



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New  
England



# Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending October 5, 2014

*Issued weekly on the internet, April - November  
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS*

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Released October 6, 2014

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

Temperatures throughout most of New England remained warmer than normal last week. Average weekly temperatures in the region ranged from two degrees below normal to twelve degrees above normal. One percent of pasture was rated in very poor condition while 21 percent was poor, 36 percent was fair, 36 percent was good, and 6 percent was excellent. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.15 to 2.39 inches in the region. Eastern Connecticut and Rhode Island received some rain last week, but continued to experience mild to moderate drought conditions. The harvesting of field corn for silage remained active throughout the region. Cranberry harvest was in full swing in Massachusetts, with the crop showing average color and berry size. PYO operations, farm stands, and farmers' markets remained busy selling apples, fall vegetables, pumpkins, corn stalks, and mums. Some farmers began storing vegetables like onions, potatoes, and cabbage for the winter markets.

## Crop Progress as of October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Fruit Crops	Harvested	---
Apples	67%	---
Cranberries (MA)	20%	---
Pears	85%	---
Field Crops	Harvested	---
Corn for silage	54%	---
Potatoes	66%	---
Dry Hay	3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting	4 <sup>th</sup> Cutting
	95%	61%

## New England Soil Moisture for Week Ending October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil	2%	26%	68%	4%
Subsoil	2%	21%	69%	8%

## Crop Conditions as of October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Apples	1%	2%	11%	75%	11%
Corn for grain or silage	0%	7%	10%	56%	27%
Cranberries (MA)	0%	10%	25%	55%	10%
Dry Hay	0%	8%	16%	52%	24%
Pears	1%	1%	21%	73%	4%
Potatoes	0%	0%	0%	42%	58%

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit [www.usda.gov/oce/weather](http://www.usda.gov/oce/weather) and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin](#)."

