



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending October 4, 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 4.5 days suitable for field work last week.

New England experienced heavy rains for several days last week as a result of Hurricane Joaquin traveling near the northeast. Average weekly temperatures in the region ranged from three degrees below normal to nine degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 1.26 to 7.44 inches. So far no major crop damage has been reported due to the heavy rainfall. However, scattered frosts throughout the region did cause damage to some crops. Farmers continued making third and fourth cuttings of hay when the weather allowed as well as harvesting field corn for silage and potatoes. The harvest of late-planted sweet corn in the region in addition to oats and barley in Maine was coming to a close. Apples continued to look great and kept Pick-Your-Own operations and farm stands busy. Fall raspberries and pears were also being harvested in the region, along with cranberries in Massachusetts. Growers remained busy harvesting a wide array of vegetables including cabbage, kale, Brussel sprouts, winter squash, pumpkins, and some warm season vegetables like tomatoes and peppers that were protected from the frost. Field work this week included spreading manure, disking, cleaning up and planting cover crops on harvested fields.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending October 4, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	5	20	64	11
SUBSOIL	5	26	65	4

Crop Conditions as of October 4, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
CORN	2	4	15	72	7
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	5	10	65	20
DRY HAY	2	6	20	60	12
PASTURE AND RANGE	6	12	42	36	4
PEARS	0	0	17	83	0
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	2	8	25	40	25

Crop Progress as of October 4, 2015

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: HARVESTED	64
BARLEY (ME): HARVESTED	99
CORN FOR SILAGE: HARVESTED	51
CRANBERRIES (MA): HARVESTED	10
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	87
DRY HAY: 4th CUTTING	29
FALL TILLAGE: SINGLE	25
OATS (ME): HARVESTED	98
PEACHES: HARVESTED	97
PEARS: HARVESTED	55
POTATOES: HARVESTED	68
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	96

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

October 4, 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	35	56	+2	5.71	2	26.58	+4.52	74	2365	+226	4052
	Bangor_Intl_Air	79	31	56	+3	3.91	2	19.18	-1.01	78	2226	+222	3872
	Bethel	75	30	52	-1	4.92	2	26.56	+2.17	71	2062	+157	3690
	Bridgton	72	35	53	+4	4.84	2	28.76	+4.73	66	2035	+316	3685
	Caribou_Municip	74	30	53	+5	1.71	2	20.41	-0.53	84	1931	+450	3507
	Dover-Foxcroft	74	29	51	+3	4.84	3	30.92	+7.77	89	1984	+479	3576
	Durham	78	34	56	+4	6.41	2	24.65	+1.81	78	2147	+183	3816
	East_Surry	72	33	54	+2	5.06	3	22.49	-0.22	72	1868	+8	3473
	Eustis	74	26	48	+2	2.44	2	21.76	-0.08	73	1545	+395	3021
	Frenchville	73	30	51	+4	1.92	3	20.16	-1.25	81	1655	+295	3176
	Harmony	75	32	53	+4	3.66	3	28.04	+5.38	86	2069	+311	3694
	Houlton	74	29	53	+6	7.10	3	26.26	+5.50	77	1898	+384	3458
	Livermore_Falls	76	28	52	+3	5.39	3	27.62	+3.23	73	2002	+474	3617
	Machias	72	33	54	+4	5.09	2	25.87	+1.65	76	1889	+422	3426
	Millinocket_Wtr	75	28	51	+1	4.96	2	29.35	+6.19	77	1833	+75	3376
	Moosehead	73	30	50	+3	3.82	3	26.73	+3.11	84	1807	+499	3365
	Portland_ME	75	40	58	+6	5.90	2	24.45	+2.83	61	2475	+559	4200
	Rangeley_2NW	72	27	48	+1	2.99	3	24.28	+1.66	85	1472	+170	2917
	Sanford	80	33	57	+3	4.48	3	21.93	-1.83	44	2415	+204	4078
	Topsfield_2	74	32	53	+3	5.49	2	28.34	+4.81	77	1973	+285	3554
	Turner	77	35	54	-2	5.24	2	26.86	+4.46	71	2272	-39	3939
	Wesley_2W	76	27	52	+2	5.40	2	30.30	+8.86	60	2042	+339	3644
	West_Rockport	74	34	55	+2	7.44	2	25.60	+1.68	79	2172	+373	3807
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	77	30	52	+2	3.22	3	24.16	+1.70	79	1872	+220	3470
	Bradford_2	76	28	53	0	4.29	2	22.53	-1.20	58	2057	+20	3688
	Colebrook	75	30	50	+1	2.40	3	30.44	+7.08	103	1593	+81	3103
	Concord	80	35	58	+6	3.83	2	21.26	+1.58	61	2752	+608	4471
	East_Milford	78	34	56	+2	3.86	3	21.79	-1.29	54	2583	+289	4302
	Epping	83	40	58	+5	3.69	3	19.03	-3.64	60	2556	+381	4256
	Errol_AP	74	24	50	+3	3.15	3	26.95	+5.36	84	1724	+361	3241
	Fitzwilliam	78	39	57	+5	3.55	4	24.20	+1.03	78	2551	+747	4259
	Greenville	76	40	56	+4	4.03	2	27.21	+4.04	50	2281	+477	3956
	Hancock	76	26	54	+2	3.91	3	31.16	+7.20	78	2256	+277	3917
	Jefferson	74	31	52	+2	3.78	3	31.66	+8.77	95	1968	+248	3571
	Keene_AG	79	36	56	+4	5.11	2	27.07	+4.65	63	2460	+394	4148
	Lakeport_2	74	36	55	+1	1.54	3	23.19	+1.06	61	2458	+216	4148
	Lebanon	76	36	56	+4	2.77	3	21.06	+1.07	64	2615	+613	4313
	North_Conway	75	33	53	+2	5.59	4	25.73	+1.29	76	2073	+91	3709
	Tamworth_4	71	29	52	+3	6.62	3	28.80	+2.03	72	1860	+300	3464
	Wolfeburro	74	41	57	+3	4.68	3	22.82	+0.69	64	2494	+252	4191
Vermont	Bennington_AP	78	43	57	+7	3.84	3	17.22	10.03	63	2522	+871	4248
	Burlington_Intl	75	36	56	+4	3.36	3	25.73	+3.85	78	2899	+686	4622
	Corinth	72	29	50	-2	3.49	3	29.92	+9.58	76	1786	+5	3342
	Island_Pond	73	28	50	+3	2.89	3	29.15	+4.86	97	1844	+379	3385
	Johnson_2N	71	32	50	+1	3.88	3	28.16	+4.32	83	1838	+191	3435
	Marlboro_Raws	73	38	55	+5	3.91	2	25.07	+2.78	67	2264	+656	3931
	Montpelier_AP	74	30	52	+2	2.55	3	27.38	+7.04	88	2127	+346	3736
	Newport_AG	76	30	51	-3	1.26	2	29.55	+6.42	88	2025	-13	3611

