



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
Jersey



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending September 17, 2017

Issued weekly on the internet, April - November
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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Released September 18, 2017

Excellent Week for Field Work: New Jersey had an average of 6.5 days suitable for field work. Temperatures were slightly warmer, reaching the mid-80's in most areas of New Jersey. Lows remained in the 40's and low 50's. All stations reported rainfall, which continues to keep the topsoil and subsoil moisture at mostly adequate levels throughout the state.

A few crops are still being planted: cilantro, spinach, leeks, kale, lettuce, parsley, radishes, fennel and winter wheat. For most crops, though, harvest season is here. The following crops are being harvested: Arugula, beets, snap beans, cilantro, cabbage, collards, sweet corn, cucumbers, summer dandelion, dill, eggplant, escarole, endive, kohlrabi, kale, leeks, pumpkins, lettuce, parsley, peppers, radishes, summer squash, winter squash, Swiss chard, scallions, spinach, tomatoes, and sweet potatoes. Peach and nectarine season is almost over and reports state that the peach and apple crop have been extremely good.

The lack of growing degree days is keeping soybeans and corn high in moisture. There are also reports that more precipitation fell in the last few weeks than was needed for the wine grape crop, which has caused growers to be on top of the spray covers. The rain can result in harvest delays in the grape harvest as rain events cause a temporary reduction in the soluble solids and an increase in titratable acidity. Precipitation is also hampering hay-making in parts of the state.

Crop Conditions as of September 17, 2017

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	0	0	22	55	23
BELL PEPPERS	2	7	19	60	12
CORN	0	2	7	45	46
HAY, ALFALFA	0	3	11	83	3
HAY, OTHER	0	2	25	69	4
PASTURE AND RANGE	0	0	8	76	16
SOYBEANS	0	3	14	55	28

Crop Progress as of September 17, 2017

(in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
APPLES: HARVESTED	25	19	N/A	N/A
CORN: DOUGH	98	91	82	N/A
CORN: DENTED	75	58	75	64
CORN: MATURE	32	21	N/A	N/A
HAY, ALFALFA: THIRD CUTTING	70	63	82	68
HAY, OTHER: THIRD CUTTING	49	40	68	43
SOYBEANS: SETTING PODS	99	89	99	N/A
SOYBEANS: FULLY PODDED	86	75	88	N/A
SOYBEANS: COLORING	37	0	31	N/A
PEACHES: HARVESTED	99	94	N/A	N/A
WINTER WHEAT: PLANTED	20	19	N/A	N/A
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	90	86	76	77
BELL PEPPERS: HARVESTED	87	73	N/A	N/A
TOMATOES: HARVESTED	91	82	N/A	N/A

Soil Moisture for Week Ending September 17, 2017

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	2	9	89	0
SUBSOIL	0	2	91	7

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/occe/weather and click on "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin."

September 17, 2017 New Jersey Weekly Weather Summary

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2017					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Andover	84	43	66	+4	0.12	3	24.41	+0.00	73	2487	+204	4122
Belvidere_Bridg	83	43	64	0	0.18	2	25.90	+3.02	68	2463	+41	4094
Cape_May	87	51	72	+3	0.47	1	28.37	+9.48	65	3285	+354	4979
Estell_Manor	85	48	69	+2	0.06	1	32.23	+12.82	58	3133	+309	4803
Flemington	86	45	66	+2	0.22	1	26.29	+1.91	68	2732	+163	4385
Freehold_Marlbo	85	47	69	+3	0.04	1	24.00	+1.80	70	2953	+178	4621
Hammonton	85	49	69	+2	0.09	1	29.53	+7.52	61	3106	+145	4783
Manasquan	82	51	68	+2	0.08	2	23.74	+1.54	68	2800	+25	4472
Marlton	86	47	68	+1	0.05	1	24.84	+1.65	66	2999	+30	4672
Millville	86	51	71	+3	0.05	1	32.00	+11.39	52	3202	+179	4869
Mt_Holly_NWS	83	47	67	0	0.13	1	21.52	-2.14	63	2903	+6	4567
Newark	84	53	71	+3	0.17	1	27.54	+4.83	67	3169	+29	4840
New_Brunswick	84	46	69	+3	0.20	1	28.34	+3.98	66	2996	+208	4664
Pennsauken	84	49	68	-1	0.02	1	25.35	+2.05	61	3042	-115	4710
Upper_Deerfield	87	51	70	+2	0.02	1	28.57	+6.99	59	3171	+123	4845
Sussex_2NW	87	42	66	+4	0.31	3	25.15	+0.81	72	2345	+91	3964
Trenton - Merce	84	50	70	+4	0.33	2	23.53	-1.00	64	3039	+335	4707

