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22 Bridge St. 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 1444
Concord, NH 03302



Gary R. Keough, Director

Phone: 603-224-9639

Fax: 603-225-1434

www.nass.usda.gov

nass-nh@nass.usda.gov

A special "Thank you" goes to New England producers and agri-businesses who have helped us by completing surveys via mail, telephone or personal interviews.

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FIELD CROPS: New England farmers experienced one of the coldest Mays in history, and extended periods of precipitation also made it one of the wettest. Rain, cold soil temperatures and saturated fields kept planting progress at least two weeks behind schedule for many field crops. Sun and heat finally arrived in early June and allowed field entry to finish planting, and crops responded well to improved soil temperatures. A mix of scattered shower activity and sun continued for most of July and provided crops with much needed sunshine; however, moisture supplies were growing short by the end of the month. Hot, humid and dry conditions dominated New England during August, and relief did not arrive until month's end when remnants of Hurricane Katrina brought heavy rains to the region. Prolonged lack of moisture in August continued into early September and at mid-month topsoil moisture levels were rated short or very short in 47 percent of the region. Hurricanes Ophelia and Rita brought much needed moisture, however the rains came too late for many crops to recover from the long stretch of dry weather. Ideal harvesting conditions at the end of September and into early October came to an abrupt halt with the arrival of heavy rains and high winds over Columbus Day weekend. Flooding and mudslides along rivers and streams caused extensive crop damage. The first major frost arrived in late October, bringing a most unusual crop season to an end.

New England **dry hay** production totaled 1.05 million tons in 2005, seven percent below the previous year's level. There were 609,000 acres harvested in the six-state region, an increase of one percent from the previous year. Dry hay yields averaged 1.72 tons per acre compared with 1.87 tons per acre a year earlier. Although more acres were cut for dry hay, total production was down in Maine and Vermont, the two largest dry hay producing states in New England.

All hay forage in Vermont totaled 1.0 million tons in 2005, also seven percent below the previous year. Hay forage harvested declined by 5,000 acres from the previous year to 360,000 acres. All **haylage** and **greenchop** totaled 1.3 million tons, a decrease of ten percent from tonnage produced a year earlier. Haylage and greenchop harvested totaled 205,000 acres, a decrease of 10,000 acres from the previous year.

Although cool, rainy conditions prevented farmers from planting **field corn** early, 90 percent of the crop was seeded by mid-June, on schedule with normal. Hot, humid temperatures during the summer provided excellent growing conditions, however crop development was up to two weeks behind normal due to the late start. Lack of rain in southernmost areas kept yields at or below previous year's levels in all states except Vermont. Silage corn yields averaged 20.5 tons per acre in Vermont in 2005, one ton per acre more than a year earlier, and the highest yielding crop on record for the state. Yields in New England averaged 20.2 tons per acre in 2005, matching last year highest yielding crop on record for the region. New England's **silage corn** crop weighed in at 3.5 million tons in 2005, fractionally below the previous year.

The bulk of the 2005 **barley and oat** crops in Maine were seeded after June 1 this year due to excessive spring rainfall; planting ranged from 1 to 2 weeks later than normal. Warm, sunny conditions prevailed during June, but by mid-July, the crop was beginning to show signs of stress due to lack of moisture. Heat and sparse shower activity through August brought crop development back on schedule with normal. Excessive rain throughout late September and early October saturated fields, brought harvest to a standstill, and caused the condition of the crops to worsen. Several growers who intended to harvest barley and oats for grain reported their acreage was plowed down, cut for greenchop, or abandoned due to excessive moisture. Oats harvested for grain totaled 28,000 acres, a

decrease of 4,000 acres below the previous year, while barley acreage remained unchanged at 22,000 acres harvested for grain. Oat yields average 70 bushels per acre in 2005, placing grain production at 2.0 million bushels, 23 percent below 2004 output. Barley grain yields and production were unchanged from 2004. Barley production totaled 1.3 million bushels in 2005, averaging 60 bushels per acre.

TOBACCO: After a cold, wet start, an excellent growing season prevailed for **broadleaf** tobacco in 2005. The December 1, 2005 forecast placed broadleaf production at 4.1 million pounds in the Connecticut River Valley. Improved yields would place 2005 production eight percent above last year's output and 20 percent above 2003 crop sales. Hot, dry conditions during the summer forced irrigation at many farms, but confined the spread of blue mold to one location. Broadleaf harvest finished up by mid-September, on schedule with normal and excellent curing conditions prevailed through the end of that month. Growers provided early December assessments with the crop bundled and ready for sale, however final sales weights were unavailable at some locations. Broadleaf yields are expected to average 1,694 pounds per acre in the two states, compared with 1,557 pounds per acre in 2004.

