



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

Gary Keough, State Statistician

53 Pleasant St. 2nd Floor, Concord, NH 03301

Phone: 603-224-6939

Fax: 603-225-1432

www.nass.usda.gov/nh

Week ending July 20, 2014

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

nassrfoener@nass.usda.gov

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Good week for field work: New England averaged 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

New England weather was seasonably warm last week, with highly variable and scattered precipitation. Average weekly temperatures in the region ranged from four degrees below normal to four degrees above normal. Three percent of pasture was rated in poor condition while 35 percent was fair, 47 percent was good, and 15 percent was excellent. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.19 to 5.67 inches in the region. Scattered thunderstorms provided some areas with needed precipitation and caused flash flooding in other areas. Most storms lasted for short periods of time, allowing for plenty of days suitable for field work. Farmers mowed hay during the days suitable this week, with second cuttings of hay progressing and looking good. Field corn and potatoes continued to progress and look good as well. Shade tobacco was starting to be harvested in Connecticut. Farmers monitored for diseases and pests, especially in areas with higher precipitation and humidity during the previous week. Strawberry harvest was winding down in several areas while blueberry harvest was progressing throughout the region. Farmers' markets and pick-your-own operations remained busy this week.

New England Soil Moisture for Week Ending July 20th, 2014

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil	1%	10%	56%	33%
Subsoil	1%	6%	63%	30%

Crop Progress as of July 20th, 2014

Fruit Crops	Petal Fall	Fruit Set	Harvested
Apples	---	96%	---
Blueberries, tame	---	---	7%
Blueberries, wild (ME)	---	94%	---
Cranberries (MA)	97%	86%	---
Peaches	---	98%	---
Pears	---	88%	---
Strawberries	---	---	89%
Field Crops	Emerged	Blooming	Harvested
Potatoes	---	60%	---
Sweet Corn	---	---	12%
Tobacco, Cigar Wrapper	---	---	5%
Dry Hay	1 st Cutting	2 nd Cutting	3 rd Cutting
	93%	45%	---

Crop Conditions as of July 20th, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Apples	2%	2%	15%	64%	17%
Blueberries, tame	0%	0%	23%	67%	10%
Blueberries, wild (ME)	0%	0%	0%	87%	13%
Cranberries (MA)	0%	10%	40%	40%	10%
Corn for grain or silage	1%	2%	31%	53%	13%
Dry Hay	0%	1%	12%	74%	13%
Peaches	3%	3%	33%	61%	0%
Pears	4%	1%	20%	66%	9%
Potatoes	0%	0%	1%	73%	26%
Strawberries	0%	2%	15%	70%	13%
Sweet Corn	0%	1%	28%	53%	18%
Tobacco, Cigar Binder	0%	0%	11%	82%	7%
Tobacco, Cigar Wrapper	0%	0%	2%	90%	8%

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oc/weather and click on "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin."

