



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Crop Progress & Condition

New
England



Gary Keough, State Statistician

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

Phone: 603-224-9639

Fax: 603-225-1432

www.nass.usda.gov/nh
Week ending April 26, 2015

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

nassrfooner@nass.usda.gov
Released April 27, 2015

Fair week for field work: New England averaged 2.5 days suitable for field work last week.

New England experienced somewhat of a relapse into winter last week. Average weekly temperatures in the six states ranged from ten degrees below to only one degree above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.0 to 1.93 inches in the region increasing the percentage of fields with a surplus of soil moisture. Most maple syrup production is reportedly finish in New England.

In Massachusetts, cranberry plants are losing dormant color but are not yet expanding. There are also reports of Winter Moths hatching and emerging in the bogs.

All of the states are experiencing lower than average soil temperatures which is greatly delaying planting. Standing water on fields is also hindering tilling and manure spreading.

Fruit trees, such as peaches, are starting to green as well as some pastures. It is estimated that planting and getting livestock to pasture is about a month behind schedule due to the lingering cold and wet conditions. Most progress is being made in green and hoop houses and high tunnels.

This week, farmers will be plowing, spreading manure, pruning fruit trees, and planting vegetables.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 26, 2015 (in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	1	46	54
SUBSOIL	0	0	48	53

Crop Progress as of April 26, 2015 (in percent)

Item	This Week
PEACHES GREEN TIP	19
SPRING TILLAGE SINGLE	5

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

April 26, 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	60	33	44	-4	2.55	3	4.13	+0.87	13	11	+7	111
	Bangor_Intl_Air	59	29	43	-3	1.02	5	2.08	-0.80	16	6	+4	88
	Bethel	59	30	41	-5	2.49	3	3.80	+0.46	11	1	0	68
	Bridgton	62	28	42	-4	2.43	4	3.42	-0.07	12	0	0	76
	Caribou_Municip	58	25	41	-1	0.94	5	2.04	-0.22	13	4	+4	47
	Dover-Foxcroft	60	25	41	-1	1.27	6	2.35	-0.82	15	0	0	50
	Durham	59	30	43	-4	2.33	5	3.34	-0.56	17	1	-1	76
	East_Surry	57	28	42	-4	2.26	5	3.44	-0.23	16	0	0	64
	Eustis	58	25	37	-3	0.77	4	1.95	-0.79	13	0	0	22
	Frenchville	54	28	39	-2	1.26	6	1.88	-0.44	13	1	+1	33
	Harmony	60	27	40	-4	1.79	5	3.19	-0.05	15	0	0	49
	Houlton	60	20	41	-2	1.31	5	2.34	-0.10	12	4	+4	51
	Livermore_Falls	61	27	41	-3	1.99	3	3.44	-0.14	12	0	0	56
	Machias	60	27	42	-2	2.18	3	2.87	-1.09	11	0	0	44
	Millinocket_Wtr	59	23	39	-5	1.46	5	2.56	-0.50	13	0	0	31
	Moosehead	59	26	40	+1	0.82	5	2.06	-0.87	13	0	0	37
	Portland_ME	63	32	47	+1	3.78	4	4.90	+1.20	11	21	+19	148
	Rangeley_2NW	56	26	34	-6	0.84	5	2.56	-0.22	15	0	0	13
	Sanford	62	32	43	-6	2.20	2	3.31	-0.63	7	3	-4	94
	Topsfield_2	63	29	42	-1	1.58	5	3.11	+0.13	12	1	+1	61
	Turner	59	31	42	-6	2.48	4	4.02	+0.43	15	7	+1	92
	Wesley_2W	65	25	42	-2	3.90	5	5.22	+1.93	10	1	+1	78
	West_Rockport	59	29	42	-3	2.06	4	3.84	-0.30	14	1	+1	72
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	59	30	40	-5	0.83	3	2.59	-0.19	13	0	0	61
	Bradford_2	61	27	42	-7	1.51	3	2.57	-0.81	9	1	-9	75
	Colebrook	56	27	38	-5	1.24	5	3.08	+0.85	16	0	0	28
	Concord	66	28	45	-3	1.26	2	2.23	-0.40	10	30	+22	153
	East_Milford	67	33	46	-3	2.00	3	2.74	-0.70	8	16	+4	140
	Epping	65	30	45	-4	1.92	3	3.10	-0.56	11	13	+4	121
	Errol_AP	57	26	37	-3	1.15	5	2.86	+0.46	15	0	0	40
	Fitzwilliam	64	30	44	-2	1.36	3	2.44	-0.79	10	9	+8	123
	Greenville	64	30	43	-3	1.87	2	2.43	-0.80	5	7	+6	108
	Hancock	68	27	42	-5	1.60	4	2.75	-0.65	14	6	+2	96
	Jefferson	56	30	40	-6	1.32	6	3.29	+0.79	18	0	0	66
	Keene_AG	64	28	43	-4	1.09	3	1.77	-1.08	10	3	-2	101
	Lakeport_2	63	33	44	-4	1.41	3	2.73	-0.23	8	5	0	106
	Lebanon	62	28	44	-3	0.74	2	1.74	-0.70	10	24	+21	136
	North_Conway	61	29	41	-5	2.52	3	3.81	+0.21	12	0	-1	72
	Tamworth_4	62	27	41	-4	2.04	3	3.27	-0.39	11	0	0	60
	Wolfeburro	63	33	45	-3	1.61	2	2.94	-0.02	11	4	-1	105
Vermont	Bennington_AP	63	28	45	0	1.18	4	2.04	-0.98	12	28	+28	161
	Burlington_Intl	56	35	45	-2	1.27	3	2.52	+0.04	11	33	+25	163
	Corinth	54	29	39	-7	1.11	4	2.32	+0.14	15	0	0	38
	Island_Pond	54	27	38	-5	1.64	5	3.30	+0.89	15	0	0	34
	Johnson_2N	55	28	39	-5	0.77	5	2.09	-0.73	15	2	+2	72
	Marlboro_Raws	61	28	42	-2	1.76	3	2.93	+0.63	8	7	+7	102
	Montpelier_AP	55	29	40	-5	0.91	3	2.00	-0.18	14	12	+12	85
	Newport_AG	57	29	39	-7	1.60	4	2.92	+0.39	12	1	-5	58

