



**Agricultural Weather Advisory For New Jersey
And Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued By Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Monday, July 18, 2011**

Rainfall amounts none expected most of today, quarter to half an inch with locally heavy amounts possible from late this afternoon through Tuesday morning, then none Tuesday afternoon. Winds for spraying, southwest 10 to 20 mph through tonight and gusty in any thunderstorms, becoming northwest around 10 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 35 to 45 today, near 100 tonight, 35 to 45 Tuesday. Dew points 65 to 70 through Tuesday. Drying conditions excellent most of today then possible turning poor late in the day and Tuesday morning and then becoming good Tuesday afternoon. Little dew tonight but wetting in showers is possible, light dew Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 70 today, 80 Tuesday.

There is 50 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.

Hay cutting will see excellent conditions most of today but then with a moderate risk of wetting late in the day through Tuesday morning. Conditions will return to good haying for the remainder of the week Tuesday afternoon.

Conditions seems unlikely for the occurrence of cranberry scald for today and Tuesday.

Estimated soil moisture values are now below 50 percent at most southern locations and therefore additional moisture is needed. Some localized heavy rainfall is likely over the next 24 hours, but additional moisture will probably be necessary at other locations.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period July 25, 2011 to July 31, 2011 is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to average below normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am July 18, 2011

Temperatures averaged above normal, averaging 75 degrees north, 77 degrees central, and 78 degrees south. Extremes were 95 degrees at Trenton on July 13, 2011 and 57 degrees at several locations on July 15, 2011.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.01 inches north, 0.00 inches central, and 0.00 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.04 inches at Charlotteburg on July 13, 2011 to July 14, 2011.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 74 percent north, 63 percent central, and 51 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 70 degrees north, 77 degrees central, and 78 degrees south.

Dry Weather Lowers Soil Moisture

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday July 17, 2011 were 6.9. Topsoil moisture was rated as 34% short, 65% adequate, and 1% excellent. Subsoil moisture was rated as 25% short, 71% adequate, and 4% surplus. Pasture and Range condition was rated at 5% poor, 20% fair, 73% good, and 2% excellent. This week was especially dry with minimal precipitation. Temperatures were slightly above normal across the Garden State.

The hot dry weather resulted in a significant decrease to soil moisture supplies. Farmers have noted that crops continue to look good, but require rainfall. In order to combat the dry weather, farmers are irrigating their fields. The blueberry harvest is beginning to wind down as the peach harvest begins.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, July 18, 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.*							
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees			Percent
North										
Belvidere Bridge	0.00	23.12	5.36	91	57	74	1	172	-65	69
Canoe Brook	0.00	21.36	2.50	93	60	78	4	519	279	69
Charlotteburg	0.04	35.04	16.00	90	58	74	4	436	435	58
Flemington	0.00	25.15	6.97	92	57	76	2	658	378	71
Newton	0.01	26.02	8.67	90	57	74	2	490	388	61
Central										
Freehold	0.00	19.67	1.97	92	57	77	2	745	363	62
Long Branch	0.00	22.17	4.54	93	63	77	3	578	272	45
New Brunswick	0.00	20.86	3.34	94	60	77	2	749	287	71
Toms River	0.00	15.53	-2.42	93	58	77	3	585	269	43
Trenton	0.00	19.46	2.83	95	62	79	3	943	420	35
South										
Cape May C.H.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Downstown	0.00	17.84	1.54	91	58	76	1	752	216	43
Hammonton	0.01	13.46	-4.31	93	62	78	2	29	519	29
Pomona	0.00	16.82	1.28	94	61	79	4	958	558	41
Seabrook	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Harrison	0.00	11.54	-5.96	93	62	78	N/A	959	N/A	N/A

* Departure from normal.

¹ Growing degree days since March 1, 2011, 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.

Please let me know how I can make this report of more use to you. Feel free to respond to this e-mail at any time if you have questions or need more information about Jersey Fresh availability. If you know anyone that would benefit from receiving this report, please drop me their e-mail address and I'd be glad to add them to this e-mailing list. Thanks for your support of the Jersey Fresh program and the New Jersey produce industry.

Bill Walker – NJ Dept of Agriculture

AVAILABILITY FOR JULY 18, 2011

ARUGULA	Harvesting a fair to good quantity of good quality product.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.
BASIL	Likes warmer weather. Harvesting a good volume of excellent quality product.
BEETS	Harvesting very good quality product in fair quantity.
BLUEBERRIES	We're harvesting a light to quickly decreasing volume of very good quality late season Elliott berries as the main commercial season is finishing up.
CABBAGE	Harvesting good quality product in good volume.
CANTALOUPE & MELONS	Harvesting good quality in fair to good quantities.
CILANTRO	A fair volume of good quality product is harvesting in this heat.
COLLARDS	Harvesting very good quality product in good volume.
CUCUMBERS	Good quality harvesting in light to decreasing volume with this heat.
DANDELIONS	Good quality Italian & San Pasquale varieties harvesting in fair volume.
DILL	Harvesting good quality in light quantity in this heat.
EGGPLANT & PEPPERS	Harvesting very good quality in good supplies with warming temperatures.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting very good quality products in very light volume. Doesn't like the increasing temperatures and volume decreases during the Summer heat. Volume will return w/ the cooler weather in mid-September.
KALE	Good quality product harvesting in fair volume.
LEEEKS	A fair volume of good quality available with Spring planted harvesting.
MINT	Very good quality harvesting in good volume.
NECTARINES	Early Easternglo, Summer Beaut and Flavortop varieties are harvesting with the more widely planted Sunglo variety starting next week. Good sizing of 2 1/2" primarily. Expect a good steady supply from early August through early September.
PARSLEY	Harvesting a light volume of good quality product in this heat.
PEACHES	Yellow semi-cling varieties this week in fair volume with a slight supply gap until the widely planted John Boy and Redhaven "clingless" varieties start later this week. Sizing looks excellent due to heavy thinning. High brix levels assure sweetness. Good volume expected by the end of July through early Sept. White peach harvest begins w/ the White Lady variety next week, w/ volume by early August through mid-September.
RADISHES	Harvesting a light volume of good quality product. Doesn't like the increasing temperatures and volume will fade during the Summer heat.
SPINACH	A light volume of good quality product. Doesn't like the increasing temperatures and volume decreases during the Summer heat.
SQUASH	Harvesting good quantities of excellent quality Yellow & Zucchini.
SWEET CORN	Harvesting great quality in good supply. Peak of season should be the last week of the month.
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting very good quality product in fair volume.
TOMATOES	Field grown harvesting in fair to good volume.
TURNIPS	Harvest good quality in light quantity w/ increasing temperatures.

FORECAST

WHITE POTATOES	Next week, growers will start harvesting mainly round white varieties, with some Yukon Gold, Redskin varieties, and a bit of Russets as well. Source your N.J. white potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags.
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