

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Central New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops

Field Crop Update August 9, 2024

1. Field observations and weather outlook
2. Growing Degree Days
3. Pest monitoring

1. Field Observations and Weather Outlook

First, I want to take this opportunity to thank Mary Thomas Powell (right) and Samantha Thompson (left), the two incredible interns that helped me scout fields, check pheromone traps, and sweep alfalfa fields for potato leafhopper this season. Mary Thomas is a junior double-major in Environmental Studies and Biology at Colgate, and Samantha is a sophomore Agronomy major at Iowa State. Both learned a lot about upstate NY and our agriculture, and both were critical in serving and communicating with our region's producers this summer. Thank you both, and best wishes in your studies!



Crops are still looking excellent, and keep an eye on your corn as silage season approaches. Some of the earliest crops may be ready by the end of this month, while the bulk of acreage should be ready around the first week of September.

But the story of the day is obviously the rain. The only notable area of abnormal dryness in our part of NY was Greene County, but that will almost certainly be removed from the US Drought Monitor map by next week. Please be careful today with the ongoing heavy rainfall.

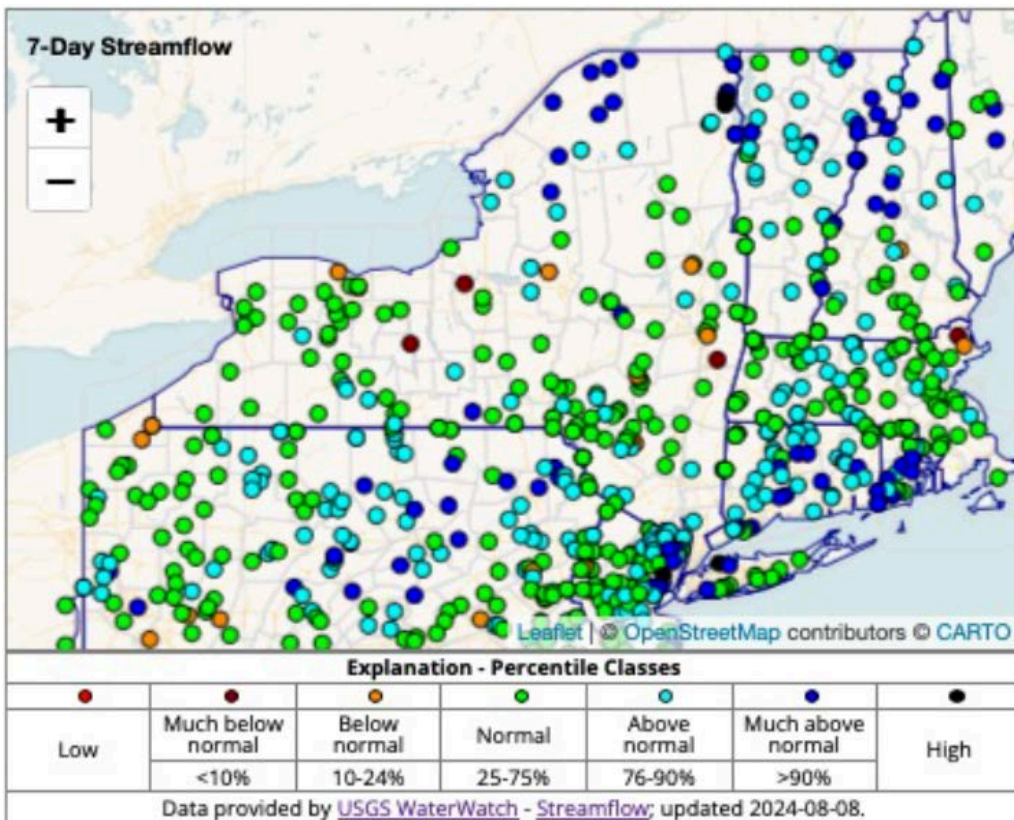
Again, we want to remind farms to **DOCUMENT AND SHARE** any impacts the weather may have had on your home or business. This can include structure damage, crop loss, inventory loss due to power outages, damage to equipment or fencing, and more.

