



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
Jersey



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending April 29, 2018

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

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Good Week for Field Work: New Jersey had an average of 5.5 days suitable for field work. Temperatures still continue to be an issue, but this past week conditions have improved. Temperatures in the high 60's and low 70's were closer to normal for the spring season. Lows were still reaching down to below freezing in a few areas, but most low temperatures finally stayed above freezing. All stations reported rain.

Growers are still behind in planting. In some parts of New Jersey, soggy fields and cold soils have set back field crop progress 2 to 4 weeks. Field work is now beginning to take place. Annual crops are in field preparation stages and farmers are amending soil. Perennial crops (fruit, nursery, Christmas trees) are getting fungicidal sprays.

High tunnel crops are being harvested and include: beets, dill, lettuce, kohlrabi, mint, mustard greens, spinach, Swiss chard, and scallions. The following crops are being harvested outside: asparagus, spinach, kale, and leeks. The following crops are being seeded or transplanted: arugula, beets, cilantro, cabbage, collards, sweet corn, summer dandelion, dill, kohlrabi, kale, leeks, lettuce, mustard greens, parsley, peas, Swiss chard, and scallions.

Fruit crops are entering bloom. There are reports of some twig damage from winter conditions on fruit trees. Retail demand in the nursery industry had been slowed by the cool spring. One small example of the impact of this too cool spring was a grower giving away free pansies. They are busy now making up for this previous slowness.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 29, 2018

(in percent)

| Item | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| TOPSOIL | 0 | 1 | 88 | 11 |
| SUBSOIL | 0 | 0 | 88 | 12 |

Crop Conditions as of April 29, 2018

(in percent)

| Item | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-------------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| HAY, ALFALFA | 0 | 3 | 41 | 53 | 3 |
| HAY, OTHER | 0 | 1 | 23 | 67 | 9 |
| PASTURE AND RANGE | 0 | 1 | 34 | 60 | 5 |
| WINTER WHEAT | 0 | 2 | 17 | 77 | 4 |

Crop Progress as of April 29, 2018

(in percent)

| Item | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 Year Avg. |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| APPLES: GREEN TIP | 58 | 55 | 86 | N/A |
| APPLES: PINK | 6 | <5 | 55 | 34 |
| WINTER WHEAT: BREAKING DORMANCY | 84 | 70 | N/A | N/A |
| BLUEBERRIES, TAME: GREEN TIP | 6 | 5 | N/A | N/A |

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oc/weather and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin.](#)"

April 29, 2018 New Jersey Weekly Weather Summary

| Station | Last Week Weather Summary | | | | | | Accumulation Since April 1, 2018 | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|----|-----|-----|---------------|------|----------------------------------|-------|------|--------------|-----|----------|
| | Temperature | | | | Precipitation | | Precipitation | | | GDD Base 50F | | Base 40F |
| | Hi | Lo | Avg | DFN | Total | Days | Total | DFN | Days | Total | DFN | Total |
| ANDOVER AEROFLE | 68 | 34 | 53 | -1 | 1.05 | 5 | 3.79 | -0.70 | 14 | 53 | -41 | 202 |
| BELVIDERE BRIDG | 71 | 30 | 52 | -1 | 1.43 | 4 | 5.12 | +1.31 | 14 | 46 | -34 | 164 |
| CAPE MAY 2 NW | 69 | 35 | 55 | -1 | 1.21 | 4 | 3.27 | -0.16 | 11 | 78 | -34 | 290 |
| ESTELL MANOR | 74 | 32 | 56 | +1 | 1.38 | 5 | 3.75 | -0.16 | 13 | 96 | -36 | 288 |
| FLEMINGTON 5 NN | 75 | 32 | 54 | 0 | 1.06 | 5 | 4.67 | +0.51 | 14 | 61 | -35 | 207 |
| FREEHOLD-MARLBO | 73 | 34 | 55 | 0 | 1.04 | 5 | 4.91 | +0.84 | 13 | 82 | -45 | 256 |
| HAMMONTON 1 NE | 74 | 34 | 56 | +1 | 1.11 | 3 | 3.37 | -0.72 | 11 | 93 | -32 | 288 |
| MANASQUAN | 69 | 37 | 53 | -1 | 0.80 | 5 | 3.54 | -0.41 | 16 | 50 | -45 | 217 |
| MILLVILLE MUNIC | 72 | 31 | 55 | 0 | 1.16 | 5 | 2.83 | -0.83 | 12 | 114 | -4 | 310 |
| MT HOLLY WFO | 76 | 34 | 57 | +1 | 0.74 | 4 | 3.74 | -1.11 | 12 | 85 | -55 | 255 |
| NEW BRUNSWICK 3 | 68 | 34 | 54 | 0 | 0.70 | 4 | 4.66 | +0.56 | 15 | 68 | -36 | 228 |
| NEWARK LIBERTY | 69 | 41 | 56 | -1 | 1.52 | 6 | 6.43 | +2.35 | 15 | 97 | -39 | 308 |
| PENNSAUKEN 1N | 76 | 36 | 56 | -1 | 0.91 | 5 | 3.91 | +0.03 | 13 | 85 | -69 | 264 |
| SEABROOK FARMS | 72 | 31 | 55 | -2 | 0.84 | 4 | 3.88 | +0.01 | 10 | 83 | -64 | 272 |
| SUSSEX 3 WNW | 72 | 29 | 52 | 0 | 0.95 | 4 | 3.98 | -0.38 | 14 | 34 | -32 | 146 |
| TRENTON MERCER | 74 | 38 | 56 | +1 | 0.96 | 6 | 4.21 | +0.76 | 17 | 98 | -12 | 287 |

Summary based on NOAA Regional Climate Centers (RCCs) data. DFN = departure from normal.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. Climate normals used are for the 1981-2010 period.

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.

Cape May County, Jenny Carleo, Ag Agent - Fruit crops are entering bloom. Perennial crops (fruit, nursery, Christmas trees) getting fungicidal sprays. Annual crops in field prep and amending soil.

Cumberland County, Dr. Wesley L. Kline - Temperatures still continue to be an issue. This past week conditions have improved, but growers are still behind in planting. Greenhouse tomato harvest is well underway. High tunnel crops being harvested include: beets, dill, lettuce, kohlrabi, mint, mustard greens, spinach, Swiss chard, and scallions. The following crops are being

harvested outside: asparagus, spinach, kale and leeks. The following crops are being seeded or transplanted: arugula, beets, cilantro, cabbage, collards, sweet corn, summer dandelion, dill, kohlrabi, kale, leeks, lettuce, mustard greens, parsley, peas, Swiss chard and scallions.

Monmouth County, Bill Sciarappa - Some twig damage from winter conditions on fruit trees. Soggy fields, cold soil temps are setting back field crop progress 2-4 weeks.



The banner features a central illustration of a farm scene with a red barn, rolling green hills, and a person working in a field. To the left, the text reads '2017 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE' in large white letters, with the tagline 'YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR OPPORTUNITY.' below it. The USDA logo and 'United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service' are also present. To the right, a dark brown background contains the text: 'There's Still Time to Be Counted. Respond Today!', 'Respond Online. www.agcounts.usda.gov', 'For assistance completing the census, call toll-free (888) 424-7828.', and 'www.agcensus.usda.gov'.