



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Crop Progress & Condition

New
England



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Week ending August 16, 2015

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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Good week for field work: New England averaged 5.0 days suitable for field work last week.

New England experienced more scattered rain showers last week throughout the region, providing relief to many areas that were previously dry. Average weekly temperatures in the region ranged from five degrees below normal to five degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.29 to 3.71 inches in the region. Hay cuttings took place between showers, with most farmers starting to wrap up their second cuttings and some making third cuttings. The quality and quantity of hay seems to vary by location, with a few reports last week of hay yields being low due to drier conditions this year in those locations. Field corn continued to look good and the rain and humid temperatures last week have helped the crop to progress. In Maine, barley was just beginning to be harvested. Early varieties of apples were also beginning to be harvested in the region. In Massachusetts, cranberries were sizing well. Growers continued harvesting an array of vegetables, including: beans, beets, cole crops, cucumbers, greens, peas, potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, summer squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, winter squash, and zucchini, among other vegetables. Farmers remained active in pest management, monitoring for pests such as the Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) fruit fly, powdery mildew, European corn borer, corn earworm, and fall armyworm.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending August 16, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	2	16	67	15
SUBSOIL	3	10	67	20

Crop Conditions as of August 16, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	1	0	5	69	25
BARLEY (ME)	0	0	0	16	84
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME)	5	7	15	39	34
CORN	0	4	50	40	6
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	5	10	70	15
DRY HAY	1	2	39	44	14
OATS (ME)	0	0	0	16	84
PASTURE AND RANGE	1	5	27	52	15
PEACHES	1	3	7	77	12
PEARS	0	0	16	83	1
POTATOES	0	0	0	19	81
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	0	2	30	52	16
SWEET CORN	0	3	17	63	17
TOBACCO, CIGAR BINDER (MA)	0	0	28	72	0

Crop Progress as of August 16, 2015

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: HARVESTED	5
BARLEY (ME): HARVESTED	9
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: HARVESTED	63
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): HARVESTED	40
DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING	85
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	15
PEACHES: HARVESTED	38
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	52
TOBACCO, CIGAR BINDER (MA)	10

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

August 16, 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	84	55	69	-1	1.28	2	17.32	+1.00	57	1554	-16	2757
	Bangor_Intl_Air	86	50	68	0	1.29	2	13.10	-1.76	64	1424	-60	2594
	Bethel	82	52	66	-2	1.81	3	16.61	-1.60	56	1363	-60	2516
	Bridgton	81	53	66	0	1.65	2	19.16	+1.24	51	1358	+50	2529
	Caribou_Municip	85	51	66	+3	0.29	1	14.40	-0.93	66	1214	+49	2325
	Dover-Foxcroft	82	49	66	+2	0.96	2	18.25	+1.51	70	1296	+136	2418
	Durham	83	53	66	-3	1.45	2	14.86	-2.20	62	1392	-40	2573
	East_Surry	84	53	67	-2	1.51	2	14.83	-1.79	57	1166	-191	2289
	Eustis	80	46	62	0	0.74	3	17.36	+1.31	59	999	+94	2032
	Frenchville	82	48	64	+1	0.30	1	13.67	-1.98	63	1000	-73	2072
	Harmony	82	50	66	-2	1.51	2	17.80	+1.28	68	1373	+36	2521
	Houlton	83	43	66	+2	1.25	2	13.95	-1.13	60	1209	+22	2306
	Livermore_Falls	84	50	65	+1	1.57	2	18.08	-0.13	57	1336	+162	2480
	Machias	82	53	67	+3	1.26	3	16.45	-1.58	62	1166	+107	2226
	Millinocket_Wtr	81	48	65	-3	0.77	2	17.92	+0.85	61	1162	-183	2240
	Moosehead	82	51	65	+3	0.85	2	18.77	+1.32	67	1180	+168	2274
	Portland_ME	85	56	69	+2	1.29	2	16.44	+0.18	50	1644	+239	2881
	Rangeley_2NW	79	47	61	-2	0.81	3	19.12	+2.55	69	937	-69	1937
	Sanford	85	53	69	-1	1.75	2	15.68	-2.07	36	1621	-5	2812
	Topsfield_2	82	54	67	+1	2.21	3	18.88	+1.75	63	1265	-4	2374
	Turner	84	55	68	-4	1.98	3	18.75	+1.81	55	1496	-198	2682
	Wesley_2W	83	48	67	0	1.35	3	18.39	+2.81	49	1392	+122	2524
	West_Rockport	84	53	67	0	1.21	3	15.65	-1.85	64	1376	+82	2530
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	80	50	65	0	0.86	3	18.18	+1.78	62	1256	-14	2384
	Bradford_2	83	47	66	-2	1.53	3	14.10	-3.69	47	1412	-121	2572
	Colebrook	81	49	64	+1	1.06	5	24.66	+7.60	77	1065	-104	2109
	Concord	89	50	71	+3	0.79	2	11.48	-3.10	50	1890	+292	3123
	East_Milford	89	53	69	-1	0.63	1	14.55	-2.56	43	1789	+92	3022
	Epping	87	53	71	+2	0.59	2	12.89	-3.77	49	1734	+130	2949
	Errol_AP	82	46	64	+2	1.38	3	20.08	+4.26	70	1157	+108	2211
	Fitzwilliam	86	53	69	+4	1.35	3	16.55	-0.86	60	1738	+375	2959
	Greenville	87	54	69	+4	1.11	2	17.68	+0.27	40	1563	+200	2756
	Hancock	86	49	68	+1	1.73	3	20.54	+3.06	62	1552	+70	2728
	Jefferson	82	51	67	+2	1.27	4	23.80	+6.88	73	1327	-1	2457
	Keene_AG	87	52	69	+2	3.14	2	15.52	-1.13	52	1665	+120	2863
	Lakeport_2	84	57	70	0	3.71	2	17.68	+1.01	46	1665	+19	2870
	Lebanon	86	50	71	+4	1.67	4	13.60	-0.78	53	1792	+288	3006
	North_Conway	83	52	67	-2	1.55	2	16.82	-1.52	58	1391	-107	2549
	Tamworth_4	84	48	65	+2	1.08	1	18.05	-2.04	56	1268	+54	2405
	Wolfeburro	82	60	70	0	0.53	2	14.32	-2.35	51	1666	+20	2876
Vermont	Bennington_AP	84	51	69	+5	0.79	6	9.25	10.72	51	1767	+495	3003
	Burlington_Intl	85	56	72	+4	1.29	5	20.25	+4.59	66	1976	+309	3217
	Corinth	81	47	64	-2	2.03	3	22.03	+7.38	62	1222	-142	2319
	Island_Pond	83	50	67	+4	1.07	4	22.37	+4.72	77	1227	+80	2305
	Johnson_2N	78	48	65	0	1.22	4	21.22	+3.94	69	1229	-46	2359
	Marlboro_Raws	81	54	66	+2	1.43	4	16.32	+0.03	54	1573	+336	2759
	Montpelier_AP	82	50	67	+2	1.08	4	21.82	+7.17	73	1440	+76	2580
	Newport_AG	82	53	67	-2	1.12	5	24.05	+7.10	71	1346	-201	2470