		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	74	35	53	+2	2.65	2	26.31	+0.25	71	2204	+474	3855
	Rutland_AG	73	39	53	0	3.44	2	22.36	-0.93	78	2225	+114	3876
	Springfield_VT	74	37	55	+4	2.78	2	20.37	-4.30	67	2487	+610	4178
	South_Lincoln	68	33	50	+2	3.03	3	27.93	+0.38	71	1793	+361	3350
	Sutton	70	33	50	+3	2.52	3	29.83	+5.54	98	1861	+396	3430
	Walden	70	27	48	0	2.09	3	29.05	+4.76	94	1499	+34	2969
	Woodstock	76	34	53	+3	2.95	2	25.92	+3.63	63	2331	+432	3982
Massachusetts	Amherst	80	39	59	+5	3.10	4	8.77	-1.81	17	1217	1117	2004
	Barre_Falls_Dam	77	31	55	+4	3.21	4	8.14	-1.37	21	891	-908	1610
	Bedford_Hanscom	84	42	60	+5	2.96	5	4.94	-4.14	16	1126	1270	1846
	Beverly_Ag	78	35	57	-3	2.82	3	4.46	-4.67	13	726	1856	1183
	Birch_Hill_Dam	79	37	56	+6	4.02	3	7.69	-1.16	16	953	-875	1678
	Boston_Logan_In	84	49	62	+3	2.59	4	4.60	-3.47	16	1233	1513	1955
	Chatham_AP	77	51	61	+3	4.52	5	7.68	-1.53	16	1018	1016	1731
	Chicopee_Westov	83	43	61	+6	1.98	5	4.37	-5.43	16	1149	1185	1876
	Edgartown	78	50	62	+4	5.14	4	9.52	+0.97	12	792	1546	1212
	East_Brimfield_	80	36	57	+4	3.13	4	6.65	-2.83	15	1050	1084	1798
	Fitchburg	84	43	61	+6	2.73	5	5.63	-4.06	17	1254	1177	1979
	Greenfield	83	39	58	+3	4.39	2	10.34	-1.15	24	1336	-998	2193
	Hyannis_AP	76	50	61	+4	4.05	5	7.04	-0.93	13	1074	1191	1792
	Maynard	83	34	58	+3	4.19	5	8.20	-0.12	18	750	1646	1187
	New_Bedford	80	46	60	+1	4.81	6	9.20	-0.06	13	1093	1689	1819
	Newburyport	83	35	57	+1	3.46	4	4.42	-4.91	12	1008	1415	1725
	North_Adams_Har	79	45	57	+7	3.22	2	7.53	-3.29	18	1017	-739	1733
	Norwood	84	40	61	+5	2.29	5	3.34	-5.34	16	1080	1429	1802
	Pittsfield	75	43	57	+5	2.50	2	6.74	-4.05	16	963	1006	1675
	Plymouth	80	47	61	+3	3.95	4	6.05	-4.04	13	1095	1405	1816
	Taunton_4NW	82	39	59	+3	2.73	5	5.53	-4.80	14	1015	1449	1525
	Westfield_Barne	83	46	61	+9	3.03	5	5.84	-4.13	14	1249	-757	1979
	West_Otis	79	42	58	+5	3.54	6	6.69	+0.46	14	667	1245	1085
	Worcester	79	41	58	+4	2.80	5	4.70	-5.62	16	1114	1062	1831
	Worthington	76	33	55	+3	3.20	5	7.58	-2.97	20	861	-979	1566
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	77	51	61	+2	3.96	6	19.35	-2.31	55	2793	+369	4541
	Providence	81	49	61	+4	2.69	4	20.47	-1.97	51	3190	+499	4971
	Westerly-Wester	77	48	60	+3	4.39	4	19.07	-4.96	49	2767	+281	4511
	Woonsocket	82	43	60	+4	3.62	4	18.76	-5.57	49	3008	+525	4768
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	80	48	63	+4	2.17	6	16.36	-6.80	57	3387	+557	5175
	Danbury_AP	82	45	60	+5	2.39	5	21.33	-6.57	53	2937	+377	4699
	Hartford_Bradle	85	46	62	+5	2.59	5	21.04	-3.36	63	3286	+539	5062
	Meriden-Meriden	83	47	62	+6	2.67	4	12.63	15.18	48	3212	+703	4976
	Norfolk	78	39	56	+4	2.87	6	23.54	-4.96	68	2377	+465	4047
	Norwich	81	48	60	+3	3.45	4	17.19	-8.57	45	3096	+423	4867
	Staffordville	79	39	57	+3	4.57	5	25.14	-0.58	48	2432	+234	4120
	Thomaston_Dam	84	37	58	+4	2.48	6	19.54	-7.32	67	2826	+585	4566
	West_Thompson_L	82	37	58	+4	3.49	5	19.31	-6.59	52	2630	+404	4360
	Willimantic	83	47	62	+8	3.03	4	19.29	-6.43	54	3112	+914	4876