### October 5, 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	83	42	58	+5	0.42	1	23.73	+1.54	70	2197	+54	3878
	Bangor_Intl_Air	84	42	59	+7	0.42	2	20.12	-0.18	70	2172	+165	3841
	Bethel	86	36	57	+5	0.76	3	28.91	+4.40	74	1884	-24	3519
	Bridgton	79	40	55	+6	0.65	4	24.88	+0.71	65	1976	+255	3624
	Caribou_Municip	84	33	52	+5	0.15	3	21.71	+0.67	83	1903	+421	3444
	Dover-Foxcroft	85	34	55	+7	0.45	1	22.87	-0.41	77	1848	+342	3430
	Durham	78	43	57	+5	0.38	2	27.71	+4.74	77	1900	-67	3558
	East_Surry	69	43	56	+4	0.86	3	22.60	-0.24	74	1761	-102	3397
	Eustis	80	31	52	+7	0.52	1	22.09	+0.14	71	1357	+207	2828
	Frenchville	80	33	48	+2	0.55	2	22.12	+0.61	84	1571	+211	3028
	Harmony	82	39	56	+7	0.58	2	26.67	+3.89	79	1826	+66	3436
	Houlton	84	32	54	+7	0.20	1	20.95	+0.08	76	1824	+309	3373
	Livermore_Falls	84	39	56	+8	0.69	3	28.37	+3.85	69	1862	+333	3470
	Machias	84	36	55	+5	0.71	5	26.89	+2.53	75	1576	+107	3117
	Millinocket_Wtr	84	36	54	+5	0.50	3	21.51	-1.77	74	1717	-43	3249
	Moosehead	82	33	54	+7	0.69	1	23.93	+0.19	82	1538	+230	3053
	Portland_ME	80	42	59	+7	0.32	2	26.93	+5.18	63	2176	+257	3864
	Sanford	85	41	57	+4	0.56	3	24.84	+0.95	46	2167	-48	3842
	Topsfield_2	82	42	54	+5	0.63	1	28.06	+4.40	69	1879	+189	3474
	Turner	85	43	58	+4	0.80	4	28.68	+6.15	75	2053	-262	3711
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	82	36	57	+8	0.33	1	20.86	-1.73	68	1728	+74	3312
	Bradford_2	83	37	56	+4	1.97	4	30.62	+6.76	62	1761	-280	3394
	Colebrook	80	40	57	+9	0.82	1	26.53	+3.06	92	1524	+11	3037
	Concord	87	41	59	+7	0.69	2	22.84	+3.05	64	2327	+179	4013
	East_Milford	86	41	57	+3	0.88	5	20.32	-2.88	63	2335	+37	4042
	Epping	86	40	57	+4	1.03	4	20.92	-1.88	69	2313	+134	4010
	Fitzwilliam	76	43	57	+6	1.27	3	28.46	+5.17	62	1807	0	3422
	Greenville	81	39	55	+4	1.31	4	22.10	-1.07	55	2026	+219	3696
	Jefferson	76	43	58	+9	0.26	1	22.62	-0.38	71	1764	+42	3351
	Keene_AG	86	43	60	+8	2.22	4	30.67	+8.14	69	2170	+101	3851
	Lakeport_2	85	47	60	+6	0.35	3	23.26	+1.01	63	2388	+142	4078
	Lebanon	84	45	61	+10	1.08	2	21.16	+1.07	72	2344	+339	4029
	North_Conway	83	41	57	+6	0.77	5	22.71	-1.86	85	1895	-90	3537
	Tamworth_4	82	35	55	+7	0.80	4	22.80	-4.11	71	1648	+87	3226
Vermont	Bennington_AP	81	42	60	+11	0.58	4	19.97	-7.41	73	2263	+610	3964
	Burlington_Intl	83	48	61	+9	1.01	1	22.15	+0.17	79	2666	+449	4373
	Corinth	75	42	57	+7	1.03	1	20.38	-0.06	63	1591	-192	3119
	Island_Pond	78	43	59	+12	1.53	1	26.42	+2.01	89	1687	+222	3232
	Johnson_2N	76	43	58	+10	0.93	1	26.79	+2.83	75	1699	+50	3261
	Marlboro_Raws	77	40	55	+6	2.29	4	31.56	+9.17	72	1773	+163	3371
	Montpelier_AP	79	42	59	+9	0.88	1	21.77	+1.33	78	1882	+99	3484
	Newport_AG	79	44	59	+7	1.14	1	29.08	+5.84	84	1883	-158	3445
	Rochester	81	44	59	+9	1.05	3	24.42	-1.78	82	2008	+275	3646
	Rutland_AG	81	44	59	+7	0.59	1	20.79	-2.61	70	2009	-106	3642
	Springfield_VT	82	44	60	+10	1.86	3	26.04	+1.25	68	2182	+303	3851
	South_Lincoln	76	41	57	+10	0.76	1	24.32	-3.37	70	1620	+187	3167
	Sutton	80	43	58	+12	1.30	1	23.27	-1.14	85	1714	+249	3259
	Walden	75	39	55	+8	0.75	1	20.81	-3.60	82	1315	-150	2756

