



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 27, 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 7 days suitable for field work last week. Cooler weather presented itself throughout the New England states this past week. Many states reported dry conditions and were in need of rainfall. Regional weekly temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below to 4 degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 1.81 inches throughout the region. The dry weather conditions have been a boon to hay producers and conditions were near perfect for their harvest. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for fruit and vegetable growers as drought conditions still exist in certain areas. Farmers without irrigation systems were beginning to experience smaller fruit sizes, especially berry producers. However, those fortunate enough to have solid irrigation systems in place have been utilizing them, which is wonderful news for some non-citrus tree fruit farmers. The cooler weather last week helped ripen the coloring of apples and peaches in many locations. Operations continued harvesting early apples, peaches and summer vegetables. 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 27, 2017

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	0	0	13	72	15
BLUEBERRIES, TAME	0	1	3	72	24
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME)	0	3	6	69	22
CORN	0	0	7	60	33
DRY HAY	0	2	14	65	19
OATS (ME)	0	0	0	20	80
PASTURE AND RANGE	5	12	38	42	3
PEACHES	0	4	14	53	29
PEARS	0	0	6	28	66
POTATOES (ME)	1	19	39	41	0
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	0	2	26	62	10
SWEET CORN	0	1	10	74	15

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending August 27, 2017

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	7	35	58	0
SUBSOIL	3	38	49	10

## Crop Progress as of August 27, 2017

(in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
APPLES: HARVESTED	7	<5	16
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: HARVESTED	69	60	89
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): PETAL FALL	100	92	N/A
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): FRUIT SET	97	87	N/A
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): HARVESTED	75	<5	61
DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING	81	75	88
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	44	29	48
OATS (ME): HARVESTED FOR	30	<5	9
PEACHES: HARVESTED	50	30	53
PEARS: HARVESTED	8	5	7
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	49	32	67

