



**Agricultural Weather Advisory For New Jersey
And Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued By Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Monday, August 9, 2010**

Rainfall amounts none through Tuesday. Winds for spraying southwest 5 to 10 mph today, southwest around 5 mph tonight, west 5 to 10 mph.

Relative humidity in percent 30 to 40 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 30 to 40 Tuesday. Dew points 65 to 70 through Tuesday. Drying conditions very good today and Tuesday. Light dew tonight and Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 50 today 60 Tuesday.

There is a near zero percent probability of precipitation during the 12 hour period beginning at 8 am and ending at 8 pm. Rainfall could adversely affect the performance of pesticides that require a rain-free period after application.

Conditions appear unfavorable for cranberry scald today and again Tuesday.

Hay cutting will see very good drying today and Tuesday with the next threat of showers on Wednesday night.

Soil moisture levels remains very low and therefore the need for irrigation will remain high through Wednesday with a chance of some showers Wednesday night.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period August 16, 2010 to August 22, 2010 is calling for temperatures to average near normal and precipitation to average above normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 8/9/10

Temperatures averaged above normal, averaging 75 degrees north, 78 degrees central, and 78 degrees south. Extremes were 96 degrees at Pomona on August 6, 2010 and 54 degrees at Charlotteburg on August 8, 2010.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.19 inches north, 0.00 inches central, and 0.07 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.53 inches at Belvidere on August 4, 2010 to August 5, 2010.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 73 percent north, 56 percent central, and 44 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 73 degrees north, 76 degrees central, and 75 degrees south.

Fall Vegetable Planting Well Underway

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday August 8, 2010, were 7.0. Topsoil moisture was rated as 45% short and 55% adequate. Subsoil moisture was rated as 35% short and 65% adequate. There were minimal amounts of rainfall during the week. Temperatures were above normal across the Garden State. Hot weather and lack of rainfall continued to affect crops as signs of heat stress remain apparent. Fields were irrigated as dry conditions persisted. Corn completed the dough stage in some areas, while soybeans continued setting pods. Farmers finished second-cuttings of alfalfa hay and continued cutting other hay varieties. Slow regrowth of hay after cutting was reported. Summer vegetables were harvested with crop conditions rated mostly good. Some cracking of tomatoes was reported in the southern district. Fall-crop planting of cabbage, lettuce, and snap beans progressed. Peach quality and size were aided by sunny conditions. Apple producers began harvesting early varieties.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, August 9, 2010

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures Last Week				Growing Degree Days ¹		Soil Moisture ²
	Last Week	Since March 1		Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
	Inches	Total	Dept.*							Inches
North										
Belvidere Bridge	0.53	21.52	0.55	88	56	74	2	2,158	399	67
Canoe Brook ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Charlotteburg	0.03	27.14	4.88	92	54	74	4	2,192	811	61
Flemington	0.00	23.12	1.77	93	55	77	4	2,413	608	69
Newton ³	0.20	23.67	3.19	88	55	74	3	2,135	533	67
Central										
Freehold	0.00	22.12	1.39	94	57	79	5	2,596	666	57
Long Branch	0.00	22.76	2.02	93	61	77	3	2,419	568	44
New Brunswick	0.00	22.86	2.08	95	56	79	5	2,567	552	62
Toms River	0.00	19.73	-1.62	93	58	77	5	2,465	617	36
Trenton	0.00	18.67	-1.17	93	60	79	4	2,721	617	31
South										
Cape May C.H.	0.02	17.64	-0.76	94	57	76	2	2,235	257	33
Downstown	0.03	18.35	-1.10	92	57	78	3	2,574	459	35
Glassboro	0.00	22.95	2.53	89	60	77	2	2,677	589	32
Hammonton	0.30	18.04	-2.43	94	59	78	3	2,737	647	39
Pomona	0.00	18.17	-0.44	96	60	78	4	2,642	692	35
Seabrook ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Harrison ³	0.00	20.39	-0.10	91	62	79	N/A	2,745	N/A	N/A

* Departure from normal.

¹ Growing degree days since March 1, 2010, total and departure from normal or long term average.

² Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

³ Data not available for all historic comparisons.

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY & FORECAST REPORT

July has extended our four month run of record warmth into a fifth month as July '10 ranks as the second warmest on record. Were it not for a couple of below average days to start the month and a few average days at the end of the month, Jul '10 would have surpassed 1955 as the warmest July ever. Early season warmth caused us to have a historically early start to our summer season produce and crops are still at least a week to ten days earlier than normal. This weeks temperatures will continue our "hot streak" as mid-90's will prevail until Thursday, when a 30% chance of rain also brings temperatures back down into the mid-80's for the rest of the week. The chance of rain also sticks around through the weekend as well. There will be a little relief during the overnight hours as low 70's early in the week will fall into the upper-60's Thursday night and stay there through the weekend.

There's been little rainfall lately to provide much relief to our crops, and they'll be under heat stress conditions through Wednesday. Heat stress has been causing some decreased production levels (especially green and leafy items) and smaller sizes and this is a concern, though our farmers continue to irrigate as needed to mitigate these affects. Fruit flavors, in particular, are more concentrated and flavorful this season. Peaches are registering very sweet brix levels.

Please let me know how I can make this report of more use to you. Feel free to respond to William.walker@ag.state.nj.us at any time if you have questions or need more information about Jersey Fresh availability.

BILL WALKER – NJ DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

AVAILABILITY FOR AUGUST 9, 2010

ARUGULA	Harvesting a light quantity of good quality product.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting good quality product in fair quantity. Not as affected by the heat.
BASIL	Harvesting a fair to good volume of good quality in spite of two instances of downy mildew discovered in disparate parts of the state several weeks ago. Growers have been trying to contain the problem with fungicides.
BEETS	Harvesting good quality product in fair volume.
CABBAGE	Harvesting good quality product in fair volume.
CANTALOUPE & MELONS	Harvesting good quality in light quantity right now. Expect another bit of volume in 1-2 weeks for the Labor Day marketplace.
CILANTRO	A very light volume of good quality product.
COLLARDS	Harvesting good quality in fair volume.
CUCUMBERS	Harvesting light to fair quantities of good quality product as many farmers are between plantings right now.
DANDELIONS	A good volume of good quality Spring planted product.
DILL	Harvesting good quality in very light quantity.
EGGPLANT	Harvesting very good quality product in good supply.
KALE	Good quality product harvesting in fair volume.
LEEKS	A fair to good volume of good quality product is available.
MINT	Harvesting a fair quantity of good quality product.
NECTARINES	Harvesting a good supply of excellent quality Flavortop and the more widely planted Sunglo yellow varieties. A steady supply through early September.
PARSLEY	Harvesting a light quantity of fair to good quality product.
PEACHES	Harvesting a good supply of excellent quality and widely planted Bounty and Flaming Fury yellow freestone varieties. White Lady and Klondike variety white peaches in fair to good volume. Brix levels are high due to our early hot and dry weather, so sweetness is ensured. Sizing and quality are good.
PEPPERS	Harvesting very good quality product in good supply.
SPINACH	A light volume of good quality product is available.
SQUASH	Harvesting fair quantities of excellent quality yellow & zucchini as some growers are between plantings right now.
SWEET CORN	Harvesting very good quality corn in good volume.
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting a light to fair quantity of good quality product.
TOMATOES	Harvesting very good quality product in good volume. There's a bit of a glut in the marketplace right now.
WHITE POTATOES	Harvesting mainly round white varieties, with some Yukon Gold, Redskin varieties, and a bit of Russets as well.