



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New  
England



# Crop Progress & Condition

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[www.nass.usda.gov/nh](http://www.nass.usda.gov/nh)

Week ending May 29, 2016

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

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

Released May 31, 2016

**Excellent week for field work:** New England averaged 6.0 days suitable for field work last week.

New England remained dry and very hot throughout much of the region, providing a good opportunity for crop growth and many farm activities. The average weekly temperatures ranged from one to twelve degrees above normal in the six states. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 0.78 inches. As a result, many operations finished planting, plowed, disked, fertilized, and applied herbicide to fields. First cuttings of hay were taking place throughout the region due to the dry weather. Early corn plantings had begun to emerge along with other crops such as potatoes. Additionally, spinach, asparagus, rhubarb, and other greens were being harvested. The dry weather was a concern for operators and some newly planted seedlings were needing irrigation. Orchardists continued to assess fruit crop damage and applied cover sprays for pests and development. Blueberry and strawberry crops were blooming. Gypsy moth caterpillars were still active last week and were being monitored in Massachusetts. Some farm stands were busy getting ready to open offering seedlings and spring greens. Greenhouses were also busy over the long Memorial Day weekend.

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending May 29, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	6	34	57	3
SUBSOIL	1	31	67	1

## Crop Conditions as of May 29, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
DRY HAY	0	0	17	77	5
PASTURE AND RANGE	0	14	24	57	5
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	0	0	5	82	13
RYE (ME)	0	0	0	20	80

## Crop Progress as of May 29, 2016

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: GREEN TIP	100
APPLES: PINK	94
APPLES: FULL BLOOM	87
APPLES: PETAL FALL	49
APPLES: FRUIT SET	14
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: GREEN TIP	99
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: PINK	95
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: FULL BLOOM	68
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: PETAL FALL	22
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): GREEN TIP	90
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): PINK	76
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): FULL BLOOM	50
CORN: PLANTED	63
CORN: EMERGED	30
CRANBERRIES (MA): GREEN TIP	95
CRANBERRIES (MA): PINK	50
DRY HAY: 1st CUTTING	21
OATS (ME): PLANTED	90
PEACHES: PINK	88
PEACHES: FULL BLOOM	65
PEACHES: PETAL FALL	50
PEACHES: FRUIT SET	29
PEARS: GREEN TIP	97
PEARS: PINK	79
PEARS: FULL BLOOM	61
PEARS: PETAL FALL	35
PEARS: FRUIT SET	14
POTATOES (ME): PLANTED	87
SPRING TILLAGE: SINGLE	82
STRAWBERRIES: GREEN TIP	93
STRAWBERRIES: PINK	81
STRAWBERRIES: FULL BLOOM	59
STRAWBERRIES: PETAL FALL	13
STRAWBERRIES: FRUIT SET	6
SWEET CORN: PLANTED	60

