



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
Jersey



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending August 20, 2017

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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Good Week for Field Work: New Jersey had an average of 5.5 days suitable for field work. Temperatures climbed to reach the high 80's across much of the state, and even reached the low 90's in a few of the counties. Lows were mainly in the high 50's and low 60's. Rainfall has varied greatly throughout the state and the more than adequate amount of rain is becoming a concern.

Despite the rainfall and relatively lower temperatures in many areas, planting continues on the following crops: Snap beans, cilantro, parsley, cucumbers, escarole, endive, leeks, Swiss chard, scallions, and spinach. Harvest also continues on the following: Arugula, snap beans, beets, broccoli and cauliflower, basil, chives, cilantro, cabbage, cantaloupe, husk, sweet, and sour cherries, collards, sweet corn, cucumbers, summer dandelion, dill, eggplant, fennel, green garlic, kale, leeks, leaf and head lettuce, mint, parsley, peaches and nectarines, sweet and hot peppers, peas, radishes, summer and winter squash, spinach, Swiss chard, scallions, tomatoes, turnips, watermelons, and hay.

Reports are stating that the weather has not been conducive to good yields across the board in some parts of New Jersey where crop growth is slowed and pollination seems low. Forage crops remain behind in cutting. There is slowed development of fruit crops. Tomato blights and hornworm are prevalent and bagworms are in unusual abundance. Heavy rain events are slowing field work and allowing for excessive weed growth, particularly on organic farms. The challenging summer weather is expected to decrease cranberry yields from last year's record high. The rainfall is also beginning to affect the quality of some vegetables.

On a positive note, there is enough moisture in the ground and there are no worries about drought at this time. The cooler nights are helping in the flavor accumulation of wine grapes, and most varieties are past varaison. Soybeans are still forecast to yield well, as they are spread throughout the state rather than concentrated in the south where there has been more rain. The lower daytime temperatures and cooler nights also helped in producing quality peaches and nectarines. New Jersey has the second highest peach crop this year, following California.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending August 20, 2017

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	3	91	6
SUBSOIL	0	1	91	8

Crop Conditions as of August 20, 2017

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	0	0	58	42	0
BELL PEPPERS	1	3	11	82	3
CORN	0	2	12	58	28
HAY, ALFALFA	0	2	17	75	6
HAY, OTHER	0	1	21	75	3
PASTURE AND RANGE	0	0	19	76	5
SOYBEANS	0	3	13	72	12
TOMATOES	2	4	21	73	0

Crop Progress as of August 20, 2017

(in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
CORN: MILK	95	88	72	N/A
CORN: DOUGH	55	51	58	N/A
CORN: DENTED	25	15	10	N/A
HAY, ALFALFA: THIRD CUTTING	45	30	33	31
HAY, OTHER: SECOND CUTTING	85	82	91	81
HAY, OTHER: THIRD CUTTING	22	17	5	8
SOYBEANS: BLOOMING	96	93	94	N/A
SOYBEANS: SETTING PODS	84	59	75	N/A
PEACHES: HARVESTED	91	78	N/A	N/A
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	79	71	N/A	N/A
BELL PEPPERS: HARVESTED	55	45	N/A	N/A
TOMATOES: HARVESTED	55	42	N/A	N/A

August 20, 2017 New Jersey Weekly Weather Summary

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2017					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Andover	84	59	72	+3	0.57	3	22.13	+2.01	63	2094	+224	3449
Belvidere_Bridg	86	58	72	+1	1.45	5	23.27	+4.22	59	2066	+107	3417
Cape_May	91	64	78	+4	0.53	4	24.29	+8.59	58	2696	+363	4110
Estell_Manor	91	61	77	+4	1.75	4	28.18	+12.11	51	2606	+329	3996
Flemington	87	59	73	+2	0.76	4	23.69	+3.24	61	2285	+196	3658
Freehold_Marlbo	88	57	74	+1	0.37	3	20.77	+2.42	62	2447	+193	3835
Hammonton	89	61	76	+2	2.00	5	25.19	+6.91	54	2590	+183	3987
Manasquan	88	63	75	+2	0.89	3	19.93	+1.58	60	2273	+19	3665
Marlton	87	60	75	+1	1.11	4	21.88	+2.66	59	2508	+98	3901
Millville	90	63	78	+4	1.90	3	29.33	+12.30	46	2630	+190	4017
Mt_Holly_NWS	86	60	74	+1	0.56	4	19.01	-0.66	56	2433	+92	3817
Newark	89	66	76	+1	1.19	4	24.82	+5.89	59	2608	+62	3999
New_Brunswick	87	61	75	+2	1.50	4	24.43	+4.20	58	2495	+239	3883
Pennsauken	88	61	76	+1	0.97	3	22.68	+3.32	54	2536	-20	3924
Upper_Deerfield	91	62	76	+1	1.36	4	25.82	+7.88	51	2644	+180	4038
Sussex_2NW	84	58	72	+3	0.47	4	22.68	+2.47	62	1965	+123	3304
Trenton - Merce	88	62	76	+4	0.36	3	20.73	+0.37	56	2526	+336	3914

