



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
Week ending August 21, 2016

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov
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Excellent week for field work: New England averaged 6.0 days suitable for field work last week.

Drought conditions worsened last week in many parts of New England with few showers providing relief per the U.S. Drought Monitor. The average weekly temperatures ranged from normal to eleven degrees above normal in the six states. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 2.82 inches throughout the region. Eastern Massachusetts was particularly hard hit on the eastern coastal areas and classified as D3 Extreme Drought. Other areas were the southeastern part of New Hampshire. Other states either had moderate drought to severe drought or were abnormally dry in significant parts. The warm temperatures pushed many vegetables ahead of season and corn continued to look good. Second cutting and third cuttings of hay were underway but remained minimal. Barely harvest was just wrapping up. Operators irrigated in areas where water resources were still available. Additionally, farmers were busy cultivating, hoeing, harvesting, monitoring pest pressures, spraying pesticides for insects and diseases. This was also true of orchardists as they also monitored for pests among their normal duties of pruning trees, mowing orchard floors, and moving bins into orchards. Powdery mildew on winter squash and pumpkins was of concern in some areas. Blueberry harvest came to an end except for special, late growing varieties while raspberry harvest continued. Farm stands remained open despite the heat with an abundance of produce.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending August 21, 2016 (in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	32	36	29	3
SUBSOIL	28	35	34	3

Crop Conditions as of August 21, 2016 (in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	1	6	33	46	14
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME)	0	0	0	48	52
CORN	3	10	30	36	21
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	5	20	70	5
DRY HAY	6	9	29	54	2
OATS (ME)	0	0	0	66	34
PASTURE AND RANGE	18	43	29	8	2
PEACHES	91	1	4	3	1
PEARS	1	7	54	37	1
POTATOES (ME)	0	0	0	50	50
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	2	3	12	49	34
RYE (ME)	0	0	0	39	61

Crop Progress as of August 21, 2016 (in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: HARVESTED	8
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: HARVESTED	84
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): HARVESTED	52
DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING	86
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	43
OATS (ME): HARVESTED	6
PEACHES: HARVESTED	47
PEARS: HARVESTED	5
RYE (ME): HARVESTED	40
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	61

