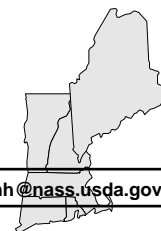




New England Agricultural Statistics



Aubrey R. Davis, Director

Phone: 603-224-9639

Fax: 603-225-1434

www.usda.gov/nass

nass-nh@nass.usda.gov

22 Bridge Street
P.O. Box 1444
Concord, NH 03302

A field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

Volume 25, Number 11

Crop Weather
(Issued weekly on the internet, May – October)

July 11, 2005 – 4 pm

For week ending 7/10/05

Cool and Cloudy!

GENERAL CONDITIONS: For the week ending July 10, 2005, there were 5.2 days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture was rated 3% very short, 9% short, 77% adequate, and 11% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated 3% very short, 9% short, 78% adequate, and 10% surplus. Pasture condition was rated 1% very poor, 1% poor, 20% fair, 53% good, and 25% excellent. The week began with a warm, sunny day but clouds rolled into the region and hindered field crop progress throughout the week. By mid-week, cooler conditions arrived with light rain scattered throughout the region. Reminiscent of tropical storm Cindy, arrived with scattered showers throughout New England at week's end. On Sunday, sun arrived to the region providing ideal conditions for fieldwork. Major farm activities included harvesting strawberries, sweet corn in Connecticut, early vegetables, thinning fruit trees, mowing orchard floors, baling hay and making haylage, hilling potatoes, applying fertilizer, fungicides, nitrogen and pesticides to field crops, cultivating, monitoring pests and applying pesticides.

FRUIT: Strawberry harvest near completion and should finish up picking berries at the end of this week. The late spring conditions influenced variation in yields and ripening of strawberries throughout New England. With strawberry harvest coming to a close, blueberry and raspberry harvest for pick your own should start shortly as berries continued to ripen. A late spring and cool growing conditions caused Maine wild blueberries conditions to range from fair to poor. Fruit tree growers continued to thin trees, mow orchard floors, monitor for pest development and applied pesticides if necessary. Cranberries were in full bloom to petal fall at week's end, so growers applied insecticides and second fungicide for protection, however, conditions were unfavorable with wind, fog, and light rain. Bee activities were limited due to conditions so pollination was limited; however, crop condition was rated good.

SOIL MOISTURE ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Soil Rating	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	-- Percent --		
Topsoil			
Very Short	3	5	4
Short	9	14	14
Adequate	77	72	77
Surplus	11	9	5
Subsoil			
Very Short	3	4	3
Short	9	11	20
Adequate	78	75	74
Surplus	10	10	3

FIELD CROPS: Harvesting dry hay remained difficult with frequent rains. Second cutting was underway but 20 percent of first cutting still remained to be harvested. Manure was applied to harvested hay fields. Field corn continued to grow but varied from just emerged to shoulder height throughout the region. In Connecticut, more rain is needed for field corn to reach full potential. Growers applied fungicides on corn fields where necessary to protect against diseases. Tobacco growers scouted their fields for insect damage and potential blue mold and cultivated and applied top dressing. Shade tobacco harvest was just underway and both broadleaf and shade tobacco condition was rated good. In northern Aroostook County, European Corn Borer and Colorado Beetle egg masses were found and some were hatched in potato fields. Growers continued to spray insecticides on a five day spray schedule. Maine potato condition ranged from fair to excellent due to variation in water levels. Oats and barley were rated good to fair due to signs of stress from drought in northern Aroostook County of Maine.

