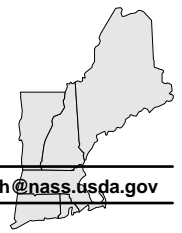




New England Agricultural Statistics



Gary R. Keough, Director

Phone: 603-224-9639

Fax: 603-225-1434

www.nass.usda.gov

nass-nh@nass.usda.gov

53 Pleasant Street, Rm 2100
Concord, NH 03301

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

Volume 27, Number 9

(Issued weekly on the internet, May – October)

June 25, 2007 – 4 pm

For week ending 6/24/07

Wetter Weather Would Be Welcomed

GENERAL CONDITIONS: For the week ending June 24, 2007, there were 6.4 days suitable for field work across New England. Topsoil moisture was rated 3% very short, 25% short, 70% adequate, and 2% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated 2% very short, 21% short, 75% adequate, and 2% surplus. Pasture condition was rated 5% poor, 20% fair, 55% good, and 20% excellent. The week began partly cloudy with average temperatures across the region. Scattered showers and thunderstorms occurred Wednesday through Friday, with hail damage to fruit crops occurring in parts of middle and southern New Hampshire and parts of Maine. The rain brought in cool weather with weekend temperatures well below average in some areas, slowing crop development. Despite the rain, all areas of New England are reporting a strong need for rain, with some crops starting to show signs of drought.

FRUIT: Strawberry harvest is in full swing and pick-your-own operations were very busy over the dry weekend. Thirty percent of the crop has been harvested to date and is reported to be in good to excellent condition. Apple, peach, and pear producers reported hail damage to crops in New Hampshire and Maine. However, the week's weather was good for pollination and migratory bee hives are reported to be healthy. Tree fruit growers kept busy mowing orchard floors, applying pesticides, inspecting apples for fire blight, and thinning peach trees by hand. Cranberries in Massachusetts have not progressed passed full bloom as the cooler temperatures have hindered development. Both Highbush and Wild blueberries are reported to be in great condition and growers expect a very good crop this year.

VEGETABLES: Vegetable growers were busy harvesting early season produce such as lettuce, radishes, squash, zucchini, and greenhouse tomatoes. Farmers began side dressing fields with fertilizer and continued to cultivate weeds, spray for pests, and make successive vegetable plantings. The dry weather is forcing irrigation in fields across New England and reporters stated more irrigation would be needed if larger amounts of rain do not occur this week.

FIELD CROPS: Corn growers were busy testing the crop for nitrates, topdressing, and side dressing nitrogen. Farmers reported some corn showing signs of bindweed infestation and the cooler dry weather is hindering crop progression. However, overall the crop is looking very good. Hay producers were busy harvesting dry hay, haylage, and chopping grass. Some areas have begun the second cutting of hay. Farmers spread manure on hay fields that were already harvested. Potatoes in Maine, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island are almost completed emerging and some growers are even cultivating the early planted crop. Farmers were busy applying Boron and Zinc to fields and started the "hilling" process. Tobacco growers finished up transplanting of Broadleaf tobacco in Massachusetts and Connecticut and report the crop is in good condition.

SOIL MOISTURE ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Soil Rating	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
-- Percent --			
Topsoil			
Very Short	3	1	0
Short	25	17	0
Adequate	70	78	60
Surplus	2	4	40
Subsoil			
Very Short	2	0	0
Short	21	12	0
Adequate	75	84	62
Surplus	2	4	38

FRUIT CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	Percent Harvested			Fruit Set	Fruit Size	Condition
	2007	2006	5-yr Avg			
Apples	-	-	-	Avg/Above	Average	Good/Excellent
Peaches	-	-	-	Average	Average	Good
Pears	-	-	-	Average	Average	Good
Blueberries						
Highbush	-	-	-	Average	Average	Good/Excellent
Wild, ME	-	-	-	Average	Avg/Below Avg	Good
Cranberries, MA	-	-	-	Average	-	Good
Strawberries	30	25	20	Average	Average	Good/Excellent