July 20, 2014 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2014					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Maine	Augusta_State_A	84	57	71	0	1.15	4	15.31	+1.83	48	1070	+53	1985
	Bangor_Intl_Air	86	55	71	+2	1.91	4	14.68	+2.41	49	1036	+78	1942
	Bethel	82	50	68	-1	1.72	4	20.02	+5.37	49	936	+11	1824
	Bridgton	83	51	69	+3	1.78	4	15.88	+1.47	43	984	+139	1866
	Caribou_Municip	82	53	70	+4	0.36	3	14.83	+3.14	52	917	+169	1725
	Dover-Foxcroft	85	52	69	+3	2.26	4	16.32	+2.55	53	913	+196	1754
	Durham	83	53	69	0	1.53	4	16.13	+1.78	50	956	+53	1854
	East_Surry	80	54	69	0	1.83	4	17.92	+3.89	48	801	-52	1672
	Eustis	81	47	65	+2	0.95	4	14.82	+1.74	47	703	+143	1471
	Frenchville	78	53	67	+2	1.15	3	13.81	+1.78	49	784	+108	1538
	Harmony	83	52	69	+1	3.99	4	18.21	+4.71	51	907	+44	1769
	Houlton	83	49	68	+3	2.16	4	16.81	+4.83	54	859	+107	1674
	Livermore_Falls	84	50	69	+3	2.08	4	19.09	+4.11	43	930	+192	1795
	Machias	83	50	67	+2	2.23	3	20.32	+5.09	46	729	+93	1510
	Millinocket_Wtr	85	52	69	0	1.24	3	14.51	+0.78	51	834	-25	1631
	Moosehead	83	49	66	+2	1.27	4	15.89	+1.82	57	758	+133	1545
	Portland_ME	84	55	70	+1	1.09	4	15.20	+1.64	39	1049	+157	1970
	Sanford	87	53	71	0	1.31	3	15.29	+0.79	29	1092	+17	2002
	Topsfield_2	84	56	69	+2	1.98	3	20.96	+7.00	47	879	+84	1715
	Turner	85	51	69	-3	1.75	4	19.43	+5.27	49	1016	-97	1910
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	82	48	66	-1	1.76	4	14.01	+0.99	49	897	+70	1755
	Bradford_2	84	48	68	-2	1.97	3	18.09	+3.54	41	941	-94	1821
	Colebrook	81	49	66	0	1.56	4	18.70	+5.48	58	776	+20	1565
	Concord	87	51	71	+2	1.62	4	16.06	+4.39	44	1200	+147	2122
	East_Milford	87	55	71	0	0.88	4	12.67	-1.22	43	1221	+84	2166
	Epping	88	54	72	+3	0.59	4	12.91	-0.80	46	1201	+141	2135
	Fitzwilliam	83	51	68	0	2.25	3	19.43	+5.68	40	957	+60	1815
	Greenville	85	55	70	+3	0.80	4	15.05	+1.42	35	1060	+163	1968
	Jefferson	83	49	67	0	1.35	4	15.41	+2.18	48	912	+29	1768
	Keene_AG	85	52	70	0	3.90	4	20.28	+7.14	45	1092	+67	2005
	Lakeport_2	86	57	72	+1	1.94	4	14.37	+1.11	41	1209	+128	2131
	Lebanon	88	52	70	+2	0.56	2	13.21	+1.80	46	1210	+220	2130
	North_Conway	83	51	68	-2	1.06	4	15.72	+1.00	58	951	-31	1839
	Tamworth_4	83	47	68	+2	1.46	4	14.78	-1.26	47	861	+80	1705
Vermont	Bennington_AP	84	49	68	+2	0.87	4	13.22	-2.80	44	1195	+356	2132
	Burlington_Intl	86	54	71	0	0.35	2	14.34	+2.17	48	1377	+260	2326
	Corinth	83	50	66	-3	0.62	3	12.63	+1.25	42	855	-46	1663
	Island_Pond	81	46	65	0	1.20	4	16.71	+3.18	57	849	+112	1670
	Johnson_2N	79	49	65	-2	0.19	3	17.05	+3.86	48	867	+25	1713
	Marlboro_Raws	84	52	68	+2	1.88	3	20.67	+8.09	48	934	+135	1780
	Montpelier_AP	81	47	66	-3	0.88	2	12.45	+1.07	51	967	+66	1829
	Newport_AG	81	49	67	-3	0.40	2	17.38	+4.20	54	946	-98	1782
	Rochester	83	50	68	+2	1.08	4	15.65	+0.75	52	1031	+179	1912
	Rutland_AG	83	50	68	-2	0.41	2	13.59	+0.47	44	1051	-26	1929
	Springfield_VT	86	52	70	+2	0.73	4	15.23	+0.38	45	1124	+186	2029
	South_Lincoln	80	49	65	0	1.46	2	15.27	-0.48	45	857	+136	1686
	Sutton	82	49	65	-1	0.82	4	15.45	+1.92	58	872	+135	1699
	Walden	82	43	63	-4	0.85	3	12.94	-0.59	54	665	-72	1414

