



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending September 4, 2016

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Excellent week for field work: New England averaged 7.0 days suitable for field work last week.

Drought conditions held steady over the past week from the prior week with rainfall in some areas providing relief. The average weekly temperatures ranged from normal to eight degrees above normal in the six states. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 2.91 inches throughout most of the region, with most places on the lower end of the range; however, Sutton, Vermont experienced 4.09 inches of rainfall. Coastal areas in Massachusetts up into New Hampshire saw the worst conditions in the region according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. More areas announced water use restrictions. Ponds and other water sources were very low and fields showed drought stress with second cuttings of hay very thin. Despite the conditions, soybeans and field corn began to fill out in areas where soil moisture was good. Additionally; this past week's harvest included: grapes, apples, herbs, tomatoes, zucchini, beans, beets, cucumbers, greens, potatoes, broccoli, cabbage, radishes, summer squash, and sweet corn among others. Late blueberries and raspberries were also being harvested. Fruit size continued to be a challenge as well as the Spotted Wing Drosophila fruit fly, which was reported as increasing in population. Cranberry growers were concerned with absence of rain and challenges posed. Operators began cleaning fields and were busy irrigating where possible. Pick-Your-Own (PYO) pumpkins operations were busy last week and farm stands still had a wide variety of produce.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending September 4, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	31	35	30	4
SUBSOIL	25	32	40	3

Crop Conditions as of September 4, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	1	8	36	47	8
CORN	3	8	28	37	24
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	5	20	70	5
DRY HAY	3	7	32	53	5
OATS (ME)	0	0	0	48	52
PASTURE AND RANGE	19	38	31	12	0
PEARS	1	8	54	36	1
POTATOES (ME)	0	0	0	32	68
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	3	4	16	46	31

Crop Progress as of September 4, 2016

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: HARVESTED	23
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: HARVESTED	97
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): HARVESTED	70
DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING	91
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	55
OATS (ME): HARVESTED	24
PEACHES: HARVESTED	63
PEARS: HARVESTED	17
POTATOES (ME): HARVESTED	17
RYE (ME): HARVESTED	90
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	77