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

There was plenty of rain last week but it was a case of "too little, too late" for most vegetable crops. However, it was good to recharge some ground water.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

A good 4" of rain arrived to relieve some of the drought issues in most of the county. Hayfields were striving to "green up" after some very brown conditions. Corn chopping continues; spreading manure; applying cover crops. Cooler temperatures down to 40s at night. Apple picking, pumpkin harvesting, fall ornamentals doing well.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Southern), Doreen Conlogue

Southern Aroostook received some serious rain last week! Some producers reported 8-10" but most received 6.5". Needless to say, potato harvest was put on hold for a few days. Some growers were able to start back on Saturday but most will begin today. The forecast for this week looks very good with the exception of Friday... more rain.

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Hard rains last week held up potato harvest for a few days. Crews are back in the field, but making much slower progress. The size and quality of this year's crop is outstanding. Pastures are green and so are most of the trees.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Heavy rain on Wednesday around 6" put a stop to field work for a couple of days. Good weather over the weekend for apple picking. Frost has hit most areas.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Most silage corn has now been harvested in this area. Large farms in adjacent counties are still cutting corn. The crop was very good. Corn mazes are operating and pumpkins are selling. It is a good fall for harvesting and spreading manure.

PISCATAQUIS/SOMERSET, Elaine S. Moceus

Mid-week 5+ inches of rain fell over a 24-hour period in most areas of Somerset County. There was no crop damage reported; however, some producers still have corn in the field. Otherwise, relatively mild weather conditions. Some areas are reporting light frosts.

WASHINGTON, Audre Hayward

Heavy rains 5-10 inches.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Thomas Smiarowski

Fall has finally arrived with much cooler temperatures. Heavy rains on Wednesday slowed down harvesting of crops, most notably silage corn and potatoes. Hurricane Joaquin tracking out to sea was very welcome news.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Cooler temperatures heralded the fall along with a heavy day of rain. Many farms have completed the silage corn harvest, reporting low moisture levels. Late sweet corn is almost completely done. Apples are doing great. Cabbages, fall squash and pumpkins are being harvested with good numbers and size. Tomato harvest is winding down. Farm stands are busy with the fall crops and the holidays are just around the corner!