FRUIT CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	- Percent Harvested -			Fruit Size	Condition
	2005	2004	5-yr Avg		
Apples	-	-	-	Avg	Good/Fair
Peaches	-	-	-	Avg	Good/Fair
Pears	-	-	-	Avg	Fair/Good
Blueberries					
Highbush	-	-	-	Avg/Above	Good/Excel
Wild, ME	-	-	-	Avg	Fair/Poor
Cranberries, MA	-	-	-	Avg	Good
Strawberries	75	85	80	Avg	Good/Fair

VEGETABLES: Vegetable growers continued behind schedule to finish planting sweet corn and late seasonal vegetables due to unfavorable conditions. Some sweet corn was harvested in the Connecticut River Valley. Vegetable growers continued to scout for Potato Leafhopper, Flea Beetles, Cabbage Worm, Corn Earworm, and European Corn Borer. An outbreak of Downy Mildew was reported in New Jersey and Delaware and recent weather conditions placed western Massachusetts at moderate risk. Producers harvested greens, lettuce, peas, radishes, summer squash and tomatoes. Growers were busy side dressing fields with fertilizer, cultivating, and weeding. Greenhouses started to sell vegetables but sales were down due to a cool and cloudy week so inventory remained full.

FIELD CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	2005	2004	5-yr Avg	Condition
	-- Percent Emerged --			
Silage Corn	95	99	95	Good/Excellent
Sweet Corn	95	99	95	Good/Excellent
	-- Percent Planted --			
Silage Corn	99	100	99	
Sweet Corn	95	100	99	
	-- Percent Harvested --			
Barley, ME	--	--	--	Good/Fair
Oats, ME	--	--	--	Good/Fair
Potatoes				
Maine	--	--	--	Fair/Excellent
Mass.	--	--	--	Good
Rhode Isl.	--	--	--	Good/Fair
Tobacco				
Broadleaf	--	--	--	Good
Shade	<5	<5	0	Good
Dry hay, 1 st cut	80	85	80	Good/Fair
Dry hay, 2 nd cut	15	15	15	Good/Excellent

Weather Summary For New England Agricultural Statistics
Prepared By AWIS, Inc.