		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	84	46	61	+11	1.17	3	24.76	+2.34	68	2106	+205	3743
Massachusetts	Amherst	84	40	59	+6	1.86	4	26.28	+1.77	71	2466	+128	4189
	Barre_Falls_Dam	80	39	56	+5	1.32	4	25.07	+0.37	74	1982	+181	3632
	Bedford_Hanscom	85	38	58	+3	0.93	4	19.93	-3.29	62	2505	+104	4219
	Beverly_Ag	81	43	58	-2	1.57	5	19.18	-2.62	59	2534	-55	4217
	Birch_Hill_Dam	83	39	56	+6	1.30	5	29.02	+5.34	67	2158	+328	3828
	Boston_Logan_In	87	48	59	+1	1.85	5	17.50	-3.06	60	2887	+133	4657
	Chatham_AP	76	52	62	+5	2.31	4	17.89	-4.53	65	2429	+388	4159
	Chicopee_Westov	84	39	60	+6	1.17	4	28.44	+3.93	70	2591	+253	4333
	Edgartown	78	50	62	+4	2.25	4	15.21	-7.24	57	2548	+203	4306
	East_Brimfield_	84	42	58	+5	1.13	4	20.76	-3.09	80	2255	+117	3962
	Fitchburg	86	43	60	+6	1.10	4	18.86	-6.20	68	2812	+376	4558
	Greenfield	82	42	58	+4	2.22	4	31.12	+6.61	73	2230	-108	3946
	Hyannis_AP	77	52	63	+6	2.30	3	18.76	-1.68	54	2532	+261	4276
	Maynard	89	41	59	+5	1.05	5	23.63	+0.41	75	2562	+161	4296
	New_Bedford	83	48	60	+1	1.62	4	22.46	-2.13	58	2554	-237	4311
	Newburyport	88	44	58	+3	1.10	6	20.78	-2.60	63	2441	+13	4152
	North_Adams_Har	82	39	60	+10	0.88	3	20.36	-7.06	67	2301	+542	4006
	Norwood	87	36	58	+3	1.61	4	15.05	-7.97	53	2516	+1	4251
	Pittsfield	80	39	58	+7	1.11	4	27.45	+0.91	68	2087	+115	3773
	Plymouth	85	48	60	+2	2.29	5	20.02	-4.62	58	2518	+11	4245
	Taunton_4NW	88	46	59	+3	1.70	5	16.56	-7.17	61	2740	+270	4495
	Westfield_Barne	86	42	61	+9	1.51	4	26.88	+1.83	66	2797	+788	4565
	West_Otis	82	41	59	+8	1.22	4	24.37	-4.27	77	2267	+352	3916
	Worcester	79	41	57	+3	1.38	5	26.54	+0.95	69	2370	+190	4083
	Worthington	81	38	56	+5	2.39	6	30.50	+3.79	78	1893	+50	3548
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	80	49	61	+2	1.58	5	18.00	-3.77	55	2568	+135	4326
	Providence	86	45	60	+3	1.00	5	17.80	-4.75	56	2872	+174	4662
	Westerly-Wester	79	46	60	+3	1.15	4	17.89	-6.26	51	2521	+28	4274
	Woonsocket	87	43	59	+4	1.23	5	18.41	-6.05	58	2685	+197	4448
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	80	45	63	+4	0.97	3	22.53	-0.74	59	3117	+278	4902
	Danbury_AP	83	39	61	+6	1.48	4	24.00	-4.04	71	2590	+24	4345
	Hartford_Bradle	87	44	62	+6	1.66	4	23.32	-1.21	74	2983	+230	4773
	Meriden-Meriden	84	42	61	+6	1.44	4	18.32	-9.64	56	2779	+264	4545
	Norfolk	76	38	57	+5	1.15	4	30.37	+1.73	77	2098	+183	3782
	Norwich	84	46	60	+4	0.66	3	17.03	-8.87	52	2767	+87	4557
	Staffordville	81	38	57	+4	1.03	3	21.75	-4.11	62	2170	-32	3849
	Thomaston_Dam	82	41	59	+6	1.81	3	29.13	+2.12	84	2548	+302	4286
	West_Thompson_L	82	41	57	+4	0.85	5	21.04	-5.00	70	2251	+21	3957
	Willimantic	84	42	61	+7	1.10	5	19.07	-6.79	63	2711	+509	4480

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**

Showers on Tuesday and rain on Saturday with varying amounts on both occurrences; did help dry conditions. Corn harvest continues and combining about to start. Pumpkins and other fall crops in good supply. Some dry hay made on Monday. Great day Sunday for PYO and farm stand/farmers' market business.

**LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert**

Corn silage harvest is trying to keep ahead of the grey leaf, late blight, and stalk rot.

**WINDHAM, Dawn Pindell**

A half inch of rain on Saturday and gray skies stopped most field work. Good weather Sunday brought families to orchards to pick apples, pumpkins, mums and more. Chopping corn with a few farms selling their standing corn now for silage rather than wait on grain corn due to low forecasted prices. Yields vary from 12 tons to over 25 tons/acre. Grape harvest continues. Cover crop finally coming up with recent light rains. Conditions continue to be dry with the area in a moderate drought.

### MAINE

**CUMBERLAND, Sandy Truslow**

Harvesting activities are continuing. Sweet corn is still being harvested. Some areas still haven't received a frost yet.

**FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond**

Conditions were excellent for field work. Some good quality late hay is still being harvested. Mulch and lower quality hay is being harvested from some areas previously too wet to harvest. Grain corn and soybeans have good conditions for drying in the field.

**HANCOCK, Valerie Porter**

Harvest is in full swing for corn silage and good crop overall. Potato harvest almost done. Great crop being reported. Apple picking is winding down and also a good crop. Spreading of manure on fields has started for many. Farm stands are full and will be closing down for the season in the upcoming weeks. Overall a good season for farmers.

**PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin**

Weekend rain was very welcome for pastures.

