

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service





Crop Progress & Condition

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www.nass.usda.gov/nj Week ending March 31, 2019 Issued weekly on the internet, April - November by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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Excellent Week for Field Work: New Jersey had an average of 6 days suitable for field work. Reports show the season starting off with topsoil and subsoil at adequate or surplus levels across the state, though there are reports of soil temperatures being lower than average for the end of March.

Early season planting of vegetables and herbs are well underway. Cilantro, parsley, radishes and lettuces have been and are being seeded. Transplants of lettuces, beets and leeks are being set. Early tomatoes, eggplant and peppers are growing in greenhouses. Field crop ground is being prepared with some early field corn seeded. White potatoes are being planted. Winter wheat is mostly reported to be in fair to good condition.

Peach, nectarine and plums are in bud swell stage, with expected full bloom in couple of weeks. Wine grapes are still in pre-bud swell stage. Pruning is almost done in these crops.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending March 31, 2019 (in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	0	95	5
SUBSOIL	0	0	80	20

Crop Conditions as of March 31, 2019 (in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
PASTURE AND RANGE	0	0	77	21	2
WINTER WHEAT	1	3	45	50	1

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 - Early season planting of vegetables and herbs are well underway. Cilantro, parsley, radishes and lettuces have been and are being seeded. Transplants of lettuces, beets and leeks are being set. Early tomatoes, eggplant and peppers are growing in greenhouses. Field crop ground is being prepared with some early field corn seeded. White potatoes are being planted.

Gloucester County, Dr. Hemant Gohil - Plenty of moisture in the ground. Peach, nectarine and plums are in bud swell stage. Expected full bloom in couple of weeks. Wine grapes are still in pre bud swell stage. Pruning is almost done in these crops. Monmouth County, Bill Sciarappa - Mostly a mild winter with little snow or snowmelt. Only a polar vortex led to a week of bitter cold. Soil temps remain lower than normal.