



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New  
England



# Crop Progress & Condition

Gary Keough, State Statistician

53 Pleasant St. Room 3450, Concord, NH 03301

Phone: 603-224-9639

Fax: 603-225-1432

[www.nass.usda.gov/nh](http://www.nass.usda.gov/nh)  
Week ending June 21, 2015

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

[nassrfoener@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nassrfoener@nass.usda.gov)  
Released June 22, 2015

**Fair week for field work:** New England averaged 4.0 days suitable for field work last week.

Most of New England experienced cooler than average temperatures last week, with additional precipitation that left some fields wet and soggy. Average weekly temperatures in the region ranged from seven degrees below normal to five degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.22 to 3.21 inches in the region. The rainfall this week slowed field work and made it difficult for some animals to move around in pastures. Some farmers were able to make dry hay and haylage between rain showers. Potatoes were nearly done emerging throughout the region and were looking good. Growers were busy hilling up the potatoes and applying herbicides. Field corn was also nearly done emerging, with variable conditions depending on location. Some corn was doing well and approaching knee-high height, while other corn was beginning to look yellow at spots where water was standing on the fields. Vegetable crops were growing well and many different types of vegetables were available due to the use of high tunnels. Strawberry harvest progressed throughout the region, keeping many "U-pick" operations busy. Wild lowbush blueberries were looking good, while some highbush blueberries in Maine and New Hampshire were showing signs of winter damage. Fruit growers continued mowing orchard floors, monitoring pest and crop development, and applying sprays for pest control. Other field work this week included sidedressing fields with fertilizer, cultivating and hand-hoeing weeds, and scouting for pests.

## Crop Conditions as of June 21, 2015 (in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	0	0	0	82	18
BARLEY (ME)	0	0	0	37	63
BLUEBERRIES, TAME	0	2	34	56	8
CORN	0	1	55	39	5
DRY HAY	0	17	26	48	9
OATS (ME)	0	0	0	10	90
PASTURE AND RANGE	0	5	33	46	16
PEACHES	3	10	26	58	3
PEARS	3	5	27	65	0
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	0	5	41	50	4
STRAWBERRIES	0	0	5	67	28

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending June 21, 2015 (in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	1	8	69	22
SUBSOIL	1	8	71	20

## Crop Progress as of June 21, 2015 (in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: FRUIT SET	98
BARLEY (ME): EMERGED	95
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: PETAL FALL	99
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: FRUIT SET	93
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): PINK	98
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): FULL BLOOM	92
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): PETAL FALL	16
CORN: EMERGED	96
CRANBERRIES (MA): FULL BLOOM	20
DRY HAY: 1st CUTTING	68
OATS (ME): EMERGED	95
PEACHES: FRUIT SET	90
PEARS: PETAL FALL	100
PEARS: FRUIT SET	84
POTATOES: EMERGED	83
STRAWBERRIES: FRUIT SET	97
STRAWBERRIES: HARVESTED	21
SWEET CORN: PLANTED	88
TOBACCO, CIGAR BINDER (MA): PLANTED	85

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.](#)"

