



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending September 11, 2016

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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

Drought conditions persisted throughout much of the New England region from the prior week. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.02 to 1.25 inches throughout the region. The weekly temperature ranged from three to thirteen degrees above normal. The D3 Extreme Drought classification remained throughout the coastal areas of Massachusetts and expanded into a broader area into southern New Hampshire. The remaining parts of New England ranged from abnormally dry to a D2 Severe Drought classification with only the northernmost parts of Maine not impacted. Hay cutting continued this past week despite poorer yields and corn matured nicely in areas that were normal or only abnormally dry. Some heavy rains in areas improved pasture conditions. Water restrictions were still in place. Operators focused on chopping corn, irrigating where available, cleaning vegetable fields, and harvesting a variety of crops including pumpkins, winter squash, herbs, peppers, tomatoes, and kale. Pick-your-own (PYO) operations were busy but some showed concern about lower apple production.

Crop Conditions as of September 11, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	2	7	35	47	9
CORN	3	9	27	32	29
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	5	20	70	5
DRY HAY	3	10	32	47	8
OATS (ME)	0	0	0	55	45
PASTURE AND RANGE	20	37	34	9	0
PEARS	1	7	54	36	2
POTATOES (ME)	0	0	0	30	70
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	3	4	16	48	29

Soil Moisture for Week Ending September 11, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	29	35	32	4
SUBSOIL	27	34	39	0

Crop Progress as of September 11, 2016

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: HARVESTED	32
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): HARVESTED	99
CORN FOR SILAGE: HARVESTED	10
DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING	93
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	64
OATS (ME): HARVESTED	51
PEACHES: HARVESTED	73
PEARS: HARVESTED	22
POTATOES (ME): HARVESTED	22
RYE (ME): HARVESTED	100
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	85

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

September 11, 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	52	71	+10	0.07	3	12.24	-6.96	53	2229	+249	3658
	Bangor_Intl_Air	91	50	71	+11	0.06	2	12.00	-5.56	58	2372	+506	3804
	Bethel	86	49	68	+8	0.02	1	16.45	-5.17	47	1933	+154	3297
	Bridgton	83	49	66	+7	0.08	1	16.21	-4.90	47	1899	+278	3274
	Caribou_Municip	82	51	69	+13	0.31	1	21.75	+3.17	69	1852	+430	3183
	Dover-Foxcroft	87	48	68	+11	0.10	2	15.79	-4.25	63	1849	+411	3203
	Durham	91	48	69	+8	0.05	2	14.22	-5.65	55	2047	+225	3466
	East_Surry	88	47	67	+7	0.26	6	15.31	-4.18	63	1761	+34	3145
	Eustis	82	44	64	+11	0.15	2	14.52	-4.64	61	1533	+425	2820
	Frenchville	83	53	68	+14	1.01	2	18.09	-0.89	72	1681	+370	2982
	Harmony	89	48	69	+11	0.08	3	15.45	-4.25	50	1934	+274	3326
	Houlton	85	45	69	+13	0.06	1	17.98	-0.25	62	1751	+298	3094
	Livermore_Falls	88	47	68	+11	0.31	3	13.99	-7.57	48	1910	+455	3282
	Millinocket_Wtr	86	45	68	+10	0.07	2	14.78	-5.63	54	1731	+65	3049
	Moosehead	81	45	66	+11	0.05	2	17.60	-3.13	63	1653	+402	2950
	Portland_ME	91	51	69	+9	0.07	3	11.63	-7.22	50	2238	+459	3675
	Rangeley_2NW	80	48	66	+11	0.28	2	15.63	-4.28	67	1472	+229	2741
	Sanford	89	49	69	+7	0.25	5	12.95	-7.83	48	2212	+171	3629
	Topsfield_2	85	50	68	+10	0.05	1	18.43	-2.00	63	1826	+233	3184
	Turner	88	49	69	+6	0.11	3	14.48	-5.10	55	2096	-36	3483
	Wesley_2W	86	45	68	+9	0.15	2	16.18	-2.32	45	1885	+284	3261
	West_Rockport	88	49	68	+8	0.11	2	15.78	-4.67	55	2009	+349	3397
	Whiting	92	46	69	+11	0.04	2	13.75	-7.23	49	1959	+593	3368
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	81	47	67	+9	0.07	1	16.69	-3.00	59	1765	+201	3116
	Bradford_2	87	43	67	+7	0.13	2	13.33	-7.55	45	1864	-32	3240
	Colebrook	82	44	66	+9	0.36	3	18.68	-2.02	83	1559	+125	2838
	Concord	94	47	73	+12	0.06	3	9.89	-7.29	58	2550	+557	4013
	East_Milford	90	49	70	+8	0.14	3	9.84	-10.46	56	2423	+303	3896
	Epping	92	47	69	+7	0.05	2	10.78	-8.89	53	2303	+293	3749
	Errol_AP	82	48	67	+11	0.22	3	17.11	-1.95	57	1564	+264	2859
	Greenville	85	50	68	+9	0.36	4	10.99	-9.58	50	2161	+474	3589
	Hancock	89	48	69	+9	0.20	4	12.66	-8.20	62	2123	+280	3530
	Jaffrey_Silver_	88	49	69	+10	0.21	5	12.48	-8.09	58	2349	+662	3797
	Jefferson	80	50	67	+9	0.04	1	18.41	-1.89	62	1814	+186	3162
	Keene_AG	88	47	71	+10	0.06	1	14.63	-5.23	54	2236	+314	3677
	Lakeport_2	89	49	71	+9	0.15	1	13.92	-5.63	45	2433	+363	3875
	Lebanon	89	50	72	+12	0.12	2	16.93	-0.54	56	2413	+543	3841
	North_Conway	88	50	70	+10	0.16	2	16.41	-5.19	54	2176	+317	3563
	Tamworth_4	86	49	68	+12	0.22	3	18.52	-5.23	57	1763	+275	3124
	Wolfeburro	84	55	69	+7	0.13	3	14.66	-4.89	54	2191	+121	3636
Vermont	Averill	82	44	65	+12	1.19	2	22.50	-0.65	50	1562	+483	2809
	Bennington_AP	84	49	71	+13	0.69	2	15.04	-8.90	63	2282	+723	3744
	Burlington_Intl	88	56	75	+14	0.57	2	13.08	-6.00	60	2661	+601	4083
	Corinth	78	48	65	+7	0.06	2	17.16	-0.79	57	1690	+14	3029
	Johnson_2N	82	49	67	+9	1.12	2	23.08	+2.00	63	1737	+177	3069
	Marlboro_Raws	84	49	67	+10	0.25	3	16.83	-2.97	60	2067	+544	3484
	Montpelier_AP	81	50	69	+11	0.58	2	18.13	+0.18	58	1913	+237	3274
	Newport_AG	83	48	68	+8	1.25	2	19.55	-0.81	65	1894	-11	3220

