



WEATHER AND CROPS

May 28, 2013

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WEATHER: It was a wet week across the state with variable amounts of rainfall from several rounds of thunderstorms Tuesday through Thursday and a large area of low pressure that slowly moved across the state until the end of the week. The week started out mainly dry for the state as an area of high pressure moved off the eastern seaboard. A stationary boundary lifted northward across the state during the middle of the week bringing a warm and humid air mass that fueled several rounds of thunderstorms across the state. East and central New York received the heaviest amounts of rainfall as thunderstorms produced torrential downpours and localized flooding. Rainfall would continue through the end of the week especially across eastern and northern portions of the state as an area of low pressure slowly moved across the northeast. Temperatures were warm in the early part of the week with several locations reaching into the eighties. The warmth was short-lived however as temperatures plummeted into the forty's and fifty's by the end of the week. Low temperatures by the end of the week were even cold enough to support patchy frost across northern portions of the state.

CROPS: There were 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Soil moisture was rated 20 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 13 percent surplus. Oat seedings were 97 percent complete compared with 97 percent last year and above the five year average of 88 percent. Condition of oats was 14 percent fair, 74 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Winter wheat was rated 14 percent fair, 69 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. Hay crops were 1 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. The first clover timothy cutting was 20 percent complete, the first alfalfa cutting was 23 percent complete, and the first cutting of crass silage was 28 percent complete. Corn was 74 percent planted, below the 77 percent posted last year and above the 70 percent five year average. Potatoes were 64 percent planted compared to 73 percent in 2012 and below the five year average of 71 percent. Soybeans were 39 percent planted compared to 40 percent in 2012 and at the five year average of 39 percent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Mixed alfalfa grass stands were harvested in Jefferson County. Rain showers during the week had soil moisture in good shape. Soybean planting continued. It was an active week for planting in St. Lawrence County until the rain started. Very little of the hay crop was harvested due to a cool April which slowed growth. Corn and soybean planting took priority. Hay crop silage harvest was nearly complete in Niagara County. The corn planting was done except for following the first cut haylage. Soybean planting was well underway and wheat was in heading stage. Haylage harvest started in Ontario County with good yields reported. Conditions were very dry in most areas until Tuesday when the rain came. Rain was sporadic and amounts of rainfall varied across Cayuga and Oswego counties. Hay harvest was underway. In Cortland County, rain and cold conditions slowed the harvest, but only temporarily as haylage harvest was soon moving along across the county. In Madison County, corn was up and the anticipated warm weather should really get things growing. First cutting of mostly grass stands moved along quickly. Alfalfa stands were harvested, but were delayed due to rain. Much of the hay harvest activity was driven by hay & haylage shortages on farms. Otsego County received some much needed rain. Planting and mowing continued. In Albany County, some field plantings were damaged by flooding from micro-bursts in Princetown and Glenville. Montgomery and Fulton County reported that had the whole week been good weather most crops would be completely planted, except for some hay ground to be harvested and then planted. The rain was needed, however some places received 4.5 inches in twenty minutes Wednesday and it damaged some crops. Haylage was harvested between the rain drops. In Washington County, farmers who harvested first cutting hay had good quality, but yields were light due to a dry April. After all the rain, hay that wasn't harvested will have better yields, but the quality will be reduced. Heavy rains on Monday and Thursday in Seneca County may cause some re-planting conditions on corn and soybeans. In Dutchess County, farmers were busy cutting alfalfa and grass hay between the much needed showers.

FRUIT: Apples were 98 percent full bloom or later and 84 percent petal fall or later. Peaches were 100 percent half-inch green to pink, 92 percent full bloom or later, and 76 percent petal fall or later. Pears were 100 percent half-inch green to pink, 91 percent full bloom or later, and 78 percent petal fall or later. Sweet cherries were 100 percent half-inch green to pink, 95 percent full bloom or later, and 81 percent petal fall or later. Tart cherries were 94 percent full bloom or later and 81 percent petal fall or later. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: Ontario County had several days with frost warnings. In Cayuga County, high winds and hail were reported. In Rensselaer County, temperatures dropped to the lower 30's, resulting in frost conditions. Columbia County experienced hail, high winds, downpours and severe thunderstorms. Orchards were assessing the damage to their trees. In Dutchess County, the frost from the previous week did not affect the fruit in the area.

