



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending August 7, 2016

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Excellent week for field work: New England averaged 6.5 days suitable for field work last week.

Abnormally dry conditions continued to characterize much of New England with severe drought reported in some areas according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Spotty showers provided some relief. The average weekly temperatures ranged from four degrees below normal to six degrees above normal in the six states. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 2.56 inches throughout the region. In many areas, irrigation sources were a concern with heat conditions. Some hay-making continued despite slow growth. In Rhode Island, the second cutting of hay was delayed. Corn showed some signs of stress in areas where drought conditions existed. Growers continued to harvest an array of crops such as beans, cucumbers, greens, lettuce, peas, potatoes, beets, broccoli, cabbage, radishes, snap beans, summer squash, sweet corn and other vegetables. Berry harvests also progressed while orchardists monitored for pests, cultivated and weeded renovated strawberry beds, mowed orchard floors, and maintained orchards. Some fruit size was smaller due to lack of moisture and in Massachusetts, exposed cranberry surfaces showed some signs of pink blush. Pick-Your-Own operations remained busy throughout the region with various fruits and vegetables available.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending August 7, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	31	31	36	2
SUBSOIL	29	32	37	2

Crop Conditions as of August 7, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	2	5	34	51	8
BLUEBERRIES, TAME	0	2	17	71	10
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME)	0	0	5	45	50
CORN	3	9	29	44	15
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	3	17	70	10
DRY HAY	8	14	30	43	5
OATS (ME)	0	0	0	75	25
PASTURE AND RANGE	14	46	28	8	4
PEACHES	83	3	10	3	1
PEARS	0	7	55	37	1
POTATOES (ME)	0	0	0	50	50
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	1	2	14	50	33
RYE (ME)	0	0	0	40	60
SWEET CORN	3	8	27	60	2

Crop Progress as of August 7, 2016

(in percent)

Item	This Week
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: HARVESTED	53
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): FRUIT SET	100
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): HARVESTED	15
DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING	74
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	26
PEACHES: HARVESTED	24
POTATOES (ME): BLOOMING	96
RYE (ME): HARVESTED	30
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	37

