



# WEATHER AND CROPS

## September 10, 2012

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Released, September 10, 2012

Week Ending, September 9, 2012

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**WEATHER:** Precipitation for the week was highly variable with the bulk of the precipitation occurring late Monday into Tuesday and again on Saturday with showers and thunderstorms while much of the rest of the week was dry. The week started out dry with high pressure across the state on Sunday. A trough of low pressure dropping south from the eastern Great lakes on Monday and a low pressure system moving northeast from the Ohio Valley through the state on Tuesday brought showers and thunderstorms to the state. High pressure built across the state on Wednesday bringing dry weather with some showers and thunderstorms across the southern tier on Thursday as a cold front moved into the eastern Great Lakes. Friday was mainly dry except for some showers and thunderstorms across far western New York as a powerful cold front started to move towards the state. On Saturday, the cold front swept across the state producing hail, wind damage and even a couple of tornadoes in the New York City area. Temperatures across the state were well above normal for the week with highs mainly in the 70's and 80's. Nighttime lows were also very mild, generally in the 50's and 60's.

**CROPS:** There were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork during the week. Soil moisture was rated 10 percent very short, 32 percent short, 56 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. Hay crops were rated 16 percent poor, 44 percent fair, 34 percent good, 6 percent excellent. Condition of oats was 12 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Oats were 96 percent harvested compared with 93 percent last year and the average of 96 percent. Corn was rated 10 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Corn for silage was 17 percent harvest compared with 7 percent last year and the average of 12 percent. Soybeans were rated 5 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. The third cutting of alfalfa hay was 60 percent complete compared with 66 percent last year and the average of 75 percent. Clover-timothy third cut was 42 percent complete compared with 55 percent a year ago and the average of 66 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Jefferson County, corn chopping was underway. Much needed rains arrived in the county. Rains in Lewis County varied greatly. Corn silage harvest is ahead as corn continues to dry down fast due to the dry conditions and high accumulation of growing degree days. Many farmers are hoping that this rain will result in one more cutting of hay to help with low forage inventories. Genesee County saw rapid corn silage harvest. Yields are down by one-third. Haymaking also continued with yields down by one-half. Rains have put producers in a much better position for winter wheat planting. Ontario County received some rain but not sure if it was in time to help the corn and soybeans. Corn silage harvest continued. Hay harvest also continued but yields are lower than average. In Cortland County, heavy morning dew has helped hay regrowth as third cutting is now ready. Corn silage harvest has begun, mostly to feed straight from the field. In Madison County, much needed rains have really made a difference in the hay crop. Some corn fields were being opened while other fields are totally chopped. Corn silage harvest started in Otsego County. In Albany County, corn chopping was in high gear. Yields are average and farmers are thankful for that. In Montgomery and Fulton Counties, corn silage continued to be harvested. Yields are down but the ears are filled out. The quality of hay being harvested is very good and quantities are improving each day. Soybeans remain a question.

**FRUIT:** Apple harvest was 25 percent complete, behind the 31 percent last year and the 29 percent five year average. Apple conditions were 74 percent poor, 23 percent fair, and 3 percent good. Peach harvest was complete compared to 89 percent five year average. Pear harvest was 86 percent complete, above the 66 percent five year average. Pear conditions were 10 percent poor, 18 percent fair, and 72 percent good. Grape harvest was 18 percent complete, ahead of the 17 percent last year. Grape conditions were 28 percent poor, 37 percent fair, and 35 percent good. Strawberry conditions were 19 percent poor, 42 percent fair, 35 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Fruit harvest continued throughout the state. Grapes for sparkling wine began harvest on Long Island vineyards.

**VEGETABLE:** Vegetable crop harvests continued across the state. Sweet corn was 78 percent harvested compared to 77 percent last year and up from the 75 percent average. Condition of sweet corn was 12 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Onions were 60 percent harvested compared to 69 percent last year and 65 percent average. Onions were 19 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 15 percent good, and 47 percent excellent. Snap Beans were 70 percent harvested compared to 63 percent last year and 76 percent average. Condition of snap beans was 6 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 67 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Cabbage was at 67 percent harvested compared to 74 percent last year and 68 percent average. Condition of cabbage was 7 percent poor, 34 percent fair, and 59 percent good. Tomatoes were 71 percent harvested compared to 58 percent last year and 70 percent average. Condition of tomatoes was 3 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 30 percent excellent. Lettuce was 90 percent harvested.

