



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## June 22, 2009

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Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets  
10B Airline Drive, Albany, New York 12235  
(518) 457-5570 · (518) 485-8719 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

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Week Ending, June 21, 2009

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**WEATHER:** It was a wet and cool stretch of weather with precipitation well above normal except across extreme western and northern New York. Temperatures were below normal. A strong upper level disturbance produced showers and thunderstorms Sunday night and Monday. Some of the thunderstorms on Monday brought large hail ranging from penny to golf ball size to parts of east central New York with hail accumulating to a few inches in portions of the Capital Region. Some locations received in excess of 2 inches of rainfall from the slow moving thunderstorms. High pressure briefly dominated over the northeast Tuesday and Wednesday before another storm system brought rainfall from the Midwest. The area of low pressure and its associated warm front produced a soaking rain fall on Thursday. The upper low brought some more showers on Friday. The heaviest rainfall Thursday into Friday occurred from the Capital Region southward down the Hudson River Valley. Another low pressure system approaching from the Great Lakes region brought more rainfall on Saturday.

**CROPS:** Scattered showers passed through a majority of the state hindering haying activities. There were 3.1 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 2 percent short, 63 percent adequate, and 35 percent surplus. Condition of winter wheat was rated as 2 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 69 percent good, and 16 percent excellent. Oat condition was 2 percent poor, 13 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Condition of hay was 2 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 22 percent excellent. Corn planting was 99 percent completed, ahead of last year's 98 percent, and the five year average of 98 percent. Alfalfa 1<sup>st</sup> cutting was 73 percent completed, behind last year's 77 percent. Clover-timothy hay was 54 percent harvested, the same as last year, but behind the five average of 57 percent. Eighty percent of the grass silage was harvested, ahead of last year's 79 percent, and ahead of the five year average of 76 percent. Soybeans were 96 percent planted, ahead of the five year average of 94 percent, but behind last year's 98 percent. Dry beans were 70 percent planted, the same as the five year average and ahead of last year's 65 percent. The following are comments throughout the state: A cold wet week in Jefferson County had corn yellow in some areas due to a lack of heat, and some producers that won't meet the "knee high by the 4<sup>th</sup> of July" criteria. Small grains in Jefferson County continued to look good, but the dry hay harvest was hindered by the sporadic rain. Corn and soybean fields were up and looking good in St. Lawrence County, and there was lots of haylage cut. In Niagara County all of the corn and soybeans had sprouted and some were already knee high. Ontario County received a lot of rain last week which offset the short supply received in May. Heat is needed in Cayuga County to go along with all the recently received rain to make corn grow. Also in Cayuga County were several reports of alfalfa weevil, with more seen this year than in years past. Hay and silage was going in quickly before the rain moved back in Cortland County. Some early planted fields there may reach knee high by the 4<sup>th</sup>, but the majority looks to be far from that mark. A lot of rain, combined with standing water in some fields, has spraying behind schedule in Madison County. Rain in Oneida County prevented producers from finishing corn plantings and harvesting dry hay. Hail damaged crops in Albany, Schenectady, and Schoharie Counties with some of the damage being reported as quite severe. Corn and Soybeans looked good on the better soils of Montgomery, Fulton, and Herkimer County, but were stressed on the wet soils. Saratoga County could use some heat and wind to dry out fields and improve crop growing conditions for corn and hay. Steuben County needs some warmer temperatures for corn growth. Northern part of Columbia County was hit by hail this week damaging field corn. A hail storm in Delaware County hurt crops and flattened standing hay. Hail was also reported in Ulster County, but no report yet on how severe the damage was. Dutchess County had received so much rain that some flooded fields will not be planted this season.

**FRUIT:** Apples condition was 6 percent fair, 74 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. Grapes were 7 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 28 percent excellent. Peaches were 12 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 30 percent excellent. Pears were 3 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 74 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Sweet cherries were 55 percent poor, 9 percent fair, 35 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Tart cherries were 15 percent poor, 35 percent fair, and 50 percent good. Strawberries were 5 percent poor, 14 percent fair, 71 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. In the Lake Ontario fruit region, plum curculio and oriental fruit moth activity subsided. Growers of stone fruits maintained fungicide protection from brown rot on fruitlets. Raspberries were in bloom and growers were applying fungicide to protect against botrytis. In the Lake Erie grape region, downy mildew was a concern after several days with rain. Bloom in Concord grapes was on June 14<sup>th</sup>. In Long Island vineyards, continued cool weather with intermittent rainfall stalled growth. The wet conditions continued to cause a threat for fungal diseases. Vines were on the cusp of bloom. Strawberry harvest across the state was at peak. However, rain in many areas put a damper on progress. Hail storms in Albany, Columbia and Ulster Counties damaged tree fruit and small fruit crops. Some damage was quite severe. Excessive rain in Dutchess County has caused cherries to split. Much of the crop will be a loss.

