Cornell Cooperative Extension

Central New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops

Field Crop Update July 16, 2021

1. **Field Observations**
2. **Growing Degree Days and Weather Outlook**
3. **Pest Monitoring**

1. Field Observations

I don't think it's news to anyone reading this that we needed yesterday's sunshine. I saw lots of folks making hay - some that were right on schedule and others who had to wait for the rain to pass.

Corn is generally V9-V12 and I've heard that some are at VT. When planning for silage harvest, take note of your silking date:

"The date of silking can be used to determine silage harvest date based on growing degree day (GDD) accumulation. Work in New York by Dr. Bill Cox Using the Number of Growing Degree Days from the Tassel/Silking Date to Predict Corn Silage Harvest Date showed that the crop needs 750-800 GDD's after silking to reach a whole plant DM of 32 percent. Under typical late season dry down conditions we can expect the crop to reach 35 percent DM four to seven days later." - *J. Lawrence, K. Czymmek* (Corn Silage 2019: Two Different Crops)

Soybeans are entering the R stages, so this is the time to decide whether or not to protect them from white mold if you've had a history of it in your fields and if you have the option to do so. Given the weather at the moment, the risk is high just about everywhere. For more information on when and what to spray for white mold, here is that info from NYSIPM: White Mold of Soybean: What to expect with variable growth stages – What's Cropping Up? Blog (cornell.edu) and here is a product table for other diseases of soybean in NY: Diseases of Soybeans | Field Crops (cornell.edu).

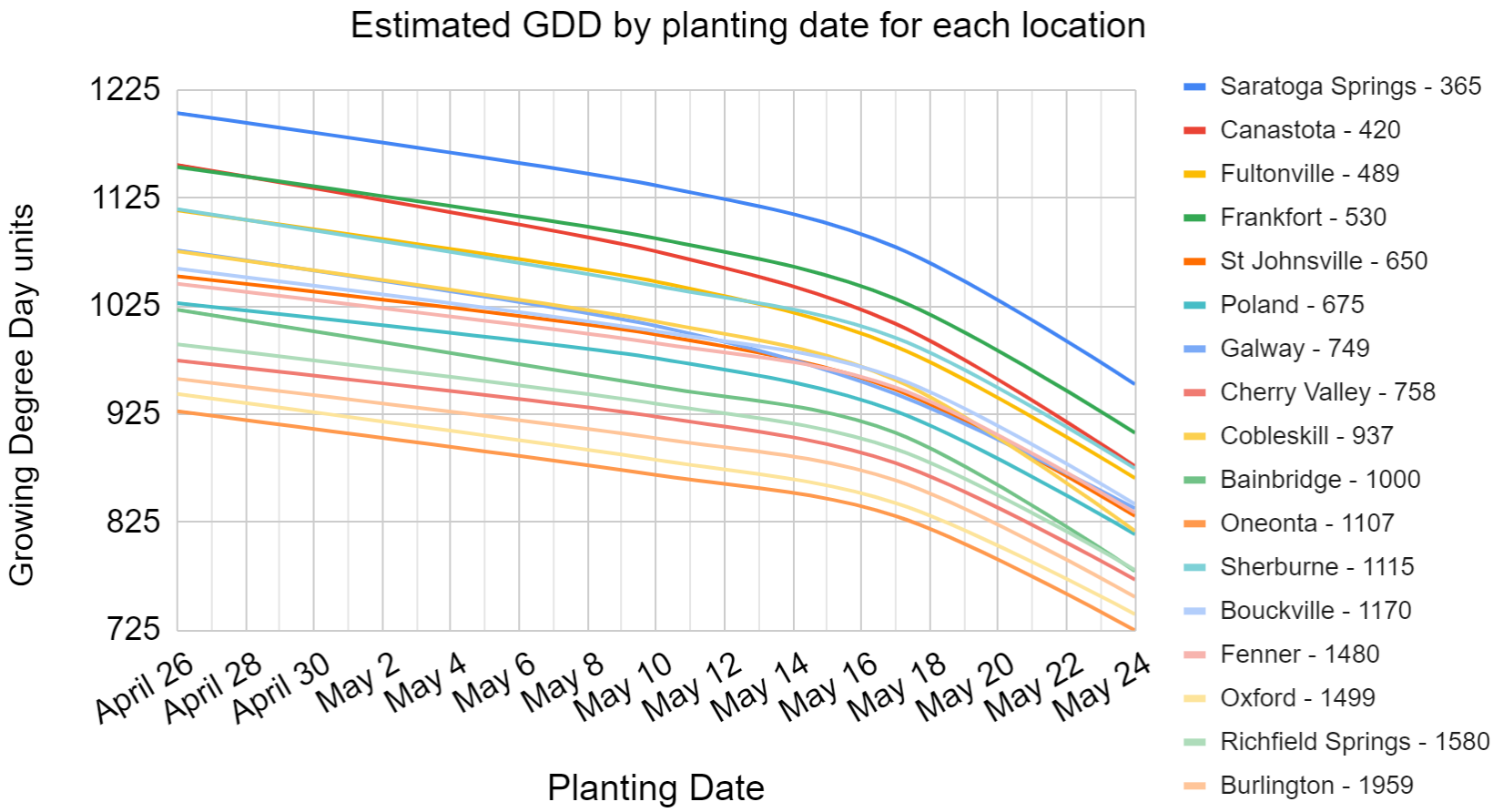
Click to see the latest Oneida County Scouting Report, Northwest NY Crop Alert, and Capital Area Ag Report.