		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	59	30	41	-4	1.30	3	2.93	-0.26	12	3	+3	85
	Rutland_AG	60	30	42	-7	1.06	4	2.22	-0.18	14	2	-12	88
	Springfield_VT	61	30	44	-2	1.30	2	2.24	-1.16	9	18	+18	128
	South_Lincoln	55	29	39	-4	0.53	3	1.07	-2.01	6	1	+1	63
	Sutton	53	27	38	-5	1.68	6	3.68	+1.27	18	0	0	45
	Walden	49	23	33	-10	1.65	5	3.16	+0.75	15	0	0	21
	Woodstock	60	30	42	-4	1.72	3	2.95	-0.03	12	7	+6	92
Massachusetts	Amherst	68	28	46	-3	1.20	3	2.25	-1.06	10	20	+8	153
	Barre_Falls_Dam	65	27	44	-3	1.04	3	1.92	-1.43	12	5	+3	111
	Bedford_Hanscom	69	29	47	-3	0.90	1	1.70	-1.77	8	36	+19	184
	Beverly_Ag	69	37	49	-1	0.69	2	1.63	-2.04	9	36	+18	193
	Birch_Hill_Dam	65	30	45	-2	1.10	3	1.79	-1.46	10	5	+3	109
	Boston_Logan_In	67	36	49	-3	1.15	2	2.10	-1.06	9	61	+36	227
	Chatham_AP	62	33	46	-2	0.28	2	1.45	-1.98	11	2	-3	135
	Chicopee_Westov	70	26	46	-3	1.07	3	2.77	-0.54	11	44	+32	189
	Edgartown	63	34	47	-2	0.23	2	1.30	-2.43	12	9	-1	173
	East_Brimfield_	65	30	45	-3	1.60	3	3.54	-0.12	13	17	+10	141
	Fitchburg	69	30	48	-1	1.42	2	2.21	-1.60	10	59	+45	221
	Greenfield	63	28	44	-5	1.23	3	2.10	-1.21	11	13	+1	132
	Hyannis_AP	65	31	47	-1	0.19	1	1.14	-2.16	10	6	0	159
	Maynard	70	29	47	-3	1.10	2	2.41	-1.06	11	37	+20	178
	New_Bedford	72	32	49	-1	0.69	3	1.86	-1.98	11	32	+17	196
	Newburyport	67	35	46	-4	1.91	2	3.12	-0.65	11	21	+7	141
	North_Adams_Har	65	28	45	0	1.14	4	2.01	-1.74	12	25	+25	156
	Norwood	69	30	49	-2	0.68	2	1.30	-2.32	9	46	+23	203
	Pittsfield	62	27	43	-5	1.54	5	2.90	-0.37	13	22	+16	145
	Plymouth	73	30	47	-3	0.80	3	1.83	-2.20	12	30	+16	175
	Taunton_4NW	72	31	48	-2	0.85	4	2.36	-1.30	14	31	+14	184
	Westfield_Barne	70	30	47	+1	1.39	4	3.23	-0.41	12	56	+49	213
	West_Otis	64	29	45	-2	1.37	4	2.63	-1.27	10	15	+13	145
	Worcester	64	30	46	-3	1.57	3	2.87	-0.53	12	39	+30	191
	Worthington	63	29	42	-4	1.00	5	2.51	-0.87	15	2	+1	97
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	67	34	48	-2	0.50	3	1.50	-2.27	12	24	+11	170
	Providence	70	33	50	-2	1.15	4	2.45	-1.19	14	59	+31	233
	Westerly-Wester	66	32	47	-3	0.59	2	1.41	-2.30	10	15	0	155
	Woonsocket	69	32	49	-1	2.25	2	3.46	-0.41	10	38	+21	195
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	67	33	49	-3	1.48	3	2.16	-1.31	11	49	+21	227
	Danbury_AP	66	24	46	-5	0.81	2	1.17	-2.51	8	50	+22	204
	Hartford_Bradle	71	32	49	-3	1.60	4	3.41	+0.07	13	73	+37	239
	Meriden-Meriden	69	27	48	-2	1.06	3	1.77	-2.26	9	42	+23	196
	Norfolk	64	28	42	-5	1.26	5	3.52	-0.38	14	8	+6	104
	Norwich	67	34	49	-3	0.38	3	1.40	-2.62	12	42	+14	205
	Staffordville	65	26	44	-5	1.26	3	3.24	-0.59	12	5	-7	111
	Thomaston_Dam	70	28	46	-2	1.77	4	3.27	-0.46	14	23	+13	158
	West_Thompson_L	68	27	46	-2	1.74	3	3.37	-0.47	13	14	+3	147
	Willimantic	68	32	49	+1	2.18	3	3.51	-0.32	13	48	+36	204

