

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service New Jersey Field Office Cooperating with New Jersey Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A. Rutgers University



July 5, 2011

NJ-CW2611

New Jersey Weather and Crop Bulletin

Climate Summary for Week Ending 8 a.m. July 4, 2011

Temperatures averaged near normal, averaging 69 degrees North, 74 degrees Central, and 75 degrees South. Extremes were 89 degrees at numerous locations on July 3, 2011 and 53 degrees at Charlotteburg and Flemington on the July 2, 2011.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.91 inches North, 0.56 inches Central, and 1.05 inches South. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 1.24 inches at Belvidere on July 3, 2011 to July 4, 2011.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent field capacity, this past week averaged 82 percent North, 68 percent Central, and 71 percent South.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 69 degrees North, 73 degrees Central, and 74 degrees South.

Early Vegetable Harvest Provides Variety

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday July 3, 2011 were 6.5. Topsoil moisture was rated as 15% short, 80% adequate, and 5% excellent. Subsoil moisture was rated as 5% short, 90% adequate, and 5% surplus. Pasture and Range condition was rated at 20% fair, 75% good, and 5% excellent. There was some rain throughout the state, towards the end of the week. Temperatures were mostly at or slightly above normal across the Garden State.

Timely rainfall and mild temperatures provided adequate soil moisture supplies. Planting of field corn and soybeans is nearing completion. Crop conditions rated mostly good for all crops. Early harvesting of sweet corn, peppers, and other vegetables has begun, providing a wide variety of produce at farm markets and produce stands.

	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing		
Weather Stations	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				Degree Days ¹		Soil Moisture ²
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Base 50 $^{\circ}$ F	Base 50 $^{\circ}$ F	Percent
North										
Belvidere Bridge	1.31	23.12	7.31	80	43	59	-12	999	67	100
Canoe Brook ³	0.58	19.92	3.00	88	55	73	2	1135	212	70
Charlotteburg	0.67	34.76	17.63	84	53	69	1	1106	377	84
Flemington	0.78	24.24	8.03	87	53	72	0	1293	337	88
Newton	1.23	25.76	10.28	82	54	69	0	1156	343	97
Central										
Freehold	.67	18.81	2.94	88	56	74	2	1364	313	81
Long Branch	.63	19.88	4.00	84	62	73	1	1194	214	72
New Brunswick	.75	19.38	3.84	89	55	73	-1	1364	244	80
Toms River ³	.41	13.21	-2.94	86	57	72	-1	1208	228	58
Trenton	.33	18.81	4.26	88	61	75	1	1538	369	59
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	1.31	15.59	1.23	88	56	74	0	1366	180	69
Hammonton	0.15	13.14	-2.02	89	59	75	1	1615	457	44
Pomona	1.60	14.48	0.76	89	60	75	2	1544	480	88
Seabrook ³	1.16	13.44	-0.40	89	61	77	3	1596	403	64
South Harrison ³	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, July 4, 2011

* Departure from normal.

¹ Growing degree days since March 1, 2011, total and departure from normal or long term average.

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

³ Data not available for historic comparisons.

Jersey Fresh Availability & Forecast Report

This week's weather will be warmer than last week and a bit above normal for this time of year. Today's low 90's will fall to the upper 80's on Thursday, and then fall a bit more to the mid-80's through the weekend. There's a 30% chance of rain Thursday that is the only rain forecast this week. This weekend saw rain in some parts of the state but rainfall amounts have been very erratic and spotty everywhere this month. Most of our commercial volume of produce comes from southern Jersey, with its more sandy/porous soils, and these have been very dry and did not see rain this weekend. Most of our farmers will resume their intensive and time consuming irrigation chores.

Please let me know how I can make this report of more use to you. Feel free to respond to this e-mail at any time if you have questions or need more information about Jersey Fresh availability. If you know anyone that would benefit from receiving this report, please drop me their e-mail address and I'd be glad to add them to this e-mailing list. Thanks for your support of the Jersey Fresh program and the New Jersey produce industry.

Bill Walker – NJ Dept. of Agriculture

AVAILABILITY FOR JULY 5, 2011

ARUGULA	Harvesting a fair to good quantity of good quality product.			
BABY SPINACH &	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.			
ARUGULA				
BASIL	Likes warmer weather. Harvesting a fair to good volume of excellent quality product.			
BEETS	Harvesting very good quality product in good quantity.			
BLUEBERRIES	The widely planted Duke variety harvesting in excellent quality and good volume. This week will be			
	the last harvest of great volume this season.			
CABBAGE	Harvesting good quality product in good volume.			
CILANTRO	A fair volume of good quality product is harvesting in this heat.			
COLLARDS	Harvesting very good quality product in good volume.			
CUCUMBERS	Excellent quality pickles and cukes harvesting in good volume.			
DANDELIONS	Good quality Italian & San Pasquale varieties harvesting in good volume.			
DILL	Harvesting good quality in light quantity in this heat.			
EGGPLANT &	Harvesting very good quality in light to quickly increasing supply with warming temperatures, but it			
PEPPERS	will be at least another week before significant volume is available.			
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting very good quality products in light quantities. Doesn't like the increasing temperatures			
	and volume decreases during the Summer heat.			
KALE	Good quality product harvesting in fair volume.			
LEEKS	A good volume and quality of over-wintered product available with Spring planted now harvesting.			
LETTUCES	Finishing up.			
MINT	Very good quality harvesting in good volume.			
PARSLEY	Harvesting a light volume of good quality product in this heat.			
PEACHES	Yellow peaches starting with the early "cling" varieties, in fair to quickly increasing volume. The			
	widely planted John Boy "clingless" varieties starting in two weeks. Good volume expected by the			
	end of July through early September. White peach harvest begins with the White Lady variety late			
	month, with volume by early August through mid-September.			
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 good quantities of excellent quality Yellow & Zucchini.			
SWEET CORN	Harvesting great quality in light to quickly increasing supply. It will be at least another week before			
	significant volume is available. Peak of season should be the last week of July.			
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting very good quality product in good volume.			
TOMATOES	Field grown harvesting in light to quickly increasing volume.			
TURNIPS	Harvest good quality in only fair quantity w/ increasing temperatures.			

FORECAST

NECTARINES	Early nectarines starting late month with Easternglo, with a steady supply from early August through the early part of September.
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