If your farm experiences any sort of damage, please reach out to any of the folks listed below (or all of them). **The more impact information that is collected, the greater the likelihood of a disaster declaration which can bring vital emergency support and awareness. The CNYDLFC Team will continue to collect detail and submit to NYSDAM and the EDEN network.**

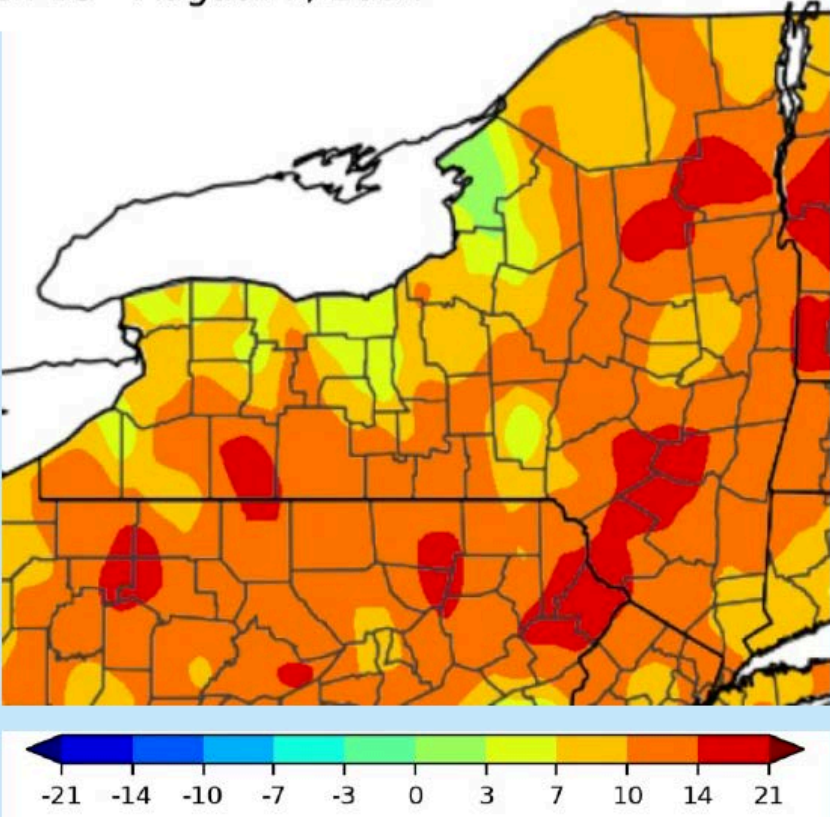
Reporting Weather Related Impacts (For your home or farm business)

- First, ensure that all the people and animals on your farm are safe, and that there aren't any unsafe working conditions created because of the weather (check your structures!). **If there's an emergency, call 911 – don't try to manage it all on your own.**
- Second, document all negative weather impacts for your farm and their estimated financial cost. Take photos, make estimates, and put it all in a safe place.
- Reach out to your insurance providers – farm, vehicle, crop, etc. to initiate the claim process as needed.
- Then, share your farm's damage with any (**or all**) of the ag support agencies listed below. We all work together to collect storm damage information and funnel it up to Ag and Markets which can initiate a natural disaster declaration.
 - Your local Cornell Cooperative Extension Association Office.
 - Chenango: 607-334-5841
 - Fulton/Montgomery: 518-853-2135
 - Herkimer: 315-866-7920
 - Madison: 315-684-3001
 - Otsego: 607-547-2536
 - Schoharie: 518-234-4303
 - Saratoga: 518-885-8995
 - Any of our CNYDLFC Team members (calls/emails/texts/site visit requests all ok)
 - Nicole Tommell: 315-861-6001
 - Erik Smith: 315-219-7786
 - Daniela Gonzalez: 315-749-3486
 - Ashley McFarland- 315-604-2156
 - Your county USDA/FSA service center.

