



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New  
Jersey



# Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending September 16, 2018

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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Released September 17, 2018

**Excellent Week for Field Work:** New Jersey had an average of 6 days suitable for field work. Another cool rainy period seems to be replacing the very hot, wet summer weather of previous weeks. Temperatures across the state were lower, with highs mainly in the low 80's. Low temperatures were mainly below 70 with a few counties dropping into the 40's. The rain has been scattered, ranging from under an inch to over five inches.

The following crops are being harvested: field corn, hay, arugula, snap beans, beets, basil, cilantro, cabbage, cantaloupe, collards, sweet corn, cucumbers, summer dandelion, dill, eggplant, kale, leeks, pumpkins, parsley, lettuce, peppers, radish, summer squash, winter squash, Swiss chard, scallions, spinach, tomatoes, turnips, sweet potatoes, white potatoes, peaches and apples. The following crops are being planted: overwinter leeks, cover crops, scallions and kale.

It has been difficult for growers to get fall planting finished. Growers are hoping for an Indian Summer to finish the season better. Reports are coming in of the rains causing spotty stands for many crops, and in Monmouth County, reports of stinkbugs and squash bugs are escalating.

Per the Rutgers's Plant and Pest Advisory, "Corn earworm catches have decreased somewhat over the past week... This is likely due to cooler night time temperatures. We would expect numbers to rebound somewhat with a warming trend, and possibly increase significantly, depending on the trajectory of the tropical system now approaching the lower mid-Atlantic coast". Northern corn leaf blight remains a significant threat to late sweet corn. It attacks older tissue first, but can move further up the plant when conditions are wet. Downy mildew has been found on pumpkins and other cucurbit crops throughout New Jersey, and heavy dews will increase the spread in currently infected fields.

Peach growers are reporting good news as their harvest season is extended this year. "We have the best flavor and size in our late peaches," said Santo John Maccherone, chair of the New Jersey Peach Promotion Council. "Peaches only produce sugar on the tree, so the longer they hang there, the more sugar they develop."

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending September 16, 2018

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	0	40	60
SUBSOIL	0	0	70	30

## Crop Conditions as of September 16, 2018

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	0	0	87	9	4
CORN	12	20	36	32	0
HAY, OTHER	0	4	62	32	2
PASTURE AND RANGE	0	8	47	43	2
SOYBEANS	3	12	33	49	3

## Crop Progress as of September 16, 2018

(in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
CORN: MILK	100	93	99	99
CORN: DOUGH	80	65	97	94
CORN: DENTED	28	14	73	76
HAY, ALFALFA: THIRD CUTTING	48	36	69	77
HAY, OTHER: THIRD CUTTING	20	12	48	53
SOYBEANS: SETTING PODS	84	71	98	N/A
SOYBEANS: FULLY PODDED	51	24	84	N/A
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	93	84	89	80
BELL PEPPERS: HARVESTED	94	86	85	81
TOMATOES: HARVESTED	94	84	90	N/A

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

## September 16, 2018 New Jersey Weekly Weather Summary

*Notice please be advised, the Weekly Crop Progress and Condition Report's Weather Data Tables may be discontinued for budget reasons. This includes the possibility of discontinuing the weather data narratives and graphics Please contact your local NASS Regional Field Office with comments or compliments regarding this issue. The Weekly Crop Progress and Condition Report's Crop Progress and Condition data will remain and be available.*

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	85	50	68	+4	1.70	3	31.11	+7.91	82	2781	+278	4294
BELVIDERE BRIDG	80	49	65	0	1.92	4	30.93	+7.98	73	2623	+44	4071
CAPE MAY 2 NW	86	62	74	+4	0.43	4	23.46	+4.11	58	3240	+207	4791
ESTELL MANOR	87	60	71	+4	2.42	5	28.67	+6.64	68	3343	+418	4934
FLEMINGTON 5 NN	80	52	66	0	1.79	6	32.74	+8.20	78	2996	+323	4540
FREEHOLD-MARLBO	81	45	67	-1	2.08	5	27.67	+4.66	80	3245	+315	4817
HAMMONTON 1 NE	81	58	69	+1	5.26	6	27.31	+4.97	75	3320	+284	4915
MANASQUAN	78	60	69	+2	5.15	5	37.19	+14.34	68	2881	+125	4398
MILLVILLE MUNIC	84	60	73	+5	0.53	4	29.15	+9.43	84	3312	+381	4909
MT HOLLY WFO	81	55	68	0	1.50	4	27.47	-2.59	69	3139	+89	4677
NEW BRUNSWICK 3	82	52	68	0	2.20	5	25.19	+0.90	73	3132	+252	4669
NEWARK LIBERTY	84	55	71	+1	1.45	5	28.54	+5.87	88	3479	+286	5089
PENNSAUKEN 1N	83	54	68	-1	2.03	5	28.90	+4.80	69	3253	+122	4830
SEABROOK FARMS	84	58	71	+1	3.38	5	25.41	+3.19	51	2969	-216	4421
SUSSEX 3 WNW	83	50	65	+2	2.12	6	30.40	+6.38	75	2654	+358	4120
TRENTON MERCER	86	53	71	+3	0.42	3	29.96	+6.53	81	3348	+426	4937

