



WEATHER AND CROPS

July 16, 2012

Cooperating with New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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Week Ending, July 15, 2012

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WEATHER: For the week, temperatures averaged above normal with precipitation generally below normal. A cold front passed across the state on July 8th. In its wake, high pressure dominated for the remainder of the period. Temperatures for the most part averaged above normal statewide. Some below normal readings were noted across the northern tier early on but even these temperatures warmed to above normal levels. Precipitation was generally below normal. The presence of high pressure allowed for only isolated showers and thunderstorms to develop, mainly across higher elevations. Some better organized precipitation was noted across the Capital District on Friday night and early Saturday morning. Generally though, dry conditions prevailed in most locations.

CROPS: There were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 35 percent very short, 46 percent short, and 19 percent adequate. Hay crops were rated 25 percent poor, 46 percent fair, 27 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Condition of oats were 4 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Wheat was rated 4 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Corn was rated 14 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Soybeans were rated 8 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. The second cutting of alfalfa hay was 69 percent complete compared with 54 percent last year. Clover-timothy second cut was 52 percent complete compared with 42 percent a year ago. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In St. Lawrence County, crop conditions continued to deteriorate due to a lack of rain. Corn was increasingly stressed as many fields had rolled leaves. There has been very little regrowth of grasses. In Franklin County, corn was starting to curl as a result of dry field conditions. Second cut grass hay yields are low due to low moisture levels. Ontario County finally received a much needed rain shower late in the week. Wheat harvest was winding down with yields reported higher than expected. Yates County farmers are very concerned that if they don't get any good amount of rain within the upcoming week, they will begin losing corn crop. There is only about a third of a crop for second cutting hay due to lack of rain for an extended period. Cayuga and Oswego Counties had extremely dry conditions. Second cutting of hay crops showed reduced yields of 60-80 percent. The corn crop was heat and moisture stressed. Corn was reaching the pollination stage, a critical point for development. Wheat harvest started. Reduced yields (about 25 percent) were reported due to armyworm infestation and lack of moisture. Another dry week in Cortland County had corn and hay showing stress. A few passing showers helped. The corn uncurled, but leaves were still pointing. Wheat and early planted oat harvest began. Crops in Herkimer County are in desperate need of rain. Insect infestations are a real issue in some hay fields. In Madison County, corn was beginning to show stress along the borders and fence lines. Some corn was very close to tasseling as noted by the presence of flag leaf. Most hay is being cut because of alfalfa weevil, not because it is mature enough. In Onondaga County, a little rain helped to alleviate the stress on corn and soybeans, however, the second cutting hay yield was severely impacted due to the lack of precipitation. In Albany County, spotty showers provided some most welcomed moisture. Montgomery and Fulton Counties finally got some rain late in the week, but not nearly enough. All crops are at a standstill or going backwards due to lack of rain. Extremely hot and dry conditions persisted throughout the week in Saratoga County, having a detrimental effect on the growth of all crops. In Broome County, there has been no regrowth to any alfalfa or grass. Spotty showers received during the weekend hopefully will assist in the improving of corn conditions. Many areas were reported as tightly curled and looking more like pineapples rather than corn. In Schuyler County, crops were showing more stress every day. Columbia and Greene Counties received much needed rain over the weekend. Corn and soybeans were stressed due to the lack of rain and hay fields were not growing back. Delaware County also received much needed rain but it may be too little too late in some areas. Corn was curling in many areas and the grasses stopped growing due to lack of moisture, hot sun and extreme heat. There is little or no second and/or third cutting. Dutchess County hay fields are not showing any signs of regrowth.

FRUIT: Apple conditions were 70 percent poor, 20 percent fair, and 10 percent good. Peach conditions were 60 percent poor, 14 percent fair, and 26 percent good. Pear conditions were 62 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 16 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Sweet cherry harvest was 59 percent complete, down from the 78 percent previous year. Sweet cherry conditions were 78 percent poor, 11 percent fair, 10 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Tart cherry harvest was 32 percent complete, behind the 52 percent harvested this time last year. Tart cherry conditions were 89 percent poor, 8 percent fair, and 3 percent good. Grape conditions were 22 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 26 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Strawberry conditions were 43 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 26 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Yates County, vineyards were experiencing heat stress. In Dutchess County, orchards were irrigated due to signs of heat stress. In Long Island, vineyards thrived in the warm, dry weather. Growers trimmed excess shoot growth and adjusted cluster numbers to reflect target yields.