VEGETABLE: Sweet corn was 46 percent planted, compared to 53 percent in 2012, and was below the 52 percent five year average. Onions were 97 percent planted, compared to 89 percent in 2012, and was above the 92 percent five year average. Snap beans were 15 percent planted, compared to 28 percent in 2012, and below the 21 percent five year average. Cabbage was 43 percent planted, compared to 47 percent in 2012, and was at the 43 percent five year average. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Washington County, much of the sweet corn was up, but needed heat to grow. In Delaware County, many areas needed the rain, but the cool daytime and even cooler temperatures at night affected growth.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture was rated 1 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. The following comments are from our reporters throughout the state: In Madison County, there were considerably more pastured cattle due to hay and haylage shortages. Continuously grazed pastures were short, while closely managed pastures were in better shape

Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, May 26, 2013

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
Albany County AP	88	44	62	+2	88	327	+104	4.59	+3.81	8.18	+2.38
Watertown Intl	82	41	62	+6	87	302	+150	0.94	+0.31	5.39	+0.64
Boonville	80	36	56	+1	61	169	+49	2.20	+1.22	9.02	+0.73
Bridgehampton	73	45	60	+2	72	195	+19	1.33	+0.49	4.62	-2.56
Binghamton/Broome	85	37	59	+2	80	267	+88	1.03	+0.26	6.32	+0.38
Buffalo Intl AP	85	39	64	+5	103	406	+200	0.42	-0.30	5.61	+0.15
Canton	78	40	58	+2	71	263	+115	2.86	+2.16	5.47	+0.14
Cobleskill	84	39	58	+2	75	206	+48	3.35	+2.50	7.31	+1.02
Dansville AP	91	35	65	+7	115	427	+218	0.94	+0.27	3.91	-1.28
Elmira	92	39	63	+6	103	330	+143	0.54	-0.22	4.16	-1.16
Franklinville	85	32	58	+5	83	212	+108	0.88	+0.06	6.97	+0.78
Geneva Research	85	38	62	+4	92	302	+105	1.81	+1.11	6.01	+0.65
Glens Falls AP	82	42	60	+3	80	282	+109	2.94	+2.10	6.40	+0.40
Honeoye	88	32	62	+4	99	328	+126	0.57	-0.08	4.99	-0.30
Hornell Almond	88	34	60	+4	89	222	+71	0.89	+0.19	5.19	+0.08
Jamestown 4NE	87	32	61	+6	95	307	+174	0.89	-0.02	6.04	-1.02
Niagara Falls	86	38	63	+4	99	345	+124	0.70	+0.02	4.48	-1.12
Ithaca Cornell	88	38	61	+5	92	269	+99	1.07	+0.30	4.63	-1.00
New York LGA	86	46	64	0	103	444	+71	1.21	+0.37	5.87	-1.14
Morrisville	86	39	60	+4	83	240	+91	2.05	+1.18	7.77	+1.62
Massena	78	43	59	+2	65	267	+100	1.91	+1.35	5.14	+0.41
Norwich	88	40	61	+4	86	213	+50	2.21	+1.36	7.31	+0.84
Oneonta	86	36	57	+2	71	225	+83	2.93	+1.95	7.00	-0.07
Penn Yan	89	39	64	+6	102	354	+157	0.93	+0.23	3.94	-1.42
Plattsburgh Intl	78	42	57	-2	62	239	+65	4.26	+3.60	6.32	+1.15
Poughkeepsie AP	90	44	63	+3	93	332	+72	2.28	+1.30	5.39	-1.73
Rochester NY	87	39	65	+6	108	407	+180	0.70	+0.07	4.88	+0.01
Syracuse	86	42	63	+4	98	361	+133	1.62	+0.85	6.41	+0.35
Wales	84	33	60	+4	89	307	+157	0.80	-0.04	6.48	-0.27
Warsaw	84	33	60	+5	85	259	+127	0.97	+0.16	6.46	+0.19

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

Special Note

NASS Survey Update!

In the first two weeks of June, NASS will interview producers and survey tracts of farm land across the United States to gather information that will set the foundation for estimates during the upcoming forecast season. Additionally, we will ask hog producers about their inventories and farrowing intentions for the next six months. The information will help producers, suppliers, traders, buyers, and others make informed business decisions. The results will be available beginning June 28 in the *Acreage* and other reports. **Farmers should watch for their surveys and be sure to respond. Your information matters!**

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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