

Temp & GDD

Another cooler than normal week at 0-2° below normal north and 0-2°. Slight heat stress continues along the I-95 corridor as evening lows remained above normal. We remain 3-7d ahead of normal and on par with last year. Soils are consistently in the upper low to mid 70's north to as much as mid-80's to the south.

Moisture

Widespread 1" rainfall events except drier areas of NJ, SoCT and East LI at <0.5" and some locally heavy 1-2+" events PA/DC/CapeCod/Northern NY. ET was max at 1-1.25" and most indications are that drought conditions have subsided, Short and V.Short Topsoil reports are well within normal. However there is much local variation.

FORECAST for Turf

Another showery period is expected with the week starting our wet and cool. Warming close to normal will occur mid-week. Expect some warm evenings but not steamy. Some locally heavy events expected along PA/NY border. The 8-14 d look indicates we are staying in a normal temp and showery period. Cool and wet!

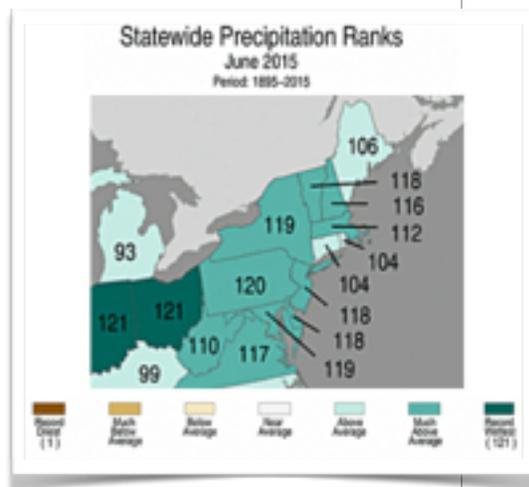
Check out all weather info at:
[FORECAST WEBSITE](#)

Gazing in the Grass. Frank S. Rossi, Ph.D.

This week's graphical representation of rainfall from NOAA indicates we were at record rainfall amounts for month of June. Most areas were in the top 10% wettest months of June on record! A stark contrast to the beginning of the season that was historically dry. Clearly many in the Northeast are at saturation, but there are dramatic differences across the region.

Several areas are at or even slightly below normal precipitation for the month and the season, indicating that the places that received regular rainfall, received large amounts well above normal! Like areas of Central NY and Southern NJ 6" ahead of normal for the season. This creates a challenge for broad recommendations with the wide disparity in rainfall amounts. If you have adequate moisture then simply keeping pace with mowing and weed growth present the greatest challenges. Well timed insecticide use based on history and scouting remain critical for all at this time. The cool weather is keeping many serious diseases at bay in areas where moisture is not excessive. However, where moisture is excessive disease pressure is very high. If temps rise, especially evening temps as we head into the next few weeks, then be prepared for major fungal disease pressure.

Water management at this time of year should dominate your thinking on high value turf. Precise use of irrigation, based on ET, soil moisture, playability, and ability to apply water accurately will determine your success. Areas in the region with excess moisture identify important drainage issues and plan for installation, and keep irrigation heads trimmed since you may need them at some point!



Regional Clips



This would be an excellent time to scout for chinchbug activity. You can use an "insect vacuum" (a leaf blower that sucks air with a small collecting bag),



The return of frequent rains to Westchester has put weed growth into high gear as crabgrass takes over thin areas and pre-failure.



A commercial site visit revealed post-construction turf failure beginning to show up on soil that was severely compacted @ 2"



Despite the utility of turf in mitigating runoff and erosion, it is useful to recognize that turf might not be the most appropriate/effective.

Rutgers Turfgrass Diagnostic Update Rich Buckley

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Right along with stormy skies, the Plant Diagnostic Laboratory is firing up with golf turf samples. We've seen it all lately: anthracnose, summer patch, slime molds, take-all, Pythium root diseases, annual bluegrass weevils, black turfgrass ataenius, and lots of wear and tear. We recently had a sample of a mixed bent/Poa putting green turf with damage to both the annual bluegrass and the bentgrass. The Poa was yellowing, but the bent was toasted too. The disease workup was negative, but the submitter also sent a container filled with annual bluegrass weevil (ABW) adults that explained the cause of the yellowing Poa. We also found chewed plants. So, what happened to the bentgrass? Fortunately, Sabrina spilled out the container of ABW adults, and low and behold, there were a bunch of black turfgrass ataenius (BTA) adults mixed in. I suspect that BTA populations are inadvertently controlled on most golf courses during our annual springtime ABW insecticide bombardment. At the very least, BTA are considered a low priority pest compared to the ABW and are often ignored. In fact, for the amount of insecticide going out on this golf course, the ABW were pretty chipper themselves. I hope you guys are listening to Dr. Albrecht Koppelhofer concerning ABW insect resistance management (call the lab for resistance screening) because there was plenty of product going out on this golf course and some seemingly happy insects. Among the ABW injured samples, we are seeing a little summer patch too.

We are Coming into Ideal Timing for Grub Control with Adults Abound. Where are We at and What Should We Be Considering?

Professor Kyle Wickings, Soil Insect Ecologist in the Cornell University Turfgrass Program reports Japanese beetles are active upstate along with high populations of European chafer and Oriental beetle that have been active for 2-3 weeks now. Practically speaking, a turf manager would still be fine putting out a Merit (imidacloprid), Acelepryn (Chlorantraniliprole) or Ference (Cyantraniliprole) application now for grub control. In areas that they intend to treat, they should get on it. In all other areas, or if they cannot use pesticides (e.g. School grounds), they should wait until third week of August and sample for grubs. At that time if they find high populations, they could make an application of nematodes or request an emergency application (for schools and daycares).

BMP's for Stormwater Management

The Golf Course Superintendent's of New York State under the leadership of Ken Benoit CGCS, Bob Nielson CGCS, and Blake Halderman CGCS coordinated an effort to codify the golf turf and landscape principles and practices that aspire to the highest level of water quality protection. The NYS Golf Turf BMP's website available at <http://nysgolfbmp.cals.cornell.edu/>, outlines the BEST practices for water quality protection on golf courses. For those receiving large amounts of rainfall very rapidly, you are getting a glimpse of what climate change poses for us in the future, i.e., same amount of precipitation in less frequent, more intense storms. Urban and suburban infrastructure is increasingly unable to handle the large volumes of runoff from the developed land and paved surfaces. The role of golf courses in society with growing stormwater management needs cannot be overstated. The golf course landscapes ability to detain and retain storm water provides measurable economic value to your land, assists with community needs, and makes available additional water resources naturally bio-filtered on a course implementing BMPs!