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

More than 3 inches of rain was very welcome by all but the cranberry growers dry harvesting. Cranberry harvest is in full swing with color finally close to average levels. Crops are meeting expectations so far.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/HILLSBOROUGH/MERRIMACK, Donna Juneau

Heavy rainfall on Wednesday, September 30th with over 3.5 inches falling in most locations in our three counties. The ground has been very dry and was able to absorb the heavy rainfall. No major damage has been reported as of yet. Temperatures have been seasonal with the exception of Tuesday, September 29th, when the temperature reached 80 degrees with very high humidity prior to Wednesday's storm event. Producers have been in the field before and after Wednesday's rainstorm chopping corn.

BELKNAP/STRAFFORD, Kelly McAdam

Heavy rain fell on Wednesday.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Sunny for most of the week with heavy rain on Wednesday and patchy frost Sunday night. Corn chopping still going well, and a little bit of grass or alfalfa being harvested as conditions permit. Great weather for Pick-Your-Own (PYO) apples. Farm stands still have plenty of fall crops

COOS, Steve Turaj

Heavy rains at the start of week left fields wet in areas, rivers running fairly high, and some ponding in low-lying ones. What were scattered frosts became more common. There was a pretty hard freeze in Lancaster area last night. Corn silage harvest ongoing as weather and field conditions permit. Corn progressed well in last month's warmer growing conditions.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

We had heavy rains in the middle of the week and frost for much of the county over the weekend. The leaves are starting to turn and fall is definitely here.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

Heavy rains earlier in the week delivered rainfall amounts from 3 inches to over 5 inches in areas around the county. Rivers ran high as a result and some power outages were reported due to downed trees. While soils were saturated for a few days, field conditions improved as the week progressed. Farmers continued to chop corn and take haylage and hay where possible. Some higher elevation farms and cold pockets had a hard frost toward the end of the week. Temperatures dropped down to the 20s during the early morning hours.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Vegetables: Scattered frost occurred in local areas throughout the southern part of New Hampshire on September 26th causing damage to tender plants and crops. Good demand for all vegetables continues. Harvesting wide array of vegetables including warm season vegetables like tomatoes and peppers that were protected from the frost. Also harvesting cabbage, kale, Brussel sprouts, winter squash and pumpkins. Farmers kept busy disking, cleaning up and planting cover crops on harvested fields. Fruit: Apple harvest is in full swing with most growers concentrating on second picking of McIntosh and Gala apples, and working on Cortland and Macoun. It was cloudy, cold and damp on Saturday, October 3rd and nicer on Sunday, October 4th for PYO orchards. Fall raspberries and pear harvest continued, with peach and plum harvest winding down. Field Crops: Silage corn harvest in full swing along with second and third cuts of hay and haylage continues.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Frost reported from some during the overnight on Saturday/Sunday 9/26-9/27. Frost was earlier this season compared to other seasons. Cucumbers were severely damaged along with sweet corn, summer squash, and zucchini. Tomatoes may have also been damaged. Tuesday evening into morning had a light, steady rain. Wednesday had light to heavy showers during the day with 3-5 inches of rain that was welcomed by growers, as many were no longer having to water for irrigation. For the last three months, growers were under the continuous work of irrigating. Perfect fall weather for picking apples and fall raspberries as well as harvesting salad greens and parsley. Winter squashes and mums are abundant at the market.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Paul E. Brule

Rhode Island saw 2 days of rain last week, with highs in the 50s most days. The rain was quite heavy on one of the days, and the other day was light. We didn't see any damage in the fields, but we needed the rain. The good news is that we missed the hurricane. Silage corn is being harvested. We're harvesting winter potatoes and putting them in storage. Still have sweet corn available. A lot of pumpkins and winter squash are being picked right now. Still have an abundance of good vegetables around. Apple orchards had one good day this weekend, on Sunday, for PYO. This upcoming week is expected to be dry and sunny and a day or two reaching into the 70s. Cover crops are being put in.

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

Got some much needed rain, though would have rather missed the wind. Very glad to have missed a hurricane. Unsure at this time how the high winds damaged the RI apple crop.

VERMONT

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Some much needed rain in Franklin County this week slowed the corn harvest; however, it rejuvenated the ground water. Corn crop is looking very good with dry down occurring rapidly. The processors in the choppers will need to be turned down for proper kernel breakage on most corn at this point. Still, some hay is being harvested and looking good for some possible harvest after corn is in, pending on the fall weather. Squash and pumpkins with ground veggies are all that is left for harvest in the garden arena. Pastures are still providing some fall feed with much slower growth.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

Several hard frosts at the end of this past week have basically put an end to this year's growing season. We had rain in the middle of the week that was heavy at times. The corn silage harvest is in full swing. Even with the rain last week, the fields are not very muddy. There has also been a number of corn acres that have been seeded to winter rye. Some haying is still on-going; however, many farms are done for the year. Many farmers are fall grazing their hayfields.