



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending October 16, 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.

All six New England states continued to experience drought conditions last week according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, with coastal areas of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and southern Maine categorized in extreme drought conditions. The average weekly temperatures ranged from three degrees below normal to four degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 2.19 inches throughout the region. Several areas reported experiencing the first frosts of the season last week. Some farmers were busy making late cuttings of hay when possible before winter arrives. The harvesting of corn for silage continued at a good pace. In Maine, potato storages were bursting at the seams with what appears to be an exceptional crop. In Massachusetts, cranberry harvest was in full swing. Throughout the region, the apple harvest was winding down. Orchardists were picking up drops and cleaning up orchards after the harvest. Vegetable growers were harvesting a wide array of vegetables, including cabbage, kale, Brussel sprouts, winter squash, and pumpkins, along with the tail end of warm season crops. Farmers remained busy pulling plastic mulch and tomato stakes, planting cover crops, spreading manure and lime on harvested fields, and putting away equipment. Many outdoor fall activities were taking place such as fall festivals, hay rides, picking apples and pumpkins, and visiting corn mazes.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending October 16, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	14	44	42	0
SUBSOIL	19	39	42	0

Crop Conditions as of October 16, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	10	20	70	0
DRY HAY	3	6	28	45	18
PASTURE AND RANGE	13	38	39	10	0
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	1	2	24	45	28

Crop Progress as of October 16, 2016

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: HARVESTED	88
CORN FOR SILAGE: HARVESTED	93
CRANBERRIES (MA): HARVESTED	25
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	93
DRY HAY: 4th CUTTING	64
FALL TILLAGE: SINGLE	54
PEACHES: HARVESTED	97
PEARS: HARVESTED	83
POTATOES (ME): HARVESTED	95
RYE (ME): PLANTED	100

