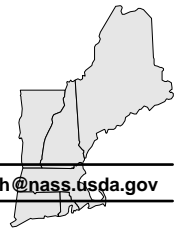




# New England Agricultural Statistics



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

Volume 27, Number 6

(Issued weekly on the internet, May – October)

June 4, 2007 – 4 pm

For week ending 6/3/07

## Crop Weather

### Planting in Full Swing

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:** For the week ending June 3, 2007, there were 6.0 days suitable for field work across New England. Pasture condition was rated 5% fair, 70% good, and 25% excellent. This past week boasted above average high and low temperatures and very little rain until Sunday. Temperatures ranged from the upper-60s to low-80s throughout the week, with most regions in the mid- to upper-70s. Sunday brought slightly cooler weather and heavy rains. Most of the region was partly cloudy throughout the week with scattered showers on Monday and Wednesday. The southern states also saw some rain showers on Thursday. However, most reporters stated the rain did not hinder any field activities. The rain in the latter part of the week slowed down first cuttings of dry hay and haylage.

**FRUIT:** Apple, peach, and pear trees had advanced to petal fall or beyond by week's end across the region. Fruit set on apples was above average in Maine and mostly average elsewhere. Orchard activities included applying pesticides and herbicides, mowing orchard floors, and planting new trees. Strawberries ranged from early bloom in Maine to petal fall in Connecticut. The cooler nights caused damage to berries at some locations, but overall specialists rated the crop in good condition. Some fruit growers in Connecticut are planning to open their "pick-your-own" businesses as early as this weekend. Cranberry producers were active planting vines and applying sprays for insect and weed control. Wild blueberries in Maine were in early to full bloom during the week with excellent weather providing optimum pollinating conditions. Winter injury was severe at some locations, but overall potential is there for an above average crop. Fruit specialists across New England agreed that this week was excellent for pollination and bee populations are doing well despite the reports of colony collapses.

**VEGETABLES:** Farmers' markets were busy this weekend selling greens, rhubarb, and even some early strawberries. Greenhouses were also quite busy due to the drier, warmer weather. Farmers planted squash, cucumbers, peppers, beans, lettuce, beets, cabbage, tomatoes, and sweet corn. Peas began to emerge. Asparagus, lettuce, spinach, and rhubarb continued to be harvested and some reporters noted the cooler nights caused slight damage to asparagus plants. Farmers noted quite a bit of flea beetle and seed maggot damage across the region.

**FIELD CROPS:** The drier weather in the early part of the week allowed farmers to chop grass and put up dry hay. However, the rain at the end of the week interrupted any further hay activities. Hay fields were reported in good condition, but weeds are beginning to become an issue. Most field corn was planted and is growing well. Maine oats and barley plantings neared completion by week's end. Dry conditions allowed Maine potato farmers to make excellent progress during the week, with planting near completion in Aroostook County. Tobacco transplanting continued throughout the week as well. Farmers capitalized on the warm weather and were busy applying fertilizer and manure, rototilling, discing, spraying for weeds, and preparing remaining fields for corn planting.

#### SOIL MOISTURE ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Soil Rating	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
-- Percent --			
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	1	1	0
Short	7	5	6
Adequate	83	90	33
Surplus	9	4	61
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	4	2	6
Adequate	89	94	54
Surplus	7	4	40

#### FRUIT CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	Development	Set	Condition
Apples	PF	Average	Good/Excellent
Peaches	PF	Average	Good/Fair
Pears	PF	Average	Good/Fair
Blueberries			
Highbush	FB/PF	Average	Good
Wild	EB/FB	Above Avg	Good/Fair
Cranberries	BS	N/A	Good
Strawberries	FB/PF	Avg/Above Avg	Good/Excellent

BS = Bud Stage, EB = Early Bloom, FB = Full Bloom, PF=Petal Fall

#### FIELD CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	2007	2006	5-yr Avg	Condition
--Percent Planted--				
Barley, ME	90	99	90	
Oats, ME	85	99	90	
Potatoes				
Maine	90	95	85	
Mass	100	99	99	
Rhode Island	100	100	95	
Silage Corn	85	75	70	
Sweet Corn	75	50	60	
Tobacco				
Broadleaf	45	20	25	Good/Fair
Shade	95	65	80	Good/Fair
--Percent Emerged--				
Barley, ME	40	85	55	Excellent
Oats, ME	55	85	50	Excellent
Potatoes				
Maine	0	40	10	N/A
Mass	60	55	55	Good
Rhode Island	100	90	70	Good/Excellent
Silage Corn	45	40	35	Good
Sweet Corn	45	45	40	Good
-- Percent Harvested --				
Dry Hay				
First Cut	20	10	10	Good/Excellent