FIELD CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

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

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

For the Period: Monday June 18, 2007
To: Sunday June 24, 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
MAINE														
Augusta_State_A	53	82	65	+0	588	+93	195	+89	0.15	-0.62	4	2.23	-0.92	13
Bangor_Intl_Arp	45	84	65	+1	529	+101	158	+81	0.47	-0.30	4	2.19	-0.93	10
Bethel	48	80	63	-2	468	+25	129	+46	0.42	-0.49	3	4.82	+1.15	10
Caribou_Municip	43	79	61	-2	447	+108	123	+79	0.80	+0.10	4	2.94	+0.27	9
Dover-Foxcroft	45	81	60	-3	406	+57	86	+41	0.06	-0.81	2	1.29	-2.16	8
Frenchville	46	78	59	-3	400	+100	108	+78	0.90	+0.14	4	3.15	+0.29	9
Houlton	37	81	60	-3	426	+79	103	+56	0.91	+0.14	5	2.17	-0.91	11
Livermore_Falls	43	82	63	+0	455	+101	125	+77	0.29	-0.68	4	2.43	-1.42	13
Moosehead	40	83	59	-3	347	+84	66	+45	0.47	-0.44	4	2.27	-1.29	12
Portland_ME	51	86	66	+3	561	+154	166	+102	0.00	-0.78	0	3.58	+0.36	9
NEW HAMPSHIRE														
Benton	42	80	60	-3	476	+36	127	+51	1.19	+0.31	4	3.34	-0.19	15
Berlin_AG	45	81	61	-3	459	+35	120	+45	0.35	-0.63	3	2.65	-1.16	12
Bethlehem	43	84	61	-3	518	+78	140	+63	0.68	-0.29	4	3.09	-0.60	18
Concord	41	85	65	-2	683	+158	244	+120	0.69	-0.07	4	3.72	+0.73	16
Diamond_Pond	42	79	55	-4	295	+59	50	+40	1.10	-0.02	5	4.00	-0.26	16
Keene_AP	41	86	63	-5	642	+6	221	+39	0.26	-0.58	3	3.49	+0.11	15
North_Conway	46	81	63	-3	490	+10	135	+33	0.19	-0.72	3	3.76	+0.05	15
Rochester	47	87	66	-2	581	+3	195	+44	0.06	-0.75	1	3.88	+0.55	10
VERMONT														
Burlington_Intl	45	92	67	+0	739	+147	305	+143	0.70	-0.14	5	2.53	-0.67	15
Island_Pond	42	83	60	-2	450	+124	120	+74	1.18	+0.17	4	3.37	-0.58	16
Montpelier	43	84	63	+0	581	+145	187	+105	0.54	-0.25	4	2.89	-0.40	15
Pownal	42	86	63	-2	588	+134	196	+108	1.10	+0.05	3	3.96	-0.31	15
Rochester	41	88	62	-2	497	+81	140	+64	1.28	+0.44	6	3.30	-0.29	17
Rutland_AG	40	87	62	-5	569	-75	186	-2	1.74	+0.90	4	3.92	+0.59	14
Springfield_VT	40	85	64	-1	628	+146	227	+127	0.50	-0.41	5	3.56	-0.12	18
Sunderland	35	85	59	-8	487	-125	142	-23	1.40	+0.63	5	3.71	+0.50	13
Sutton	43	83	61	-1	452	+128	113	+67	0.82	-0.20	5	4.05	+0.12	19
MASSACHUSETTS														
Boston/Logan_In	56	88	71	+2	844	+142	325	+120	0.30	-0.40	4	2.08	-0.82	9
Fitchburg	51	86	68	+4	813	+355	322	+232	0.38	-0.46	3	2.50	-0.83	12
Greenfield	43	85	65	-5	709	+18	252	+45	0.34	-0.54	5	3.67	+0.06	16
New_Bedford	44	87	67	-3	674	-15	211	+21	0.20	-0.64	3	1.85	-1.55	11
Otis_AFB	50	79	66	+0	556	+66	146	+44	0.35	-0.40	3	1.81	-1.26	12
Plymouth	46	86	67	+1	669	+140	221	+96	0.47	-0.30	3	2.81	-0.46	11
Walpole	48	84	66	-1	748	+165	271	+123	1.25	+0.36	4	3.73	+0.29	12
Chicopee/Westov	41	84	66	-6	745	-78	278	+1	0.25	-0.66	3	3.96	+0.11	12
Worthington	39	82	62	-2	566	+108	173	+85	0.72	-0.16	4	5.23	+1.56	14
RHODE ISLAND														
Providence	51	87	70	+2	866	+220	318	+138	0.09	-0.68	2	2.49	-0.64	9
Woonsocket	46	85	66	-1	747	+173	256	+122	0.31	-0.62	3	3.04	-0.72	11
CONNECTICUT														
Bridgeport/Siko	55	87	70	+1	877	+163	317	+95	0.04	-0.75	2	4.21	+0.99	12
Hartford/Bradle	48	85	69	-1	933	+152	382	+122	0.13	-0.71	3	3.80	+0.23	12
Norfolk	43	83	63	-2	633	+179	218	+132	0.13	-0.92	2	2.12	-2.19	10
Thomaston_Dam	45	84	67	+1	764	+174	274	+126	0.11	-0.81	3	3.66	-0.20	16
Willimantic	44	84	67	+0	792	+194	293	+142	0.12	-0.76	3	2.66	-0.85	9

