



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

Isolated rainfall amounts of a tenth of an inch possible today, none tonight, one to two tenths of an inch with locally higher amounts Tuesday. Winds for spraying northwest 10 to 15 mph today, northeast around 5 mph tonight, southeast 5 to 10 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 50 to 60 today, near 100 tonight, 50 to 60 Tuesday. Dew points 65 to 70 through Tuesday. Drying conditions fair at best today and Tuesday. Moderate dew tonight, some dew as well as possible wetting in showers Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 40 today, 40 Tuesday.

There is 30 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 is not recommended for the next few days with slow drying conditions and scattered wetting in showers.

Conditions seems unlikely for the occurrence of cranberry scald for today and Tuesday.

Estimated soil moisture values are adequate at most locations but some southern locations need additional moisture.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period August 15, 2011 to August 21, 2011 is calling for temperatures to average below normal and precipitation to average above normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am August 8, 2011

Temperatures averaged much above normal, averaging 75 degrees north, and 78 degrees central and south. Extremes were 98 degrees at Trenton on August 2, 2011 and 60 degrees at Charlotteburg on August 4, 2011.

Weekly rainfall averaged 1.21 inches north, 0.79 inches central, and 0.65 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 1.40 inches at Belvidere on August 6, 2011 to August 7, 2011.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 85 percent north, 77 percent central, and 64 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 75 degrees north, 78 degrees central, and 72 degrees south.

Fall-Vegetable Plantings Continue

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, August 7, 2011, were 6.5. Topsoil moisture was rated as 25% short and 75% adequate. Subsoil moisture was rated as 20% short and 80% adequate. Pasture and Range condition was rated at 5% poor, 60% fair, and 35% good. There were measurable amounts of rainfall during the week in most localities. Temperatures were above normal across the Garden State.

Activities throughout week included harvesting vegetables, irrigating, spreading fertilizer, and spraying pesticides. There were several reports of wind and hail damages to field crops across the central and southern districts. Field-corn kernels progressed to the dent stage in southern areas. Crop conditions for soybeans rated mostly fair. Hay fields experienced slow re-growth from lack of moisture. Producers continued second and third hay-cuttings where capable. Fall-plantings of cabbage, lettuce, spinach, and snap beans continued. Peach growers continued harvesting and marketing fruit.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, August 8, 2011

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days ¹		Soil Moisture ²
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				Total	Dept.*	
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*			
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Degrees	Base 50° F	Base 50° F	Percent
North										
Belvidere Bridge ³	1.89	26.64	5.82	92	62	74	2	1,747	10	95
Canoe Brook ³	0.02	22.94	1.02	93	64	78	5	2,155	419	66
Charlotteburg	1.99	38.15	16.05	89	60	74	4	1,990	629	100
Flemington	0.91	28.02	6.82	92	61	77	4	2,282	500	88
Newton	1.24	28.42	8.10	88	61	74	3	2,060	479	92
Central										
Freehold	0.70	22.22	1.64	93	63	78	4	2,391	485	75
Long Branch	0.92	24.09	3.51	90	65	77	3	2,198	371	69
New Brunswick	0.66	22.40	1.78	97	63	79	5	2,398	407	76
Toms River ³	0.89	18.09	-3.10	93	63	77	4	2,216	390	70
Trenton	0.79	21.19	1.49	98	65	80	4	2,637	558	58
South										
Downstown	0.92	19.36	0.06	93	61	77	2	3,393	303	61
Hammonton	0.00	13.54	-6.78	94	63	79	3	2,701	637	24
Pomona	0.85	18.57	0.11	95	64	79	5	2,638	712	63
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	11.59	-8.77	95	64	77	N/A	2,618	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 all historic comparisons.

Jersey Fresh Availability & Forecast Report

Even though last summer was the hottest summer on record, July 2011 was the hottest month ever in New Jersey, with a record of 21 days hitting 90 or higher. Weekend showers around much of the state were needed. There's an even chance of thunderstorms tomorrow. This week's temperatures should be seasonal, in the high 80's. Our farmers will again spend much of this week dragging irrigation equipment around their farms trying to take the edge of this heat so that produce quality and shelf-life will not suffer due to stress.

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 8, 2011

ARUGULA	Harvesting a light to fair quantity of good quality product.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.
BASIL	Likes warmer weather. Harvesting a good volume of excellent quality product.
BEETS	Harvesting very good quality product in fair quantity.
CABBAGE	Harvesting good quality product in fair to good volume.
CANTALOUPE & MELONS	Harvesting good quality in light quantity right now. Expect another bit of volume in 2-3 weeks for the Labor Day marketplace.
CILANTRO	A light to fair volume of good quality product is harvesting in this heat.
COLLARDS	Harvesting very good quality product in fair to good volume.
CUCUMBERS	Harvesting light quantities of very good product as we're between plantings right now. Supply should start to ramp up in a few weeks.
DANDELIONS	Good quality Italian & San Pasquale varieties harvesting in fair volume.
DILL	Harvesting good quality in light quantity in this heat.
EGGPLANT & PEPPERS	Harvesting very good quality in good supplies.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting good quality products in light volume. Doesn't like the increasing temperatures and volume decreases during the Summer heat. Volume will return w/ the cooler weather in mid-September.
KALE	Good quality product harvesting in fair volume.
LEEKS	A fair volume of good quality available with Spring planted harvesting.
MINT	Very good quality harvesting in good volume.
NECTARINES	Excellent quality with the widely planted Sunglo variety in good supply, with volume through the early part of September. Good sizing of 2 1/2" primarily.
PARSLEY	Harvesting a light volume of good quality product in this heat.
PEACHES	Harvesting a good supply of excellent quality and widely planted Bounty and Flamin' Fury yellow freestone varieties. White Lady variety white peaches in good volume, with Klondike variety increasing in volume. Brix levels are high due to our early hot and dry weather, so sweetness is ensured. Sizing and quality are excellent.
RADISHES	Doesn't like the hot temperatures and volume fades during the Summer heat. Will return with the cooler weather in mid-September.
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 good supply.
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting very good quality product in light to fair volume w/ this heat.
TOMATOES	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.
TURNIPS	Doesn't like the hot temperatures and volume fades during the Summer heat. Will return with the cooler weather in mid-September.
WHITE POTATOES	Harvesting mainly round white varieties, with some Yukon Gold, Redskin varieties, and a bit of Russets as well. Source your N.J. white potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags.

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