



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending September 25, 2016

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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Good week for field work: New England averaged 5.5 days suitable for field work last week.

There was very little change in drought conditions over the region as of last week according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.19 to 3.31 inches throughout the region. The weekly temperature ranged from four degrees to twelve degrees above normal. The D3 Extreme Drought classification continued through much of Massachusetts and the southernmost parts of New Hampshire and Maine. Northern Maine and some northern parts of New Hampshire fared best with no drought conditions. That said, there was some relief in Massachusetts with rain but did little to relieve the needs some growers have had. Farmers spent much time irrigating crops not harvested, disking, cleaning, and planting cover crops. Silage harvest was still going on last week, along with a variety of crops including: Brussel sprouts, tomatoes, kale, broccoli, cauliflower, winter squash, pumpkins, cabbage, peppers, sweet corn, and beans. Hay cutting was progressing but yield was down significantly from the second cutting as farmers were entering their final third and fourth cuttings. Fruit size has been reported in apples as being smaller due to drought; however, Pick-Your-Own (PYO) operations were in full swing. Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) fruit fly was a concern among raspberry growers.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending September 25, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	30	29	37	4
SUBSOIL	31	29	40	0

Crop Conditions as of September 25, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	4	9	32	47	8
CORN	3	11	25	31	30
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	7	20	70	3
DRY HAY	3	7	31	49	10
PASTURE AND RANGE	18	33	39	10	0
PEARS	1	8	53	37	1
POTATOES (ME)	0	0	0	30	70
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	2	2	20	46	30

Crop Progress as of September 25, 2016

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: HARVESTED	54
CORN FOR SILAGE: HARVESTED	34
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	81
DRY HAY: 4th CUTTING	15
FALL TILLAGE: SINGLE	8
OATS (ME): HARVESTED	94
PEACHES: HARVESTED	88
PEARS: HARVESTED	42
POTATOES (ME): HARVESTED	28
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	96