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 2007. 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, June 24, 2007

State	Air Temperatures				Precipitation	
	L	HI	AV	DF	LO	HI
ME	37	86	62	-2	0.00	1.49
NH	30	88	62	-2	0.00	1.19
VT	35	92	62	-3	0.32	2.57
MA	39	89	67	+0	0.01	1.25
RI	46	87	68	+1	0.00	0.31
CT	41	88	67	-1	0.01	0.36

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

CONNECTICUT - Jude Boucher (Ext), Tolland: Several days were cooler than usual with occasional showers. **Ross Eddy (FSA), Hartford/Tolland:** Off and on showers during the week made for challenges making dry hay. Side dressing field corn and sweet corn with nitrogen. Vegetable crops looking good and cultivation continues. Broadleaf tobacco continues to be set and earlier plantings are beginning to take hold. Tying up shade tobacco. Hay was finally dry for baling over the weekend. **Frank Himmelstein (Ext), New London:** Most growers have finished planting their corn in the past week although a few fields in the county still need to be planted. Overall it appears to be a good year for early corn growth. However, weed growth is being neglected on a number of fields planted to Glyphosate-resistant corn. It's important that the applications go on the field before the corn reaches 12 inches in height in fields with moderate to severe weed pressure. Otherwise weed pressure will reduce crop yield after that point when not controlled. Too much reliance on custom applicators to do all the weed management on the farm has resulted in less than optimum results when applications are not made in a timely fashion. Scattered thundershowers added more drying time to the hay harvest this week, although breezy conditions and low humidity really helped to dry the hay after the rain. Grower's leaving ruts in wet areas of certain hayfields. Some areas were ruined to the point where it's going to be useless for harvest in future years. **Dawn Pindell (FSA), Windham:** Scattered showers kept things damp, but cropping continued with planting corn, baling hay, chopping grass, and controlling weeds in vegetable fields. Aphids on apples should be predator controlled except in smaller trees per IPM Extension Educator at fruit growers meeting, well attended with interest in pest control, networking and marketing concepts. **Nancy Welsh (FSA), New Haven:** The weather was very nice most of this week. There were scattered thunderstorms throughout the area, but no prolonged periods of rain. The strawberry harvest continues and early vegetables are being harvested. Some dry hay was made, but harvesting hasn't been easy. **Joyce Meader (Ext), Windham:** Wagons of hay everywhere. Re-growth will be ready soon for second cut with this weather. **Richard Meinert (Ext), CT Cooperative:** Picking strawberries, nitrate testing corn, topdressing corn, making hay, and spreading manure on just harvested hay land. Some corn fields showing signs of bindweed infestation. Early applications of Roundup were too early to catch this late germinating weed. Hopefully canopies will close without needing more Roundup.

