



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Crop Progress & Condition

New
England



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Week ending April 19, 2015

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

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Fair week for field work: New England averaged 3.0 days suitable for field work last week.

New England experienced warmer temperatures last week, helping to dry out some of the more saturated fields in the region. Average weekly temperatures in the six states ranged from two to eleven degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.0 to 0.81 inches in the region. Maple syrup production continued, but was winding down in most states. In Massachusetts, some cranberry plants were near breaking dormancy, but most buds remained red and tight. Some farmers were planting peas, lettuce, spinach, carrots and other early season vegetables in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Growers in the region continued pruning various fruit crops, including apples, grapes, blueberries and raspberries. Tomatoes and other seedlings were being transplanted in greenhouses and high tunnels. In Rhode Island, some farmers were performing preventative maintenance on strawberries and spraying for weeds. In Vermont, cover crop winter rye was green and up and growing. In the drier fields in the region, farmers were spreading manure, liming, plowing, and disking.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 19, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	3	52	45
SUBSOIL	0	0	55	45

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

April 19, 2015 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2015					
		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	68	33	50	+7	0.57	3	1.58	-0.77	10	11	+11	84
	Bangor_Intl_Air	66	25	48	+6	0.05	3	1.06	-1.05	11	6	+6	64
	Bethel	70	28	46	+4	0.40	2	1.31	-1.16	8	1	+1	55
	Bridgton	70	26	47	+6	0.23	2	0.99	-1.59	8	0	0	58
	Caribou_Municip	65	26	44	+7	0.11	2	1.10	-0.53	8	4	+4	35
	Dover-Foxcroft	69	23	44	+7	0.10	3	1.08	-1.25	9	0	0	40
	Durham	68	27	46	+3	0.13	4	1.01	-1.84	12	1	+1	55
	East_Surry	63	27	45	+3	0.13	4	1.18	-1.51	11	0	0	47
	Eustis	65	25	41	+5	0.11	2	1.18	-0.79	9	0	0	17
	Frenchville	63	26	43	+7	0.03	1	0.62	-1.04	7	1	+1	28
	Harmony	66	22	45	+5	0.18	3	1.40	-1.00	10	0	0	42
	Houlton	65	21	44	+6	0.13	2	1.03	-0.71	7	4	+4	34
	Livermore_Falls	70	25	45	+5	0.48	3	1.45	-1.21	9	0	0	45
	Machias	62	21	43	+3	0.30	2	0.69	-2.22	8	0	0	25
	Millinocket_Wtr	68	24	42	+3	0.10	3	1.10	-1.12	8	0	0	27
	Moosehead	64	20	42	+7	0.17	2	1.24	-0.85	8	0	0	29
	Portland_ME	70	28	51	+8	0.15	2	1.12	-1.60	7	20	+20	100
	Rangely_2NW	62	25	40	+5	0.20	3	1.72	-0.36	10	0	0	11
	Sanford	72	28	48	+4	0.19	2	1.30	-1.59	7	3	+3	71
	Topsfield_2	65	28	45	+5	0.09	2	1.53	-0.61	7	1	+1	41
	Turner	70	33	49	+5	0.51	3	1.54	-1.14	11	7	+7	76
	Wesley_2W	71	21	47	+8	0.10	1	1.32	-1.13	5	1	+1	58
	West_Rockport	64	29	46	+5	0.81	2	1.78	-1.26	10	1	+1	55
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	71	25	45	+5	0.28	3	1.76	-0.25	10	0	0	46
	Bradford_2	70	24	46	+2	0.06	2	1.06	-1.41	6	1	+1	55
	Colebrook	68	20	41	+3	0.35	4	1.84	+0.25	11	0	0	23
	Concord	74	27	52	+8	0.11	3	0.97	-0.93	8	29	+29	114
	East_Milford	74	30	51	+6	0.02	1	0.74	-1.80	5	14	+13	96
	Epping	74	27	50	+6	0.16	4	1.18	-1.50	8	12	+12	85
	Errol_AP	69	19	43	+7	0.32	3	1.71	+0.00	10	0	0	35
	Fitzwilliam	71	29	50	+8	0.10	2	1.08	-1.28	7	9	+9	89
	Greenville	70	29	49	+7	0.00	0	0.56	-1.80	3	7	+7	79
	Hancock	70	25	48	+5	0.16	5	1.15	-1.34	10	6	+6	73
	Jefferson	66	27	45	+4	0.30	4	1.97	+0.17	12	0	0	50
	Keene_AG	73	25	48	+6	0.05	2	0.68	-1.40	7	3	+3	73
	Lakeport_2	70	29	49	+6	0.21	1	1.32	-0.80	5	5	+5	77
	Lebanon	73	23	51	+8	0.14	2	1.00	-0.74	8	23	+23	103
	North_Conway	70	26	47	+5	0.21	2	1.29	-1.37	9	0	0	58
	Tamworth_4	70	24	45	+4	0.07	2	1.23	-1.45	8	0	0	45
	Wolfeburro	69	30	48	+5	0.16	4	1.33	-0.79	9	3	+3	70
Vermont	Bennington_AP	75	25	51	+9	0.10	1	0.86	-1.30	8	24	+24	119
	Burlington_Intl	75	28	52	+9	0.33	3	1.25	-0.53	8	32	+32	121
	Corinth	64	24	43	+2	0.20	3	1.21	-0.34	11	0	0	30
	Island_Pond	67	20	43	+5	0.30	3	1.66	-0.05	10	0	0	27
	Johnson_2N	71	25	47	+7	0.36	3	1.32	-0.73	10	2	+2	57
	Marlboro_Raws	67	28	49	+11	0.06	1	1.17	-0.50	5	7	+7	80
	Montpelier_AP	69	24	48	+7	0.17	4	1.09	-0.46	11	12	+12	70
	Newport_AG	69	24	45	+3	0.02	1	1.32	-0.51	8	1	+1	45

