



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New  
England



# Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending April 24, 2016

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

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Released April 25, 2016

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

Although cool weather was reported in some areas with some frost still on the ground, temperatures began to warm up throughout New England. Average weekly temperatures ranged from one to twelve degrees above normal in the region. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 1.04 inches. The warmer weather allowed for more field work to occur. The maple syrup season had come to an end throughout the region as maple trees were beginning to bud. Some fruit growers were evaluating the extent of damage to apples, peaches, and blueberries from a recent cold snap. Additionally, fruit trees were being sprayed with oil and fungicides where needed. Orchardists were busy pruning, chopping brush, and fertilizing orchards. In Massachusetts, cranberry growers were monitoring their bogs for winter moth caterpillars. Early season vegetable crops like peas, lettuce, and other greens were being planted. Farmers continued to bring out spring equipment, spread manure, disk, fix fencing, and harrow fields as well. Greenhouses remained busy with a variety of plants for sale.

## **Crop Progress as of April 24, 2016**

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: GREEN TIP	57
APPLES: PINK	5
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: GREEN TIP	11
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): GREEN TIP	24
CRANBERRIES (MA): GREEN TIP	10
PEACHES: GREEN TIP	54
SPRING TILLAGE: SINGLE	14
SWEET CORN: PLANTED	8

## **Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 24, 2016**

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	4	25	61	10
SUBSOIL	2	22	67	9

*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 24, 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	74	33	53	+7	0.60	2	2.63	-0.38	8	36	+33	149
	Bangor_Intl_Air	74	30	51	+6	0.13	2	2.55	-0.10	9	27	+26	129
	Bethel	76	28	49	+5	0.58	2	2.09	-1.00	9	28	+28	105
	Bridgton	75	29	50	+7	0.67	1	2.50	-0.72	8	27	+27	113
	Caribou_Municip	71	27	47	+6	0.00	0	3.15	+1.07	8	13	+13	66
	Dover-Foxcroft	73	28	49	+9	0.09	2	2.50	-0.43	9	12	+12	86