Summary based on NWS preliminary data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
 Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
 Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Reporters Comments, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

Cumberland County, Dr. Wesley Kline

Heavy rains have affected quality of vegetables in some areas. The following crops are being harvested: arugula, snap beans, beets, basil, cilantro, cabbage, cantaloupe, collards, sweet corn, cucumbers, summer dandelion, dill, eggplant, kale, leeks, mint, parsley, peppers, radishes, summer squash, winter squash, Swiss chard, scallions, tomatoes, turnips, watermelon and hay. Following crops are being planted: snap beans, cilantro, parsley, cucumbers, escarole, endive, leeks, Swiss chard, scallions and spinach.

Gloucester County, Dr. Hemant Gohil

Enough moisture in the ground. Not so hot days and cooler night helps in producing quality peaches and nectarines. New Jersey has the second highest crop this year, following California and prices per box are much higher this year (up to 50-80 % higher). Peach varieties being harvested are, Messina™, PF 27, PF 28, PF 38-007, Flame Prince, Fayette, Jersey Queen, Gloria. Nectarines Fantasia™ and Encore™ and apple varieties Golden Delicious™ and Fuji™ being harvested. Most varieties of grapevine crossed

varaison. Clear sky and cooler nights helps in flavor accumulation of wine grapes.

Mercer County, Meredith Melendez

Rain has varied greatly throughout the county. Rain events are slowing field work and allowing for excessive weed growth, particularly on organic farms. Currently harvesting: beets, broccoli, cherries (sweet and sour), cabbage, husk cherries, chives, cabbage, cauliflower, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, fennel, green beans, green garlic, herbs, kale, lettuce (leaf and head), peaches, peppers (sweet and hot), peas (shell and sugar snap), radish, spinach, summer squash, tomato.

Monmouth County, Bill Sciarappa

Crop growth is slow and pollination seems low. Weather has not been conducive to good yields across the board. Tomato blights and hornworm are prevalent. Bagworms in unusual abundance. Forage crops remain behind in cutting as well as development of fruit crops.

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JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR AUGUST 21, 2017

APPLES	Harvesting Gala, Honeycrisp & Ginger Gold. Should start McIntosh, Courtland, & Early Fuji in the next several weeks. More cool nights would help in the development of color in many varieties.
ARUGULA	Harvesting good quality product in light volume due to seasonal warmth.
BABY SPINACH & ARUGULA	Harvesting very good quality products in good volume.
BASIL	Likes hot weather. Harvesting good quality product in fair to good volume.
BEETS	Harvesting a good volume of very good quality products.
CABBAGE	Harvesting a good volume of good quality green, savoy, & red.
CILANTRO	Harvesting good quality product in light volume due to seasonal warmth.
COLLARDS	Harvesting a good volume of good quality products.
CUCUMBERS	Very good quality pickles and cukes harvesting in fair to decreasing volume due to seasonal warmth.
DANDELIONS	Good quality and quantity of product is available.
EGGPLANT	Harvesting a good volume of very good quality field grown product.
DILL	Harvesting good quality in light to decreasing volume due to seasonal warmth.
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting a light volume, due to seasonal warmth, for much of the Summer.
KALE	Good quality product harvesting in good volume.
LEEKS	A fair to good volume of good quality product is available.
MINT	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.
NECTARINES	Finishing up the harvest of the Sunglo variety, while increasing the harvest of the excellent quality Fantasia variety through the end of the month.
PARSLEY	Harvesting good quality curly and plain product in fair to good volume.
PEACHES	Harvesting excellent quality yellow & white freestone varieties in good volume. Volume of white varieties thru early September & yellow varieties thru mid-September.
PEPPERS	Harvesting a good volume of good quality product.
RADISHES	Harvesting good quality product in light volume for the Summer due to seasonal warmth.
SPINACH	Harvesting a light volume of good quality product due to seasonal warmth.
SQUASH	Harvesting very good quality zucchini & yellow squash in good volume.
SWEET CORN	A good volume of very good quality product available.
SWISS CHARD	Harvesting good quality products in fair volume.
TOMATOES	A good volume of mostly good quality field grown product available.
TURNIPS	Harvesting good quality product in light volume due to seasonal warmth.
WHITE POTATOES	Harvesting a good volume of mainly round white & red varieties. Also harvesting yellow fleshed varieties and Russets in fair to good volume. Source your N.J. potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

LETTUCES	Growers should start harvesting their Fall lettuces in mid-September.
SWEET POTATOES	Should begin harvesting in mid-September, but with curing, volume won't be available until late September.