For the Period: Monday July 4, 2005
To: Sunday July 10, 2005

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				CUM SINCE MAR 1 GROWING DEGREE DAYS				1-WEEK PRECIP			4-WEEK CUM PRECIP			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	BASE-50F		BASE-60F		TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES		DFN	
					TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN				INCHES	DFN		
MAINE															
Augusta State A	53	80	64	-5	716	-67	290	+59	1.51	+0.79	4	4.21	+1.20	17	
Bangor Intl_Arp	50	82	65	-3	740	+46	287	+106	0.46	-0.31	3	2.33	-0.75	9	
Bethel	49	83	64	-4	678	-32	259	+72	1.65	+0.82	4	5.74	+2.18	15	
Caribou Municip	47	86	66	+2	646	+81	258	+140	1.52	+0.67	2	3.45	+0.46	9	
Dover-Foxcroft	50	81	62	-5	569	-18	217	+90	1.37	+0.53	3	4.26	+0.82	10	
Frenchville	47	86	66	+3	634	+117	256	+162	1.79	+0.96	2	4.69	+1.61	11	
Houlton	41	84	64	-2	627	+45	245	+119	0.68	-0.16	4	3.15	+0.00	15	
Livermore Falls	50	83	65	-1	694	+105	290	+165	1.53	+0.75	3	4.18	+0.59	13	
Moosehead	47	85	64	+0	528	+60	194	+115	1.58	+0.67	4	3.87	+0.17	14	
Portland_ME	53	77	64	-5	681	+5	263	+94	1.50	+0.77	5	5.60	+2.50	17	
NEW HAMPSHIRE															
Benton	51	83	65	-2	703	+22	275	+118	1.71	+0.93	4	5.58	+2.19	14	
Berlin AG	49	84	65	-2	725	+50	297	+132	1.49	+0.65	4	4.10	+0.42	13	
Concord	53	87	68	-2	897	+83	392	+143	1.50	+0.80	4	5.84	+2.92	15	
Diamond Pond	52	77	63	+2	543	+130	204	+157	2.12	+1.07	4	7.20	+2.89	16	
Keene AP	54	84	68	-3	899	-46	386	+56	1.77	+0.99	4	6.72	+3.42	14	
North Conway	53	86	66	-3	756	+2	310	+95	1.03	+0.19	3	4.17	+0.58	15	
Rochester	50	84	65	-6	756	-121	302	+14	1.77	+1.00	4	5.63	+2.44	15	
VERMONT															
Burlington Intl	58	86	71	+1	1032	+136	481	+177	2.64	+1.86	4	5.75	+2.46	12	
Island Pond	52	81	66	+3	714	+180	298	+196	1.77	+0.82	3	7.74	+3.79	14	
Montpelier	53	83	67	+2	840	+155	356	+181	2.58	+1.88	4	5.92	+2.88	17	
Pownal	51	82	66	-2	848	+142	334	+153	1.94	+1.01	4	5.74	+1.72	13	
Rochester	48	85	66	+1	803	+145	338	+178	1.77	+0.93	4	6.15	+2.76	13	
Rutland AG	52	84	67	-4	866	-82	374	+45	2.41	+1.57	4	6.91	+3.55	15	
Sutton	50	83	65	+2	700	+163	289	+178	2.17	+1.22	4	6.92	+2.97	15	
Townshend Lake	53	84	68	-3	862	-4	369	+87	1.32	+0.62	5	6.36	+3.54	17	
MASSACHUSETTS															
Ashburnham	54	84	66	-2	862	+135	358	+161	2.46	+1.62	4	5.72	+2.36	16	
Boston/Logan_In	56	88	67	-7	933	-119	405	+12	3.19	+2.56	4	3.62	+0.89	8	
Greenfield	53	83	68	-4	950	-71	412	+36	2.42	+1.58	5	6.70	+3.22	15	
New Bedford	50	77	65	-8	817	-218	297	-76	0.80	+0.11	5	2.76	-0.33	13	
Otis AFB	57	82	69	-1	1005	+217	432	+197	1.32	+0.68	3	2.25	-0.59	10	
Plymouth	50	82	65	-6	814	-23	339	+71	1.44	+0.67	5	2.20	-0.91	12	
Walpole	54	85	67	-4	945	+52	401	+106	1.98	+1.21	5	2.84	-0.55	11	
Chicopee/Westov	55	83	69	-6	1113	-72	494	+17	1.30	+0.46	3	3.95	+0.33	14	
Worthington	50	83	65	-3	800	+87	314	+131	1.02	+0.06	4	5.97	+2.31	16	
RHODE ISLAND															
Providence	55	83	68	-5	1012	+27	427	+73	0.75	+0.05	3	1.47	-1.51	11	
Woonsocket	53	85	67	-4	962	+85	402	+127	1.79	+0.88	5	3.05	-0.66	16	
CONNECTICUT															
Bridgeport/Siko	59	83	70	-4	1099	+36	441	+33	1.93	+1.09	5	4.29	+1.03	10	
Hartford/Bradle	55	84	70	-4	1175	+38	533	+78	3.17	+2.43	4	5.76	+2.50	14	
Norfolk	52	79	65	-3	836	+124	325	+141	1.34	+0.36	4	3.78	-0.35	13	
Thomaston Dam	55	82	68	-2	997	+111	421	+139	2.74	+1.83	5	5.90	+2.20	16	
Willimantic	53	82	67	-3	1007	+110	414	+126	1.02	+0.11	5	1.87	-1.69	13	

Summary based on NWS data.

DFN = Departure from Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Copyright 2005. AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

For detailed ag weather forecasts and data visit the AWIS

home page at www.awis.com or call toll free at

1-888-798-9955.