		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	84	52	67	+3	1.23	3	21.03	+2.11	60	1488	+190	2657
	Rutland_AG	83	51	68	-1	1.08	4	16.83	-0.14	65	1526	-67	2695
	Springfield_VT	87	52	70	+4	1.40	4	12.72	-5.61	53	1722	+294	2930
	South_Lincoln	83	52	66	+3	0.96	5	22.21	+2.23	58	1232	+113	2327
	Sutton	79	51	66	+3	0.97	4	22.70	+5.05	81	1231	+84	2328
	Walden	78	47	62	-2	0.98	4	23.27	+5.62	77	971	-176	1995
	Woodstock	85	53	69	+3	1.18	4	18.23	+1.92	53	1585	+143	2757
Massachusetts	Amherst	87	53	70	+1	1.40	2	16.93	-0.85	45	1866	+142	3112
	Barre_Falls_Dam	87	51	68	+2	1.14	2	15.12	-2.94	52	1557	+198	2753
	Bedford_Hanscom	91	53	71	+1	0.56	2	11.60	-5.40	40	1936	+177	3195
	Beverly_Ag	85	45	68	-5	0.72	1	11.62	-3.73	40	1705	-129	2971
	Birch_Hill_Dam	88	50	68	+2	1.21	3	14.40	-3.23	48	1676	+298	2877
	Boston_Logan_In	91	63	74	+1	0.91	2	11.90	-2.94	40	2083	+126	3359
	Chatham_AP	81	57	70	+3	2.35	1	10.19	-5.93	39	1670	+309	2898
	Chicopee_Westov	89	51	71	+2	1.62	3	17.09	-0.69	47	2013	+289	3269
	Edgartown	85	57	71	+1	1.82	2	9.01	-7.41	42	1844	+240	3126
	East_Brimfield_	85	53	69	0	1.34	3	15.19	-2.07	50	1756	+183	2989
	Fitchburg	90	56	72	+2	0.95	2	13.58	-4.61	45	2117	+326	3390
	Greenfield	86	51	70	0	1.87	4	20.21	+2.43	61	1762	+38	2990
	Hyannis_AP	83	55	71	+1	1.95	2	9.87	-4.87	38	1786	+217	3043
	Maynard	93	52	71	+1	0.69	2	13.45	-3.55	51	1989	+230	3243
	New_Bedford	87	52	71	-4	1.88	2	11.77	-6.08	42	1898	-43	3177
	Newburyport	88	55	70	-2	0.83	2	15.62	-1.38	43	1769	0	2992
	North_Adams_Har	84	52	70	+4	2.21	5	15.85	-4.46	57	1781	+455	3011
	Norwood	91	48	70	-2	1.65	2	10.05	-6.60	37	1908	+73	3173
	Pittsfield	84	52	69	+3	1.31	3	19.49	-0.08	59	1672	+187	2892
	Plymouth	87	52	70	-2	1.24	2	11.14	-6.11	42	1874	+99	3119
	Taunton_4NW	91	54	71	0	0.75	2	13.53	-3.47	45	2041	+253	3307
	Westfield_Barne	91	52	72	+5	1.19	3	17.15	-1.22	46	2127	+626	3404
	West_Otis	87	54	70	+4	1.53	4	16.97	-4.25	62	1840	+422	3085
	Worcester	85	57	69	0	2.43	3	15.56	-3.00	50	1939	+340	3196
	Worthington	84	50	67	0	1.50	3	20.22	+0.38	62	1520	+141	2702
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	82	57	70	-2	2.12	2	12.97	-2.82	41	1796	+152	3054
	Providence	90	58	73	0	0.99	1	15.96	-0.36	42	2163	+231	3454
	Westerly-Wester	85	54	71	-1	1.44	1	11.67	-5.54	39	1827	+76	3081
	Woonsocket	91	55	71	-1	1.00	2	14.05	-3.54	39	2030	+216	3301
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	91	62	76	+3	1.51	2	12.22	-5.09	44	2292	+299	3590
	Danbury_AP	88	53	71	0	0.94	2	16.85	-3.22	42	2016	+127	3290
	Hartford_Bradle	92	56	74	+2	1.40	3	15.44	-2.33	49	2296	+275	3582
	Meriden-Meriden	91	57	73	+3	0.96	3	8.88	11.42	36	2186	+365	3460
	Norfolk	84	53	68	+2	1.20	3	18.23	-2.99	55	1626	+208	2817
	Norwich	89	57	72	-1	1.25	1	12.38	-6.13	36	2097	+164	3378
	Staffordville	86	54	68	-2	1.33	2	16.99	-1.89	40	1639	+18	2843
	Thomaston_Dam	90	52	71	+2	1.25	3	15.28	-4.15	54	1977	+331	3231
	West_Thompson_L	88	52	68	-2	0.84	2	14.48	-4.78	43	1774	+140	3017
	Willimantic	91	55	72	+4	1.12	3	13.29	-5.59	43	2128	+507	3403