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2015					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	71	25	48	+7	0.20	3	1.63	-0.65	9	3	+3	66
	Rutland_AG	75	24	47	+3	0.44	4	1.16	-0.55	10	2	+2	67
	Springfield_VT	72	25	50	+9	0.05	2	0.94	-1.53	7	18	+18	98
	South_Lincoln	71	25	47	+10	0.28	4	1.48	-1.14	9	2	+2	60
	Sutton	65	26	44	+6	0.38	4	2.00	+0.29	12	0	0	38
	Walden	62	25	41	+3	0.16	3	1.51	-0.20	10	0	0	21
	Woodstock	71	26	48	+6	0.06	2	1.23	-0.91	9	7	+7	72
Massachusetts	Amherst	75	29	51	+6	0.06	2	1.05	-1.35	7	14	+12	106
	Barre_Falls_Dam	72	28	49	+6	0.16	4	0.88	-1.56	9	5	+5	81
	Bedford_Hanscom	72	28	53	+6	0.07	4	0.80	-1.76	7	32	+27	134
	Beverly_Ag	71	34	53	+5	0.17	3	0.94	-1.76	7	26	+20	127
	Birch_Hill_Dam	70	28	48	+6	0.09	3	0.69	-1.72	7	3	+3	74
	Boston_Logan_In	69	41	56	+8	0.07	3	0.95	-1.38	7	51	+42	164
	Chatham_AP	62	35	49	+4	0.25	1	1.17	-1.35	9	1	+1	94
	Chicopee_Westov	78	26	53	+8	0.14	3	1.70	-0.70	8	37	+35	139
	Edgartown	67	33	51	+5	0.20	2	1.15	-1.63	8	11	+9	121
	East_Brimfield_	74	29	51	+7	0.24	4	2.00	-0.71	11	14	+14	100
	Fitchburg	75	31	56	+10	0.09	3	0.79	-2.04	8	52	+49	164
	Greenfield	75	27	51	+5	0.02	2	0.87	-1.53	8	13	+11	98
	Hyannis_AP	64	33	50	+5	0.28	1	0.95	-1.51	9	3	+3	110
	Maynard	77	30	53	+6	0.15	4	1.31	-1.25	9	28	+23	121
	New_Bedford	70	28	52	+5	0.25	2	1.17	-1.69	8	18	+14	131
	Newburyport	74	31	51	+5	0.18	3	1.21	-1.58	9	19	+16	100
	North_Adams_Har	73	24	51	+9	0.12	3	0.87	-1.83	8	22	+22	114
	Norwood	70	28	53	+6	0.14	3	0.62	-2.04	7	33	+26	140
	Pittsfield	72	28	51	+8	0.25	2	1.36	-0.97	8	21	+21	113
	Plymouth	67	28	52	+5	0.19	2	1.03	-1.97	9	18	+14	125
	Taunton_4NW	76	32	53	+6	0.19	3	1.51	-1.21	10	23	+18	126
	Westfield_Barne	79	29	55	+11	0.08	3	1.84	-0.82	8	49	+49	158
	West_Otis	75	30	51	+9	0.09	1	1.26	-1.59	6	14	+14	105
	Worcester	71	38	55	+11	0.19	3	1.30	-1.19	9	38	+38	143
	Worthington	72	26	48	+7	0.16	3	1.51	-0.90	10	2	+2	74
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	68	36	52	+6	0.22	2	1.00	-1.80	9	18	+14	117
	Providence	77	36	55	+7	0.18	3	1.30	-1.41	10	44	+33	163
	Westerly-Wester	71	31	51	+4	0.35	2	0.82	-1.93	8	13	+9	106
	Woonsocket	76	32	53	+7	0.18	2	1.28	-1.57	9	28	+23	130
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	75	36	55	+7	0.21	2	0.68	-1.88	8	40	+29	162
	Danbury_AP	78	31	54	+6	0.10	1	0.36	-2.34	6	43	+33	153
	Hartford_Bradle	81	34	56	+8	0.14	3	1.81	-0.62	9	59	+45	173
	Meriden-Meriden	80	33	54	+7	0.01	1	0.71	-2.27	6	32	+27	136
	Norfolk	72	29	50	+7	0.27	3	2.26	-0.59	9	8	+8	80
	Norwich	77	35	54	+7	0.13	2	1.02	-1.95	9	32	+22	141
	Staffordville	72	28	49	+4	0.36	3	1.98	-0.87	9	4	+2	75
	Thomaston_Dam	77	28	51	+7	0.20	4	1.50	-1.25	10	20	+20	111
	West_Thompson_L	75	30	51	+6	0.30	3	1.63	-1.22	10	11	+10	99
	Willimantic	78	30	54	+9	0.18	3	1.33	-1.52	10	34	+32	141