STATE WEATHER SUMMARY

For the Week Ending Sunday, July 10, 2005

State	Air Temperatures				Precipitation	
	L	HI	AV	DF	LO	HI
ME	41	88	64	-3	0.46	3.71
NH	40	94	66	-1	0.39	2.12
VT	48	86	66	+0	1.13	5.04
MA	47	88	66	-4	0.80	3.57
RI	52	85	67	-5	0.53	1.79
CT	51	84	68	-4	1.02	3.17

REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County: *Reporters are from extension Service (Ext), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources**Conservation Service (NRCS), or other knowledgeable individuals.*

CONNECTICUT - Howard Rood (FSA), Fairfield/Litchfield: Rain and scattered thunderstorms all week. Field corn and second cutting of hay looks good. **Jude Boucher (Ext), Tolland:** Row cover sweet corn is being harvested in the CT River Valley. Early crops look good and are selling for \$20 per bag wholesale (good money)! **Lorriane Los, Univ of Connecticut:** Blueberries and raspberries have started to ripen. Strawberry harvest should be done this week. Growers are hand-thinning peaches and apples. Aphid populations seem to be very high on apples this year. So far, no apple maggots captured on red sphere traps. **Ross Eddy (FSA), Hartford/Tolland:** Decent weather for haying early in the week. Some showers on Wednesday. Sweet corn showing up at farm stands now. Green and yellow squash, snap beans and cukes. Two inches of rain on Friday got most all the moisture needed to make crops grow. **Frank Himmelstein (Ext), New London:** Field Corn-Some much needed rain fell in the county from the remnants of tropical storm Cindy. This should help corn growth. More rain will be needed over the next four weeks to maximize crop yield potential. Hay- The rains halted the hay harvest. Some first cut remains to be cut in the county. Second cut re-growth seems short due to all the dry weather. **Marsha Jette (FSA), New London:** Welcome showers gave the needed boost to vegetables and grass growing for second cutting. Blueberries are being harvested - a bit later than usual. **Dawn Pindell (FSA), Windham:** More rain, not bad, helped some of the still dry sandy soils where corn has not recovered yet. Hills in Woodstock still dry but improving, heavy rain Wednesday and Friday, plants soaking it up, corn from just out of the ground to shoulder height depending on planting date and moisture, fruit trees look good, blueberries almost ready to pick, strawberries concerned with lack of picking due to the rain, greenhouses have lots of inventory due to cold/wet spring weekends. Haying when possible, chopping and round baling too. **Karen Vozarik (FSA), New Haven:** Corn still showing signs of stress even though we received heavy rains on Friday. Peaches about average in size. Squash, lettuce, beans look good first sweet corn in county harvested and excellent. More warm weather and possible storms coming up the coast. **Joyce Meader (Ext), Windham:** Crops are happy - water and sun and nutrients - what more could a plant want? Unfortunately, some weeds are very happy also. **Richard Meinert (Ext), CT Cooperative:** A month's worth of rain in 4 days. Low lying fields in a lot of areas were flooded. Farmers did little this week except watch the rain keep falling.

