



Agricultural Weather Advisory For New Jersey
And Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued By Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Monday, June 28, 2010

Rainfall amounts little expected this morning, then one to two tenths of an inch with locally heavier amounts this afternoon and tonight, tenth of an inch possible Tuesday morning. Winds for spraying southwest 10 to 15 mph today, west 5 to 10 mph tonight, northwest around 10 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 50 to 60 today, near 100 tonight, 40 to 50 Tuesday afternoon. Dew points near 70 through tonight then dropping through the 60s and into the 50s Tuesday. Drying conditions fair this morning then poor this afternoon, becoming good later Tuesday. Little dew but wetting in showers is likely tonight, light dew Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 20 today 30 Tuesday.

There is a 60 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.

Overnight low temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs will remain above freezing tonight and Tuesday night.

Hay cutting is not recommended for today and Tuesday with showers likely this afternoon through Tuesday morning. An excellent haying period looks likely for Wednesday through Friday.

Estimated soil moisture in percent of field capacity is very short in many locations. Only localized heavy amounts are expected through Tuesday and therefore the need for irrigation will continue to be widespread.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period July 5, 2010 to July 11, 2010 is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to average below normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 6/28/10

Temperatures averaged much, much above normal, averaging 76 degrees north, 80 degrees central, and 81 degrees south. Extremes were 99 degrees at Seabrook, Pomona and Hammonton on June 25, 2010 and 59 degrees at Charlotteburg on June 27, 2010.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.27 inches north, 0.10 inches central, and 0.75 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 1.12 inches at south Harrison on June 22, 2010 to June 23, 2010.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 75 percent north, 50 percent central, and 57 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 74 degrees north, 77 degrees central, and 78 degrees south.

Hay Harvesting Continues

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday June 27, 2010, were 7.0. Topsoil moisture was rated as 30% short and 70% adequate. Subsoil moisture was rated as 25% short and 75% adequate. There were minimal amounts of rainfall during the week in most localities. Temperatures were above normal across the Garden State. Hay producers continued harvesting and baling with some second-cuttings of alfalfa beginning. Corn and soybeans were fully emerged with crop conditions rated mostly good. Barley and wheat harvest continued in the north and central districts. Double-cropped soybeans were being planted. Vegetable growers continued harvesting cucumbers, squash, sweet corn, and tomatoes. Pumpkin planting continued. Blueberry harvesting progressed. Other activities included irrigating fields, spraying pesticides, and spreading fertilizer.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, June 28, 2010

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures Last Week				Growing Degree Days ¹		Soil Moisture ²
	Last Week	Since March 1		Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
		Total	Dept.*							Base 50° F
North	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>			<i>Percent</i>
Belvidere Bridge	0.30	16.48	1.49	89	61	76	6	108	278	60
Canoe Brook ³	0.21	21.17	5.05	94	63	79	9	232	434	67
Charlotteburg	0.25	20.60	4.30	90	59	75	8	127	505	64
Flemington	0.25	18.77	3.37	92	61	77	6	258	430	70
Newton ³	0.33	17.70	3.01	88	61	74	6	100	401	66
Central										
Freehold	0.00	18.01	2.89	96	64	80	8	383	464	51
Long Branch	0.00	17.75	2.58	97	64	80	9	225	375	30
New Brunswick	0.41	19.02	4.27	95	63	79	5	352	376	66
Toms River	0.03	16.70	1.68	98	64	80	9	294	449	27
Trenton	0.04	14.48	0.74	97	65	81	8	450	424	30
South										
Cape May C.H.	0.67	15.54	2.20	96	62	77	5	136	210	58
Downtown	0.91	14.67	1.06	96	64	80	7	394	349	57
Glassboro	0.91	15.75	1.02	98	67	81	8	504	480	56
Hammonton	0.62	15.67	1.33	99	65	81	8	485	468	45
Pomona	0.84	15.01	2.02	99	66	82	10	398	467	53
Seabrook ³	0.57	14.82	1.76	99	68	83	10	602	550	41
South Harrison ³	1.95	14.82	N/A	96	69	81	N/A	522	N/A	N/A

* Departure from normal.