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2014					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Woodstock	87	50	70	+2	0.56	3	15.36	+2.18	48	1083	+135	1959
Massachusetts	Amherst	85	54	71	-1	2.49	4	16.89	+2.62	47	1275	+114	2229
	Barre_Falls_Dam	83	51	69	+2	0.77	4	16.08	+1.84	50	1045	+158	1932
	Bedford_Hanscom	87	53	72	+1	1.72	4	13.03	-0.84	43	1289	+111	2240
	Beverly_Ag	88	57	75	+3	0.95	4	12.92	+0.38	40	1205	-16	2121
	Birch_Hill_Dam	84	53	71	+3	1.92	4	18.82	+4.85	43	1157	+260	2062
	Boston_Logan_In	86	61	74	-2	1.52	2	12.94	+0.92	41	1432	+123	2432
	Chatham_AP	80	61	71	+3	0.47	2	10.87	-2.43	42	1093	+241	2053
	Chicopee_Westov	84	51	72	-1	2.25	4	18.49	+4.22	49	1361	+200	2334
	Edgartown	80	57	71	+1	1.11	3	9.17	-4.10	34	1186	+149	2174
	East_Brimfield_	83	55	70	+1	1.93	4	14.15	+0.18	50	1165	+121	2102
	Fitchburg	87	59	74	+3	0.65	4	12.54	-2.12	47	1456	+256	2434
	Greenfield	84	53	70	-2	1.61	4	16.71	+2.44	48	1162	+1	2110
	Hyannis_AP	80	57	72	+2	1.24	2	11.37	-0.63	35	1201	+195	2176
	Maynard	88	53	71	-2	1.09	5	15.12	+1.25	51	1321	+143	2285
	New_Bedford	83	57	72	-3	2.47	4	17.22	+2.98	38	1257	-18	2247
	Newburyport	90	56	72	0	1.40	2	13.16	-0.87	38	1212	+44	2156
	North_Adams_Har	85	49	68	+2	1.43	4	14.46	-2.12	47	1212	+351	2152
	Norwood	85	54	72	-1	1.18	2	10.52	-2.73	35	1318	+85	2293
	Pittsfield	82	50	67	-3	2.55	6	18.43	+2.78	45	1084	+95	2005
	Plymouth	84	56	72	-1	1.66	3	14.27	+0.13	38	1246	+77	2207
	Taunton_4NW	86	59	74	+2	0.71	3	12.40	-1.08	41	1387	+201	2374
	Westfield_Barne	84	55	72	+3	1.71	4	17.44	+2.74	43	1456	+466	2454
	West_Otis	82	54	70	+3	1.84	5	16.15	-0.82	48	1093	+163	1972
	Worcester	81	58	70	0	2.85	3	15.15	+0.12	46	1213	+159	2158
	Worthington	83	50	68	0	2.38	5	18.64	+2.86	48	975	+69	1869
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	79	61	72	0	1.34	3	13.32	+0.51	38	1176	+120	2164
	Providence	84	60	74	0	0.64	3	13.19	-0.01	36	1416	+117	2436
	Westerly-Wester	80	59	71	-2	0.73	3	13.48	-0.27	37	1179	+32	2162
	Woonsocket	84	57	73	0	0.92	4	12.82	-1.35	39	1368	+158	2362
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	82	63	74	-1	2.04	3	17.15	+3.16	42	1523	+191	2538
	Danbury_AP	82	53	70	-3	2.36	2	17.05	+0.84	46	1313	+24	2298
	Hartford_Bradle	85	55	73	-2	1.61	3	15.13	+0.68	47	1532	+144	2552
	Meriden-Meriden	83	54	72	-1	0.90	4	13.21	-3.32	38	1395	+177	2391
	Norfolk	81	54	68	-1	5.67	4	21.79	+4.82	55	1094	+164	2011
	Norwich	84	59	73	-1	0.47	2	13.09	-1.55	36	1399	+92	2419
	Staffordville	81	53	69	-2	1.49	4	14.66	-0.50	43	1071	-2	1980
	Thomaston_Dam	88	52	71	+1	1.89	5	20.37	+4.71	54	1315	+216	2283
	West_Thompson_L	83	55	70	-1	1.11	4	15.03	-0.21	44	1151	+70	2090
	Willimantic	82	56	72	+2	1.38	2	12.45	-2.71	40	1388	+315	2387

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.