2. Growing Degree Days as of July 14th (*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.

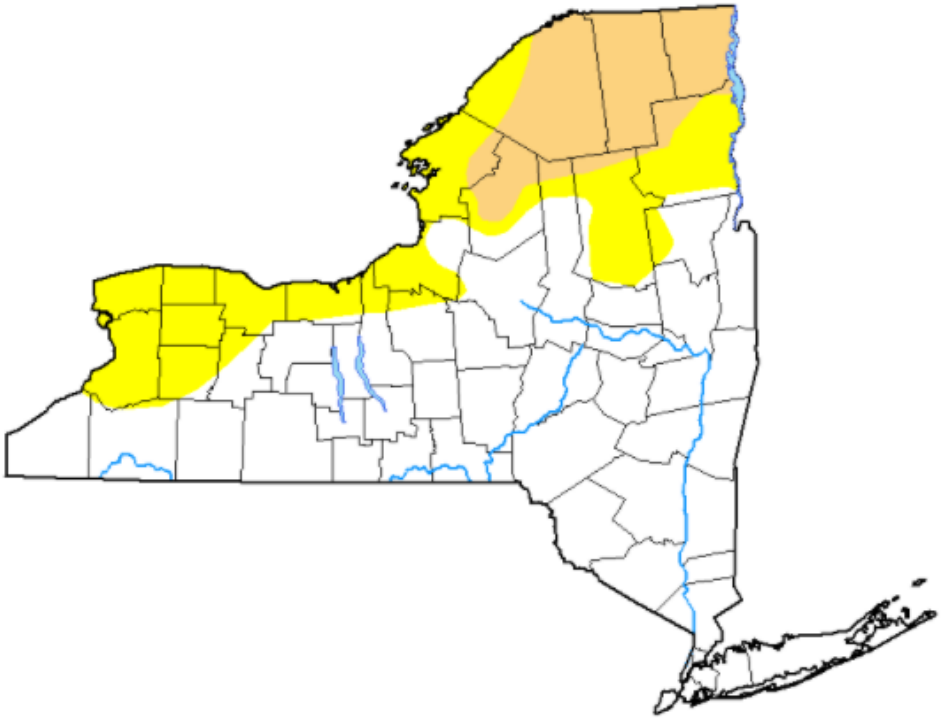
Changing things up starting this week! With the onset of tasseling and silking, here are GDDs for both planting date *and* silking date so folks have an idea of crop development in advance of silage harvest. Your actual silk date will most likely fall sometime within the range of dates listed on the right side of the table no matter where you are and what variety you're planning to chop:

