



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
Week ending June 28, 2015

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

nassrfooner@nass.usda.gov
Released June 29, 2015

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

New England continued to receive additional precipitation last week that slowed field work and negatively impacted some field crops. Average weekly temperatures in the region ranged from six degrees below normal to five degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.29 to 3.65 inches in the region. The rainfall this past week provided well-drained soils with adequate moisture, but flooded some low-lying fields. Much of the field work in the region was slowed due to the precipitation, but some farmers were able to make hay and haylage between showers. Some early planted field corn and corn in fields with adequate moisture was progressing nicely. However, later planted field corn and corn in fields with excess moisture was looking a bit stunted and yellow. Potato crops continued to remain in good condition, with many growers finishing up their first herbicide application and hilling. Strawberry harvest remained in full swing, with many of good quality. Some sweet cherries and raspberries were beginning to be harvested in the region. Highbush blueberries were sizing nicely and starting to ripen. Fruit growers continued to monitor pest and crop development and applying sprays for pest control when needed. Many vegetables were being harvested, including radishes, cucumbers, zucchinis, greenhouse tomatoes, summer squash, and various greens. The rain over the weekend closed some PYO operations. Blue mold was reported in the Connecticut River Valley from broadleaf tobacco in Southwick, Massachusetts. This was early in the season for the first report of blue mold, but conditions were favorable for the disease. Tobacco growers should be aware that undetected blue mold may be present in other locations.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending June 28, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	5	63	32
SUBSOIL	0	4	67	29

Crop Conditions as of June 28, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	0	0	1	83	16
BARLEY (ME)	0	0	0	34	66
BLUEBERRIES, TAME	0	1	25	61	13
CORN	3	11	44	37	5
DRY HAY	3	19	27	42	9
OATS (ME)	0	0	0	25	75
PASTURE AND RANGE	1	7	30	44	18
PEACHES	2	10	21	64	3
PEARS	0	3	29	67	1
POTATOES	0	0	1	41	58
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	0	10	37	48	5
STRAWBERRIES	0	0	3	73	24
SWEET CORN	0	5	22	56	17
TOBACCO, CIGAR BINDER (MA)	0	0	10	75	15

Crop Progress as of June 28, 2015

(in percent)

Item	This Week
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: FRUIT SET	99
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): FULL BLOOM	97
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): PETAL FALL	88
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): FRUIT SET	49
CRANBERRIES (MA): FULL BLOOM	70
CRANBERRIES (MA): PETAL FALL	10
DRY HAY: 1st CUTTING	75
PEACHES: FRUIT SET	100
PEARS: FRUIT SET	100
POTATOES: EMERGED	98
STRAWBERRIES: HARVESTED	48
SWEET CORN: PLANTED	91
TOBACCO, CIGAR BINDER (MA): PLANTED	100