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

October 16, 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	65	31	48	-1	0.50	2	14.11	-9.40	66	2509	+339	4259
	Bangor_Intl_Air	65	26	48	0	0.69	2	13.97	-7.41	71	2611	+583	4351
	Bethel	67	26	47	-1	0.22	2	17.69	-8.05	61	2139	+214	3808
	Bridgton	63	26	45	-1	0.83	2	18.30	-7.37	61	2071	+341	3739
	Caribou_Municip	65	27	46	+2	0.03	1	23.56	+1.57	78	2030	+548	3657
	Dover-Foxcroft	68	25	46	+2	0.37	2	17.57	-6.94	74	2026	+519	3681
	Durham	69	28	48	-1	0.55	2	16.13	-8.10	68	2285	+297	4023
	East_Surry	62	28	48	-1	0.38	2	17.44	-6.66	73	1953	+69	3648
	Eustis	67	21	43	+1	0.03	1	15.38	-7.59	70	1652	+502	3192
	Frenchville	64	28	45	+2	0.10	1	19.30	-3.25	80	1839	+479	3417
	Harmony	69	26	47	+2	0.34	2	17.42	-6.54	63	2153	+386	3850
	Houlton	67	22	47	+3	0.14	2	19.00	-2.90	70	1922	+406	3539
	Livermore_Falls	69	22	45	-1	0.47	2	16.24	-9.56	57	2111	+577	3772
	Millinocket_Wtr	66	25	45	0	0.24	2	16.30	-8.18	63	1892	+128	3504
	Moosehead	68	25	45	+2	0.09	1	18.75	-6.16	73	1781	+473	3370
	Portland_ME	64	30	48	0	0.73	2	13.60	-9.52	61	2528	+590	4286
	Rangeley_2NW	67	23	43	+1	0.13	1	16.94	-6.89	80	1606	+304	3140
	Sanford	68	28	47	-3	0.74	3	15.22	-9.96	60	2453	+209	4182
	Topsfield_2	67	30	46	+1	1.10	2	21.01	-3.89	75	2010	+315	3680
	Turner	67	29	48	-2	0.50	2	16.53	-7.26	68	2344	-2	4050
	Wesley_2W	65	26	46	0	1.60	2	19.93	-2.78	56	2045	+330	3713
	West_Rockport	64	27	48	0	1.12	2	18.30	-7.25	69	2256	+435	3956
	Whiting	66	27	48	+1	1.36	3	16.35	-9.29	62	2176	+696	3907
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	68	26	46	0	0.07	1	18.50	-5.45	71	1936	+274	3585
	Bradford_2	68	23	46	-3	0.17	2	15.84	-9.36	57	2025	-44	3688
	Colebrook	68	25	44	0	0.12	2	19.10	-5.50	98	1693	+178	3248
	Concord	71	26	49	+1	0.61	2	13.76	-7.15	69	2865	+692	4647
	East_Milford	69	29	48	-2	0.62	1	14.44	-9.96	66	2674	+342	4468
	Epping	69	28	48	-2	0.80	1	14.25	-9.77	64	2535	+323	4295
	Errol_AP	70	21	43	0	0.11	1	19.35	-3.49	73	1703	+339	3268
	Greenville	68	27	46	-1	0.52	1	13.89	-10.68	61	2370	+547	4087
	Hancock	67	28	47	-1	0.58	2	15.61	-9.91	76	2340	+335	4060
	Jaffrey_Silver_	67	27	49	+2	0.40	2	17.58	-6.99	69	2585	+762	4355
	Jefferson	68	28	45	-1	0.14	2	20.66	-3.40	73	1974	+244	3608
	Keene_AG	68	25	47	-1	0.22	2	17.23	-6.40	67	2494	+402	4249
	Lakeport_2	70	34	50	+1	0.45	1	16.46	-7.01	56	2743	+464	4515
	Lebanon	71	26	48	0	0.03	1	19.01	-2.10	66	2694	+668	4440
	North_Conway	70	26	47	0	0.10	2	17.64	-8.30	68	2420	+419	4120
	Tamworth_4	65	24	44	0	0.28	2	20.12	-8.17	70	1898	+335	3531
	Wolfeburro	66	30	49	0	0.53	2	17.29	-6.18	69	2459	+180	4223
Vermont	Averill	68	21	43	+1	0.30	1	24.00	-3.57	57	1702	+588	3223
	Bennington_AP	68	27	49	+3	0.07	1	17.88	-10.80	75	2550	+886	4329
	Burlington_Intl	71	32	52	+4	0.13	1	14.16	-8.84	70	3035	+791	4783
	Corinth	67	25	45	-1	0.13	1	16.40	-5.08	67	1821	+24	3449
	Johnson_2N	69	26	44	-1	0.14	1	24.97	-0.17	74	1901	+247	3513
	Marlboro_Raws	65	28	46	+1	0.14	2	19.05	-4.38	72	2262	+649	3976
	Montpelier_AP	68	24	46	0	0.05	1	19.40	-2.08	67	2122	+325	3783
	Newport_AG	71	27	46	-2	0.07	1	21.35	-3.01	78	2103	+37	3722