As of: 14 July 2021 (Base: 86/50)			Planting Date				Silking Date (750-800 GDD to 32% DM):				
Location	Elevation (ft)	Latitude N	April 26	May 10	May 17	May 24	July 14	July 21	July 28	Aug 4	Aug 11
Poland	675	43.23	**1028**	**977**	**928**	**814**	21				
Canastota	420	43.08	**1204**	**1137**	**1080**	**953**	23				
S'toga Springs	365	43.08	**1156**	**1076**	**1009**	**877**	23				
Frankfort	530	43.03	**1154**	**1088**	**1032**	**908**	22				
Galway	749	43.02	**1077**	**1007**	**944**	**838**	22				
St Johnsville	650	43	**1053**	**999**	**948**	**831**	22				
Fenner	1480	42.97	**1046**	**991**	**950**	**834**	18				
Fultonville	489	42.95	**1114**	**1048**	**988**	**866**	22				
Bouckville	1170	42.93	**1060**	**1002**	**959**	**842**	18				
R'field Springs	1580	42.85	**990**	**935**	**893**	**781**	20				
Cherry Valley	758	42.81	**975**	**923**	**880**	**772**	20				
Burlington	1959	42.72	**958**	**903**	**864**	**756**	18				
Sherburne	1115	42.69	**1115**	**1044**	**996**	**875**	21				
Cobleskill	937	42.68	**1076**	**1011**	**957**	**817**	22				
Oneonta	1107	42.47	**928**	**869**	**831**	**725**	22				
Oxford	1499	42.4	**944**	**883**	**843**	**740**	22				
Bainbridge	1000	42.3	**1022**	**951**	**908**	**780**	20				



Not everyone planted their corn on one of the planting dates or in one of the locations I have listed, so this chart shows the estimated GDD for each location on each potential planting date in between (based on the actual GDD on those four dates). The locations are ordered top-to-bottom from lowest elevation to highest (the number after the location name is the elevation in feet above sea level). So if your farm is near one of the locations on this list but there's a location here that more closely matches your elevation, try that instead. You can find GDDs for your own specific location and planting date using the Climate Smart Farming CSF Growing Degree Day Calculator, but for those who might have more difficulty using that tool, maybe this chart can help.

We’re finally in the clear, but the North Country just cannot catch a break:



Map released: Thurs. July 15, 2021

Data valid: July 13, 2021 at 8 a.m. EDT

Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

Authors

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3. Pest Monitoring

Last week, potato leafhopper numbers were *just under* threshold and one new seeding was above threshold. But the rain storms *must* have knocked those populations back because all of those same fields were well-below threshold this week. That won't happen with every storm, so we can't rely on that pattern in the future, but it worked out in our favor this time.

True armyworm traps yielded one moth in our Herkimer trap, but this is the second generation and will not threaten field corn. This is almost certainly from the second generation, which could cause damage in sorghum forage and potentially hayfields if numbers are especially high (this trap is surrounded by hay acreage, but it is not a damaging number). We'll keep monitoring them for another few weeks.

The third week of western bean cutworm trapping yielded two moths in our Herkimer Co trap, and one in Saratoga Co. High trap numbers suggest that there may be significant eggs laid in pre-tassel corn, and larvae may cause damage to ears. We'll keep an eye on this pest through August.

True Armyworm								
Week	Munnsville, Madison	Poland, Herkimer	Canajoharie, Montgomery	C. Bridge, Schoharie	W. Charlton, Saratoga	Cherry Valley, Otsego	Oxford, Chenango	Total
April 26	Traps placed							0
Apr 26 - May 3	0	0	0	1	-	-	-	1
May 3 - 10	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	0
May 10 - 17	0	0	0	0	Traps placed	-	-	0
May 17 - 24	0	0	0	0	0	-	Traps placed	0
May 24 - Jun 1	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
June 1 - 7	0	0	0	0	0	Traps placed	0	0
June 7 - 14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 14 - 21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June 21 - 28	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2

June 28 - July 6	**0**	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
July 6 - 13	**0**	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
July 13 - 20								
Total:	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	6

Western Bean Cutworm								
Week	Munnsville, Madison	Poland, Herkimer	Canajoharie, Montgomery	C. Bridge, Schoharie	W. Charlton, Saratoga	Cherry Valley, Otsego	Oxford, Chenango	Total
June 21	Traps placed							0
June 21 - 28	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
June 28 – July 7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
July 7 - 13	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3
Total:	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	4

Some helpful links:

New York State IPM Weekly Field Crops Pest Report (cornell.edu)

Potato Leafhopper Scouting and IPM Thresholds in Alfalfa