



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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www.nass.usda.gov/nh
Week ending August 20, 2017

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

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Excellent week for field work: New England averaged 6 days suitable for field work last week. Weather varied greatly throughout the New England states. Dry and near drought conditions were reported in many areas while others reported receiving several inches of rainfall. Regional weekly temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below to 5 degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 5.42 inches throughout the region. Crop growth, specifically hay and potatoes were slow in Maine because of the dry weather conditions. Blueberry crop was also impacted by the lack of moisture but harvest had started in some areas. Regions that received some rain reported great crop growth and conditions. Corn was reported as maturing well and grass growth in pastures and hayfields were strong as well. Orchardists had started harvesting peaches, plum and early varieties of apples. Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) were reported in some areas but producers were continuously monitoring and spraying regularly. Growers had started irrigating and are harvesting an array of vegetables such as beans, beets, cucumbers, greens, peas, potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, summer squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, and other vegetables. Grapes were reported as going through veraison and warm weather will be needed to complete ripening in the next weeks to come. Field activities for the week included side-dressing fields with fertilizer, cultivating, mowing weeds, as well as equipment repair and maintenance.

Crop Conditions as of August 20, 2017

(in percent)

| Item | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-------------------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| APPLES | 0 | 0 | 17 | 65 | 18 |
| BLUEBERRIES, TAME | 0 | 0 | 1 | 76 | 23 |
| BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME) | 0 | 3 | 3 | 50 | 44 |
| CORN | 0 | 1 | 6 | 63 | 30 |
| DRY HAY | 0 | 2 | 11 | 70 | 17 |
| OATS (ME) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 79 |
| PASTURE AND RANGE | 5 | 7 | 31 | 51 | 6 |
| PEACHES | 0 | 4 | 15 | 52 | 29 |
| PEARS | 0 | 0 | 7 | 28 | 65 |
| POTATOES (ME) | 1 | 0 | 30 | 69 | 0 |
| QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE | 0 | 2 | 27 | 62 | 9 |
| SWEET CORN | 0 | 0 | 10 | 74 | 16 |

Crop Progress as of August 20, 2017

(in percent)

| Item | This Week | Last Week | Last Year |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| BLUEBERRIES, TAME: HARVESTED | 60 | 50 | 81 |
| DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING | 75 | 69 | 85 |
| DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING | 29 | 25 | 42 |
| PEACHES: HARVESTED | 30 | 20 | 45 |
| PEARS: FRUIT SET | 97 | 93 | N/A |
| PEARS: HARVESTED | 5 | <5 | 5 |
| SWEET CORN: HARVESTED | 32 | 22 | 59 |

Soil Moisture for Week Ending August 20, 2017

(in percent)

| Item | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|---------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| TOPSOIL | 3 | 29 | 66 | 2 |
| SUBSOIL | 3 | 32 | 58 | 7 |