Producers intend to market 1.8 million pounds of **shade** tobacco in Connecticut and Massachusetts, a six percent drop in production from last year's output. Based on early December assessments, yields were expected to average 1,465 pounds per acre, compared with the 1,623 pounds per acre average a year earlier.

FRUIT: New England utilized **apple** production in 2005 totaled 2.8 million bushels (42-pound units), 29 percent below 2004 utilized output. Spring began with warm, wet weather but May brought very cold conditions; reportedly one of the coldest in New England. Full crop potential was limited by light bloom, poor pollination, and apple scab. Two light frosts hit during the month of May which caused further damage after bloom at some locations. By June, warmer weather arrived and remained until September; however, moisture levels were extremely variable throughout the region. Major storms in the months of September and October brought an enormous amount of rain, making harvest difficult for many orchardists. A warm fall delayed the first frost until mid-October. A preliminary grower estimate of price received placed 2005 New England apple crop value at \$39.1 million, 26 percent below the previous year. A revised estimate of value will be available July 6, 2006, after the majority of the 2005 crop has been marketed.

Peach growers also had to contend with a less than optimal growing season in 2005. A cold winter with heavy snowfall lasted long into the spring. Wet and cold weather in May contributed to unfavorable spring conditions which delayed full bloom and resulted in late peach development. From June to early September levels of production were extremely variable throughout Connecticut depending on moisture availability; most of the state experienced drought-like conditions. Utilized peach production in Connecticut and Massachusetts in 2005 totaled 70,000 bushels (48-pound units), seven percent lower than the 2004 utilized output. The value of the 2005 peach crop in the two states was placed at \$2.6 million, six percent below the 2004 value.

Full crop potential at Connecticut's **pear** orchards was also limited by May's unusually cold conditions. A mid-May frost resulted in light damage during the bloom stage at many locations. Warm weather which arrived in June and remained in the state through the beginning of September enhanced pear development, however moisture availability was scarce.

Rain showers finally arrived in mid-September, but persisted into October and interfered with harvest. By the end of October, crop specialists had condition rated mostly good to fair. Utilized pear production in Connecticut totaled 40,000 bushels (50-pound units), 11 percent above last year's low yielding crop, but 23 percent short of 2003 output. The value of the 2005 pear crop in Connecticut was placed at \$952,000, 32 percent above the 2004 value.

MAINE WILD BLUEBERRY CROP: Maine's 2005 wild blueberry crop totaled 58.5 million pounds, an increase of 27 percent above 2004 output, and 27 percent below 2003 production. Adequate snow cover kept winter kill on the 2005 crop to a minimum. Cool spring weather delayed crop development and bloom by one to two weeks. Excessive rainfall in April and May created ideal conditions for disease, and caused poor, spotty pollination in many areas. Some growers reported good luck with pollination in early June when sunny weather finally arrived in conjunction with a late bloom. By the end of July, the crop was under stress from lack of moisture. Berry size remained small and light yields were reported. The price for processing berries in 2005 is expected to average 60 cents per pound, an increase of fifteen cents from 2004, and if realized, would result in a processing value of \$34.9 million.

Cranberry production in Massachusetts totaled 1.41 million barrels in 2005 a 22 percent reduction from the previous year's production. Growers harvested 14,200 acres, 100 more than the previous year. This year's crop yield averaged 98.9 barrels per acre a decrease of nearly 30 barrels per acre from a year earlier. Many of the farmers contacted during this year's survey stated that poor yields were primarily due to the lack of moisture, especially during the month of August. By the time rain showers arrived during the first week of September, it was too late to help the berries increase in size.

Cranberry handlers were contacted in the fall of 2005 to report the expected price paid to Massachusetts' growers for 2005 crop berries. The Massachusetts' 2005 preliminary price for cranberries averaged \$33.70 per barrel, an increase of \$1.60 per barrel compared to previous years' price. The next price update for the 2005 crop will be published in the **Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts Summary** scheduled for release on July 6, 2006.