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 27, 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	84	53	68	+1	0.20	1	15.10	-2.27	65	1776	-4	3083
	Bangor_Intl_Air	86	46	68	+2	0.01	1	18.21	+2.39	61	1673	-9	2966
	Bethel	84	45	64	-1	0.44	1	21.10	+1.48	65	1559	-50	2832
	Bridgton	82	44	63	0	0.09	1	21.92	+2.75	68	1431	-44	2661
	Caribou_Municip	82	41	64	+2	0.23	2	17.43	+0.70	77	1423	+113	2653
	Dover-Foxcroft	86	45	65	+3	0.09	1	18.20	+0.28	75	1490	+175	2729
	Durham	84	42	64	-2	0.26	1	17.35	-0.63	65	1551	-82	2847
	East_Surry	83	45	65	-1	0.02	1	17.18	-0.30	75	1390	-159	2667
	Eustis	82	40	61	+2	0.22	1	21.79	+4.56	71	1140	+119	2300
	Frenchville	80	41	62	+1	0.35	2	17.04	-0.03	68	1130	-79	2305
	Harmony	84	44	64	0	0.18	2	19.85	+2.15	77	1526	+16	2806
	Hollis	86	46	65	0	0.74	1	20.88	+2.52	63	1565	+2	2821
	Houlton	84	39	64	+2	0.05	1	16.33	-0.01	72	1400	+63	2633
	Livermore_Falls	84	40	63	+1	0.10	1	17.36	-2.13	66	1515	+186	2784
	Millinocket Was	84	40	63	-1	0.05	2	19.87	+1.46	75	1335	-184	2539
	Moosehead	81	43	62	+1	0.43	2	23.29	+4.62	86	1269	+123	2462
	Portland_ME	86	50	69	+3	0.77	1	18.29	+1.14	52	1772	+173	3090
	Rangeley_2NW	77	40	59	-2	0.62	2	20.95	+3.04	82	1056	-81	2206
	Topsfield_2	87	48	67	+3	0.02	1	17.40	-0.94	68	1540	+97	2791
	Turner	84	49	66	-2	0.35	1	17.32	-0.50	68	1682	-235	2971
	West_Rockport	83	46	68	+3	0.04	1	18.27	-0.08	69	1603	+121	2888
	Whiting	86	46	67	+4	0.00	0	18.33	-0.61	61	1481	+261	2805
	Woodland	86	43	68	+3	0.02	1	15.02	-1.86	59	1727	+224	3040
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	84	42	61	-2	0.70	1	20.49	+2.73	73	1374	-55	2610
	Bradford_2	86	38	62	-3	0.34	1	22.65	+3.68	51	1428	-291	2686
	Colebrook	83	36	59	-3	1.15	2	21.60	+3.00	85	1138	-175	2328
	Concord	91	43	67	0	0.48	1	19.18	+3.60	60	1957	+155	3294
	East_Milford	89	47	67	0	0.87	1	22.04	+3.71	56	1913	+2	3266
	Epping	88	45	67	0	0.91	1	19.99	+2.29	62	1867	+57	3197
	Errol_AP	84	37	59	-2	0.80	1	20.54	+3.37	76	1178	-10	2368
	Greenville	85	42	64	0	1.06	1	23.39	+4.67	50	1604	+72	2876
	Hancock	86	46	65	0	1.62	1	23.51	+4.73	64	1788	+120	3099
	Jaffrey Silver	87	45	67	+3	1.23	1	23.06	+4.34	60	1900	+368	3242
	Jefferson	86	42	62	-1	0.57	1	21.35	+3.02	74	1489	0	2738
	Keene_AG	87	42	64	-2	0.89	1	27.08	+9.13	63	1683	-56	2998
	Lakeport_2	85	49	67	-1	0.40	1	23.15	+5.36	60	1942	+80	3274
	Lebanon	89	45	66	+1	0.46	1	20.53	+4.95	68	1866	+171	3197
	North_Conway	87	45	65	0	0.54	1	21.54	+1.91	66	1715	+27	3010
	Tamworth_4	84	39	63	+1	0.29	1	25.31	+3.76	66	1362	-4	2606
	Wolfeburro	82	53	67	-1	0.30	1	22.59	+4.80	69	1789	-73	3115
Vermont	Averill	82	35	59	0	0.70	1	17.70	-3.13	61	1183	+187	2367
	Bennington_AP	88	42	65	+3	0.20	1	25.42	+3.89	65	1820	+393	3171
	Burlington_Intl	87	48	68	+2	0.86	1	21.58	+4.54	79	2089	+219	3436
	Corinth	79	42	60	-3	0.41	1	23.34	+7.27	73	1235	-295	2464
	Johnson_2N	82	41	61	-1	0.57	2	27.40	+8.48	84	1311	-117	2529
	Marlboro_Raws	84	45	65	+2	0.71	1	29.22	+11.40	66	1586	+194	2885
	Montpelier_AP	84	39	62	-1	0.51	2	24.58	+8.51	80	1442	-88	2694
	Newport_AG	82	39	62	-3	0.28	1	20.93	+2.62	85	1476	-259	2719