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
Copyright 2015: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc. All rights reserved.

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

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

Not much happening in the fields yet. Still cold and wet. Several growers commented that they are behind a couple of weeks in field work already.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Cold, wet, conditions have slowed development of fruit trees and progress with vegetables and planting corn. Uncovering greenhouses for nursery plants. Protecting sensitive plants due to frost warnings.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK, Larry James

Snow is still visible along woods and line fences. Most of the fields have standing water in them from a week of constant rain. It appears we will be a bit late planting this year.

PISCATAQUIS/SOMERSET, Elaine S. Moeus

Typical Spring-like weather: cool temps early morning and evening, rain showers, sun and warmup during the day. Pastures are finally showing green! Most fields are still too wet to work. Some manure has been spread. The frost still appears to be in the ground, since rain and/or water runoff remains pooled on the surface in some areas. The maple sap season has finished with a reportedly reasonable production. Maple sap producers have reported a loss of production could be attributed to the March and April winds blowing the snow away from the base of the maple trees, causing the ground to remain frozen.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

A cool, wet week with little field work.

MASSACHUSETTS

CAPE COD, Russell Norton

Conditions over the last week have been favorable for tillage. The average temperature was 47F with a high of 70F and a low of 32F. 0.27 inches of rain fell on Monday. Soil temperatures are approx. 47F. Winter Moth hatch has begun.

FRANKLIN, James M. Newland

It was a cool week. Soil temperature is lower than normal. Some field work has commenced in forming beds. Planting in hoop houses is in full swing.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

With only one real nice day in the last week not much progress has been made. There have still been some really cold nights especially in the hills. Farmers will be full month behind on getting livestock out on pasture. Cooler soil temperature are delaying normal spring activities but everywhere the greening continues.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Cranberry plants are breaking dormancy with buds losing dormant color but not yet expanding. Growers have begun to watch for frost conditions and some needed to run sprinklers for frost protection late in the week. Leaf drop due to winter stress is showing up at scattered locations through the region. Winter moth caterpillars have been found on bogs.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/MERRIMACK/HILLSBOROUGH, Donna Juneau

Weather is still colder than average for this time of year. About 1.25 inches of rainfall was recorded on Monday and Tuesday. Many fields in our northern two counties of Merrimack and Belknap are still drying out. Manure is piled in the fields ready to spread once the fields are dry. Field preparation is continuing in our southernmost county of Hillsborough. Although the weather was not the best for maple sugar season, reports are that overall it was not a bad year for commercial maple sugar operations with vacuum systems.

