



NJ-CW3412

New Jersey Weather and Crop Bulletin

August 27, 2012

Harvesting Vegetables Continued

For the week ending Sunday, August 26, 2012, there were 6.5 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture was rated at 25% short and 75% adequate. Subsoil moisture was rated at 20% short and 80% adequate. Pasture and range condition was rated at 20% fair, 70% good, and 10% excellent. Temperatures reached highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 50s across the Garden State.

Grain and vegetable crops were progressing well. Alfalfa hay 2nd cuttings and other hay 3rd cuttings continued with light yields. Corn was being chopped for silage. Harvesting vegetables continued. Worms and weevils increased in sweet corn and peppers. Milk production was average and livestock condition was good. Other activities included irrigation and spraying for insects.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 8/27/12

Temperatures averaged above normal north and central and near normal south, averaging 72 degrees north, 74 degrees central, and 73 degrees south. Extremes were 88 degrees at Downstown, New Brunswick, and South Harrison on August 24, 2012 and August 25, 2012, and 56 degrees at Charlotteburg on August, 22 2012.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.12 inches north, 0.00 inches central, and 0.80 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 2.95 inches at Cape May Courthouse on August 26, 2012 to August 27, 2012.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 80 percent north, 73 percent central, and 63 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 70 degrees north, 72 degrees central, and 72 degrees south.

**Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued By Rutgers University- New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Monday August 27, 2012**

Rainfall amounts one to two tenths of an inch today, tenth of an inch tonight and Tuesday with locally higher amounts possible each period. Winds for spraying south 5 to 10 mph today, southwest 5 to 10 mph tonight, west then northwest 10 to 15 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 55 to 65 today, near 100 tonight, 50 to 60 but dropping late in the day Tuesday. Dew points near 70 through Tuesday morning then dropping late in the day. Dew but wetting in showers possible tonight, moderate dew Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 20 today, 50 Tuesday.

There is a 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 runs a moderate risk of wetting through early Tuesday then drier air will move in later Tuesday and through the remainder of the week. Conditions will be unfavorable for cranberry scald both today and Tuesday. Soil moisture is decreasing but should improve somewhat over the next 48 hours. Growing degree day totals base 50 continue to run well ahead of normal.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period September 3, 2012 to September 9, 2012 is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to average above normal.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, August 27, 2012

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	Base 50°F	Base 50°F	Percent
North										
Belvidere Bridge.....	0.42	24.01	0.23	87	57	71	3	2,524	405	66
Canoe Brook	0.00	19.03	-5.90	87	61	73	4	2,816	683	73
Charlotteburg	0.04	17.32	-7.85	86	56	71	5	2,497	806	69
Flemington	0.00	22.90	-1.12	87	58	72	3	2,753	565	77
Newton.....	0.16	26.66	3.41	85	57	71	5	2,570	635	70
Central										
Freehold.....	0.00	20.81	-2.61	86	60	73	3	2,868	539	69
Long Branch.....	0.00	25.83	2.12	82	63	72	1	2,695	443	48
New Brunswick.....	0.00	21.21	-2.42	88	61	74	2	2,942	517	75
Toms River.....	0.00	18.20	-6.04	85	60	73	2	2,664	430	43
Trenton.....	0.00	20.30	-2.14	88	62	74	2	3,071	541	57
South										
Cape May C.H.....	3.18	21.27	0.33	82	57	69	-4	2,465	251	100
Downstown	0.24	16.86	-5.29	88	59	73	1	2,977	442	60
Hammonton	0.31	20.74	-2.37	87	61	74	2	3,008	491	58
Pomona.....	0.04	22.46	1.11	82	60	72	2	2,882	535	47
Seabrook.....	0.22	21.74	0.55	87	62	76	4	3,078	539	59
South Harrison	0.00	15.46	-7.38	88	62	74	N/ A	3,098	N/ A	N/ A

* Departure from normal.

¹ Growing degree days since March 1, 2012, 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.

NASS is currently conducting our annual September surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of September, NASS is surveying U.S. small grains growers for final production. We are also asking hog producers about their summer pig crop, next year's farrowing intentions, and current inventory. The responses will provide the foundation for 2012 production estimates. All participating farmers should respond. Your information matters!

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR AUGUST 27, 2012

ARRUGULA	Harvesting good quality in fair to good quantity as supply will ramp up a bit over the next two weeks w/ a flush of Fall product.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality in fair to good quantity.
BASIL	Likes the heat. Harvesting good quality in good volume.
BEETS	Harvesting good quality product in fair to good volume.
CABBAGE	Harvesting excellent quality product in fair to increasing volume.
CILANTRO	A fair volume of good quality product harvesting as supply ramping up a bit over the next several weeks w/ a flush of Fall product.
COLLARDS/KALE	A fair to good volume of good quality products harvesting.
CUCUMBERS	Good quality Pickles & Cukes harvesting in light to fair volume w/ supply ramping up a bit the next few weeks w/ a flush of Fall product.
DANDELIONS	Good quality bunched Spring planted Italian and San Pasquale varieties both harvesting in fair quantity.
DILL	Harvesting very good quality in light volume.
EGGPLANT	Harvesting very good quality product in good supply.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting good quality products in light to increasing volume w/ the return of cooler weather.
LEEKs	A fair volume of good quality harvesting.
MINT	Likes the heat. Harvesting a good volume of excellent quality product.
NECTARINES	Harvesting a light to decreasing volume of the excellent quality Fantasia variety. Finishing up over the next week to ten days.
PARSLEY	Harvesting a fair volume of good quality curly and plain.
PEACHES	Harvesting a light to decreasing supply of excellent quality Cresthaven, Jerseyqueen, Laurol, & Encore varieties. Finishing up over the next two weeks. Sugar Giant white peaches harvesting in light to finishing volume. Brix levels are high due to our early hot and dry weather, so sweetness is ensured. Sizing and color are good.
PEPPERS	Harvesting a good supply of good quality product. Hot peppers in rare quality due to great growing conditions.
RADISHES	Harvesting good quality product in light volume. Supply will ramp up a bit in September w/ some Fall product.
SPINACH	A light volume of good quality product harvesting due to past heat. Supply ramping up a bit in September w/ a flush of Fall product.
SQUASH	Very good quality green, yellow, acorn, butternut, & spaghetti squash harvesting in fair volume. Supply ramping up a bit w/ some Fall product.
SWEET CORN	Good to fair and decreasing volume of very good quality corn.
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting a light to fair volume of very good quality product. Supply will ramp up a bit over the next two weeks w/ a flush of Fall product.
TOMATOES	Harvesting excellent quality in good to decreasing volume.
TURNIPS	Harvesting very good quality in very light volume due to prolonged past heat. Supply will ramp up a bit in September w/ a flush of Fall product.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

APPLES	Harvesting Gala, McIntosh, Courtland, Honeycrisp, Early Fuji, & Ginger Gold. Red & Golden Delicious, Empire, Jonagold, and MacCoun starting next week. More cool nights would help in the development of color in many varieties. Late April frost and high winds and hail from late July have had major effects upon the volume of product available this year from the entire region. Expect volume to be off significantly this Fall. Cider apples and availability to be similarly off.
LETTUCES	Growers should start harvesting their Fall crops in a couple of weeks.
SWEET POTATOES	Should begin harvesting over the next couple of weeks or so, but with curing, volume won't be available until the end of the month.