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 7, 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	89	57	73	+3	0.22	2	10.11	-5.29	44	1497	+84	2576
	Bangor_Intl_Air	89	54	73	+4	0.52	1	10.22	-3.80	49	1681	+346	2763
	Bethel	89	53	69	+1	0.10	1	13.25	-3.71	39	1322	+40	2336
	Bridgton	87	54	69	+2	0.50	1	12.45	-4.29	40	1324	+145	2349
	Caribou_Municip	87	50	70	+5	0.87	2	16.27	+2.15	52	1261	+212	2242
	Dover-Foxcroft	89	53	70	+4	0.46	2	11.78	-3.96	51	1256	+220	2260
	Durham	91	51	70	0	0.02	2	10.85	-5.26	44	1387	+106	2456
	East_Surry	81	52	69	+1	0.00	0	12.64	-3.11	50	1160	-54	2194
	Eustis	90	47	67	+4	0.13	1	9.38	-5.69	47	1066	+254	2003
	Frenchville	85	51	69	+5	0.12	2	14.37	-0.08	55	1133	+169	2084
	Harmony	89	53	70	+4	0.00	0	12.34	-3.12	41	1325	+121	2367
	Houlton	88	46	69	+4	0.33	3	12.05	-1.98	50	1197	+130	2190
	Livermore_Falls	91	51	70	+5	0.11	1	11.26	-5.78	38	1307	+256	2329
	Millinocket_Wtr	88	52	70	+2	0.37	2	11.42	-4.50	39	1160	-49	2128
	Moosehead	84	47	67	+4	0.00	0	12.52	-3.86	50	1121	+216	2068
	Portland_ME	94	55	71	+3	0.10	2	9.72	-5.62	41	1482	+224	2569
	Rangeley_2NW	86	50	66	+3	0.07	1	10.28	-5.14	54	989	+87	1908
	Sanford	88	52	70	-2	0.42	3	10.15	-6.52	35	1495	+25	2562
	Topsfield_2	89	57	71	+4	0.03	1	13.84	-2.30	50	1237	+102	2245
	Turner	87	55	71	-2	0.37	2	12.13	-3.88	46	1427	-102	2464
	Wesley_2W	89	50	70	+3	0.20	1	13.19	-1.51	37	1282	+148	2308
	West_Rockport	84	58	70	+2	0.26	2	13.21	-3.43	45	1323	+169	2361
	Whiting	89	53	71	+6	0.00	0	11.63	-5.48	41	1284	+346	2343
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	88	52	68	+2	0.15	2	12.00	-3.26	47	1222	+76	2223
	Bradford_2	87	49	67	-3	0.91	2	11.12	-5.58	37	1262	-131	2288
	Colebrook	86	48	65	0	0.70	4	12.37	-3.41	62	1049	-5	1978
	Concord	91	54	71	+2	0.37	2	8.15	-5.50	48	1728	+284	2841
	East_Milford	89	52	69	-2	0.55	4	7.49	-8.52	48	1672	+133	2795
	Epping	90	53	71	+1	0.36	4	8.99	-6.66	47	1570	+120	2666
	Errol_AP	86	46	66	+2	0.11	2	12.66	-2.03	45	1069	+129	2014
	Greenville	88	50	68	+2	0.73	4	8.33	-7.87	42	1446	+213	2524
	Hancock	87	52	68	-1	1.76	4	10.67	-5.68	52	1451	+110	2508
	Jaffrey_Silver_	87	53	70	+3	0.69	3	9.39	-6.81	47	1624	+391	2722
	Jefferson	86	54	67	+1	0.15	2	13.93	-1.78	53	1265	+62	2263
	Keene_AG	89	53	69	+1	1.31	5	9.79	-5.71	47	1529	+130	2620
	Lakeport_2	89	58	71	0	0.81	3	11.32	-4.28	39	1678	+194	2770
	Lebanon	90	54	71	+3	0.78	2	12.84	-0.57	47	1661	+302	2739
	North_Conway	90	54	70	+1	0.06	1	12.77	-4.31	45	1487	+135	2524
	Tamworth_4	87	49	66	0	0.10	1	14.81	-3.93	47	1202	+108	2213
	Wolfeburro	85	59	70	-2	0.31	2	12.05	-3.55	44	1500	+16	2595
Vermont	Averill	86	43	66	+4	0.19	1	13.74	-4.02	37	1053	+265	1950
	Bennington_AP	86	53	70	+5	1.81	4	11.22	-7.43	52	1568	+417	2680
	Burlington_Intl	91	60	75	+5	0.17	3	10.43	-4.12	50	1824	+312	2896
	Corinth	83	52	65	-3	0.30	2	11.29	-2.24	46	1151	-84	2140
	Johnson_2N	84	51	66	0	1.75	4	16.68	+0.78	51	1185	+29	2167
	Marlboro_Raws	83	54	66	-1	1.28	4	13.49	-1.57	50	1426	+311	2493
	Montpelier_AP	85	53	68	+1	0.21	1	11.60	-1.93	48	1287	+52	2298
	Newport_AG	88	51	68	-1	0.52	3	12.74	-3.00	51	1296	-109	2272