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

ALL CT COUNTIES, Jude Boucher

Most of the state received much needed rain last Tuesday (about 1.5 inches). Eastern CT is still dry, as the UConn research farm only received 1/10 inch.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Sunny, hot, and dry week with temperatures from 80 to near 90 degrees. Dry conditions continue with quick, light rain of 1" and less on one day. Peaches and early apples on the small side. Blueberry picking continues. Mowing hay.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Northern), Donald M. Audibert

Had showers during the week, but had a beautiful weekend to catch up on harvesting hay. Crops are looking good. Weather will be in the high 80s the next few days and will need more rain soon. Early variety potatoes are starting to drop.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Beneficial rains received last week, with most areas receiving at least an inch. Vegetable and fruit crops are doing very well with irrigation. Corn silage looks good. Hay yields are way down due to lack of rain. A few apple orchards received hail and are hoping for the best.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

There is lots of hay down. It looks like a good week to finish up most of second cut hay and move on to third. Spotty showers last week. Conditions are good in this area. Corn and soybeans are coming along nicely.

HANCOCK, Dr. David Yarborough

Dry conditions are limiting fruit size, so wild berries are smaller than normal. The number of berries is large so this should make up for the smaller fruit size. There is a lack of berries on many fields that is attributed to the cold winter conditions, so crop yields are very variable. The crop estimate is now for a below average crop of 80 to 85 million pounds.

PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

Very spotty rain this past week; some areas got lots of rain and some just a little. Sweet corn harvest in full swing. Farmers' markets full of veggies.