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

June 28, 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	78	52	64	-4	1.44	3	11.06	+0.02	39	641	+52	1354
	Bangor_Intl_Air	78	50	63	-4	1.48	2	8.80	-1.11	44	557	+7	1237
	Bethel	79	47	63	-3	1.85	3	10.59	-1.27	33	565	+27	1228
	Bridgton	76	49	62	-3	2.93	5	11.77	+0.22	31	574	+94	1255
	Caribou_Municip	74	42	58	-6	0.45	2	8.77	-0.23	43	459	+45	1080
	Dover-Foxcroft	78	46	60	-3	1.79	2	11.08	-0.09	47	514	+134	1146
	Durham	78	47	63	-3	1.50	4	8.72	-3.21	41	565	+60	1256
	East_Surry	79	44	60	-5	1.57	3	11.56	+0.09	43	378	-94	1011
	Eustis	72	42	58	-3	0.95	2	11.00	+0.65	38	387	+100	930
	Frenchville	73	44	57	-6	0.59	3	8.64	-0.67	42	354	-5	936
	Harmony	77	49	62	-3	1.18	3	10.93	-0.10	46	586	+105	1244
	Houlton	76	37	58	-6	1.54	3	10.17	+0.68	41	457	+46	1064
	Livermore_Falls	77	45	62	-2	1.80	4	10.66	-1.63	38	552	+151	1206
	Machias	78	48	61	-2	2.51	2	10.84	-1.75	37	381	+53	951
	Millinocket_Wtr	77	44	60	-6	1.36	2	11.60	+0.60	40	425	-53	1013
	Moosehead	76	41	60	-3	0.29	3	9.22	-1.81	42	457	+134	1061
	Portland_ME	82	49	64	-2	1.73	4	12.39	+1.25	33	705	+212	1452
	Rangeley_2NW	73	41	58	-5	1.62	3	12.94	+2.55	42	362	+32	873
	Sanford	79	48	65	-4	2.33	4	10.76	-0.95	21	687	+47	1388
	Topsfield_2	76	48	59	-6	2.75	3	12.14	+1.04	41	458	+25	1077
	Turner	78	50	64	-5	2.02	3	11.93	+0.44	39	633	-22	1329
	Wesley_2W	83	44	62	-3	3.50	2	12.79	+2.36	35	507	+82	1149
	West_Rockport	78	48	62	-3	2.07	3	10.43	-2.25	42	533	+96	1197
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	75	45	62	-3	2.71	4	12.29	+1.91	42	536	+60	1174
	Bradford_2	82	43	65	-2	1.84	4	8.77	-3.02	31	628	-7	1298
	Colebrook	76	41	60	-3	2.72	5	16.69	+6.35	50	411	-12	965
	Concord	86	49	69	+2	1.85	4	7.61	-1.67	33	881	+254	1624
	East_Milford	86	50	68	0	1.82	4	9.32	-1.91	29	823	+135	1566
	Epping	85	46	67	0	1.96	4	10.23	-0.92	31	773	+142	1498
	Errol_AP	74	45	62	-1	2.33	5	13.41	+3.57	46	476	+126	1040
	Fitzwilliam	84	51	68	+4	2.02	5	10.56	-0.33	36	779	+260	1510
	Greenville	83	50	67	+3	1.76	4	9.52	-1.37	25	687	+168	1390
	Hancock	84	42	65	-2	1.82	4	12.89	+1.50	42	701	+125	1387
	Jefferson	78	46	64	-1	3.65	4	15.76	+5.53	46	579	+55	1219
	Keene_AG	86	48	67	+1	1.70	5	8.78	-1.65	33	749	+142	1457
	Lakeport_2	77	53	65	-3	1.66	4	9.86	-0.41	30	726	+91	1441
	Lebanon	86	46	68	+2	2.20	5	9.13	+0.02	33	818	+234	1542
	North_Conway	77	48	63	-4	2.23	3	10.97	-0.90	37	588	+14	1256
	Tamworth_4	77	43	62	-3	2.22	6	11.29	-1.60	38	531	+95	1178
	Wolfeburro	79	55	66	-3	2.05	5	10.01	-0.26	35	727	+92	1447
Vermont	Bennington_AP	84	48	67	+4	0.96	3	5.93	-6.79	33	860	+368	1606
	Burlington_Intl	85	51	69	+2	1.43	5	13.66	+4.27	41	921	+250	1672
	Corinth	76	44	63	-3	2.10	5	13.87	+4.74	42	503	-28	1110
	Island_Pond	76	43	63	0	2.07	5	14.62	+4.17	50	513	+99	1101
	Johnson_2N	78	45	63	-2	1.93	5	13.92	+3.66	43	536	+51	1176
	Marlboro_Raws	82	49	66	+3	2.21	5	10.90	+1.06	33	715	+263	1411
	Montpelier_AP	82	45	64	-1	2.02	6	15.40	+6.27	45	650	+119	1300
	Newport_AG	78	47	64	-3	2.17	5	15.19	+4.94	43	577	-59	1211

