



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 April 10, 2016

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

[nassrfooner@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nassrfooner@nass.usda.gov)

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**Poor week for field work:** New England averaged 2.0 days suitable for field work last week.

New England experienced colder conditions throughout the region last week with snow in some areas. As such, there was little progress in fields. Average weekly temperatures ranged from five to sixteen degrees below normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.5 to 2.57 inches. In Vermont, some maple syrup producers were able to get another run in, although much of the season has come to an end. Overall, many areas were reporting a very positive maple syrup season. In Massachusetts, growers experienced record low temperatures in places. Bud damage was the primary concern in many areas among growers, although cold temperatures have helped keep cranberry buds in dormancy. In New Hampshire, farmers began preparing for spring planting, preparing equipment, and spreading wood ash and manure on hayfields. Some growers did some pruning of fruit trees; although throughout much of the region, producers opted to delay activity. Fungus on apples was a concern and being monitored.

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 10, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	5	53	42
SUBSOIL	0	4	69	27

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."](#)

### April 10, 2016 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2016					
		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	55	15	33	-9	1.01	2	1.49	+0.29	4	9	+9	38
	Bangor_Intl_Air	54	13	33	-8	1.49	3	1.79	+0.68	5	5	+5	36
	Bethel	50	12	29	-11	0.90	3	1.18	-0.12	5	10	+10	30
	Bridgton	52	14	29	-10	0.72	3	1.00	-0.40	5	10	+10	30
	Caribou_Municip	52	5	27	-8	1.19	3	2.14	+1.32	6	0	0	15
	Dover-Foxcroft	54	9	28	-7	1.02	2	1.55	+0.35	5	0	0	20
	Durham	55	15	33	-9	0.73	2	1.09	-0.41	4	11	+11	40
	East_Surry	52	14	33	-7	1.48	4	2.21	+0.79	7	1	+1	23
	Eustis	48	4	23	-11	0.58	3	1.16	+0.16	6	0	0	18
	Frenchville	47	1	24	-10	0.50	3	1.13	+0.27	6	0	0	4
	Harmony	52	9	29	-9	1.25	3	1.65	+0.35	5	1	+1	24
	Houlton	55	5	30	-6	1.42	3	1.73	+0.83	6	0	0	28
	Livermore_Falls	56	9	29	-8	0.93	2	1.23	-0.17	4	7	+7	30
	Millinocket_Wtr	54	8	27	-10	1.82	3	1.91	+0.76	5	0	0	13
	Moosehead	49	8	25	-7	1.25	3	1.59	+0.49	5	0	0	19
	Portland_ME	55	17	34	-8	0.56	3	0.70	-0.76	5	17	+17	45
	Rangeley_2NW	45	4	21	-12	0.76	4	1.31	+0.21	7	0	0	13
	Sanford	51	14	31	-13	1.14	4	1.31	-0.23	6	19	+19	43
	Topsfield_2	56	8	29	-9	1.35	3	1.63	+0.53	5	0	0	18
	Turner	51	12	29	-13	0.94	2	1.53	+0.10	4	9	+9	31
	Wesley_2W	54	11	33	-5	1.50	1	1.90	+0.60	2	0	0	23
	West_Rockport	52	14	31	-9	1.05	3	1.42	-0.18	5	1	+1	26
	Whiting	53	13	33	-6	1.47	2	1.87	+0.32	4	0	0	27
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	51	7	26	-12	0.57	2	0.86	-0.17	4	7	+7	28
	Bradford_2	51	8	27	-15	0.80	2	1.04	-0.26	3	10	+10	31
	Colebrook	52	7	26	-11	0.94	3	1.95	+1.14	6	5	+5	25
	Concord	55	4	33	-10	0.76	2	0.97	-0.03	5	28	+28	57
	East_Milford	55	15	33	-11	0.77	2	1.10	-0.26	4	22	+22	49
	Epping	55	14	33	-10	1.32	3	1.89	+0.49	5	21	+21	49
	Errol_AP	50	5	23	-11	0.67	4	1.15	+0.25	6	0	0	19
	Greenville	51	12	30	-10	0.92	2	1.36	+0.16	4	15	+15	40
	Hancock	52	10	30	-12	0.68	3	1.15	-0.17	5	15	+15	39
	Jaffrey_Silver_	53	6	30	-10	0.66	2	1.21	+0.01	4	15	+15	42
	Jefferson	53	8	27	-12	0.51	3	0.60	-0.31	4	6	+6	32
	Keene_AG	54	10	30	-11	0.67	2	0.84	-0.25	4	13	+13	40
	Lakeport_2	54	12	32	-10	0.66	3	0.95	-0.15	5	12	+12	37
	Lebanon	59	2	31	-10	0.52	3	0.74	-0.16	5	18	+18	46
	North_Conway	51	9	29	-11	1.17	3	1.30	-0.10	4	11	+11	32
	Tamworth_4	49	3	28	-11	1.09	3	1.56	+0.15	6	9	+9	29
	Wolfeburro	51	15	33	-9	0.70	3	0.91	-0.19	5	15	+15	40
Vermont	Averill	55	1	23	-10	0.72	3	1.22	+0.22	5	0	0	8
	Bennington_AP	61	2	31	-9	1.10	3	1.30	+0.19	5	21	+21	53
	Burlington_Intl	61	14	31	-10	0.67	3	0.83	-0.07	5	16	+16	43
	Corinth	52	5	25	-14	0.95	4	1.21	+0.41	5	0	0	21
	Johnson_2N	51	7	24	-13	1.34	3	1.50	+0.43	4	6	+6	27
	Marlboro_Raws	49	7	28	-9	1.57	3	1.85	+0.98	5	10	+10	31
	Montpelier_AP	57	5	27	-12	0.58	2	0.84	+0.04	4	12	+12	37
	Newport_AG	55	8	25	-15	0.83	4	1.08	+0.13	5	2	+2	25