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

**May 30, 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	90	48	64	+6	0.05	2	4.15	-3.29	18	240	+56	619
	Bangor_Intl_Air	88	48	66	+9	0.13	1	4.68	-1.81	21	280	+120	662
	Bethel	91	45	65	+7	0.45	1	4.54	-2.95	18	213	+51	527
	Bridgton	89	46	65	+8	0.31	3	5.12	-2.37	19	212	+75	537
	Caribou_Municip	82	45	62	+7	0.48	4	5.79	+0.07	19	198	+89	479
	Dover-Foxcroft	84	44	63	+8	0.36	2	4.90	-2.30	22	174	+85	478
	Durham	93	42	64	+7	0.10	2	4.41	-3.90	19	210	+74	579
	East_Surry	80	48	60	+4	0.23	3	6.24	-1.54	25	140	+13	474
	Eustis	83	40	63	+11	0.14	2	4.51	-1.83	22	142	+81	389
	Frenchville	80	44	60	+6	0.62	3	4.02	-1.80	20	158	+78	411
	Harmony	87	46	65	+8	0.14	2	5.24	-1.95	19	204	+71	546
	Houlton	79	43	61	+6	0.38	3	5.32	-0.54	21	176	+68	469
	Livermore_Falls	90	43	64	+9	0.02	1	4.84	-2.95	17	192	+94	514
	Millinocket_Wtr	80	43	61	+5	0.07	1	5.14	-1.94	14	150	+22	422
	Moosehead	82	39	64	+11	0.48	3	4.92	-2.05	20	142	+78	401
	Portland_ME	87	46	61	+5	0.19	3	3.45	-4.38	20	201	+69	588
	Rangeley_2NW	81	40	62	+9	0.18	5	4.47	-1.87	25	126	+53	359
	Sanford	88	39	62	+2	0.00	0	3.66	-4.49	14	215	+5	579
	Topsfield_2	79	46	61	+5	0.06	1	6.39	-0.92	18	174	+66	482
	Turner	89	49	65	+5	0.09	2	5.16	-2.47	18	229	+17	566
	Wesley_2W	82	41	61	+6	0.20	1	5.80	-1.24	13	180	+78	504
	West_Rockport	85	49	61	+6	0.06	1	5.11	-3.72	19	179	+72	517
	Whiting	86	47	62	+8	0.00	0	5.53	-3.27	17	174	+102	533
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	87	44	66	+9	0.14	2	4.98	-1.48	22	198	+62	503
	Bradford_2	90	41	64	+5	0.29	2	4.26	-3.68	17	184	-45	510
	Colebrook	86	41	64	+9	0.27	4	5.41	-0.83	27	162	+48	402
	Concord	94	44	69	+10	0.72	3	4.13	-2.07	23	321	+114	734
	East_Milford	93	46	68	+8	0.22	2	3.15	-4.17	21	294	+55	717
	Epping	92	42	65	+6	0.23	2	4.18	-3.37	23	252	+44	648
	Errol_AP	84	38	63	+9	0.26	3	5.49	-0.52	23	144	+67	398
	Greenville	90	45	66	+9	0.45	2	4.34	-2.87	20	239	+74	620
	Hancock	91	40	65	+7	0.31	2	3.99	-3.62	22	225	+45	582
	Jaffrey_Silver_	91	46	68	+11	0.49	2	4.02	-3.19	21	268	+103	666
	Jefferson	88	44	66	+9	0.29	3	5.88	-0.23	24	200	+29	500
	Keene_AG	94	45	68	+9	0.53	1	3.78	-3.14	19	242	+42	633
	Lakeport_2	92	49	69	+10	0.08	1	3.86	-2.83	19	293	+90	685
	Lebanon	94	49	69	+11	0.27	1	4.42	-1.69	21	299	+113	677
	North_Conway	93	46	67	+9	0.25	4	4.71	-3.09	21	263	+90	600
	Tamworth_4	89	41	65	+9	0.23	2	5.66	-2.82	23	195	+80	511
	Wolfeburro	86	51	66	+7	0.13	2	3.71	-2.98	21	259	+56	654
Vermont	Averill	83	37	63	+11	0.25	1	5.03	-1.99	17	132	+80	347
	Bennington_AP	89	45	67	+11	0.59	3	5.25	-2.82	25	270	+112	682
	Burlington_Intl	91	49	71	+11	0.04	1	3.59	-2.41	21	315	+85	687
	Corinth	86	44	64	+7	0.40	2	5.38	-0.29	21	159	-16	448
	Johnson_2N	85	42	65	+9	0.20	1	5.82	-0.78	19	186	+44	473
	Marlboro_Raws	88	47	67	+11	0.26	2	5.99	+0.09	24	239	+111	606
	Montpelier_AP	86	45	66	+8	0.06	2	4.45	-1.22	23	204	+29	516
	Newport_AG	87	43	66	+6	0.05	1	4.32	-2.05	19	189	-32	468

