



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New  
England



# Crop Progress & Condition

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[www.nass.usda.gov/nh](http://www.nass.usda.gov/nh)  
Week ending August 13, 2017

Issued weekly on the internet, April - November  
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

[nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov)  
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**Excellent week for field work:** New England averaged 6 days suitable for field work last week. Weather was much cooler throughout the New England states last week. Some areas in the region reported receiving scattered and variable amounts of rainfall while many reported several consecutive days of dry weather. Regional weekly temperatures ranged from 6 degrees below to 2 degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.06 to 1.64 inches throughout the region. Despite varying weather conditions crops appeared to be progressing nicely. Most of the New England states seemed to be enjoying the cool-dry weather; however, some regions in Maine reported that the scattered rainfall wasn't enough as some counties were still experiencing droughts that were impacting potato yields. Sweet corn harvest picked up last week, as mid-season varieties started showing up on farm stands with exceptional yields. Weather conditions were providing robust conditions for many crops, especially for corn and hay. Corn for grain has started tasseling and dairy producers have experienced wonderful progress in hay yields, which appears to be a windfall for their livestock. Fruit and vegetable producers were also benefiting from the nicer harvesting conditions; many producers continued their vegetable and fruit harvests with what appears to be exceptional yields. Fruit growers continued to treat for pests, with the Spotted Wing Drosophila being the main nuisance to be on the lookout for. Field activities for the week included side-dressing fields with fertilizer, cultivating, mowing weeds, as well as equipment repair and maintenance.

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending August 13, 2017 (in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	1	23	68	8
SUBSOIL	1	24	60	15

## Crop Conditions as of August 13, 2017 (in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	0	0	11	61	28
BLUEBERRIES, TAME	0	2	7	59	32
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME)	0	0	46	31	23
CORN	0	0	2	66	32
DRY HAY	0	1	16	75	8
OATS (ME)	0	0	0	20	80
PASTURE AND RANGE	3	9	20	68	0
PEACHES	0	4	15	52	29
PEARS	0	0	7	29	64
POTATOES (ME)	0	0	20	79	1
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	0	2	42	45	11
SWEET CORN	0	0	11	75	14

## Crop Progress as of August 13, 2017 (in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: HARVESTED	50	40	66
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): PETAL FALL	91	86	N/A
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): FRUIT SET	86	83	N/A
DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING	69	58	78
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	25	15	37
PEACHES: HARVESTED	20	12	35
PEARS: FRUIT SET	93	88	N/A
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	22	16	49