VEGETABLE: Onion crop was withering. Where possible, growers were irrigating around the clock. Sweet corn, of very good quality, was being harvested in Albany County. Sweet corn was at 100 percent planted, the same as last year. Sweet corn was 3 percent harvested. Condition of sweet corn was 16 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 41 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Onions were 9 percent poor, 25 percent fair, and 66 percent good. Snap beans were at 96 percent planted, up from 93 percent last year. Snap Beans were 4 percent harvested. Condition of snap beans was 6 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Cabbage was at 5 percent harvested. Condition of cabbage was 17 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Tomatoes were 2 percent harvested. Condition of tomatoes was 12 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Lettuce was 12 percent harvested.

LIVESTOCK: Pastures were hurt by long drought. Pastures were not showing any signs of regrowth. Pasture was rated 19 percent very poor, 33 percent poor, 34 percent fair, and 14 percent good.

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 15, 2012

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 County AP	91	53	76	+4	180	1432	+301	0.89	+0.19	12.15	+0.56
Glens Falls AP	91	48	71	+2	148	1233	+258	0.00	-0.63	12.36	+1.24
Poughkeepsie AP	93	54	76	+5	187	1555	+372	0.01	-0.90	8.74	-4.85
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	86	52	68	+3	127	909	+165	0.00	-0.89	12.50	-3.07
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh Int AP	90	48	69	-2	133	1157	+161	0.00	-0.63	7.69	-2.45
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	89	49	69	+1	133	1088	+219	0.23	-0.50	10.85	+0.14
Massena	92	49	70	0	138	1185	+256	0.00	-0.70	9.61	-0.24
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo Int AP	91	58	76	+6	182	1455	+387	0.00	-0.63	6.76	-4.25
Wales	87	50	70	+4	145	1139	+289	0.00	-0.79	8.74	-4.55
Niagara Falls	90	58	75	+4	173	1411	+329	0.00	-0.62	7.47	-3.38
Rochester NY	93	54	74	+4	170	1431	+383	0.02	-0.54	8.54	-1.08
Watertown Intl	92	51	72	+4	153	1252	+384	0.00	-0.40	7.37	-1.41
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville AP	92	54	75	+5	174	1507	+464	0.05	-0.65	7.62	-3.51
Geneva Research	91	56	74	+4	166	1345	+322	0.01	-0.65	7.87	-3.23
Honeoye	89	51	72	+1	156	1291	+229	0.16	-0.47	8.73	-2.19
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	91	49	72	+4	155	1240	+315	0.00	-0.77	9.39	-2.32
Penn Yan	90	55	74	+4	169	1430	+407	0.04	-0.62	7.96	-3.14
Syracuse	94	57	76	+6	184	1512	+453	0.00	-0.86	7.88	-4.44
Warsaw	86	53	70	+4	140	1100	+312	0.10	-0.67	11.54	-1.34
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Hornell Almond Dam	89	48	69	+2	138	1123	+264	0.05	-0.69	10.90	-0.15
Elmira	92	50	72	+3	158	1332	+346	0.08	-0.69	8.22	-3.18
Franklinville	89	44	69	+4	137	1056	+358	0.38	-0.44	11.23	-1.68
Jamestown 4NE	89	48	69	+3	136	1176	+378	0.25	-0.66	10.96	-3.36
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton/Broo	87	55	73	+4	159	1247	+295	0.24	-0.53	11.56	-0.28
Cobleskill	90	50	72	+4	153	1167	+284	0.43	-0.35	10.25	-2.65
Morrisville	89	52	71	+5	148	1023	+191	0.15	-0.66	10.54	-2.15
Norwich	91	50	72	+4	153	1155	+274	0.00	-0.77	11.00	-1.95
Oneonta	89	50	71	+5	150	1207	+394	0.02	-0.89	10.18	-3.79
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	89	61	75	+4	173	1339	+312	0.00	-0.67	12.34	-0.49
New York LGA	92	71	81	+5	218	1884	+386	0.00	-0.92	12.41	-0.74

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st 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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