



**Agricultural Weather Advisory For New Jersey  
And Southeastern Pennsylvania  
Issued By Rutgers University  
New Brunswick, NJ  
8 am EDT Monday, August 30, 2010**

Rainfall amounts none through Tuesday. Winds for spraying northwest 5 mph through Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 25 to 35 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 25 to 35 Tuesday. Dew points upper 50s to low 60s through Tuesday. Drying conditions excellent today and Tuesday. Light dew tonight and Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine near 100 today and Tuesday.

There is 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 might be favorable for cranberry scald today but will probably be unfavorable Tuesday.

Hay cutting will see excellent conditions for the next several days with little threat of rain and fast drying conditions.

Soil moisture levels remain very low in most locations and therefore the need for irrigation will remain high probably through the entire week.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period September 6, 2010 to September 12, 2010 is calling for temperatures to average above normal and precipitation to average below normal.

**Climate summary for the week ending 8am 8/30/10**

Temperatures averaged near normal, averaging 67 degrees north, 70 degrees central, and 71 degrees south. Extremes were 98 degrees at Pomona on August 30, 2010 and 49 degrees at Charlotteburg on August 29, 2010.

Weekly rainfall averaged 1.29 inches north, 0.69 inches central, and 0.10 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 2.43 inches at Charlotteburg on August 23, 2010 to August 24, 2010.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 91 percent north, 76 percent central, and 73 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 69 degrees north, 71 degrees central, and 72 degrees south.

**Grape Harvest Continues**

Days suitable for field work 5.5. Topsoil moisture 40% short, 60% adequate. Subsoil moisture 25% short, 75% adequate. There were measurable amounts of rainfall during the week in some localities. Temperatures were near, to slightly below, normal across the Garden State. Dry conditions continued to stress field-crops. Farmers irrigated as needed. Crop conditions rated poor to good for corn and soybeans. Chopping of some early planted corn began. In some fields soybean crops are not forming beans in pods. Second and third-cuttings of hay continued. Vegetable growers continued harvesting summer vegetables. Fall vegetables planted included cabbage, lettuce, and snap beans. Peach harvest and early-season grape picking continues.

**Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, August 30, 2010**

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures Last Week				Growing Degree Days <sup>1</sup>		Soil Moisture <sup>2</sup>
	Last Week	Since March 1		Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
		Total	Dept.*							
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees			Percent
<b>North</b>										
Belvidere Bridge	0.50	23.11	-1.13	93	50	67	0	2,602	430	71
Canoe Brook <sup>3</sup>	0.70	27.64	2.24	95	52	69	1	2,781	593	89
Charlotteburg	3.78	35.08	9.42	92	49	66	1	2,623	887	87
Flemington	0.41	24.53	0.07	94	50	68	-1	2,900	655	80
Newton <sup>3</sup>	1.06	26.10	2.38	91	50	66	0	2,569	586	89
<b>Central</b>										
Freehold	0.92	24.08	0.21	91	53	69	-1	3,102	713	86
Long Branch	0.87	24.23	0.02	89	56	70	0	2,936	624	72
New Brunswick	1.01	24.25	0.15	96	52	70	-2	3,081	590	84
Toms River	0.32	20.06	-4.66	94	53	69	-1	2,974	678	44
Trenton	0.34	19.43	-3.44	97	56	71	0	3,275	681	50
<b>South</b>										
Cape May C.H.	0.15	20.68	-0.68	88	53	68	-4	2,690	408	57
Downstown	0.04	20.01	-2.59	94	52	70	-1	3,111	512	64
Glassboro	0.06	25.22	1.67	93	58	72	1	3,234	657	64
Hammonton	0.09	19.87	-3.68	95	54	72	1	3,302	721	60
Pomona	0.15	19.24	-2.56	98	54	72	2	3,199	792	48
Seabrook <sup>3</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Harrison <sup>3</sup>	0.01	21.86	-1.37	93	57	72	N/A	3298	N/A	N/A

\* Departure from normal.

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

<sup>2</sup> Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

<sup>3</sup> Data not available for all historic comparisons.

