



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending September 18, 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 6.5 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 0.00 to 1.15 inches throughout the region. It should be noted that only two locations indicated above an inch of rain. The weekly temperature ranged from three degrees below normal in a few places to eight degrees above normal. This is only slightly cooler than the prior week. The D3 (Extreme Drought) classification expanded to cover most of the Massachusetts coastline and into the central part of the state, New Hampshire, and the southern tip of Maine as of the latest U.S. Drought Monitor information. The second cutting into third cutting of hay was reported as thin or non-existent in many areas. The rest of New England continued to range from abnormally dry to a D2 Severe Drought classification. Northern New Hampshire and Maine remain the only areas that have had normal weather. Curling on corn was reported in Vermont with poor pasture conditions in some areas. A variety of crops were being harvested including mums, potatoes, squash, and pumpkins and were seen as doing well. Wild blueberries seemed to be doing good and some cranberry growers began harvest. Grape harvest was also underway while growers noted some issues with Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD). A variety of apples were available at Pick-Your-Own (PYO) operations.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending September 18, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	32	32	30	6
SUBSOIL	31	29	40	0

Crop Conditions as of September 18, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	4	9	32	46	9
CORN	3	10	27	35	25
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	7	20	70	3
DRY HAY	3	7	33	53	4
PASTURE AND RANGE	21	38	33	8	0
PEARS	1	8	53	37	1
POTATOES (ME)	0	0	0	30	70
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	3	3	17	46	31

Crop Progress as of September 18, 2016

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: HARVESTED	44
CORN FOR SILAGE: HARVESTED	23
DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING	96
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	72
DRY HAY: 4th CUTTING	8
OATS (ME): HARVESTED	80
PEACHES: HARVESTED	78
PEARS: HARVESTED	36
POTATOES (ME): HARVESTED	27
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	92

