



Field Crop Finds

Compiled by Katelyn Miller (Field Crops Specialist) & John Pirrung (Field Support Specialist)

September 21st, 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	2287	2337	2229	2224	2028	2000	1778	1806
East Aurora	906	42.76	2277	2307	2220	2192	2024	1969	1782	1778
Eden	830	42.65	2322	2346	2269	2231	2080	2010	1832	1816
East Concord	1430	42.55	2076	2091	2027	1990	1850	1789	1624	1616
Angola	667	42.63	2333	2363	2276	2253	2089	2035	1844	1841
Fredonia	725	42.44	2411	2388	2353	2280	2160	2059	1907	1859
Mayville	1356	42.25	2158	2139	2108	2037	1934	1834	1698	1654
Panama	1539	42.07	2057	2042	2010	1944	1843	1748	1619	1576
Jamestown	1372	42.09	2129	2166	2075	2056	1892	1845	1664	1660
Cherry Creek	1346	42.29	2116	2178	2067	2071	1886	1862	1654	1678
Randolph	1286	42.16	2056	2117	2008	2011	1826	1804	1602	1625
Cattaraugus	1395	42.33	1939	2023	1899	1925	1731	1729	1514	1561
Machias	1673	42.41	1995	2030	1946	1930	1771	1733	1548	1564
Olean	1445	42.07	2124	2181	2066	2068	1878	1853	1643	1667
Perrysburg	1311	42.45	2278	2343	2220	2225	2025	2000	1772	1803
Belfast	1287	42.34	2127	2149	2066	2038	1873	1824	1634	1643
Wellsville	1506	42.12	1982	1969	1920	1858	1751	1677	1532	1510
Alfred	1804	42.25	1965	2025	1908	1923	1733	1720	1510	1548
Canaseraga	1255	42.46	1960	2033	1909	1934	1733	1735	1508	1566
Cuba	1496	42.21	1962	2010	1911	1909	1735	1711	1514	1542
Hornell	1146	42.32	2031	2114	1977	2007	1790	1798	1558	1619
Woodhull	1333	42.07	1969	2047	1916	1944	1735	1742	1513	1570
Corning	931	42.14	1894	1898	1844	1808	1667	1624	1457	1468
Bath	1106	42.33	2000	2092	1946	1986	1765	1780	1539	1606
Hammondsport	754	42.41	2066	2149	2012	2041	1825	1831	1593	1652

Location	Cumulative GDD since July 15		Cumulative GDD since Aug 1		Cumulative GDD since Aug 15		Cumulative GDD since Sep 1	
Town	Current Year	15 Year Avg	Current Year	15 Year Avg	Current Year	15 Year Avg	Current Year	15 Year Avg
Alden	1197	1211	884	858	578	580	296	270
East Aurora	1210	1194	904	847	592	574	306	268
Eden	1239	1224	926	870	613	588	315	274
East Concord	1098	1081	822	764	537	517	280	241
Angola	1245	1248	928	888	615	602	314	281
Fredonia	1295	1262	973	898	648	611	332	286
Mayville	1138	1109	853	785	564	532	294	250
Panama	1084	1055	813	746	537	505	282	237
Jamestown	1116	1115	833	792	549	539	293	254
Cherry Creek	1102	1127	818	797	540	541	285	252
Randolph	1068	1089	796	771	523	524	278	246
Cattaraugus	1006	1045	749	737	491	499	257	232
Machias	1042	1045	771	738	508	501	267	234
Olean	1089	1120	806	796	531	542	283	254
Perrysburg	1186	1213	877	859	579	581	300	271
Belfast	1096	1099	801	778	527	528	279	248
Wellsville	1013	1011	752	714	499	484	271	226
Alfred	1003	1032	739	727	487	492	259	230
Canaseraga	995	1044	726	735	472	495	248	230
Cuba	1004	1032	742	731	490	496	264	233
Hornell	1030	1083	754	764	496	517	260	241
Woodhull	1001	1048	737	738	481	498	257	232
Corning	959	979	694	682	447	459	237	213
Bath	1019	1073	746	756	487	509	257	238
Hammondsport	1055	1104	773	777	507	524	265	245

*GDDs accumulated as of 9/18

Hybrid Relative Maturity	GDD's (86/50)
101-110	800
96-100	750
<96	750 or slight less (extrapolated)

For silage, we track GDD from silking to help get you in the ballpark for harvest. You still should check your crop DM to determine harvest timing.

