



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

King Whetstone, Regional Director

53 Pleasant St. Room 3450, Concord, NH 03301

Phone: 1-800-498-1518 Fax: 855-270-2719

www.nass.usda.gov/nh
Week ending June 2, 2019

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov
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Good week for field work: New England averaged 5 days suitable for field work last week.

New England continued to experience cooler and wet conditions last week, though some areas had favorable conditions for completing more field work. A few reports noted that most farms seem to be about 2-3 weeks behind average progress for this time of the year due to the prolonged wet conditions and cooler temperatures. Corn planting continued slowly throughout the region, while early planted corn has begun to emerge in several locations. In New Hampshire, there was one report of cutworms in field corn and the first European corn borer moth has been caught in traps. In Maine, potatoes were still being planted. First cuttings of hay were just beginning in drier areas throughout the region. Vegetable growers were harvesting greenhouse cherry tomatoes, radishes, greens, arugula, kale, lettuce mix, asparagus, rhubarb, and bok choy. Onions and many other vegetables were being planted. For fruit, apple scab primary infection season was nearly done in most orchards. Growers were preparing for insect management now that many orchards were at petal fall. Heavy bloom and good pollination weather means that growers will be thinning the crop this upcoming week. Grapes were now showing 3-5" shoot growth and disease management will be needed soon. Field activities for the week included plowing, disking, and fertilizing when conditions allowed, and applying fungicide sprays.

Crop Progress as of June 2, 2019

(in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
APPLES: PINK	92	73	73	16
APPLES: FULL BLOOM	79	54	42	78
APPLES: PETAL FALL	32	10	23	45
APPLES: FRUIT SET	8	N/A	14	4
BARLEY (ME): PLANTED	85	25	N/A	N/A
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: GREEN TIP	94	84	90	N/A
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: PINK	81	61	65	N/A
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: FULL BLOOM	47	20	33	68
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: PETAL FALL	10	N/A	23	32
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): FULL BLOOM	10	9	60	47
CORN: PLANTED	41	13	79	76
CORN: EMERGED	9	<5	45	44
CRANBERRIES (MA): GREEN TIP	85	85	99	N/A
DRY HAY: 1st CUTTING	10	<5	28	N/A
OATS (ME): PLANTED	80	20	N/A	N/A
PEACHES: GREEN TIP	88	80	85	N/A
PEACHES: PINK	72	62	72	N/A
PEACHES: FULL BLOOM	40	21	49	N/A
PEACHES: PETAL FALL	18	7	26	57
PEARS: GREEN TIP	87	77	83	N/A
PEARS: PINK	47	31	69	N/A
PEARS: FULL BLOOM	17	7	44	65
SPRING TILLAGE: PERCENT COMPLETE	68	44	84	N/A
STRAWBERRIES: GREEN TIP	67	57	61	N/A
SWEET CORN: PLANTED	39	21	44	58

Soil Moisture for Week Ending June 2, 2019

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	1	40	59
SUBSOIL	0	1	40	59

Crop Conditions as of June 2, 2019

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
DRY HAY	0	1	38	60	1
PASTURE AND RANGE	0	6	48	40	6

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

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 finally emerging. Corn planting is progressing slowly as fields dry out and manure can finally be spread. Hay lots, however, are still extremely wet. Farms taking first cut haylage due to lack of feed are rutting up grass lots almost as bad as they rutted up corn lots last fall. Someone needs to look at crossing corn with Japanese Knotweed. Knotweed here is over 7 feet tall already!

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Operations were in full swing after three weeks of waiting for dry weather. A few operations are done, most are near done. Grain is emerging and looks really good. Hay fields look green and thick. Apple trees and blueberry bushes are slow to blossom.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Another cloudy, cool week. The only sun all week was hazy sun on Friday and Saturday. Fields are not drying out. High ground is being planted, but not much silage corn. Most fields too wet for haying. Soils are still cold; crops planted outside have not been growing well. Asparagus is being harvested. Maybe a change in the weather this week?

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

It is still too wet. Soil temperatures are warming up slowly because there have been almost no sunny days. Very few 70 plus degree days here. Fruit trees and bushes all seem to be blossoming at the same time this year.

PENOBSCOT/PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

It's been very hard getting on the land to spread manure and till. Livestock are out on pasture and the few sunny days we have had were a help for grass growth. Cool temperatures have slowed farming activities too.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

Finally, a few days of sun to get some field work done.