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

For the Period: Monday May 28, 2007  
To: Sunday June 3, 2007

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				CUM SINCE MAR 1 GROWING DEGREE DAYS				1-WEEK PRECIP			4-WEEK CUM PRECIP		
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS
<b>MAINE</b>														
Augusta State A	50	81	65	+5	317	+107	109	+85	0.91	+0.07	5	3.16	-0.24	13
Bangor Intl Arp	43	78	63	+5	260	+94	81	+68	0.28	-0.52	4	3.30	+0.05	12
Bethel	47	78	61	+3	234	+55	65	+47	1.04	+0.16	3	3.71	+0.36	9
Caribou Municip	42	77	57	+2	191	+66	50	+40	1.17	+0.47	2	2.83	+0.03	10
Dover-Foxcroft	42	77	60	+4	188	+59	44	+35	0.37	-0.47	3	2.91	-0.35	11
Frenchville	40	74	56	+0	174	+76	50	+50	0.51	-0.19	2	1.50	-1.33	9
Houlton	36	73	57	+2	195	+67	48	+37	0.58	-0.19	2	2.42	-0.65	10
Livermore Falls	43	79	62	+6	228	+98	59	+50	0.51	-0.41	5	2.36	-1.09	12
Moosehead	40	73	58	+4	155	+75	30	+30	0.90	+0.06	4	3.41	+0.25	11
Portland_ME	49	81	64	+7	304	+150	89	+82	0.72	-0.05	4	2.74	-0.45	12
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b>														
Benton	44	79	62	+4	246	+48	68	+44	0.93	+0.09	5	2.70	-0.48	12
Berlin AG	44	76	61	+4	228	+52	64	+44	0.86	-0.04	5	3.82	+0.52	11
Bethlehem	46	80	64	+6	282	+86	79	+55	0.93	+0.08	5	3.81	+0.73	14
Concord	45	86	67	+8	400	+168	147	+113	0.99	+0.25	5	4.04	+1.20	13
Diamond Pond	44	70	57	+4	136	+55	25	+25	1.26	+0.26	6	5.29	+1.60	15
Keene AP	45	85	67	+5	369	+62	135	+74	0.91	+0.05	5	2.90	-0.53	12
North Conway	48	80	63	+4	255	+51	74	+47	0.96	+0.05	5	3.94	+0.31	11
Rocheſter	47	84	64	+4	321	+55	105	+60	0.72	-0.12	3	3.92	+0.46	10
<b>VERMONT</b>														
Burlington Intl	48	82	67	+7	378	+98	143	+89	1.13	+0.36	5	2.74	-0.13	11
Island Pond	40	74	59	+4	201	+73	49	+37	1.21	+0.26	5	3.18	-0.29	13
Montpelier	42	81	65	+7	305	+112	97	+73	1.58	+0.76	4	3.35	+0.31	11
Pownal	46	84	65	+7	314	+110	101	+72	0.84	-0.21	3	3.75	-0.39	8
Rochester	42	81	63	+6	248	+71	66	+46	0.51	-0.44	5	2.42	-1.47	12
Rutland AG	44	82	66	+5	298	-22	99	+28	0.99	+0.18	4	3.21	+0.02	11
Springfield_VT	43	84	67	+9	347	+131	130	+98	1.08	+0.13	4	3.92	+0.22	13
Sutton	43	77	61	+7	217	+91	55	+43	0.93	+0.00	5	4.60	+1.21	14
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>														
Boston/Logan_In	57	86	69	+6	513	+176	191	+141	0.13	-0.58	1	3.75	+0.86	9
Fitchburg	50	90	69	+11	500	+309	201	+181	0.26	-0.55	3	4.32	+1.12	10
Greenfield	48	87	68	+6	415	+75	150	+86	0.36	-0.55	3	3.34	-0.20	10
New Bedford	46	86	67	+5	382	+46	113	+65	0.26	-0.58	2	2.87	-0.45	8
Otis_AFB	52	79	65	+6	299	+99	75	+58	0.16	-0.62	2	3.27	-0.03	9
Plymouth	48	86	68	+8	387	+166	129	+106	0.77	-0.07	2	3.30	-0.21	7
Walpole	50	89	69	+8	457	+189	174	+136	0.48	-0.32	3	3.99	+0.88	11
Chicopee/Westov	45	90	69	+5	444	+12	167	+70	0.18	-0.80	2	2.37	-1.38	9
Worthington	44	86	66	+8	332	+132	106	+81	0.50	-0.47	3	2.29	-1.82	11
<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>														
Providence	54	88	71	+9	531	+231	187	+145	0.16	-0.65	2	2.33	-1.01	9
Woonsocket	49	88	68	+8	461	+197	166	+135	0.09	-0.82	1	3.23	-0.41	8
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>														
Bridgeport/Siko	55	85	70	+8	512	+160	162	+91	0.38	-0.46	2	1.31	-2.20	8
Hartford/Bradle	50	91	72	+8	569	+168	222	+132	0.82	-0.09	2	4.04	+0.31	9
Norfolk	47	87	68	+10	365	+170	130	+108	0.40	-0.65	2	2.09	-2.05	12
Thomaston_Dam	49	87	69	+9	440	+156	152	+106	0.44	-0.54	3	2.23	-1.75	12
Willimantic	47	88	69	+9	467	+182	168	+123	0.09	-0.82	1	1.70	-2.05	8