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		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	90	45	66	+10	0.05	2	4.13	-3.54	19	191	+34	516
	Rutland_AG	89	49	67	+7	0.22	2	4.37	-1.74	24	210	-36	561
	Springfield_VT	91	45	68	+10	0.27	2	3.47	-4.41	20	259	+90	639
	South_Lincoln	84	43	63	+8	0.53	2	4.90	-3.33	19	157	+40	452
	Sutton	84	48	66	+12	0.20	3	7.25	+0.96	25	177	+63	461
	Walden	82	45	62	+8	0.34	3	6.45	+0.16	26	121	+7	359
	Woodstock	92	45	67	+10	0.30	1	4.36	-2.74	18	232	+62	581
Massachusetts	Amherst	92	48	69	+9	0.28	2	4.62	-3.07	21	301	+55	749
	Barre_Falls_Dam	91	44	67	+9	0.27	2	5.09	-2.44	26	235	+86	614
	Bedford_Hanscom	95	43	68	+8	0.12	1	4.01	-3.48	22	310	+52	761
	Beverly_Ag	87	46	62	+1	0.18	1	4.44	-2.91	20	196	-60	603
	Birch_Hill_Dam	92	46	68	+10	0.43	3	4.20	-2.98	23	249	+100	645
	Boston_Logan_In	92	51	66	+4	0.26	2	4.56	-2.04	21	318	+30	791
	Chatham_AP	79	50	62	+6	0.02	2	6.93	-0.49	24	199	+72	617
	Chicopee_Westov	94	44	69	+9	0.23	1	3.65	-4.04	21	333	+87	787
	Edgartown	83	48	65	+7	0.08	2	7.44	-0.09	27	241	+54	702
	East_Brimfield_	90	45	67	+8	0.39	2	6.01	-1.59	27	254	+53	666
	Fitchburg	98	47	71	+10	0.32	2	3.64	-4.38	20	366	+109	831
	Greenfield	94	50	70	+10	0.14	2	4.26	-3.43	25	302	+56	727
	Hyannis_AP	80	50	63	+5	0.17	2	7.14	+0.39	24	219	+55	652
	Maynard	97	49	70	+10	0.20	2	5.01	-2.48	22	335	+77	785
	New_Bedford	86	42	65	+5	0.23	3	5.93	-1.85	24	270	+10	721
	Newburyport	90	45	66	+6	0.18	2	3.84	-4.09	24	254	+17	663
	North_Adams_Har	89	44	68	+12	0.61	2	4.91	-4.01	23	276	+125	687
	Norwood	94	41	67	+6	0.16	1	3.52	-3.75	20	314	+33	772
	Pittsfield	89	44	68	+9	0.18	2	4.48	-4.09	22	247	+54	650
	Plymouth	89	43	65	+5	0.28	2	5.35	-2.72	24	256	+28	682
	Taunton_4NW	92	46	68	+7	0.33	2	6.16	-1.25	27	314	+62	771
	Westfield_Barne	92	48	70	+12	0.32	4	4.15	-4.19	24	346	+156	807
	West_Otis	90	46	68	+10	0.34	3	5.09	-3.95	27	273	+103	712
	Worcester	89	46	67	+7	0.16	1	4.71	-3.28	23	289	+79	713
	Worthington	89	43	66	+9	0.22	2	5.48	-3.08	25	212	+47	575
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	81	46	64	+6	0.11	2	5.22	-2.33	25	242	+41	702
	Providence	91	48	69	+7	0.19	3	5.59	-1.96	26	354	+56	837
	Westerly-Wester	84	47	65	+6	0.38	3	6.26	-1.49	24	273	+34	744
	Woonsocket	91	45	68	+8	0.33	2	6.91	-0.83	21	309	+52	771
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	86	53	69	+7	0.38	2	4.99	-2.76	25	375	+64	885
	Danbury_AP	91	46	69	+7	0.78	3	5.41	-3.25	26	321	+13	799
	Hartford_Bradle	93	47	71	+8	0.07	3	4.29	-3.69	23	387	+37	876
	Meriden-Meriden	90	47	70	+10	0.78	2	4.12	-4.90	24	368	+109	862
	Norfolk	89	45	67	+9	0.77	3	5.65	-3.39	21	233	+63	621
	Norwich	90	53	68	+6	0.26	1	5.81	-2.61	21	338	+21	821
	Staffordville	90	45	66	+6	0.09	2	6.10	-2.10	23	212	-12	616
	Thomaston_Dam	95	43	69	+9	0.30	3	5.12	-3.38	28	295	+68	752
	West_Thompson_L	89	43	67	+7	0.14	1	6.11	-1.95	19	259	+39	686
	Willimantic	94	47	71	+11	0.05	2	5.01	-3.19	23	385	+161	876