MAINE - Marvin Hedstrom, Northern Aroostook: Potatoes and small grains: This has been a dry week with growers wishing for some rain. Dry conditions have slowed plant growth but showers on Saturday helped the situation. Growers busy hilling up potatoes, applying fungicides and scouting for European Corn Borer. Some have sprayed insecticides to control them. Others are waiting for egg masses to hatch. Small grains are showing stress from the drought with short straw and small heads forming. **Steve London, Southern Aroostook:** Potatoes and small grains: There have been European Corn Borer and Colorado Potato Beetle egg masses found and some that have hatched. Farmers have sprayed for these this week and will treat again next week. They have been getting a lot of cultivating done and the crops look very good at this point. **Albert Dow (NRCS), Piscataquis:** Poor drying conditions for haying. Cool weather most of week. Morning thunderstorm on Saturday and heavy rain all day. **Donald Burke (FSA), Waldo:** Fruit fly monitoring has begun in blueberry fields. Overcast weather slowed up haying activities during the week, but good weather returned on Sunday. **Trudy Soucy (FSA), Knox/Lincoln:** Weeding is ongoing in gardens. Fly traps have been placed in blueberry fields. Not a good week for haying. Cool, damp and overcast most of the week. Summer weather returned on Sunday. Some blueberry fields beginning to show the effects of poor pollination and lack of sun. **Dr. David Yarborough (Ext), Washington:** Wild blueberries: Crop maturity delayed at least a week because of late spring and cool growing conditions. Fly traps being monitored for Fruit fly. **Sandy Truslow (FSA), Cumberland/York:** Pick your own strawberries are in full swing. Some producers reporting low yields. Harvesting dry hay remains difficult with frequent rains. Apple orchards report light crops on some varieties, while others are fine. Some apple trees are still showing decline from the 03/04 winter. Vegetables are reported good, although late, on drier soils; while heavy soils have areas of prevented planting. **Gary Raymond (FSA), Franklin:** Pick your own strawberries are in full swing. Some producers reporting low yields. Harvesting dry hay remains difficult with frequent rains. Apple orchards report light crops on some varieties, while others are fine. Some apple trees are still showing decline from the 03/04 winter. Vegetables are reported good, although late, on drier soils; while heavy soils have areas of prevented planting. **Marcia Hall (FSA), Oxford:** Great weather for crops. After a long, wet, cold spring the recent warm days have been a great break for farmers. Late planted corn has emerged, haying is an ongoing event, and strawberries are being picked. **Laura Rand (FSA), Androscoggin:** Producers are reporting that late planted crops are up and growing. The weather has allowed producers to catch up on haying. Pastures are in good shape and potato growers are cultivating and regular spray activities ongoing

MASSACHUSETTS - Arthur Williams (FSA), Berkshire: Two sunny days of cropping weather and then cloudy & moist conditions with .5 inches of rain. Crops still growing well with most greenhouses started veggies are being sold/marketed. Strawberries crop coming to a close, most producers with good yields. Equipment repair is still a big factor,

dealers not nearby. **Frank Caruso (Ext), Plymouth:** Cranberries: All beds in bloom, with early varieties past 50% out of bloom. That means insecticide applications for fruitworm control have begun. Growers applied their second fungicide for fruit rot control this week. It was not easy to get these applications on the vines, as weather was very uncooperative...wind, fog, drizzle. Things had been dry until a good soaking on Friday with the remnants of hurricane Cindy. Bloom looks very good so far, but the weather has not been good for the bees to pollinate either. **John Devine (FSA), Franklin:** Another week of wild weather affected crops in Franklin County. Producers have reported that heavy rain caused flooding in southern sections of the county on 7/6/05. Fields in Deerfield and Whately got 4+ inches of rain in a 45 minute downpour. This storm caused a lot of ponding and washouts. Vegetable growers have reported that disease pressure has increased significantly with the hot muggy weather. Tobacco growers are scouting their fields for insect damage and bluemold. Both the corn and potato crops look great right now. **Ted Smiarowski, Jr. (FSA), Hampshire/Hampden:** Heavy rains arrived this past week with some areas receiving over two and a half inches. All growers are initiating fungicide applications to protect against crop diseases. An outbreak of Downy Mildew was reported in NJ and Delaware and weather events have put western MA at moderate risk. This is a big concern to vine crop producers. Vegetable growers are scouting for Potato Leafhopper, Flea Beetles, cabbage worm, corn earworm and European Corn Borer. All crops are growing very fast and look good. Harvesting sweet corn, raspberries, blueberries, lettuce, cabbage and greens. Tobacco is being top-dressed and cultivated. **Gary Guida, Worcester:** Heavy rains in this area made field work difficult as soil reached saturation levels. Some erosion noted, especially in hillsides. Corn herbicide failing with all this rain. Cuke beetles still a problem as weather affecting spray programs. Corn here without plastic has now tasseled out. Planting late beans. Flower and corn sales still very strong. Ideal weather for new strawberry fields.