- Chenango: 607-334-3231
- Fulton/Montgomery: 518-853-4015
- Herkimer: 315-866-2520
- Madison: 315-824-9076
- Otsego: 607-547-8131
- Schoharie: 518-295-8600
- Saratoga: 518-692-9940
- Your county farm bureau manager
 - Region 3: Bailey Coon: 518-937-0566
 - Region 5: John Wagner: 315-761-9770
 - Region 6: Natally Batiston: 518-937-0269
 - Region 7: Todd Heyn: 518-431-9338



GDD Difference from Normal (Days)
March 15 - August 7, 2024



FORECAST



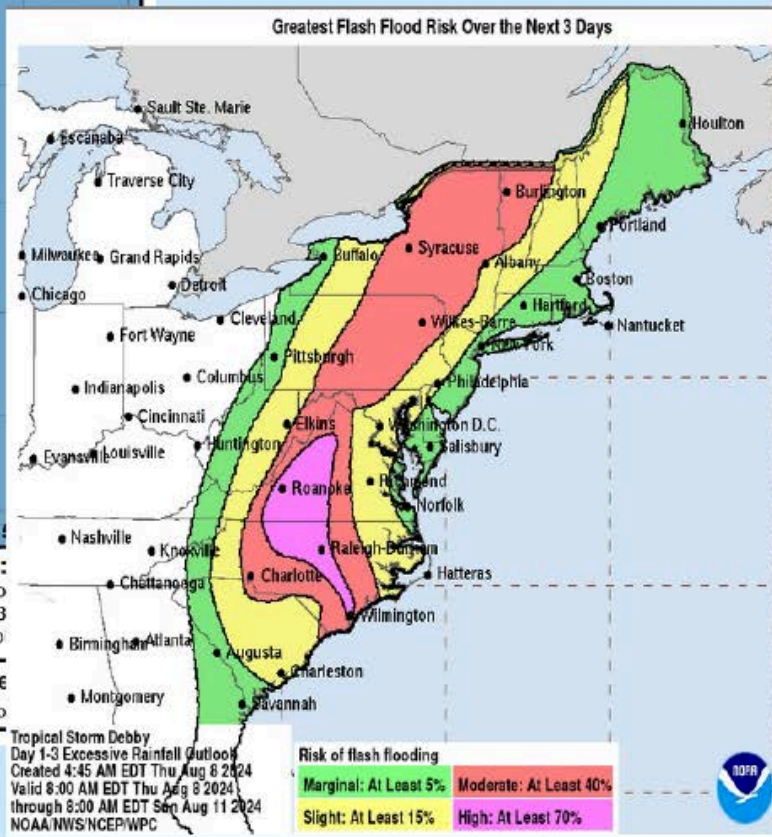
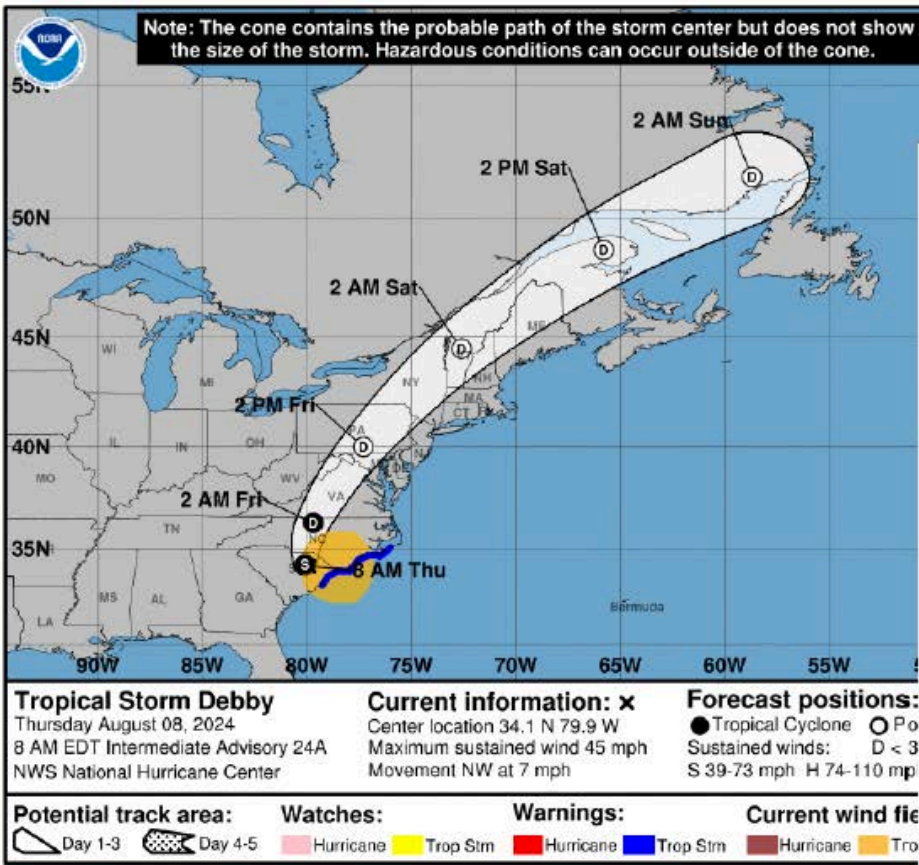
...FLOOD WATCH IN EFFECT FROM FRIDAY MORNING THROUGH SATURDAY MORNING...