### June 21, 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	77	48	62	-4	1.12	3	9.62	-0.58	36	543	+71	1186
	Bangor_Intl_Air	77	41	61	-4	0.61	4	7.32	-1.82	42	468	+32	1078
	Bethel	80	42	60	-4	0.87	4	8.74	-2.12	30	470	+41	1063
	Bridgton	78	44	61	-3	1.09	4	8.84	-1.74	26	486	+107	1097
	Caribou_Municip	77	40	60	-3	0.71	2	8.32	+0.09	41	399	+76	950
	Dover-Foxcroft	78	46	61	-1	0.22	3	9.29	-0.97	45	443	+152	1005
	Durham	79	44	61	-4	0.99	4	7.22	-3.89	37	474	+78	1095
	East_Surry	75	43	58	-6	2.47	3	9.99	-0.64	40	305	-65	868
	Eustis	76	35	57	-3	1.49	3	10.05	+0.66	36	328	+111	801
	Frenchville	76	40	58	-4	1.23	2	8.05	-0.42	39	306	+33	818
	Harmony	80	41	61	-3	1.24	5	9.75	-0.41	43	497	+119	1085
	Houlton	76	35	59	-3	0.50	3	8.63	-0.02	38	401	+81	938
	Livermore_Falls	77	39	59	-3	1.19	4	8.86	-2.40	34	464	+154	1048
	Machias	74	42	60	0	0.54	4	7.93	-3.82	34	309	+61	809
	Millinocket_Wtr	77	38	58	-5	0.40	3	10.24	+0.15	38	356	-18	874
	Moosehead	77	39	59	-2	0.98	3	8.93	-1.12	39	389	+146	923
	Portland_ME	80	49	63	-2	1.27	5	10.66	+0.27	29	604	+219	1281
	Rangeley_2NW	76	36	58	-3	0.89	3	11.32	+1.90	39	306	+55	747
	Sanford	79	48	62	-5	1.13	4	8.63	-2.24	17	582	+65	1213
	Topsfield_2	76	46	60	-3	0.30	4	9.39	-0.81	38	394	+58	943
	Turner	77	48	61	-6	1.27	4	9.91	-0.67	36	536	+9	1162
	Wesley_2W	84	40	62	0	0.50	3	9.29	-0.30	33	423	+96	995
	West_Rockport	76	44	61	-3	0.94	4	8.36	-3.48	39	448	+111	1042
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	78	39	60	-4	0.53	4	9.58	+0.11	38	448	+72	1016
	Bradford_2	80	42	60	-5	1.46	5	6.93	-4.00	27	522	+1	1122
	Colebrook	77	37	57	-6	1.95	4	13.37	+3.97	44	335	+4	819
	Concord	84	43	65	-2	0.97	5	5.76	-2.78	29	746	+239	1419
	East_Milford	82	47	64	-3	0.92	4	7.50	-2.82	25	694	+133	1367
	Epping	80	44	64	-3	1.40	5	8.27	-2.04	27	649	+140	1304
	Errol_AP	76	36	58	-3	1.16	3	11.08	+2.15	41	395	+127	889
	Fitzwilliam	81	48	64	+1	1.74	5	8.54	-1.44	31	653	+237	1314
	Greenville	80	44	62	-2	1.35	3	7.76	-2.22	21	565	+149	1198
	Hancock	82	47	65	+1	2.72	5	11.07	+0.52	38	594	+132	1210
	Jefferson	77	42	60	-3	1.47	4	12.11	+2.87	42	481	+58	1051
	Keene_AG	83	43	63	-3	1.12	4	7.08	-2.51	28	627	+136	1265
	Lakeport_2	80	49	63	-3	1.58	5	8.20	-1.18	26	619	+108	1264
	Lebanon	82	41	65	0	1.77	5	6.93	-1.48	28	691	+222	1345
	North_Conway	79	43	60	-6	1.41	5	8.74	-2.19	34	493	+35	1091
	Tamworth_4	79	39	59	-4	1.72	5	9.07	-2.84	32	446	+105	1023
	Wolfeburro	79	50	62	-4	1.54	5	7.96	-1.42	30	616	+105	1266
Vermont	Bennington_AP	81	42	66	+5	1.05	5	4.97	-6.70	30	739	+343	1415
	Burlington_Intl	80	47	67	0	1.92	4	12.23	+3.68	36	784	+238	1465
	Corinth	75	39	58	-6	2.64	5	11.77	+3.41	37	413	-16	950
	Island_Pond	77	39	59	-3	1.59	4	12.55	+3.09	45	424	+98	942
	Johnson_2N	75	40	59	-5	1.61	4	11.99	+2.64	38	447	+62	1017
	Marlboro_Raws	77	43	62	-1	1.59	5	8.69	-0.24	28	601	+244	1227
	Montpelier_AP	76	40	62	-2	2.42	5	13.38	+5.02	39	548	+119	1128
	Newport_AG	77	42	61	-5	1.52	4	13.02	+3.69	38	477	-43	1041

