1, 2006, were 6.0. Topsoil moisture was rated 100% adequate. Temperatures averaged near normal across most of the state. There were measurable amounts of precipitation for the week. Weekly rainfall averaged 0.99 inches north, 0.40 inches central, and 0.55 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.60 inches at Newton on September 28, 2006 to September 29, 2006. Agricultural producers continued to harvest vegetables, field crops, and plant small grain crops. Harvest of potatoes, beets, broccoli, cabbage, kale, cauliflower, lettuce, peppers, squash, and pumpkins progressed. Pepper and squash harvest neared completion in some southern localities. Pumpkin damage, due to phytophthora, was reported in the southern area. Pumpkin quality was variable across the state, and some fields in the south were disced. Planting of small grain crops continued across the state. Mowing and baling of hay continued. Hay condition was rated fair to good. Soybean harvest continued with some producers waiting for the crop to dry down. Corn harvest for silage was completed in some areas of the north and central districts. Corn and soybean condition was rated mostly fair to good condition. Apple harvest continued. Apples rated mostly good condition. Cranberry harvest progressed, and color continued to develop. Grape harvest continued in the south. Pasture was rated fair to good condition.

### **JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR OCTOBER 2, 2006**

**Apples** – Fresh product is a week to ten days earlier than normal this season and is available now through the New Year. Jonathan and Cortland finishing up. Red Delicious, Empire, Jonagold, Macoun are being picked now. Golden Delicious, Rome, and Stayman Winesap starting later on this week. Braeburn, Fuji, and Granny Smith will start mid to late October.

**Apple Cider** – Available until Christmas in wholesale volume, through late Spring for retail sales.

**Arugula & Cilantro** – Harvesting good quality and quantity with the cooler temperatures.

**Baby Arugula & Baby Spinach** – Harvesting good quality and quantity.

**Basil** – Harvesting a light quantity of fair to good quality product with the cooler temperatures. Available until frost.

**Beets** – A good volume of good quality product is available.

**Broccoli** – Harvesting later on this week in Central Jersey.

**Cabbage** – Harvesting good quantities of very good quality product.

**Cranberries** – The main harvest of fresh market dry harvested berries has begun.

Dill & Parsley –. Harvesting good quality and quantity.

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

**Eggplant** – Harvesting excellent quality Italian and Asian varieties in fair to decreasing quantity. The Fall brings out the best in this vegetable.

**Escarole/Endive** – Harvesting good quality product in good volume.

Green Beans - Harvesting in good quality and quantity.

**Greens** - Good quantities of fair to good quality Collards, Kale, Mustard, Dandelions, and Swiss Chard.

**Leeks & Green Onions** – Harvesting in good quality and quantity.

**Lettuces** – The harvest is two weeks later this Fall. Harvesting good quality Boston and Romaine in light to increasing quantities. Just starting the harvesting of Red & Green Leaf.

**Peppers** – Harvesting a light volume of good quality product. We also have an excellent assortment of good quality hot peppers available.

**Pumpkins** – Downy mildew set in early this year in some fields due to another cool and wet Spring. Then a dry August was followed by incessant rains. Growers that haven't been spraying all season will have problems. Know your grower! These will be hard to source in Jersey this year.

**Radishes & Turnips** – These temperature sensitive vegetables have begun harvesting again in good quality and fair to increasing quantity, with volume expected by the end of the week for Turnips.

**Squash** – Harvesting a good quantity of great quality zucchini. Most of our butternut and acorn were harvested before the recent wet weather and stored for curing and better prices.

**Tomatoes** – A very light quantity of fair to good quality rounds available as some late plantings are harvested. Winding down.

**SPINACH** – Weather related issues caused later planting and slower growth than normal. Harvesting a fair to increasing quantity of good quality product.

**Sweet Corn** – Harvesting a light to decreasing volume of fair to good quality corn. Quantity and quality varies now due to recent severe weather and annual Fall insect pressures.

**Sweet Potatoes** – Harvesting good quality potatoes in good volume.

White Potatoes – Tapering off of the Superior round variety and transitioning into the Reba variety in good quantity and quality. Source your New Jersey white potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags.

# **JERSEY FRESH FORECAST**

**Brussel Sprouts & Cauliflower** – Should begin harvesting by the middle of October in Central Jersey.