

# Cornell Cooperative Extension

## Central New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops

Field Crop Update July 22, 2021

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

### 1. Field Observations

As I type, I know many folks are out cutting or spraying - if they are fortunate enough to be able to enter their fields. We've had some historic rainfall this month, but the forecast looks mostly clear over the next 7-10 days.

A quick reminder: if you buy used equipment – *especially from out-of-state* – make sure they clean it before they ship it! The last thing we need is another hard-to-manage weed or insect pest. A framer in another region of our state discovered large amounts of weed seeds in some used machinery that was shipped in from another part of the country. The seeds are currently being analyzed, but this is how we get invasives and herbicide resistant weeds. Luckily, they spotted the issue before taking it into their fields!

Corn is tasseling just about everywhere. 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](#))

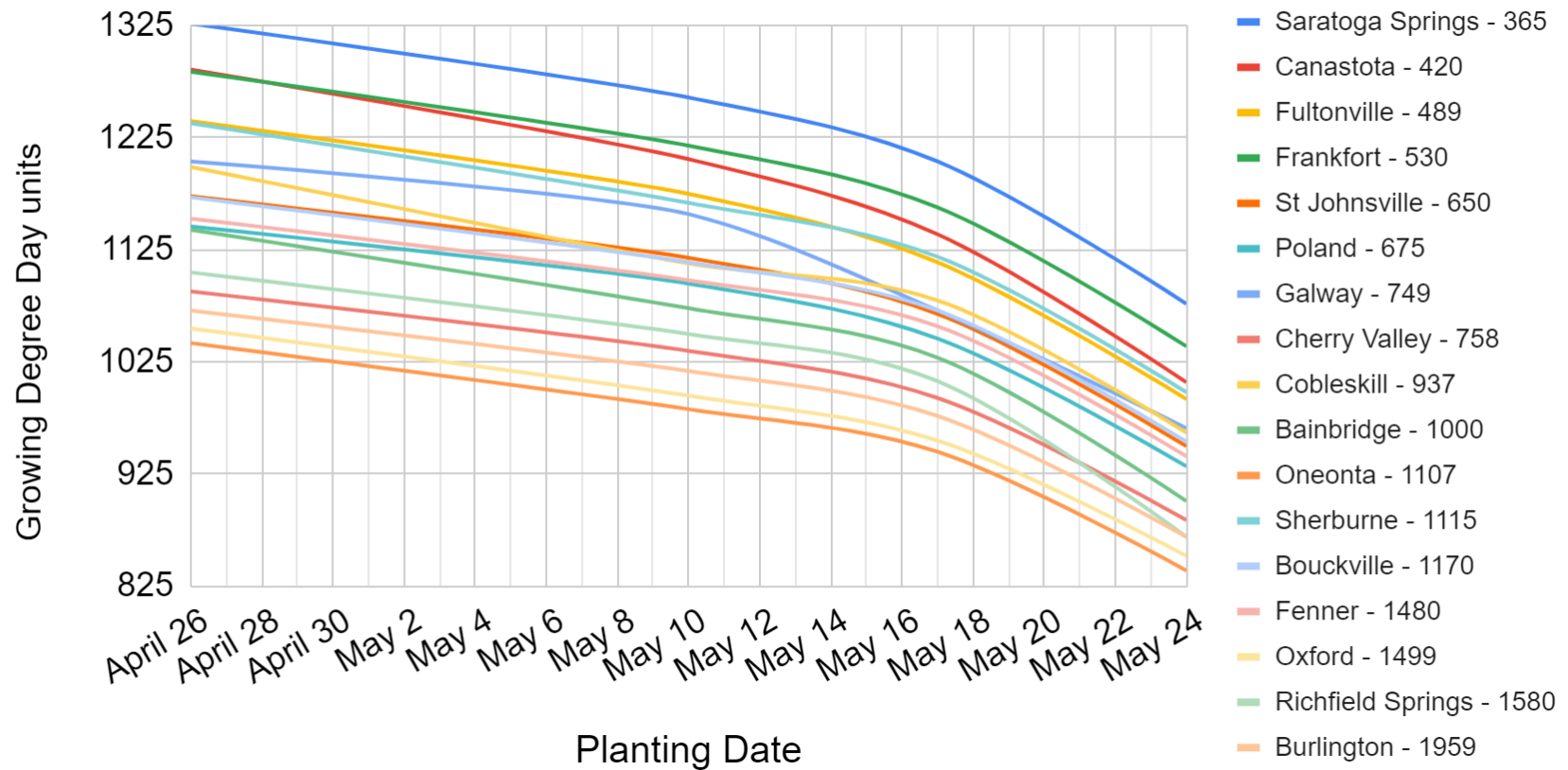
Soybeans are entering the R stages all over our region, so this is the time to decide whether or not to protect them from white mold if you've had a history of it in your fields and if you have the option to do so. Given the weather at the moment, the risk is high just about everywhere. For more information 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 (GDD) for planting date and silking date as of July 20th ([Climate Smart Farming Growing Degree Day Calculator](#))  
 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 50F and ceases above 86F. **Your actual silk date will likely fall sometime within this range of dates no matter where you are and what variety you’re expecting to chop. Corn needs 750-800 GDD 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:**