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

### August 13, 2017 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2017					
		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	82	54	68	-2	0.61	4	13.76	-2.12	62	1527	-5	2694
	Bangor_Intl_Air	84	50	68	-1	0.23	3	17.23	+2.79	57	1423	-25	2576
	Bethel	83	48	66	-2	0.60	3	20.08	+2.41	62	1354	-35	2487
	Bridgton	78	50	64	-2	0.06	2	20.95	+3.57	66	1244	-33	2334
	Caribou_Municip	75	45	63	-2	0.26	1	16.58	+1.70	70	1226	+89	2316
	Dover-Foxcroft	84	46	65	-1	0.89	5	17.84	+1.56	71	1294	+164	2393
	Durham	82	46	65	-4	0.38	3	15.63	-0.93	63	1351	-44	2507
	East_Surry	78	49	65	-3	0.39	3	16.15	+0.01	69	1176	-146	2313
	Eustis	77	43	61	-1	1.64	4	21.00	+5.37	66	984	+101	2004
	Frenchville	72	43	60	-4	0.19	1	16.15	+0.94	62	965	-82	2000
	Harmony	82	45	65	-2	1.61	4	18.75	+2.73	71	1336	+31	2476
	Hollis	85	49	66	-2	0.30	4	18.02	+1.08	61	1353	+7	2469
	Houlton	79	41	64	-1	1.17	2	15.61	+0.95	67	1196	+38	2289
	Livermore_Falls	83	45	67	+2	0.42	2	16.87	-0.80	63	1327	+183	2456
	Millinocket Was	78	45	62	-5	0.11	2	19.40	+2.81	70	1154	-158	2218
	Moosehead	76	45	61	-3	0.90	5	22.04	+5.05	80	1093	+107	2146
	Portland_ME	82	52	69	+1	0.25	3	15.60	-0.20	50	1505	+136	2683
	Rangeley_2NW	77	44	60	-3	1.03	4	19.54	+3.45	76	921	-60	1931
	Topsfield_2	83	50	65	-2	0.39	2	16.82	+0.13	64	1301	+64	2412
	Turner	81	52	67	-4	0.25	2	15.90	-0.56	64	1459	-195	2608
	West_Rockport	82	53	67	-1	0.60	5	17.48	+0.48	66	1360	+100	2505
	Whiting	85	49	66	+1	0.36	4	17.33	-0.18	58	1262	+233	2446
	Woodland	82	49	67	-1	0.40	4	14.41	-1.06	55	1475	+188	2648
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	81	47	65	-1	1.03	4	19.10	+3.16	69	1205	-35	2301
	Bradford_2	83	46	64	-4	1.08	4	20.85	+3.56	48	1245	-254	2363
	Colebrook	80	44	63	-1	0.87	3	20.90	+4.32	80	1017	-124	2067
	Concord	88	48	70	+1	0.82	4	17.00	+2.82	57	1711	+151	2908
	East_Milford	85	52	68	-2	0.41	3	19.67	+3.08	52	1664	+5	2877
	Epping	86	51	68	-1	0.72	4	17.32	+1.16	59	1625	+59	2815
	Errol_AP	79	42	62	-2	1.11	4	19.52	+4.14	73	1032	+9	2082
	Greenville	81	52	66	0	0.17	1	20.74	+3.83	46	1402	+71	2534
	Hancock	82	48	67	-1	0.70	3	20.29	+3.33	61	1563	+115	2734
	Jaffrey Silver	86	52	68	+2	0.72	3	20.11	+3.20	56	1661	+330	2863
	Jefferson	82	47	65	-1	1.42	4	20.02	+3.56	71	1303	+5	2412
	Keene_AG	84	49	67	-1	1.54	3	24.46	+8.29	59	1465	-44	2640
	Lakeport_2	85	56	69	-1	0.44	3	20.25	+4.04	56	1699	+93	2891
	Lebanon	84	48	69	+1	0.17	2	18.35	+4.37	63	1629	+160	2820
	North_Conway	85	49	67	-1	0.46	3	20.19	+2.41	64	1487	+25	2642
	Tamworth_4	81	45	64	-1	0.12	4	23.88	+4.39	63	1181	-4	2285
	Wolfeburro	80	49	67	-3	0.44	4	19.28	+3.07	66	1542	-64	2728
Vermont	Averill	80	44	62	0	1.23	4	16.51	-2.11	58	1028	+168	2072
	Bennington_AP	84	48	67	+2	0.33	3	23.80	+4.37	62	1587	+344	2798
	Burlington_Intl	84	57	71	+2	0.59	4	19.89	+4.67	74	1820	+191	3027
	Corinth	85	49	63	-3	0.45	3	21.67	+7.44	70	1080	-253	2169
	Johnson_2N	80	50	63	-2	0.93	3	24.32	+7.56	78	1142	-105	2220
	Marlboro_Raws	82	46	67	+2	0.91	4	26.97	+11.14	62	1369	+162	2528
	Montpelier_AP	81	48	65	-1	0.70	5	22.81	+8.58	75	1263	-70	2375
	Newport_AG	81	51	66	-2	1.56	4	19.87	+3.39	81	1286	-227	2389