Excessive rainfall from the remnants of Tropical Storm Debby.

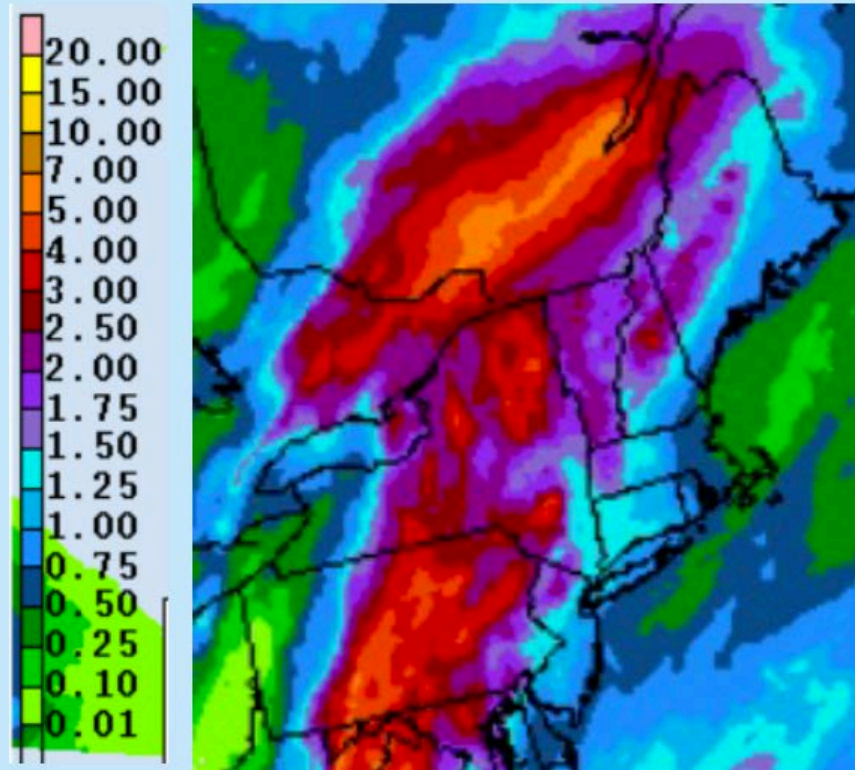
...Excessive runoff may result in flooding of rivers, creeks, streams, and other low-lying and flood-prone locations. Flooding may occur in poor drainage and urban areas.