SWEET CORN: New England's weather brought many challenges to sweet corn growers in 2005. Excessive soil moisture delayed planting of early sweet corn varieties by one to two weeks. Sweet corn emergence and growth was slow due to cold soil temperatures in May and early June. Poor germination and seed rot caused by cold wet soils forced growers to replant some early sweet corn varieties. Warm weather finally arrived in late June, which helped contribute to rapid growth. Many growers reported that warm conditions in July coupled with the cool start in the spring caused all corn varieties to ripen at once, forcing acreage to be left unharvested. Full crop potential was further limited due to extensive damage by birds. Scattered thunderstorms in August and September did not provide enough moisture for crop development and to replenish water supplies. Growers who did not irrigate saw sweet corn drying up on the cob, rendering the ears unmarketable. Growers who were able to irrigate their fields throughout August saw average to above average yields. Crop specialists rated the sweet corn crop in good to fair condition throughout most of the growing and harvest season. Sweet corn harvest was complete by mid-October, before the first major frost of the fall season.

In New England, fresh market sweet corn production totaled 1.15 million hundredweight (cwt) in 2005, a nine percent decrease below the 2004 output due to fewer acres harvested and lower yields. Growers in the six-state region harvested 15,500 acres, with an average yield per acre of 74 cwt per acre. Massachusetts sweet corn producers led the New England states in 2005, producing 456,000 cwt and yields averaging 80 cwt per acre. Value of sweet corn production for New England was placed at \$39.1 million, a reduction of six percent from the 2004 value.

POTATO STOCKS: Maine potato stocks on hand January 1, 2006 totaled 11.5 million cwt, ten percent below 2005's January 1 holdings. Disappearance to January 1 in the state totaled 4.2 million cwt, compared with 6.3 million cwt a year earlier. Storage accounted for 73 percent of Maine's total production, compared with the previous five-year average of 68 percent. Of the stocks on hand January 1 in Maine, 56 percent were russet varieties, 41 percent were round whites, one percent were reds, and two percent were long whites.

The 13 major potato states held 219 million cwt of potatoes in storage January 1, 2006, down seven percent from last year and six percent below January 1, 2004, for comparable states. Ohio and Pennsylvania were dropped from the potato stocks program starting with the 2005 storage season. Potatoes in storage account for 59 percent of the 2005 fall storage states' production, unchanged from last year. Disappearance of 154 million cwt of potatoes is down seven percent from last year for comparable states. Shrink and loss, at 16.2 million cwt so far this season, is down 14 percent from last year for comparable states. Processors in the nine major states have used 81.7 million cwt of potatoes this season, down five percent from a year ago and seven percent below two years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 16.0 million cwt of the total processing, down 14 percent from last year and 13 percent below the same date in 2004.

HOGS: On December 1, 2005, the New England inventory of hogs and pigs totaled 28,800 head, unchanged from 2004. Massachusetts accounted for over 45 percent of New England's hog inventory with 13,000 head. The 2005 average litter rate was 7.9 for New England, 1.1 pigs per litter less than the 9.0 National litter rate. The 2005 pig crop for New England totaled 51,250 head, 15 percent more than the previous year due to an increase in the number of sows farrowed and improved litter rates.

MILK PRODUCTION: Milk production in Vermont totaled 220 million pounds for the month of December 2005, an increase of one percent from December 2004. There were an estimated 143,000 milk cows on Vermont farms during the month, an increase of 1,000 head from the previous month. Milk production per cow averaged 1,535 pounds, an increase of 20 pounds per cow from December 2004.

Milk production in New England totaled just over 1.0 billion pounds for the fourth quarter (October - December) of 2005, down less than one percent from the same quarter in 2004. There was an average of 227,000 head of milk cows on New England farms during the fourth quarter of 2005, a decrease of 2,100 cows from the previous quarter. Milk production per cow averaged 4,508 pounds across New England, an increase of 66 pounds per cow from the same quarter the previous year.

Milk production in the United States was 43.6 billion pounds during the fourth quarter of 2005, an increase of four percent from the fourth quarter of 2004. There were 9.1 million milk cows in the United States during the fourth quarter of 2005. The United States' average quarterly rate was 4,818 pounds per cow during the fourth quarter of 2005, an increase of 163 pounds per cow from the same quarter the previous year.

TURKEYS: In Massachusetts and Vermont, a total of 113,000 turkeys were raised during 2005. This total represents a seven percent decrease from comparable states for the previous year, and is nearly ten percent below the two-state total from 2003. Massachusetts is New England's leading turkey producer with 57,000 turkeys raised in 2005, while Vermont farmers raised 56,000 turkeys during the last year. The National total of 256 million turkeys raised in 2005 was down three percent from the 2004 total.

