

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service New Jersey Field Office

Cooperating with New Jersey Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service

Agricultural Marketing Service
U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A.
Rutgers University



NJ-CW3708

New Jersey Weather and Crop Bulletin

September 15, 2008

Weather Advisory for New Jersey And Southeastern Pennsylvania Issued by Rutgers University New Brunswick, NJ 8 am EDT Monday, September 15, 2008

Rainfall amounts none through Tuesday. Winds for spraying northwest 10 to 20 mph today, northwest 5 mph tonight, northwest 5 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent 35 to 45 today, 90 to 100 tonight, to 45 Tuesday. Dew points dropping from near 70 this morning to near 50 by later Tuesday.

Drying conditions becoming good today, good Tuesday. Heavy dew tonight, heavy dew Tuesday night. Percent of possible sunshine 60 today, 60 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.

Conditions might be favorable for cranberry scald today but should be unfavorable Tuesday.

Hay cutting will be good over the next several days with decreasing humidity and little threat of rain.

The latest 8 to 14 day outlook for the period September 22, 2008 to September 28, 2008 is calling for temperatures to average near normal and precipitation to total near normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 9/15/08

Temperatures averaged much above normal, averaging 68 degrees north, 70 degrees central, and 72 degrees south. Extremes were 93 degrees at Canoe Brook and Flemington on September 15, 2008, and 50 degrees at Toms River on September 12, 2008.

Weekly rainfall averaged 1.40 inches north, 1.20 inches central, and 1.19 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 1.38 inches at Newton on September 9, 2008 to September 10, 2008.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 97 percent north, 93 percent central, and 93 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 71 degrees north, 72 degrees central, and 73 degrees south.

Crops Relieved By Recent Rainfall

Days suitable for field work, for the week ending Sunday, September 14, 2008, were 6.0. Topsoil moisture was rated as 5% short, 90% adequate, and 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated as 25% short, 70% adequate, and 5% surplus. There were measurable amounts of rainfall for the week in all localities. Temperatures were above normal during the week across the Garden State. Soybeans were relieved by recent rainfall, while corn continued to be chopped for silage. Hay production was slowed by weather conditions as third-cuttings continued. Late fall vegetable planting included cucumbers, cabbage, and squash. Fresh-market tomatoes experienced slow-ripening in some southern areas. Apple orchards were sprayed with pesticides and peach harvesting was finishing up. Reports for pumpkin conditions were good as they colored nicely. Producers continued planting vegetables and preparing equipment for harvesting.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending Monday, September 15, 2008

	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°F	Base 50°F	Percent
North										
Belvidere Bridge	1.41	22.47	-3.96	90	55	71	7	2,727	286	91
Canoe Brook	0.94	25.88	-1.86	93	52	67	2	2,644	196	95
Charlotteburg	1.53	29.24	1.22	88	51	66	5	2,495	550	93
Flemington	1.25	23.74	-2.84	93	54	69	4	2,643	132	95
Newton	1.89	24.97	-0.86	88	53	68	6	2,797	598	93
Central										
Freehold ³	1.31	N/A	N/A	92	52	70	4	N/A	N/A	93
Long Branch	1.08	20.66	-5.54	85	54	70	3	2,651	49	87
New Brunswick	1.30	30.26	4.04	92	55	70	4	2,994	198	94
Toms River	0.72	23.76	-3.01	90	50	70	3	2,901	295	81
Trenton	1.60	25.59	0.75	91	56	71	4	3,117	217	85
South										
Cape May C.H.	1.42	18.36	-4.83	89	62	73	3	3,075	459	91
Downstown	0.86	21.43	-2.97	92	52	71	3	3,095	184	88
Glassboro	1.15	21.78	-3.79	90	57	72	4	3,123	243	86
Hammonton	1.90	20.79	-4.77	91	53	72	4	3,228	339	91
Pomona	0.71	23.62	0.28	90	55	72	6	3,203	507	79
Seabrook	1.08	20.20	-3.24	90	59	74	6	3,306	379	85
South Harrison	0.88	23.02	-2.09	89	56	72	N/A	3,102	N/A	N/A

^{*} Departure from normal.

Growing degree days since March 1, 2008, total and departure from normal or long term average.

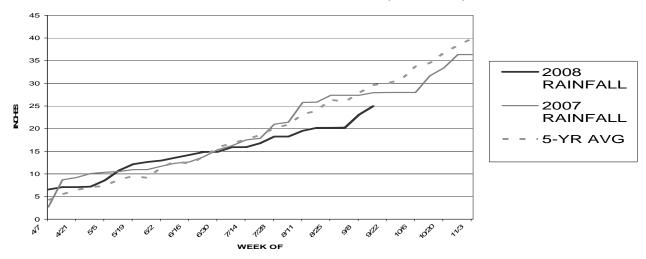
² Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

Data not available.