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.*

**Monmouth County, Bill Sciarappa** - Another cool rainy period is replacing the last of summer. Growers really need an Indian Summer to finish the season better. Stinkbugs and squash bugs are escalating.

**Cumberland County, Dr. Wesley L. Kline** - We went from the very dry period to very wet over the last few weeks. The rain has been scattered from some areas receiving an inch or less with other getting 2 or 3 inches at a time. It has been difficult for growers to get fall planting finished. With the rains there are spotty stands for many crops.



The following crops are being harvested: field corn, hay, arugula, snap beans, beets, basil, cilantro, cabbage, cantaloupe, collards, sweet corn, cucumbers, summer dandelion, dill, eggplant, kale, leeks, pumpkins, parsley, lettuce, peppers, radish, summer squash, winter squash, Swiss chard, scallions, spinach, tomatoes, turnips, sweet potatoes, white potatoes, peaches and apples.

The following crops are being harvested: overwinter leeks, cover crops, scallions and kale.


September 17, 2018

## CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

	APPLES	Harvesting Ginger Gold, Gala, Honeycrisp, MacIntosh, Jonamac, Fuji, Red & Golden Delicious, Empire, Macoun & Cortland. The cooler nights are helping to develop color in many varieties.
	ARUGULA	Harvesting good quality product in fair to good volume as seasonal warmth cools.
	BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality products in good volume.
	BASIL	Likes warmth so cool nights are slowing production. Harvesting good quality product in light to decreasing volume.
	BEETS	Harvesting a fair volume of very good quality product.
	CABBAGE	Harvesting a good volume of good quality green, savoy, & red.
	CILANTRO	Harvesting good quality product in fair to good volume as seasonal warmth cools.
	COLLARDS	Harvesting a good volume of very good quality product.
	CUCUMBERS	Harvesting mostly good quality pickles and cukes in fair volume as seasonal warmth cools.
	DANDELIONS	Good quality bunched product harvesting in fair volume.
	DILL	Harvesting a fair volume of very good quality product as seasonal warmth cools.
	EGGPLANT	Harvesting a fair to decreasing volume of good quality product.
	ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting a light to increasing volume of good quality products as seasonal warmth cools.
	KALE	Good quality product harvesting in good volume.
	LEEKS	A fair to good volume of good quality product is available.
	LETTUCES	Growers starting to harvest their Fall lettuces, a little later than normal. The mid-Summer heat, followed by weeks of rainy weather, caused pollination & germination issues which will result in a smaller crop than normal. Less Spring demand for Romaine also lessened Fall plantings.
	MINT	Likes warmth so harvesting very good quality in light to decreasing volume.

	NECTARINES	Finishing up excellent quality Fantasia variety w/ full color and good size.
	PARSLEY	Good quality curly & plain product harvesting in fair to good volume.
	PEACHES	Harvesting excellent quality yellow in light to decreasing volume w/ white varieties finishing up in South Jersey.
	PEPPERS	Harvesting mostly good quality product in fair to decreasing volume.
	RADISHES	Harvesting good quality product in fair volume as seasonal warmth cools.
	SPINACH	Harvesting a light to fair volume of good quality product as seasonal warmth cools.
	SQUASH	Harvesting a light to decreasing volume of good quality zucchini & yellow squash. Hard squashes like butternut and acorn, are in good volume
	SWEET CORN	Harvesting mostly good quality in fair to decreasing volume. Quality will vary a bit now as seasonal insect pressures mount.
	SWEET POTATOES	Harvesting good quality potatoes in good volume.
	SWISS CHARD	Harvesting very good quality product in fair to good volume.
	TOMATOES	Harvesting mostly good quality in fair to decreasing volume.
	TURNIPS	Harvesting good quality in fair volume as seasonal warmth cools.
	WHITE POTATOES	Harvesting excellent quality round white, red, yellow, & Russet varieties in good volume. Source your N.J. potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags.

## FORECAST

	CRANBERRIES	Harvest starting in a few weeks. Like apples, the cooler nights are helping to develop color.
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