TROPICAL STORM DEBBIE



THURS - SAT PRECIPITATION

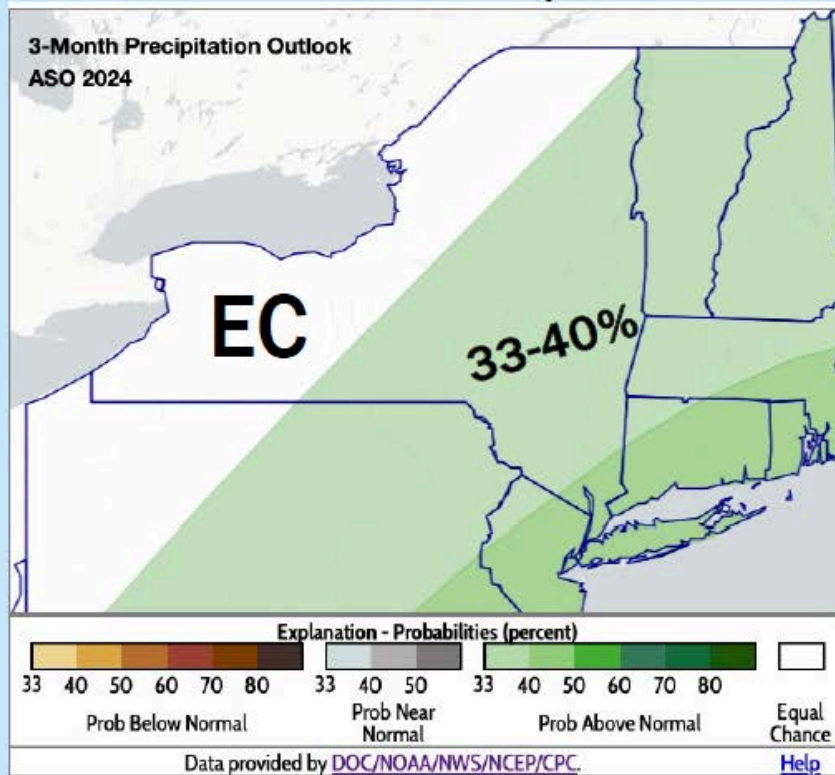


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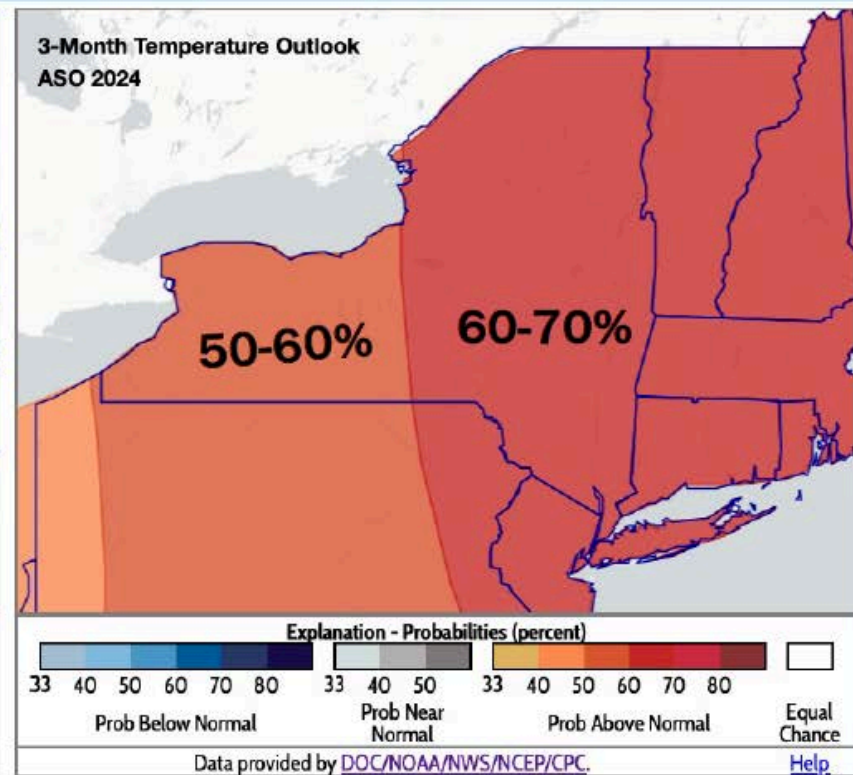
OUTLOOK