WASHINGTON, Audre Hayward

Cold and wet; things are behind about 2 weeks.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Harvesting of mixed greens, peas and radishes. A few farms have started seeing some ripe strawberries, though very limited. Potato planting was winding down, much later than previous years. Tobacco transplanting was underway. Hay harvest was progressing, though yields are a bit lower than normal.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Conditions are gradually improving but still not the spring we were hoping for. Farmers have started harvesting hay in the valley; still waiting for growth in the hills. Potatoes are still being planted, the latest date in a long time. Most common activities this week were plowing, disking, fertilizing and applying fungicide sprays. More farm stands are getting stocked with a variety of greens, spinach, rhubarb, and asparagus.

PLYMOUTH, Steve Ward

The rain and clouds have certainly helped make it an easy frost season for the Massachusetts cranberry industry. And although we've had a few good days here and there, enough is enough, we need more sun!

NEW HAMPSHIRE

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

A mix of warmer temperatures with a couple cooler and damp days. Field corn pretty much all planted by now, with earliest planted fields up to 2-leaf stage. Pastures growing well, and first farms have started mowing first cut, though conditions are still tricky for dry hay. Vegetable farms finishing up with planting, with earliest crops due to come in soon.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

Farms still reporting being 2-3 weeks behind a more typical season. One report of cutworms in field corn.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Fruits: Fruit growers monitoring pest and crop development and applying cover sprays for pest control. Orchardists are applying thinning sprays to apple orchards and hand thinning peach where there is a crop. Mowing orchard floor and weed spraying under trees. Blueberries were at full bloom to petal fall by week's end. Strawberries were blooming to fruit development. Field Crops: Farmers are plowing, disking, fertilizing, planting corn, and applying herbicides to fields. Farmers making haylage and baled hay. Vegetables: Transplanting tomato and pepper plants in fields, and making successive planting vegetable crops. Harvesting spinach, asparagus, and rhubarb. First European corn borer moth caught in traps.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Harvesting greenhouse cherry tomatoes, radishes, greens, arugula, kale, lettuce mix, asparagus, rhubarb, and bok choy. Planting onions and many other vegetables. Mowing grass in orchards. Fertilizing small fruits. Monitoring pests. Some sunny days, rain, and cold nights. The week ended with strong and heavy showers.

SULLIVAN, Jennifer Z. Gehly

Field corn planting proceeding at a snail's pace. No sign of summer heat yet. Minimal opportunity for 1st crop hay harvest this week. A quick, heavy thunderstorm dropped an inch or more of rain Sunday afternoon. Bees were busy this week. Most fruit looks quite good but mummy berry in blueberries is a concern.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

Beautiful, then crappy, beautiful, then crappy.

ALL RI COUNTIES, Michael Sullivan

Favorable conditions through most of the week, but with some hay harvest challenges with highly localized storms. Lots of wind with some warm days that has benefited growers with high moisture soils and is already presenting some concerns for those on coarse texture, low water holding soils. Good progress on out planting of greenhouse plants and establishment of field grown vegetables. A few early reports of stand problems with sweet corn in heavier soils.

VERMONT

ALL VT COUNTIES, Terence Bradshaw

Rains continuing, and getting old. Orchards are rutted up and difficult to get into in some places. Apple scab primary infection season is nearly done in most orchards. Growers are preparing for insect management now that many orchards are at petal fall. Heavy bloom and good pollination weather means that growers will be thinning the crop this week. Grapes are now showing 3-5" shoot growth and disease management will be needed soon. Shoots should be thinned down to 3-5 per foot of canopy.

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Rain continues to slow field work progress. Fruit trees are blooming and pastures are holding their own as long as they aren't in too wet of soils.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

This is sounding like a "broken record" with a week of more rains in Franklin County, VT. Mother Nature has provided a little break to enable more corn planted and a start on first cut hay harvest as wrapped round bales or haylage. Yields are down, however, much the norm for early first cut which is maturing rapidly. Corn planting is progressing at a very slow pace. What a year for fruit shrubs and trees providing great scenery and smells.

LAMOILLE, Heather Mateja

Still wet and cool.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

Field conditions have dried enough to allow spring work to go into full swing. A lot of corn was planted last week both conventionally and no-till. Some of the earlier planted fields have emerged. Emergence looks good and even. First cut hay is underway on some farms. Fields appear to be a little wet with some ruts visible. Yields look a little light due to the cold and wet spring. The grazing season has also begun. Some warm temperatures and sun would help to boost pastures.