

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service New Jersey Field Office

Cooperating with New Jersey Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service

U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A.
Rutgers University



NJ-CW2813

New Jersey Weather and Crop Bulletin

July 22, 2013

Much Less Rain, Much Higher Temperatures

Statewide, seven days were suitable for field work, up from six days in the previous week. Topsoil moisture was 26% short, 70% adequate, and 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 13% short, 81% adequate, and 6% surplus. Pasture and range condition was 1% very poor, 3% poor, 9% fair, 51% good, and 36% excellent.

The state received much less rain than the week before, with the central region and much of the northern region receiving very little or no rain. Temperatures were much higher than the previous week, with highs reaching the mid to high 90s throughout the state.

In Monmouth County, a continuing heat wave has caused heat stress, sun scald, poor root growth on many summer crops, including irrigated crops, and tough field working conditions. Mercer County growers worked to minimize heat stress in crops during the high temperatures. Soil moisture in Warren County is short and more rain is needed. In Salem County, there is some irrigation of crops and milk production is down slightly due to heat stress.

In Burlington County, most corn and soybean fields reportedly look good, but these crops sustained damage in low lying areas where puddling occurred during periods of heavy rain. Vegetable growers in Burlington County are spraying fungicide to deal with heavy disease pressure, but some producers in the county could not get into fields because they were still wet.

Strawberry harvesting and pumpkin planting are nearly complete. Tomato, pepper, and eggplant harvesting are well underway. Apple harvesting has begun. About two-thirds of corn has silked/tasseled. Many soybeans are blooming.

Climate Summary for the Week Ending 7/22/13 at 8 AM (Issued by Rutgers University)

Temperatures averaged 82 degrees north, 84 degrees central, and 84 degrees south. Extremes were 99 degrees at Toms River on the 9th and 19th, and 67 degrees at Belvidere Bridge on the 16th. Weekly rainfall averaged 0.10 inches north, 0.03 inches central, and 0.60 inches south. The heaviest 24-hour total reported was 1.07 inches at Cape May Courthouse on the 21st to 22nd.

Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania Issued by Rutgers University - New Brunswick, NJ 8 AM EDT Monday, July 22, 2013

Rainfall Amounts: Tenth of an inch with locally higher amounts this afternoon and evening. Quarter of an inch with locally heavy amounts possible 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. Relative Humidity in Percent: 50 to 60 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 45 to 55 Tuesday. Dew Points: 70 to 75 through Tuesday. Frost Freeze or Dew: Some dew as well as possible wetting in showers tonight and Tuesday night. Percent of Sunshine: 20 today, 20 Tuesday.

Drying Conditions: Fair at best today and Tuesday. Winds for Spraying: East/southeast 5 to 10 mph through Tuesday.

Conditions for cranberry scald will be unfavorable today and Tuesday. Hay cutting is not recommended for the next several days with slow drying and a moderate risk of wetting in scattered showers and thundershowers.

Soil moisture levels are variable with some locations receiving locally heavy rain over the past 48 hours but with other locations receiving nothing.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period July 29th to August 4th is calling for temperatures to average below normal and precipitation to average above normal.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, July 22, 2013 at 8 AM

	Rainfall		Temperatures		
Weather	T Call	Last Week			
Stations	Last	Since March 1	Max.	Min.	Avg.
	Week	Total	Wax.	IVIIII.	Avg.
	Inches	Inches	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees
North					
Belvidere Bridge	0.03	19.27	98	67	81
Canoe Brook	0.06	19.03	98	71	84
Charlotteburg	0.14	17.82	94	68	81
Flemington	0.26	27.85	96	69	82
Newton	0.00	9.37*	97	68	82
Central					
Freehold	0.00	19.55	97	71	84
Long Branch	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Brunswick	0.00	22.04	98	70	84
Toms River	0.06	16.49*	99	70	83
Trenton	0.04	21.33	96	73	84
South					
Cape May C.H.	1.07	20.27	94	70	83
Downstown	0.55	19.96	96	70	83
Hammonton	0.97	21.01	98	71	84
Pomona	0.41	19.86	97	71	84
Seabrook	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Harrison	0.01	20.08	96	73	85

^{*} Some data are missing.

N/A - not available

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR JULY 22, 2013

ARRUGULA	Harvesting a light volume of fair quality product with warming temperatures.		
BABY SPINACH &	Harvesting fair quality in fair volume.		
ARUGULA			
BASIL	Likes warmer weather. Harvesting in fair quality and volume.		
BEETS	Harvesting fair quality product in fair volume.		
BLUEBERRIES	Harvesting very good quality Blue Crop and Elliot berries in fair to quickly		
	decreasing volume. There will be very light commercial volume next week.		
CABBAGE	Harvesting fair quality product in fair volume.		
CILANTRO	Harvesting a very light volume of fair quality product with warming temperatures.		
COLLARDS	Harvesting fair quality and volume.		
CUCUMBERS	Fair quality Pickles and Cukes harvesting in fair volume.		
DANDELIONS	Good quality San Pasquale variety available in fair volume.		
DILL	Harvesting fair quality in very light volume with warming temperatures.		
EGGPLANT	Harvesting fair quality in fair to good volume by the end of the week.		
ESCAROLE &	Harvesting fair quality products in very light volume, finishing up.		
ENDIVE			
KALE	Fair quality product harvesting in light to fair volume.		
LEEKS	A fair volume of good quality product is harvesting.		
MINT	Fair quality product harvesting in fair volume.		
NECTARINES	Starting to harvest Easterglo, the first high quality early yellow, in very light volume		
	with good volume by the end of the month.		
PARSLEY	Harvesting a light volume of fair quality curly and plain product.		
PEACHES	Finishing the early Sentry varieties w/ annual slight supply gap as excellent quality		
	and widely planted Red Haven yellow freestone peaches begin to harvest w/volume		
	in a week. White Lady peaches starting late week with volume by the end of July or		
	early August.		
PEPPERS	Harvesting fair quality in fair to good volume.		
RADISHES	Harvesting fair quality product in very light volume with warming temperatures.		
SPINACH	Harvesting a very light volume of fair quality product with warming temperatures.		
SQUASH	Harvesting fair quality zucchini and yellow in fair volume.		
SWEET CORN	Good volume of fair to good quality corn.		
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting a light to fair volume of fair quality product.		
TOMATOES	Harvesting in fair to increasing volume and fair quality.		
TURNIPS	Harvesting fair quality product in very light volume with warming temperatures.		