BELKNAP/STRAFFORD, Kelly McAdam

Some higher fields have been tilled, many still wet in Belknap County.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Cooler weather than last week, but not a lot of rain so fields are still in good condition. Planting has just begun with earliest crops on well drained sites. A couple new forage seedlings going in here and there.

COOS, Steve Turaj

A cold, wet week, with a brief snow cover. Looking at delayed corn planting

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

The weather this past week was colder than the week before with a little snow in some parts of the county. Nevertheless, some fields along the river are starting to green up, a handful of early fields have been plowed, and the fruit trees and berry bushes are starting to show signs of breaking dormancy. Most maple operations are reporting their season are finished.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

For the week ending April 25th, temperature conditions remained cool. Most mornings saw a frost in areas higher than the river bottom fields along the Connecticut River. There was a light snow early in the week, and another light snow toward the end of the week. Daytime temperatures did increase, but soil conditions have been slow to improve. During the week, a total of nearly one inch of precipitation was received. Soil conditions did begin to improve toward the end of the week as some of the better drained soils were accessible for manure spreading and some other activities. The frost is still coming out of the ground on many

fields. Farmers were still reporting frost at a depth of foot or two below the surface.

NEW HAMPSHIRE cont.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Pruning Blueberries, raspberries, and tree fruits. Planting fruit trees and small fruits. Fertilizing vegetable fields. What's growing in high tunnels? Kale, Swiss chard, beets, collard greens and many micro greens types and cauliflower. Most of the farms are still late starting field work because of wet soils. There is a good selection of bedding plants, hanging baskets, green seedling and herbs and waiting for customers mainly at garden centers. Last pick-up of winter shares of Community supported. Spreading manure and woodash, liming. Heavy rain on Monday, cloudy week and cold temperature during the days and evening. Repairing equipment and fences.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Paul E. Brule

Last week was very wet and on the cold side. Thursday and Friday we had heavy frost in the Northern and Western part of the State. Trees are just starting to bud now. This week's forecast has a couple days of rain, but in the 60's during the day, and 40's during the nights, which is good. I saw last Sunday that a few acres of sweet corn and beans went in, but only in a couple of farms. We may see more this week. Farmers will be planting strawberry plants this week. Quite a few loads of potato seeds came in last week. They are going to try to till the land this week and start planting next week. We are about a month behind on potatoes. The pastures and hay fields have really greened up during the past week. Everything is late this year due to the cold, but we will start seeing tillage and planting done very soon. I visited a couple apple orchards in the northern part of the State and the trees are just now budding, which shows how cold it's been.

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

Cold weather has returned and slowed down spring again.

VERMONT

ADDISON, Jeffrey Carter

Spreading stacked winter manure on corn fields. Very little tillage with saturated soils. Cool weather and snow showers this week.

CALEDONIA, Daniel Hudson

Frost still in ground in many places -- making field work nearly impossible. As a result, a lot of spring work has not been done yet.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Spring is progressing quite slowly in Franklin County. Some manure being spread, however, field conditions are very spring like. Injection is paying big dividends this year allowing for a bigger window to get manure out before the planting rush. The sugar makers had to wait until late in the season for their break and now it is our turn. Trees are beginning to bud and some grass is greening up so things are moving in the right direction, patients is a true virtue.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

It is still winter like weather here. We had several days of snow flurries and at least three mornings we woke up to find a blanket of snow on the ground. Some places recorded over 6 inches of snow. Fortunately it doesn't stay long this time of year. Very little field work was accomplished last week due to the snow. I have not seen any tillage to date. I've only seen limited manure spreading of select drier fields. This coming week promises higher temperatures so maybe Landowner's will be able to start catching up on spring field work. Some sugar makers with north facing slopes are still making syrup. Most other operations have shut down for the year.