



Agricultural Weather Advisory For New Jersey
And Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued By Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ
8 am EDT Monday, June 20, 2011

Rainfall amounts none today through Tuesday afternoon, a tenth of an inch possible Tuesday night. Winds for spraying southwest 5 to 10 mph today through Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 40 to 50 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 50 to 60 Tuesday. Dew points upper 50s today, low 60s tonight, mid 60s Tuesday.

Drying conditions good today and Tuesday. Light dew tonight, some dew as well as possible wetting in showers Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 50 today, 30 Tuesday.

There is a 10 percent probability of precipitation during the 12 hour period beginning at 8 am and ending at 8 pm that could adversely affect the performance of pesticides that require a rain-free period after application.

Hay cutting will see fairly good conditions for today and Tuesday but then with an increasing threat of showers Tuesday night and Wednesday.

Soil moisture levels are adequate in most locations but some southern locations could use additional moisture.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period June 27, 2011 to July 3, 2011 is calling for temperatures to average near normal and precipitation to average near normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am June 20, 2011

Temperatures averaged near normal, averaging 67 degrees north, 70 degrees central, and 72 degrees south. Extremes were 89 degrees at Pomona and Hammonton on June 19, 2011 and 50 degrees at Charlotteburg and Newton on June 16, 2011.

Weekly rainfall averaged 1.49 inches north, 1.19 inches central, and 0.29 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 1.56 inches at Newton on June 17, 2011 to June 18, 2011.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 95 percent north, 84 percent central, and 64 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 67 degrees north, 70 degrees central, and 67 degrees south.

Summer Vegetable Harvest In Full Swing

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, June 19, 2011, were 6.0. Topsoil moisture was rated as 20% short, 75% adequate, and 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 15% short and 85% adequate. Pasture and range condition was rated as 20% fair, 50% good, and 30% excellent. There were measurable amounts of rainfall during the week in most localities. Temperatures were mostly at or below normal across the Garden State.

Timely rainfall and mild temperatures provided adequate soil moisture supplies. Agricultural producers continued planting corn and soybeans, cutting hay, spreading fertilizer, spraying herbicides, and irrigating. Crop conditions rated mostly good for corn and soybeans. Wheat harvesting progressed in some areas. Harvest of early-summer vegetables included cucumbers for pickles, peas, yellow and zucchini squashes, sweet corn, and tomatoes. Cherry and blueberry harvests were well underway.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, June 20, 2011

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.*							Base 50° F
North										
Belvidere Bridge	1.32	20.08	6.12	83	53	67	-2	813	138	88
Canoe Brook ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Charlotteburg	1.25	30.07	14.89	81	50	65	-1	836	347	92
Flemington	1.42	21.99	7.59	85	52	68	-1	981	315	91
Newton	1.99	20.79	7.15	81	50	66	-1	876	321	93
Central										
Freehold	0.61	15.38	1.19	85	52	70	0	1,036	285	87
Long Branch	1.57	17.29	2.95	83	53	69	-1	884	197	86
New Brunswick	1.50	18.16	4.28	86	52	70	-1	1,042	246	94
Toms River ³	0.46	12.27	-1.84	84	52	69	0	888	208	52
Trenton	1.81	17.19	4.30	87	56	72	0	183	338	84
South										
Cape May C.H. ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Downstown ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hammonton	0.41	12.21	-1.19	89	54	72	0	1,259	422	44
Pomona	0.42	12.86	0.61	89	53	72	2	1,182	419	52
Seabrook ³	0.34	11.86	-0.27	88	56	73	1	1,218	346	57
South Harrison ³	0.00	11.54	-2.05	86	55	72	N/A	1,215	N/A	N/A

*Departure from normal.

¹ Growing degree days since March 1, 2011, 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 historic comparisons.

Jersey Fresh Availability & Forecast Report

Last week's cooler, more seasonal, weather was a relief from the previous two weeks which featured unseasonably warm temperatures (ten degrees or more above normal) for the previous several weeks. This early heat helped to hasten the end of the spring season for strawberries, lettuces, and the more delicate greens and herbs. This same early heat also hastened our blueberry season as volume is ramping up quickly. This week, we'll see slightly warmer than usual temperatures with today's 80 rising to the mid and then high 80's where it will fluctuate all week. A 30% chance of rain tomorrow will increase to 50% for the rest of the work week and then decline over the weekend. We need the rain as it's been a bit dry in many places throughout the state. Rainfall amounts have also been very erratic and spotty everywhere this past month. It is hoped that rain will spell our farmers from their irrigation chores this week.

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 JUNE 20, 2011

ARUGULA	Harvesting a good quantity of good quality product.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.
BASIL	Likes warmer weather. Harvesting a light to quickly increasing volume of excellent quality product.
BEETS	Harvesting very good quality product in good quantity.
BLUEBERRIES	The widely planted Duke variety harvesting in excellent quality in fair to good volume. The next three weeks will provide our largest volume of the season.
CABBAGE	Harvesting good quality product in good volume.
CILANTRO	A good volume of good quality product is harvesting.
COLLARDS	Harvesting very good quality product in fair to good volume.
CUCUMBERS	Excellent quality pickles and cukes harvesting in fair to good volume.
DANDELIONS	Good quality Italian & San Pasquale varieties harvesting in good volume.
DILL	Harvesting very good quality in good quantity.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting very good quality products in good quantities.
KALE	Good quality product harvesting in fair to good volume.
LEEKs	A good volume and quality of over-wintered product harvesting and will be available until Spring planted arrives late month.
LETTUCES	Unseasonable early warmth has curtailed the Spring season earlier than normal. Romaine is more heat tolerant and has a bit more declining volume. "Mucklands" of NW Jersey still harvesting for a few weeks.
MINT	Very good quality harvesting in good volume.
PARSLEY	Harvesting a good volume of good quality curly and plain product.
RADISHES	Harvesting a declining volume of good quality product. Doesn't like the increasing temperatures and volume will fade during the Summer heat.
SPINACH	A light volume of good quality product. Doesn't like the increasing temperatures and volume decreases during the Summer heat.
SQUASH	Harvesting fair to good quantities of ex. quality Yellow & Zucchini.
STRAWBERRIES	Finishing up.
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting very good quality product in fair to good volume.
TOMATOES	Tunnel started product in very light volume and high prices. Field grown starting next week with some volume expected for the 4 th of July.
TURNIPS	Harvest good quality in only fair quantity w/ increasing temperatures.

FORECAST

EGGPLANT & PEPPERS	Harvest will begin in early July with tunnel started products in very light supply. Quantity will increase quickly with warming temperatures but it will be at least mid-July before significant volume is available. Peppers are a few days ahead of eggplants.
PEACHES	The weather was very favorable for setting a peach and nectarine crop and the growers are finishing their thinning. The season will be normal with peaches in early July, with volume by mid-month. White peaches start in mid July, with volume by the end of the month.
SWEET CORN	Harvest should begin in early July. Right now, light farm market volume is all that will be available for the 4 th , not supermarket volume. Peak of season should be the last week of July.

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