Field Observations

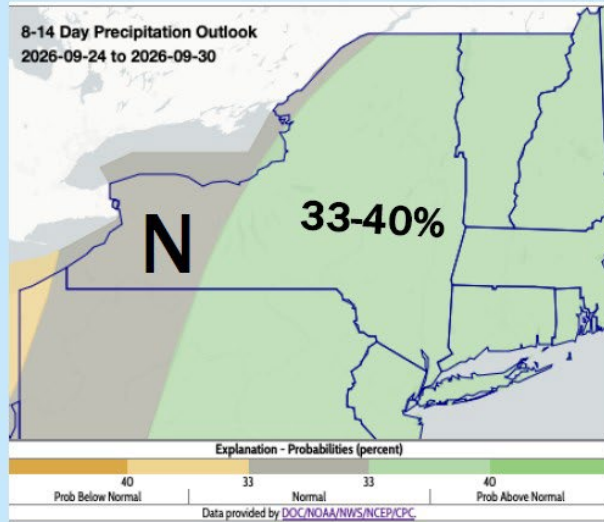
We shall remember the 21st night of September as the last official Field Crop Finds report for the season. I have been seeing final cuttings of hay being taken off, wheat ground prepped and planted, and we will be seeing a big push for getting corn silage into bunks. If any major concerns arise throughout the rest of the fall, I will send updates as needed.

As you harvest corn, be on the lookout for any potential concerns; concerning diseases, goosenecking, etc. Additionally, Cornell University's Field Crops Pathology Lab is working to update and expand their *Fusarium graminearum* (Gibberella ear rot) population genomics dataset. If you have recent or recurring issues with GER, give me a call so we can collect samples.

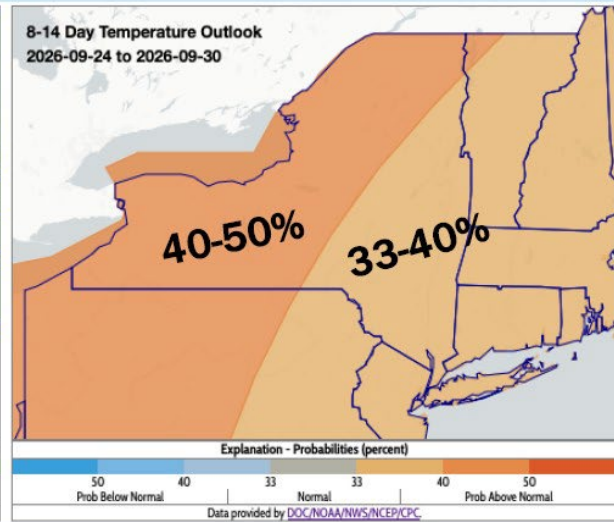
I will leave you all with some outlooks from the Northeast Regional Climate Center (on the next page). The first shows the outlook for the following week starting Thursday, and the second shows the 3-month outlook.

Stay safe out there!

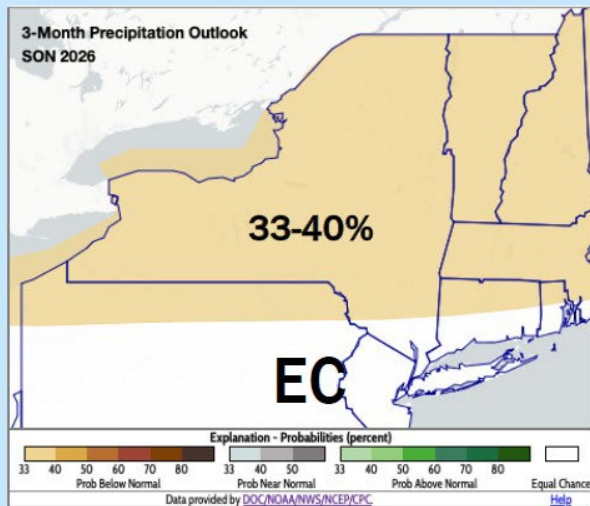
% Chance Below-Normal Precipitation



% Chance Above-Normal Temperatures



% Chance Below-Normal Precipitation



% Chance Above-Normal Temperatures