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 25, 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	42	65	+8	0.26	4	13.11	-7.79	60	2427	+328	3996
	Bangor_Intl_Air	80	39	63	+7	0.49	4	13.06	-6.13	65	2543	+573	4115
	Bethel	83	36	63	+8	0.22	4	16.91	-6.39	53	2081	+206	3583
	Bridgton	80	39	62	+9	0.31	4	17.01	-5.80	54	2042	+345	3556
	Caribou_Municip	77	38	58	+7	1.18	4	23.76	+3.71	76	1976	+507	3442
	Dover-Foxcroft	80	36	61	+10	0.52	3	17.12	-4.87	69	1984	+492	3476
	Durham	84	38	64	+8	0.32	3	15.05	-6.60	61	2216	+286	3775
	East_Surry	79	36	59	+4	0.43	3	16.19	-5.26	68	1899	+71	3419
	Eustis	78	35	57	+8	0.36	2	15.28	-5.56	66	1625	+480	3039
	Frenchville	76	36	56	+6	0.70	3	19.40	-1.12	78	1786	+434	3221
	Harmony	81	32	61	+8	0.63	4	16.89	-4.63	57	2083	+346	3612
	Houlton	77	31	57	+6	0.51	4	18.91	-0.88	69	1876	+374	3345
	Livermore_Falls	82	33	62	+10	0.63	3	15.20	-8.04	53	2061	+549	3568
	Millinocket_Wtr	79	34	59	+6	0.26	3	15.97	-6.12	60	1856	+118	3307
	Moosehead	78	38	57	+7	0.28	3	18.27	-4.28	68	1751	+454	3182
	Portland_ME	83	42	66	+10	0.30	3	12.18	-8.29	55	2451	+568	4028
	Rangeley_2NW	76	33	58	+8	0.44	4	16.49	-5.10	74	1571	+280	2971
	Sanford	83	38	65	+8	0.63	3	14.10	-8.47	52	2405	+238	3962
	Topsfield_2	76	38	59	+6	0.59	3	19.62	-2.76	69	1956	+288	3453
	Turner	81	41	64	+7	0.28	4	15.40	-5.86	62	2274	+9	3801
	Wesley_2W	76	34	59	+5	0.60	3	17.73	-2.59	51	2010	+330	3526
	West_Rockport	79	38	62	+7	0.38	5	16.63	-5.93	63	2176	+411	3704
	Whiting	80	37	61	+7	0.48	4	14.61	-8.33	56	2107	+663	3655
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	79	38	62	+9	0.60	4	18.01	-3.35	66	1888	+257	3379
	Bradford_2	82	39	62	+6	0.60	3	14.66	-7.90	50	2003	+2	3519
	Colebrook	78	34	58	+6	0.51	4	18.42	-3.97	89	1648	+154	3063
	Concord	86	33	66	+11	2.26	3	12.51	-6.19	63	2773	+667	4376
	East_Milford	84	39	65	+8	3.19	3	13.10	-8.88	60	2624	+376	4237
	Epping	83	38	65	+8	1.50	3	12.41	-9.08	58	2488	+356	4074
	Errol_AP	79	33	59	+8	0.56	3	18.71	-1.91	64	1668	+318	3096
	Greenville	80	39	64	+9	1.37	3	12.38	-9.73	54	2341	+565	3909
	Hancock	83	38	64	+8	0.90	3	13.84	-8.87	67	2293	+348	3840
	Jaffrey_Silver_	82	38	65	+10	3.31	2	15.95	-6.16	61	2529	+753	4117
	Jefferson	80	35	60	+7	0.52	3	19.72	-2.20	66	1928	+229	3412
	Keene_AG	86	36	65	+10	1.28	3	16.11	-5.32	59	2415	+384	3996
	Lakeport_2	85	44	66	+9	0.83	4	15.21	-5.88	51	2641	+443	4223
	Lebanon	85	34	64	+9	1.01	3	18.55	-0.48	62	2601	+631	4169
	North_Conway	85	37	64	+9	0.19	2	17.18	-6.10	59	2350	+398	3877
	Tamworth_4	79	33	60	+9	0.35	3	19.12	-6.45	61	1869	+324	3367
	Wolfeburro	78	46	64	+7	0.74	4	15.92	-5.17	61	2376	+178	3961
Vermont	Averill	79	32	58	+9	0.50	2	23.26	-1.80	53	1664	+555	3037
	Bennington_AP	82	32	63	+10	1.53	3	16.83	-9.20	69	2449	+820	4049
	Burlington_Intl	84	38	65	+9	0.51	3	13.75	-7.12	65	2873	+699	4435
	Corinth	74	35	58	+5	0.51	3	16.00	-3.46	62	1785	+30	3260
	Johnson_2N	79	36	60	+8	0.73	2	24.22	+1.44	68	1853	+226	3317
	Marlboro_Raws	80	34	62	+9	1.33	3	18.29	-3.07	65	2223	+634	3777
	Montpelier_AP	80	37	61	+8	0.61	3	19.25	-0.21	63	2056	+301	3555
	Newport_AG	81	39	61	+7	0.59	4	20.78	-1.30	72	2032	+28	3494