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

August 20, 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 | 81 | 55 | 68 | -1 | 1.14 | 2 | 14.90 | -1.70 | 64 | 1652 | -10 | 2889 |
| | Bangor_Intl_Air | 84 | 51 | 68 | 0 | 0.97 | 3 | 18.20 | +3.08 | 60 | 1547 | -24 | 2770 |
| | Bethel | 79 | 53 | 65 | -2 | 0.58 | 2 | 20.66 | +2.01 | 64 | 1459 | -46 | 2662 |
| | Bridgton | 76 | 51 | 63 | -2 | 0.88 | 1 | 21.83 | +3.54 | 67 | 1339 | -43 | 2499 |
| | Caribou_Municip | 82 | 46 | 64 | +1 | 0.62 | 5 | 17.20 | +1.38 | 75 | 1321 | +90 | 2481 |
| | Dover-Foxcroft | 80 | 45 | 65 | +1 | 0.95 | 3 | 18.32 | +1.24 | 74 | 1388 | +159 | 2557 |
| | Durham | 81 | 47 | 64 | -4 | 1.46 | 1 | 17.09 | -0.17 | 64 | 1454 | -66 | 2680 |
| | East_Surry | 81 | 48 | 65 | -2 | 0.78 | 4 | 17.15 | +0.38 | 73 | 1285 | -156 | 2492 |
| | Eustis | 81 | 42 | 61 | 0 | 0.57 | 4 | 21.57 | +5.17 | 70 | 1062 | +104 | 2152 |
| | Frenchville | 75 | 46 | 61 | -2 | 0.54 | 4 | 16.69 | +0.53 | 66 | 1043 | -92 | 2148 |
| | Harmony | 80 | 44 | 62 | -4 | 1.32 | 3 | 20.07 | +3.21 | 74 | 1425 | +11 | 2635 |
| | Hollis | 82 | 46 | 65 | -1 | 2.12 | 1 | 20.14 | +2.50 | 62 | 1460 | -1 | 2646 |
| | Houlton | 82 | 45 | 64 | 0 | 0.67 | 4 | 16.28 | +0.78 | 71 | 1299 | +44 | 2462 |
| | Livermore_Falls | 80 | 43 | 64 | 0 | 0.39 | 2 | 17.26 | -1.32 | 65 | 1424 | +181 | 2623 |
| | Millinocket Was | 81 | 44 | 62 | -4 | 0.42 | 3 | 19.82 | +2.32 | 73 | 1241 | -182 | 2375 |
| | Moosehead | 80 | 46 | 63 | +1 | 0.82 | 4 | 22.86 | +5.03 | 84 | 1183 | +111 | 2306 |
| | Portland_ME | 86 | 50 | 69 | +2 | 1.92 | 1 | 17.52 | +1.07 | 51 | 1641 | +151 | 2889 |
| | Rangeley_2NW | 77 | 44 | 60 | -2 | 0.79 | 4 | 20.33 | +3.33 | 80 | 993 | -72 | 2073 |
| | Topsfield_2 | 84 | 51 | 66 | 0 | 0.56 | 3 | 17.38 | -0.12 | 67 | 1417 | +71 | 2598 |
| | Turner | 80 | 52 | 66 | -4 | 1.07 | 3 | 16.97 | -0.15 | 67 | 1569 | -222 | 2788 |
| | West_Rockport | 82 | 48 | 68 | +2 | 1.02 | 3 | 18.31 | +0.68 | 68 | 1477 | +101 | 2692 |
| | Whiting | 86 | 50 | 66 | +2 | 1.00 | 3 | 18.33 | +0.12 | 61 | 1372 | +242 | 2626 |
| | Woodland | 82 | 50 | 67 | +1 | 0.70 | 3 | 15.11 | -1.06 | 58 | 1595 | +193 | 2838 |
