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Ohio State University Extension Vegetable Crops On  
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### *Special Issue*

## COLD WEATHER ALERT!

A major outbreak of very cold air will arrive by the end of the week with the coldest air arriving on Friday and Saturday. The cool down will start on Wednesday. The National Weather Services predictive GFS model is calling for 850 millibar temperatures (5,000 ft) to drop down to -11 to -13 C by Wednesday night and down to -17 C by Saturday morning. At the surface, this relates to air temperatures from 28 to 23 F. Dewpoints could be as low as 21F by Saturday morning. Vegetable and strawberry growers should be prepared for this cold event. Strawberry growers should probably have protective coverings in place before low temperatures arrive. Greenhouse operators should be ready to protect young transplants with supplemental heat. If temperatures go as low as predicted today, sprinkler irrigation for frost protection may not be effective for plants already in the field, because it is so cold. Watch the dewpoint temperatures in your area to get an idea of how low temperatures may fall. Lets hope

this forecast turns out to be wrong. Be sure to tune in your local National Weather Service forecast for the latest updates on this situation as we get closer to the weekend.