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

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Still pruning fruit trees, which was delayed due to the accumulated snow of February and March. Spreading manure and tilling fields. Transplanting seedlings in the greenhouse.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK, Larry James

Most of the snow has left the fields. There is still snow in the woods and along line fences. Producers are busy readying equipment and hauling seed.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Beautiful weather for the week. Most of the snow melted and spring crop planting has begun.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Maple sap season is coming to an end. Mud season is upon us. Much of the remaining snow melted off the fields last week. Everything looks brown out there.

PISCATAQUIS/SOMERSET, Elaine S. Moceus

What a difference a week makes! With 70 degree temps and bright sunshine during the beginning of the week, followed by 40 to 50 degree days with some early morning showers melted most of the snow in fields. The maple sap season is ongoing, with mostly the northern portions of the county still in operation. No field work has been seen - conditions are too wet at this time.

WASHINGTON, Audre Hayward

Rain and cold.

WASHINGTON, Michael Look

The snow is still melting off the fields.

MASSACHUSETTS

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

A nice warm week helped to melt the final snow piles and dry up the soils. Valley farmers have started fertilizing and sub-soiling for potatoes. Farmers have been out burning off winter fronds from asparagus. The first lettuce, peas and carrots are being planted. The initial crops are being started in greenhouses. So pleased to look out the windows and finally see GREEN!

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Cranberry plants are near breaking of dormancy, but buds remain predominantly red and tight. Growers are deploying irrigation heads in preparation for frost management. Some bogs retained some snow cover as late as earlier this week. Most look good, despite the severe winter.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/MERRIMACK/HILLSBOROUGH, Donna Juneau

Spring finally arrived in Belknap, Merrimack and Hillsborough Counties after a very long winter. This week we experienced generally average springtime temperatures with only one night (Thursday) below freezing. Farmers in our southernmost county of Hillsborough reported that fields were ready to work and they were spreading manure and preparing fields. Things have been a little slower to dry out in the more northern counties of Merrimack and Belknap, with a few fields being ready to work, but most others still supersaturated due to the long, slow snow melt. Maple sap may have seen the last run on Friday following Thursday night's freezing temperature.