### MASSACHUSETTS

**NANTUCKET/PLYMOUTH, Deb Cannon**

Cranberry harvest is in full swing. Crop color is average as is berry size. The 2.5 inches of rain last week was very welcome as surface water levels had been dropping due to late summer dry conditions.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

**BELKNAP, Donna Juneau**

The last weekend of September was unusually warm with temperatures in the mid-80s, but temperatures cooled down to the 60s during the week. We received some much needed rain on Wednesday, October 1 (about ½ inch) and again on Saturday, October 4 (about ¼ inch). Producers are making good progress harvesting field corn but report that the harvest is generally running a couple of weeks behind schedule. The corn has reportedly been slower to mature this year due to the cooler weather this summer.

**CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski**

Sunny for most of the week, with a decent amount of rain Saturday. Last of haylage harvest about done. Corn chopping continued at a good pace, with farmers looking to catch up. Fall veggies dominating farm stands and farmers' markets. PYO apples doing well; starting to move into later varieties.

**COOS, Steve Turaj**

Warm temperatures with soaking rain this weekend. Silage corn harvest proceeding.

**HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton**

Fruit: Pick-Your-Own apple and farm stand operations had a rainy Saturday, October 4 and wonderful Sunday, October 5. Apple harvest is in full swing with most growers concentrating on strip picking McIntosh apples and working on Cortland and Macoun. Peach and pear harvest is completed and fall raspberry harvest continues. Vegetables: Good demand for all vegetables continues. Farmers are harvesting wide array of vegetables including: cabbage, kale, Brussels sprouts, winter squash and pumpkins. Farmers kept busy disking, cleaning up and planting cover crops on harvested fields. Field Crops: Silage corn harvest in full swing. The second and third cuttings of hay and haylage continue between rain showers.

**ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad**

Winter squash, salad greens, rutabaga, beets, Brussels sprouts, radish, carrots, apples, raspberries, and pumpkins available at farm stands and farmers' markets. Bringing new onions from the fields for storage and removing tomatoes from greenhouses to plant winter greens. Planting cover crops for the winter. It's almost the last call for tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, cukes, and beans. Some frost occurred on Sunday evening. Rain and cold weather on Wednesday as well as on Saturday. The whole week got about an inch of rain. Storing veggies for the winter markets started with onions, potatoes, carrots, parsnip, cabbage, and kohlrabi. Chopping field corn. Testing soil for nutrients and soil pH level.

## **RHODE ISLAND**

NEWPORT, Paul E. Brule

Well, we got some rain last week but not a lot of it. Four days last week were cloudy with on and off showers. The fall products are selling good such as pumpkins, corn stalks, and mums. I have seen some nice butternut squash this week, size-wise and color-wise. Apples are doing well. They are still picking at the Pick-Your-Own operations. Still plenty of sweet corn available as well as vegetables like peppers, tomatoes, egg plants, etc. Silage corn has been harvested at a pretty good pace. It slowed down a little this week due to the showers. I'd say we are 50% done hoping for no early frost. Potatoes: they are into the winter variety of potatoes and should start storing within the next week.

NEWPORT, Heather Faubert

Finally got some rain!

## **VERMONT**

CALEDONIA, Daniel Hudson

Much of the corn was frosted prior to dough stage. That material has finally dried to (or beyond) the point that it will ensile well. Yields are going to be below average, and silage quality will be well below average for many farmers.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Corn Harvest is the activity for this week in Franklin County. The corn crop is coming in with good yields and finishing has come to coincide with harvesting. Dry weather continues to take its toll on any fall pasture growth. However, a nice soaking rain over the weekend has helped with dry conditions greatly. The great pumpkin will soon be upon us and we have a good pumpkin harvest to help with the sighting.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

Most of the activity this week was harvesting corn. Some corn growers were also seeding winter rye as a cover crop. Some have broadcasted the rye seed and then put on a coat of manure; some are drilling the seed into the soil and one farmer applied the rye with a helicopter. There was also some fourth cut hay harvested as dry square bales and wrapped round bales. Most farmers are saying they will go into the winter with enough feed. The corn looks really good and the yields should be a lot higher than last year. Fall pasture continues on hayfields, but the pastures are pretty much done for the year. There has been a lack of rain in the past few weeks causing some soil types to become fairly dry.

**Address Service Requested**

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