		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	49	69	+10	0.30	1	15.15	-7.74	48	1904	+290	3276
	Rutland_AG	85	47	69	+9	0.43	2	14.77	-5.70	65	2039	+73	3439
	Springfield_VT	88	48	70	+11	0.08	2	12.11	-9.69	52	2241	+476	3671
	South_Lincoln	81	48	66	+11	0.91	2	16.31	-7.98	53	1666	+298	3007
	Sutton	85	50	68	+12	0.17	2	26.21	+4.73	72	1731	+330	3058
	Walden	78	46	64	+9	0.10	2	22.09	+0.61	72	1389	-12	2654
	Woodstock	87	50	70	+11	0.48	1	14.18	-5.17	48	2152	+370	3551
Massachusetts	Amherst	90	51	73	+10	0.10	2	11.14	-10.21	53	2519	+368	4017
	Barre_Falls_Dam	90	43	69	+10	0.30	6	13.50	-8.19	64	2282	+594	3711
	Bedford_Hanscom	92	51	72	+9	0.30	3	8.10	-11.99	55	2647	+443	4148
	Beverly_Ag	88	52	68	+3	0.40	4	11.97	-6.54	54	2251	-83	3717
	Birch_Hill_Dam	89	47	69	+11	0.22	3	13.18	-7.67	54	2242	+527	3688
	Boston_Logan_In	93	60	71	+5	0.25	4	9.88	-7.80	50	2799	+317	4322
	Chatham_AP	86	63	72	+8	0.53	2	11.97	-7.21	54	2403	+603	3871
	Chicopee_Westov	91	50	74	+11	0.45	4	12.42	-8.93	52	2646	+495	4150
	Edgartown	89	62	73	+8	0.73	4	14.70	-4.97	54	2485	+398	3996
	East_Brimfield_	90	51	70	+8	0.43	4	19.40	-1.22	74	2304	+333	3769
	Fitchburg	91	52	73	+10	0.15	2	9.57	-12.25	47	2853	+610	4368
	Greenfield	89	50	72	+10	0.41	3	13.34	-8.01	60	2481	+330	3960
	Hyannis_AP	89	63	74	+9	0.43	1	12.15	-5.55	49	2491	+455	3974
	Maynard	90	47	71	+8	0.20	3	12.58	-7.51	60	2634	+430	4134
	New_Bedford	94	60	75	+8	0.53	3	13.97	-7.61	54	2643	+147	4144
	Newburyport	92	52	69	+6	0.41	3	9.94	-10.19	54	2394	+171	3853
	North_Adams_Har	84	48	70	+12	0.83	3	17.01	-7.06	66	2294	+648	3755
	Norwood	93	51	73	+9	0.68	3	10.66	-9.40	54	2556	+256	4064
	Pittsfield	85	49	71	+11	0.09	4	15.83	-7.56	63	2179	+341	3632
	Plymouth	92	62	74	+9	0.61	3	12.01	-8.97	54	2575	+313	4051
	Taunton_4NW	94	58	74	+10	0.54	3	15.02	-5.58	64	2731	+476	4238
	Westfield_Barne	91	52	75	+15	0.54	2	12.59	-9.33	58	2759	+892	4270
	West_Otis	88	52	72	+12	0.33	3	16.66	-8.46	76	2477	+703	3966
	Worcester	87	55	70	+9	0.38	4	13.02	-9.09	59	2443	+437	3917
	Worthington	84	48	68	+9	0.21	4	16.73	-6.87	67	1995	+281	3408
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	91	59	73	+7	0.54	3	11.53	-7.41	54	2522	+372	4032
	Providence	92	61	75	+10	0.18	2	15.47	-4.19	56	2884	+442	4417
	Westerly-Wester	87	59	74	+9	0.77	5	14.72	-6.29	54	2610	+366	4131
	Woonsocket	91	57	74	+10	0.25	3	16.10	-5.12	57	2690	+411	4202
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	90	62	77	+10	0.12	1	16.08	-4.33	58	3093	+548	4653
	Danbury_AP	86	50	74	+10	0.13	2	16.48	-7.70	65	2618	+267	4146
	Hartford_Bradle	92	53	75	+10	0.14	2	13.78	-7.52	59	2951	+435	4490
	Meriden-Meriden	92	58	77	+13	0.51	3	13.03	-11.23	60	2957	+665	4501
	Norfolk	82	53	69	+9	1.09	3	16.51	-8.61	59	2198	+424	3636
	Norwich	92	58	74	+9	0.49	3	15.67	-6.85	50	2790	+358	4323
	Staffordville	87	52	70	+9	0.16	2	16.52	-5.91	51	2220	+190	3674
	Thomaston_Dam	93	50	73	+11	0.57	2	15.54	-7.79	70	2601	+541	4108
	West_Thompson_L	89	54	71	+9	0.06	3	16.45	-6.40	58	2395	+342	3872
	Willimantic	93	54	75	+13	0.08	1	15.10	-7.33	64	2871	+841	4412

