



New England Agricultural Statistics



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For week ending 10/28/07

Harvesting Season Comes to a Close

This will be the last publication for the 2007 crop year. We hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and good luck next spring!

GENERAL CONDITIONS: For the week ending October 28, 2007, there were 5.2 days suitable for field work across New England. Topsoil moisture was rated 3% very short, 3% short, 78% adequate, and 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated 4% very short, 5% short, 88% adequate, and 3% surplus. Pasture condition was rated 4% very poor, 23% poor, 43% fair, 30% good, and 0% excellent. Last week began partly cloudy with above average high and low temperatures, varying from the upper 30s to low 80s. Temperatures remained average to above average and dry through Friday, allowing farmers to get in the last of their crops. Rain moved into New England Friday night. Heavy rains continued to fall throughout the day on Saturday, totaling anywhere from 1.0 to 3.2 inches, with reports of some minor flooding. Rain replenished top soil moisture supplies however subsoil conditions remained dry throughout the region. The rain moved out of the area Saturday night leaving partly cloudy skies and average temperatures. Many areas of Maine experienced a killing frost Sunday night, officially bringing the harvest season to an end. Some southern areas reported a hard frost over the weekend but mainly light frosts were seen.

FRUIT: The apple harvest was nearly complete at 99 percent by week's end. Across the region orchards finished up a busy season by harvesting the last of the late apple varieties. Pick-your-own apples were also complete by week's end. Orchard owners were finishing up picking up dropped apples. Grapes were all done except for a variety that needs the frost to bring out sugars and the flavor. The Massachusetts cranberry harvest was 85 percent complete and was reported in good to excellent condition.

VEGETABLES: The vegetable harvest finished up this week. There wasn't much produce left in farmstands besides pumpkins, winter squash, greens, cabbage and broccoli. The fall weather was great for extending the vegetable harvest allowing for some summer vegetables to be harvested.

FIELD CROPS: Field corn remained at 99 percent harvested. Farmers were still trying to get in the last of their third and fourth cut hay. The potato harvest is near completion across the area. There were good dampings during the week for tobacco to be taken down and leaves bundled. Farmers were mainly cleaning up their fields for the winter.

SOIL MOISTURE ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Soil Rating	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	-- Percent --		
Topsoil			
Very Short	3	5	0
Short	3	13	0
Adequate	78	77	56
Surplus	16	5	44
Subsoil			
Very Short	4	8	0
Short	5	17	0
Adequate	88	70	67
Surplus	3	5	33

FRUIT CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	Percent Harvested			Fruit Size	Condition
	2007	2006	5-yr Avg		
Apples	99	99	95	Average/Above	Good
Cranberries, MA	85	80	90	Average/Below	Good/Excellent

FIELD CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	2007	2006	5-yr Avg	Condition
	-- Percent Harvested --			
Potatoes				
Maine	100	100	99	Good
Mass	99	95	95	Good
Rhode Island	100	99	100	Good/Excellent
Silage Corn	99	95	95	Good
Dry Hay				
Third Cut	99	90	95	Good

Weather Summary For New England Agricultural Statistics
Prepared By AWIS, Inc.

