



NJ-CW4012

New Jersey Weather and Crop Bulletin

October 9, 2012

The Fall Vegetable Harvest is Winding Down

For the week ending Sunday, October 7, 2012, there were 5.5 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture was rated at 5% short, 85% adequate, and 10% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated at 5% short, 85% adequate, and 10% surplus. Pasture and range condition was rated at 10% fair, 85% good, and 5% excellent. Temperatures reached highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 30s across the Garden State.

Field corn was harvested for grain and chopped for silage. Soybean harvesting has begun. Farmers continued clean-up of the summer crop season and were planting fall cover crops. The fall vegetable harvest is winding down. Producers have reported some stinkbug damage on peppers. The cranberry harvest continued while the grape harvest was almost complete.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 10/8/12

Temperatures averaged 60 degrees north, 63 degrees central, and 65 degrees south. Extremes were 86 degrees at Downstown on October 4, 2012, and 36 degrees at Belvidere on October 8, 2012.

Weekly rainfall averaged 1.76 inches north, 0.51 inches central, and 0.52 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 2.52 inches at Belvidere on October 2, 2012 to October 3, 2012.

**Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued By Rutgers University- New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Tuesday October 9, 2012**

Rainfall amounts less than a tenth of an inch today, none tonight and early Wednesday. Winds for spraying northeast 5 to 10 mph today and tonight, southwest 5 to 10 mph Wednesday.

Relative humidity in percent 50 to 60 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 50 to 60 Wednesday. Dew points upper 40s to low 50s through Wednesday. Drying conditions fair at best today, fair at best Wednesday. Heavy dew tonight and Wednesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 10 today, 30 Wednesday.

There is a 30 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. Late season hay cutting runs the risk of wetting in showers early today and only slow drying for the next couple of days. Temperatures in the cranberry bogs will remain above freezing tonight and Wednesday night.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period October 16, 2012 to October 22, 2012 is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to average above normal.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, October 8, 2012 ¹

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.....	3.06	33.49		78	36	58				
Canoe Brook	0.58	25.02		79	40	61				
Charlotteburg	2.75	25.74		79	40	60				
Flemington	0.61	28.33		79	38	60				
Newton	1.81	33.35		77	42	60				
Central										
Freehold	0.36	26.14		81	38	63				
Long Branch	0.51	33.67		79	42	63				
New Brunswick.....	0.67	25.46		82	38	62				
Toms River.....	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A				
Trenton.....	0.51	23.66		80	42	63				
South										
Cape May C.H.....	0.68	23.94		79	45	63				
Downstown.....	0.56	21.18		86	43	65				
Hammonton.....	0.56	28.98		84	42	65				
Pomona.....	0.53	27.93		85	43	65				
Seabrook.....	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A				
South Harrison.....	0.27	18.41		82	46	66				

¹ Due to a computer program corruption, only the abbreviated data was available.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR OCTOBER 9, 2012

APPLES	Gala, McIntosh, Courtland, Honeycrisp, Early Fuji, Ginger Gold, Red Delicious, Empire, Jonagold, MacCoun, Golden Delicious & Rome in storage. Stayman/Winesap winding down. Braeburn, Fuji, & Granny Smith harvesting. A late April frost has had spotty and erratic effects upon the volume & quality of product available this year from the entire region. Expect less than normal volume.
ARRUGULA	Harvesting good quality in fair quantity with a flush of Fall product.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality in fair to good quantity.
BASIL & MINT	Likes nights over 50, and with three nights in the 40's expected this week, harvesting good quality in very light to finishing volume.
BEETS	Harvesting good quality product in fair to good volume.
CABBAGE	Harvesting excellent quality product in fair volume.
CILANTRO	A fair volume of good quality product harvesting.
COLLARDS/KALE	A fair to good volume of good quality products harvesting.
CUCUMBERS	Good quality Pickles & Cukes harvesting in fair to decreasing volume.
DANDELIONS	Good quality bunched Spring planted Italian and San Pasquale varieties both harvesting in fair quantity.
DILL	Harvesting very good quality in fair to decreasing volume.
EGGPLANT	Harvesting very good quality product in very light to decreasing supply.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting good quality products in fair volume with the return of cooler weather.
LEEKS	A fair volume of good quality harvesting.
LETTUCES	Growers harvesting their Fall lettuces later than normal because the mid-Summer heat and severe weather discouraged timely planting. Harvesting a light to fair volume of Boston and Red & Green Leaf lettuces; all in good quality. Romaine starting.
PARSLEY	Harvesting a light to increasing volume of good quality curly and plain.
PEPPERS	Harvesting a light to decreasing supply of good quality product. Hot peppers in rare quality due to great growing conditions.
RADISHES & TURNIPS	Harvesting temperature sensitive, good quality, product in fair volume as supply increases with the cooler weather.
SPINACH	A light to fair volume of good quality Fall product now coming in.
SQUASH	Very good quality green, yellow, acorn, butternut, & spaghetti squash harvesting in light to decreasing volume.
SWEET POTATOES	Harvesting and curing a fair to good volume of very good quality potatoes.
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting a fair volume of good quality product due to a flush of Fall product.
TOMATOES	Finishing up.