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

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

CONNECTICUT

HARTFORD & TOLLAND, Ross Eddy

All summer vegetables in great supply at farmers' markets and farm stands. Early peaches starting to be picked; tame blueberries in good supply. Concern over fire blight in apples with several trees affected after early hail damage. Several pear trees lost all their fruit during June drop.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Mowing hay, picking blueberries, harvesting vegetables. Farmers' Markets busy with good selection of produce with onions, squash, kale, Swiss chard, beets, lettuce, etc. About 1.5" of rain brought some relief from dry conditions.

MAINE

CUMBERLAND, Sandy Truslow

Rain midweek, with a microburst in the town of York. Crops are progressing well, with many vegetables available at the stands. Highbush blueberries and raspberries are being picked.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

There were severe storms last week with a tornado watch. Crops seem to have suffered minimal damage. Roads were washed out by flash flooding. Hay harvest came to a crawl due to wet field conditions.

HANCOCK, Valerie Porter

Overall, crops are looking good. Farm stands are in full swing. Strawberry harvest completed and was a good crop this year. Blueberry crop looks great in areas and good in others. Harvest in some areas will start in the next week or so. Apples are sizing up and look pretty good. Corn crop has gotten good height in areas and humid weather reported this week should help some more. Second cutting of hay is underway for some.

SOMERSET, Elaine S. Moceus

The National Weather Service reported an EF-1 tornado in St. Albans early in the reporting week, bringing down trees and power lines, with radar showing tornado activity in Mercer and Cornville. Flash flooding reported in Madison, Starks, Norridgewock, and Skowhegan areas caused slight damage. Some producers reportedly seeded down fields just prior to the heavy rainfall. The humidity lessened through the remainder of the week.

WASHINGTON, Michael L. Look

Ripening fast. Lots of weeds.

MASSACHUSETTS

HAMPDEN/HAMPSHIRE, Ted Smiarowski

The week brought high temperatures, humidity and thunderstorms. Vegetable farmers are on the alert for phytophthora blight, powdery mildew, corn earworms, and squash bugs from the past weeks of rain and high humidity. Harvesting an array of summer fruits and vegetables such as raspberries, blueberries, summer squash, beets, peas, peppers, cukes, cabbage, and lettuce. Topping of tobacco continues.

NANTUCKET/PLYMOUTH, Deb Cannon

Most fruit has set with the exception of late varieties that were held from late water this past spring. Some growers have chosen to flood out their bloom and grow no crop on some acres this year due to low pricing and anticipated volume regulation. Otherwise, the crop looks fairly good on most bogs. Growers continue to scout and treat for cranberry fruit worm.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP, Kelly McAdam

Some Belknap growers began harvesting their early sweet corn this week in small amounts.

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

Nice conditions last week and expected again this week for working outside. Rain has been coming when needed. Lots of variety available at farmers' markets and farm stores. I've seen more and more tomatoes, and some early potatoes and spring onions. Lots of cabbage moth and corn borer reported by growers. Strawberries are mostly finished. We are now moving into blueberry (high and low bush), blackberry, and raspberry harvest.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Warm and muggy for the first part of the week, with bright, sunny weather for the second half. Corn looks great, and pastures and hayfields are growing back nicely. Wide range of produce available at farm stands. Strawberries are all done, and PYO blueberries and raspberries have begun.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Hot and fairly humid week; evening rains keeping soil moisture up. Overall, forage crops look good.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

