



NJ-CW2013

New Jersey Weather and Crop Bulletin

May 28, 2013

Vegetable Transplanting Continued

Days suitable for field work 5.5. Topsoil moisture was 5% short, 80% adequate and 15% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 5% short and 95% adequate. Pasture and range condition was 25% fair, 40% good, and 35% excellent.

Producers continued to plant field corn and soybeans. Frost damage was reported for blueberries and sweet corn. Strawberry harvesting continued. Vegetable transplanting continued. Asparagus, herbs, greens, peas, and lettuces were among the crops that have been harvested. Other activities included tillage work, fertilization, and some hay work. Livestock condition was good and dairy production was average.

Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania Issued By Rutgers University - New Brunswick, NJ 8 am EDT Friday, May 24, 2013

Rainfall amounts one to two tenths of an inch but with locally higher amounts today, tenth of an inch tonight and Saturday. Winds for spraying north/northwest 10 to 20 mph today through Saturday. Relative humidity in percent 70 to 80 today, near 100 tonight, 50 to 60 Saturday. Dew points falling from near 60 this morning to near 40 by later Saturday.

Drying conditions generally poor today, poor Saturday morning but turning fair by afternoon. Little dew but wetting in showers tonight, light dew Saturday night. Percent of sunshine less than 10 today 30 Saturday.

There is an 80 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. Temperatures in the representative cranberry bogs will remain above freezing tonight but could drop to 28 to 32 Saturday night and 25 to 29 Sunday night if skies clear and winds subside.

Hay cutting is not recommended for the next couple of days with slow drying conditions and scattered showers. Drier air should move into the region starting Sunday.

Soil moisture levels have increased at most locations and could increase additionally today.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period May 31, 2013, to June 6, 2013 is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to average near normal.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR MAY 28, 2013

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Arugula | Harvesting a fair to good & slowly increasing volume of very good quality product. |
| Asparagus | Harvesting a fair to good volume of very good quality product. Warming weather this week will encourage product to "bolt". Start to expect the color and volume to fade. |
| Baby Spinach & Arugula | Harvesting in fair to good volume. |
| Beets | Harvesting in fair to slowly increasing volume. |
| Cilantro | Harvesting a fair to slowly increasing volume of good quality Spring planted product. |
| Collards | Harvesting in fair to slowly increasing volume. |
| Dandelions | Good quality San Pasquale variety available in fair to good volume. |
| Dill | Harvesting in fair to slowly increasing volume. |
| Escarole & Endive | Harvesting in light to fair and slowly increasing volume. |
| Kale | Good quality product harvesting in fair to increasing volume. |
| Leeks | A good volume of good quality over-wintered product is harvesting. |
| Lettuce | Harvesting a fair to increasing volume of Boston & Red & Green Leaf. Romaine harvesting in light to fair volume. |
| Mint | Very good quality harvesting in fair to slowly increasing volume. |
| Parsley | Harvesting a good volume of good quality curly and plain product. |
| Radishes | Harvesting good quality product in fair to good volume. |
| Spinach | Harvesting a fair to good volume of good quality curly and plain product. |
| Squash | Harvesting tunnel started zucchini in very light volume. Field grown zucchini and yellow squash both starting to become available next week. |
| Strawberries | Harvesting excellent quality Chandler variety berries in fair to good volume. The bulk of the crop harvesting this week and next, with lower volumes to continue into early June. Significant rainfall on ripe fruit and/or the warm weather we're expecting later this week can hasten the demise of the season. |
| Swiss Chard | Harvesting a fair to good volume of very good quality product. |
| Turnips | Harvest of very good quality product starting in very light volume. |

Jersey Fresh Forecast

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Basil | Likes warmer weather. Should be ready by mid-June. |
| Blueberries | Minor quantities of early varieties like Weymouth starting in mid-June. The much more widely planted Duke variety will start 3-4 days later, with volume available a week after that. |
| Cabbage | Harvest should begin in mid-June. |
| Cucumbers | Pickles should begin next week, followed by cukes in a week to ten days later. |