United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Crop Progress & Condition

New Jersey

Bruce Eklund, State Statistician | P.O. Box 330, Trenton, NJ 08625 | Phone: 503-308-0404 | Fax: 609-633-9231

www.nass.usda.gov/nj
Week ending April 8, 2018

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

nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov
Released April 9, 2018

Good Week for Field Work: New Jersey had an average of 4.5 days suitable for field work. Temperatures ranged greatly this past week. Temperatures were again lower than average, with lows below freezing across much of the state, and highs only reaching the 50's and 60's, with a few counties edging just over the 70 degree mark.

All stations reported precipitation for the week and field conditions remain wet and muddy, which is still delaying much of the planting and field preparation. Farmers are eager to get started but their hands are tied with inclement weather.

Cool temperatures and wet soils are also slowing down planting and transplanting of vegetables. Vegetable growers are behind the normal planting schedule, as well. Most of the crops that are able to be planted are under row cover. These crops include white potatoes, beets, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, summer dandelion, lettuce, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, peas, Swiss chard and spinach. Harvesting has started for some outside production of leeks and spinach.

Crop Conditions as of April 8, 2018
(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
HAY, ALFALFA	8	6	31	52	3
HAY, OTHER	7	6	24	61	2
PASTURE AND RANGE	2	5	14	76	3
WINTER WHEAT	0	6	17	77	0

Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 8, 2018
(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	0	64	36
SUBSOIL	0	0	58	42

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oce/weather and click on "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin."

April 8, 2018 New Jersey Weekly Weather Summary

	Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2018					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
ANDOVER AEROFLE	57	26	37	-9	1.04	5	1.04	-0.39	5	0	-14	20
BELVIDERE BRIDG	58	25	39	-6	1.43	5	1.43	+0.42	5	0	-11	11
CAPE MAY 2 NW	58	32	45	-4	0.14	4	0.14	-0.94	4	4	-13	48
ESTELL MANOR	71	28	46	-2	0.74	4	0.74	-0.50	4	5	-17	50
FLEMINGTON 5 NN	61	28	40	-6	0.89	4	0.89	-0.33	4	0	-15	23
FREEHOLD-MARLBO	72	29	44	-5	0.65	4	0.65	-0.54	4	2	-18	40
HAMMONTON 1 NE	72	32	47	-2	0.26	4	0.26	-0.93	4	4	-18	52
MANASQUAN	65	31	44	-3	0.53	6	0.53	-0.66	6	0	-15	35
MILLVILLE MUNIC	69	27	45	-3	0.15	3	0.15	-0.98	3	10	-8	54
MT HOLLY WFO	70	30	44	-6	0.95	5	0.95	-0.30	5	2	-22	40
NEW BRUNSWICK 3	63	29	42	-5	0.63	6	0.63	-0.55	6	0	-16	30
NEWARK LIBERTY	63	32	42	-7	0.92	5	0.92	-0.25	5	3	-19	44
PENNSAUKEN 1N	68	32	44	-6	0.43	5	0.43	-0.71	5	1	-28	38
SEABROOK FARMS	69	24	47	-3	0.18	3	0.18	-1.00	3	4	-21	52
SUSSEX 3 WNW	55	23	37	-7	1.18	5	1.18	-0.01	5	0	-8	8
TRENTON MERCER	65	30	42	-5	0.36	6	0.36	-0.72	6	4	-14	34

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.

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 L. Kline - Cool temperatures and wet soils are slowing down planting and transplanting of vegetables. Growers are behind the normal planting schedule. The following crops are being planted: White potatoes, beets, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, summer dandelion, lettuce, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, peas, Swiss chard and spinach. Most of these crops are under row cover. Harvesting has started for some outside production: leeks and spinach.

Monmouth County, Bill Sciarappa - Field conditions remain soaking wet, muddy, sloppy and are again setting back the planting/field prep season from early to very late. Farmers are eager to get started but their hands are tied with inclement weather. The break-up of the Arctic shield wind pattern allows a polar vortex to reach deep into our nation and disrupt the normally stable jet stream - super frigid air from the north and very warm air from the south are creating fairly violent, unseasonable weather which may be the norm for decades now. Happy Earth Day.