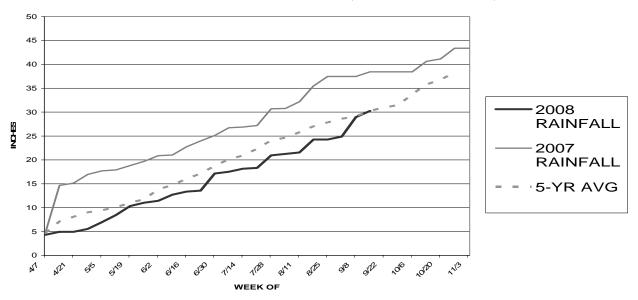
JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2008

APPLES	Fresh product is available now through December. Jonathan, Gala,					
	& Courtland harvesting now. Red Delicious, Empire, Jonagold, and					
	McCoun starting. Golden Delicious, Rome, and Stayman/Winesap					
	starting early October. Braeburn, Fuji, and Granny Smith will start					
	mid to late October. Cider is available from now until Christmas in					
	wholesale volume, through late Spring for retail sales.					
ARUGULA & CILANTRO	A fair to good volume of good quality products.					
BABY SPINACH &	Harvesting in good quality and quantity.					
BABY ARUGULA	Trai vosting in good quarry and quantity.					
BASIL & MINT	Harvesting good quality product in fair to declining volume.					
BEETS	Harvesting good quality and quantity.					
CABBAGE	Harvesting good quality product in good volume.					
COLLARDS	Harvesting good quality in good volume.					
CUCUMBERS/PICKLES	Harvesting a light quantity of fair to good quality product. Less					
	product available than normal due to early Aug. hail damage.					
DILL & KALE	Harvesting very good quality in good volume.					
EGGPLANT	Harvesting fair to good quality in fair volume.					
ESCAROLE & ENDIVE	Harvesting in light to increasing volume and good quality.					
LEEKS & GR. ONIONS	A good volume of good quality product is available.					
LETTUCES	Starting to harvest a very light to increasing volume of very good					
	quality Boston & Romaine. Red & Green Leaf starting next week.					
NECTARINES	Finishing up with good quality Fantasia variety.					
PARSLEY	Good quality product available in fair to good quantities.					
PEACHES	Harvesting light to decreasing quantities of yellow & white					
	peaches; finishing up at the end of the month. Encore, our most					
	heavily planted yellow peach variety, and Laurol, are both					
	harvesting. Snow Giant white peaches harvesting.					
PEPPERS	Harvesting fair to good quality in light to fair volume. Less product					
	available than normal due to early Aug. hail damage.					
RADISHES & TURNIPS	Temperature sensitive, a good quantity & quality of products are					
	available with the cooling weather.					
SPINACH	Starting in very light to inc. volume of very good quality product.					
SQUASH	Harvesting light to fair quantities of fair to good quality Yellow &					
	Zucchini. Less product available than normal due to Aug. hail.					
	Butternut & Acorn available in fair quantity & good quality.					
SWEET CORN	Harvesting fair to good quality & light to decreasing quantity as Fall					
	insect pressures increase and cool overnight temps. slow ripening.					
SWEET POTATOES	Just started harvesting very good quality potatoes. With curing,					
	volume won't be available until later next week.					
SWISS CHARD	A fair volume of good quality product available.					
TOMATOES	Harvesting fair to good quality and light volume. Less product					
	available than normal due to early Aug. hail damage.					
WHITE POTATOES	Harvesting mainly round white varieties, with some Yukon Gold					
	and Redskin varieties as well.					

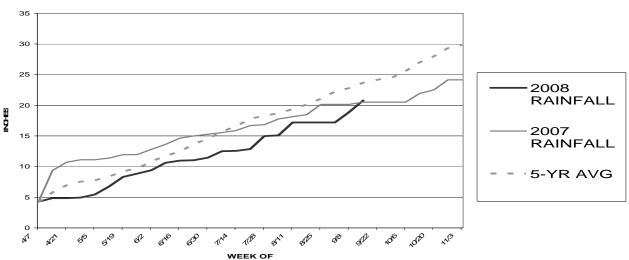
2008 TOTAL RAINFALL (NEWTON)



2008 TOTAL RAINFALL (NEW BRUNSWICK)



2008 TOTAL RAINFALL (HAMMONTON)



 $Source: \ \underline{http://www.envsci.rutgers.edu/fcst/NJ_AG.htm}$