Summary based on NWS preliminary data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
 Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
 Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Reporters Comments, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

Cumberland County, Dr. Wesley L. Kline

The following crops are being planted: cilantro, spinach, leeks, kale, lettuce, parsley, radishes and fennel. The following crops are being harvested: arugula, beets, snap beans, cilantro, cabbage, collards, sweet corn, cucumbers, summer dandelion, dill, eggplant, escarole, endive, kohlrabi, kale, leeks, pumpkins, lettuce, parsley, peppers, radishes, summer squash, winter squash, Swiss chard, scallions, spinach, tomatoes, sweet potatoes and apples.

Gloucester County, Dr. Hemant Gohil

Peach and nectarine season is almost over. More precipitation last few weeks than needed, has caused wine grape growers to be on the top of the spray covers. It has also caused harvest delays as rain events cause temporary reduction in the soluble solids (sugars) and increase in titratable acidity.

Warren County, Debra Crisman

Frequent showers hampers hay making. Lack of degree days keeps soybeans and corn high in moisture. Tremendous peach and apple crop!

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JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

APPLES	Gala, Honeycrisp, & Ginger Gold harvested & in storage. Harvesting McIntosh, Cortland, Fuji, Red & Golden Delicious, Empire, MacCoun, & Jonagold. Cool nights would help to develop color in many varieties.
ARUGULA	Harvesting good quality product in fair to increasing volume as the weather cools.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality products in fair to good volume.
BASIL	Likes warmth so cool nights are slowing production. Harvesting good quality product in light to decreasing volume.
BEETS	Harvesting a good volume of very good quality products.
CABBAGE	Harvesting a good volume of good quality green, savoy, & red.
CILANTRO	Harvesting good quality product in fair to increasing volume as the weather cools.
COLLARDS	Harvesting a good volume of very good quality products.
CRANBERRIES	Harvest starting for the larger growers. Smaller growers will wait a week or more to develop maturity and sugar levels. Like apples, cool nights would help to develop color.
CUCUMBERS	Very good quality pickles and cukes harvesting in fair volume.
DANDELIONS	Good quality and quantity of product is available.
EGGPLANT	Harvesting a fair to decreasing volume of very good quality field grown product.
DILL	Harvesting good quality in fair to increasing volume as the weather cools.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting a fair to increasing volume with the cooler Fall weather returning.
KALE	Very good quality product harvesting in good volume.
LEEKS	A fair to good volume of good quality product is available.
MINT	Harvesting very good quality in fair to light & decreasing volume.
PARSLEY	Harvesting good quality curly and plain product in fair volume.
PEACHES	Finishing up.
PEPPERS	Harvesting a fair to decreasing volume of very good quality product.
RADISHES	Harvesting good quality product in fair to increasing volume as the weather cools.
SPINACH	Harvesting a light to fair & increasing volume of good quality product as the weather cools.
SQUASH	Harvesting a fair to light & decreasing volume of very good quality Summer squashes. Hard squashes like butternut and acorn, are in good volume
SWEET CORN	A fair to decreasing volume of mostly good quality product. Quality will vary a bit now as seasonal insect pressures mount.
SWEET POTATOES	Harvesting a fair to increasing volume of very good quality product.
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting good quality products in fair to good volume.
TOMATOES	A fair to decreasing volume of good quality product available. It's been a later and shorter season than normal.
TURNIPS	Harvesting good quality product in fair to increasing volume as the weather cools.
WHITE POTATOES	Harvesting a good volume of mainly round white & red varieties. Also harvesting yellow fleshed varieties and Russets in fair to good volume. Source your N.J. potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

LETTUCES	Growers won't start harvesting their Fall lettuces for another week or so, later than normal, because the mid-Summer heat discouraged early planting. Subsequent germination issues also portend a smaller crop than normal.
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