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

September 5, 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	81	52	68	+4	0.00	0	12.17	-6.20	50	2077	+181	3436
	Bangor_Intl_Air	82	46	67	+4	0.02	1	11.94	-4.85	56	2223	+433	3585
	Bethel	79	47	64	+2	0.05	2	16.43	-4.35	46	1807	+98	3101
	Bridgton	78	48	63	+3	0.18	1	16.13	-4.14	46	1788	+226	3093
	Caribou_Municip	79	50	64	+6	0.63	4	21.44	+3.66	68	1718	+338	2979
	Dover-Foxcroft	79	46	64	+5	0.15	3	15.69	-3.39	61	1719	+328	3003
	Durham	82	48	65	+3	0.14	2	14.17	-4.86	53	1912	+168	3261
	East_Surry	81	48	66	+3	0.00	0	15.05	-3.51	57	1640	-14	2954
	Eustis	74	42	59	+3	1.17	5	14.37	-3.92	59	1432	+356	2649
	Frenchville	77	47	63	+5	0.20	4	17.08	-1.07	70	1551	+278	2782
	Harmony	80	46	64	+4	0.25	1	15.37	-3.42	47	1800	+201	3122
	Houlton	79	43	63	+5	0.02	1	17.92	+0.53	61	1619	+210	2892
	Livermore_Falls	80	44	64	+5	0.30	2	13.68	-6.99	45	1785	+379	3087
	Millinocket_Wtr	79	44	64	+3	0.11	4	14.71	-4.84	52	1603	-5	2851
	Moosehead	76	46	62	+5	0.60	3	17.55	-2.27	61	1537	+326	2764
	Portland_ME	86	51	70	+7	0.00	0	11.56	-6.53	47	2102	+398	3469
	Rangeley_2NW	77	41	60	+3	0.66	3	15.35	-3.71	65	1359	+157	2558
	Sanford	82	49	67	+3	0.12	2	13.62	-6.32	43	2077	+122	3424
	Topsfield_2	78	50	65	+4	0.20	2	18.38	-1.10	62	1698	+165	2986
	Turner	79	52	67	+2	0.06	1	14.37	-4.44	52	1962	-79	3279
	Wesley_2W	83	43	65	+4	0.04	1	16.03	-1.58	43	1761	+223	3067
	West_Rockport	80	53	68	+6	0.05	1	15.72	-3.76	54	1878	+293	3196
	Whiting	86	49	67	+7	0.00	0	13.71	-6.34	47	1823	+516	3162
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	80	44	62	+2	1.74	3	16.62	-2.23	58	1647	+137	2928
	Bradford_2	84	42	64	+1	0.00	0	13.20	-6.84	43	1742	-80	3048
	Colebrook	80	45	61	+2	1.46	4	18.30	-1.49	78	1447	+61	2656
	Concord	88	47	70	+6	0.00	0	9.83	-6.65	55	2388	+474	3781
	East_Milford	86	48	68	+4	0.00	0	9.70	-9.76	53	2283	+252	3686
	Epping	86	46	68	+4	0.00	0	10.73	-8.06	51	2171	+245	3547
	Errol_AP	80	41	60	+2	1.05	3	16.89	-1.33	54	1447	+191	2672
	Greenville	84	47	67	+6	0.00	0	10.63	-9.17	46	2033	+410	3391
	Hancock	85	47	65	+3	0.00	0	12.96	-6.99	58	1989	+218	3326
	Jaffrey_Silver_	84	49	67	+6	0.00	0	12.27	-7.53	53	2213	+590	3591
	Jefferson	81	45	63	+3	0.86	3	18.06	-1.40	62	1719	+147	2997
	Keene_AG	87	46	65	+2	0.00	0	14.57	-4.45	53	2090	+245	3461
	Lakeport_2	86	51	69	+4	0.00	0	13.77	-5.01	44	2286	+303	3658
	Lebanon	86	45	67	+5	0.00	0	16.81	+0.18	54	2259	+461	3617
	North_Conway	85	47	66	+3	0.00	0	16.25	-4.51	52	2035	+246	3352
	Tamworth_4	79	42	62	+3	0.04	1	18.30	-4.52	54	1633	+192	2924
	Wolfeburro	81	54	68	+3	0.00	0	14.53	-4.25	51	2054	+71	3429
Vermont	Averill	79	40	60	+4	2.15	3	21.31	-0.82	48	1452	+404	2629
	Bennington_AP	85	46	66	+7	0.00	0	14.35	-8.50	61	2134	+628	3526
	Burlington_Intl	87	50	69	+5	0.16	2	12.51	-5.66	58	2483	+502	3835
	Corinth	78	45	61	+1	0.01	1	17.10	-0.04	55	1582	-35	2851
	Johnson_2N	81	45	62	+2	2.91	3	21.96	+1.80	61	1619	+112	2881
	Marlboro_Raws	83	49	65	+5	0.00	0	16.58	-2.38	57	1946	+475	3293
	Montpelier_AP	83	46	64	+4	0.15	2	17.55	+0.41	56	1779	+162	3070
	Newport_AG	83	45	63	0	1.64	3	18.30	-1.15	63	1766	-69	3022