		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	79	43	62	-1	1.72	5	11.95	+1.03	33	555	+159	1164
	Rutland_AG	78	40	62	-5	1.57	5	9.66	+0.72	35	558	+9	1166
	Springfield_VT	81	41	64	0	1.49	5	6.49	-4.61	27	657	+219	1305
	South_Lincoln	74	38	59	-2	1.89	4	12.29	+0.53	29	454	+135	994
	Sutton	75	41	60	-2	1.18	4	13.22	+3.76	49	422	+96	959
	Walden	74	36	55	-7	1.13	5	12.67	+3.21	47	328	+2	792
	Woodstock	81	40	63	-2	1.87	5	10.76	+1.03	31	581	+138	1193
Massachusetts	Amherst	84	50	65	-2	2.80	3	8.98	-1.69	23	732	+158	1418
	Barre_Falls_Dam	83	46	62	-2	2.42	4	7.90	-2.60	30	579	+174	1215
	Bedford_Hanscom	85	48	65	-3	1.66	3	6.66	-3.61	21	751	+166	1450
	Beverly_Ag	81	50	62	-6	0.62	2	5.15	-4.53	23	626	+28	1332
	Birch_Hill_Dam	83	45	63	-1	1.73	4	6.25	-3.84	26	634	+228	1275
	Boston_Logan_In	86	54	65	-4	1.28	3	5.89	-3.24	22	779	+126	1495
	Chatham_AP	79	49	63	+2	0.34	4	3.32	-6.79	26	508	+147	1176
	Chicopee_Westov	83	49	66	-1	3.04	3	9.25	-1.42	25	823	+249	1519
	Edgartown	81	48	65	-1	1.43	4	3.95	-6.37	24	597	+119	1319
	East_Brimfield_	82	49	63	-3	1.72	4	9.64	-0.82	28	653	+155	1326
	Fitchburg	84	48	66	-2	1.30	4	6.75	-4.31	25	883	+286	1596
	Greenfield	82	46	63	-4	2.05	4	9.06	-1.61	33	668	+94	1336
	Hyannis_AP	79	45	63	-3	0.72	3	3.32	-5.98	21	579	+133	1276
	Maynard	88	49	66	-2	1.70	5	7.73	-2.54	29	784	+199	1478
	New_Bedford	83	45	66	-3	1.13	3	4.52	-6.35	21	677	+62	1396
	Newburyport	81	51	64	-4	1.07	3	8.47	-2.25	24	649	+87	1312
	North_Adams_Har	82	44	66	+4	1.60	5	7.75	-4.76	32	736	+338	1406
	Norwood	85	45	65	-3	1.01	3	4.47	-5.41	21	752	+128	1457
	Pittsfield	81	48	65	0	2.78	4	10.71	-1.15	31	680	+205	1340
	Plymouth	81	45	65	-3	0.87	5	6.37	-4.52	26	664	+106	1349
	Taunton_4NW	87	49	66	-2	1.25	3	6.89	-3.22	25	754	+171	1460
	Westfield_Barne	86	51	67	+3	3.10	3	9.66	-1.47	25	898	+427	1615
	West_Otis	83	52	66	+3	1.99	5	9.20	-3.28	32	715	+278	1400
	Worcester	81	53	65	-1	2.16	3	8.29	-2.82	29	768	+262	1465
	Worthington	80	46	63	-1	2.51	4	9.34	-2.37	36	578	+157	1200
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	82	50	65	0	0.74	4	3.58	-6.44	23	588	+95	1286
	Providence	85	52	67	-2	1.85	3	8.69	-1.53	24	825	+169	1556
	Westerly-Wester	82	50	66	0	1.29	3	4.99	-5.66	21	594	+38	1288
	Woonsocket	85	50	66	-2	1.94	3	9.11	-1.58	22	780	+183	1491
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	85	62	70	+2	2.13	5	6.47	-4.05	29	858	+180	1596
	Danbury_AP	82	58	68	0	1.50	4	8.06	-3.88	26	814	+148	1528
	Hartford_Bradle	86	54	68	-1	2.41	4	9.72	-1.30	28	985	+255	1711
	Meriden-Meriden	87	56	70	+3	1.55	3	5.97	-6.51	19	861	+262	1575
	Norfolk	81	53	64	+1	3.21	5	11.60	-0.88	31	625	+188	1256
	Norwich	86	53	67	-2	1.41	3	5.72	-5.61	22	802	+130	1523
	Staffordville	81	49	63	-3	2.65	3	10.70	-0.46	22	581	+56	1225
	Thomaston_Dam	88	54	68	+3	2.09	4	9.42	-2.31	31	783	+247	1477
	West_Thompson_L	83	48	64	-2	2.80	4	8.72	-2.36	26	664	+141	1347
	Willimantic	85	51	68	+3	1.99	3	9.81	-1.35	23	856	+331	1571

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

ALL CT COUNTIES, Jude Boucher

Soaking rains last Monday and this past weekend. Vegetable crops are growing well. Sweet corn is silking. European corn borer should be infesting whorl and pre-tassel stage corn this week. Potatoes and beans should be protected from potato leaf hoppers and Colorado potato beetles.

