



**Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey
and Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued by Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Monday, April 4, 2011**

Rainfall amounts none today, quarter of an inch but with locally heavier amounts late tonight and Tuesday morning, a tenth of an inch possible Tuesday evening, none Wednesday, less than a tenth of an inch late Wednesday and Wednesday night. Winds for spraying south/southwest 10 to 20 mph today and tonight, shifting to the northwest Tuesday morning 15 to 25 mph.

Relative humidity in percent 40 to 50 this afternoon, 85 to 95 tonight, 30 to 40 Tuesday afternoon. Dew points dropping from the mid 50s this afternoon to the mid 20s by Tuesday night.

Drying conditions good this afternoon, generally poor Tuesday but improving later in the day. No dew tonight but wetting in showers is likely, some dew and frost Tuesday night if winds subside. Percent of possible sunshine 20 today, 20 Tuesday.

There is an 80 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.

Temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs will remain above freezing tonight but could drop to 25 to 29 Tuesday night.

Early season hay cutting will see good drying today but with a high likelihood of wetting tonight and the first half of Tuesday.

With below normal temperatures during the past winter, the chill requirements for peaches were sufficient. Pressure from insects should be less this year due to below normal temperatures as well.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period April 11, 2011 to April 17, 2011 is calling for temperatures to average below normal and precipitation to average near normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 4/4/11

Temperatures averaged much below normal, averaging 39 degrees north, 42 degrees central, and 41 degrees south. Extremes were 60 degrees at Freehold and Trenton on April 4, 2011 and 20 degrees at Downtown on March 30, 2011.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.46 inches north, 0.41 inches central, and 0.41 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.47 inches at Long Branch on March 31, 2011 to April 1, 2011.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 100 percent north, 99 percent central, and 99 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 37 degrees north, 40 degrees central, and 39 degrees south.

Field Preparations Well Underway

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, April 3, 2011, were 4.0. Topsoil moisture was rated as 65% adequate and 35% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 70% adequate and 30% surplus. There were measurable amounts of rainfall during the week in most localities. Temperatures were below normal for the week across the Garden State. Producers continued field preparation for spring plantings. Vegetable plantings progressed for peas and potatoes while others remained in the greenhouse. Livestock condition rated mostly fair. Other activities included spreading fertilizer on small grains and hay, spraying herbicides on blueberry bushes, and equipment repair.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, April 4, 2011

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.*							
	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Base 50°F</i>	<i>Base 50°F</i>	<i>Percent</i>
North										
Belvidere Bridge	0.40	6.25	1.91	57	23	39	-7	8	8	98
Canoe Brook ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Charlotteburg	0.65	12.39	7.71	54	21	39	-4	11	11	100
Flemington	0.40	8.19	3.47	57	26	41	-5	16	16	99
Newton	0.39	7.57	3.53	55	23	39	-5	11	11	99
Central										
Freehold	0.32	5.60	0.67	60	28	42	-5	24	24	98
Long Branch	0.64	5.80	0.67	56	26	41	-6	15	15	96
New Brunswick	0.30	5.98	1.44	59	27	43	-5	23	23	99
Toms River	0.45	5.45	0.64	58	26	40	-7	25	25	97
Trenton	0.33	5.09	0.62	60	27	43	-5	30	30	97
South										
Cape May C.H.	0.55	4.89	0.54	55	25	40	-8	12	12	97
Downtown	0.39	5.65	1.19	56	20	40	-9	29	29	98
Hammonton	0.31	5.04	0.57	58	25	41	-8	33	33	97
Pomona	0.55	5.22	0.75	59	23	41	-6	30	30	96
Seabrook	0.25	5.37	1.49	58	29	43	-6	33	33	97
South Harrison ³	0.32	4.74	0.65	57	27	41	N/A	27	N/A	N/A

*Departure from normal.

¹Growing degree days since March 1, 2011, total and departure from normal or long term average.

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

³Data not available for all historic comparisons.