FIELD CROPS: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2004 - 2005

Crops	Area Planted for All Purposes		Area Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production		2005 as Percent of 2004
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	
Potatoes	1,000 Acres				Cwt		1,000 Cwt		Percent
Maine	63.5	57.5	61.5	56.2	310	280	19,065	15,736	83
Massachusetts	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	320	260	800	624	78
Rhode Island	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	290	210	145	105	72
Oats for Grain					Bushels		1,000 Bushels		
Maine	34	32	32	28	80	70	2,560	1,960	77
Barley for Grain									
Maine	23	23	22	22	60	60	1,320	1,320	100
Corn for Silage					Tons		1,000 Tons		
Connecticut	30	28	27	26	21.5	20.0	581	520	90
Maine	28	26	25	24	19.5	18.5	488	444	91
Massachusetts	20	20	17	17	22.0	21.5	374	366	98
New Hampshire	15	15	14	14	21.0	20.5	294	287	98
Rhode Island	2	2	2	2	20.0	20.0	40	40	100
Vermont	95	95	90	90	19.5	20.5	1,755	1,845	105
New England	190	186	175	173	20.2	20.2	3,532	3,502	99
Dry Hay									
Alfalfa									
Connecticut	--	--	7	8	2.70	2.40	19	19	100
Maine	--	--	10	11	2.00	2.70	20	30	150
Massachusetts	--	--	13	14	2.40	2.20	31	31	100
New Hampshire	--	--	7	8	2.10	2.10	15	17	113
Rhode Island	--	--	2	2	2.30	3.00	5	6	120
Vermont	--	--	40	45	2.00	1.80	80	81	101
New England	--	--	79	88	2.15	2.09	170	184	108
Other Hay									
Connecticut	--	--	59	55	2.10	1.80	124	99	80
Maine	--	--	145	140	1.90	1.50	276	210	76
Massachusetts	--	--	75	75	2.00	2.10	150	158	105
New Hampshire	--	--	50	49	1.80	1.80	90	88	98
Rhode Island	--	--	7	7	2.20	2.00	15	14	93
Vermont	--	--	190	195	1.60	1.50	304	293	96
New England	--	--	526	521	1.82	1.65	959	862	90
All Hay									
Connecticut	--	--	66	63	2.17	1.87	143	118	83
Maine	--	--	155	151	1.91	1.59	296	240	81
Massachusetts	--	--	88	89	2.06	2.12	181	189	104
New Hampshire	--	--	57	57	1.84	1.84	105	105	100
Rhode Island	--	--	9	9	2.22	2.22	20	20	100
Vermont	--	--	230	240	1.67	1.56	384	374	99
New England	--	--	605	609	1.87	1.72	1,129	1,046	93
Tobacco			Acres		Pounds		1,000 Pounds		
Broadleaf (Type 51)									
Connecticut	--	--	1,500	1,500	1,530	1,750	2,295	2,625	114
Massachusetts	--	--	920	900	1,600	1,600	1,472	1,440	98
CT and MA Total	--	--	2,420	2,400	1,557	1,694	3,767	4,065	108
Shade (Type 61)									
Connecticut	--	--	860	930	1,650	1,550	1,419	1,442	102
Massachusetts	--	--	320	300	1,550	1,200	496	360	73
CT and MA Total	--	--	1,180	1,230	1,623	1,465	1,915	1,802	94

SOURCE: Crop Production - Annual Summary, 3:00 p.m., January 12, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

