Alfalfa

Locations around the region are listed where we have measured alfalfa height (see spreadsheet). You can use the location and elevation as a guide to conditions that may be similar to your farm.

It’s GO TIME for first cutting! Alfalfa height jumped this week with the sunshine and heat, measuring in at 18-21 inches across the region. You can definitely tell which stands are older than others as dandelions tend to show up by year 3. Be selective as to which stands are harvested for quality versus tonnage. As the wet weather continues to delay us from working fields and planting corn and soybeans, it prevents us from a timely harvest of first cutting hay crops. This sets the stage for the rest of the hay harvest throughout the summer.

### County | Town | Elevation | Alfalfa Height Inches | Predicted Grass % NDF | Predicted 50/50 Mix % NDF | Predicted Alfalfa % NDF | Predicted Date to Cut Grass | Predicted Date to Cut Mix | Predicted Date to Cut Alfalfa
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Monroe | Scottsville | 620 | 21 | 55.1 | 42.3 | 33.2 | 4/26/19 | 5/4/19 | 5/11/19
Wyoming | Castile | 1340 | 20 | 54.3 | 41.4 | 32.5 | 4/27/19 | 5/5/19 | 5/13/19
Livingston | Geneseo | 850 | 20 | 54.3 | 41.4 | 32.5 | 4/27/19 | 5/5/19 | 5/13/19
Orleans | Holley | 322 | 19 | 53.4 | 40.6 | 31.8 | 4/28/19 | 5/6/19 | 5/14/19
Wayne | Ontario | 397 | 19 | 53.4 | 40.6 | 31.8 | 4/28/19 | 5/6/19 | 5/14/19
Wayne | Ontario | 397 | 20 | 54.3 | 41.4 | 32.5 | 4/27 | 5/5/19 | 5/13/19

Fusarium Head Blight

Some winter malting barley in New York is beginning to emerge from the boot and this is a critical time to consider a fungicide application. The Fusarium Risk Assessment Map ([http://www.wheatscab.psu.edu/riskTool.html](http://www.wheatscab.psu.edu/riskTool.html)) indicates a moderate to high risk of Fusarium head blight (FHB) for several areas of New York. Maximal suppression of FHB and grain contamination by deoxynivalenol (DON) mycotoxin results when fully emerged heads of winter malting barley are sprayed with full label rates of Caramba or Prosaro fungicides. A heads emerged spray with these triazole fungicides also helps protect upper leaves against fungal leaf blotches, powdery mildew, and rust. Foliar sprays of Caramba or Prosaro up to seven days after head emergence may still result in significant FHB and DON suppression. Unfortunately, Miravis Ace, a new fungicide product with activity against FHB, will not receive NYSDEC label approval in time for use on small grain crops this season. Fungicide products containing strobilurins should not be applied to headed wheat or barley as they may result in increased levels of DON in grain.

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Winter wheat is generally a week or more behind in development from winter barley planted on the same fall date. Winter wheat in New York varies from stem elongation to flag leaf visible stages. We should reach the critical fungicide application window for winter wheat over the next two weeks. The triazole products Caramba and Prosaro are the most effective fungicides for suppression of FHB and DON contamination when applied at flowering (emergence of yellow anthers on heads). A flowering application of triazole fungicide should be based on Fusarium head blight (FHB) risk as well as the risks of powdery mildew, rusts, and fungal leaf blots in the upper canopy based on scouting of individual fields. There is an application window of approximately 7 days from the beginning of flowering in which reasonable FHB suppression can be expected. Check the Fusarium Risk Assessment Tool (http://www.wheatscab.psu.edu/) and your local weather forecast frequently as your winter wheat crop approaches heading and flowering.

Gary Bergstrom, Extension Plant Pathologist, Cornell University

Prevented Planting or Replant
In New York, June 10th is the Final Planting Date for soybeans, and for silage and grain corn.

Replant payments
To receive Replant payments, you must have a loss of the lesser of 20 acres or 20% of the insured planted acres to qualify for a replant payment. Be sure to contact your crop insurance agent once you decide replant is needed. Do not destroy any evidence of the initial planting before reporting the loss to your sales agent.

Prevented Planting
Can be claimed as any insurable cause of loss that keeps you out of the fields prior to 6/10/2019, providing the cause is general in the area, and other requirements are met. If a farmer applies for prevented planting they will receive 55% of the crops guarantee for corn and 60% of the crop’s guarantee for soybeans. When signing up for crop insurance farmers have the option to increase their prevented planning coverage by 5% of their guarantee by paying a premium.

One added decision farmers will need to make this year is the possibilities of “Market Facilitation Program” payments being made by the government. If Prevented Planting is used those acres will have no bushels to apply for such payments.

If your planting is delayed or prevented due to an insurable cause, be sure to notify your crop insurance agent in writing within 72 hours of the final planting date for the affected crop. Additionally, if you participate in Farm Service Agency (FSA) programs, it is important to report your prevented planting acreage within 15 calendar days after the final planting date for the crop in order to receive prevented planting acreage credit.