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.

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1-888-798-9955.

**STATE WEATHER SUMMARY**

For the week ending Sunday, June 3, 2007

State	Air Temperatures				Precipitation	
	L	HI	AV	DF	LO	HI
ME	33	83	61	+4	0.09	1.73
NH	32	91	63	+6	0.00	1.61
VT	39	85	63	+6	0.26	1.69
MA	42	90	67	+7	0.00	1.58
RI	49	88	68	+8	0.09	0.35
CT	46	91	69	+8	0.00	0.94

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

**CONNECTICUT - Howard Rood (FSA), Fairfield/Litchfield:** Rain at the end of the week slowed field work. Most farming activities are ahead of schedule. **Ross Eddy (FSA), Hartford/Tolland:** Another dry week, until the weekend. Farmers planted squash, cucumbers, peppers, tomatoes and more sweet corn. Field corn planting continued and a lot of grass was chopped. Some dry hay was put up both in the small square and round bale variety. Heavy rains on Sunday morning as a front set up along the Massachusetts border and the Northern tier of towns in Hartford and Tolland counties received one to three inches of rain, south of that was dry. Farmers markets opened with greens, rhubarb and the first strawberries! **Frank Himmelstein (Ext), New London:** Another good week for getting corn into the ground. Despite the scattered thunderstorms, there was not enough rain to slow down progress in most areas. Corn is emerging rapidly and growing well. Weed control will be needed soon in many areas with the rain showers triggering weed seedling germination. Progress on making dry hay will have to wait until the current unsettled and humid weather leaves the region. **Marsha Jette (FSA), New London:** Producers taking advantage of good weather, corn planting is on schedule. First cutting hay is reported good to excellent. Strawberry growers expecting to begin pick your own June 10th to the 15th. **Dawn Pindell (FSA), Windham:** Another terrific week for farming, beautiful weather during fruit blooms brought chemical and hand thinning to do. Peaches in shuck split stage, blueberries done flowering with berries forming, strawberries with green berries, corn, potatoes, peas up. Good variety of vegetables planted, planting fruit trees, seedlings germinating, still planting corn, chopping grass, mowing hay and baling, some wet spots still. Irrigated strawberries on cold nights for protection, a little damage to the berries and asparagus but not too bad, Douglas Fir Christmas trees with severe needle cast problems. **Nancy Welsh (FSA), New Haven:** This has been a week of warm weather which has allowed most of the silage corn to be planted and some has emerged and looks good at this point. We have been getting reports that the ground is pretty dry and the producers are trying to keep the young vegetable plants from drying up. Passing thunderstorms late in the week brought a small amount of rain to some areas, but we could use some more. The last measurable rain fell in mid-May. Producers are chopping haylage. **Richard Meinert (Ext), CT Cooperative:** Scattered showers/thunderstorms late in the week interrupted haymaking in some areas. If the showers missed you it was a wonderful week to make a lot of hay. Field corn is growing well. We should be nitrate testing in the next week or so.