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

% Chance
Above-Normal Precipitation



% Chance
Above-Normal Temperatures



2. Growing Degree Days (GDD). (See: [Climate Smart Farming Growing Degree Day Calculator](#))

Growing degree days (GDD) are calculated by taking the average daily temperature and subtracting the base temperature for development of a given organism ($(High + Low)/2 - base\ temp = GDD$). For corn silage, we are using base 50/86, as corn development starts at 50 degrees F and ceases above 86. **Check your location and planting date:**

As of: 07 Aug 2024 (Base: 86/50)			Planting Date				Silking Date				
Location	Elevation (ft)	Latitude N	May 1	May 10	May 20	May 30	July 14	July 18	July 22	July 26	July 30
Poland	675	43.23	1641	1567	1473	1313	506	415	350	272	196
Canastota	420	43.08	1808	1717	1599	1425	549	450	379	294	212
Saratoga Springs	365	43.08	1788	1700	1593	1416	552	451	377	290	207
Frankfort	530	43.03	1795	1710	1601	1427	546	447	376	292	211
Galway	749	43.02	1708	1625	1523	1354	520	423	356	276	199
St Johnsville	650	43	1654	1574	1479	1314	498	404	342	268	197
Fenner	1480	42.97	1614	1540	1449	1297	508	413	349	273	195
Fultonville	489	42.95	1748	1660	1554	1380	517	421	355	275	201
Bouckville	1170	42.93	1618	1541	1454	1301	504	409	347	271	196
Richfield Springs	1580	42.85	1567	1492	1409	1255	480	389	328	257	188
Cherry Valley	758	42.81	1542	1469	1389	1236	472	383	324	253	183
Burlington	1959	42.72	1489	1416	1342	1201	466	377	318	247	181
Sherburne	1115	42.69	1655	1570	1480	1316	505	410	344	268	196
Cobleskill	937	42.68	1662	1578	1484	1321	505	409	347	269	194
Oneonta	1107	42.47	1447	1373	1305	1168	452	364	308	239	176
Oxford	1499	42.4	1446	1373	1303	1167	455	365	307	241	176
Bainbridge	1000	42.3	1531	1451	1377	1231	479	386	324	252	186

Remember: Silage corn needs 750-800 GDD (depending on hybrid maturity) **after** silking to reach a whole plant DM of 32%. Under typical late season dry down conditions we can expect the crop to reach 35% DM four to seven days later. We can expect to accumulate 20-25 GDD per day, or even up to 30, so peak maturity can creep up on us quickly. But no matter what the numbers say, always check your crop to see how close you may be to harvest. For more details, see this article: <https://ecommons.cornell.edu/server/api/core/bitstreams/5a5c472d-0fa1-452a-abd4-929ebcb9feec/content>

3. Pest Monitoring

PLH numbers remained low this week in the western part of the CNY region where fields were recently harvested, but crops in the east remained under high pressure. Weather systems can bring more PLH into the region, but heavy rain can knock them from plants and drown them.

Western bean cutworm numbers have dropped drastically, signaling the end of their flight, but the beginning of their feeding stage. Viptera *Bt* hybrids will be protected from this pest. Fall armyworm numbers remain low in NY, but there are reports of fields being devastated in Georgia. We'll continue to monitor this pest through the end of summer.