	Durham	76	29	51	+6	0.78	2	2.23	-1.37	8	27	+26	132
	East_Surry	71	30	47	+3	0.21	2	3.27	-0.11	11	6	+6	90
	Eustis	69	24	44	+6	0.72	2	2.29	-0.24	10	4	+4	53
	Frenchville	68	25	44	+6	0.03	1	1.60	-0.54	9	7	+7	44
	Harmony	75	29	50	+7	0.22	1	2.75	-0.24	8	16	+16	102
	Houlton	72	28	47	+6	0.00	0	2.78	+0.53	8	12	+12	83
	Livermore_Falls	74	25	49	+7	0.85	1	2.58	-0.73	7	20	+20	94
	Millinocket_Wtr	71	25	47	+5	0.00	0	2.76	-0.07	7	5	+5	63
	Moosehead	71	25	44	+7	0.00	0	2.17	-0.53	7	0	0	53
	Portland_ME	68	32	51	+6	0.20	2	1.16	-2.26	9	35	+34	155
	Rangeley_2NW	69	25	43	+5	0.88	2	2.61	+0.04	11	1	+1	43
	Sanford	77	31	52	+6	0.08	1	1.66	-1.98	8	46	+41	153
	Topsfield_2	76	28	50	+8	0.00	0	2.98	+0.23	7	20	+20	92
	Turner	74	31	50	+4	0.90	2	3.18	-0.13	8	28	+24	120
	Wesley_2W	71	31	49	+7	0.10	1	2.93	-0.11	5	12	+12	90
	West_Rockport	72	31	50	+6	0.48	1	2.47	-1.36	8	15	+15	106
	Whiting	76	31	50	+7	0.12	2	2.65	-1.00	8	15	+15	110
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	73	28	48	+5	0.98	3	2.41	-0.16	9	19	+19	90
	Bradford_2	75	25	50	+4	0.03	1	1.40	-1.72	6	27	+19	108
	Colebrook	71	23	44	+3	0.77	2	2.68	+0.64	9	9	+9	59
	Concord	80	28	56	+9	0.03	1	1.30	-1.12	8	74	+68	193
	East_Milford	78	31	54	+7	0.16	2	1.53	-1.65	8	60	+50	178
	Epping	78	29	53	+6	0.06	3	2.18	-1.20	10	53	+46	170
	Errol_AP	73	27	46	+7	0.89	2	2.92	+0.71	10	6	+6	64
	Greenville	75	31	53	+8	0.05	2	1.54	-1.45	8	44	+44	145
	Hancock	76	25	51	+6	0.13	2	1.74	-1.40	9	38	+35	133
	Jaffrey_Silver_	76	33	52	+8	0.19	2	1.89	-1.10	9	41	+41	141
	Jefferson	72	28	48	+4	0.94	2	2.49	+0.18	11	20	+20	96
	Keene_AG	79	27	52	+7	0.03	2	1.47	-1.16	8	40	+37	142
	Lakeport_2	78	33	54	+8	0.00	0	1.43	-1.30	7	46	+43	157
	Lebanon	79	27	54	+9	0.05	1	1.16	-1.09	8	59	+57	166
	North_Conway	77	26	52	+7	0.31	1	2.21	-1.12	7	40	+40	130
	Tamworth_4	75	26	49	+7	0.15	1	2.53	-0.84	9	25	+25	98
	Wolfeburro	73	33	53	+7	0.01	1	1.42	-1.31	8	41	+38	146
Vermont	Averill	67	22	42	+5	1.04	2	3.02	+0.56	9	0	0	40
	Bennington_AP	78	29	54	+11	0.03	1	1.65	-1.12	9	65	+65	178
	Burlington_Intl	76	32	52	+6	0.34	3	1.38	-0.91	11	44	+38	145
	Corinth	71	24	47	+4	0.16	1	1.75	-0.26	8	12	+12	82
	Johnson_2N	73	26	47	+5	0.48	2	3.09	+0.48	8	14	+14	86
	Marlboro_Raws	75	31	53	+12	0.07	2	2.99	+0.86	10	41	+41	139
	Montpelier_AP	73	26	49	+5	0.38	3	1.69	-0.32	9	34	+34	111
	Newport_AG	70	28	46	+1	0.65	2	2.41	+0.08	10	7	+3	72