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

August 21, 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	57	73	+5	0.55	1	11.09	-5.74	48	1806	+126	3025
	Bangor_Intl_Air	88	54	70	+4	0.48	2	11.14	-4.20	53	1965	+377	3187
	Bethel	84	52	68	+2	0.36	1	15.32	-3.60	42	1575	+54	2729
	Bridgton	84	54	67	+3	0.18	1	14.75	-3.81	43	1579	+183	2744
	Caribou_Municip	82	51	66	+4	1.34	3	19.62	+3.59	60	1480	+237	2601
	Dover-Foxcroft	84	50	67	+4	1.89	3	14.60	-2.72	56	1492	+250	2636
	Durham	90	55	70	+3	0.28	2	12.60	-4.91	49	1672	+135	2881
	East_Surry	84	53	68	+2	0.78	2	13.90	-3.12	56	1413	-44	2587
	Eustis	79	46	64	+4	0.87	3	12.00	-4.61	52	1263	+295	2340
	Frenchville	80	52	65	+3	0.83	3	15.73	-0.64	62	1340	+194	2431
	Harmony	87	52	68	+3	0.77	2	14.42	-2.69	45	1572	+143	2754
	Houlton	82	47	64	0	1.45	4	16.55	+0.84	58	1399	+131	2532
	Livermore_Falls	90	51	69	+6	0.61	1	12.38	-6.47	42	1564	+308	2726
	Millinocket_Wtr	82	49	65	0	1.23	4	14.10	-3.64	46	1377	-61	2485
	Moosehead	81	48	65	+4	1.65	4	15.65	-2.41	57	1328	+245	2415
	Portland_ME	94	59	74	+8	0.45	1	10.81	-5.88	45	1808	+302	3035
	Rangeley_2NW	82	48	64	+3	1.00	3	13.51	-3.73	60	1185	+109	2244
	Sanford	92	56	72	+4	0.50	1	11.35	-6.91	39	1815	+79	3022
	Topsfield_2	81	55	66	+1	2.58	3	17.23	-0.50	57	1468	+107	2616
	Turner	86	56	70	+2	0.31	1	13.28	-4.09	50	1706	-104	2883
	Wesley_2W	89	49	69	+4	1.10	1	14.79	-1.26	40	1528	+165	2694
	West_Rockport	88	55	71	+6	1.24	3	14.58	-3.31	51	1619	+227	2797
	Whiting	87	52	70	+6	1.62	3	13.49	-4.98	46	1573	+429	2772
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	83	50	66	+2	0.89	4	13.73	-3.35	54	1454	+100	2595
	Bradford_2	87	49	67	+2	0.18	1	12.15	-6.23	40	1531	-100	2697
	Colebrook	82	48	65	+3	1.33	4	15.37	-2.48	70	1264	+19	2333
	Concord	94	56	75	+8	0.18	1	8.89	-6.19	52	2091	+387	3344
	East_Milford	92	58	73	+5	0.06	1	8.71	-9.01	52	2008	+200	3271
	Epping	92	57	73	+6	0.13	1	10.12	-7.06	50	1903	+192	3139
	Errol_AP	82	45	65	+3	0.94	1	14.80	-1.71	50	1278	+155	2363
	Greenville	88	58	72	+8	0.00	0	10.04	-8.03	45	1773	+322	2991
	Hancock	90	55	71	+5	0.01	1	12.07	-6.06	56	1759	+179	2956
	Jaffrey_Silver_	88	57	72	+8	0.07	1	11.60	-6.47	51	1957	+506	3195
	Jefferson	82	53	66	+3	1.29	2	16.09	-1.55	57	1507	+93	2645
	Keene_AG	90	54	71	+5	0.02	1	13.73	-3.59	50	1849	+203	3080
	Lakeport_2	88	58	72	+4	0.57	1	12.63	-4.61	42	2004	+246	3236
	Lebanon	88	54	73	+7	0.15	1	15.19	+0.24	51	1994	+390	3212
	North_Conway	90	55	71	+4	0.37	1	15.22	-3.77	50	1786	+188	2963
	Tamworth_4	84	50	66	+3	0.30	1	17.05	-3.79	51	1440	+145	2591
	Wolfeburro	83	56	70	+2	0.68	1	13.40	-3.84	48	1797	+39	3032
Vermont	Averill	81	43	64	+5	1.30	2	18.11	-1.89	44	1270	+326	2307
	Bennington_AP	86	53	72	+9	0.13	2	13.20	-7.55	59	1893	+539	3145
	Burlington_Intl	88	57	74	+7	0.95	1	11.99	-4.36	54	2183	+410	3395
	Corinth	85	51	66	+2	2.82	3	15.66	+0.29	52	1404	-48	2533
	Johnson_2N	81	50	66	+3	0.87	2	18.68	+0.56	56	1426	+70	2548
	Marlboro_Raws	82	55	69	+6	0.08	3	15.73	-1.33	55	1722	+403	2929
	Montpelier_AP	83	52	69	+5	2.07	2	16.40	+1.03	52	1566	+114	2717
	Newport_AG	82	53	68	+2	0.96	3	16.15	-1.48	58	1557	-89	2673