		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	73	26	47	0	0.04	1	17.16	-10.36	58	2113	+363	3793
	Rutland_AG	71	26	46	-3	0.07	1	17.23	-7.24	77	2241	+96	3946
	Springfield_VT	68	26	47	+1	0.01	1	13.24	-12.79	62	2492	+602	4233
	South_Lincoln	68	26	44	+1	0.14	1	18.44	-10.67	62	1809	+376	3434
	Sutton	66	27	44	+1	0.05	1	28.19	+2.59	83	1903	+438	3511
	Walden	64	24	41	-2	0.08	1	24.61	-0.99	85	1499	+34	3008
	Woodstock	69	25	46	0	0.04	1	16.05	-7.70	58	2379	+466	4081
Massachusetts	Amherst	67	29	48	-2	0.33	1	15.78	-10.00	63	2802	+430	4623
	Barre_Falls_Dam	69	29	47	0	0.55	2	17.02	-9.00	75	2550	+732	4295
	Bedford_Hanscom	70	28	49	-2	1.11	1	12.04	-12.46	63	2957	+516	4780
	Beverly_Ag	66	32	48	-6	1.80	1	15.67	-7.42	64	2503	-150	4290
	Birch_Hill_Dam	67	27	47	+1	0.42	1	19.35	-5.55	62	2449	+607	4203
	Boston_Logan_In	72	42	53	-2	1.70	1	13.53	-8.21	59	3203	+381	5066
	Chatham_AP	71	40	54	0	2.19	1	18.19	-5.57	65	2808	+706	4615
	Chicopee_Westov	70	26	49	-1	0.37	1	15.26	-10.52	61	2968	+596	4796
	Edgartown	70	36	53	-1	2.14	1	20.25	-3.42	66	2896	+486	4743
	East_Brimfield_	68	32	49	0	0.65	1	21.55	-3.56	87	2563	+395	4350
	Fitchburg	71	32	51	0	0.77	2	13.03	-13.41	59	3214	+741	5061
	Greenfield	69	29	48	-2	0.25	1	16.41	-9.37	68	2769	+397	4571
	Hyannis_AP	68	34	52	-1	2.17	1	18.32	-3.35	60	2875	+550	4691
	Maynard	71	28	51	0	1.94	1	18.29	-6.21	72	2909	+468	4739
	New_Bedford	73	32	52	-3	1.86	2	18.92	-6.84	64	3026	+160	4860
	Newburyport	68	31	49	-2	0.88	1	13.26	-11.51	66	2686	+216	4470
	North_Adams_Har	69	26	49	+2	0.10	2	19.50	-9.26	76	2574	+800	4353
	Norwood	74	26	49	-3	1.50	1	13.95	-10.32	64	2855	+294	4681
	Pittsfield	65	26	47	0	0.17	2	17.81	-10.02	72	2425	+431	4189
	Plymouth	71	33	51	-3	2.05	1	17.16	-8.79	67	2940	+372	4746
	Taunton_4NW	71	34	51	-1	1.86	2	19.54	-5.54	74	3077	+561	4920
	Westfield_Barne	69	29	49	+1	0.27	1	14.80	-11.53	67	3090	+1054	4928
	West_Otis	66	30	49	+1	0.32	1	19.25	-10.77	87	2771	+830	4585
	Worcester	65	38	50	0	0.61	1	16.88	-10.23	71	2736	+521	4542
	Worthington	68	27	46	-2	0.28	2	19.95	-8.08	80	2190	+322	3906
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	68	39	53	-3	1.64	1	16.95	-5.91	63	2915	+403	4764
	Providence	73	37	53	-1	1.18	1	19.73	-3.88	66	3296	+536	5168
	Westerly-Wester	69	34	52	-1	0.94	1	18.71	-6.62	61	3008	+453	4867
	Woonsocket	72	32	51	0	1.34	1	20.02	-5.74	65	3045	+516	4891
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	70	41	55	0	0.47	1	18.54	-5.77	65	3590	+673	5490
	Danbury_AP	64	30	49	-2	0.27	2	17.73	-11.61	72	2936	+323	4792
	Hartford_Bradle	70	32	51	-2	0.39	1	16.10	-9.66	66	3319	+512	5192
	Meriden-Meriden	71	34	53	+1	0.21	1	14.30	-15.08	69	3380	+814	5262
	Norfolk	61	31	45	-3	0.26	2	18.24	-11.78	73	2412	+471	4153
	Norwich	70	35	51	-2	0.94	1	19.55	-7.73	60	3168	+433	5037
	Staffordville	68	32	49	0	0.70	1	19.93	-7.30	61	2497	+262	4281
	Thomaston_Dam	68	30	48	-2	0.34	2	17.07	-11.35	80	2905	+622	4739
	West_Thompson_L	68	31	48	-1	1.11	1	18.97	-8.45	65	2674	+410	4473
	Willimantic	70	31	52	+3	0.74	1	17.60	-9.63	70	3252	+1017	5127

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

Beautiful warm and sunny weekend for hayrides and activities at orchards; trees near peak made farm Walktober hikes a chance to learn about agriculture while sharing nature's beauty. Mowing for haylage and for dry baling; most farms who chopped grass this year are getting a fourth cutting despite the abnormally dry weather. Digging potatoes. Rye cover looks good. Good variety of mums available for sale.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