PISCATAQUIS/SOMERSET, Elaine S. Moccus

Good week weather-wise; scattered late afternoon/evening rain showers in some areas provided a little relief. Corn crop seems to be doing well in humid weather. Hay production continues, with reports of low quality in some areas, but good quality in others. Conditions are dry at this time – this area needs more rain.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

Some rain last week helped but more is needed.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Thomas Smiarowski

Scattered showers on Saturday evening brought some relief to generally dry conditions across Massachusetts. Harvest of all crops continuing.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Farmers' markets are full and business is brisk. Enjoying early apples and fresh peaches. Potato harvest is gearing up and looks to be a good year. Some growers are reporting pumpkins are ahead of schedule. Tomatoes are doing well and expect a deluge shortly. Pastures are holding compared to other years and it should end up being a good grazing season. Hay is coming along well and the second cutting was a big improvement over the first cutting and the third cutting looks to be good as well.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Another good rain this week helped to improve water tables some. Cranberries are sizing well so far.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/MERRIMACK/HILLSBOROUGH, Donna Juneau

Another warm week with temperatures in the 80s. We received some needed rainfall on Tuesday, August 11th and again on Saturday, August 15th. When the rain falls, it has been generally been torrential, quick-moving storms which have caused some localized damage but reportedly mostly minor.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Warm most of the week, with some welcome rain on Tuesday, and turning hot and muggy by the weekend. Some spots of field corn had been showing moisture stress, but now everything's mostly looking good and maturing nicely. Third cutting for haylage/baleage/hay continues, though drying conditions haven't been 100% ideal. Vegetable crops doing well. Pick Your Own (PYO) berries continued and first of the early apple varieties were popping up here and there.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Warmer week; unexpectedly heavy downpours at times made hay-making a challenge. Corn pretty much all tasseled out now and looking better; adequate moisture levels for crop.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

A pretty good week for field work except for heavy rains on Tuesday. Sweet corn harvest has started at most farms now, and potato harvest is starting a little early as well.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

There was no rain in sight until Saturday afternoon. Field conditions were good for making hay. Lingering fog often left dew on hay until close to noon, but farmers were still able to take advantage of the good weather. The corn crop is making progress as the hot weather has given the crop a much needed boost.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Marketing: Some farmers' markets customer volume is down slightly, but steady demand continued. Some farm stands also reporting number of customers seems slightly off compared to previous years. Fruit: Orchardists harvesting peaches, plums, and finished picking Jersey Mac and starting to pick Paula Red and Ginger Gold apples. Orchardists busy monitoring for pests, summer pruning trees, mowing orchard floors, fixing up orchard roads and moving bins into the orchard. Highbush blueberry harvest and fall raspberry harvest continued. Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) Fruit Fly is being trapped in almost all small fruit plantings in southern New Hampshire. Vegetables: Growers are irrigating harvested crops and are harvesting an array of vegetables: beans, beets, cole crops, cucumbers, greens, peas, potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, summer squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, winter squash, zucchini, and other vegetables. Powdery mildew can be found on pumpkins and winter squash. European corn borer, corn earworm and fall armyworm are being caught. Field Crops: Hay cutting continued during the week with the first, second and third cuttings being made. Some farmers are spreading manure on hayfields. Farmers are starting to get ready to make new forage seedings.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

All crops need more rain. Tuesday rain and end of week rain helped. First cut hay and haylage yields are down 40% compared to normal years as May and early June weather didn't get rain. Some severe thundershowers and some areas may have seen some hail. Field corn leaves were curled up till last Monday. Harvesting fall raspberries, peaches, apricots, plums, nectarines, apples (Jersey Mac, Gravenstein, Paula Red, Tydeman, and other early apple varieties), late blueberry varieties, herbs, an array of vegetables, pumpkins, and cut flowers. Irrigating, weeding, and harvesting. Most of the fruits and vegetable harvest look good. Markets very busy.

SULLIVAN, Jennifer Gehly

Rain fell in Sullivan County on Tuesday and Saturday. The rest of the week was warm and seasonable. Second cut dry hay is being harvested at a slow pace due to lack of adequate drying conditions. A late first cut dry hay harvest didn't help either. Field corn looks good. The blueberry harvest has been very good, but many growers are hitting a lull while waiting for more berries to ripen.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Paul E. Brule

Last week Rhode Island started harvesting early potatoes, and they look good. Some parts of the state are dry and other parts of the state have plenty of water. Pastures look good where they have the water, and believe it or not they are still green in August. As far as vegetables, you can find just about everything now. Sweet corn is still in big demand and silage corn in most parts of the state is really good. Still trying to make second cutting hay. The weather is good. We seem to be getting at least one heavy shower in most parts of the state each week.

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

1.3 inches of rain fell on all of Rhode Island 8/11/15!

VERMONT

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Spot rains back this week have made hay harvest challenging. Second cut is about done and much third cut harvested for haylage between showers. Corn is accelerating with more moisture and humid weather beginning the finishing process. Still a lot of bare spots, however, where there is corn it is doing great. Vine crops are now being harvested in the gardens. Sweet corn is maturing rapidly, so better get that portion in the freezer for some great winter veggies. Tomatoes seem to be escaping the blight; best to get them picked as soon as there is some red showing.