		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	85	53	69	+5	0.40	2	13.86	-5.90	43	1558	+173	2720
	Rutland_AG	86	53	70	+4	0.59	5	13.71	-3.95	63	1711	+17	2901
	Springfield_VT	87	55	72	+7	0.08	1	10.48	-8.56	47	1852	+330	3072
	South_Lincoln	84	53	67	+5	1.08	1	14.65	-6.24	48	1384	+191	2515
	Sutton	80	52	66	+4	1.55	2	20.75	+2.27	64	1408	+185	2525
	Walden	78	49	63	0	2.09	3	19.85	+1.37	64	1137	-86	2192
	Woodstock	85	54	70	+4	0.20	1	12.75	-4.11	44	1773	+237	2962
Massachusetts	Amherst	92	58	75	+7	0.10	2	10.59	-7.85	50	2083	+248	3371
	Barre_Falls_Dam	92	57	74	+9	0.26	1	12.24	-6.60	54	1896	+445	3115
	Bedford_Hanscom	95	59	77	+8	0.05	1	7.23	-10.29	49	2187	+311	3478
	Beverly_Ag	92	60	75	+4	0.08	1	10.80	-5.08	49	1824	-136	3080
	Birch_Hill_Dam	89	57	72	+7	0.04	1	12.46	-5.82	49	1867	+396	3103
	Boston_Logan_In	96	65	79	+7	0.00	0	8.71	-6.66	44	2311	+223	3624
	Chatham_AP	89	63	77	+9	0.00	0	10.79	-5.86	47	1939	+471	3197
	Chicopee_Westov	93	57	76	+8	0.01	1	11.36	-7.08	46	2194	+359	3488
	Edgartown	88	63	77	+7	0.00	0	13.39	-3.66	47	1999	+275	3300
	East_Brimfield_	88	60	74	+7	0.39	4	16.54	-1.35	67	1917	+239	3172
	Fitchburg	94	63	77	+8	0.11	1	9.11	-9.77	44	2375	+466	3680
	Greenfield	92	57	74	+7	0.14	2	12.41	-6.03	57	2050	+215	3319
	Hyannis_AP	92	62	77	+8	0.00	0	11.28	-4.05	42	2006	+320	3279
	Maynard	96	58	76	+7	0.74	2	11.14	-6.38	53	2193	+317	3483
	New_Bedford	96	60	79	+6	0.00	0	12.87	-5.72	48	2149	+71	3440
	Newburyport	94	60	74	+5	0.02	1	9.22	-8.30	50	1967	+79	3216
	North_Adams_Har	87	51	73	+8	0.07	2	15.40	-5.65	60	1906	+491	3157
	Norwood	95	54	76	+6	0.19	2	9.09	-8.24	47	2110	+155	3408
	Pittsfield	86	51	71	+6	0.27	3	14.95	-5.40	57	1796	+215	3039
	Plymouth	97	60	77	+7	0.00	0	10.89	-6.98	48	2096	+198	3362
	Taunton_4NW	97	59	78	+9	0.08	1	13.78	-3.92	57	2242	+333	3539
	Westfield_Barne	95	58	77	+11	0.05	2	11.39	-7.68	53	2286	+685	3587
	West_Otis	90	60	75	+9	0.27	4	15.34	-6.63	69	2044	+530	3323
	Worcester	89	63	74	+7	0.16	3	11.24	-7.96	54	2019	+313	3283
	Worthington	86	52	70	+5	0.10	3	15.65	-4.97	59	1646	+175	2849
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	89	63	77	+7	0.03	1	10.45	-5.91	49	2035	+267	3335
	Providence	96	67	79	+8	0.00	0	14.06	-2.89	51	2370	+309	3693
	Westerly-Wester	91	66	78	+8	0.00	0	12.85	-5.11	46	2126	+251	3437
	Woonsocket	94	63	77	+8	0.43	1	14.81	-3.47	51	2213	+278	3515
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	94	71	81	+9	0.00	0	14.94	-2.95	54	2531	+401	3881
	Danbury_AP	90	60	76	+7	0.45	3	14.09	-6.70	60	2175	+167	3493
	Hartford_Bradle	96	61	78	+8	0.60	2	12.18	-6.24	54	2452	+304	3781
	Meriden-Meriden	95	67	80	+10	0.17	2	11.35	-9.69	55	2432	+490	3766
	Norfolk	86	56	72	+6	0.14	2	14.88	-7.09	53	1816	+302	3044
	Norwich	96	67	78	+8	0.02	1	14.18	-5.13	45	2306	+247	3629
	Staffordville	90	61	74	+6	0.18	1	14.55	-4.95	47	1820	+90	3064
	Thomaston_Dam	95	57	76	+8	0.07	2	13.06	-7.07	64	2159	+406	3456
	West_Thompson_L	90	61	75	+7	0.40	2	15.41	-4.54	53	1982	+238	3249
	Willimantic	94	65	78	+11	0.20	2	13.12	-6.38	60	2382	+652	3713

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

I'm still finding sweet corn fields that were so badly hurt by the drought that they will not make marketable corn. Almost all the pumpkins and winter squash are turning color and maturing early. It is asking a lot of fungicides to protect mature fruit in the field for a month or two - they should be harvested/cured ASAP. Downy mildew has arrived on cucumbers and melons. Corn earworms finally arrived in numbers last week. Some growers just put on their first applications for CEW on fresh, silking corn. One year we made it all the way to Labor Day, but I think this is the second-latest CEW infestation in 30 years. The traps saved countless hours that growers would have used to spray a pest that wasn't in their fields.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Hot, humid weather for the past few weeks has caused stress on dairy cows and brought production down. Providing cooling misters/fans and good quantity of fresh water to help alleviate the heat issues. Scattered showers have helped crops and brought on vigorous weed growth. Mowing fields, mowing orchards, picking Ginger Gold, Paula Red and other early apple varieties. Apple trees vary throughout the orchard from full of fruit to barely any fruit. Blueberry picking continues. Good crop of tomatoes.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Plenty of rain this last week. Barley harvest is in full swing. The yields are above average, but the marketing is tough. Dry hay yields were huge this year, but with on and off rain, it was hard to make. Early potato varieties are starting to die back.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Rain overnight is providing some hope for 3rd cut hay. Second cut hay was down 60% or more. Pastures remain dried out, farmers are feeding more hay to their animals this summer. Weed control has been an issue this year due to herbicide applied during the dry weather. Most silage corn doesn't look too bad.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