		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	87	43	64	+1	0.65	1	24.81	+4.24	64	1492	+29	2766
	Rutland_AG	87	43	63	-3	0.95	1	18.92	+0.57	69	1599	-187	2903
	Springfield_VT	89	43	65	+1	0.30	1	21.43	+1.71	67	1732	+126	3045
	South_Lincoln	82	39	60	-1	0.86	1	27.34	+5.56	73	1352	+95	2574
	Sutton	81	44	62	+1	0.18	1	24.59	+5.30	83	1334	+45	2544
	Walden	80	37	57	-4	0.13	1	23.35	+4.06	88	997	-292	2127
	Woodstock	89	42	64	-1	0.59	1	22.99	+5.55	63	1690	+69	3006
Massachusetts	Amherst	88	45	67	0	0.56	1	21.23	+2.09	61	1980	+42	3359
	Barre_Falls_Dam	90	44	66	+2	0.95	1	26.86	+7.29	70	1921	+388	3284
	Bedford_Hanscom	89	46	69	+1	0.15	1	20.49	+2.40	57	2105	+121	3478
	Beverly_Ag	85	48	67	-3	0.31	1	21.53	+5.07	61	1800	-278	3131
	Birch_Hill_Dam	87	43	65	+1	1.05	1	20.43	+1.51	64	1786	+231	3109
	Boston_Logan_In	91	57	74	+3	0.04	1	18.70	+2.80	55	2237	+25	3635
	Chatham_AP	82	55	71	+4	0.00	0	19.45	+2.26	53	1906	+336	3302
	Chicopee_Westov	90	43	67	0	0.65	1	18.61	-0.53	63	2090	+152	3471
	Edgartown	84	50	69	0	0.00	0	20.53	+2.85	58	1912	+74	3318
	East_Brimfield_	86	43	67	+1	0.24	2	21.06	+2.54	79	1950	+175	3315
	Fitchburg	91	48	71	+3	0.54	1	19.92	+0.35	62	2306	+288	3691
	Greenfield	89	46	67	0	0.51	1	22.25	+3.11	61	1925	-13	3303
	Hyannis_AP	82	50	70	+1	0.00	0	22.27	+6.35	55	1963	+166	3352
	Lawrence_AP	91	52	72	+4	0.43	1	17.58	+0.47	52	2408	+436	3793
	Maynard	91	43	68	0	0.30	1	23.53	+5.44	68	2140	+156	3543
	New_Bedford	84	46	69	-3	0.00	0	19.01	-0.33	57	1998	-210	3386
	North Adams AP	87	42	64	0	0.41	1	21.85	+0.04	68	1798	+302	3142
	Norwood	91	43	68	-1	0.04	1	17.33	-0.64	54	2137	+71	3540
	Pittsfield	84	44	64	-1	1.81	1	22.10	+0.97	70	1667	-1	2993
	Plymouth	86	46	69	0	0.00	0	18.93	+0.38	59	2047	+33	3422
	Taunton_4NW	88	49	71	+2	0.01	1	19.58	+1.19	62	2213	+192	3611
	Westfield_Barne	91	46	69	+3	0.49	1	17.76	-2.01	60	2148	+456	3536
	West_Otis	90	43	67	+2	0.77	1	20.00	-2.72	76	2090	+488	3471
	Worcester	86	53	69	+2	0.22	1	18.45	-1.42	65	1870	+65	3205
	Worthington	86	43	64	0	0.70	1	21.32	-0.08	72	1542	-11	2845
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	82	53	70	0	0.00	0	18.11	+1.12	59	1982	+96	3392
	Providence	90	54	73	+3	0.01	1	21.96	+4.38	61	2306	+123	3730
	Westerly-Wester	84	51	71	+1	0.00	0	16.78	-1.93	57	2127	+135	3551
	Woonsocket	90	43	69	0	0.05	1	21.14	+2.17	61	2174	+127	3578
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	86	57	73	+1	0.27	1	18.46	-0.01	55	2504	+244	3961
	Danbury_AP	89	48	69	0	0.31	2	16.90	-4.64	60	2080	-39	3470
	Hartford_Bradle	91	50	70	0	0.39	1	20.98	+1.91	64	2329	+63	3743
	Meriden-Meriden	87	46	69	0	0.05	1	17.35	-4.43	55	2180	+126	3605
	Norfolk	86	47	65	0	0.67	1	19.59	-3.13	71	1701	+99	3020
	Norwich	88	51	71	+1	0.03	1	19.72	-0.39	52	2316	+139	3745
	Staffordville	86	47	66	-1	0.24	1	21.30	+1.12	53	1780	-50	3120
	Thomaston_Dam	89	52	71	+4	0.37	2	21.40	+0.52	80	2210	+357	3617
	West_Thompson_L	87	46	67	0	0.03	1	21.61	+0.97	65	1930	+84	3296
	Willimantic	88	48	69	+2	0.04	1	18.35	-1.83	63	2335	+505	3762

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

The drought continues. Some areas have not had any appreciable rain since July. Early variety potatoes have stopped growing and the russet growers are worried they may suffer the same fate. Grain harvest is in full swing with good crops and quality being reported.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Cool, dry weather has arrived. Perfect for making hay, if you have any to cut. Very little regrowth due to dry conditions. Vegetables are being irrigated. Peaches are very good this year. Early apples are being picked. Could use some rain.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Perfect weather for harvesting hay. Conditions are beginning to get dry.