BELKNAP/STRAFFORD, Kelly McAdam

Some farms that are in higher spots have dried out enough that they have been able to plow (Belknap County).

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Exceptionally warm and sunny weather - nice to finally see spring. Snow's gone and fields are beginning to dry out, though most are still a bit too wet for any sort of field work.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Geese have returned, rivers running high and over their banks in places, and floodplains doing their job.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

This past week saw most of the snow melt except for in the mountains. It's still too wet for field work though.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

Weather conditions continued to warm up. Daytime temperatures were in the high 50s for a couple of days. Nighttime temperatures dropped down below freezing. These cold nights went as low as the mid-20s, which was good for the maple sugar makers. Maple producers are reporting a mixed bag of results. Some are down a little bit, but doing OK. Other maple operations are down significantly. Location is the key. The north-facing slopes with higher elevations are hoping for a little better results. Topsoil conditions generally remained too wet for most field equipment. There was still a significant layer of frozen soil a few inches or so below the surface. On upland fields, it was reported that the frost has gone out on the top six inches, with up to 3 feet of frost below that level. Soil conditions vary from one area to the next. Some farms continue to field stack manure in preparation for spreading and spring planting.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Field Crops: Liming and fertilizing hayfields. Spreading manure, plowing, disking, fertilizing and getting ready to plant corn. Fixing pasture fences. Also, getting ready to make new pasture and hayfield seedings. Vegetables: Transplanting tomatoes into high tunnels. Early season vegetables (peas, lettuce, greens) are being planted. Liming, fertilizing, plowing, disking and getting ready to

plant fields. Fruits: Apples are at green tip to ¼ inch green stage. Peaches are at bud swell. Pruning apples. Pruning blueberry bushes and raspberry patches. Orchardists are chopping brush in orchards or push pruning out of the orchards. Protective fungicide sprays applied on fruit trees over weekend prior to rain forecast.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Warmer and relatively sunny week. Snow is gone and fields with heavy soils and poor drainage are drying. Pruning fruit trees and small fruits, including grapes. Spreading manure. Seeding vegetables in greenhouses and transplanting tomatoes in high tunnels. Several Community Supported Agriculture have sold all their shares while others are left with some openings. The weather forecast for next week is rain.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Paul E. Brule

Last week we had 6 sunny days in the 60s and one day in the 70s. A little work being done on strawberries, some preventative maintenance, spraying for weeds. Seed potatoes have not arrived yet; waiting for them any day now, same with fertilizer on most farms. It's April 20th, and I don't know of any farm that has sweet corn planted yet under Reemay. Hayfields are showing green now with the warm weather; fields are too wet to get on with lime or fertilizer yet. Forecast for this week is mostly all rain; I don't see much getting started. One farm I visited started plowing; they plowed about a half-acre and quit. It's late, but they're just not getting on the fields yet. Ryegrass should be a foot tall by now, but it's not even 4-5 inches; even that is late.

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

Spring has sprung!

VERMONT

ADDISON, Jeffrey Carter

Some lighter soils dry enough to disc harrow, but just a few. Manure spreading in corn fields. Cover crop winter rye green and up and growing this week. Equipment preparation for spring planting.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Frost is gradually leaving the ground in the right soil types and sunlight exposure. Not much sign of budding in trees and flowers, however, hearing of some early garden plants like spinach and peas going into the ground. Manure is starting to be spread. No tillage at this point except where manure injection is done. Grasses are greening well with limited growth.

LAMOILLE, Heather Mateja

Manure is being spread, however, in many areas the frost is in the ground.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

The maple sugaring season is winding down for most producers. Reports on production seem to vary widely. The snow is off most fields and some are dry enough to start spreading manure, but I haven't seen any tillage yet. The hayfields and pastures are still mostly brown. Rain is predicted for most of the upcoming week, so the fields should be turning green soon.