There was a nice rain early this morning. Crops are just starting to respond to the recent rainfalls. Pastures and grasses were so dormant from the drought, they will take a while to get growing again. There was permanent damage on many crops: field corn, hay and vegetables. Apples are one crop that seems to be above average.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Nearly 17% of Massachusetts is now classified as "Extreme Drought". Nearly all of Essex County, all of Suffolk County and sizable portions of Middlesex and Norfolk Counties fall in the "Extreme Drought" category.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

The drought continues despite small amounts of rain. Farm stands are flooded with many crops. Potatoes and onions are starting to cure. Squash are starting to come in and producers are gambling on when to harvest.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Another dry week as cranberry growers report depleted water supplies. Reports of an inch of rain over Sunday night into Monday (the 22nd) are welcome but will not do much to alleviate the drought.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP, Kelly McAdam

Some short periods of heavy rain last week.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Barley harvest finishing up, some baled hay coming in with weather fairly cooperative. Very heavy soaking rain occurred this past Sunday night. Soil moisture was at good levels as field corn ears starting to fill. First sweet corn at farm stands was available.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

We had light rain over the weekend, but still need more. I've heard reports of a couple farms in the county running out of water for livestock.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

For the week ending August 20, 2016, top soil conditions remained drier than normal. Light scattered showers on the 19th provided some relief for drought affected areas. Some areas of the county remain very dry, with hay crops suffering the most. Corn on some well drained soils are under significant drought stress. Several farms have reported that the water supply for their barns and livestock has gone dry. The Connecticut River valley is fairing much better than some areas to the south and east in Grafton County.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Rain is helping in the short term, but rainfall has been over eight inches below normal since April 1st in major vegetable and fruit growing areas in southern New Hampshire. Among farms in the area where little rainfall has occurred, growers are irrigating constantly if water resources are available. Fruit: Orchardists harvesting apples picking Paula Red, Ginger Gold, and other early season apples. Orchardists busy monitoring for pests, applying stop

drop materials, summer pruning trees, mowing orchard floors, fixing up orchard roads and moving bins into the orchard. Highbush blueberry harvest is over except for those few growers who have late maturing varieties, and fall raspberry harvest continued. Spotted Wing Drosophila fruit fly trapped at most farms that are being monitored with population building. Raspberry and Blueberry growers would be well advised to monitor for SWD (spotted wing drosophila) within their plantings, and in woods adjacent to their plantings. Vegetables: Farmers kept busy harvesting, cultivating, hoeing weeds, monitoring pest pressures, spraying pesticides for insects and diseases. The warm temperatures pushed vegetables ahead of normal crop times. Growers are harvesting an array of vegetables; where demand continues to average to good. Powdery mildew can be found on pumpkins and winter squash. Field Crops: Some greening of hay fields and pastures. Silage corn has uncurled in most areas and is tasseling - forming ears. Rain will help fill ears if it continues weekly.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Harvesting early apple varieties: Jersey Mac's, Paula Reds, Tydemans, Zestar and green Gravensteins. Apple size is small. Also picking a whole array of vegetables including sweet corn, potatoes, and onions. Harvesting small fruits: blueberries, raspberries, blackberries and a great selection of herbs. Cultivating, monitoring pest and spraying if needed. Not much regrowth with pastures or hay. Filed corn height short compared to other seasons. Another very dry, hot and humid week ending with isolated showers on Sunday evening into very early Monday morning. The western part of Rockingham County is declared by the U.S. Drought Monitor with extreme drought as the rest of the county declared with severe drought.

SULLIVAN, Jennifer Z. Gehly

It was another warm, mostly dry week in Sullivan County. High temperatures were in the upper 70s to low 80s. Rain fell during the overnight hours Tuesday into Wednesday. Approximately 0.2 inches fell. More rain, in the form of steady, heavier showers fell during the evening and overnight hours on Sunday. Up to 1.5 inches of rainfall was seen. Producers kept busy during the week harvesting hay. 2nd cut is short and light. Field corn still is in good condition. Vegetables are plentiful. The blueberry harvest is going strong with bushes loaded with berries. Early season apples are available as well.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

Need rain very badly. Brief evening showers did nothing to help alleviate drought conditions.

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

Rhode Island continues to be in a drought. Mollusk production is in full swing. Corn continues to be harvested throughout the state the sweet corn is excellent right now. The second cutting of hay has started. Due to the abnormally dry weather, hay production is low.

VERMONT

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

More rain fell this week making crop conditions improve.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Rains continue to happen at ideal times to keep crop growth going. Corn is looking fantastic. Still not enough moisture to recharge ground supplies and many wells are dry keeping well drillers in demand and costly. Grass continues to be harvested with many producers on their fourth cut. Sweet corn continues to be plentiful after a slow start and baskets are full at the farm stands.