**VEGETABLE:** Damage to vegetable crops from hail reported in Eastern New York from Saratoga Co. down through Dutchess Co. Sweet corn and tomato plantings have taken off, while lettuce crops have been coming along slower than normal. Lettuce was 64 percent planted with reported conditions of 45 percent poor, 45 percent fair, 7 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Onions were 100 percent planted with reported conditions of 1 percent fair and 99 percent good. Sweet corn was 84 percent planted with conditions of 2 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 81 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Snap beans were 56 percent planted, cabbage was 89 percent planted, and tomatoes were 81 percent planted.

**LIVESTOCK:** Abundant rainfall and cooler temperatures improved pasture conditions across the state. Pasture conditions across most of the state were estimated to be in good condition. Pasture conditions were rated 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 25 percent excellent.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, June 21, 2009**

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° <sup>1/</sup>			Precipitation (Inches) <sup>1/</sup>				
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm	
<b><u>Hudson Valley</u></b>												
Albany	77	53	65	-4	106	694	+83	2.41	+1.57	9.41	+0.45	
Glens Falls	76	46	63	-3	93	545	+37	1.82	+1.09	8.66	-0.20	
Poughkeepsie	80	53	65	-3	106	741	+79	3.46	+2.60	13.40	+2.89	
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>												
Boonville	71	47	59	-4	61	332	-41	1.78	+0.69	14.01	+1.70	
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>												
Plattsburgh	78	47	63	-3	95	467	-54	0.39	-0.35	7.47	-0.38	
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>												
Canton	78	46	62	-3	87	425	-21	0.60	-0.17	9.84	+1.72	
Massena	79	47	64	-1	98	482	-1	0.27	-0.50	7.15	-0.20	
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>												
Buffalo	81	53	66	-2	110	631	+60	1.29	+0.45	6.89	-1.64	
Wales	76	48	62	-3	83	472	+31	1.96	+0.98	9.49	-0.80	
Niagara Falls	81	52	66	-2	112	614	+25	1.53	+0.71	8.59	+0.06	
Rochester	77	51	64	-3	98	594	+18	3.11	+2.41	9.57	+2.14	
Watertown	77	44	62	-2	87	456	+15	0.45	-0.18	9.63	+2.45	
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>												
Dansville	77	47	62	-5	87	609	+42	2.25	+1.34	7.20	-1.20	
Geneva	76	49	63	-4	91	573	+27	2.56	+1.66	9.13	+0.61	
Honeoye	76	44	63	-4	91	590	+25	2.38	+1.47	10.80	+2.37	
Ithaca	75	46	62	-4	83	515	+26	1.86	+0.95	9.27	+0.40	
Penn Yan	76	51	64	-3	98	663	+117	2.62	+1.72	8.21	-0.31	
Syracuse	77	50	63	-3	93	675	+91	1.79	+0.88	10.39	+1.16	
Warsaw	74	49	61	-3	78	435	+32	2.05	+1.03	9.35	-0.55	
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>												
Angelica	78	41	59	-4	66	414	+20	1.59	+0.47	7.40	-1.59	
Elmira	77	44	64	-2	99	616	+92	1.28	+0.37	7.18	-1.35	
Franklinville	79	39	61	-2	76	431	+85	1.63	+0.60	8.44	-1.38	
Jamestown	78	45	63	-1	90	540	+132	2.40	+1.30	10.27	-0.70	
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>												
Binghamton	74	52	61	-4	80	607	+102	2.50	+1.66	10.27	+1.26	
Cobleskill	75	47	60	-4	75	503	+41	3.03	+2.05	9.77	-0.11	
Morrisville	72	46	58	-6	60	418	-14	2.32	+1.34	11.27	+1.58	
Norwich	78	49	62	-3	83	499	+37	2.44	+1.46	12.95	+2.93	
Oneonta	75	50	61	-3	78	509	+90	2.04	+1.06	10.61	-0.12	
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>												
Bridgehamton	78	45	63	-5	90	594	+66	3.34	+2.50	16.74	+6.38	
New York	79	56	66	-7	114	929	+57	2.83	+1.99	15.66	+5.56	

<sup>1/</sup> Season accumulations are for April 1<sup>st</sup> to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning

The information contained in this weekly release is obtained in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension, USDA Farm Service Agency, 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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