		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	76	26	49	+6	0.10	1	1.73	-1.21	7	27	+27	109
	Rutland_AG	75	28	49	+2	0.09	2	1.51	-0.70	10	29	+18	121
	Springfield_VT	77	27	54	+10	0.01	1	1.17	-1.96	7	49	+49	149
	South_Lincoln	71	20	46	+6	0.23	3	1.17	-2.20	6	15	+15	92
	Sutton	71	27	46	+5	0.65	3	3.51	+1.29	13	5	+5	75
	Walden	68	23	43	+2	0.54	4	3.27	+1.05	12	1	+1	50
	Woodstock	76	25	51	+7	0.09	2	1.84	-0.91	7	37	+37	128
Massachusetts	Amherst	79	30	55	+7	0.37	1	1.97	-1.09	8	58	+48	188
	Barre_Falls_Dam	78	28	51	+6	0.32	2	2.63	-0.47	11	40	+39	138
	Bedford_Hanscom	81	33	56	+7	0.23	2	2.54	-0.66	11	75	+60	206
	Beverly_Ag	76	27	51	+2	0.14	1	2.04	-1.36	8	40	+24	170
	Birch_Hill_Dam	76	28	53	+8	0.16	2	1.84	-1.16	10	42	+41	148
	Boston_Logan_In	78	42	55	+5	0.06	2	2.59	-0.33	10	74	+52	230
	Chatham_AP	72	34	50	+4	0.37	3	3.86	+0.69	9	31	+27	153
	Chicopee_Westov	83	29	56	+9	0.12	1	1.49	-1.57	9	79	+69	210
	Edgartown	75	35	52	+5	0.27	3	4.15	+0.70	10	39	+31	183
	East_Brimfield_	78	33	54	+8	0.22	1	3.20	-0.18	11	50	+45	166
	Fitchburg	80	32	57	+10	0.16	1	1.60	-1.92	8	85	+73	222
	Greenfield	78	28	53	+5	0.27	1	1.90	-1.16	10	44	+34	154
	Hyannis_AP	74	31	51	+5	0.30	3	3.98	+0.93	10	40	+35	165
	Maynard	84	30	56	+7	0.22	1	2.60	-0.60	9	68	+53	198
	New_Bedford	76	33	53	+5	0.19	2	3.13	-0.41	9	48	+35	185
	Newburyport	76	29	50	+2	0.20	2	1.97	-1.52	8	44	+32	154
	North_Adams_Har	76	28	54	+10	0.07	2	2.15	-1.31	11	62	+62	170
	Norwood	82	30	55	+6	0.09	2	1.96	-1.39	8	78	+58	211
	Pittsfield	75	30	54	+8	0.00	0	2.14	-0.87	9	57	+53	164
	Plymouth	76	33	51	+3	0.30	3	3.17	-0.56	10	51	+39	168
	Taunton_4NW	79	34	54	+6	0.28	3	3.80	+0.41	13	49	+34	184
	Westfield_Barne	82	29	57	+12	0.15	1	1.46	-1.90	8	85	+80	223
	West_Otis	77	32	54	+10	0.17	1	2.18	-1.42	10	51	+50	175
	Worcester	79	38	57	+10	0.17	2	2.47	-0.66	11	68	+61	197
	Worthington	76	27	52	+8	0.15	2	2.39	-0.73	11	43	+43	141
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	75	38	54	+7	0.15	1	3.20	-0.29	8	40	+29	185
	Providence	76	38	57	+7	0.19	1	3.77	+0.41	11	76	+51	232
	Westerly-Wester	73	34	55	+6	0.08	2	3.74	+0.31	9	49	+36	198
	Woonsocket	78	35	54	+6	0.21	1	4.63	+1.05	9	54	+39	189
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	74	43	59	+8	0.23	2	2.25	-0.95	9	84	+59	252
	Danbury_AP	78	33	57	+8	0.22	1	1.92	-1.47	8	81	+56	226
	Hartford_Bradle	82	33	58	+8	0.57	1	2.18	-0.90	9	88	+56	243
	Meriden-Meriden	79	34	58	+9	0.14	1	2.06	-1.66	7	81	+65	237
	Norfolk	78	33	53	+8	0.00	0	2.11	-1.49	6	46	+45	154
	Norwich	79	37	57	+7	0.26	1	3.63	-0.08	7	63	+38	212
	Staffordville	77	30	52	+5	0.38	1	4.80	+1.27	9	34	+24	141
	Thomaston_Dam	82	28	54	+7	0.61	1	2.29	-1.15	10	51	+43	176
	West_Thompson_L	77	31	53	+6	0.19	1	3.75	+0.20	8	40	+31	156
	Willimantic	82	33	58	+11	0.17	2	2.92	-0.61	9	85	+75	239