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2016					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	56	3	26	-13	0.73	3	0.91	-0.29	4	10	+10	31
	Rutland_AG	61	2	27	-15	0.55	4	0.88	-0.02	6	16	+16	43
	Springfield_VT	55	10	30	-9	0.57	2	0.91	-0.39	3	10	+10	35
	South_Lincoln	55	7	26	-10	0.84	3	1.29	-0.07	4	7	+7	31
	Sutton	52	7	24	-12	1.22	4	2.11	+1.21	7	0	0	19
	Walden	49	3	20	-16	1.14	3	2.02	+1.12	5	0	0	11
	Woodstock	57	4	29	-11	1.14	2	1.30	+0.20	3	11	+11	37
Massachusetts	Amherst	56	13	33	-11	0.86	3	1.21	-0.03	4	19	+19	51
	Barre_Falls_Dam	52	10	31	-11	1.28	3	1.78	+0.50	5	16	+16	41
	Bedford_Hanscom	56	14	35	-10	1.48	4	2.14	+0.76	7	25	+25	59
	Beverly_Ag	56	20	36	-9	1.25	3	1.65	+0.21	5	22	+22	59
	Birch_Hill_Dam	53	11	31	-10	0.82	3	1.17	-0.13	5	12	+12	38
	Boston_Logan_In	58	22	38	-9	1.46	4	2.30	+1.06	6	25	+25	66
	Chatham_AP	55	23	39	-5	1.79	3	3.29	+1.94	5	8	+8	43
	Chicopee_Westov	57	13	35	-9	0.74	4	1.00	-0.24	6	24	+24	59
	Edgartown	56	25	39	-5	1.98	3	3.68	+2.18	6	12	+12	49
	East_Brimfield_	54	16	33	-10	1.28	4	2.60	+1.16	7	14	+14	42
	Fitchburg	55	15	35	-9	1.00	4	1.21	-0.29	5	28	+28	59
	Greenfield	56	13	31	-13	0.81	3	1.20	-0.04	6	16	+16	42
	Hyannis_AP	56	23	39	-5	1.75	3	3.47	+2.17	6	12	+12	50
	Maynard	55	15	34	-11	1.60	2	2.12	+0.74	5	20	+20	49
	New_Bedford	56	15	37	-8	1.38	3	2.63	+1.13	6	14	+14	52
	Newburyport	55	20	37	-8	1.25	2	1.58	+0.11	4	22	+22	54
	North_Adams_Har	58	0	31	-9	1.19	4	1.48	+0.08	6	23	+23	54
	Norwood	59	14	37	-9	1.05	3	1.70	+0.30	5	28	+28	67
	Pittsfield	54	10	30	-12	1.09	4	1.43	+0.23	6	18	+18	44
	Plymouth	59	13	37	-9	1.40	3	2.54	+0.94	6	18	+18	54
	Taunton_4NW	58	17	36	-10	1.99	5	3.20	+1.74	8	16	+16	47
	Westfield_Barne	57	17	35	-7	0.93	4	1.04	-0.36	5	25	+25	59
	West_Otis	55	14	32	-8	1.00	3	1.56	+0.06	6	15	+15	43
	Worcester	52	17	32	-10	1.38	4	2.02	+0.71	7	17	+17	42
	Worthington	51	8	28	-12	1.46	4	1.76	+0.51	6	14	+14	37
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	52	22	38	-7	1.59	3	2.75	+1.25	6	6	+6	41
	Providence	54	18	37	-9	2.15	5	3.32	+1.88	8	20	+18	57
	Westerly-Wester	52	22	38	-7	2.03	3	3.25	+1.77	6	12	+12	49
	Woonsocket	55	18	36	-9	2.57	4	4.03	+2.53	7	18	+18	50
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	57	26	40	-7	0.78	2	1.73	+0.35	5	15	+14	58
	Danbury_AP	57	17	36	-10	0.65	2	1.35	-0.08	5	24	+24	61
	Hartford_Bradle	58	20	37	-11	0.74	3	1.31	+0.05	6	25	+23	62
	Meriden-Meriden	56	21	37	-8	0.74	2	1.78	+0.18	4	20	+20	56
	Norfolk	52	12	30	-11	1.18	3	1.54	+0.04	4	14	+14	38
	Norwich	56	22	37	-9	1.89	3	3.06	+1.46	5	15	+15	49
	Staffordville	53	14	31	-13	1.32	3	3.96	+2.46	6	12	+12	37
	Thomaston_Dam	57	14	33	-10	0.92	3	1.26	-0.22	6	15	+15	44
	West_Thompson_L	54	15	33	-11	1.74	3	3.30	+1.80	6	11	+11	38
	Willimantic	57	18	38	-6	1.22	3	2.49	+0.99	6	21	+21	60