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 18, 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	44	63	+4	0.61	3	12.85	-7.19	56	2322	+274	3821
	Bangor_Intl_Air	82	39	61	+3	0.57	3	12.57	-5.80	61	2452	+526	3954
	Bethel	80	38	58	0	0.24	2	16.69	-5.77	49	1989	+155	3423
	Bridgton	77	41	58	+2	0.49	3	16.70	-5.25	50	1956	+290	3401
	Caribou_Municip	77	38	59	+6	0.83	3	22.58	+3.23	72	1916	+465	3317
	Dover-Foxcroft	80	36	58	+4	0.81	3	16.60	-4.42	66	1905	+434	3329
	Durham	82	41	60	+2	0.51	3	14.73	-6.01	58	2119	+236	3608
	East_Surry	78	41	60	+2	0.45	2	15.76	-4.71	65	1830	+45	3284
	Eustis	75	31	54	+3	0.40	3	14.92	-5.08	64	1566	+435	2919
	Frenchville	75	39	58	+5	0.61	3	18.70	-1.05	75	1737	+401	3108
	Harmony	80	41	59	+3	0.81	3	16.26	-4.35	53	2000	+295	3462
	Houlton	77	33	59	+5	0.42	3	18.40	-0.62	65	1815	+331	3227
	Livermore_Falls	80	38	58	+4	0.58	2	14.57	-7.83	50	1970	+481	3412
	Millinocket_Wtr	79	36	58	+2	0.93	3	15.71	-5.54	57	1786	+77	3174
	Moosehead	76	37	55	+3	0.39	2	17.99	-3.65	65	1692	+413	3059
	Portland_ME	86	44	64	+6	0.25	2	11.88	-7.75	52	2337	+498	3844
	Rangeley_2NW	72	37	54	+2	0.42	3	16.05	-4.70	70	1503	+231	2842
	Sanford	81	41	61	0	0.41	3	13.36	-8.30	51	2284	+173	3771
	Topsfield_2	78	42	59	+3	0.60	3	19.03	-2.38	66	1891	+254	3319
	Turner	80	42	61	0	0.64	3	15.12	-5.30	58	2174	-33	3631
	Wesley_2W	80	37	58	+2	0.95	3	17.13	-2.28	48	1948	+300	3394
	West_Rockport	78	42	61	+3	0.47	3	16.25	-5.25	58	2089	+369	3547
	Whiting	81	40	60	+4	0.38	3	14.13	-7.83	52	2028	+616	3507
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	76	36	56	0	0.72	3	17.41	-3.11	62	1806	+203	3227
	Bradford_2	79	34	58	-2	0.73	2	14.06	-7.66	47	1918	-37	3364
	Colebrook	76	37	55	0	0.27	2	17.89	-3.66	84	1595	+125	2944
	Concord	87	39	65	+6	0.36	2	10.25	-7.68	60	2655	+598	4188
	East_Milford	86	41	63	+3	0.07	1	9.91	-11.23	57	2515	+323	4058
	Epping	85	38	62	+2	0.13	2	10.91	-9.67	55	2387	+309	3903
	Errol_AP	76	38	54	+1	1.04	4	18.15	-1.70	61	1596	+265	2961
	Greenville	82	43	61	+4	0.05	1	11.01	-10.33	51	2243	+505	3741
	Hancock	79	37	60	+3	0.28	2	12.94	-8.83	64	2196	+295	3673
	Jaffrey_Silver_	82	43	61	+4	0.16	1	12.64	-8.70	59	2425	+687	3943
	Jefferson	74	36	55	-1	0.85	2	19.20	-1.94	63	1851	+182	3268
	Keene_AG	84	37	60	+2	0.20	2	14.83	-5.83	56	2308	+324	3819
	Lakeport_2	83	44	64	+4	0.46	2	14.38	-5.94	47	2526	+384	4038
	Lebanon	82	40	62	+5	0.61	3	17.54	-0.72	59	2501	+574	3999
	North_Conway	83	41	60	+3	0.58	3	16.99	-5.45	57	2250	+337	3707
	Tamworth_4	77	35	56	+1	0.46	3	18.77	-5.89	58	1792	+270	3223
	Wolfeburro	78	43	62	+2	0.52	3	15.18	-5.14	57	2276	+134	3791
Vermont	Averill	75	30	54	+3	0.26	1	22.76	-1.37	51	1595	+497	2910
	Bennington_AP	79	39	61	+6	0.26	3	15.30	-9.69	66	2358	+759	3890
	Burlington_Intl	82	43	64	+6	0.16	2	13.24	-6.75	62	2764	+639	4256
	Corinth	72	38	54	-3	0.77	3	17.93	-0.79	60	1720	-2	3129
	Johnson_2N	77	36	55	-1	0.41	3	23.49	+1.55	66	1774	+175	3175
	Marlboro_Raws	81	39	60	+5	0.13	2	16.96	-3.63	62	2138	+576	3625
	Montpelier_AP	77	39	58	+3	0.51	2	18.64	-0.08	60	1973	+251	3404
	Newport_AG	79	39	57	-2	0.64	3	20.19	-1.05	68	1946	-15	3342