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

Pepper maggots spread to almost every vegetable farm in CT this year. Populations on colonized farms are expected to increase next year unless managed well. Consider perimeter trap cropping with hot cherry peppers and spraying the perimeter to kill the adult flies in July

NEW LONDON, Sarah Woodward

Hot, humid and dry conditions continue. Sprinklings of rain passed through the county with little accumulation. Silage corn chopping well underway. Vegetable producers wrapping up summer crops, harvesting winter squash and seeding greens and lettuces for fall harvest.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Scattered showers brought some relief from drought like conditions. The rain helped green up hayfields. Corn chopping continues with yields less than normal especially on drier soils. Vegetable production is good with a nice assortment of peppers, squash, tomatoes, lettuce, kale, etc. at Farm Stands and Farmers Markets. Pick Your Own Apples is beginning; with concern about less production. Dairy farmers are busy organizing the corn harvest. Some relief for cows with cooler nights after extended days of highs in the 80's and 90's.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

A good steady rain Sunday morning should finish off the later potato varieties. A great deal of the potato tops are completely dead and ready to be harvested. Grain markets have been weak so far. Pastures still look full and green.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Two days of drizzle did nothing to help with drought conditions. Sunday brought 1/4" to 1/2" of rain. Apples are being picked Silage will start being cut by the end of the week. Very little pasture or 3rd cut hay out there.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Rain arrived just in time to keep the grass growing. Silage corn harvest has started early due to the drought. Some corn has dried out a little and some silage is needed to supplement pasture. There is a lot of powdery mildew on vine crops in this area.

PENOBSCOT/PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

Much welcome rain helped with the dry conditions, but more rain is still needed. Vegetable farmers without irrigation have reduced yield

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

Still abnormally dry despite 1/4 inch of rain.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Harvest of all crops continues.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Rainfall remains below normal and the cranberry region of MA is now at drought warning status.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP, Kelly McAdam

Strong storm Sunday morning, no damage from wind or hail reported.