| New Hampshire | Berlin_AG | 80 | 47 | 63 | -1 | 0.69 | 3 | 19.79 | +2.94 | 72 | 1294 | -47 | 2460 |
| | Bradford_2 | 82 | 45 | 64 | -3 | 1.46 | 2 | 22.31 | +4.18 | 50 | 1342 | -273 | 2530 |
| | Colebrook | 81 | 40 | 63 | 0 | 0.64 | 6 | 20.54 | +2.92 | 83 | 1096 | -137 | 2216 |
| | Concord | 87 | 46 | 68 | 0 | 1.70 | 2 | 18.70 | +3.82 | 59 | 1839 | +152 | 3106 |
| | East_Milford | 86 | 50 | 68 | -1 | 1.50 | 3 | 21.17 | +3.72 | 55 | 1792 | +2 | 3075 |
| | Epping | 86 | 46 | 68 | 0 | 1.76 | 2 | 19.08 | +2.15 | 61 | 1750 | +56 | 3010 |
| | Errol_AP | 80 | 44 | 61 | -2 | 0.25 | 2 | 19.74 | +3.45 | 75 | 1113 | +2 | 2233 |
| | Greenville | 82 | 47 | 65 | 0 | 1.48 | 2 | 22.33 | +4.51 | 49 | 1505 | +68 | 2707 |
| | Hancock | 86 | 45 | 67 | 0 | 1.60 | 2 | 21.89 | +4.02 | 63 | 1681 | +117 | 2922 |
| | Jaffrey Silver | 83 | 51 | 68 | +3 | 1.57 | 3 | 21.68 | +3.86 | 59 | 1787 | +350 | 3059 |
| | Jefferson | 80 | 47 | 64 | -1 | 0.76 | 2 | 20.78 | +3.36 | 73 | 1405 | +5 | 2584 |
| | Keene_AG | 84 | 46 | 67 | 0 | 1.73 | 3 | 26.19 | +9.11 | 62 | 1582 | -48 | 2827 |
| | Lakeport_2 | 84 | 53 | 68 | -1 | 2.50 | 3 | 22.75 | +5.73 | 59 | 1826 | +86 | 3088 |
| | Lebanon | 84 | 46 | 68 | +1 | 1.72 | 4 | 20.07 | +5.32 | 67 | 1754 | +166 | 3015 |
| | North_Conway | 83 | 50 | 67 | 0 | 0.81 | 1 | 21.00 | +2.28 | 65 | 1608 | +26 | 2833 |
| | Tamworth_4 | 79 | 44 | 62 | -2 | 1.14 | 2 | 25.02 | +4.48 | 65 | 1270 | -12 | 2444 |
| | Wolfeburro | 78 | 55 | 67 | -2 | 3.01 | 2 | 22.29 | +5.27 | 68 | 1664 | -76 | 2920 |
| Vermont | Averill | 77 | 46 | 62 | +1 | 0.49 | 2 | 17.00 | -2.74 | 60 | 1115 | +181 | 2229 |
| | Bennington_AP | 81 | 46 | 68 | +4 | 1.42 | 2 | 25.22 | +4.74 | 64 | 1713 | +372 | 2994 |
| | Burlington_Intl | 82 | 52 | 70 | +2 | 0.83 | 4 | 20.72 | +4.59 | 78 | 1963 | +207 | 3240 |
| | Corinth | 75 | 48 | 62 | -3 | 1.26 | 2 | 22.93 | +7.77 | 72 | 1162 | -276 | 2321 |
| | Johnson_2N | 76 | 47 | 63 | -1 | 2.51 | 4 | 26.83 | +8.96 | 82 | 1233 | -110 | 2381 |
| | Marlboro_Raws | 79 | 48 | 66 | +2 | 1.54 | 3 | 28.51 | +11.67 | 65 | 1481 | +175 | 2710 |
| | Montpelier_AP | 79 | 46 | 64 | -1 | 1.26 | 3 | 24.07 | +8.91 | 78 | 1361 | -77 | 2543 |
| | Newport_AG | 78 | 50 | 65 | -2 | 0.88 | 4 | 20.75 | +3.35 | 85 | 1388 | -242 | 2561 |