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Amy Ouellette (Ext), Belknap: Strawberry harvest was at its peak with very flavorful, sweet berries. Many vegetables are being harvested. Weather was perfect for field work. **Tina Savage (Ext), Carroll:** Some haying done early in the week. First cut near to complete. Vegetables still about a week or two behind. Second cut growing well due to more than adequate moisture. **Carl Majewski (Ext), Cheshire:** Generally warm all week, with a few bright, sunny days. Corn continues to grow well, much of it now shoulder-high. A few good drying days, but making dry hay is still a challenge. Many alfalfa/grass fields ready for second cut haylage/baylage. Some farms opening for PYO blueberries and raspberries this week. First plantings of sweet corn starting to tassel. **Steve Turaj (Ext), Coos:** Good re-growth of hay lands. Pasture doing well with past week's rain, corn also coming along. Raspberries and blueberries beginning to ripen. More local veggies now coming into markets. Bees foraging actively, plenty of blooms, honey supers going on. **George Hamilton (Ext), Hillsborough:** Fruit; Fruit growers monitoring pest and crop development and apply sprays for pest control, if needed. Also, growers are training young fruit trees along with mowing orchard floor. Strawberry harvest is nearly over (95% harvest) and getting to renovate harvested beds. First blueberries harvested during the end of the week. Field Crops; Farmers continued to bale hay or make haylage at a faster rate. Growers are sidedressing fertilizer to field corn if needed and spreading manure on harvested hayfields. Vegetables; Continuing successive planting. Growers continued harvesting early season vegetables such as lettuce, peas, greens, radishes, and summer squash. Growers busy trying to side dressing fields with fertilizer, cultivating, removing weeds, scouting for pests and spraying if needed. **Sadie Puglisi (Ext), Merrimack:** Strawberry picking finished up this past weekend. Calls about mummy berry are starting now that fruit is ripening. Sweet corn and tomatoes are at the farm stands. **Nada Haddad (Ext), Rockingham:** Picking sweet cherry, strawberries, garlic, herbs, summer squash, carrot cut flowers, and kales. Raspberry and blueberry picking will start in the next couple of days. Cultivating and weeding vegetable fields. Making hay and haylage. Still planting field corn. Monitoring pests in orchards and vegetable fields **Pam Marvin (FSA), Sullivan:** Second cut of alfalfa haylage is underway and looks good. Spot rain showers has helped the growth. Getting in dry hay has been a challenge with many fields yet to be cut. Blueberry crop has been hit with hail along with a problem of branches bearing no leaves. Too early to tell what quality production will be like. PYO strawberries still going with good reports on size, color and taste. Silage corn is coming along great with loads of humidity and spot rain showers. **Geoffrey Njue (Ext), Strafford:** Scattered showers and cloudy weather through the week. Grass in hayfields and pastures growing well, but the weather was not ideal for haying. Vegetable growers busy planting successive crops at the same time harvesting early crops. Growers were also busy cultivating for weed control and monitoring for pests and spraying if needed. Fruit growers were mowing orchard floors and monitoring for pests and spraying if needed. Strawberry harvesting continued through the week. Fall mums growing well for most garden centers.

RHODE ISLAND - Melissa Turrisi: The past week brought some much needed rain. Strawberry season is coming to an end. Producers have begun harvesting early crops like beans, peas and potatoes. Summer

vegetables look good in terms of both color and growth. Farmers are waiting anxiously to begin picking sweet corn which may be ready as early as next week.

VERMONT - John St. Onge/Kim Peterson (FSA), Lamoille: Week ended on a much needed wet note with a good 2.5 inches of rain falling. Second cut of grass is underway and is looking good. The corn crop's recent rapid growth seems to have had a beneficial effect on weed control. Overall, all crops are looking very good for this point in the season. **Dave Blodgett (NRCS), Orleans:** It was another good week for cropping. Some late first cut hay is being harvested as dry square bales. A lot of landowners have begun 2nd crop. The crop looks really good at this point. Soil moisture is still adequate and on some fields excessive. Saturday's rain helped to assure this. All in all it's turning out to be a good crop year. **Perley Sparrow (FSA), Windham:** Another rainy week in Windham County. Field