## Jersey Fresh Availability & Forecast Report

July extended our four month run of record warmth into a fifth month as July '10 ranks as the second warmest on record. Early season warmth caused us to have a historically early start to our summer. This week, summer returns. Very hot temperatures this week will yield on Thursday night/Friday as a 40% chance of showers brings cooler weather and high 70's for the Holiday weekend. Although there's been a little rainfall lately to provide some relief to our heat stressed crops, our farmers have had to irrigate constantly to mitigate these affects. This effort comes at a physical and financial expense though. Heat stress has caused decreased production levels and smaller sizes for most produce items. There's been a shortage of peppers, and especially tomatoes, for the last several weeks due to a number of reasons.

Hot and stressful July growing conditions caused pollination issues, blossom burn off, and problems with fruit growth. Hard rains several weeks ago also caused ripe fruit to take on too much water and resulted in quality issues. Sequential plantings of produce items all ripened at the same time too due to the constant hot weather, leaving us a supply gap for a couple of weeks. Farmers are between plantings right now and it will be another week or so before some items are in normal late season supply. Our fall greens and lettuces should be available in a couple of weeks.

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](mailto: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 30, 2010

<b>ARUGULA &amp; CILANTRO</b>	Harvesting a light quantity of good quality product. Supply starting to ramp up over the next several weeks.
<b>BABY SPINACH &amp; ARUGULA</b>	Harvesting good quality product in fair quantity. Not as affected by the heat.
<b>BASIL</b>	Harvesting a fair volume of good quality.
<b>BEETS</b>	Harvesting good quality product in fair volume.
<b>CABBAGE</b>	Harvesting good quality product in fair volume.
<b>CANTALOUPE &amp; MELONS</b>	Harvesting good quality in fair quantity right now as another bit of volume is entering the Labor Day marketplace.
<b>COLLARDS</b>	Harvesting good quality in fair volume.
<b>CUCUMBERS</b>	Harvesting light quantities of good quality product as many farmers are between plantings. Excessive heat caused pollination & growth issues.
<b>DANDELIONS</b>	A good volume of good quality Spring planted product.
<b>DILL</b>	Harvesting good quality in light quantity.
<b>EGGPLANT</b>	Harvesting good quality product in fair supply.
<b>ESCAROLE/ENDIVE</b>	Harvesting good quality in light to increasing volume.
<b>KALE</b>	Good quality product harvesting in fair volume.
<b>LEEKs</b>	A fair volume of good quality product is available.
<b>MINT</b>	Harvesting a fair quantity of good quality product.
<b>NECTARINES</b>	Harvesting a light to finishing supply of Fantasia variety fruit; it's known for its high color and excellent eating quality. Last week for volume.
<b>PARSLEY</b>	Harvesting a light quantity of fair to good quality product.
<b>PEACHES</b>	Harvesting a good to decreasing supply of excellent quality Encore & Lauro yellow varieties thru third week of Sept. Lady Nancy and Snow Giant white peaches in fair to quickly decreasing volume thru mid-Sept. Last week of volume. Size and quality are good.
<b>PEPPERS</b>	Harvesting fair to good quality product in fair supply. Hot and stressful growing conditions caused pollination and growth problems. Hard rains several weeks ago also resulted in some quality issues.
<b>SQUASH</b>	Harvesting fair quantities of good quality yellow/zucchini as many growers are between plantings. Excessive heat caused pollination & growth issues.
<b>SWEET CORN</b>	Harvesting good quality corn in fair volume as sequential plantings have ripened together. Expect increased quality variations in the marketplace due to the annual cycle of insect pressures at this time of the season.
<b>SWISS CHARD</b>	Harvesting a light quantity of good quality. More volume in a few weeks.
<b>TOMATOES</b>	Harvesting fair to good quality product in light volume as there's still a shortage. Hot and stressful July growing conditions caused pollination issues and problems w/ fruit growth. Hard rains several weeks ago caused fruit quality issues as well. More supply in a week or so.
<b>WH. CRANBERRIES</b>	Available. Red harvest will be off a bit due to hot growing conditions.
<b>WHITE POTATOES</b>	Harvesting mainly round white varieties, with some Yukon Gold, Redskin varieties, and a bit of Russets as well.

### FORECAST

<b>LETTUCES</b>	Should begin harvesting about mid-September.
<b>SPINACH</b>	Should begin harvesting about mid-September.
<b>SWEET POTATOES</b>	Should begin harvesting about mid-September.