



**Agricultural Weather Advisory For New Jersey
And Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued by Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Monday, April 13, 2009**

Rainfall amounts none today and tonight, tenth of an inch Tuesday. Winds for spraying west 10 to 15 mph today west 5 to 10 mph tonight east 10 to 15 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 30 to 40 today 90 to 100 tonight 50 to 60 Tuesday. Dew points upper teens today, mid 20s tonight, upper 30s Tuesday. Drying conditions good today, turning poor Tuesday. No dew tonight, some wetting in showers is possible Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 90 today 10 Tuesday.

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

Overnight low temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs fall to 18 to 22 if clouds are slow to move in tonight but should remain above freezing Tuesday night due to clouds.

Four inch soil temperatures are now averaging in the upper 40s north, low 50s central, and mid 50s south. Soil temperatures will hold steady over the next few days.

Early season hay cutting will see good drying today but poor drying on Tuesday and into Wednesday. Drier weather should move in for Thursday through Sunday.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period April 20, 2009 to April 26, 2009 is calling for temperatures to average below normal and precipitation to average below normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 4/13/09

Temperatures averaged below normal, averaging 42 degrees north, 44 degrees central, and 47 degrees south. Extremes were 70 degrees at Glassboro on April 11, 2009, and 26 degrees at several locations on April 13, 2009.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.50 inches north, 1.64 inches central, and 1.32 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 1.09 inches at Cape May Courthouse on April 6, 2009 to April 7, 2009.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 100 percent north, 99 percent central, and 98 percent south. Four inch soil temperatures averaged 45 degrees north, 48 degrees central, and 51 degrees south.

Peach Trees in Bloom

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday April 12, 2009, were 4.0. Topsoil moisture was rated as 90% adequate and 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 85% adequate and 15% surplus. There were measurable amounts of rainfall for the week in all localities. Temperatures were below normal across the Garden State. Producers continued field preparation for spring planting when weather permitted. Spring vegetables planted included sweet corn, peas, and beets while overwintered spinach was at mid-harvest. Farmers continued applying fertilizer to wheat, rye, and hay. Peaches were blooming and blueberries were sprayed for mummy fungus in South Jersey.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, April 13, 2009

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days ¹		Soil Moisture ²
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				Total	Dept.*	
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*			
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Base 50°F	Base 50°F	Percent
North										
Belvidere Bridge	0.31	2.50	-3.04	61	26	41	-8	20	20	99
Canoe Brook	0.81	3.53	-2.73	64	28	43	-5	31	31	100
Charlotteburg	0.56	4.21	-1.77	59	26	41	-5	16	16	100
Flemington	0.54	3.34	-2.59	64	26	43	-6	34	34	100
Newton	0.30	2.32	-2.93	58	27	42	-5	23	23	98
Central										
Freehold	1.85	4.62	-1.42	63	29	43	-7	44	44	100
Long Branch	2.11	4.64	-1.63	58	31	43	-6	23	23	99
New Brunswick	1.24	3.82	-1.85	63	29	43	-7	36	36	100
Toms River	1.85	4.68	-1.31	64	30	45	-4	52	52	99
Trenton	1.13	3.25	-2.23	64	32	46	-6	56	51	99
South										
Cape May C.H.	1.55	4.07	-1.25	62	34	48	-3	57	54	99
Downstown ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Glassboro	0.88	5.59	-0.15	70	34	48	-4	50	45	99
Hammonton	1.39	3.40	-2.14	67	30	47	-5	79	74	99
Pomona	1.70	4.57	-0.85	63	33	47	-3	80	80	99
Seabrook	1.09	3.77	-1.05	68	28	46	-6	66	59	99
South Harrison ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Departure from normal.

¹ Growing degree days since March 1, 2009, total and departure from normal or long term average.

² Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

³ Data not available.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR APRIL 13, 2009

CILANTRO	A small volume of good quality over-wintered product is just starting to be harvested and will be available for at least several weeks. Spring planted should be available by early May.
DANDELIONS	Good quality over-wintered bunched product is available now and for some time. Spring planted should be available by mid-May.
KALE	Good quality over-wintered product just starting in light volume. Volume should pick up each week.
LEEKs	A small volume of good quality over-wintered product is available now and for some time.
PARSLEY	Harvest of good quality over-wintered curly and plain product should begin later on in the week.
SPINACH	A small volume of good quality over-wintered product is available now and for another few weeks. Spring planted should be available by the end of the month.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

ARUGULA	Harvest should start next week in light quantity. Volume should pick up each week after that.
ASPARAGUS	Harvest should begin next week with a very light quantity of good quality product. With warmer weather, and increased soil temperatures, the harvest should ramp up more quickly.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvest should start towards the end of the month due to cool weather and soil temperatures.
BEETS	Just transplanted recently. Harvest should begin in mid-May.
CABBAGE	Just transplanted recently. Won't be ready until late May.
COLLARDS	Should begin harvesting around the third week of May.
DILL	Harvest should start next week in very light quantity. Volume should pick up each week after that.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Should begin harvesting around the third week of May.
LETTUCE	Should begin harvesting Boston & Red & Green Leaf in mid-May, followed by Romaine around the third week of May.
RADISHES	Harvest of good quality product should start late next week. Volume should pick up over the next several weeks.
STRAWBERRIES	Early harvests of Chandler variety berries are expected to begin in mid-May, while the bulk of the crop will be harvested towards the end of May, with lower volumes to continue through early June.
SWISS CHARD	Harvest of good quality product should start late next week. Volume should pick up over the next several weeks.
TURNIPS	Should begin harvesting around the end of May.