As of: 20 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 18	July 22	July 26	July 30
Poland	675	43.23	1146	1095	1046	932	139	60			
Canastota	420	43.08	1327	1261	1204	1077	146	62			
S'toga Springs	365	43.08	1286	1206	1139	1007	153	62			
Frankfort	530	43.03	1284	1218	1163	1039	152	64			
Galway	749	43.02	1204	1157	1071	966	127	39			
St Johnsville	650	43	1173	1118	1068	950	141	59			
Fenner	1480	42.97	1153	1098	1057	941	126	52			
Fultonville	489	42.95	1240	1175	1114	992	148	60			
Bouckville	1170	42.93	1172	1114	1071	954	132	53			
R'field Springs	1580	42.85	1105	1050	1008	869	135	56			
Cherry Valley	758	42.81	1088	1035	993	884	132	54			
Burlington	1959	42.72	1071	1017	977	869	132	55			
Sherburne	1115	42.69	1238	1167	1119	998	146	58			
Cobleskill	937	42.68	1199	1113	1080	962	145	57			
Oneonta	1107	42.47	1042	983	945	839	136	57			
Oxford	1499	42.4	1055	995	955	852	133	52			
Bainbridge	1000	42.3	1143	1073	1029	901	141	53			

Estimated GDD by planting date for each location

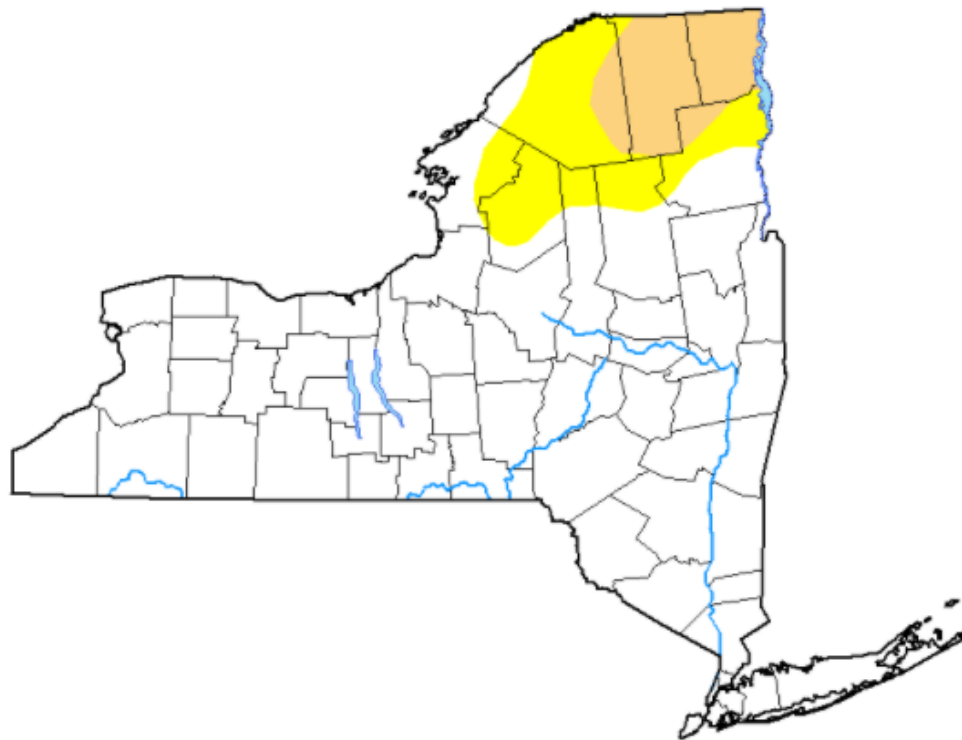


Not everyone planted their corn on one of the planting dates or in one of the locations I have listed, so this chart shows the estimated GDD for each location on each potential planting date in between (based on the actual GDD on those four dates). The locations are ordered top-to-bottom from lowest 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.