| | | 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 | 81 | 46 | 64 | -1 | 2.46 | 2 | 24.16 | +4.68 | 63 | 1396 | +25 | 2600 |
| | Rutland_AG | 80 | 44 | 66 | -1 | 1.51 | 3 | 17.97 | +0.53 | 68 | 1505 | -173 | 2739 |
| | Springfield_VT | 82 | 46 | 66 | 0 | 0.67 | 2 | 21.13 | +2.36 | 66 | 1630 | +123 | 2873 |
| | South_Lincoln | 78 | 41 | 64 | +1 | 1.01 | 2 | 26.45 | +5.86 | 71 | 1283 | +102 | 2435 |
| | Sutton | 75 | 48 | 63 | 0 | 1.33 | 5 | 24.41 | +6.17 | 82 | 1252 | +41 | 2392 |
| | Walden | 78 | 41 | 59 | -4 | 1.36 | 4 | 23.22 | +4.98 | 87 | 945 | -266 | 2005 |
| | Woodstock | 82 | 46 | 66 | 0 | 1.02 | 2 | 22.40 | +5.76 | 62 | 1594 | +73 | 2840 |
| Massachusetts | Amherst | 85 | 51 | 69 | 0 | 0.45 | 2 | 20.67 | +2.48 | 60 | 1862 | +45 | 3171 |
| | Barre_Falls_Dam | 87 | 50 | 69 | +3 | 0.22 | 2 | 25.91 | +7.34 | 69 | 1809 | +373 | 3102 |
| | Bedford_Hanscom | 88 | 50 | 71 | +1 | 0.01 | 1 | 20.34 | +3.07 | 56 | 1972 | +115 | 3275 |
| | Beverly_Ag | 81 | 51 | 68 | -3 | 0.23 | 1 | 21.22 | +5.60 | 60 | 1681 | -258 | 2942 |
| | Birch_Hill_Dam | 85 | 48 | 68 | +2 | 0.64 | 3 | 19.38 | +1.36 | 63 | 1677 | +221 | 2930 |
| | Boston_Logan_In | 86 | 63 | 73 | +1 | 0.25 | 1 | 18.66 | +3.53 | 54 | 2069 | +2 | 3397 |
| | Chatham_AP | 82 | 60 | 72 | +4 | 5.42 | 4 | 19.45 | +3.04 | 53 | 1762 | +311 | 3088 |
| | Chicopee_Westov | 87 | 48 | 71 | +2 | 0.24 | 2 | 17.96 | -0.23 | 62 | 1968 | +151 | 3279 |
| | Edgartown | 83 | 57 | 71 | +1 | 3.35 | 4 | 21.06 | +4.29 | 58 | 1767 | +63 | 3103 |
| | East_Brimfield_ | 87 | 48 | 70 | +2 | 0.09 | 3 | 20.82 | +3.21 | 77 | 1832 | +171 | 3127 |
| | Fitchburg | 88 | 53 | 73 | +3 | 0.42 | 3 | 19.38 | +0.79 | 61 | 2161 | +271 | 3476 |
| | Greenfield | 84 | 52 | 69 | 0 | 0.91 | 2 | 21.74 | +3.55 | 60 | 1806 | -11 | 3114 |
| | Hyannis_AP | 84 | 57 | 73 | +3 | 4.46 | 4 | 22.27 | +7.19 | 55 | 1824 | +157 | 3143 |
| | Lawrence_AP | 89 | 55 | 73 | +3 | 0.45 | 1 | 17.15 | +0.79 | 51 | 2252 | +407 | 3567 |
| | Maynard | 91 | 48 | 72 | +2 | 0.14 | 3 | 23.37 | +6.10 | 70 | 2011 | +154 | 3344 |
| | New_Bedford | 88 | 54 | 72 | -1 | 2.25 | 2 | 19.01 | +0.72 | 57 | 1866 | -190 | 3184 |
