



Newsletter

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CaroVail

Agronomy Update

April 22, 2016

Locations

Auburn

55 Columbus St
Auburn, NY 13021
315-253-7379

Bernardston

472 Northfield Road
Bernardston, MA
01337
413-648-9900

Niverville

831 Route 28
Niverville, NY 12130
518-784-9166

Oriskany Falls

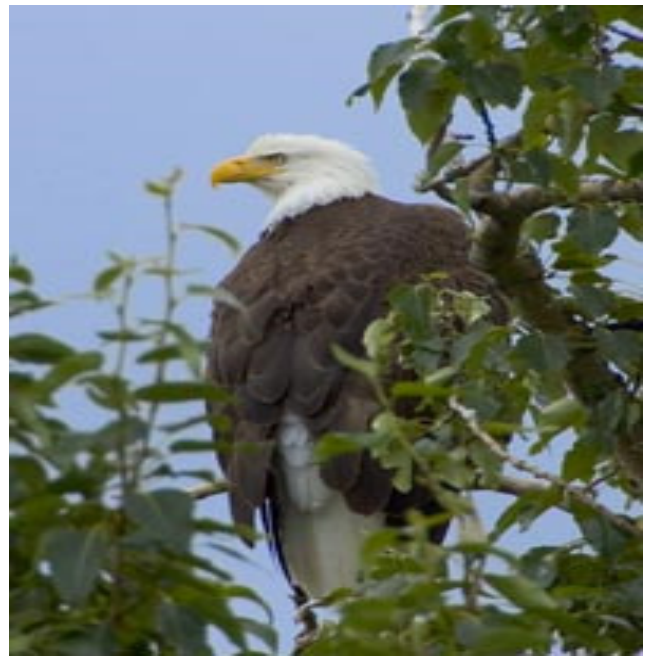
8341 US State Rt 20
Oriskany Falls, NY
13425
315-841-3201

Salem

4134 State Rt 22
Salem, NY 12865
518-854-9446

Tri Valley Crop Ctr

337 State Hwy 162
Sprakers, NY 12166
518-673-5336



When is soil ready for the crops?

Sally A. Flis, Ph.D. – Feed and Crop Support Specialist, Dairy One

Following up on the theme of spring from the last blog, the calendar now says it is spring, but in most of the Northeast it has been more like winter than most of winter was this year. As the days get longer everyone is ready to get started in the next growing season, but there is only one, maybe two chances to get it right each season and then we have to wait a year to try again. So it is imperative that we make the most of each attempt and use the resources available to make the best possible decisions.

However, if crops are planted before the soil is ready - in the best case you can have slow germination and in the worst case you could have to replant. So what should the soil be like when you are ready to plant?

Soil temperature should be at or above 50°F for corn planting and 54°F for soybeans. Higher soil temperatures at planting can result in faster germination. Soil moisture content will have a large influence on the rate at which soil temperature changes. Water buffers temperature and the higher the moisture the slower temperature will change in either direction. Higher moisture levels will also have more potential for seeds to swell, not germinate, and rot.

Other factors that will influence soil temperature change:

Tillage practices: a no-till soil will warm slower than a soil that is tilled in the spring. Mixing the soil will help move water out, resulting in increased soil temperatures.

Soil Type: as we have all observed some soils hold water tighter than others. Clay soils will warm more slowly due to its higher moisture content and attraction to water. Conversely, soils with higher sand content will warm faster because water moves out of the soil faster.

Artificial Drainage: drainage is installed in fields to manage water content. Fields with heavier soils (more clay) and drainage will warm faster than clay field with no drainage.



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Finally, remember that soil and water temperature change more slowly than air temperature, so the best thing to do is measure soil temperature before you are ready to plant.

Some local soil temps; Ft Ann NY 48 Degrees, Albany NY 47 degrees, clay soil temp 4/20 42 degrees and sand 48 degrees

Perennial forages are greening up, “Green UP “ is a opportune time to add nutrients to optimize first cutting potential

Farm nutrient applications are on the move through out the Northeast will send some picts

Also soil activity: Grass is slowly greening up winter covers and winter grains progressing slow open winter has had somewhat of a negative effect in some areas

Low temps last week caused hard frost showing leaf burn on alfalfa and especially winter triticales some tip burn on grasses

HAPPY EARTH DAY - April 22 is Earth Day, thanks to all the agriculturist of the world who harvest it's bounty while preserving it's beauty and soil

Weather Update

	Approx. Weekly Rainfall	Avg expected high Temp next week	Avg expected Low Temp next week	GDD (Base 50) since Jan 1	GDD (Base 50) since Mar 1	GDD (Base 50) since Apr 1	GDD (Base 50) since May 1
Auburn	0.47	61	41	41.6	41.6	17.1	0
Bernardston	0.61	60	40	49.1	49.1	23.2	0
Niverville	0.79	62	42	61.3	61.3	28.4	0
Oriskany Falls	0.63	58	41	37.8	37.8	18.3	0
Salem	0.82	57	37	43.6	43.6	19.1	0
TVCC	0.62	59	40	69.1	69.1	38.8	0

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United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Crop Progress & Condition



New York

Blair Smith, State Statistician
10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY 12235
Phone: 518-457-5570 Fax: 800-591-3834

www.nass.usda.gov/ny
Week ending April 17, 2016
Issued weekly on the internet, April - November
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS
nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov
Released April 18, 2016

Fair Week for Field Work: New York had an average of 3.5 days suitable for field work.

Most areas in New York reported little precipitation. Temperatures were on the rise after last week. The warmer dry weather dried out fields and created a good week for field work, including tilling, planting, and applying manure and fertilizer. Hay and winter crops are greening and have broken dormancy but more time and good weather is needed to determine condition. No grain corn plantings have been reported yet. Disease protection is being applied to fruit. Damage from last week's cold weather is still under assessment.

Field activities for the week include tillage, seeding, applying fertilizer, manure and pesticides, repair and maintenance.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 17, 2016
(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	2	66	32
SUBSOIL	1	5	62	32

Crop Conditions as of April 17, 2016
(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
HAY, ALFALFA	0	4	62	29	5
HAY, OTHER	0	2	60	33	5
WINTER WHEAT	1	4	25	54	16

Crop Progress as of April 17, 2016
(in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
SPRING TILLAGE: SINGLE	15	7	<5	<5
OATS: PLANTED	6	<5	<5	6
ONIONS DRY: PLANTED	15	<5	<5	<5
APPLES: GREEN TIP	59	33	<5	14
PEACHES: GREEN TIP	59	49	0	12
PEACHES: PINK	20	17	0	6
PEARS: GREEN TIP	69	59	0	12
CHERRIES, SWEET: GREEN TIP	51	32	0	14
CHERRIES, SWEET: PINK	13	12	0	6

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