With only a half day lost to rain, this harvest season went by very quickly. Potato storages are bursting at the seams with what appears to be an exceptional crop. Soybean harvest should begin when weather permits. Broccoli harvest is about finished.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Great weather for picking apples and visiting corn mazes. Beekeepers report that due to the drought, bees have not made enough honey to survive the winter.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Ground water is at historically low levels. Streams are at a trickle. We are hoping for a soaking rain this weekend to start a recharge of the ground water before the ground freezes over. Grain corn and soybeans to be harvested.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

Widespread freeze and frost Friday and Saturday nights ended the season for all but the most tolerant crops.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

The most recent U.S. Drought Monitor showed a reduction in Category D3 (Extreme Drought) from slightly over 52% to just under 38% in Massachusetts. First killing frost in many areas across Massachusetts occurred during the past week.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Drought conditions continue with occasional sporadic storms, but no real accumulations. Fall harvest is in swing with root crops coming in such as turnips, leeks, Brussel sprouts, sweet potatoes, kale and all kinds of winter squash. Pumpkins have been harvested and are ready for Halloween sales. Cover crops have been established and if they were lucky they grabbed some rain to germinate. Many farmers are spreading lime and manure, disking fields and harvesting silage.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Cranberry harvest activity is in high gear. More than two inches of rain to start the week was very welcome.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

Overall hay yields are down on most farms. Fall crops are selling well at markets, and those with fall and winter CSA shares are putting crops away in storage. Farms are getting cleaned up for winter, with the last seeding date for winter rye here.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Hard freezes more common. Corn silage harvest continues at a good pace with cooperative weather conditions. Generally good quality and yields although still-standing corn has been frosted. Seeing pretty fair amount of bear damage this year; seems more than usual. Rivers running fairly low.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

With two cold mornings this past week, most of the county has had at least one frost.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

Light rain showers started out the week with just over 0.14 inches of rain. Topsoil conditions remain very dry across the county. Farmers are continuing to take what they can of late cut hay before winter arrives. Most of the corn in the county has been chopped. A few fields of corn remain to be taken as grain. Reports of failed or failing water supplies due to the dry conditions continue to persist.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Weather: Great weekend for apple and pumpkin festivals, farm stands and PYO operations is southern New Hampshire. Fruit: Apple harvest is winding down; harvesting Rome, Fuji, and Golden Delicious. Picking up drops and cleaning up orchards from harvest. Vegetables: Farmers kept busy working on pulling plastic mulch and tomato stakes, planting cover crops, and putting away equipment. Good demand for all vegetables continues. Growers are harvesting a wide array of vegetables, including cabbage, kale, Brussel sprouts, winter squash and pumpkins, along with the tail end of warm season crops. County wide frost during this week. Field Crops: Silage corn chopping is over and seeding cover crops on harvested fields. Some manure spreading and incorporating in soil is taking place.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Finishing up apple harvest. Harvesting the last vegetables before the predicted frost. The week saw little rain. Cleaning vegetable fields. Spreading lime. Spreading manure on hay fields and finishing up corn silage. An extreme dry season.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

Rhode Island received some much needed rain this week due to the remnants of Hurricane Matthew, with some areas having as much as three inches. Farmers are reporting smaller pumpkins and a smaller potato crop due to the drought. The same goes for apple orchards. Chopping for corn silage is well under way.

VERMONT

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Another dry week with corn harvest continuing to progress quickly.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Still some silage corn being harvested in Franklin County this week. Much soybean and corn for grain now being combined. Dry weather has been a huge plus for this harvest, providing natural drying conditions. Much fall manure now being spread and with fall tillage. Cover crops are now appearing with ideal weather for germination. Apple harvest is moving towards what can be picked up off the ground. Still plenty of pumpkins to be had in preparation for the great pumpkin landing.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

Corn harvest is nearly complete. It looks like yields will be at or slightly above average despite the dry conditions. The area is significantly below normal for rainfall so far this year. Temperatures have remained mild although there have been several hard frosts. Some 4th cut hay harvest took place this last week as well.