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

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

Hot conditions really caused the grass to head out. Tonnage is off by about 15-20 percent according to most guesstimates. Corn is jumping out of the ground. Starting Pre-Sidedress Nitrate Test (PSNT) sampling this week.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

About an inch and a quarter of rain, but still very dry. Mowing hay, getting ready to pick strawberries, picking lettuce, kale, radishes. Busy annuals and vegetable plant sales at farm markets and greenhouses. Nice warm and sunny weather to do field work.

### MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Near perfect weather has allowed most operations to finish planting. Early potatoes and grain are emerging. Hayfields and pastures are looking much better after a few showers.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Rain did not amount to much this week, so conditions are very dry. Corn is up, fields are being hayed, and field work is progressing nicely. Rain soon is needed.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Apple blossoms have fallen. It appeared to be another good year for pollination. Field work is progressing at a good clip.

PENOBSCOT/PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

Some areas had a little rain this weekend, while other areas had none. Planting is coming to an end and haylage harvest has started. Farm markets feature seedlings and spring greens.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

Getting very dry.

### MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Hot, humid conditions during the week spurred crop growth. Reaching the point where rain is needed. Good week for making hay. Strawberries starting to ripen.

FRANKLIN, James M. Newland

The week's temperatures ramped up to provide some hot, and humid days. A few days passing storms provided much needed rain. Dairy farmers harvested hay and planted corn. Vegetable growers were planting summer crops such as cucumbers, eggplants, peppers, tomatoes, and squash. They were also harvesting greens, spinach, asparagus, and rhubarb. The potato crop is 100% planted and emerging. Strawberries are in full bloom.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

This was a week of unseasonably high temperatures, with the exception of Tuesday which was cool and brought about .25 inch of rain. Fields could still use more rain. More farmers were processing first cutting hay and more field work and planting got done last week. In some places more crops are emerging and farmers are watching out for pests brought on by hot and humid weather. Pests brought on by this weather include the flea beetle and seed corn maggots. Producers are on the lookout for squash vine borer and late blight. The upcoming week looks to have more reasonable temperatures and some rain will help everything continue to grow.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Another dry week with one day of unexpectedly high temperatures. Gypsy moth caterpillars remain active in the region.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/HILLSBOROUGH/MERRIMACK, Donna Juneau

A warm week with above average temperatures. Good rainfall on Tuesday, May 24 with an accumulation of about 3/4 inch. Many producers have finished planting field corn and first plantings of sweet corn. Some producers were out making the first cut of hayfields. Corn has emerged. Weather conditions have been generally good for producers so far this year.

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

Conditions are a bit dry, but sunny days are welcome. First cut hay getting put away. How blueberries will yield this year is not clear yet, but bloom looks good.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Warm all week, with very warm and humid conditions by Saturday. Most of the corn ground is planted, and much of it has emerged by now. First cutting has just begun. Great conditions for planting and other field activities on vegetable operations.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Fairly dry week with scattered showers made it a good week for farm activities. With field corn in action, turned to haylage harvest. Kentucky Bluegrass heading out. Field corn on earlier planted soils spiking or at 2 leaf stage, barley spiking as well. Nice soaking rain on Memorial Day afternoon. June beetles have arrived.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

A week of warm weather and little rain allowed for a lot of progress on planting forage and vegetable crops and allowed some farms to get started on haying. Winter injury on apple and blueberry crops is becoming more visible, but it's spotty. Even within a farm, some varieties are impacted and some aren't. There appear to be two causes. The first was windy weather in February followed by a drop in temperatures which caused damage to some vegetative buds, and then cold temperatures in early April which damaged some fruit buds.

**GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt**

In terms of rainfall, the month of May has been relatively dry. One significant rain event on May 15<sup>th</sup> delivered just under 1.5 inches. Total rainfall for May was 3.15 inches. Hot conditions over the Memorial Day weekend dried the surface layer of some fields. A little light rain would help some new spring planted hay fields. Most of the corn is now planted. Some farmers are beginning to harvest their first cut of haylage. Many vegetable growers are still planting. Evidence of winter damage to fruit trees and bushes is scattered; Apple varieties in some cold pockets were hit hard, with very few flower buds, while other varieties and or areas seem to have less damage.

**HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton**

Fruits: Continue to assess winter injury to fruit crops. Fruit growers were monitoring pest and crop development and applying cover sprays for pest control. Orchardists were wondering if they should be applying thinning sprays to apple orchards. Mowing orchard floor and weed spraying under trees. Blueberries were at bloom to petal fall during the week. Strawberries were blooming. Field Crops: Farmers were plowing, disking, fertilizing, planting corn, and applying herbicides to fields. Farmers getting ready to start to make haylage; the first cuttings of hay were made. Field corn was starting to emerge. Vegetables: Transplanting tomato and pepper plants into fields, and making successive planting vegetable crops. Irrigation is needed on newly planted seedlings. Harvesting spinach, asparagus, rhubarb, and greens.

**ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad**

Fairly good week for field work highlighted by a very hot day reaching close to 94 degrees Fahrenheit midweek. Some rain. Bees working in blueberry patches. Vegetable succession planting. Planting seeds such as pumpkins, zucchinis, cucumber, corn, beans and many others; transplanting tomatoes and cut flowers. Harvesting spinach, Swiss chard, red kale, parsley, cilantro, chives, rhubarb, asparagus and greenhouse tomatoes and cucumbers. Preparing fields, putting in irrigation, weeding, fertilizing. Hayfields and pastures doing well. Farm stands to be opening soon. Garden Centers and greenhouse operations very busy on the Memorial Day long weekend.

**SULLIVAN, Jennifer Z. Gehly**

It was a hot week in Sullivan County, New Hampshire. The average high temperature for the week was in the low 80s with the hottest day being Saturday where some areas saw temperatures in the low 90s. Overnight lows were in the upper 50s to low 60s. Rain fell most of the day on Tuesday, but the rest of the week was fairly dry. Farmers kept busying finishing up planting field corn. Corn that was planted early has already emerged and looks good. First cut hay was being mowed and chopped up. Veggie farmers were busy planting seeds and transplants. It still remains dry out there. A good soaking rain is needed.

## **RHODE ISLAND**

**ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert**

Though we had one wet day, we received little or no accumulation of rain. We are very dry.

**ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart**

During the last week of May, Rhode Island temperatures continued to rise as the week progressed. A couple of days reached into the 80s. Most of the farmers have plowed their fields. First cutting of hay has started. Due to higher temperatures and lack of rain, soil is abnormally dry for this time of the year. Farmers have started to irrigate.

## **VERMONT**

**BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams**

Lots of progress made on first cutting hay and corn plantings.

**FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley**

Dry week in Franklin County, Vermont has made for a lot of first cut hay harvest. Yields are down with fantastic quality. Corn is pretty well planted and much is emerged. Conditions for quack grass growth are ideal and could make for some challenging weed control in corn. Memorial Day gardening has been ideal if one can tolerate the heat. Pasture growth has slowed with the dry weather; however, the spring conditions have provided for adequate ground water.

**ORLEANS, David Blodgett**

The weather has been dry and warm this past week. The ground is actually a little dry and we could use a day of rain. Farm activity for the past week included corn planting and the start of first cut hay. Corn is starting to emerge and is up to a few inches tall and germination looks even. First cut hay is of average height. Pastures look very good right now.