



WEATHER AND CROPS

USDA, Agricultural Statistics Service, NY Field Office, N.Y. Dept. of Agriculture and Markets, Division of Statistics
Cooperating with
U.S. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA National Weather Service and Cornell Cooperative Extension

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Week Ending, July 30, 2006

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WEATHER: The week started out mainly dry with near seasonal temperatures Sunday and Monday as high pressure took residence across the area. However by Tuesday a trough of low pressure brought showers and thunderstorms to portions of central and western New York with locally heavy rainfall. Scattered showers and thunderstorms affected the state Wednesday with temperatures and humidity levels increasing as well. Another trough of low pressure brought more showers and thunderstorms late Thursday into Friday. The heaviest rain fell across western New York. A cold front sparked yet another round of showers and thunderstorms across portions of the state on Saturday. Some of the thunderstorms were severe and produced more locally heavy rainfall. The warm and humid conditions persisted through Saturday.

CROPS: Rain showers and wet weather prevailed. Weather conditions provided 4.6 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent very short, 3 percent short, 68 percent adequate and 27 percent surplus. Hay was rated 18 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Corn was rated 8 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 29 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 5 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 55 percent good and 29 percent excellent. Alfalfa second cutting was 67 percent harvested compared to 74 percent a year ago. Alfalfa third cutting was 14 percent harvested compared to 19 percent a year ago. Clover Timothy second cutting was 48 percent harvested compared to 57 percent last year. Clover Timothy third cutting was 10 percent complete, the same as last year. Oats for grain was 35 percent harvested compared to 27 percent the previous year. Potatoes were 15 percent harvested compared to 8 percent a year earlier. Winter Wheat was 58 percent harvested compared to 54 percent last year. Following are comments from reporters across the state: In St. Lawrence County, there was rain and lots of new seedings instead of the corn acres. In Franklin County, the corn crop was variable. Many producers were working on second cut hay/haylage. Rain every other day was making it a challenge to make dry hay. In Ontario County, rain showers off and on played havoc with the hay harvest. Some severe storms blew through, but most crops held up. The exception was the oats that were knocked to the ground in addition to the rain that delayed harvest. The soybean and corn crops looked good so far. In Wayne County, there was more locally heavy rain. Potatoes were under water again. Large areas of potatoes were dying. Corn and Soybeans in poorer drained land and low pockets in fields were very yellow or destroyed. In Cortland County, there was more rain and flooding that finished off some corn fields. Corn on higher ground looked excellent- most all were at the tassel and silk stages. Barley harvest started. First cutting hay was still standing- fields were too wet to get on without causing damage or the rain would not stop long enough to get it down. In Herkimer County, heavy rains kept frustrating producers. In Madison County, more heavy rain added to the woe of producers. In Albany County, corn showed marked improvement. Much of the corn had now tasseled. Haying remained tough with the storms showing up at the end of the week. In Fulton and Montgomery Counties, crops were growing; however they were uneven due to wet spots in the fields. Haying operations were moving along. In Steuben County, locally heavy thunderstorms made it difficult to get dry hay. Any first cutting left was of poor quality. Second cutting was in full bloom. Third cutting alfalfa was growing rapidly. Most corn looked very good and much of it was earing up nicely. In Delaware County, some dry hay was made despite the showers. Second cutting was lush due to the rainfall and warm weather.

FRUIT: Apples were in 6 percent poor condition, 17 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 33 percent excellent. Grapes were 4 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 26 percent good and 50 percent excellent. Peaches were 17 percent fair, 17 percent good, and 66 percent excellent. Pears were 8 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 24 percent good and 48 percent excellent. In Wayne County, cherry harvest was essentially completed. In the Lake Erie fruit region, Japanese Beetle damage was higher than usual and growers have already sprayed for them this year. Average berry weight at the Fredonia Vineyard Lab at 40 days after bloom was 1.75 grams. This was higher than the 1.5 grams at this point in 2005, but below the long-term average of 2.0 grams at 40 days after bloom. Black rot and downy mildew started showing up on susceptible grape varieties. In the Long Island fruit region, veraison was approaching fast in the vineyards. Sunny hot weather has made for good ripening conditions, but uncomfortable for working conditions. Downy mildew persists at low levels in the tops of canopies