		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	82	47	66	+2	3.52	5	15.47	+3.57	38	667	+173	1346
	Rutland_AG	83	47	66	-1	2.64	5	12.30	+2.41	40	673	+7	1351
	Springfield_VT	85	47	67	+2	1.78	5	8.27	-3.81	32	779	+232	1497
	South_Lincoln	79	43	63	+2	1.43	5	13.72	+0.91	34	545	+141	1155
	Sutton	74	48	63	-1	2.11	5	15.33	+4.88	54	513	+99	1120
	Walden	77	42	59	-4	2.27	5	14.94	+4.49	52	388	-26	922
	Woodstock	85	48	66	+2	2.54	5	13.30	+2.77	36	697	+144	1379
Massachusetts	Amherst	88	53	69	+1	2.05	3	11.03	-0.48	26	866	+162	1622
	Barre_Falls_Dam	84	48	66	+2	1.93	3	9.83	-1.58	33	694	+184	1400
	Bedford_Hanscom	87	49	69	+2	1.51	3	8.17	-2.94	24	887	+173	1656
	Beverly_Ag	86	51	67	-4	1.52	3	6.67	-3.67	26	744	+10	1520
	Birch_Hill_Dam	85	50	68	+3	2.57	5	8.82	-2.18	31	759	+246	1470
	Boston_Logan_In	88	57	70	-2	1.96	3	7.85	-2.01	25	918	+121	1704
	Chatham_AP	81	52	66	+2	1.87	3	5.19	-5.69	29	622	+159	1360
	Chicopee_Westov	90	52	70	+3	2.22	4	11.47	-0.04	29	966	+262	1732
	Edgartown	81	50	69	+3	1.75	3	5.70	-5.39	27	733	+135	1525
	East_Brimfield_	85	55	69	+3	1.80	5	11.44	+0.12	33	787	+170	1530
	Fitchburg	87	53	70	+2	2.27	3	9.02	-2.95	28	1027	+297	1810
	Greenfield	86	51	68	0	2.47	5	11.53	+0.02	38	800	+96	1538
	Hyannis_AP	82	50	67	0	1.66	4	4.98	-5.02	25	701	+135	1468
	Maynard	89	50	71	+3	1.50	4	9.23	-1.88	33	930	+216	1694
	New_Bedford	86	45	69	-2	2.07	4	6.59	-5.18	25	814	+56	1603
	Newburyport	84	50	68	-2	2.75	4	11.22	-0.34	28	774	+80	1507
	North_Adams_Har	84	49	67	+4	1.05	4	8.80	-4.76	36	860	+361	1600
	Norwood	88	43	69	-2	0.98	3	5.45	-5.27	24	883	+125	1658
	Pittsfield	82	50	66	-1	1.58	5	12.29	-0.48	36	792	+203	1522
	Plymouth	83	48	68	-1	1.41	4	7.78	-3.95	30	793	+101	1548
	Taunton_4NW	89	51	71	+3	2.10	3	8.99	-1.96	28	900	+185	1676
	Westfield_Barne	89	54	70	+5	2.62	4	12.28	+0.33	29	1040	+455	1827
	West_Otis	86	53	68	+4	1.81	4	11.01	-2.52	36	846	+301	1601
	Worcester	86	54	69	+3	1.44	3	9.73	-2.29	32	904	+278	1671
	Worthington	83	49	65	+1	2.35	4	11.69	-0.94	40	686	+160	1378
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	84	51	70	+4	1.91	3	5.49	-5.23	26	728	+115	1496
	Providence	87	55	72	+3	2.81	4	11.50	+0.51	28	982	+185	1783
	Westerly-Wester	86	52	70	+3	1.52	3	6.51	-4.96	24	736	+51	1500
	Woonsocket	86	52	71	+2	1.56	3	10.67	-0.93	25	926	+194	1707
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	89	60	74	+4	1.57	3	8.04	-3.31	32	1026	+204	1834
	Danbury_AP	88	52	70	0	1.37	2	9.43	-3.49	28	953	+149	1737
	Hartford_Bradle	89	55	71	+1	1.62	3	11.34	-0.52	31	1134	+259	1930
	Meriden-Meriden	90	54	71	+3	0.83	3	6.80	-6.69	22	1011	+276	1795
	Norfolk	83	50	66	0	2.47	4	14.07	+0.54	35	734	+189	1435
	Norwich	86	56	71	+3	3.00	3	8.72	-3.45	25	954	+144	1745
	Staffordville	85	52	67	0	1.70	4	12.40	+0.33	26	703	+57	1417
	Thomaston_Dam	90	50	70	+3	1.22	4	10.64	-2.07	35	922	+263	1686
	West_Thompson_L	83	50	68	+1	1.34	3	11.06	-1.00	29	795	+150	1548
	Willimantic	86	55	71	+4	1.10	4	10.91	-1.16	27	1002	+356	1787

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

Most vegetable pests are very light this year. Corn earworm and squash vine borer have arrived.