FRUIT: Production and Value, 2004 - 2005

Crop	Bearing Acreage		Yield per Bearing Acre ^{1/}		Production		Utilized Production		Average Price		Value of Utilized Production	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
Apples (42-lb bu)^{2/}	Acres		Bushels		1,000 Bushels				Dollars Per Bushel		1,000 Dollars	
Connecticut	2,200	2,200	211	162	464	357	440	345	16.61	16.43	7,310	5,670
Maine	3,500	3,500	320	214	1,119	750	1,024	714	13.42	12.94	13,740	9,240
Massachusetts	4,100	4,100	244	166	1,000	679	881	619	16.01	16.09	14,108	9,960
New Hampshire	2,100	2,100	346	204	726	429	667	405	12.62	13.93	8,420	5,640
Rhode Island	300	300	173	143	52	43	50	38	20.16	18.74	1,008	712
Vermont	2,700	2,700	366	287	988	774	905	714	9.45	11.09	8,550	7,920
New England	14,900	14,900	292	203	4,349	3,032	3,967	2,835	13.39	13.81	53,136	39,142
United States	385,560	381,160	645	617	248,824	234,990	246,936	232,836	6.67	7.67	1,647,983	1,786,674
Peaches (48-lb bu)	Acres		Bushels		1,000 Bushels				Dollars Per Bushel		1,000 Dollars	
Connecticut	400	400	88	73	35	29	35	29	38.86	38.62	1,360	1,120
Massachusetts	380	380	105	111	40	42	40	41	35.63	36.22	1,425	1,485
United States ^{3/}	146,170	140,360	373	351	54,463	49,275	51,242	47,631	9.01	10.70	461,629	509,745
Pears (50-lb bu)	1,000 Bushels		Bushels		1,000 Bushels				Dollars Per Bushel		1,000 Dollars	
Connecticut	--	--	--	--	36	40	36	40	20.00	23.80	720	952
United States	64,450	63,350	544	513	35,090	32,493	34,896	32,467	8.49	9.71	296,291	315,240
Cranberries (100-lb bbl)	Harvested Acres		Yield per Acre		1,000 Barrels				Dollars per Barrel		1,000 Dollars	
Massachusetts	14,100	14,200	128.2	98.9	1,808	1,405	1,808	1,405	32.10	33.70	58,100	47,393
United States	39,200	39,100	157.5	159.2	6,175	6,225	6,167	6,225	32.30	34.00	199,296	211,527

^{1/} Yield per bearing acre is based on total production, which includes unharvested production and fruit harvested but not sold due to market restrictions. Yield includes reports from orchards with bearing acreage and production.

^{2/} Apple production from commercial orchards of 100 or more trees.

^{3/} Excludes Clingstone peaches in California.

SOURCE: *Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts – Preliminary*, 3:00 p.m., January 24, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MAINE WILD BLUEBERRIES: Production and Value, 2003 - 2005

Year	Total Production	All Price Per Pound	Total Value of Production	Fresh Blueberries			Blueberries for Processing		
				Production	Price per Pound	Value of Production	Production	Price per Pound	Value of Production
	1,000 Lbs	Cents	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Lbs	Dollars	1,000 Dollars	1,000 Lbs	Cents	1,000 Dollars
2003	80,400	33	26,880	400	1.20	480	80,000	33	26,400
2004	46,000	46	20,970	300	1.35	405	45,700	45	20,565
2005 ^{1/}	58,500	61	35,370	300	1.50	450	58,200	60	34,920

^{1/} Preliminary Price per Pound and Value of Production, Final price statistics to be published in July 2006.

SOURCE: *Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts – Preliminary*, 3:00 p.m., January 24, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

FRESH MARKET SWEET CORN: Acreage, Yield, and Production and Value, 2004 - 2005

Crops	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production		Value of Production	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 Acres				Cwt		1,000 Cwt		1,000 Dollars	
Connecticut	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.0	80	75	344	300	9,804	8,400
Maine	2.3	2.2	2.0	2.0	60	60	120	120	3,960	4,080
Massachusetts	6.3	6.1	5.8	5.7	90	80	522	456	16,965	15,732
New Hampshire	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	70	75	126	128	5,292	5,312
Rhode Island	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	90	70	99	70	3,465	2,450
Vermont	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.1	55	70	55	77	2,145	3,157
New England	17.7	17.0	16.0	15.5	79	74	1,266	1,151	41,631	39,131

SOURCE: *Vegetables – Annual Summary*, 3:00 p.m., January 27, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