VEGETABLE: Heavy downpours caused onion condition to decline to 16 percent poor, 52 percent fair, 22 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Sweet corn was rated as 8 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 31 percent excellent. Cabbage was in mostly good to excellent condition. Snap beans were mostly good. Sweet corn was 19 percent harvested, about equal to last year. Snap beans were 17 percent harvested, behind last year's 27 percent. In Franklin County, fresh market sweet corn was at farm stands, which is later than normal. Vegetable crops in Ontario County look promising so far. Onions on Wayne County muck soils were under water again. Large areas of onions were drying. Sweet corn picking in Cortland County was in full swing. Heavy rains added to the woes of Madison County producers. Onions were very yellow

LIVESTOCK: Pasture growth was promoted by hot weather although heavy rains in some areas caused conditions to deteriorate. Pastures were rated as 3 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 25 percent excellent.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 30, 2006

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° ^{1/}			Precipitation (Inches) ^{1/}			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
<u>Hudson Valley</u>											
Albany	90	56	76	+5	186	1704	+264	0.20	-0.51	21.70	+8.61
Glens Falls	91	58	74	+5	174	1,266	+151	3.25	+2.57	22.30	+10.40
Poughkeepsie	88	60	76	+4	184	1746	+241	0.78	-0.06	21.06	+5.61
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Utica	90	58	75	+4	174	1,304	+151	1.60	+0.76	19.91	+5.72
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	89	58	74	+5	171	1499	+215	1.06	+0.30	16.73	+5.05
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	85	54	73	+5	164	1399	+264	0.52	-0.28	12.79	+0.43
Massena	86	54	73	+4	161	1434	+228	2.17	+1.42	14.80	+3.42
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	87	59	76	+5	182	1705	+335	2.21	+1.47	12.02	-0.51
Wales	87	57	72	+4	153	1,131	+155	1.72	+0.95	13.90	-0.28
Niagara Falls	87	55	76	+6	184	1610	+229	3.80	+3.14	11.94	-0.30
Rochester	89	59	77	+7	194	1718	+380	2.17	+1.53	15.74	+4.80
Watertown	87	61	75	+7	178	1434	+300	0.24	-0.23	11.35	+1.60
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	92	59	75	+5	175	1,313	+123	2.66	+2.03	14.19	+2.35
Geneva	91	58	74	+4	172	1,303	+133	1.74	+1.11	14.44	+2.63
Honeoye	91	56	74	+2	167	1,290	+74	0.77	+0.20	10.58	-1.00
Ithaca	86	54	73	+5	164	1348	+157	1.37	+0.61	18.14	+4.81
Penn Yan	87	58	75	+5	178	1565	+248	0.08	-0.55	9.76	-2.68
Syracuse	92	57	77	+6	188	1,458	+252	0.83	-0.01	19.33	+6.06
Warsaw	82	52	70	+4	146	1207	+181	1.84	+1.08	17.64	+3.18
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	83	50	69	+3	133	1109	+103	1.14	0.37	15.28	1.33
Elmira	92	58	74	+5	170	1,199	+73	1.82	+1.08	15.65	+3.43
Franklinville	89	53	71	+6	149	1,005	+196	1.22	+0.45	13.36	-0.42
Jamestown	91	55	72	+6	158	1,130	+213	0.47	-0.39	11.78	-3.40
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	84	57	72	+3	157	1382	+153	1.01	0.24	21.9	8.42
Cobleskill	87	47	72	+5	155	1324	+188	0.70	-0.06	21.44	6.91
Morrisville	86	54	71	+4	150	1219	+135	1.95	1.18	27.62	13.3
Norwich	87	53	72	+4	154	1311	+172	1.46	0.76	23.07	8.56
Oneonta	92	54	75	+8	172	1500	+449	0.91	0.07	24.4	8.62
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	88	60	76	+4	182	1605	+267	0.00	-0.69	23.48	9.20
New York	94	71	82	+6	227	2311	+434	0.06	-0.85	23.85	8.73

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning. R28July416

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained from reports from Cornell Cooperative Extension agents, IUSDA Farm Service Agency agents, the National Weather Service, Agricultural Weather Information Service and other knowledgeable persons associated with New York agriculture. Their cooperation is greatly appreciated.

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