



Cornell Cooperative Extension Southwest New York Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Program
 A partnership between Cornell University and the CCE Associations in these five counties:
 Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Steuben.

Field Crop Finds

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August 4th, 2026

Growing Degree Days

Growing Degree Days (GDD) is calculated by taking the average daily temperature and subtracting it from the base temperature of a specified plant ((High + Low)/2 - base temp = GDD). For corn, we use base 86/50, as corn development starts at 50°F and stops at 86°F.

Check your location and planting date:

Location	Geography		Cumulative GDD since May 1		Cumulative GDD since May 15		Cumulative GDD since June 1		Cumulative GDD since June 15	
Town	Elevation (ft)	Latitude (N)	Current Year	15 Year Avg	Current Year	15 Year Avg	Current Year	15 Year Avg	Current Year	15 Year Avg
Alden	860	42.91	1406	1479	1348	1366	1147	1142	897	948
East Aurora	906	42.76	1396	1460	1339	1345	1144	1122	897	931
Eden	830	42.65	1421	1476	1368	1361	1177	1140	925	946
East Concord	1430	42.55	1289	1327	1241	1226	1063	1025	831	852
Angola	667	42.63	1414	1475	1357	1365	1169	1148	923	953
Fredonia	725	42.44	1449	1490	1391	1381	1197	1161	938	961
Mayville	1356	42.25	1315	1353	1265	1252	1090	1048	852	868
Panama	1539	42.07	1251	1297	1204	1198	1037	1003	812	830
Jamestown	1372	42.09	1292	1374	1238	1265	1056	1053	831	868
Cherry Creek	1346	42.29	1288	1381	1239	1274	1059	1064	828	881
Randolph	1286	42.16	1260	1347	1212	1241	1030	1034	805	854
Cattaraugus	1395	42.33	1192	1285	1153	1187	984	992	766	824
Machias	1673	42.41	1233	1292	1184	1192	1008	995	783	826
Olean	1445	42.07	1320	1385	1262	1272	1073	1057	839	872
Perrysburg	1311	42.45	1402	1484	1345	1366	1149	1141	897	944
Belfast	1287	42.34	1326	1371	1264	1260	1071	1047	833	865
Wellsville	1506	42.12	1232	1255	1180	1156	1001	963	782	797
Alfred	1804	42.25	1205	1298	1148	1196	974	992	751	821
Canaseraga	1255	42.46	1230	1298	1179	1199	1003	1000	778	831
Cuba	1496	42.21	1219	1280	1168	1178	992	980	771	811
Hornell	1146	42.32	1275	1349	1221	1242	1035	1033	802	854
Woodhull	1333	42.07	1234	1309	1181	1206	1000	1003	778	832
Corning	931	42.14	1201	1216	1151	1126	974	942	763	786
Bath	1106	42.33	1262	1336	1209	1231	1027	1025	801	850
Hammondsport	754	42.41	1302	1372	1248	1264	1061	1053	829	874

Location	Cumulative GDD since July 15	
Town	Current Year	15 Year Avg
Alden	313	353
East Aurora	316	346
Eden	323	354
East Concord	291	317
Angola	321	360
Fredonia	327	363
Mayville	291	324
Panama	276	309
Jamestown	283	323
Cherry Creek	282	329
Randolph	273	318
Cattaraugus	257	307
Machias	273	307
Olean	284	324
Perrysburg	311	354
Belfast	285	321
Wellsville	262	297
Alfred	251	305
Canaseraga	266	309
Cuba	260	302
Hornell	276	318
Woodhull	264	310
Corning	265	297
Bath	277	317
Hammondsport	288	327

This week, we have also started tracking accumulations from tasseling date.

*GDDs accumulated as of 7/31

Pheromone Traps

	WBCW	WBCW
	<i>Farmersville</i>	<i>Arkport</i>
Week of July 20th	12	17
Week of July 27th	1	32

Field Observations

This week, we continue to see PLH thresholds in alfalfa. Looking at two alfalfa varieties this week as part of a variety plot, one leafhopper resistant, one that isn't, there were some stark differences. Both fields were at threshold (>1 PLH/sweep), but there was an almost 6-inch height difference and leafhopper burn visible.

Unfortunately, I have been seeing on the news some hay fires recently. Hay stored with moisture levels higher than 20% have a higher fire risk. The National Resource, Agriculture, and Engineering Service [NRAES] created the following temperature chart outlining further actions that may need to be taken depending on the temperature of the hay.

Critical Temperatures and Action Steps	
Temperature (°F)	Condition and Action
125	No action needed.
150	Hay is entering the danger zone. Check temperature twice daily. Disassemble stacked hay bales to promote air circulation to cool the hay.
160	Hay has reached the danger zone. Check hay temperature every couple of hours. Disassemble stacked hay bales to promote air circulation to cool the hay.
175	Hot spots or fire pockets are likely. Alert fire services to the possible hay fire incident. Stop all air movement around the hay.
190	With the assistance of the fire service, remove hot hay. Be aware that hay could burst into flames.
200 or higher	With the assistance of the fire service, remove hot hay. Most likely, a fire will occur. Be aware that hay could burst into flames.

Cornell University and Cornell Integrated Pest Management are seeking input from New York field crop producers to better understand current pest management practices, the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), and how growers make pest management decisions. The survey also asks about growers' expectations regarding future pest management

challenges and management options. Your responses will help identify research priorities, guide Extension programming, and improve the information and decision-support resources available to New York producers. The survey takes approximately 20 minutes to complete and is confidential.

https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6hZGmKLv5REYciW