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

For a while we needed rain - now we can't turn it off! Rain has slowed field work to a crawl. Pre-Sidedress Soil Nitrate Tests (PSNTs) are inaccurate due to the rain if one can sample with all of the mud. Making hay is impossible with rain every other day on top of extremely heavy dew in the morning. First cut hay is losing quality quickly as seed matures.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Nice week for field work; sunny days and warm temperatures. Quick rain on Sunday morning about 1". Topdressing corn and hay. Mowing hay. Strawberry picking. Farmers' markets getting busier.

### MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Northern), Donald M. Audibert

Farmers are finishing their first cultivation pass. Potatoes and grains are almost 100% emerged. Had some rain, and hay fields are nice and green. Good growing weather so far.

AROOSTOOK (Southern), Doreen Conlogue

Better week than the one before! Growers are busy getting their potatoes "hilled up" and spraying herbicide. Received a fair amount of rain on Sunday, so that could slow down field work for few days this week.

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Despite cool temperature, crops are progressing well. The apples I've seen are set on the heavy side. Timothy has headed out and early operations are just waiting for a break in the weather to get started. Potato growers are busy with herbicide applications and hilling. Broccoli planting will continue for another three or four weeks.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Welcome rain arrived on Sunday. Temperatures have been on the cool side for the month of June. Peaches are very light this year and some varieties of highbush blueberries show some winter damage. Hay is being harvested, but very light crop due to lack of rain this spring. Strawberries are being harvested.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Timely rain has all crops growing well. First cut hay needs to be cut now. Some field areas are wet. Because of the use of high tunnels, there are lots of fresh vegetables available.

PISCATAQUIS/SOMERSET, Elaine S. Moceus

With cooler than seasonable temperatures during the week - 60s to low 70s - rain showers provided the right amount of rainfall, but the corn could sure use some heat and humidity. First crop hay reports very good production and quality, with second crop coming in well.

### MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Thomas Smiarowski

Steady rain last Monday was a very welcome condition. Full range of field activities resumed after the daylong rains last Monday. Strawberry harvest continues with an excellent crop and ideal conditions for "U-pick operations". Other fruits and vegetables being harvested included summer squash, zucchini, broccoli, radishes, cucumbers, peas and cherries. Asparagus harvest is coming to a close, with many growers finishing up harvest this past weekend. Potato crop looking very good and starting to see blossoms on some of the early plantings.

BARNSTABLE, Russell Norton

Rain fell on Monday and Sunday, with a total of a little over one inch, providing much needed soil moisture. Temperatures have ranged from lows in the mid-40s to 60°F and highs from low 60s to upper 70s. Strawberry harvest continues. First summer squash being picked.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Despite a cool week, cranberry bloom is advancing. Low temperatures early Thursday morning made frost protection necessary on some beds.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/MERRIMACK/HILLSBOROUGH, Donna Juneau

About ½ inch of rain fell on Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> and again on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. Most field corn has been planted and producers are continuing to plant successive fields of sweet corn to ensure a continuous crop. Growing conditions are good. U-pick strawberry operations enjoyed a great day on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>.