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

The rain doesn't want to stop. Early planted corn looks great - waist high in most cases. Later planted corn doesn't look near as nice. Without heat to pull it along, too many acres are looking short, spindly and yellow. Weeds unfortunately love the weather we are having. Had to identify curly dock for a farmer - he couldn't recognize the plant since he had never seen one 4 feet tall before!

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Strawberry picking and harvesting lettuce, radish, summer squash, and cut flowers. First cutting of hay continues, while chopping second cutting of hay just starting. Planting in nurseries for next year's sales.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Northern), Donald M. Audibert

Farmers are now done their first hilling and herbicide application. Started picking rocks in fields. This was a nice week for working in the fields, but weather is cool for this time of year. Hay fields are nice and green and should have a good crop of hay.

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Strawberries are ready. Some haylage is being made. Other crops are coming slow because of lack of heat. If we get some heat and sun, dry hay should start by next week.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Excellent growing season so far. There has been a nice mix of rain and sun. The initial hay cuts were light, but the grass filled in with good conditions. Strawberries are excellent and highbush blueberries are sizing nicely. Peas are starting to blossom and some broccoli and greens are ready.

PISCATAQUIS/SOMERSET, Elaine S. Moccus

Rain during the beginning of the week provided sufficient moisture for crops. Warm temperatures during the day giving way to cooler temperatures at night are ideal for most crops; however, this area has not had the humidity this season that is needed to push corn growth.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

A few good days last week to get some dry hay. Strawberries being harvested and are of good quality.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Thomas Smiarowski

Soil moisture in some instances is starting to reach excessive stages on heavier soils. Below normal temperatures slowing crop growth. Rainy Sunday had a negative effect on U-Pick strawberry farms, with many not opening for picking. Field activities continue. Less than ideal hay-making conditions. Blueberry and raspberry harvest starting. Potato crop looking very good!

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Cranberry bloom is advancing rapidly. Earliest cranberry varieties have begun to set fruit.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/MERRIMACK/HILLSBOROUGH, Donna Juneau

A generally warm and rainy week, with temperatures in the 70s and 80s all week, except for Sunday, June 28th when temperatures dipped down into the 50s. Two rainy Sundays in a row with over ½ inch of rain falling on Sunday, June 21st and over 1½ inches of rain falling on Sunday, June 28th. More rain fell on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday. Farmers are waiting for some dry weather to cut hay and haylage. Most all of the field corn has been planted. Sweet corn is still being planted about every 10 days to ensure a crop throughout the season.

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

Strawberries now into full swing. Markets picking up as tourists arrive for the summer. Early cukes and tomatoes starting to trickle in. Garlic almost all scaped; greens still looking very good.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Pretty warm most of the week, with a little rain midweek and steadier rain Sunday. Corn is doing pretty well; most of it better than knee-high. Still some first cutting hay to harvest, but regrowth on harvested fields looks better now that there's some moisture. Pick-Your-Own (PYO) strawberries about done. Greater variety of veggies showing up in farmers' markets.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Another mostly cool, rainy, fairly windy week. Quite heavy rainfall Saturday night into Sunday. Rivers running high. Wet field conditions common. Corn looking somewhat yellow; could certainly be a year for side-dress nitrogen fertilizer. All grasses headed out; clovers in full-bloom. Small window for hay harvest at midweek. Soybeans just past first true leaf stage.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

This past week was very wet, and the lack of sufficient dry days in a row is hampering haying for many farms.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