MAINE - Pam Hickey (Ext), Central Aroostook: Most crops have begun to emerge. Showers the later part of the week were welcomed, but we are still dry. Farmers have begun "hilling", a process of positioning more soil along each row of potatoes. Emergence of crops has begun, looking good. **Steve London, Southern Aroostook:** The farmers have finished their herbicide sprays on grain and potatoes with some applying Boron and Zinc to the potato crop. Some have started cultivating the early planted potatoes. Crops look great so far. **Donna Coffin (Ext), Piscataquis:** Occasional rain has made it difficult to dry hay in the field. **Kathy Hopkins (Ext), Somerset:** Haying in progress, strawberries being picked and need some rain to keep everything humming along. **Rick Kersbergen (Ext), Waldo:** Dry weather is good for making hay, but we need some rain. Lots of showers and some areas got a soaking, but many areas in Waldo County remain dry and dusty. Strawberry harvest is in full swing. **Trudy Soucy (FSA), Knox/Lincoln:** Field activities included cultivating, spraying, weeding and spreading of manure on some fields. Most first cut grass has been harvested as silage/haylage or baylage. Some first cut dry hay has also been cut. Strawberry harvest began this week and the crop is looking good. Hail storm hit apples in Whitefield on Friday, June 22, causing dents in crop. We do need some rain. **Dr. David Yarborough (Ext), Washington:** Wild blueberries: Fly traps being deployed in fields to monitor for the fruit fly. Fruit at green stage, cool temperatures delaying crop maturation. Soil is very dry so last week's rain was badly needed. **Jill Littlefield (FSA), Cumberland/York:** What a great week it was. Farmers are in the field everyday. Strawberry fields full of pickers. Light showers here and there but rain is still much needed. Irrigation pumps will be on soon with this hot weather coming. Hay bales are flying into barns all over the counties. **Gary Raymond (FSA), Androscoggin/Franklin:** Some producers have

completed first cut of hay and are fertilizing for second crop. Strawberries are for sale and sure look good. We could use more moisture. Heat is coming to boost corn growth. **Guy Piper (FSA), Kennebec:** First cutting dry hay, green chop, haylage, has been good to date. Corn for grain or silage looks to be coming in good. Strawberries look to be growing well. Weather for the most part has been good to work outside.

MASSACHUSETTS - Aimee Thayer (FSA), Berkshire: A cool, breezy and dry week with scattered storms and only one hot day. Fields are beginning to dry out. Strawberry crop looks good with large crowds to pick your own operations. First cut of hay is finishing with low quality and yields. Folks are harvesting spring greens and still selling flowers for transplant. The sunny days are good for tomatoes, peppers etc. but the cool temps have slowed things down. **Frank Caruso (Ext), Plymouth:** Flowers are everywhere and all reports indicate that the migratory hives are healthy and the bees are working the blossoms well so far. Pollination weather has been good, although cool some mornings. Things are getting on the dry side; there was only spotty precipitation on Friday and we could use a good soaking. Pest populations are normal, for the most part. Everything looks good at this juncture. **Emily Tchorz (FSA), Bristol:** All crops are progressing well. Wind damage has been reported on some crops, but for the most part everything is coming along on or ahead of schedule. Some vegetables are almost ready to harvest in time for July 4th. **Ted Smiarowski, Jr. (FSA), Franklin/Hampshire /Hampden:** This week brought a few scattered showers with cool temperatures. By weeks end growers started irrigating due to dry soil conditions. Growers continued planting cucumbers, sweet corn, beans, peppers, eggplant, parsnips and greens. Harvesting hay, lettuce, radishes, greens, peas and strawberries. Cultivating, hoeing and top dressing crops continues. Potatoes are being hilled up, tobacco is being topdressed and early sweet corn is in tassel stage. Mostly all crops look very good.

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Amy Ouellette (Ext), Belknap: Hail traveled through Sanbornton on Friday (6/22) leaving its trace on a few apple crops. The strawberry harvest looks very good. Farmers are harvesting leafy greens and other early season vegetables. First cut hay is complete in many places. **Tina Savage (Ext), Carroll:** Some attempts to dry hay, just enough rain to mess up haying, not enough to provide significant moisture to the soil. Some lawns showing drought stress. Early planted potatoes and squash are doing well. Pick your own strawberries just starting. First few days of summer have been cool, but I'm sure things are going to warm up. **Carl Majewski (Ext), Cheshire:** Mostly sunny for the week, with a few showers here and there. Field corn doing excellent, much of it at seven to eight leaf stage. Farms side dressing where needed and taking care of late post emergence herbicide applications. Farms still finishing up on first cutting; a few nice days for haying towards the end of the week, but drying conditions are still generally less than favorable. Sweet corn doing great, a few reports of earliest fields in pre-tassel stage. More and more veggies are showing up in stands. PYO strawberries in full swing, blueberries don't look too far behind. **Tom Buob (Ext), Grafton:** First and second cutting of hay continuing. Corn is growing slowly due to cool weather, still in six to eight leaf stage. Some fields being re-sprayed for weeds. Not much insect damage yet. **Steve Schmidt (FSA), Grafton:** Crops are looking good. A localized hail storm went through the southern end of the county, doing possible damage to the crops in the affected area. **George Hamilton (Ext), Hillsborough:** Weather: Thunder storms that produced hail, damaged crops in localized areas through out the state. Fruit crops were badly damaged. Fruit: Growers harvesting field grown strawberries. Also monitoring pest and crop development and applying sprays for pest control, along with mowing orchard floor. Field Crops: Farmers making haylage and baled hay, along with finishing planting and weed spraying corn fields. Vegetables: Continuing successive planting of several vegetables. Growers continued harvesting early season vegetables such as lettuce and radishes and first summer squash and zucchini are being harvested. Grower's busy side dressing fields with fertilizer, cultivating weeds, scouting for pests and spraying if needed. Pest Problems: Fire blight is seen in several apple orchards through out the county and state, some growers are starting to carefully prune out the fire blight strikes. Potato Leaf Hopper is here! Continue seeing damage from Asparagus Beetle, Flea Beetle, Corn Maggot, Striped Cucumber Beetle, and Colorado Potato Beetle. **Nada Haddad (Ext), Rockingham:** Good