		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	83	33	61	+7	0.87	4	16.82	-8.03	54	2044	+343	3554
	Rutland_AG	82	32	61	+6	1.51	4	16.75	-5.52	71	2178	+105	3715
	Springfield_VT	85	32	63	+9	0.43	2	13.00	-10.58	57	2414	+564	3982
	South_Lincoln	77	31	58	+7	1.03	3	18.00	-8.30	58	1764	+346	3238
	Sutton	78	35	60	+9	0.63	3	27.78	+4.54	78	1852	+401	3313
	Walden	75	31	56	+6	0.89	3	24.13	+0.89	78	1470	+19	2857
	Woodstock	84	32	63	+9	0.69	2	15.56	-5.58	53	2313	+442	3850
Massachusetts	Amherst	84	37	66	+9	2.22	2	13.84	-9.38	57	2720	+433	4358
	Barre_Falls_Dam	85	37	65	+12	1.61	3	15.42	-7.99	69	2481	+709	4050
	Bedford_Hanscom	84	42	67	+9	0.95	3	9.11	-12.80	59	2876	+532	4517
	Beverly_Ag	81	41	65	+5	0.91	3	13.05	-7.40	59	2447	-64	4053
	Birch_Hill_Dam	83	38	63	+9	3.26	2	17.53	-4.94	57	2396	+595	3976
	Boston_Logan_In	83	49	70	+8	0.67	2	10.64	-8.71	54	3067	+397	4730
	Chatham_AP	78	49	68	+8	0.96	3	13.03	-8.00	59	2642	+676	4250
	Chicopee_Westov	86	33	67	+9	1.00	3	13.71	-9.51	57	2871	+584	4515
	Edgartown	81	46	68	+8	0.77	4	15.44	-5.78	59	2728	+462	4379
	East_Brimfield_	83	40	65	+8	0.50	3	20.01	-2.52	79	2493	+401	4098
	Fitchburg	87	43	69	+11	1.44	3	11.18	-12.55	52	3102	+720	4757
	Greenfield	85	38	66	+9	1.70	2	15.36	-7.86	63	2686	+399	4305
	Hyannis_AP	81	47	68	+8	1.41	3	13.69	-5.55	53	2730	+528	4353
	Maynard	87	40	67	+9	1.23	4	13.91	-8.00	65	2843	+499	4483
	New_Bedford	85	43	69	+6	1.37	3	15.35	-8.00	58	2881	+182	4522
	Newburyport	83	40	66	+8	1.06	3	11.25	-10.76	58	2600	+230	4199
	North_Adams_Har	83	37	64	+11	1.49	3	18.82	-7.21	71	2478	+749	4079
	Norwood	85	35	67	+8	0.33	2	11.09	-10.71	57	2763	+311	4411
	Pittsfield	81	34	63	+9	1.07	2	17.16	-8.09	67	2350	+414	3942
	Plymouth	83	44	68	+8	0.60	4	12.66	-10.51	60	2811	+379	4427
	Taunton_4NW	86	41	69	+10	0.39	2	15.42	-7.00	67	2970	+563	4617
	Westfield_Barne	85	35	67	+12	1.29	3	13.94	-9.80	63	2988	+1018	4639
	West_Otis	83	39	66	+11	1.15	3	18.05	-9.17	82	2679	+802	4308
	Worcester	81	42	66	+9	2.12	3	15.26	-8.84	65	2657	+526	4271
	Worthington	80	37	63	+8	1.55	2	18.58	-6.84	72	2148	+341	3701
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	83	49	68	+6	1.55	3	13.13	-7.49	58	2760	+417	4410
	Providence	86	49	70	+9	1.19	3	16.74	-4.60	61	3148	+527	4821
	Westerly-Wester	83	45	68	+8	1.54	2	16.26	-6.59	56	2850	+432	4511
	Woonsocket	87	42	69	+10	0.59	3	16.77	-6.37	61	2929	+501	4581
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	83	50	71	+8	0.89	2	16.97	-5.12	60	3383	+636	5083
	Danbury_AP	83	38	66	+8	0.32	3	16.80	-9.73	68	2834	+331	4502
	Hartford_Bradle	85	41	68	+8	0.76	3	15.00	-8.23	63	3196	+513	4875
	Meriden-Meriden	86	40	70	+10	0.31	3	13.45	-13.00	64	3220	+771	4904
	Norfolk	80	38	63	+8	0.69	3	17.36	-9.86	65	2364	+487	3941
	Norwich	85	45	69	+9	0.88	3	16.97	-7.51	54	3029	+423	4702
	Staffordville	83	39	65	+8	1.46	3	18.13	-6.31	55	2412	+258	4006
	Thomaston_Dam	85	41	67	+9	0.58	4	16.12	-9.39	74	2810	+618	4457
	West_Thompson_L	83	37	66	+8	0.65	2	16.55	-8.12	61	2595	+414	4212
	Willimantic	85	41	69	+12	0.52	2	15.70	-8.74	67	3113	+959	4794

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

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Chopping and baling hay with a lot of round bales getting wrapped. The hay looks much better after a few scattered showers gave the fields a boost of growth though there was still drought conditions. Also chopping and snapping corn. The activity at Farmers Markets was a bit slower but good variety of vegetables, fruit and more available. Nice sunny weekend for major effort to harvest grapes and an awesome day for "Celebrating Agriculture" with about 4,500 people coming to meet farmers, foresters and others, and to learn how they can support local agriculture.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Even with heavy digging conditions, a lot of progress was made with the potato harvest. Very good crops of Broccoli and cauliflower were being cut. They should finish up in about three weeks.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Fall has arrived, with some areas receiving a light frost Monday AM. Farmers are harvesting their crops. Some hay is being made. Apples are being picked.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Ground water is really becoming a concern. Some producers have need to haul water. Harvest is moving right along.