| | North Adams AP | 81 | 48 | 68 | +3 | 1.28 | 3 | 21.44 | +0.68 | 67 | 1696 | +295 | 2970 |
| | Norwood | 91 | 48 | 72 | +2 | 0.00 | 0 | 17.29 | +0.24 | 53 | 2008 | +72 | 3341 |
| | Pittsfield | 79 | 48 | 66 | 0 | 0.35 | 4 | 20.29 | +0.21 | 69 | 1569 | +3 | 2825 |
| | Plymouth | 87 | 55 | 73 | +2 | 1.05 | 2 | 18.93 | +1.35 | 59 | 1913 | +35 | 3218 |
| | Taunton_4NW | 91 | 56 | 73 | +3 | 0.25 | 2 | 19.57 | +2.16 | 61 | 2067 | +178 | 3395 |
| | Westfield_Barne | 88 | 52 | 71 | +4 | 0.15 | 2 | 17.27 | -1.52 | 59 | 2015 | +430 | 3333 |
| | West_Otis | 87 | 48 | 71 | +5 | 0.45 | 2 | 19.23 | -2.44 | 75 | 1968 | +469 | 3279 |
| | Worcester | 82 | 55 | 70 | +2 | 0.07 | 2 | 18.23 | -0.70 | 64 | 1739 | +50 | 3004 |
| | Worthington | 80 | 45 | 65 | -1 | 0.74 | 3 | 20.62 | +0.27 | 71 | 1446 | -10 | 2679 |
| Rhode Island | Newport_AP | 86 | 61 | 73 | +2 | 1.17 | 3 | 18.11 | +2.02 | 59 | 1841 | +93 | 3181 |
| | Providence | 91 | 61 | 75 | +3 | 0.35 | 2 | 21.95 | +5.28 | 60 | 2145 | +105 | 3499 |
| | Westerly-Wester | 88 | 61 | 74 | +3 | 0.34 | 4 | 16.78 | -0.88 | 57 | 1982 | +127 | 3336 |
| | Woonsocket | 90 | 54 | 72 | +2 | 0.16 | 1 | 21.09 | +3.10 | 60 | 2037 | +122 | 3371 |
| Connecticut | Bridgeport_Siko | 88 | 64 | 75 | +2 | 1.01 | 2 | 18.19 | +0.56 | 54 | 2342 | +234 | 3729 |
| | Danbury_AP | 84 | 55 | 72 | +2 | 0.30 | 3 | 16.59 | -3.90 | 58 | 1947 | -42 | 3267 |
| | Hartford_Bradle | 89 | 55 | 73 | +1 | 0.20 | 2 | 20.59 | +2.43 | 63 | 2184 | +57 | 3528 |
| | Meriden-Meriden | 86 | 57 | 72 | +2 | 0.14 | 2 | 17.30 | -3.43 | 54 | 2048 | +126 | 3403 |
| | Norfolk | 79 | 52 | 67 | +1 | 0.20 | 4 | 18.92 | -2.75 | 70 | 1598 | +99 | 2847 |
| | Norwich | 88 | 61 | 73 | +2 | 0.56 | 2 | 19.69 | +0.70 | 51 | 2167 | +129 | 3526 |
| | Staffordville | 85 | 51 | 69 | +1 | 0.14 | 1 | 21.06 | +1.84 | 52 | 1669 | -43 | 2939 |
| | Thomaston_Dam | 88 | 60 | 75 | +7 | 0.46 | 2 | 20.46 | +0.63 | 78 | 2059 | +323 | 3396 |
| | West_Thompson_L | 85 | 54 | 69 | 0 | 0.07 | 1 | 21.58 | +1.92 | 64 | 1813 | +87 | 3109 |
| | Willimantic | 87 | 55 | 72 | +4 | 0.06 | 2 | 18.31 | -0.91 | 62 | 2204 | +492 | 3561 |

