



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
Jersey



Crop Progress & Condition

Bruce Eklund, State Statistician

P.O. Box 330, Trenton, NJ 08625

Phone: 503-308-0404

Fax: 609-633-9231

www.nass.usda.gov/nj

Week ending April 14, 2019

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

nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov

Released April 15, 2019

Excellent Week for Field Work: New Jersey had an average of 6 days suitable for field work last week.

Some locations experienced rain that was needed and not in excess. New Jersey experienced cooler and wet weather, with a few days of temperatures in the 70s. Soil temperatures were almost up to 50 degrees. Weather conditions during the past week have been ideal for planting.

Growers were actively planting and transplanting early vegetables and herbs, including: arugula, parsley, dill, cilantro, radishes, beets, cabbage, collards, sweet corn, kale, lettuces, kohlrabi, peas, white potatoes, Swiss chard and scallions. The harvesting of the following crops was taking place: overwinter leeks, spinach, asparagus (just started) and dandelion. Early tomatoes in high tunnels were flowering and greenhouse tomatoes were being harvested or about to be harvested.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 14, 2019

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	1	4	70	25
SUBSOIL	0	0	71	29

Crop Conditions as of April 14, 2019

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
PASTURE AND RANGE	0	1	51	45	3
WINTER WHEAT	2	10	27	59	2

Crop Progress as of April 14, 2019

(in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
APPLES: GREEN TIP	56	33	N/A	N/A
PEACHES: GREEN TIP	39	<5	N/A	N/A
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: GREEN TIP	5	<5	N/A	N/A
WINTER WHEAT: BREAKING DORMANCY	45	N/A	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.](#)"

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.

Atlantic County, Richard Vanvranken - Still actively planting/transplanting spring greens and early veg/herbs. Protecting against wind and cool temps. Earliest harvest of dandelion and broccoli rabe underway, along with a few other overwintered crops.

Cumberland County, Dr. Wesley L. Kline - Weather conditions have been ideal for planting. Rain over the last day was needed and was not excess. Harvesting of the following crops are taking place: overwinter leeks, spinach, asparagus (just started) and dandelion. Early tomatoes in high tunnels are flowering and greenhouse tomatoes are being harvested or about to be harvested. The following crops are being planted: arugula, parsley, dill cilantro, radishes, beets, cabbage, collards, sweet corn, kale, lettuces, kohlrabi, peas, white potatoes, Swiss chard and scallions.

Monmouth County, Bill Sciarappa - Cool/cold and wet weather broken by a few 70° F days. Some early crabapple and most forsythia/crocus bloom. Grass green-up. Soil almost 50° F. Tree pollen burst.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR APRIL 15, 2019

ASPARAGUS	Starting to harvest a very light to increasing quantity of good quality product. Volume will increase with continued warming weather and increasing soil temperatures. This week's warm overnights will help.
CILANTRO	Harvesting a fair to increasing volume of good quality over-wintered product. Spring planted should become available by early May.
DANDELIONS	Harvesting a good quantity of good quality over-wintered bunched product. Spring planted should be available by early May.
SPINACH	Harvesting a fair to increasing volume of good quality over-wintered product. Spring planted should become available by early May.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

ARUGULA	Harvest should start next week in light volume which should pick up each week.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvest should start in two or three weeks.
BEETS	Finishing up transplanting. Harvest should begin in mid-May.
CABBAGE	Finishing up transplanting. Harvest should begin mid-May.
COLLARDS	Harvest should begin in mid-May.
DILL	Harvest should start in several weeks in light quantity. Volume should pick up each week after that.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Should begin harvesting in mid-May. Warm weather will hasten.
KALE	Good quality over-wintered product should become available next week w/ volume picking up each week.
LEEKS	Greening up now. A light volume of good quality over-wintered product should be available next week.
LETTUCE	Harvest of Boston should begin in two or three weeks, depending on the weather. Red & Green Leaf will follow in mid-May, with Romaine a week later.
MINT	Harvest should start late next week. Volume should pick up each week after that.
PARSLEY	Good quality over-wintered curly and plain product should become available next week. Spring planted should be available by mid-May.
RADISHES	Harvest should start next week. Volume will pick up each week.
STRAWBERRIES	Early harvests of Chandler variety berries are expected to begin in mid-May, while the bulk of the crop will be harvested in late May or early June, with lower volumes to continue for a week or two depending on the warmth of temperatures.
SWISS CHARD	Harvest of good quality product should start in two weeks. Volume should pick up each week after that.
TURNIPS	Should begin harvesting around the end of May.