		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	45	64	+3	0.09	1	14.85	-7.04	47	1768	+216	3070
	Rutland_AG	85	43	63	0	0.00	0	14.34	-5.17	63	1902	+11	3232
	Springfield_VT	84	45	66	+5	0.00	0	12.03	-8.86	50	2097	+397	3457
	South_Lincoln	80	41	60	+2	0.03	1	15.40	-7.82	51	1551	+226	2822
	Sutton	78	46	62	+4	4.09	4	26.04	+5.51	70	1603	+245	2860
	Walden	78	41	59	0	1.00	3	21.99	+1.46	70	1282	-76	2477
	Woodstock	85	44	65	+4	0.00	0	13.70	-4.81	47	2009	+293	3338
Massachusetts	Amherst	88	50	68	+4	0.00	0	11.04	-9.33	51	2358	+298	3786
	Barre_Falls_Dam	86	48	66	+5	0.09	2	13.20	-7.58	58	2147	+522	3506
	Bedford_Hanscom	89	48	70	+5	0.01	1	7.80	-11.39	52	2492	+381	3923
	Beverly_Ag	86	52	70	+2	0.01	1	11.57	-6.03	50	2116	-106	3512
	Birch_Hill_Dam	84	47	66	+4	0.01	1	12.96	-7.05	51	2106	+456	3482
	Boston_Logan_In	90	60	72	+4	0.02	1	9.63	-7.28	46	2648	+284	4101
	Chatham_AP	87	57	71	+6	0.11	1	11.44	-6.84	52	2251	+553	3649
	Chicopee_Westov	88	47	69	+4	0.06	1	11.97	-8.40	48	2478	+418	3912
	Edgartown	88	57	72	+5	0.20	2	13.97	-4.86	50	2323	+345	3764
	East_Brimfield_	82	53	68	+5	0.94	2	18.83	-0.88	68	2172	+284	3567
	Fitchburg	88	52	71	+6	0.00	0	9.42	-11.42	45	2690	+543	4135
	Greenfield	88	51	68	+4	0.00	0	13.06	-7.31	58	2323	+263	3732
	Hyannis_AP	88	54	72	+5	0.12	2	11.72	-5.21	48	2324	+392	3737
	Maynard	93	50	70	+5	0.05	2	12.38	-6.81	57	2489	+378	3919
	New_Bedford	92	53	71	+2	0.26	2	13.44	-7.20	51	2467	+97	3898
	Newburyport	86	51	68	+3	0.10	2	9.59	-9.63	52	2256	+129	3645
	North_Adams_Har	85	47	66	+5	0.11	1	16.18	-6.91	63	2151	+566	3542
	Norwood	90	46	69	+3	0.12	2	9.98	-9.17	51	2396	+196	3834
	Pittsfield	83	49	66	+4	0.00	0	15.74	-6.67	59	2032	+264	3415
	Plymouth	92	55	71	+4	0.18	2	11.40	-8.49	51	2409	+255	3815
	Taunton_4NW	92	56	71	+5	0.21	2	14.48	-5.18	61	2564	+409	4001
	Westfield_Barne	88	51	70	+8	0.02	2	12.05	-8.96	56	2583	+788	4024
	West_Otis	86	51	69	+7	0.14	2	16.33	-7.74	73	2319	+617	3738
	Worcester	83	55	69	+5	0.00	0	12.64	-8.49	55	2301	+380	3705
	Worthington	84	48	65	+3	0.04	2	16.52	-6.14	63	1866	+218	3209
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	89	60	72	+4	0.17	1	10.99	-7.11	51	2355	+321	3795
	Providence	90	60	72	+5	0.49	2	15.29	-3.48	54	2709	+380	4172
	Westerly-Wester	91	57	71	+4	0.22	2	13.95	-6.08	49	2439	+305	3890
	Woonsocket	89	55	71	+5	0.14	2	15.85	-4.39	54	2524	+345	3966
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	91	61	75	+6	0.63	2	15.96	-3.61	57	2900	+480	4390
	Danbury_AP	85	49	69	+3	0.48	2	16.35	-6.64	63	2451	+200	3909
	Hartford_Bradle	89	53	72	+5	0.35	2	13.64	-6.68	57	2774	+365	4243
	Meriden-Meriden	91	56	73	+7	0.01	1	12.52	-10.62	57	2765	+576	4239
	Norfolk	83	51	66	+5	0.02	1	15.42	-8.65	56	2061	+359	3429
	Norwich	89	57	71	+4	0.10	1	15.18	-6.32	47	2617	+296	4080
	Staffordville	84	51	67	+3	0.26	1	16.36	-5.09	49	2076	+130	3460
	Thomaston_Dam	90	50	69	+5	0.12	2	14.97	-7.26	68	2433	+462	3870
	West_Thompson_L	85	52	68	+3	0.08	1	16.39	-5.52	55	2244	+279	3651
	Willimantic	88	53	71	+7	0.17	2	15.02	-6.43	63	2693	+747	4164

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

NEW LONDON, Sarah Woodward

Aside from some strong winds, the majority of Hermine seems to have missed the county, very little rain received. Silage corn chopping is well underway, producers taking advantage of the dry weather last week. Others harvesting tomatoes, sweet corn, onions, winter squash, raspberries, apples and pears.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

A few early potatoes are being harvested, the crop looks excellent so far. Barley harvest is winding down and oat harvest is getting underway. Both have above average yields and average to above average test weights. Some second crop hay is being cut. With a late start on the first cutting, growth has been slow causing light yields for the second cut.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Dry weather conditions continue. There will be no 3rd crop hay. Silage will start being cut in another week. Vegetables continue to be harvested from irrigated fields. Pick-your-own (PYO) apples are starting to open.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

