

NEW JERSEY EEKLY 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. 5 Date: May 8, 2006

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

Rainfall amounts, tenth of an inch south today otherwise little additional precipitation expected through Tuesday.

Winds for spraying, northeast 10 to 15 mph today and tonight, northeast 5 to 10 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent, 50 to 60 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 40 to 50 Tuesdav.

Dew points, generally in the 40s through Tuesday.

Drying conditions, fair today, fair to good Tuesday.

Frost freeze or dew, little dew expected tonight, light dew Tuesday night.

Percent of possible sunshine, 20 today, 30 Tuesday.

There is a 10 percent north and 50 percent south 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.

Temperatures in the representative bogs will remain above freezing tonight but could drop to 29 to 33 if skies clear Tuesday night.

Plowing and planting will continue active for the next several days with little expected precipitation.

The need for supplemental irritation will remain fairly high with little expected rain before Thursday.

Hay cutting will see fairly good conditions for the next couple days with dry weather continuing through Wednesday with the next threat of showers Thursday.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period May 15, 2006, through May 21, 2006, is calling for temperatures to average below normal and precipitation to total

Climate summary for the week ending 8 am May 8, 2006

Temperatures averaged above normal, averaging 59 degrees north, 59 degrees central, and 61 degrees south. Extremes were 84 degrees at Canoe Brook on May 5, 2006, and 34 degrees at Freehold on May 3, 2006.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.00 inches north, 0.04 inches central, and 0.00 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.21 inches at Long Branch on May 3, 2006, through May 4, 2006.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 86 percent north, 77 percent central, and 72 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 56 degrees north, 56 degrees central, and 57 degrees south.

	Wea	ther Sum	mary for th	ne Week	Ending 8 a	m Monda	y, May 8,	2006		
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>21</i>
- Inches -				- Degrees -			•	- Base 50°F -		
				N	ORTH					
Belvidere Bridge				DATA NOT AVAILABLE						
Canoe Brook	.00	4.37	-5.23	84	38	60	3	252	182	78
Charlotteburg		DATA NOT AVAILABLE								
Flemington	.00	5.83	-3.34	83	35	60	3	236	159	83
Newton	.00	4.20	-4.22	81	37	58	3	184	139	79
	•			CE	NTRAL			•		
Freehold	.00	4.77	-4.33	81	34	59	1	257	148	78
Long Branch	.21	5.83	-3.57	78	42	57	0	191	103	68
New Brunswick	.00	4.36	-4.46	83	39	61	2	280	150	81
Toms River	.00	4.52	-4.64	79	39	59	1	236	141	61
Trenton	.00	5.02	-3.22	82	38	61	1	285	133	59
			•	S	OUTH			•		
Cape May C.H.	.00	3.08	-4.92	79	39	59	0	259	128	62
Downstown	.00	3.83	-4.41	82	37	60	0	284	123	65
Glassboro	.00	4.55	-4.16	81	43	63	3	344	192	60
Hammonton	.00	3.97	-4.50	82	38	61	2	296	150	60
Pomona	.00	3.82	-4.21	81	38	59	1	257	145	62
Seabrook	.00	4.53	-2.88	82	41	63	3	387	223	60
South Harrison	.00	4.27	-4.10	82	41	62	NA	354	NA	NA

^{1/}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.

Strawberry Picking Begins

Days suitable for field work, the week ending Sunday, May 7, 2006, were 6.8. Topsoil moisture was rated 35% very short, 30% short and 35% adequate. Temperatures were variable for the week across the state, with mid-week temperatures of ten degrees above normal in some localities. There were no measurable amounts of precipitation in most localities for the week. Agricultural producers continued field preparation for spring crops. Other activities included planting, irrigating, greenhouse work, transplanting vegetable crops, topdressing fertilizer, and chemical thinning on fruit. Asparagus harvest continued across the state. Harvest of lettuce started in the north. Early tomatoes and sweet corn are under plastic. Harvest of greenhouse tomatoes began. Harvest of overwintered spinach was nearing completion in some fields in the central district. Early peas were in flower in the south. Potatoes were well past green row in the south. Arugula, green onion, leeks, and Swiss chard were harvested in the south. Condition of grain and hay crops was rated mostly fair. In the north, peaches were past full bloom and sizing well, and in some localities were in shuck stage. Apples were in various stages of bloom in the north. Peaches were sizing well in the south, and blueberries were beginning to form. Cranberries had been drained and were doing well. Strawberry picking began in some southern fields. Pasture was rated in mostly poor to fair condition.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR MAY 8, 2006

Arugula & Kale – Good quality products are being harvested in fair to good volume.

Asparagus – Very good quality product is available in normal quantity. The harvest should continue to increase over the next several weeks.

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

Cilantro – Over-wintered product is available though good quality spring planted is now harvesting.

Collards – Just began harvesting light quantities of good quality product.

Dill – A fair volume of good quality product is now available.

Escarole & Endive – Just started harvesting a light quantity of good quality product.

Leeks – A light volume of over-wintered product is available now and for some time. Transplanted product should be available by mid to third week of June. Spring planted due in July.

Lettuce – All good quality. Harvesting good quantities of Boston, fair quantities of Red and Green Leaf, and light quantities of Romaine. Look for Iceberg at the end of the month or beginning of June.

Parsley – Over-wintered product available though good quality spring planted is now available.

Radishes – Harvesting good quantities of good quality product.

Spinach – Over-wintered product is finishing up just as spring planted is beginning to be harvested.

Strawberries – Early harvests of great quality berries have just begun, though the bulk of the crop will be harvested towards the end of the month, with lower volumes to continue through the first week of June. Our Chandler variety berries are picked when ripe and have more red interior color than white. They're grown in raised beds, under black plastic, with a large berry size and excellent taste.

Swiss Chard – A small volume of great quality overwintered product is still available just as spring planted product starts to become available in very light quantities.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

Blueberries – Minor quantities of early varieties like Weymouth starting around mid-June. Much more widely planted Duke variety starting 3-4 days later with volume available a week after that.

Cabbage – Should start harvesting near the end of the month.

Cucumbers – Harvesting tunnel grown by early June. Field grown will be available by mid-June.

Squash – Should begin harvesting minor quantities of Yellow and Zucchini grown in tunnels by the end of the month. Field grown by about the third week of June.

Turnips - Should begin harvesting in 2-3 weeks.