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

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

A week of snow, below normal temperatures, and rain with warming towards the end of the week. Orchard farmers are concerned that peaches and apples have been badly damaged by freezing, waiting till bud to determine possible losses. Pruning continues in orchards and vineyards. Getting equipment ready for planting corn and for harvesting haylage when spring is more cooperative with weather conditions.

### MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

With warm temperatures predicted for the end of the week, we are on track for an early planting season. Producers are working on cleaning up last year's crop and hauling seed for next years. It has been a slow marketing season for potatoes and grain.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Cold nights, rain and windy weather continued last week.

FRANKLIN, Gary Raymond

Maple syrup production has been excellent in this area. Some producers are reporting twice as much production as last season. A little manure has been spread. A few brave souls have planted peas. We had some hail on Friday and it is snowing today.

### MASSACHUSETTS

BARNSTABLE, Tom Smiarowski

Temperatures that dipped below 20 degrees during the week may have caused damage to apples, blueberries and raspberries. Growers should have a better handle on the extent of damage this week. Snow across the state last Monday slowed down field operations considerably.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Monday snowstorm brought anywhere from 2-7 inches throughout the counties. Temperatures stayed in the 40's most of the week. Farmers are continuing to start more plants in the green house and are looking forward to getting into the fields.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Southeastern Massachusetts received 6-8 inches of snow on Monday followed by record low temperatures on Tuesday night -- some bog locations reached 5° F. Cranberry growers mostly depended on shallow floods or the snow cover to protect flower buds. Growers observed mostly tight buds that were likely still dormant with some scattered buds that may have been beginning to lose dormancy (based on bud color and tightness of bud scales). Visual observations of cut buds late in the week showed no damage or minor damage in a small percentage of buds.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

Temperatures dropped this past week, and we had some snow flurries.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

Soils in the Ct River Valley are thawing out. Some below freezing days over the last week slowed the thawing process down. Upland areas still have frost at the surface. Farmers in the valley areas are busy spreading manure. Some farms have begun harrowing fields, and preparing soils for spring planting. The grass is beginning to show a hint of green in the river bottom areas.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

The week started with a couple of inches of snow. Temperature dipped to 17 degrees F midweek. It was also very cold. Thursday afternoon saw rain heavy at times. Apple are at ¼ inch green. Fruit growers were worrying about the cold night temperatures. Fresh cider was available as well as some apple varieties from last fall 2015 record crop. Planting fruit trees, blueberry bushes and raspberries. Harvesting lettuce mix and spinach. Growers taking seedling orders and farm shares. Annuals were growing in greenhouses and all growers were planning and getting to plant in the field. Spreading wood ash and manure on hayfield. Chickens are on pastures and in the fields enjoying the outdoors.

STRAFFORD, Elaina Enzien

It seems that due to the fluctuating temperatures this winter, there will be a very low peach crop again this season in some areas of Strafford County; majority of peach flower buds have appeared dead.

### RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

Snowed Monday and Tuesday, very little progress in the fields. Heavy rain on Thursday. Some pruning on fruit trees.

## VERMONT

CALEDONIA, Daniel Hudson

Wintry conditions are hanging on. The frost is out of the ground however.

CHITTENDEN, Terence Bradshaw

Apples have been stuck at 'advanced silver tip' stage since the beginning of April and thankfully this delay in crop development has provided increased protection from recent cold events, especially on April 5, when temperatures in many orchards fell into the single digits. Some bud damage has been noted in orchards especially in warmer areas where bud development was slightly more advanced. Damage will be most evident after further bud development progresses. Until then, growers should plan to manage their orchards as if there were a full crop. Apple scab primary ascospore development will build with increasing temperatures and as orchard enter green tip and successive stages with increased susceptible green tissue it will be important to maintain fungicide protection against the disease.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Snow has delayed any spring crop and growth progress in Franklin County Vermont this week. Sugar makers got another run, however, most are calling it quits due to poor quality syrup and an overrun market for syrup. The snow has contributed to the water table in a nice steady way with slow snow melt.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

Almost all snow has melted on the fields and the frost is coming out of the ground. The fields are very wet right now so field work has not begun. Most of the maple sugaring operations are still up and running. Reports are that it is an average to above average year production year. With the lack of snow cover this year there were worries that it would be a very poor season. As soon as the fields dry out a little manure spreading will begin.