



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New  
Jersey



# Crop Progress & Condition

Bruce Eklund, State Statistician

P.O. Box 330, Trenton, NJ 08625

Phone: 503-308-0404

Fax: 609-633-9231

[www.nass.usda.gov/nj](http://www.nass.usda.gov/nj)  
Week ending May 20, 2018

Issued weekly on the internet, April - November  
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

[nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov)  
Released May 21, 2018

**Poor Week for Field Work:** New Jersey had an average of 2 days suitable for field work. All stations reported significant rain for the week and near normal temperatures except one station in the southern part of the state reporting 30 degrees for their low.

For the season, almost all stations are above normal in rainfall. Excessive amounts and duration of rain have prevented growers from working in the field. Farmers struggled to plant crops before the rain. There was too much rain, little sun and cool soils reported throughout the state.

High tunnel and greenhouse work continued. Crops with an early harvest that are becoming available daily include arugula, asparagus, head lettuce, leafy greens, herbs, kale, radish, and spinach. Crops also expected to be widely available soon are beets and strawberries.

According to Rutgers Cooperative Extension Plant and Pest Advisory, captures of allium leaf miner (ALM) adults on sticky cards on chives and scallions have declined dramatically over the past week. Damage, which had been increasing on early alliums seems to have leveled off as well. This first adult flight was late, due to the cold early spring. It now seems to be winding down.

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending May 20, 2018 (in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	0	60	40
SUBSOIL	0	1	63	36

## Crop Conditions as of May 20, 2018 (in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
HAY, ALFALFA	0	4	49	45	2
HAY, OTHER	0	2	52	43	3
PASTURE AND RANGE	0	0	34	60	6
WINTER WHEAT	0	6	13	73	8

## Crop Progress as of May 20, 2018 (in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
APPLES: GREEN TIP	69	68	N/A	N/A
APPLES: PINK	60	56	93	61
APPLES: FULL BLOOM	25	5	56	47
CORN: PLANTED	36	30	56	50
WINTER WHEAT: BREAKING DORMANCY	87	86	N/A	N/A
WINTER WHEAT: HEADED	39	0	85	60
SWEET CORN: PLANTED	25	16	N/A	N/A
BELL PEPPERS: PLANTED	59	57	N/A	N/A
TOMATOES: PLANTED	52	45	N/A	N/A

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit [www.usda.gov/oce/weather](http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather) and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin.](#)"

## May 20, 2018 New Jersey Weekly Weather Summary

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2018					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
ANDOVER AEROFLE	87	51	60	+1	0.59	2	6.59	-0.42	30	254	-6	576
BELVIDERE BRIDG	88	46	60	0	2.75	6	8.77	+2.25	25	201	-45	499
CAPE MAY 2 NW	84	53	65	+3	3.86	7	8.84	+3.16	21	364	+44	774
ESTELL MANOR	87	52	63	+2	5.24	6	9.75	+3.50	22	396	+56	796
FLEMINGTON 5 NN	90	48	61	+1	2.63	6	8.46	+1.29	25	304	+30	658
FREEHOLD-MARLBO	90	45	62	+1	3.59	7	9.40	+3.05	23	366	+38	748
HAMMONTON 1 NE	88	51	62	0	3.10	7	8.78	+2.38	22	382	+48	787
MANASQUAN	86	51	60	-1	2.75	6	7.65	+1.22	25	280	+8	658
MILLVILLE MUNIC	86	51	64	+3	4.60	7	8.73	+2.68	25	434	+120	840
MT HOLLY WFO	87	52	63	+2	1.68	4	6.54	-1.73	21	316	-40	674
NEW BRUNSWICK 3	89	49	62	+1	2.80	6	8.27	+1.49	23	334	+40	701
NEWARK LIBERTY	91	51	61	-2	2.63	7	9.51	+2.79	28	396	+31	816
PENNSAUKEN 1N	88	49	62	-2	2.36	6	7.26	+0.61	21	362	-26	749
SEABROOK FARMS	83	30	62	-1	4.45	6	8.38	+1.97	17	305	-74	677
SUSSEX 3 WNW	88	44	60	+2	3.25	6	9.00	+1.92	27	234	+30	539
TRENTON MERCER	87	50	60	-1	3.06	7	8.69	+2.78	30	386	+76	784

Summary based on NOAA Regional Climate Centers (RCCs) data. DFN = departure from normal.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. Climate normals used are for the 1981-2010 period.