		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	79	40	58	+2	0.80	2	15.95	-7.92	50	1960	+297	3402
	Rutland_AG	80	37	58	-2	0.47	2	15.24	-6.14	67	2093	+66	3563
	Springfield_VT	82	40	61	+5	0.46	3	12.57	-10.14	55	2320	+506	3820
	South_Lincoln	74	37	55	+1	0.66	2	16.97	-8.35	55	1700	+301	3111
	Sutton	75	40	56	+3	0.94	3	27.15	+4.76	75	1777	+345	3174
	Walden	73	35	52	-3	1.15	3	23.24	+0.85	75	1411	-21	2741
	Woodstock	81	40	60	+3	0.69	3	14.87	-5.36	51	2221	+388	3690
Massachusetts	Amherst	86	42	62	+2	0.48	2	11.62	-10.69	55	2606	+379	4174
	Barre_Falls_Dam	86	43	62	+6	0.28	1	13.78	-8.78	65	2376	+640	3875
	Bedford_Hanscom	89	43	65	+4	0.06	1	8.16	-12.84	56	2755	+474	4326
	Beverly_Ag	87	42	62	-3	0.17	2	12.14	-7.33	56	2338	-92	3874
	Birch_Hill_Dam	82	39	60	+4	0.33	2	14.31	-7.35	56	2311	+546	3827
	Boston_Logan_In	90	54	68	+4	0.09	2	9.97	-8.54	52	2929	+344	4522
	Chatham_AP	79	48	66	+4	0.10	2	12.07	-8.02	56	2514	+624	4052
	Chicopee_Westov	89	43	65	+5	0.29	2	12.71	-9.60	54	2752	+525	4326
	Edgartown	79	47	66	+3	0.07	2	14.67	-5.77	55	2596	+412	4177
	East_Brimfield_	82	46	62	+3	0.23	3	19.61	-1.98	77	2386	+347	3921
	Fitchburg	88	46	66	+6	0.17	2	9.74	-13.06	49	2970	+649	4555
	Greenfield	85	43	63	+3	0.32	1	13.66	-8.65	61	2573	+346	4122
	Hyannis_AP	81	44	65	+3	0.13	1	12.28	-6.19	50	2601	+474	4154
	Maynard	90	41	63	+2	0.10	1	12.68	-8.32	61	2727	+446	4297
	New_Bedford	85	43	65	-2	0.01	1	13.98	-8.51	55	2749	+143	4320
	Newburyport	84	43	63	+2	0.21	2	10.15	-10.89	56	2483	+178	4012
	North_Adams_Har	80	39	62	+5	0.32	2	17.33	-7.72	68	2376	+682	3907
	Norwood	89	37	63	+1	0.10	1	10.76	-10.20	55	2645	+261	4223
	Pittsfield	80	39	61	+3	0.26	2	16.09	-8.25	65	2255	+361	3778
	Plymouth	88	43	65	+2	0.05	2	12.06	-10.04	56	2681	+326	4227
	Taunton_4NW	91	44	65	+3	0.01	1	15.03	-6.48	65	2835	+496	4412
	Westfield_Barne	89	45	66	+8	0.06	2	12.65	-10.18	60	2868	+943	4449
	West_Otis	84	44	63	+5	0.24	3	16.90	-9.27	79	2567	+735	4126
	Worcester	83	50	64	+5	0.12	3	13.14	-9.95	62	2544	+468	4088
	Worthington	82	38	59	+1	0.30	3	17.03	-7.48	70	2056	+289	3539
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	80	49	65	+1	0.05	1	11.58	-8.20	55	2632	+378	4212
	Providence	90	50	67	+4	0.08	2	15.55	-4.95	58	3007	+467	4610
	Westerly-Wester	83	47	66	+2	0.00	0	14.72	-7.22	54	2721	+382	4312
	Woonsocket	89	46	65	+4	0.08	1	16.18	-6.02	58	2797	+434	4379
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	88	55	70	+5	0.00	0	16.08	-5.17	58	3236	+581	4866
	Danbury_AP	86	45	64	+3	0.00	0	16.48	-8.89	65	2719	+284	4317
	Hartford_Bradle	90	47	67	+5	0.46	1	14.24	-8.04	60	3070	+462	4679
	Meriden-Meriden	91	46	67	+6	0.11	1	13.14	-12.24	61	3081	+703	4695
	Norfolk	81	47	61	+3	0.16	3	16.67	-9.50	62	2274	+442	3782
	Norwich	88	47	65	+2	0.42	1	16.09	-7.41	51	2893	+365	4496
	Staffordville	85	46	62	+2	0.15	1	16.67	-6.77	52	2304	+204	3828
	Thomaston_Dam	90	43	63	+3	0.00	0	15.54	-8.91	70	2691	+557	4268
	West_Thompson_L	86	45	62	+3	0.05	1	15.90	-7.86	59	2484	+359	4031
	Willimantic	90	46	66	+6	0.08	1	15.18	-8.26	65	2981	+881	4592

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

Dry conditions continue, hoping for some much needed rain to start off the week. Silage corn chopping well underway. Vegetable farmers wrapping up summer crops and harvesting winter squash, pumpkins, apples and pears. Fall lettuces and greens are being transplanted into fields and hoop houses. Pick-your-own (PYO) apples and corn mazes are in full swing!