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

A short micro-burst came thru on Sunday, but it was short lived and did not add a lot of moisture. Weather is shifting to a cooling trend and the crops are responding. Hot crops like tomatoes and peppers are winding down, while vegetable growers are seeding and transplanting fall greens. Some seeding of fall cover crops in areas of early planting. Lots of orange pumpkins in the fields, easy to see now that most plants have lost their leaves.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Cooler evenings and foggy mornings now. Field corn looking pretty good, especially compared to some in counties further south. Starting to see the dough stage, while later planted crops are still in milk stage.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

More pumpkin and squash growers are reporting early harvests, and a few early fields of silage corn were harvested this past week. Some farms report poor silage corn, but it's variable.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Weather: A 5-minute extreme rain downpour with wind occurred on Sunday, September 11 morning. Apples were knocked off trees, minor damage to crops seen. At least, it was some rainfall. Vegetables: Growers are irrigating constantly unharvested crops, if water resources are available. Harvesting an array of vegetables: beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, greens, potatoes, radishes, summer squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, zucchini, and other vegetables. Some farmers are starting to cleaning up harvested fields and planting cover crops. Sweet corn growers are monitoring insect pressures and spraying accordingly. Trapping numbers show continue increase in Corn earworm and Fall Armyworm activity. Fruit: Orchardists harvesting Zestar, Gala, Marshall McIntosh and beginning of Honeycrisp apples and fall raspberries. Irrigating, weeding and fertilizing strawberry beds. Spotted Wind Drosophila fruit fly population continues to increase rapidly. Field Crops: Farmers are continuing hay cutting during the week with the second and third cuttings being made, very low yields. Continue chopping corn silage with yields are down but quality is good.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Picking several apple varieties including Macintosh, Cortland, Gala and Honeycrisp. Harvesting an array of vegetables, pumpkins, winter squash varieties, herbs and cut flowers. Irrigating, cleaning vegetable fields that have been harvested. It's still very dry. Very localized misty rain on Tuesday followed by a cloudy day on Wednesday with a few minutes of thundershowers and gusty winds on Sunday. Water bans and restrictions still in effect in several towns. Nights are getting cooler. Growers delaying the seeding of cover crops and hay fields because of dry soils and no serious rain in the forecast. Some growers concerned about the drought affecting the water quality for irrigation

SULLIVAN, Jennifer Z. Gehly

It was a nice week in Sullivan County. The average high temperature was in the mid to upper 70s with Thursday and Friday's highs reaching up into the 80s. Rain moved through the area late in the day on Thursday bringing up to nine tenths of an inch of rain to some areas. Storms moved through Sunday morning as well. Approximately half an inch of rain fell. Early planted corn fields were harvested as silage at the end of August. While a few producers have been harvesting right along for the past couple of weeks, the majority of the harvest is still a week or two out. Overall, corn looks good in the county. There are some fields that are showing drought stress with short ears, short stalks, and curling leaves. The hay crop is average to below average depending on where you are in the county. Some farmers have reported that they are gearing up for 4th cutting. Fall vegetables are out in farm stands along with plenty of summer crops. Pick your own apple operations have opened, with early varieties available.

RHODE ISLAND**ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert**

Some parts of RI received over an inch of rain last week and other places received less than half an inch of rain.

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

Despite some rain, farmers are still dealing with the drought conditions. The northern portion of the state is now under severe drought (D3). Due to the hot dry summer conditions; pumpkins are now ripening faster than average. Very little second cutting of hay is being reported due to the current conditions.

VERMONT**ALL VT COUNTIES, Terence Bradshaw**

Approximately one half inch of rain in the past week was welcome but will not address seasonal shortage. Early apples are coming in small due to lack of moisture. Little preharvest drop noted so far but concerns are high as dry conditions continue. Early grape varieties are being picked and quality is reported as very good.

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Another dry week. Corn is starting to be harvested and hay has progressed due to the dry weather.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Hay continues to be harvested this week in Franklin County. Corn is maturing very nicely, edging the crop by the risk of frost before maturing. Gardens are bursting with green and red for the final harvests and are providing plenty of bounty. Pastures are doing super with some continued moisture from some heavy storms combined with the shorter and cooler days that are also beginning to replenish ground water

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

We had some rain this past week but conditions are still on the dry side, especially with sandy soils. Crops on the heavier soils have been less affected by the dry summer. The corn crop looks really good in most places. The corn has matured and some farmers have started to harvest. Farmers are beginning to use hay fields for fall grazing. Activity this past week consisted of 3rd and 4th cut hay harvest, a start on corn harvest and fall grazing on hay fields.