We could use some rain from the hurricane. Some third cut hay is coming in. Several producers are waiting for a little more regrowth. The apple crop looks good here.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Butternut squash and pumpkin harvest underway. Aerial seeding of rye by helicopter continue across the state.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Crop conditions continue to worsen as the drought deepens. Producers have reported that they will be processing corn for silage sooner with poor ear size and poor growth. Vegetable crops without irrigation are suffering badly. Farm stands are showing a wide range of crops. Many farmers are tilling under failed crops. Pastures are failing with lack of regrowth of grass. Any rain would be welcomed by all.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

High hopes for some rain from Hermine but it is looking like more wind than rain at this point. Cranberry growers face huge challenges for harvesting the crop if there is not substantial rain soon.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/HILLSBOROUGH/MERRIMACK, Donna Juneau
Hillsborough and Merrimack County farmers are reporting numerous negative impacts due to drought including farm ponds, seeps, seasonal springs and wells running dry resulting in a lack of water for both livestock and irrigation water for fruits and vegetables; reduced water quality in both surface water and groundwater; no to very low second crop of hay forage production; low fruit, vegetable and milk production; reduced size of fruits and vegetables; increased insect infestations; increased wild animal damage (as they forage for food); livestock deaths due to excess heat; huge financial impact as producers have no or low quantities of crops to sell with investments on seed, fertilizer and labor showing little to no return; and additional expenses looming including the need to buy in feed for animals due to lack of production on the farm.

BELKNAP, Kelly McAdam

Light second cut of hay, some areas had no rain this week others just minimal.

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

Conditions remain dry, with growers being very selective on water use as most wells and streams are running low. Hay being fed out to animals on pasture, corn silage yield is expected to be depressed. Spotted Wing affecting late bearing blueberries, some farms have closed for picking due to damage. Tomatoes, eggplant, peppers still coming in, close to winter squash harvest.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Pleasant weather most of the week, but things have begun to dry out again and we could use rain. Field corn looking decent, some farms getting ready to chop this week. Decent weather for haying, though yields are still low. Vegetable crops still doing well. Beginning of Pick-Your-Own (PYO) season for apples continues.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Field corn and soybeans starting to fill out. Generally good soil moisture conditions. Some late hay being mowed and tedded. Grass meadows re-growing well. Fall asters in bloom. There's some splashes of color in swamp maples.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

With very little rain last week, it's still dry here. Blueberry season is almost over, sweet corn is tailing off, and apple and pumpkin harvest is beginning. The earliest silage corn fields are close to harvest.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Vegetables: Irrigating to safe unharvested crop if water is available. Harvesting an array of vegetables: beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, greens, potatoes, radishes, summer squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, zucchini, and other vegetables. Sweet corn growers are monitoring insect pressures and spraying accordingly. Downy mildew seen on cucumbers. Some farmers are starting to cleaning

up harvested fields and planting cover crops. Fruit: Orchardists harvesting Paula Red, Zestar, Ginger Gold, and beginning of Marshall McIntosh apples. Also, harvesting late highbush blueberries and fall raspberries. Irrigating, weeding and fertilizing strawberry beds. Spotted Wind Drosophila fruit fly population continues to increase rapidly. Picking table grapes. Field Crops: Chopping corn silage, starting with drought stressed fields. Yields are were half of normal. Many farmers delaying forage seeding due to drought conditions.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Harvesting grapes, apples and a whole array of vegetables including greens and herbs. Also harvesting shelling beans and edamame. The nice weather over the Labor Day week-end brought good traffic to PYO apple operations. Some of the apple varieties being picked are Burgundy, Ginger Gold, Paula Red, Tydeman, and Zestar. Smaller apple size is non-irrigated fields. Also PYO pumpkin fields have been very busy. Growers busy irrigating. Ponds are dry and river levels are low. More towns announced for watering gardens restrictions and bans to encourage the wise use of water. Cleaning some of the vegetable fields that have been harvested. Second hay crop is thin. Field corn thin too. Spreading manure.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

Rhode Island received a well needed, half inch of rain on Thursday. Due to the dry conditions, crop yields are down. Apple growers are reporting smaller apples due to the drought. Silage corn growth is also stunted due to the dry weather. This year was a shorter harvesting season for blueberry growers due to the excessive heat and dry conditions.

VERMONT

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Another dry week. Corn is starting to roll and pastures have stopped growing. 3rd cutting hay has been short and light.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Much hay harvest in Franklin County this week with great quality and good yields. Even had weather that dry hay could be made. Corn continues to mature nicely and is looking better every day. Pastures have rebounded with the much needed moisture and sun. Much orange is showing up at roadside stands making way for the great pumpkins arrival