¹ Growing degree days since March 1, 2010, 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 for all historic comparisons.

Jersey Fresh Availability & Forecast Report

May continued our string of unusually warm months (6th warmest) that began in March. This led to this spring being the warmest observed in New Jersey ever. This heat wave has continued into June and has had its expected and seasonal effect on our more delicate Spring crops causing many of them to “bolt” a bit earlier than normal and finish their season. The upside of this occurrence is that we have had historically early starts to our summer season produce and crops are probably at least a week earlier than normal.

This week, our temperatures will be a bit like a roller coaster. It will be hot through tomorrow, and then tail off into the upper-70's through Friday. The temperature will then rise 5 degrees each day until the low 90's are reached for the Holiday on Monday. There's a 60% chance of rain tonight but no other rain in the forecast all week. We need the rain so let's hope that we get some tonight. Our NJ farmers can irrigate like no one else so this is not a major problem, just an expense and a workload issue.

Please let me know how I can make this report of more use to you. Feel free to respond to William.walker@ag.state.nj.us at any time if you have questions or need more information about Jersey Fresh availability.

Bill Walker – NJ Dept. of Agriculture

AVAILABILITY FOR JUNE 28, 2010

ARUGULA	Harvesting a fair quantity of very good quality product in this heat.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality product in fair to good quantity.
BASIL	Likes warmer weather. Harvesting a fair to good volume of excellent quality product.
BEETS	Harvesting very good quality product in good quantity.
BLUEBERRIES	Good quantities of excellent quality large Duke variety berries due to warm early season growing conditions. The next two weeks will provide our largest volume of the season.
CABBAGE	Harvesting very good quality product in good volume.
CILANTRO	A fair volume of very good quality product in this heat.
COLLARDS	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.
CUCUMBERS	Harvesting good quantities of excellent quality field grown product.
DANDELIONS	A good volume of very good quality Spring planted product.
DILL	Harvesting very good quality in good quantity.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting very good quality in fair to good quantity in this heat.
KALE	Good quality product harvesting in fair to good volume.
LEEKs	A fair to good volume of good quality product is available.
LETTUCE	Finishing up w/ Romaine, which tolerates the heat a bit, as hot temperatures have hastened the end of the season for these temperature sensitive products. “Mucklands” of NW Jersey harvesting for a few more weeks.
MINT	Harvesting a good quantity of very good quality product.
PARSLEY	Harvesting a good quantity of good quality curly and plain.
PEPPERS	An early harvest beginning with tunnel started products in very light supply. Quantity will increase quickly with warm temperatures but it will be several weeks before good volume is available.
RADISHES	Harvesting a light to decreasing volume of very good quality. Doesn't like the increasing temperatures and volume will fade during the Summer heat.
SPINACH	A fair volume of good quality Spring product is available in the heat.
SQUASH	Harvesting good quantities of excellent quality yellow & zucchini.
SWEET CORN	Harvesting in fair to good volume for the 4 th .
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting a good quantity of very good quality product.
TOMATOES	Tunnel started product in light to fair volume and high prices. Field grown starting now with fair volume for the 4 th of July.
TURNIPS	Harvest very good quality product in fair quantity in this heat.

FORECAST

EGGPLANT	An early harvest will begin next week with tunnel started products in very light supply. Quantity will increase quickly with warming temperatures but it will be several weeks before significant volume is available.
PEACHES	The winter and spring weather was very favorable for setting a peach and nectarine crop and the growers are finishing their thinning. The season will be early with peaches in early July, with volume by mid-month. White peaches start a week later in mid July, with volume by the end of the month.
NECTARINES	Harvest will start mid July, with volume by the end of the month.