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
Corn is ripening. One can always tell - the reports of bear damage in fields start coming in!

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James
Localized showers brought a little relief from the drought on Sunday. Many areas still left high and dry. Many early variety potatoes have stopped growing. A small amount of barley was harvested last week. No word on yields yet.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow
More than 2 inches of rain on Friday was just what the doctor ordered for crops. Grass however had gone dormant, and not growing back very fast. Vegetable crops look good, if they were irrigated. Due to the wet spring direct seeded pumpkins and squash got off to a slow start. Prices look good for those crops as supply will be tight.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond
Great growing conditions, with lots of sun and some showers. This week looks good for hay harvest.

HANCOCK/PENOBSCOT, Valerie Porter
Farm stands are plentiful and farmers are busy. Blueberry crop is down due to lack of moisture but harvest has started. Most ground is in much need of rain. Hay cutting on some fields still going on and crop is pretty good in some areas. Some hail damage reported in Penobscot County on corn crop. Overall crop production will be down in most areas.

WASHINGTON, Audre Hayward
Near drought conditions, very dry.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski
Tomatoes finally starting to come in. Many portions of Cape Cod received 5+ inches of rain on Friday.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski
Dry for most of the week, except for steady and occasionally heavy showers Friday. Field corn maturing well, and grass growth in pastures and hayfields continues to be strong for late August. Most veggie crops doing well, though overall maturing a little later than usual. PYO apples just starting with early varieties, peaches winding down.

COOS, Steve Turaj
Cooler temperatures, some rain the end of week. Corn looks good, nice grass growing weather.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant
SWD has arrived in all parts of the county. I received two reports of significant crop damage to blueberries.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt
For the week ending August 19th we received a total of 1.95 inches of rain. 0.75 inches of rain on Tuesday slowed haying activities. Farmers tried to work around the wet areas and hayed where they could. Friday again dropped 1.2 inches of rain, adding to the frustration of those who were struggling to make dry hay. While this has been a good year for grass to grow, it has been a real challenge to harvest the hay that is out there. The corn crop is continuing to grow. A significant amount of the corn is now tasseled. Corn yields do appear to be behind on many fields. Some fields that were planted early have done better.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton
Orchardists harvesting peaches, plums, and picking Paula red apples. Orchardists busy monitoring for pests, summer pruning trees, mowing orchard floors, fixing up orchard roads and moving bins into the orchard. Highbush blueberry harvest over except for those few growers who have late maturing varieties, and fall raspberry harvest continued. Continue monitoring for SWD Fruit Fly, trap numbers for SWD are still increasing and are very high some plantings where farmers are not spraying regularly. Vegetables: Growers are irrigating and 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. Cucurbit Downy Mildew in cucumber and melons. Powdery mildew is on pumpkins and winter squash. Bacterial Canker found in tomatoes. Corn Earworm and Fall Armyworm trap numbers went up at many farms. Broad mite found on outdoor grown peppers. Field Crops: Hay cutting continued during the week with the second and third cuttings being made. Some spreading manure on hay fields. Farmers are getting ready to make new forage seedings. Corn looks good to excellent with good development.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad
Harvesting peaches, apples (Jerseymacs, Tydemans and Gravensteins), fall blueberries and fall raspberries varieties, vegetables a whole array of vegetables and tomatoes are bountiful, herbs, cut flowers. Haying and chopping field corn. The week saw nice sunny days with much needed rain all day on Friday. Growers are all very busy with market and farm chores.

SULLIVAN, Jennifer Z. Gehly

Heavy rain fell Friday. Areas received up to an inch and half during the course of the day. Temperatures were also cooler in the mid-60s. Temperatures for the rest of the week averaged in the upper 70s to low 80s. The weekend was clear, warm, and breezy. Field corn is tasseling and ears are forming. Hay is being made. Summer vegetables are in good supply, however some farm stands run out of sweet corn by the end of the day. Early varieties of apples are available. Blueberries and peaches are still being harvested. Blueberries and peaches are still being harvested.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

Excellent week for harvesting crops. Lower portions of the state are now in abnormally dry conditions according to the drought monitor. More hay producers are now able to get into their fields this week and begin their second cutting of hay.

VERMONT

ALL VT COUNTIES, Terence Bradshaw

First picking of apples has started with Jersey Macs and a few Paula Reds coming off. Growers are reporting good fruit size and a plentiful crop. Grapes are going through veraison and warm, sunny weather will be needed to complete ripening in the next month.

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Another mostly dry week allowed field work progression. Lots of dry hay being made.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Things are turning around in Franklin County Vt. Hay and pasture are excelling for this time of year. Corn is progressing and ears moving to development stage, not rapidly which will add to better starch at finishing time. Pastures that usually dry up this time of year are catching enough moisture to keep growth going along with sun in between the showers. Hay and haylage are being harvested with much improvement in quality. Sweet corn continues to be harvested and show up on the road sides for sale, so enjoy this harvest. Blueberries continue to be picked, however, reports come in that some areas of the county are running on the short side towards end of harvest. Early maturing apples are starting to be picked with a lot of the wild apples falling off trees. Get the apple sauce maker going and stock up the freezer.