FALL POTATOES: Production and January 1 Stocks, 2005 – 2006 ^{1/}

State	2004 Crop			2005 Crop			
	Production	Stocks January 1, 2005	January Stocks as Percentage of Production	Production	Stocks December 1, 2005	Stocks January 1, 2006	January Stocks as Percentage of Production
	1,000 Cwt		Percent	1,000 Cwt			Percent
California	3,648	2,300	63	3,240	1,600	1,300	40
Colorado	23,791	15,800	66	22,292	16,300	14,000	63
Idaho	131,970	84,500	64	116,975	84,000	74,500	64
Maine ^{2/}	19,065	12,800	67	15,736	12,800	11,500	73
Michigan ^{2/}	13,650	6,300	46	13,920	7,900	6,400	46
Minnesota	18,920	11,600	61	17,630	13,500	11,100	63
Montana ^{2/}	3,551	3,400	96	3,434	3,400	3,300	96
Nebraska	9,288	5,300	57	8,245	5,700	4,900	59
New York	5,184	1,600	31	5,226	3,100	2,300	44
North Dakota	26,765	17,500	65	20,500	14,000	11,300	55
Ohio ^{3/}	1,080	100	9				
Oregon	19,775	14,500	73	22,023	19,000	16,500	75
Pennsylvania ^{3/}	2,640	1,100	42				
Washington	93,810	43,000	46	95,480	52,000	46,000	48
Wisconsin ^{2/}	30,450	16,900	56	27,880	18,500	15,800	57
15 STATES ^{2/ 4/}	403,587	236,700	59	372,581	251,800	218,900	59

^{1/} Stocks include processor holdings and most of the seed to plant the following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2005 totaled 24.7 million cwt.

^{2/} December 1, 2005 stocks revised.

^{3/} Stocks estimates discontinued in 2005.

^{4/} 13 states for the 2005 crop.

SOURCE: **Potato Stocks**, 3:00 p.m., January 17, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

POTATOES: Shrinkage and Loss, 15 Fall Storage States, 2002 - 2005

Crop Year	To Dec 1	To Jan 1	To Feb 1	To Mar 1	To Apr 1	To May 1	To Jun 1	Season
Million Cwt								
2002	15.5	18.2	20.5	22.4	24.2	25.8	27.2	29.0
2003	15.0	17.4	20.5	22.6	25.4	27.5	29.9	33.0
2004	15.5	19.1	22.0	24.8	27.3	29.7	32.5	35.4
2005 ^{1/ 2/}	13.9	16.2						

^{1/} December 1, 2005, shrink and loss revised.

^{2/} 13 fall storage states.

SOURCE: **Potato Stocks**, 3:00 p.m., January 17, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MAINE POTATOES: Prices Received, 2000 - 2005 Crop Years

Crop Year	Prices Received ^{1/} by Farmers for Potatoes, Monthly and Marketing Year Average											Market Year Average
	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	
Dollars Per Cwt												
2000	5.80	5.45	5.50	5.55	5.60	5.50	5.90	6.20	6.80	7.30	7.00	6.15
2001	6.20	5.70	6.05	6.65	7.50	7.75	8.30	8.65	9.45	8.05	7.80	7.65
2002	5.75	5.45	5.60	6.65	6.95	7.10	7.10	7.45	8.10	8.15	7.40	7.05
2003	6.00	5.25	5.45	5.85	5.70	5.80	5.70	6.10	6.30	6.75	7.05	6.05
2004	5.90	5.15	5.65	6.15	6.35	5.90	6.55	6.60	6.95	7.30	7.40	6.50
2005 ^{3/}	^{2/}	5.90	6.25	7.45	7.75							

^{1/} Average price of potatoes sold for fresh market, processing, seed, and feed.

^{2/} Missing data indicates too few potatoes being marketed to set price.

^{3/} Most recent monthly price is a preliminary mid-month forecast.

SOURCE: **Agricultural Prices**, 3:00 p.m., December 29, 2005, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

DRY HAY: Production and Stocks on Farm, December 1, 2004 - 2005

State	Production 2004	Stocks December 1, 2004	Production 2005	Stocks December 1, 2005	Stocks 2005 as Percent of Stocks 2004
1,000 Tons					
Connecticut	143	73	118	55	75
Maine	296	189	240	138	73
Massachusetts	181	95	189	76	80
New Hampshire	105	53	105	53	100
Rhode Island	20	12	20	10	83
Vermont	384	276	374	257	93
New England	1,129	698	1,046	589	84
United States	158,247	114,576	150,590	105,056	92

SOURCE: **Crop Production**, 3:00 p.m., January 12, 2006, National Agriculture Statistics Service, USDA.