**MAINE - Dee Potter (Ext), Northern Aroostook:** Cattle are out on grass. Good week for field work, could use some rain. **Pam Hickey (Ext), Central Aroostook:** Potato and grain planting is finishing up, with about 95 percent for potatoes and 90 percent for grains completion respectively. Some grains are starting to emerge. No emergence as of yet for potatoes. **Steve London, Southern Aroostook:** Most farmers have started their herbicide sprays on potatoes and grains. **Donna Coffin (Ext), Piscataquis:** Pasture and hay fields are looking great. Some haylage has been cut. Weekend rains slowed field work. **Kathy Hopkins (Ext), Somerset:** Field work continuing. Corn is emerging. Haylage is being cut. Rain followed by sun later in the week should help. **Rick Kersbergen (Ext), Waldo:** Good weather last week helped get a lot of corn planted and some haylage harvested. Grasses are headed out, so quality is going downhill fast. Strawberries are in full bloom along with highbush blueberries. Good pollination weather. **Trudy Soucy (FSA), Knox/Lincoln:** Vegetables are planted. Fields sprayed for weed control. Preparing to chop grass silage (none done to date). Pumpkins and squash are planted. Petal fall spray applied to apple crop. Fungicide sprayed on strawberry crop. Fertilizer and sulfur were spread on blueberry fields. The weather cooperated so that bees were able to pollinate crops. **Dr. David Yarborough (Ext), Washington:** Wild blueberries: Bees are actively pollinating crop in fields state-wide. Weather is conducive to good pollination. Very little disease symptoms from mummy berry noted in field, disease pressure was light this year. Winter injury quite severe on some fields, up to 30% of the stems affected. Flea beetle outbreaks noted on many fields. It appears that with good pollination we should have the potential for a better than average crop. **Sandy Truslow (FSA), Cumberland/York:** Good weather in the first part of the week

allowed plantings to continue on a fast pace. Now the weather has turned wet and cool. Everyone hopes this won't last too long! **Gary Raymond (FSA), Androscoggin/Franklin:** There have been lots of showers but field work has progressed rapidly. The moisture has pushed germination and lots of corn & small grains are up. A little sunshine should get the growing season off to a great start. **Marcia Hall (FSA), Oxford:** Oxford County producers have been in the fields planting all week and animals have been put out to pasture in most places. Apple pollination has started across the county. Market gardens are being prepared and some planting has begun. Farmers market was busy last week and looking forward to the busy time ahead. **Valerie Porter (FSA), Penobscot:** Dry week with occasional scattered showers helped crops emerge from the ground. Corn is starting to come up in several locations. Apple trees are losing their blossoms. Hay fields look nice and green. Farmers are starting to see great looking fields due to sun and scattered showers on the past weekend. Strawberries are looking nice and green with not much winter damage and buds are coming on plants.

**MASSACHUSETTS - Aimee Thayer (FSA), Berkshire:** Another good week for field work. The county got one-two inches of rain when some strong storms blew through. Damage appears limited to downed trees in South County with no reports from farmers of field damage. Corn is up, strawberries look very good. Solanaceous veggies love the weather so far. Pastures are healthy. First cutting of hay is underway. A flash flooding watch is in effect at report time through Monday afternoon with up to four inches possible, so we'll see what happens. **Frank Caruso (Ext), Plymouth:** Cranberries: All varieties are greened up at this point. Growers are planting vines in renovation projects, cleaning ditches, applying pre-emergent herbicides, scouting for insects, applying insecticides for insects that have reached thresholds. Hand weeding maples and other perennials. Local beekeepers do not seem to notice any lack of bees in their hives, good news after all the fears about colony collapse disorder. There is much more consternation ahead though until we know why bees are leaving the hives. **Emily Tchorz (FSA), Bristol:** Warm sunny weather all week. Land preparation and plantings, and other field work going on every day. Topsoil was looking a little dry by the weekend, but the rain coming through should help that. **Ted Smiarowski, Jr. (FSA), Franklin/Hampshire/Hampden:** Hot and humid all week. Planting cucumbers, peppers, tomatoes, beans, tobacco, lettuce, beets, pumpkins, cabbage, and corn. Harvesting asparagus, lettuce, spinach, rhubarb, and hay. All crops are looking good.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE - Tina Savage (Ext), Carroll:** Apples passed petal fall early in the week, seems like a good set of fruit. Nurseries and greenhouses are doing great business. Pastures are growing well, hay fields are getting over grown, but the weather hasn't allowed for cutting any hay, hopefully a few dry days are in our near future. **Carl Majewski (Ext), Cheshire:** Dry and sunny at the start of the week, but turning muggy with occasional rain by the end of the week. Field corn all planted, most of it is emerged and growing well. Grass and alfalfa looks good, but the big push for first cut hasn't happened yet. Vegetable operations still transplanting late crops. Orchards keeping up on spray schedules. **Steve Turaj (Ext), Coos:** A sunny, warm beginning of the week helped farms catch up on fieldwork; gave way to rainy weather with a couple inches or so of rain slowing activities again. Still some corn fields to be prepared and planted to field corn. Kentucky bluegrass and orchard grass headed out. May see some fields chopped for haylage before corn planting completed. Barley is about at three leaf stage. Annual weeds like mustards at white-root stage. Geese and crows are in this and corn. June beetles have emerged in goodly numbers, it must be June. **Tom Buob (Ext), Grafton:** Corn planting finishing up. First cut went well early in the week but rainfall stopped it. Quality is good to excellent. Corn is up and growing and the rain gave it a boost. Continuing rainfall and wet weather will continue to slow first cutting of haylage and hay. **Steve Schmidt (FSA), Grafton:** The corn is up and growing. It is behind for this time of year, but the warm weather has helped get things going. First cut haylage is going into the bunk silos. **George Hamilton (Ext), Hillsborough:** Vegetables: Transplanting tomato and pepper plants in field, and making successive planting vegetable crops. Spinach, asparagus and rhubarb are being harvested. Flea beetle and seed maggot damage have been seen. Fruits: Fruit growers are monitoring pest and crop development and applying cover sprays for pest control. Orchardists are wondering if they should be applying