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

Hay yields down due to dry spring. More produce coming out of the fields; just starting to see early cukes and a few greenhouse tomatoes. All the greens are looking great, from spinach to mustard greens. Garlic scaping. First strawberries of the season just trickling in this week. Rhubarb still available. Wild lowbush blueberry fruit set looks really good, where highbush suffered winter damage. Most winter squash transplants are now out.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Sunny for most of the week, with a good soaking rain Sunday morning. Field corn doing well, with some approaching knee-high. Grass was growing well, and farms saw some decent weather for

harvesting dry hay. Veggie crops mostly planted, and high tunnel tomatoes starting to show up here and there. PYO strawberries has begun.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Rather wet and cool weather this week; temperatures even down into the thirties Friday night. Some round baleage; haylage coming in, but difficult considering moisture conditions. Various low-lying fields have water standing; showing an impact on young corn plants which were looking a bit yellow in spots, and dead where water has set. Noticing plant damage by geese and other birds. Timothy heading out; could use a hot, dry spell to get it.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

This past week slowed down field work but brought much needed rain.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

The first two days of the week brought rain showers to the area. Close to an inch of rain fell before Tuesday afternoon. On the river bottom fields, top soils generally had sufficient moisture and remained favorable for the growth of field crops in most areas. However, some upland fields and fields with perched water tables remained too wet for access with farm equipment. Most of the corn in the county looks good. However, there are some fields that are further behind due to weather issues during spring planting. From Saturday into Sunday, the area received additional rainfall of well over 1.25 inches. Rainfall amounts for the month of June have exceeded 6 inches to date.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Rains have helped alleviate the very dry soil moisture levels. Growers still irrigating during week. Fruit: Strawberry harvest continues, with fruit size being small. Sweet cherry harvest under way. Fruit growers mowing orchard floors, monitoring pest and crop development, and applying sprays for pest control. Winter injury still being seen on blueberries and brambles. Field Crops: Farmers making haylage between showers. Farmers are sidedressing fertilizer to field corn, if needed, and to hay fields. Pastures and hay fields are growing well. Hay yields have been less than half of normal. Vegetables: Growers continued harvesting early season vegetables, such as summer squash, asparagus, beets, greens, radishes, rhubarb, spinach and zucchini. Weeds are plaguing growers. Farmers are sidedressing fields with fertilizer, cultivating and hand-hoeing weeds, scouting for pests and spraying. Striped Cucumber beetle and Potato leaf hopper are here and Squash vine borer has been caught!

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Planting melons, peppers and eggplants. Transplanting tomatoes in the fields. Irrigating, cultivating, hand weeding, and monitoring pests. Deer feeding on lettuce. Harvesting asparagus, arugula, green & red lettuce, radishes, kale, Napa cabbage, and a selection of herbs. Mowing grass in fruit orchards and monitoring pests. Strawberry picking going well. Haying continues. Farm stands and farmers' markets busy and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares were plentiful with many varieties and vegetable choices.

## RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Paul E. Brule

Last Monday we got a really good rain throughout the whole state. Yesterday (Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>), we had another good rain that lasted most of the day. It did a lot of good for the crops. Strawberries are excellent and more people were out picking this weekend than in a very long time. The wholesale business is terrific. First cutting hay with the rain was less this past week. With two days of rain forecast for this week, they probably won't make much, but about 70% has already been done. Potato crop looks very, very good. Most vegetable plants are planted now. They are finishing up this week with pumpkins and winter squash. Some places are reporting that yellow and green summer squash are being harvested. Pastures look good.

## VERMONT

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Wet weeks are the norm here in Franklin County. Corn is now taking the brunt of the wet weather, along with what first cut hay is left out. Wet spots in corn now have no chance of recovery and getting top dress on is a challenge. No need to get too aggressive in the top dress Nitrogen, because it will just be a loss to the environment. Strawberries are the bright spot, with some roadside stands showing them on their sale shelves. They are very good; however, they are in need of some sunshine. Pastures continue to do well with wet conditions, making it difficult for cattle to get around.

LAMOILLE, Heather Mateja

Rain still preventing dry hay to be harvested. Flood plain cropland is very soggy. Hay that has been harvest is very good and the pastures are plenty.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

This week we experienced a lot of rain, especially over the weekend. Rivers are near bank full, but I haven't seen flooding as of yet. Corn is variable. On fields with sand/silt soils, the corn looks better than on fields with silt clay. Corn on the heavy soils is yellow and not as tall. Too much water right now. Some sun and dry weather should turn that around. Haying is also a challenge with the rain. The hay crop is maturing fast, so there is some anxiety about the conditions delaying harvest. Pastures are doing well; however, warmer temperatures and sun would boost regrowth on grazed paddocks.