ANNUAL HOGS and PIGS: December 1 Inventory, 2004 - 2005

State	Breeding Hogs		Market Hogs		Total Inventory	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 Head					
Connecticut	0.9	0.7	3.3	2.8	4.2	3.5
Maine	1.3	1.2	3.7	3.8	5.0	5.0
Massachusetts	1.5	2.0	10.5	11.0	12.0	13.0
New Hampshire	0.9	0.5	2.7	2.7	3.6	3.2
Rhode Island	0.5	0.5	1.5	1.3	2.0	1.8
Vermont	0.4	0.4	1.6	1.9	2.0	2.3
New England	5.5	5.3	23.3	23.5	28.8	28.8
United States	5,969	6,011	55,005	55,186	60,975	61,197

SOURCE: *Quarterly Hogs and Pigs*, 3:00 p.m., December 28, 2005, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ANNUAL HOGS and PIGS: Sows Farrowed, Pigs per Litter and Pig Crop, 2004 - 2005

State	December ^{1/} - November					
	Sows Farrowed		Pigs per Litter		Pig Crop	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 Head		Head		1,000 Head	
Connecticut	0.80	0.70	7.60	8.10	6.08	5.67
Maine	1.50	1.60	7.10	7.30	10.65	11.68
Massachusetts	1.90	2.50	7.80	8.08	14.82	20.20
New Hampshire	0.80	0.70	6.60	8.00	5.28	5.60
Rhode Island	0.50	0.50	7.50	8.50	3.75	4.25
Vermont	0.50	0.50	7.70	7.70	3.85	3.85
New England	6.00	6.50	7.41	7.88	44.43	51.25
United States	11,498	11,504	8.94	9.01	102,780	103,685

^{1/} December of previous year.

SOURCE: *Quarterly Hogs and Pigs*, 3:00 p.m., December 28, 2005, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY CHICKENS: Layers and Egg Production During December 2004 – 2005

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ^{1/}		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ^{1/}		Egg Production from All Layers ^{1/}	
	December 2004	December 2005	December 2004	December 2005	December 2004	December 2005	December 2004	December 2005
	1,000 Birds				Number		Million Eggs	
Connecticut	2,892	2,964	2,948	3,020	2,374	2,351	70	71
Maine	2,625	3,914	2,687	3,980	2,345	2,362	63	94
United States	281,516	284,422	345,960	348,300	2,234	2,237	7,728	7,791

^{1/} Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

SOURCE: *Chickens and Eggs*, 3:00 p.m., January 23, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

TURKEYS: Number Raised, 2003 - 2005

State	All Turkeys			
	2003	2004	2005	2005 as Percent of 2004
	1,000 Birds			
Connecticut	5	5	1/	--
Massachusetts	73	70	57	81
New Hampshire	5	4	1/	--
Vermont	52	52	56	108
United States	274,048	263,207	256,270	97

^{1/} Estimates for CT and NH discontinued in 2005.

SOURCE: *Turkeys Raised*, 3:00 p.m., January 6, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, December 2005 with Comparisons

State	Milk Cows ^{1/}			Production per Cow			Production		
	December 2004	November 2005	December 2005	December 2004	November 2005	December 2005	December 2004	November 2005	December 2005
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Vermont	143	142	143	1,515	1,460	1,535	217	207	220
New York	650	648	649	1,485	1,485	1,545	965	962	1,003
Pennsylvania	565	556	557	1,490	1,500	1,580	842	834	880
United States ^{2/}	8,097	8,160	8,164	1,610	1,590	1,665	13,037	12,974	13,592

^{1/} Average number for month, including dry cows.

^{2/} United States includes 23 major States: AZ, CA, CO, FL, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, TX, VT, VA, WA, and WI.

SOURCE: *Milk Production*, 3:00 p.m., January 18, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

QUARTERLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, October – December 2005 with Comparisons

State	Milk Cows ^{1/}			Production per Cow			Production		
	Oct - Dec 2004	Jul - Sep 2005	Oct - Dec 2005	Oct - Dec 2004	Jul - Sep 2005	Oct - Dec 2005	Oct - Dec 2004	Jul - Sep 2005	Oct - Dec 2005
	1,000 Head			Pounds			Million Pounds		
Connecticut	20.0	20.0	20.0	4,770	4,620	4,620	95.0	92.0	92.0
Maine	33.0	33.0	32.0	4,490	4,570	4,450	148.0	151.0	142.0
Massachusetts	17.0	16.0	16.0	4,270	4,470	4,400	73.0	72.0	70.0
New Hampshire	16.0	16.0	16.0	4,620	4,650	4,650	74.0	74.0	74.0
Rhode Island	1.1	1.1	1.0	4,130	4,300	4,350	4.5	4.7	4.4
Vermont	144.0	143.0	142.0	4,389	4,587	4,514	632.0	656.0	641.0
New England	231.1	229.1	227.0	4,442	4,582	4,508	1,026.5	1,049.7	1,023.4
United States	9,019.0	9,054.0	9,050.0	4,655	4,858	4,818	41,983.0	43,984.0	43,605.0

^{1/} Average number for quarter including dry cows.