**LIVESTOCK:** Rain in many parts of the state helped pasture re-growth. Pasture was rated 11 percent very poor, 24 percent poor, 45 percent fair, 19 percent good, and 1 percent excellent.

**Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, September 9, 2012**

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 County AP	86	52	72	+8	153	2732	+518	0.64	-0.08	18.80	+1.17	
Glens Falls AP	83	45	68	+6	126	2378	+444	1.55	+0.78	18.44	+1.07	
Poughkeepsie AP	86	58	74	+9	169	2920	+596	1.49	+0.65	18.01	-2.25	
<b><u>Mohawk Valley</u></b>												
Boonville	80	46	65	+6	103	1851	+331	1.61	+0.29	18.18	-6.09	
<b><u>Champlain Valley</u></b>												
Plattsburgh Int AP	82	46	68	+7	126	2293	+333	2.87	+2.07	15.06	-1.94	
<b><u>St. Lawrence Valley</u></b>												
Canton	86	47	69	+8	132	2205	+444	3.24	+2.29	17.81	-0.14	
Massena	86	47	70	+10	139	2335	+487	1.87	+1.03	15.36	-1.02	
<b><u>Great Lakes</u></b>												
Buffalo Int AP	90	57	74	+10	169	2771	+644	2.50	+1.62	11.23	-6.76	
Wales	85	51	69	+8	134	2178	+447	1.77	+0.65	16.52	-4.16	
Niagara Falls	88	50	72	+8	153	2690	+557	3.45	+2.54	13.76	-3.67	
Rochester NY	86	52	72	+8	156	2693	+637	2.90	+2.15	16.70	+1.26	
Watertown Intl	85	46	71	+10	145	2446	+651	2.86	+2.05	15.61	+1.41	
<b><u>Central Lakes</u></b>												
Dansville AP	87	54	74	+10	167	2788	+718	1.78	+0.94	13.91	-2.96	
Geneva Research	85	53	71	+8	151	2558	+505	0.74	-0.03	13.70	-2.99	
Honeoye	85	51	71	+7	150	2420	+274	1.55	+0.78	15.13	-1.41	
Ithaca Cornell Univ.	84	50	69	+8	138	2366	+507	1.20	+0.36	15.31	-2.68	
Penn Yan	85	52	72	+8	153	2670	+617	1.54	+0.77	13.93	-2.76	
Syracuse	86	54	74	+10	165	2902	+818	0.45	-0.46	12.22	-6.67	
Warsaw	82	50	68	+9	131	2111	+512	1.13	+0.15	18.41	-1.32	
<b><u>Western Plateau</u></b>												
Hornell Almond Dam	83	51	68	+7	125	2130	+398	1.44	+0.71	17.82	+1.79	
Elmira	86	49	70	+8	145	2524	+560	1.60	+0.87	14.40	-2.62	
Franklinville	82	50	68	+9	125	2001	+553	2.26	+1.28	19.97	+0.03	
Jamestown 4NE	86	56	70	+10	144	2216	+586	1.51	+0.39	18.48	-3.81	
<b><u>Eastern Plateau</u></b>												
Binghamton/Broo	82	50	69	+7	132	2368	+463	1.17	+0.36	21.34	+3.35	
Cobleskill	84	48	68	+7	125	2263	+490	0.69	-0.22	16.26	-3.05	
Morrisville	83	50	69	+8	132	2101	+413	1.43	+0.51	18.33	-0.90	
Norwich	85	50	68	+7	128	2237	+462	1.92	+1.02	19.97	+0.83	
Oneonta	86	50	70	+11	142	2418	+785	0.91	+0.07	17.07	-3.65	
<b><u>Coastal</u></b>												
Bridgehamton	86	59	73	+7	159	2645	+466	0.76	-0.08	16.20	-2.70	
New York LGA	87	66	77	+7	194	3522	+623	1.80	+0.96	20.57	+0.49	

<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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**To view a map of the U.S. Drought Monitor Index showing U.S. and regional drought conditions please click on the link below.**

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

*NASS is currently conducting our annual September surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of September, NASS is surveying U.S. small grains growers for final production. We are also asking hog producers about their summer pig crop, next year's farrowing intentions, and current inventory. The responses will provide the foundation for 2012 production estimates. All participating farmers should respond. Your information matters!*