Scattered and highly variable precipitation. Some areas got more rain than was needed, while other areas remained dry. The corn crop is looking better, thanks to the heat and humidity. Some fields have a longer way to go to get caught up. Producers are reporting that first cut hay yields are below expectations. Any number of factors could be causing this, including a later start to the growing season.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Fruit: First Spotted Wing Drosophila fruit fly trapped at three farms out of 20 farms that are being monitored. Raspberry and Blueberry growers would be well advised to monitor for SWD (spotted wing drosophila) within their plantings, and in woods adjacent to their plantings. Growers are renovating strawberry beds. Blueberry and raspberry harvest continued along with the first peaches. Orchardists busy monitoring for pests, spraying if needed, and mowing orchard floors. Scab and Fire Blight continues to be a problem on several orchards. Vegetables: Very good demand for produce at most local farmers' markets and farm stands. Farmers kept busy harvesting, cultivating, hoeing weeds, monitoring pest pressures, spraying pesticides for insects and diseases. Growers harvesting an array of vegetables including: beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, greens, lettuce, potatoes, radishes, snap beans, summer squash and first sweet corn. High numbers of squash vine borers were caught during week. Field Crops: Farmers making baled hay. Silage corn is rapidly growing. Second hay crop is looking good.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Severe thundershowers, lightning, and overflowing in some areas. Strong winds on Tuesday afternoon into evening. Rain gave some growers a break from moving irrigation pipes and irrigating. Power outage. The week was very hot, hot and humid, stormy, mild and dry. Spotted Wing Drosophila reported in Londonderry. Picking blueberries, red and black raspberries, small onions, new potatoes, sugar snap peas, greens, cukes, zucchinis, kohlrabi, greenhouse tomatoes, eggplant, herbs and cut flowers. Farmers were hand weeding, mechanically cultivating, fertilizing and successive vegetable planting of vegetables and crops for winter harvest. Mowing orchards; renovating strawberry beds. Haying and haylage done. PYO operations busy, as well as farmers' markets and farm stands.

RHODE ISLAND

NEWPORT, Heather Faubert

Two inches of rain helpful, but three days of very humid weather could cause disease outbreaks. Expect to find late blight in tomatoes and potatoes soon.

NEWPORT, Paul E. Brule

We got some rain last week that really helped us out. Anywhere from 1/2 inch to 2 inches. Potatoes look good and growers continue to spray them. Sweet corn is coming in, and so is cabbage and summer squash. Each week from now on we will start reporting on more vegetables. Pastures are in fair condition, and cows are looking in good order. Apples continue to be sprayed and the reports are that the crop will be decent. Strawberry season is just about over. It lasted about just over 4 weeks, and it was a very good crop this year.

VERMONT

ADDISON, Jeffrey Carter

Good weather for cutting dry hay to finish first harvest. Second crop haylage harvest started. Corn variable from earliest planted starting to tassel and latest planted three leaf stage. Latest planted looks excellent where planted after first cut haylage removed and is either no-till corn or plowed and planted. Corn weed control spray and fertilizer side-dress applied. Winter cereal grains mature for harvest. Weed pressure moderate. Pasture re-growth good.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Corn is still doing great and the bare spots are disappearing in the growth of the rest of the corn. Second cut harvest continues to progress with some dry hay being baled. Yields look real good. No word on quality yet. Vegetable stand signs are appearing along the roads with no signs of sweet corn - should be coming soon. Vine crops are doing great. Pastures continue to be unstoppable. We are still getting some rains and sun to keep growth at super levels.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

With the exception of a few showers, this past week was dry. Some of the lighter soils are showing some early signs of drought. The corn still looks good as well as the hay yield, but it is beginning to get a little bit dry here. The pasture re-growth is slow and there are some spots where the grass is turning a little brown. Farm activity this week included hay harvest, manure spreading and the tail end of N side-dress on corn.

Address Service Requested

National Agricultural Statistics Service
Northeastern Regional Field Office
4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203
Harrisburg, PA 17112

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