SOURCE: *Milk Production*, 3:00 p.m., January 18, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

VERMONT MILK: Prices Received, 2000 - 2005

Year	Prices Received ^{1/} by Farmers for Milk Sold												Annual Average
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Price per Cwt												
2000	13.40	13.40	13.50	13.40	13.50	13.80	13.50	13.80	14.00	14.00	14.30	14.60	13.80
2001	13.70	14.30	15.00	15.40	16.20	16.80	17.00	17.30	17.90	16.40	15.80	14.10	15.80
2002	14.20	13.80	13.30	13.10	12.70	12.10	11.60	11.70	12.00	12.50	12.50	12.40	12.70
2003	12.30	11.90	11.50	11.40	11.50	11.50	12.10	13.40	15.00	15.80	15.50	14.80	13.00
2004	14.00	14.40	16.20	17.80	20.10	19.80	17.60	15.50	16.30	16.60	17.00	17.20	16.90
2005 ^{2/}	16.70	15.80	16.40	15.80	15.50	15.10	15.80	15.70	16.10	16.50	16.10	15.30	3/

^{1/} Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

^{2/} Most recent monthly price is a preliminary mid-month forecast.

^{3/} 2005 Annual average will be available in April 2006.

SOURCE: *Agricultural Prices*, 3:00 p.m., December 29, 2005, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY DAIRY PRODUCTS: New England Production, November 2005 with Comparisons

Product	November 2004	October 2005	November 2005	November 2005 as Percent of:	
				November 2004	October 2005
	1,000 Pounds			Percent	
Butter	2,086	2,539	2,066	99	81
American Type Cheese ^{1/}	5,360	5,561	5,661	106	102
Mozzarella Cheese	6,203	3,575	4,264	69	119
Other Italian Cheese ^{2/}	610	1,033	1,287	211	125
Cottage Cheese ^{3/}	581	664	512	88	77
	1,000 Pounds			Percent	
Ice Cream, Hard	5,852	8,022	7,306	125	91
Low Fat Ice Cream, Hard	868	1,233	1,001	115	81
Milk Sherbert, Hard	173	186	182	105	98

^{1/} American type cheese includes Cheddar, Colby, Monterey, and Jack.

^{2/} Includes all Italian cheese except Mozzarella.

^{3/} Creamed and lowfat

SOURCE of NATIONAL PRODUCTION: *Dairy Products*, 3:00 p.m., January 5, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

HAY FORAGE: Acreage, Yield, and Production in Vermont, 2003 - 2005

Type of Hay Forage	Area Harvested			Yield per Acre			Production		
	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005	2003	2004	2005
	1,000 Acres			Tons			1,000 Tons		
All Hay Forage ^{1/}	350	365	360	3.43	2.99	2.81	1,199	1,092	1,010
All Alfalfa Forage ^{2/}	90	90	95	4.04	3.58	3.40	364	322	323
All Haylage and Greenchop ^{3/}	190	215	205	7.76	6.67	6.28	1,474	1,433	1,287
Alfalfa Haylage and Greenchop ^{4/}	70	70	70	8.20	7.00	7.00	574	490	490

^{1/} All hay forage production is the sum of the following dry equivalents: alfalfa hay harvested as dry hay, all other hay harvested as dry hay, alfalfa haylage and greenchop, all other hay haylage and greenchop; after converting alfalfa and all other haylage and greenchop to a dry equivalent basis.

^{2/} All alfalfa forage production is the sum of alfalfa harvested as dry hay; and alfalfa haylage and greenchop production after converting it to a dry equivalent basis.

^{3/} Includes all types of forage harvested as haylage or greenchop. Forage harvested as dry hay, and corn and sorghum silage/greenchop are not included.

^{4/} Includes only alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures that were harvested as haylage or greenchop. Alfalfa harvested as dry hay is not included.

SOURCE: **Crop Production – Annual Summary**, 3:00 p.m., January 12, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

Gary R. Keough, Director

Gerald Tillman, Deputy Director

Statisticians: Travis Averill, Angela Considine, Sherry Deane, Robin Helrich, Dianne Johnson, Dave Mikelson, John Miyares

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
POST OFFICE BOX 1444
CONCORD, NH 03302-1444

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