For the Period: Monday October 22, 2007
To: Sunday October 28, 2007

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				CUM SINCE MAR 1 GROWING DEGREE DAYS				1-WEEK PRECIP			4-WEEK CUM PRECIP		
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	BASE-50F		BASE-60F		TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS
					TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN						
MAINE														
Augusta State_A	34	79	56	+11	2449	+357	977	+231	1.09	+0.14	4	5.84	+2.39	14
Bangor Intl_Arp	27	83	55	+11	2231	+330	827	+205	1.07	+0.25	3	4.35	+1.33	12
Bethel	28	80	53	+10	1970	+107	655	+59	0.73	-0.22	3	4.31	+0.87	11
Caribou Municip	25	76	50	+11	1736	+288	533	+155	1.53	+0.83	2	3.59	+0.81	7
Dover-Foxcroft	24	78	50	+9	1681	+86	443	-9	1.29	+0.43	2	4.06	+0.72	8
Frenchville	28	73	49	+11	1546	+203	427	+104	1.13	+0.41	2	2.63	-0.29	9
Houlton	23	77	51	+11	1766	+252	558	+134	0.65	-0.13	2	3.01	+0.09	9
Livermore Falls	27	81	53	+12	1937	+372	655	+226	1.23	+0.31	3	5.58	+2.15	9
Moosehead	25	80	50	+10	1473	+156	355	+45	1.93	+1.15	4	5.93	+2.87	12
Portland_ME	34	77	57	+12	2406	+471	929	+292	1.03	+0.05	5	6.42	+2.97	15
NEW HAMPSHIRE														
Benton	20	77	50	+8	1884	+178	608	+132	2.02	+1.25	3	5.86	+2.93	12
Berlin AG	29	81	53	+11	1837	+137	577	+80	1.03	+0.16	3	3.36	+0.13	10
Concord	31	83	56	+12	2661	+573	1153	+414	0.97	+0.20	4	3.85	+0.97	13
Diamond Pond	30	72	47	+9	1269	+151	276	+71	2.81	+1.97	4	5.91	+2.55	15
Keene AP	30	81	56	+13	2558	+667	1072	+470	1.14	+0.37	4	3.41	+0.54	11
North Conway	32	73	52	+10	2018	+105	691	+58	1.59	+0.58	3	4.70	+1.02	12
Rochester	33	80	55	+9	2428	+155	1002	+150	0.93	-0.13	4	3.42	-0.37	12
VERMONT														
Burlington Intl	35	77	54	+10	2724	+498	1209	+368	2.40	+1.73	4	5.73	+3.15	12
Island Pond	30	77	50	+10	1747	+353	503	+178	2.45	+1.68	4	6.27	+3.40	15
Montpelier	31	80	54	+12	2243	+506	841	+329	1.44	+0.79	4	4.39	+1.85	14
Pownal	36	79	54	+10	2283	+451	849	+297	2.15	+1.26	4	5.32	+1.93	10
Rochester	32	80	53	+10	2066	+335	692	+188	2.82	+1.93	3	5.90	+2.49	13
Rutland AG	30	77	52	+6	2217	-131	819	-81	2.36	+1.72	3	4.62	+2.01	13
Springfield_VT	30	81	55	+12	2476	+593	1018	+422	1.46	+0.62	4	4.96	+1.78	15
Sutton	30	76	48	+9	1784	+388	531	+194	2.39	+1.60	4	5.06	+2.03	15
MASSACHUSETTS														
Boston/Logan_In	44	81	61	+10	3326	+487	1621	+393	0.52	-0.28	4	2.08	-0.86	11
Fitchburg	33	81	58	+15	3038	+1151	1429	+831	1.00	+0.22	5	3.35	+0.41	12
Greenfield	33	76	55	+7	2577	-9	1018	-33	1.36	+0.59	5	3.94	+0.86	12
New Bedford	32	75	59	+7	2884	-18	1285	+15	0.53	-0.34	4	3.20	+0.06	13
Otis_AFB	46	72	60	+11	2659	+347	1106	+241	0.12	-0.80	4	2.65	-0.82	12
Plymouth	44	78	60	+12	2882	+529	1298	+395	0.33	-0.62	4	2.78	-0.85	14
Walpole	32	81	57	+10	2953	+619	1365	+471	0.65	-0.30	5	2.84	-0.68	13
Chicopee/Westov	29	80	58	+7	2907	-88	1323	-27	1.55	+0.71	5	3.78	+0.57	15
Worthington	31	80	53	+9	2199	+309	790	+215	1.85	+0.97	4	5.08	+1.75	12
RHODE ISLAND														
Providence	41	81	62	+12	3418	+728	1671	+537	0.42	-0.47	3	1.81	-1.49	10
Woonsocket	36	82	58	+12	2972	+682	1349	+503	0.57	-0.39	5	2.45	-1.17	13
CONNECTICUT														
Bridgeport/Siko	48	75	61	+9	3422	+475	1644	+316	0.91	+0.18	3	3.70	+0.92	10
Hartford/Bradle	36	82	60	+12	3464	+637	1734	+492	1.06	+0.22	5	3.40	+0.19	11
Norfolk	37	73	53	+10	2486	+614	1010	+437	1.92	+1.01	4	5.42	+1.90	11
Thomaston Dam	38	77	57	+9	2938	+628	1302	+456	1.33	+0.42	5	4.71	+1.17	13
Willimantic	32	80	59	+11	3086	+732	1436	+560	0.45	-0.53	4	2.45	-1.27	10