Notice please be advised, the Weekly Crop Progress and Condition Report's Weather Data Tables may be discontinued for budget reasons. This includes the possibility of discontinuing the weather data narratives and graphics Please contact your local NASS Regional Field Office with comments or compliments regarding this issue. The Weekly Crop Progress and Condition Report's Crop Progress and Condition data will remain and be available.

## 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.*

**Mercer County, Meredith Melendez** - Excessive amounts and duration of rain have prevented growers from working in the field. It was a mad dash to get things planted prior to the rains. High tunnel and greenhouse work continued. Harvesting now: Arugula, Asparagus, Head lettuce, Leafy greens, Herbs, Kale, Radish, Spinach.

**Monmouth County, Bill Sciarappa** - Too much rain, little sun, cool soils - we're behind season wise and field work wise



The banner is divided into three sections. The left section is orange and contains the text '2017 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE' in white, with the tagline 'YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR OPPORTUNITY.' below it. It also features the USDA logo and the text 'United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service'. The middle section is a colorful illustration of a farm scene with a red barn, a blue sky, green fields, and a person working in a field. The right section is dark brown and contains the text 'There's Still Time to Be Counted. Respond Today!' in white, followed by 'Respond Online. www.agcounts.usda.gov', 'For assistance completing the census, call toll-free (888) 424-7828.', and 'www.agcensus.usda.gov'.

## JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR MAY 21, 2018

<b>ARUGULA</b>	Harvesting a fair to good volume of good quality product.
<b>ASPARAGUS</b>	Harvesting a good volume of excellent quality product. Warmer and drier weather will help the harvest this week.
<b>BABY SPINACH &amp; ARUGULA</b>	Harvesting very good quality products.
<b>BEETS</b>	Harvesting a light to fair & increasing volume of good quality product.
<b>CILANTRO</b>	Harvesting a fair to good volume of good quality over-wintered product. Spring planted available.
<b>COLLARDS</b>	Harvesting a light to increasing volume of very good quality product.
<b>DANDELIONS</b>	Good quality over-wintered bunched product harvesting in fair to good volume. Spring planted available.
<b>DILL</b>	Harvesting a fair to increasing volume of very good quality product.
<b>ESCAROLE &amp; ENDIVE</b>	Harvesting a light to increasing volume of very good quality product.
<b>KALE</b>	Good quality over-wintered product harvesting in fair to good volume.
<b>LEEKS</b>	A fair & good volume of good quality over-wintered product is available.
<b>LETTUCE</b>	Harvesting a good volume of good quality Boston, Red & Green Leaf in fair to increasing volume. Romaine in light to fair & increasing volume. "Jersey Fresh" labeled romaine was not affected by the recent recall & should be marketed and purchased with confidence.
<b>MINT</b>	Harvesting a fair to good volume of good quality product.
<b>PARSLEY</b>	Good quality over-wintered curly & plain product harvesting in light to fair & increasing volume. Spring planted becoming available.
<b>RADISHES</b>	Harvesting good quality in fair to good volume.
<b>SPINACH</b>	Harvesting a fair to good volume of good quality over-wintered product. Spring planted available.
<b>STRAWBERRIES</b>	Harvesting Chandler variety berries in fair to increasing volume in South Jersey. Harvest increasing slowly with cool temperatures and rainy weather slowing the harvest last week. The bulk of the crop will be harvested in late May & early June, with lower volumes to continue into mid-June depending on the warmth. Matted row varieties available in northern areas through late June. Mainly a direct marketed crop & not a large wholesale volume available.
<b>SWISS CHARD</b>	Harvesting good quality product in fair to good volume.
<b>TURNIPS</b>	Starting to harvest very good quality product.

## JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

<b>BASIL</b>	Likes warmer weather. Should be ready by mid-June.
<b>BLUEBERRIES</b>	Minor quantities of early varieties like Weymouth starting mid-June. The much more widely planted Duke variety will start 3-4 days later with volume available a week later.
<b>CABBAGE</b>	Harvest should begin late month.
<b>CUCUMBERS</b>	Pickles should begin in about 2 weeks, followed by cukes a week later.
<b>SQUASH</b>	Should start harvesting field grown zucchini in about 3 weeks with yellow squash starting a few days later.