		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	86	54	67	0	0.38	1	12.24	-5.30	38	1278	+105	2300
	Rutland_AG	86	54	68	-1	0.70	3	11.62	-4.16	55	1412	-35	2462
	Springfield_VT	87	54	69	+2	0.78	4	9.97	-7.17	44	1529	+238	2609
	South_Lincoln	82	50	67	+3	0.22	3	11.14	-7.35	45	1137	+128	2128
	Sutton	83	54	67	+3	1.34	2	18.40	+2.12	58	1170	+137	2147
	Walden	82	48	63	-3	1.00	3	16.84	+0.56	57	937	-96	1852
	Woodstock	88	55	69	+2	0.79	2	10.87	-4.45	41	1476	+173	2525
Massachusetts	Amherst	87	54	70	-2	1.98	4	9.30	-7.32	44	1721	+155	2869
	Barre_Falls_Dam	88	52	69	+2	0.96	3	9.38	-7.36	50	1547	+321	2626
	Bedford_Hanscom	91	52	72	0	0.04	1	6.39	-9.59	44	1809	+215	2960
	Beverly_Ag	88	55	70	-4	0.22	2	8.47	-5.86	45	1463	-195	2579
	Birch_Hill_Dam	86	52	68	+1	1.29	4	10.60	-5.86	45	1541	+297	2637
	Boston_Logan_In	89	62	74	-1	0.21	3	7.95	-5.88	41	1904	+132	3077
	Chatham_AP	83	58	71	+3	0.15	2	10.65	-4.51	45	1565	+352	2683
	Chicopee_Westov	89	53	71	+1	0.89	2	10.83	-5.79	42	1815	+249	2969
	Edgartown	84	55	71	0	0.63	3	13.33	-1.90	47	1628	+190	2789
	East_Brimfield_	85	54	69	-2	1.70	5	13.33	-2.77	58	1577	+154	2692
	Fitchburg	91	55	73	+2	0.60	3	7.26	-9.66	40	1979	+356	3144
	Greenfield	87	56	70	-2	1.79	4	10.96	-5.66	51	1701	+135	2830
	Hyannis_AP	84	53	70	-2	0.24	1	11.13	-2.59	40	1625	+219	2758
	Maynard	95	55	72	0	0.72	4	8.96	-7.02	48	1818	+224	2968
	New_Bedford	87	53	71	-4	0.76	3	12.55	-3.94	44	1750	+1	2901
	Newburyport	92	56	72	-1	0.17	3	8.51	-7.47	47	1612	+13	2721
	North_Adams_Har	84	53	69	+3	2.37	4	13.08	-5.97	53	1578	+383	2689
	Norwood	89	50	70	-3	0.36	2	8.36	-7.11	43	1746	+82	2904
	Pittsfield	82	51	67	-2	1.55	3	13.87	-4.38	50	1479	+133	2582
	Plymouth	89	56	71	-2	0.14	2	10.10	-6.01	45	1711	+109	2837
	Taunton_4NW	90	56	72	-1	0.21	3	12.65	-3.09	53	1849	+232	3006
	Westfield_Barne	91	54	72	+4	1.74	3	10.76	-6.35	47	1891	+536	3052
	West_Otis	87	55	70	+3	1.52	4	13.34	-6.52	60	1684	+405	2823
	Worcester	83	58	69	-1	1.00	4	9.62	-7.76	49	1665	+220	2789
	Worthington	84	51	66	-2	2.56	3	14.02	-4.50	53	1346	+100	2409
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	83	57	71	-2	0.37	2	9.98	-4.70	45	1659	+185	2819
	Providence	87	58	72	-2	0.95	3	13.04	-2.12	48	1955	+204	3138
	Westerly-Wester	85	55	71	-2	0.78	3	11.99	-3.91	43	1735	+157	2906
	Woonsocket	88	55	71	-2	0.88	4	12.57	-3.80	47	1825	+183	2987
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	88	63	75	0	0.43	3	12.36	-3.85	49	2090	+287	3300
	Danbury_AP	85	54	70	-3	1.18	4	12.56	-6.24	53	1801	+82	2979
	Hartford_Bradle	92	55	73	0	0.89	2	9.51	-7.09	48	2041	+200	3230
	Meriden-Meriden	89	56	73	+2	0.97	3	10.57	-8.44	49	2011	+361	3205
	Norfolk	84	53	68	-1	1.45	3	12.34	-7.52	47	1498	+219	2586
	Norwich	87	56	72	-2	1.25	2	13.36	-3.71	41	1903	+148	3086
	Staffordville	86	54	68	-3	0.95	3	11.71	-5.95	43	1478	+12	2582
	Thomaston_Dam	91	52	71	+1	0.23	2	12.79	-5.37	57	1780	+288	2937
	West_Thompson_L	86	53	70	-1	0.85	4	11.54	-6.40	47	1626	+149	2753
	Willimantic	88	54	72	+2	0.74	4	11.72	-5.94	53	1979	+513	3170

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

The rain early last week was very helpful with everyone getting somewhere between 1 to 4 inches over a couple of days. It was too late for some non-irrigated sweet corn in some of the areas of the state which had been missed by earlier rains. We could sure use more rain in almost all towns. Hot temperatures are causing a lot of sun scald on vegetable crops.

NEW LONDON, Sarah Woodward

Dry conditions continue, only a few passing showers have hit the county. Small harvests of peaches beginning, although yields way below normal due to Feb. freeze. Other producers harvesting sweet corn, field tomatoes, melons and summer squash.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Timely showers while hampering the dry hay harvest have kept things growing at a record pace. The early round whites have a full crop under them now. Broccoli harvest continues with excellent crops reported. Grain harvest will get underway this week. Excellent crops, but concerns of weak markets are damping any enthusiasm.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Conditions continue to be bone dry. Farmers are having a hard time keeping up and are picking and choosing which fields to irrigate. Some fields are being abandoned. Irrigation ponds are becoming low. Potatoes are early. Second crop hay is a question, whether to cut or not.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

The drought has really started to affect the crops. Grass has stopped growing. Highbush blueberries are firm, dry and sour. Non-irrigated vegetables are not producing or under extreme stress. Water supplies are drying up and cattle are being moved to find water. Supplemental feed is going to some pastures. Hay will be short this fall.

PENOBSCOT/PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

Very spotty rain gave limited relief to crops. Vegetable farms with irrigation are keeping crops watered. Hay and pastures have slowed growth.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

Grass is dry and brown. Corn is short and dry. Leaves are starting to roll.