MASSACHUSETTS

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Rain early in the week was very welcome but did little to relieve the pressure on water supplies of cranberry growers. While some parts of the region got as much as 2 inches, others were more in the 1.4 to 1/2 inch rain. With the potential for frost increasing, there are growers with little or no water to protect for harvest.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

Fall crops now being sold. Winter squash and sweet potatoes are being cured. Temps have really dropped and we expect our first frost soon. Some cover crops have gotten in, although many still learning that only winter rye can be sowed late.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Warm most of the week, with cooler temps and scattered frost by the weekend. Corn silage harvest going well, with good weather for chopping. Later harvests for hay crops going well, but yields are still down significantly. Fall crops showing up in farm stands, CSA's, and Pick-Your-Own (PYO) apples still going strong.

COOS, Patricia Matte

Rain showers Thursday night and Friday were welcomed. Cool mornings with scattered light frost Sunday and Monday morning. More corn harvest taking place and some grass still being harvested. Leaves are beginning to show more color.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

Parts of the county saw a frost over the weekend, and sweet corn harvest is finished at most farms. The week also saw more progress on chopping corn, apple and pumpkin harvest, and a small amount of rain.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Fruit: Pick-your-own apple and farm stand operations had good weekend. Apple harvest is in full swing with most growers concentrating on starting to strip picking McIntosh apples, and working on Cortland and Macoun. Fall raspberries harvest continues. SWD fruit fly is now a major problem for raspberry growers. Vegetables: Great weather and good demand for all vegetable continues. Irrigating crops that have not been harvested. Farmers are harvesting wide array of vegetables including: cabbage, kale, Brussel Sprouts, winter squash and pumpkins along with the tail end of warm season crops. Warm-season crops (like tomatoes, peppers, sweet corn and beans) still be harvested. Farmers kept busy disking, cleaning up and planting cover crops on harvested fields. Field Crops: Silage corn harvest in full swing.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Still harvesting and array of vegetables, including greens, tomatoes, sweet corn and herbs and cut flowers. Harvesting fall crop of broccoli and harvesting carrot, potatoes, and other root crops for winter storage for winter markets. Harvesting different apples varieties and fall raspberries. Cleaning and tilling vegetable fields that has been harvested. Planting winter greens. Second crop of hay minimal. Pasture re-growing with last rain during last Sunday night into Monday. It's still very dry. PYO apple operations busy as well as farmers markets.

SULLIVAN, Jennifer Z. Gehly

The week began wet with areas picking up roughly an inch of rain on Monday. Above average temperatures were present for most of the work week with highs temps in the upper 70s to low 80s and lows in the mid-50s to low 60s. About another tenth of an inch of rain fell on Friday. Temperatures became more fall-like during the weekend with highs only in the low to mid-60s with overnight lows in low 40s. Farmers kept busy during the week harvesting corn for silage. Vegetables are still plentiful. The apple harvest is in full swing.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

All of RI received about an inch of rain this week!

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

RI received some rain this week but is still mired in a drought. Some producers are reporting that their irrigation ponds have dried up and they have been forced to haul water in to feed their animals. There has been virtually no second cutting of hay due to the conditions. Farmers harvesting pumpkins though are reporting that the dryer weather has been good for their crop. Apple growers are reporting unusually small fruit size due to drought.

VERMONT

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Corn harvest is well under way and farmers are finishing up the last cuttings of hay.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Frost on the pumpkin in Franklin County this week. Corn is fantastic with maturity happening by growth and not frost, ideal conditions and ready for harvest. Some grass harvested for haylage with no idea of how many cuts, if there is grass it gets harvested. Need to be sure we are supplying adequate nutrients with this management practice for winter survival. Gardens are settling into fall mode with the last of the tomatoes being picked and seeing a tremendous pumpkin yield. Apples are abundant and making for some excellent cider.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

Last Thursday marked the first day of autumn and the weather didn't disappoint. The week began with temperatures in the 80's and then ended with morning frost. The ground is still a little on the dry side but rain on Friday helped. Corn harvest is in full swing and it looks like yields will be above average. Farm activities this week included fourth cut hay and corn harvest. They has also been cover crop seeding on the harvested corn ground.