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2017					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	84	49	66	0	0.48	2	21.70	+3.34	61	1294	+26	2428
	Rutland_AG	82	49	65	-3	0.36	3	16.46	-0.07	65	1390	-167	2554
	Springfield_VT	84	48	67	0	0.99	5	20.46	+2.67	64	1513	+118	2686
	South_Lincoln	80	43	64	0	0.37	4	25.47	+6.09	71	1187	+94	2269
	Sutton	80	49	64	0	1.31	4	23.08	+5.93	77	1162	+43	2232
	Walden	79	44	61	-3	0.96	6	21.86	+4.71	83	873	-246	1863
	Woodstock	85	49	67	0	0.43	4	21.38	+5.51	60	1479	+71	2655
Massachusetts	Amherst	85	50	68	-2	0.62	4	20.22	+2.94	58	1724	+38	2963
	Barre_Falls_Dam	87	51	68	+1	0.72	3	25.69	+8.17	67	1674	+347	2897
	Bedford_Hanscom	86	54	69	-2	0.09	1	20.33	+3.83	55	1826	+107	3059
	Beverly_Ag	83	54	66	-6	0.14	2	20.99	+6.14	59	1553	-237	2744
	Birch_Hill_Dam	84	51	67	0	0.40	3	18.55	+1.44	59	1555	+209	2738
	Boston_Logan_In	84	63	71	-2	0.10	1	18.41	+4.05	53	1909	-2	3167
	Chatham_AP	82	57	70	+1	1.05	3	14.03	-1.61	49	1606	+281	2862
	Chicopee_Westov	85	48	69	-1	0.20	2	17.72	+0.44	60	1822	+136	3063
	Edgartown	77	59	67	-4	0.80	3	17.04	+1.18	54	1598	+34	2864
	East_Brimfield_	85	55	69	0	0.23	5	20.73	+4.03	74	1693	+156	2918
	Fitchburg	88	54	71	0	0.16	3	18.96	+1.35	58	2002	+252	3247
	Greenfield	86	52	68	-2	0.83	4	20.83	+3.55	58	1673	-13	2911
	Hyannis_AP	80	57	69	-2	1.32	3	17.81	+3.56	51	1663	+134	2912
	Lawrence_AP	90	59	73	+2	0.07	2	16.70	+1.04	50	2086	+379	3331
	Maynard	87	50	69	-2	0.18	3	23.21	+6.71	67	1859	+140	3122
	New_Bedford	84	53	69	-5	0.48	2	16.76	-0.48	55	1710	-183	2958
	North Adams AP	82	46	67	+1	1.52	4	20.16	+0.41	64	1571	+277	2775
	Norwood	87	50	69	-3	0.18	2	17.29	+1.18	53	1856	+63	3119
	Pittsfield	81	48	65	-3	1.52	4	19.94	+0.91	65	1453	+2	2639
	Plymouth	86	54	69	-3	0.39	2	17.88	+1.21	57	1749	+16	2984
	Taunton_4NW	88	57	70	-2	0.16	2	19.32	+2.89	59	1903	+157	3161
	Westfield_Barne	87	50	69	+1	0.44	3	17.12	-0.69	57	1864	+399	3112
	West_Otis	85	48	69	+2	0.89	4	18.78	-1.84	73	1822	+438	3063
	Worcester	82	57	67	-2	0.13	2	18.16	+0.14	62	1595	+34	2790
	Worthington	81	47	64	-3	0.65	4	19.88	+0.58	68	1340	-7	2503
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	79	57	68	-4	0.47	2	16.94	+1.69	56	1675	+73	2945
	Providence	82	59	70	-3	0.26	2	21.60	+5.84	58	1970	+82	3254
	Westerly-Wester	82	55	68	-4	0.42	3	16.44	-0.17	53	1813	+104	3097
	Woonsocket	86	55	70	-2	0.22	2	20.93	+3.92	59	1881	+109	3145
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	82	61	71	-3	0.43	2	17.18	+0.39	52	2164	+217	3481
	Danbury_AP	84	53	68	-3	0.79	2	16.29	-3.20	55	1790	-57	3040
	Hartford_Bradle	88	53	71	-2	0.32	3	20.39	+3.14	61	2022	+45	3296
	Meriden-Meriden	84	53	69	-3	0.40	2	17.16	-2.53	52	1892	+113	3177
	Norfolk	82	49	66	-1	1.15	2	18.72	-1.90	66	1476	+92	2655
	Norwich	85	58	69	-3	0.33	2	19.30	+1.43	50	2009	+120	3298
	Staffordville	83	50	66	-4	0.18	1	20.92	+2.61	51	1535	-48	2735
	Thomaston_Dam	86	57	71	+2	0.63	3	19.80	+0.95	75	1887	+279	3154
	West_Thompson_L	85	52	67	-3	0.29	3	21.51	+2.83	63	1676	+80	2902
	Willimantic	84	54	68	-2	0.28	2	18.25	-0.06	60	2048	+465	3335

Summary based on NWS preliminary data. DFN = Departure From Normal.  
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

## 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

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

Farmers seem to be caught up with field work. At least a lot of them found time to visit Empire Farm Days this week. Crops look good as corn continues to tassel and fill ears.

### MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Drought continues and the potato fields are showing it. Early varieties have died back almost to the point of no return. Barley harvest will start this week. If the dry weather continues grain color should be excellent.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

More good rainfall in the mountain valleys & foothills. All crops look good.

PENOBSCOT/PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

The past week had scattered showers that were not enough for crops. Irrigation is being used on vegetable and small fruit crops.

### MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Sweet corn harvest picked up as mid-season varieties started coming in. Tomato harvest still slow and not able to meet demand. Tobacco harvest in full swing. Peach crop continues to look excellent. Some reports of late blight on tomatoes and potatoes.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

COOS, Steve Turaj

Fairly good field conditions with a few heavy rain-showers at times to make hay/haylage harvest interesting. Most field corn tasseled and looking pretty good, also nice re-growth of previously harvested meadows. Soybeans beginning to fill pods, not seeing potato leaf hoppers in them, Jap Beetle pressure fairly light compared to some years. We're seeing fair amount of Ergot in headed out grasses. Powdery Mildew showing up in Cucurbits.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

Spotted Wing Drosophila was reported by a farm in the southern half of the County in raspberries and blueberries. This pest doesn't typically become a problem this early in the season.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

For the week ending August 13<sup>th</sup>, crop and haying conditions were generally favorable. Scattered light showers arrived later Friday, but did not deliver a significant amount of rain. While there was plenty of sun, temperatures have been cooler than normal for most of this summer. Persistent morning fog, and heavy dew has slowed the drying of hay. Farmers have been able to chop grass, but some fields have been harvested late, due to weather conditions. Hay quality may be an issue for dairy farmers making dry hay. The corn crop is still behind for this time of year. Some corn fields have tasseled out and the corn is noticeably shorter than normal. The blue berry harvest is looking good. Plenty of berries on the bushes.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Marketing: Some farmers-markets customer volume is down slightly but demand is steady. Also, some farm-stands report number of customers seemed slightly off in comparison to previous years. Fruit: Orchardists harvesting peaches, plums, and finished picking Jersey Mac apples and starting to pick Paula Red and Ginger Gold apples. Orchardists were busy monitoring for pests, summer pruning trees, mowing orchard floors, fixing up orchard roads and moving bins into the orchard. Highbush blueberry harvest and fall raspberry harvest continued. SWD Fruit Fly is being trapped in almost all small fruit plantings in Southern New Hampshire. Also, found SWD larva in split-pit fruit, hanging damage fruit (from birds or bees) and dropped fruit that was on ground. Vegetables: Growers are harvesting an array of vegetables: beans, beets, cole crops, cucumbers, greens, peas, potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, summer squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, winter squash, zucchini, and other vegetables. Powdery mildew can be found on pumpkins and winter squash. European Corn Borer, Corn Earworm and Fall Armyworm are being caught. Field Crops: Hay cutting continued during the week with the first, second and third cuttings being made. Some farmers are spreading manure on hay fields. Farmers are starting to get ready to make new forage seedings.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Harvesting apples (Jersey Mac, Tydeman varieties), blackberries, raspberries, blueberries, peaches and an array of vegetables including tomatoes, sweetcorn, potatoes, herbs and cut flowers. Produce is bountiful; and demand remains high at farmers market, farm-stand, and PYO Operations. Several farms looking for farm labor for the next few weeks. Haying and pasture looks good. Some sporadic showers, mainly a good week for field work.

SULLIVAN, Jennifer Z. Gehly

Around an inch of rain fell during the week in the form of afternoon/evening showers and thunderstorms. Temperatures during the week were in the upper 70s to low 80s with overnight lows in the 50s. Peaches are available. Blueberries are still plentiful. Early apples are just around the corner. Farm stands are full of summer vegetables, including sweet corn.

## **RHODE ISLAND**

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

There are some producers in Washington County who have not done their first cutting of hay. Producers in Providence County are doing their second cutting of hay however due to the amount of rain the state has received the soils moisture content is very high making it more difficult to get into the fields. Blueberry harvesting continues, producers continue to harvest their vegetable crops. The weather this week has been a bit cooler with less humidity.

## **VERMONT**

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Another good week saw dry hay being harvested and blueberries and peaches being picked. Pastures are starting to get run down and

could use a drink. Corn is coming around after a very wet beginning.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

A mix of rain and sun in Franklin County, VT. this past week made for a mix of field activity. Some hay harvest with much manure applied to fields already harvested. Beginning to get caught up on hay harvest from a very wet spring into summer and quality is improving. Corn continues to work into reproductive stage with a vengeance of making up for lost growth similar to the hay crop. Blueberries continue to yield and makes for some super fruit snacks at the summer picnics. More and more sweet corn is showing at the roadsides indicating that corn is moving in the right direction growth wise. Gardens are yielding superbly, making for some good freezer stock to enjoy during the cold winter nights.

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