WASHINGTON, Audre Hayward

VERY DRY CONDITIONS.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Parts of Massachusetts received some rainfall during the week while other parts received virtually no rain. Drought conditions persist. Potato harvest underway with initial reports indicating small size of potatoes.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Less than an inch of rain was welcome, but too little and too late. An increased number of producers are reporting a "Notice of Losses." Irrigation sources are drying up. In the field, vegetable crops continue to be harvested including the first field tomatoes and peppers. Onions are starting to cure and all types of greens, potatoes, radishes, beans, bets, broccoli, cabbage and summer squash. Raspberries are done and blueberry picking continues.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

The dry weather continues, although temperatures were a bit more moderate this week. Cranberries are sizing slowly and exposed surfaces are developing a pink blush.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Some welcome rain early in the week that helped to temporarily ease moisture stress a bit, then warm and muggy for the rest of the week. Field corn is tasseling and silking. Growth on hayfields and pastures continues to be poor with lack of moisture; yields are a fraction of normal. Vegetable crops continue to do pretty well. Pick-Your-Own (PYO) blueberries continues, with a fairly heavy crop.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Some rains at the beginning and end of the week has wet surface soils a bit. We could use more, as corn is generally in tassel/silking throughout the county. Good hay-making weather. Seem to be trending towards cooler nights, foggy mornings typical here along CT River valley.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

We got some rain this past week but could still use more. Several farms are now harvesting sweet corn, but not all are in production yet.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

For the first week of August, soil moisture conditions remain unusually dry. Less than a half-inch of rain fell on August first here in Orford. This was the only rain that was received at this location for the week. Heavy morning fog along the Connecticut River has provided some moisture for crops adjacent to the river. Scattered showers were reported in other areas of Grafton County.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Weather: Localized thunder storm produced only very few showers. Vegetables: Irrigating if growers have water resources left, some growers losing crops due to dry conditions and no water. Growers are harvesting an array of vegetables between rain showers: beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, greens, lettuce, peas, potatoes, radishes, snap beans, summer squash, sweet corn and other vegetables. Growers monitoring disease and insect pressures, deciding if spraying is needed. Growers are reporting damage on sweet corn caused by birds. Fruit: Blueberry and raspberry Pick-Your-Own operations were busy. Blueberry and raspberry harvests continued. Orchardists busy monitoring for pests, mowing orchard floors, moving bins into orchards and fixing up orchard roads. Apple growers were busy summer pruning trees. Cultivating and weeding newly renovated strawberry beds. Field Crops: Very little hay-making because no growth due to drought! Silage corn is showing drought stress in many fields, with much of corn in tasseling to silking stages.

SULLIVAN, Jennifer Z. Gehly

Another mostly dry week in Sullivan County. Approximately a half an inch of rain fell during the week on Mon, Tues, and Sun. The rest of the week was warm and sunny. Vegetables are plentiful. Blueberries are abundant. The earliest varieties of apples are available. Corn still looks good. Hay is still short. We need more rain.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

Getting scattered showers, but not nearly enough rain.

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

The Northern portion of Rhode Island is now under (D2) Severe Drought while the remaining areas of the state continue to remain in (D1) Moderate Drought. Blueberry harvest is coming to an end, due to the dry conditions. Second cutting of hay has been delayed due to the drought. Farmers with irrigating capabilities continue to irrigate.

VERMONT

ALL VT COUNTIES, Terence Bradshaw

Orchards are dry; recent rains have not alleviated drought conditions. Fruit size is on the small side due to lack of moisture; growers who can should keep irrigation running. Insect pests worth noting include apple maggot fly and codling moth. Grapes are nearing veraison; bird protection should be installed soon.

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Another dry week. Haying progress continues where it was taken off early enough to grow back! Corn is in desperate need of rain.

FRANKLIN/GRAND ISLE, Heather Darby

Conditions remain hot and dry. Received a small amount of moisture but highly variable among the region. Some farms received an inch while others even miles away received no precipitation. Corn is flowering many fields and some drought stress (curled leaves) can be seen. Pollination may be highly impacted. Third cut began over the last few weeks and hay yields a bit low but quality decent.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Very spotty showers in Franklin County have been a great relief, pending on where you live. Rains have literally drawn lines in the County where it rains and does not. Grasses have responded nicely to any moisture that has happened to come along. Corn is doing great with the jury still out on any ear development problems due to dry conditions. Sweet corn is finally arriving at the farm stands and seems to be in good supply. Apples are next on the horizon and there seem to be lots of green apples beginning to turn a little red.