Scattered showers or rain occurred on five out of seven days. Total rainfall for the week was nearly 2.75 inches. Farmers could use a couple of weeks of drier weather. Well-drained soils on river

bottom fields have adequate moisture. Less well-drained soils (typical on many upland fields) are saturated in many cases. Access of farm equipment onto these soils is very limited. To date, the area has received over 9 inches of rain in the month of June, well above the normal average. To put things in perspective, some level of either showers or rain has fallen on 15 out of the last 27 days in June. Field corn is generally doing well on fields with well-drained soils. Some fields (or sections of fields) with less than ideal soil permeability are showing the effects of too much rain. Farmers have been scrambling to chop haylage whenever the weather permits. Vegetable operations are progressing nicely. Those with high tunnel facilities are a little further along. Generally producers could use some warmer, drier conditions for a couple of weeks.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Field Crops: Farmers continued to bale hay or make haylage between rain showers, along with side-dressing fertilizer to field corn if needed. Hay yield is down. Vegetables: Harvesting greens, spinach, scallions, radishes, cucumbers, greenhouse tomatoes, rhubarb, lettuce, zucchini, summer squash, etc. Growers busy trying to side-dress fields with fertilizer, cultivating, mowing weeds, scouting for pests and spraying if needed. Potato Leaf Hopper seen. Fruit: Warm weather that occurred during last week of June helped ripen strawberry crop quickly. Some growers getting ready to renovate harvested beds this coming week. Fruit growers monitoring pest and crop development and applying sprays for pest control, if needed. Also, growers are training young fruit trees along with mowing orchard floors. Sweet cherries were being harvested and first blueberries were picked.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Rainstorm on Tuesday afternoon into evening, somewhat heavy at times. Back to early spring weather on Sunday, with cold temperatures, very windy and with heavy rain at times. Field work was tough between showers. Some fields are too wet. Soil in some areas has gone from dry to wet soil extremes. Weeds growing too with the heat and rain. Early corn about to tassel. Harvesting peas, kohlrabi, beets, broccoli, greens, lettuce, scapes, scallions, cukes, zucchini, and greenhouse tomatoes. Despite the cold spring and slow growth, early blueberry varieties are surprisingly ripe. PYO strawberries and cherries operations were closed on Sunday because of the heavy rain. Pest monitoring in orchards and small fruits patches. Mowing orchards. Hay and haylage was done between showers. Pastures green and continued growing.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

Over 1½ inches of rain the night of June 27th into June 28th.

ALL RI COUNTIES, Paul E. Brule

Soils are in good shape as far as moisture. We received another 1½ inches of rain yesterday. Hay has been a little bit slow this past week due to a couple of rainy days. Vegetable planting: a few late plantings of tomatoes were being done now for the fall picking. Almost all winter squash and pumpkins are planted. Strawberry crops: this has been one of the better years due to the cooler weather. Late berries are coming in this week. Silage corn still has a little bit more to be planted with the late spring. Sweet corn: some of it is starting to tassel. As far as I know, there is no native sweet corn in Rhode Island for the 4th of July. It's going to be a couple of weeks late. Potatoes are being sprayed. A lot of the earlier potatoes are in full bloom.

VERMONT

ADDISON, Jeffrey Carter

Continuous rain damaging corn. Hay crop short this cut, plus too wet for dry hay. Not good.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Soggy soils have turned into flooded soils here in Franklin County. Heavy rains early in the week have flooded low-lying fields and kept all soils wet. A three day break in the rain midweek did allow for some continued hay harvest on the drier soils. Strawberries seem to be progressing well and escaping mold and soft berry conditions. Gardens continue to do okay with proper drainage. Pastures are holding up well, considering the wet conditions. Corn is showing the signs of wet, flooded soils, with diminishing chances for recovery in flood-prone fields.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

It was another wet and cool week. Some hay was harvested on the drier upland fields, but most fields are too wet to put equipment on. The grasses have matured, so quality of the feed is beginning to decrease. Second cut is coming along, but slowly due to the lack of sun and heat. Once the weather pattern changes, it should take off with all of the moisture in the soil. The same can be said for the corn crop. Right now it is stunted and pale yellow, but once we get some sun and heat it should take off. Pastures are suffering as well. Regrowth in the paddocks is a bit slower. Hopefully July will bring some of that sun and heat that we need.