thinning sprays to apple orchards. Weed spraying under trees and mowing orchard floor. Blueberries were at petal fall during week. Strawberries were blooming. Field crops are being planted and weed spraying corn fields. Farmers started trying to make haylage. **Dorothy Perkins (Ext), Merrimack:** Field corn is emerging and the sweet corn under plastic is six inches high. Rain the later part of the week is keeping folks from doing more vegetable planting. Almost all crops are in the ground and warm dry days are pushing them along. Pasture grasses are up to the bellies of the sheep and all the livestock are enjoying the beginning of the season. I saw several folks taking first cutting in the Concord area and at least four operations making haylage. The greenhouse operations are enjoying heavy sales due to the great weather. Bedding plants have been picked over well. **Nada Haddad (Ext), Rockingham:** Orchardists are spraying protective fungicides in fruit orchards. Growers are harvesting leafy green vegetables, asparagus and rhubarb. Successive planting of sweet corn, tomatoes and other vegetables, strawberries are also being planted. Growers are preparing fields by rototilling and discing and spreading fertilizers. Hail came down heavy in certain areas of the county with high wind. The week ended with two days of cold and rain.

**RHODE ISLAND** - A good week for field work. Some spraying is being done. Sweet corn and field corn is still being planted along with summer vegetables. Strawberries look great. Lots of hay cut this week, some showers at the end of the week could have

affected the quality, but not enough rain to help the soil. Roadside stands are busy.

**VERMONT - John St. Onge/Kim Peterson (FSA), Lamoille:** Up and down week weather wise, made corn planting and forage chopping a hit or miss proposition. Grass growth came on strong and the warm temps helped corn to emerge and thrive. Pastures are looking quite good. **Jeffrey Carter (Ext), Addison:** Corn planting continues to near completion. Emerging corn vigorous and complete stands. Weed pressure significant. Mild weather is allowing for timely control applications. Fertilizer and manure applications continue on corn land and hay fields. First cut haylage nearly complete, manure applications follow closely. Some dry hay harvested. Pasture re-growth is good. **Dennis Kauppila (Ext), Caledonia:** Good growing week. Sun, heat, with some rain. Most of the corn has been planted; a lot of it is up. Getting a start on first cut hay. **Dave Blodgett (NRCS), Orleans:** Corn planting and first cut hay harvest were the activities of the past week. Corn germination appears to be very good and even. The corn seedlings look good and green. First cut hay yield seems to be a little above average but is maturing fast. **Sherwin Williams, Rutland:** Mid season varieties of corn all planted. Early corn field beginning to look good. Warm weather and showers a big help. Early vine crops have been planted. With irrigation strawberries beginning to show promise. Showery type of rainfall. Asparagus doing well with return of warm days and night. Good stocks of rhubarb for the market. Put scallions on the market yesterday. All small vegetable cribs beginning to look good with rain and sun. Weather looks like plenty of rain on the way. Have a good week.

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

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