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Drought conditions have varied production in corn fields with some corn 4' tall while other fields have nice 14' tall green stalks and good ear development; a result of the diversity of soil types, topography, and scattered showers through the growing season. Pumpkins, mums, potatoes, squash doing well; pick your own apples have more varieties available; some grapes have SWD issues; others doing well. Harvesting of grapes is underway with good sugar levels.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

School is out for three weeks and most operations have started potato harvest. Most are reporting a smaller than usual set and a large size profile. Most of the grain has been cut. Good test weights and a slightly above average yield.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Harvest is coming in fast. We need more rain especially to replenish the ground water. Producers will be cutting hay late in the season to make up for drought shortages.

WASHINGTON, Michael Look

Another monster wild blueberry crop even without rain. I don't know where they are going to put them, let alone how they are going to sell them.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Harvest of winter squash and pumpkins are in full swing.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Another dry week. Fortunately, it did not get cold enough to need frost protection on cranberries this week. A very few growers have begun harvest.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

COOS, Patricia Matte

Some cooler mornings over the past week. Harvest of silage corn has begun. Some fields in the northern part of the county have signs of Northern Corn Leaf Blight. Foliage colors are just beginning to show.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

We had two days with some rain over much of the county this past week, which helped a bit, but we could still use more. Pumpkin and squash harvest is well underway and sweet corn is coming to an end. Silage corn harvest is just getting started with more expected this week. The leaves are starting to turn as well, so it's starting to look like fall.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Apple harvest continues. Picking late blueberry varieties and fall raspberries as well as a whole array of vegetables and winter squashes. Cleaning fields and planting greens in high tunnels. Chopping field corn in very few fields and hauling corn silage from other northern areas to make up for the thin crop yield. Spreading manure. Corn stalks, and mums are abundant at garden centers and farm stands. Growers busy taking winter CSA (community supported agriculture) sign-up. Making cider. Some localized, short, steady rain (less than an inch of rain) on Sunday during the day. Followed overnight by thundershowers and lightening. Some nights got cold. County remains under extreme drought and state officials and partners encouraging the wise use of water statewide. Watering lawns restricted in many towns. Dug wells are dry and levels in drill wells has dropped; lakes such as Lake Massabesic and Lake Pawtakaway are more than 2 feet dry. There has also been a very low flow in the Exeter River as well as rivers in Brentwood, Salem and other areas. Water table has dropped dramatically according to reports from NH Department of Environmental Services. Getting rain this fall is critical!

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

Northern RI got no rain last week and is suffering greatly.

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

Farmers are continuing to battle the drought conditions. According to the drought monitor most of RI is in D2 (severe drought) with some parts reaching D3 (extreme drought). Producers are reporting loss of vegetable crops due to the weather and there has been virtually no second cutting of hay. Silage corn has also been stunted due to the conditions.

VERMONT

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Another dry week. Rain expected this coming weekend. Pastures are not growing at all and corn is curling up.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Weather is providing great conditions to finish the corn crop to ideal quality and quantity. Some being harvested; however, those who hold off will take advantage of continued higher starch and energy values. Grass continues to be harvested and hearing of a possible sixth cutting with favorable yields and excellent quality. This is shaping up for a great time to keep grain concentrate purchases at a minimum, providing for some much needed lower input costs to our dairy producers. Pumpkins are abundant and the gardens are becoming very orange and red with a great tomato crop. Apples are in full swing with a great crop.