HANCOCK/PENOBSCOT, Valerie Porter

Penobscot, Hancock and Washington Counties are very dry. Much needed rain would be welcoming. Crops are stressing even with harvest going on with vegetable crops. Blueberry production down due to no moisture to size up. Heavy irrigation going on to keep late crops growing. Hay is being cut still some on second/third crop. Pastures are getting very limited due to dry conditions.

PENOBSCOT/PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

Very dry week. Early potatoes are starting to be harvested.

WASHINGTON, Audre Hayward

Very dry conditions, lack of rain making blueberries small

### 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

BELKNAP/STRAFFORD, Kelly McAdam

Many blueberry growers in Belknap County have stopped picking, due to Spotted Wing Drosophila damage.

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

Night-time temps continue to drop, slowing the progress of ripening hot crops like tomato and pepper. Blueberry and late raspberry crop continues to decline in quality as SWD takes a stronger hold. Rains have been welcomed, but often too much all at once. Apple crop are starting to trickle in and looking good. Growers are hoping to ward off diseases of storage crops (primarily winter squash) until they ripen up.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Bright and sunny weather for much of the week. Good drying conditions and lots of dry hay being harvested. Grass still growing well. Field corn is maturing nicely. Wide range of vegetables available at farm stands, markets, and CSAs. Great weekend for PYO apples.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Cooler temperatures now with heavy rain earlier this week. Lots of haylage coming in. Sweet corn now at farm stands, field corn ears filling out well but could use some more heat units to mature crop. Oats generally in milk-stage yet, soybean pods filling. Looking like late summer as swamp maples begin to color, purple asters in bloom.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

For the week ending August 27, cropping conditions were generally favorable. Rain early Tuesday shut down haying for the day. Total rainfall was less than a half inch. Temperature conditions remain below normal. Farmers have been making progress on chopping haylage and baling hay. The corn crop still shows the impacts of the cooler than normal weather that we have seen this summer. Corn on some of the upland fields has tasseled later than normal, and it is shorter than normal for this time of year. Ear development on a number corn fields is also behind for this time of year.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Fruit: Growers are harvesting peaches, plums, pears, blueberry, and fall raspberry. Harvesting Paula Red and Ginger Gold apples. Monitoring for pests - spraying if needed, training young trees and mowing orchard floors. Cool weather is helping color development of apples. Vegetables: Rain is needed, so, irrigating crops. Harvesting an array of vegetables: beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, greens, potatoes, radishes, summer squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, zucchini, and other vegetables. Some farmers are starting to clean up harvested fields and planting cover crops. Downy Mildew has taken its toll on cucumbers, melon and some squash plants. Farmers kept busy cultivating, hoeing weeds, monitoring pest pressures and spraying pesticides for insect and disease control where needed. Field Crops: Hay cutting along with making haylage continued at a rapid pace during the week with the second cut being made along with third cutting. Silage corn continues to develop.

**ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad**

A bountiful crop of tomatoes: heirloom varieties, cherry type and much more. Peaches, fall raspberries, fall blueberries, an array of vegetables, arugula, baby kale, greens, herbs and apples (Paula Red now ready for picking as well as earlier varieties) are being harvested. Many apple operations will be opening for PYO Labor Day weekend. Mums plants available at garden centers and farm stands. Pastures are still nice and green. Good weather for haying. This weekend the weather was stunning! Nights are getting colder.

**SULLIVAN, Jennifer Z. Gehly**

Strong storms moved through the area Tuesday evening after a hot and muggy day. Many areas experienced heavy rains and gusty winds. There was even a report of a potential microburst in the town of Nelson in Cheshire County. There was extensive tree damage to power lines, houses, as well as livestock fencing. The rest of the week was clear and seasonable with temperatures in the 70s. Producers were busy harvesting hay, picking early apples, peaches, and summer vegetables.

**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**

**BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams**

Another dry week kept field work progressing. Pastures are in need of some rain for regrowth.

**FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley**

Memories of a wet spring and early summer seem to be fading in Franklin County this week with corn looking good and bountiful second and third cut hay harvests. Some sun and cloud and a little rain did not keep things from moving in the fields. Much dry hay made. Pastures are in the seventh inning stretch mode and will continually slow in growth as the days shorten. Apples and sweet corn are the go to produce for this week.