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

Soil in most of the state is getting dry. Looking forward to rain later today and tomorrow.

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

Spreading manure and getting planting and other field equipment ready.

NEW LONDON, Sarah Woodward

Warm and sunny weather all week. Some producers began planting corn this week. Vegetable growers steadily working at getting early crops planted out in the fields.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Pruning blueberries, checking grapes for bud damage, finishing pruning apples. Spraying apples with oil and fungicide where needed. Planting apple and peach trees. Apple crop appears to be light due to freeze. Dairy farmers are spreading manure, spraying cover crop, getting fields ready to plant corn. Prepping for planting early vegetables. Greenhouses have a variety of annual plants ready for sale. Warm week with 70 degrees and sunshine. Rain later in the week.

### MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Many fields are dry enough to work, but we still have frost in the ground. Spring equipment is being brought out and seed is being cut. We really need a day of rain to pull the remaining frost.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Conditions are very dry. Little rain fell last week. Early crops have been planted. Row covers are up on many fields. Good week for outside tillage.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Great conditions for field work. All soils except poorly drained can easily be traveled on. Lots of manure being spread. Lots of fences being repaired and installed.

PENOBSCOT/PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

Manure spreading. Greenhouses getting filled with seedlings. Maple trees starting to bud.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

A little of everything last week: sun, rain, hail, warm and cold.

### MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Two meetings for tree fruit growers were held this past week and consensus was that the peach crop will be non-existent this year. Apples were damaged due to early April cold spell, but still too early to determine extent of damage. Similar sentiments expressed about blueberries. Conditions for other field crops, notably potatoes and sweet corn, ideal for planting. Needed rain came on Friday; although rainfall was intense, it was for a relatively short period and much simply ran off the fields.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Field activities have increased; planting of early crops is ramping up. Apple and peach trees have the first leaves out. A good soaking rain is needed soon.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

A dry week, but continued cool for the most part with several nights of frost conditions on the cranberry bogs. Many growers are finding winter moth caterpillars on their bogs.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP, Kelly McAdam

Warm temperatures for two days this week caused fruit trees to begin green tip. Very little rain.

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

Unusually dry spring has allowed growers to cultivate and lay plastic mulch early this year. Cold nights persist causing concern to developing fruit blossoms.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Dry and sunny most of the week. Some sites are a little dry - a bit of rain wouldn't hurt. Pastures and hayfields are greening up nicely. Some manure spreading and tillage beginning.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

A warm week gave farms an opportunity to continue with manure spreading and some tillage in early fields. Apples and blueberries are breaking dormancy.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

Conditions remained fairly dry. Light showers Monday night into Tuesday delivered less than a quarter inch of rain. Soils are still cool, but dry enough to be worked with farm equipment. Farms are spreading manure and harrowing their fields. Trees are breaking bud, and maple sugar operations have shut down for the season.

**HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton**

Very dry conditions. Field Crops: Liming and fertilizing hay fields and pastures. Spreading manure, plowing, disking, fertilizing and getting ready to plant corn. Fixing pasture fences. Also, getting ready to make new pasture and hay field seedings. Vegetables: Early season vegetables (peas, lettuce, greens) are being planted. Liming, fertilizing, plowing, disking and getting ready to plant fields. Fruits: Apples and pears are at half-inch green stage to tight cluster. Most peaches are calyx red stage to first bloom. Protective fungicide sprays applied on fruit trees. Removing straw from strawberries. Pruning raspberry and blueberry plants. Orchardists are chopping brush in orchard or push pruning out of the orchards. Fertilizing orchards. Protective fungicide sprays applied on fruit trees over weekend of April 23-24.

**ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad**

Some rain overnight Monday. Some sun during the day and saw some nights close to freezing. But it's still dry. Preparing vegetable fields. Spreading lime and fertilizer. Irrigating some pea fields and early Cole crops in the fields. Fertilizing blueberries, raspberries, strawberries and grapes. Monitoring for pests. Harvesting greens including spinach, arugula and others green types. Garden Centers very busy this week and many held Earth Day events. Bedding plant sales and greenhouses were busy.

**RHODE ISLAND**

**ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart**

Weather is beginning to warm up. Temperatures have reached into the 60s and 70s this week. Farmers are plowing their fields this week. Corn, beans, peas and potatoes are starting to be planted. Producers are reporting problems with apples and peach trees due to a cold snap that occurred in mid-February. Low yields are expected.

**VERMONT**

**FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley**

Cool weather persists in Franklin County this week. Very little budding or garden work going on. Field work continues with some manure applications and tillage on corn ground. Maple Sap flow seems to be slowed down being an indicator that we may see some progress in tree budding. Morning frosts are very persistent and hopefully will subside when the buds do get going.