Summary based on NWS data.

DFN = Departure from Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Prepared by AWIS, Inc.

STATE WEATHER SUMMARY

For the week ending Sunday, October 28, 2007

State	Air Temperatures				Precipitation	
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	LO	HI
ME	23	84	52	+10	0.34	2.00
NH	19	86	52	+10	0.69	3.44
VT	23	82	52	+10	0.86	4.25
MA	29	82	58	+10	0.12	1.85
RI	36	82	61	+11	0.10	0.57
CT	31	82	58	+9	0.31	1.92

REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County: *Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), or other knowledgeable individuals.*

CONNECTICUT - Howard Rood (FSA), Fairfield/Litchfield: Corn for silage is nearly all cut. Field corn still standing will be harvested for grain. **Ross Eddy (FSA), Hartford/Tolland:** Good amount of rain for the week now that the growing season is over with. Good damps during the week for tobacco to be taken down and leaves bundled. Grain corn still drying down to be combined. Way to go Red Sox! **Dawn Pindell (FSA), Windham:** We had two inches of rain, still dry. With the warm weather and moisture, a bit more haying is being done. Significant frost 10/28. Rye cover is six to eight inches, looks good. Some trouble getting certified rye seed in quantities needed. Still chopping corn and apple picking is done. Grapes all done except for varieties that need the frost to bring out the sugars and flavor. **Nancy Welsh (FSA), New Haven:** Still no killing frost in either New Haven or Middlesex County. This has been a very good crop growing year in spite of the dry conditions which began in August and continue to date. **Richard Meinert (Ext), CT Cooperative:** The hard frost over the weekend has finally put an end to the growing season. Some final mowing and fall weed control applications were still finishing up this last week.

MAINE - Pam Hickey (Ext), Central Aroostook: Fall tillage is occurring here in Aroostook County. Broccoli harvest should be done soon. Some soybeans still being harvested. Potato harvest is complete. **Donna Coffin (Ext), Piscataquis:** First hard freeze last night. **Rick Kersbergen (Ext), Waldo:** Cover crop planting and spreading manure. Finally a good killing frost. Some third cutting being chopped. Decent rains on Saturday. **Trudy Soucy (FSA), Knox/Lincoln:** Harvest of all crops is complete in this area. Farmers are taking necessary measures to prepare for the winter months. **Sandy Truslow (FSA), Cumberland/York:** Cool weather has finally arrived. Overall the fall weather was fantastic for harvesting crops and extending the vegetable harvest. Most crops did well this year. **Gary Raymond (FSA), Androscoggin/Franklin:** Soybean harvest has begun in this area. Grain corn is standing to dry in the field. Grass growth is slow now but some grazing remains. It was cold enough to put a small amount of ice on water troughs this morning. **Marcia Hall (FSA), Oxford:** Oxford County producers have had a good fall for harvesting crops. Producers are getting ready for the winter months to come and the barns are mostly full. Pumpkins and fall harvested vegetables are peaking thru the fall colors at all the local farm stands and farm markets. Apple and potato producers are done harvesting. Oxford County has had cool nights and frosts in the past week.