corn is looking great, tall and green. Apple producers are reporting that this year's apple crop is looking better every day. A whole bunch of second cut is ready and producers are hoping for better condition this week. **Dennis Kauppila (Ext), Caledonia:** Another very warm week. Some heavy showers also. Some fields are showing wet in places that are usually dry. Corn is coming along well. No more calls about corn insects. Some farmers starting second cut and spreading manure after that crop is off. **Sherwin Williams, Rutland:** Putting nitrogen on corn. Side-dressing vine crops with nitrogen. Still doing late planting of fall vegetable crops. 0.653 of an inch for the week, short, but the rain did a good job. Strawberries and asparagus finished with good crops. Picking good crop of peas and lots of early garden vegetables. **George Cook (Ext), LaMoille:** Heavy rain Saturday, July 9 - 2.15 inches. Crops look excellent overall. Corn is responding to the hot weather, nitrogen levels appear to be very adequate with nice green color.

May's cool, wet weather finally gave way to sunshine and warmth by early June, allowing farmers to catch up with planting, and crops to respond to improved soil temperatures. Fall potato planting in Maine shifted into high gear, as growers used every waking moment to get the remaining 80 percent of the crop in the ground by mid-June. By month's end, Maine potatoes were fully emerged and condition ranged from good to excellent. Massachusetts and Rhode Island potatoes were rated in good condition by the end of June, with growers actively hilling and spraying for insects. Maine oats and barley seeding was at the halfway mark at the start of June, two weeks behind schedule. Farmers took advantage of the warm, dry weather to get most of the grains planted by mid-June. Emergence was nearly complete by the end of the month, and crop condition ranged from good to excellent. Field corn emergence was also well behind schedule at the beginning of the month due to the prolonged cold, wet conditions in May. The mix of sun, rain and warm temperatures promoted good to excellent growth, with most of the field corn crop emerged at month's end. Farmers were active baling first cut hay during June as progress kept pace with last year and normal, first cut condition ranged from good to fair in the region. Hazy, hot, and humid conditions with scattered afternoon thunderstorms arrived at month's end, which promoted good growth on second crop hay, but provided less than ideal drying conditions for first crop harvest. Shade tobacco was all transplanted by the first week in June, ahead of last year and normal, and crop condition was reported good. Broadleaf tobacco growers were setting out the last of the tobacco plants, top-dressing and cultivating at the end of June, and the crop condition was also rated good. New England fruit trees were hit with cold, wet weather during pollination in May this year; however, crop conditions remain good or fair throughout most of the region. Orchardists scouted for disease and insect pests and applied protective fungicides and insecticides as needed. Strawberry harvest was underway in most areas by mid-June, from one to two weeks late due to the unusual cool spring. Crop conditions were extremely variable throughout the region, ranging from fair to very poor in Massachusetts and good to fair elsewhere. Highbush blueberries were at full bloom or petal fall by mid June, and dry conditions provided excellent pollinating conditions in most areas. Specialists rated the berries in good to excellent condition at month's end. Wild blueberry bloom was delayed two weeks by cool, wet spring weather. Heat and sun advanced crop development closer to normal, however, fruit set was variable and disease symptoms were more prevalent by month's end. Massachusetts cranberry bogs were in full bloom by late June and excellent pollinating conditions moved the crop condition from fair to good. Vegetable growers were active seeding successive plantings of sweet corn all month long, and crop conditions were good to excellent region wide. The month finished up with a storm on June 29th, which brought heavy winds and hail along the Connecticut River, and a small tornado touched down in western Massachusetts.

To receive this report every Monday evening, send an e-mail message to listserv@newsbox.usda.gov and in the body, type **subscribe usda-new-eng-crop-weather**

Aubrey R. Davis, Director
Travis Averill, Statistician

Gerald Tillman, Deputy Director
Deirdre Davis, Stat Assistant

PERMIT NO. G-38
USDA
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
FIRST CLASS
PRESORTED

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