weekend weather for PYO strawberries. Fruits look good. Harvesting leafy green vegetables, radishes and greenhouse tomatoes. Monitoring pests in fruits orchards, vegetables fields, blueberry and raspberry patches. Weeding and irrigation being done. Successive planting of vegetables continues. Hay and haylage continue. Overall pastures look good. **Geoffrey Njue (Ext), Strafford:** This was a great week for field work. Grasses in pasture and hayfields doing very well. Producers were doing the first cut for hay and haylage. Fruit growers were busy mowing orchard floors and those growing peaches were busy doing fruit thinning by hand. Harvesting of strawberries in pick your own farms. Vegetable growers weeding and irrigating vegetable fields. Greenhouse producers continued to plant fall mums.

RHODE ISLAND - Karen Menezes (Ext), Newport: Potatoes flowering, sweet corn and field corn look good. Lots of haying done this week due to the good clear weather. Planting sweet corn and summer vegetables. Strawberry season is in full swing and blueberries look like they will be great. Starting to trim Christmas Trees and spraying crops. Roadside stands are busy along with farmers markets.

VERMONT - John St. Onge/Kim Peterson (FSA), Lamoille: Some much needed moisture arrived later in the week. Those still working on the first cut of grass had to work around the rain but it provided a good opportunity to spread manure on first cut fields. Corn crop is looking very good with many fields already knee high. Vegetable crops are generally doing well. Weed control doesn't

seem to be a problem this year. **Dave Blodgett (NRCS), Orleans:** A lot of dry weather last week allowed most farmers to complete first cut hay. By the end of the week most farms were spreading manure. The first crop was good in both quantity and quality. The ground is a little dry right now which may affect second crop hay. The corn is looking good for the most part, however there are some places in the wet hollows and on the drier fields where the crops looks poor. Overall though it looks to be a good corn year so far. Pastures are still in good shape except for the drier fields. You can see signs of drought in this area. **Jeffrey Carter (Ext), Addison:** Spotty thunderstorms making hay baling a challenge. Moisture needed on dry clay soil for re-growth. Hay crops in good condition, corn growth excellent. Nitrogen side dress on corn in process, weed control very good this year. Manure spreading on hay stubble. Pasture re-growth fair to good. Alfalfa re-growth is very good for second cut haylage. New seedings are up, no clipping yet. Orchard, Brome full heads. Wild parsnip is in bloom. **Julie Jacque (FSA), Windham:** Weather has been good for dry hay, a couple of days of rain in the past week. Vegetables are doing well, strawberry harvest starting to look good. **Sherwin Williams, Rutland:** Sweet corn all planted with 80% emerged. Potatoes just about ready to blossom, have sprayed once for bugs. Cultivating and fertilizing early vine crops. Had a real good crop of strawberries, season beginning to wind down now. Last of the asparagus had real good crop. Now picking greens, scallions, radishes and rhubarb. Peas are nearly ready for market. All early vegetable crops are doing well. Market will soon be filled with all early vegetable crops. Have a good week.

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**

Gary R. Keough, Director
Lorie Warren, Statistician

Gerald D. Tillman, Deputy Director
Lynne Arsenault, Stat Assistant

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
53 PLEASANT ST, RM 2100
CONCORD, NH 03301

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