MASSACHUSETTS - Aimee Thayer (FSA), Berkshire: FROST. . .finally. The end of the growing season has arrived with a hard freeze in the forecast. Plenty of cold rain, around two inches and wind this week. Pastures have stayed in good shape through October. Farmers' markets will end next week and orchards are finishing their busiest season. Hope everyone has happy holidays and a restful winter. Boston Red Sox - World Champions!!! **Ted Smiarowski, Jr. (FSA), Franklin/Hampshire/Hampden:** Another week with added rainfall. Harvesting grain corn, potatoes, greens, cabbage and pumpkins. Tobacco growers continue bundling their crop for sale. Many farmers are cleaning and putting their equipment under shelter. Spreading manure and applying a cover crop on harvested fields.

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Tina Savage (Ext), Carroll: A few more frosts, but no hard freeze. Pastures growing very slowly, but still growing. Not much left at the farm stand except pumpkins and a few mums. Well past peak, leaves are being stripped from the trees by wind and rain. A beautiful fall foliage season and an excellent long growing season. **Carl Majewski (Ext), Cheshire:** Fairly mild most of the week, with steady rain on Saturday and a widespread hard frost Sunday night. Apart from a few farms taking the last of fourth cutting on grass and alfalfa and harvesting the last of late apple varieties, we're pretty much done for the year. **Steve Turaj (Ext), Coos:** Colder weather and frost this week again. Heavy rains and wind towards the end of the week. Rivers running high; some fields in lower areas flooded. Most corn silage is now in. Crop season is over as cleanup continues. Cover crops look good; those planted in late summer have had good establishment conditions. **Tom Buob (Ext), Grafton:** Fourth cut finishing up. Rain late in the week put a halt to all field work. Some flooding. **George Hamilton (Ext), Hillsborough:** Localized frost occurred on Friday, but there still has not been a county-wide freeze. Fruit: Orchardists are busy marketing crop. Apple harvest is almost done. Finishing up harvest of Rome, Fuji, and Golden Delicious. Finishing picking up apple drops (90% completed), however, many orchardists are flail mowing under trees and not worrying about the drop apples. Some orchardists are short of bins for picking apple drops and are looking for markets for the drop apples. Vegetables: Farmers are cleaning up fields, picking up plastic mulch, drip tape, trellis stakes and irrigation equipment and soil testing fields for next season. Cleaning and putting away farm equipment. Field crops: Silage corn chopping almost finished. Soil testing fields for next season and cleaning and putting away farm equipment. **Nada Haddad (Ext), Rockingham:** PYO apples are done and most harvest is done. Available in farm stands: pumpkins, winter

squash, apples, gourds, Indian corn, mums and leafy greens. Chopping corn. Pasture still growing. Cool nights and very light frost so far. **Geoffrey Njue (Ext), Strafford:** Nice and mild weather most of the week. Rain showers at the end of the week. Vegetable growers harvesting last crops of the season, and cleaning up the fields. Fruit growers harvesting the last of the late apple varieties. Pumpkins and fall mums continued to sell at farm stands and garden centers. Greenhouse growers monitoring the seasonal progress of the poinsettia and applying pest control products where necessary.

RHODE ISLAND - Karen Menezes (Ext), Newport: Finishing up potato harvest, cover crop looks good. We've had some rain, enough to help some of the top soil, but not enough to go any further. Field corn still being chopped, harvesting winter squashes, brassicas, cole crops and due to some very mild weather, summer

vegetables. Roadside stands are still very full with great diversity.

VERMONT - Jeffrey Carter (Ext), Addison: Combining corn for high moisture grain. Some manure spreading on corn fields and fall plowing. Haylage harvest finished for the year. Waiting to dry out again to harvest soybeans. **Dennis Kauppila (Ext), Caledonia:** Crops are in, a number of farms have empty manure storages. Good fall weather has allowed fall work to progress well. Fairly warm week, heavy rain on Saturday. Seems a bit more like fall. **Sherwin Williams, Rutland:** A great long season has made for a real good market garden year. All brown fields have turned to green, ready for a winter nap and rest for the winter. Rain for the week 1.308 inches. This report makes the end of a very good market garden year. Mother Nature had a real productive 2007 year. It was a very long season with no early frost. All farmers and growers have a lot to be thankful for. Have a real good winter!

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