

### United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

New Jersey Field Office Cooperating with New Jersey Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service
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Rutgers University



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## **New Jersey Weather and Crop Progress Bulletin**

September 25, 2013

#### Cooler Temperatures; Increased Rain; Harvesting of Fall Crops in Progress

Statewide, seven days were suitable for field work, up one day from the previous week. Topsoil moisture was 19% short, 74% adequate, and 7% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 7% short, 82% adequate, and 11% surplus. Pasture and range condition was 5% poor, 10% fair, 46% good, and 39% excellent.

Average temperatures were 8 degrees lower overall than the previous week and ranged from 57 degrees in Belvidere to 63 degrees in South Harrison. High temperatures ranged from 75 degrees in Long Branch to 82 degrees in New Brunswick. Low temperatures ranged from 38 degrees in Belvidere, Charlotteburg, Flemington, and Downstown to 45 degrees in Long Branch. Rainfall was higher than the previous week and ranged from 0.4 inches in Newton to 2.06 inches in Freehold.

Summer vegetable harvest is nearly complete in Burlington County, and grain harvest has begun in the county. Producers in Mercer County are harvesting fall crops. Warren County farmers are chopping and combining corn and preparing fields for wheat and rye. In Monmouth County, producers are fighting pumpkin diseases and bugs.

Cranberries and broccoli are in good condition. Cucumbers and eggplant are in mostly good condition. Peppers and pumpkins are in mostly fair to good condition. Fresh market tomatoes are in mostly fair condition.

## Climate Summary for the Week Ending 9/23/13 at 8 AM (Issued by Rutgers University)

Temperatures averaged 59 degrees north, 61 degrees central, and 61 degrees south. Extremes were 82 degrees at New Brunswick on the 22nd and 38 degrees at Belvidere, Charlotteburg, and Flemington on the 18th. Weekly rainfall averaged 0.76 inches north, 1.17 inches central, and 0.74 inches south. The heaviest 24-hour total reported was 2.00 inches at Freehold on the 21st to 22nd.

# Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania Issued by Rutgers University - New Brunswick, NJ 8 AM EDT Wednesday, September 25, 2013

**General:** The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period October 2nd to October 8th is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to average above normal.

**Rain:** None through Thursday. There is a near zero 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: 35 to 45 today, 90 to 100 tonight, and 40 to 50 Thursday.

**Dew Points:** 40 to 45 today, upper 40s tonight, and near 50 Thursday.

Frost, Freeze, or Dew: Heavy dew tonight, heavy dew Thursday night.

Percent of Sunshine: 90 today, 90 Thursday.

**Drying Conditions:** Good today, good Thursday.

Winds for Spraying: Northeast then east 5 to 10 mph through Thursday.

**Conditions for Cranberry Scald:** Unfavorable today and Thursday. Temperatures in bogs could drop to 29 to 33 tonight and 32 to 36 Thursday night.

**Hay Cutting:** Good drying for this point of the season with no expected rain and good drying conditions through the week.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, September 23, 2013 at 8 AM

	Rainfall		Temperatures Last Week		
Weather Stations					
	Last	Since March 1	Max.	Min.	Avg.
	Week	Total	Wax.	IVIIII.	Avg.
	Inches	Inches	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees
North					
Belvidere Bridge	0.72	28.92	78	38	57
Canoe Brook	0.76	27.29	80	43	60
Charlotteburg	0.91	25.18	79	38	60
Flemington	1.02	41.78	81	38	59
Newton	0.40	13.89*	78	39	59
Central					
Freehold	2.06	26.87	81	39	60
Long Branch	0.63	36.15	75	45	60
New Brunswick	0.99	30.96	82	40	61
Toms River	0.54	22.22*	78	40	60
Trenton	1.09	29.34	80	41	61
South					
Cape May C.H.	0.62	22.70	79	44	61
Downstown	0.43	26.33*	81	38	62
Hammonton	0.60	28.01	81	40	60
Pomona	0.50	25.12	78	40	60
Seabrook	1.04	33.11	79	40	60
South Harrison	1.24	32.42	79	43	63

<sup>\*</sup> Some data are missing.

## **JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR SEPTEMBER 23, 2013**

APPLES	Gala, McIntosh, Courtland, Honeycrisp, Early Fuji, & Ginger Gold winding down.
/ ·	Red Delicious, Empire, Jonagold, & MacCoun harvesting. Golden Delicious & Rome
	starting next. Cool nights have helped in the development of color in many varieties.
ARRUGULA	Harvesting a light to fair volume of good quality product.
BABY SPINACH	Harvesting very good quality in fair volume.
& ARUGULA	
BASIL	Likes warmer weather so harvesting good quality in fair to decreasing volume.
BEETS	Harvesting good quality product in fair volume.
CABBAGE	Harvesting good quality product in light to fair volume.
CILANTRO	Harvesting fair volume of good quality product with cooler weather returning.
COLLARDS/KALE	Harvesting good quality and light to fair volume with cooler weather.
CUCUMBERS	Good quality Pickles and Cukes harvesting in fair to good volume as supply ramps
	up through the end of the month w/ a flush of Fall product.
DANDELIONS	Good quality San Pasquale variety available in fair volume.
DILL	Harvesting good quality in light to fair volume.
EGGPLANT	Harvesting good quality in fair to good volume.
ESCAROLE &	Harvesting good quality products in fair to good volume with cooler Fall weather
ENDIVE	returning.
LEEKS	Harvesting a fair volume of good quality product.
LETTUCES	Harvesting a light to fair supply of very good quality Boston, Green & Red Leaf.
	Starting to harvest Romaine. All in excellent quality.
MINT	Good quality product harvesting in fair to decreasing volume.
NECTARINES	Finishing.
PARSLEY	Harvesting a light to fair volume of good quality curly and plain product.
PEACHES	Finishing up at roadside markets.
PEPPERS	Harvesting good to very good quality in light to fair and decreasing volume.
RADISHES	Harvesting good quality in light to fair volume with cooler weather returning.
SPINACH	Harvesting in light to increasing volume and good quality.
SQUASH	Harvesting a fair volume of zucchini & butternut & light volume of yellow, all in good
	quality.
SWEET CORN	Harvesting a light to decreasing volume of fair to good quality corn. Expect

	increased quality variation due to the annual cycle of Fall insect pressure.
SWEET	Harvesting good quality, but w/ curing, volume just starting to become available.
POTATOES	
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting good quality in light to fair volume as supply ramps up a bit with cooler
	weather returning.
TOMATOES	Harvesting a fair to decreasing volume & good quality with a flush of Fall product
	through the end of the month.
TURNIPS	Harvesting good quality in light to fair volume with cooler weather returning.
WHITE	Harvesting mainly round white varieties, with some Yukon Gold, Redskin varieties,
POTATOES	and a bit of Russets as well.