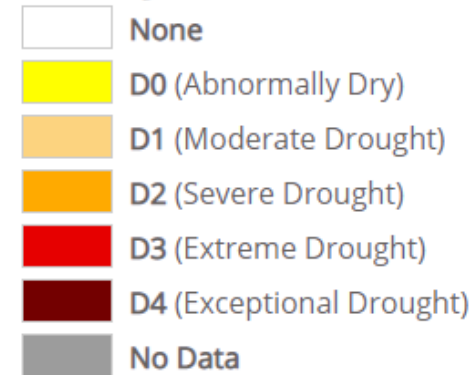
Most of the state is not under threat of drought (quite the opposite for some of us, unfortunately). Thankfully the forecast is mostly clear for the next week or so.

**Map released: Thurs. July 22, 2021**

**Data valid: July 20, 2021 at 8 a.m. EDT**



### Intensity



### Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):

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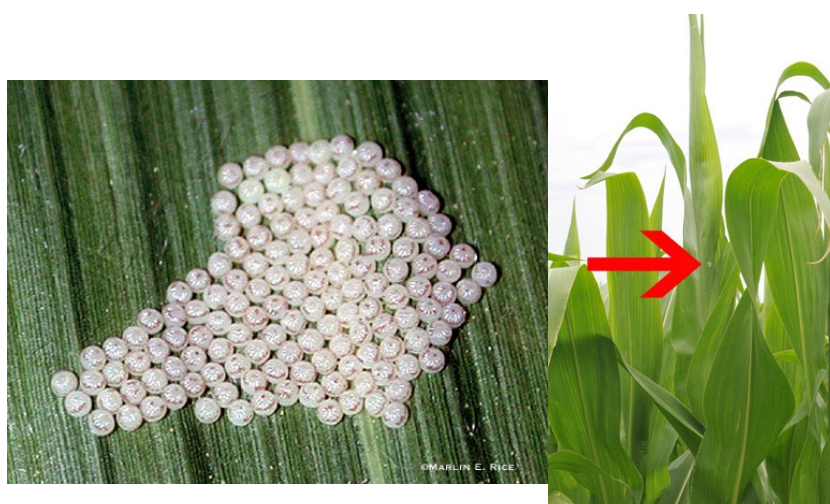
Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):

**Richard Heim**, NOAA/NCEI

### 3. Pest Monitoring

Potato leafhopper populations have bounced back in some areas, while others have remained below threshold. So keep an eye on those new seedings.

True armyworm traps were clean once again, while western bean cutworm (WBC) is another story. Our Herkimer trap had 7, while our Saratoga trap had 14. But these numbers pale in comparison to those reported from around the state (some in the hundreds). Regardless, *pre-tassel* corn is the most attractive to these moths, so it will be interesting to see how things play out since many of our corn crops around the region have gone to tassel already... some of us may be in the clear. But *those in the higher elevations and with later plantings, take note!* WBC lay eggs in the upper third of corn plants (see pics at right). Purdue states that the economic threshold for this pest has been reached when 8% of plants have egg masses, and 5% of plants with egg masses and/or young larvae feeding. Bt corn with **Cry1F** is resistant to WBC, but not earlier events.



Soybeans currently flowering are still at high risk for white mold, so now is the time to protect them (R1-R3, flowering to beginning pod).

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 – June 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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total:</b>	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
July 13 - 20	0	7	0	0	14	0	0	21
<b>Total:</b>	0	9	1	0	15	0	0	25

Some helpful links:

[New York State IPM Weekly Field Crops Pest Report \(cornell.edu\)](#)

[Potato Leafhopper Scouting and IPM Thresholds in Alfalfa](#)