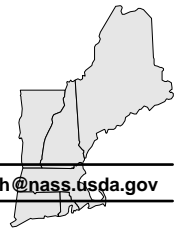




# New England Agricultural Statistics



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For week ending 10/21/07

## No Major Frosts Yet

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:** For the week ending October 21, 2007, there were 6.1 days suitable for field work across New England. Topsoil moisture was rated 5% very short, 13% short, 77% adequate, and 5% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated 8% very short, 17% short, 70% adequate, and 5% surplus. Pasture condition was rated 5% very poor, 15% poor, 47% fair, 29% good, and 4% excellent. Last week began cloudy with average high and low temperatures, varying from the 30s into the upper 60s. Areas of northern states continue to experience their first frosts, while the southern states have yet to have their first. High temperatures were back up to above average levels by Thursday, ranging from the 60s to 70s. Conditions early in the week helped to bring much of the growing season to a close, however farmers are still trying to put up some end of season hay and haylage. Summer crops are still being harvested and quality is still good. Widespread rain fell throughout the region Friday into Saturday, totaling anywhere from 0.6 to 2.3 inches. Heavy winds were also seen in some areas. Water levels in ponds and wells remain low in the southern states despite the rainfall. Weekend temperatures remained above average with partly cloudy skies, keeping farmers' markets and pick-your-own operations busy.

**FRUIT:** The apple harvest was nearly complete at 90 percent by week's end. The pear harvest was complete. The weekend's above average temperatures and partly cloudy skies provided good conditions for picking apples and pears. The lack of a killing frost and the unseasonably warm weather allowed the fall raspberry harvest to continue. The Massachusetts cranberry harvest was 80 percent complete and was reported in good to excellent condition.

**VEGETABLES:** The vegetable harvest continued due to temperatures remaining high later than normal. Farmers' markets provided tomatoes, potatoes, parsnips, carrots, cabbage, broccoli, kale, Brussels sprouts, winter squash, and pumpkins. Several counties in southern states reported squash and pumpkins were the only vegetables continuing to be picked. The sweet corn harvest was complete by Sunday. Vegetable growers were busy cleaning up harvested fields.

**FIELD CROPS:** Field corn was 99 percent harvested, above last year and normal. Cutting of third hay neared completion, but harvesting will continue until winter weather arrives. Rain in the end of the week provided sufficiently damp conditions to take down and bundle tobacco. The Maine and Rhode Island potato harvests were complete. Massachusetts potatoes were 95 percent dug by week's end. Farmers continued to seed cover crops on harvested fields and spread manure and lime.

### SOIL MOISTURE ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Soil Rating	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
-- Percent --			
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	5	4	0
Short	13	22	0
Adequate	77	70	70
Surplus	5	4	30
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	8	6	0
Short	17	21	1
Adequate	70	71	82
Surplus	5	2	17

### FRUIT CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	Percent Harvested			Fruit Size	Condition
	2007	2006	5-yr Avg		
Apples	90	95	90	Average/Above	Good
Pears	100	100	99	Average	Good/Fair
Cranberries, MA	80	75	80	Average/Below	Good/Excellent

### FIELD CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	2007	2006	5-yr Avg	Condition
-- Percent Harvested --				
Potatoes				
Maine	100	99	99	Good/Excellent
Mass	95	90	90	Good
Rhode Island	100	99	99	Good/Excellent
Silage Corn	99	90	90	Good/Excellent
Sweet Corn	100	100	100	Good/Excellent
Dry Hay				
Third Cut	90	85	90	Good/Fair

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

For the Period: Monday October 15, 2007  
To: Sunday October 21, 2007

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	DAYS	
<b>MAINE</b>															
Augusta State_A	33	69	53	+6	2403	+315	968	+222	1.52	+0.63	2	6.25	+2.98	13	
Bangor Intl_Arp	30	68	51	+5	2186	+287	818	+196	0.72	-0.05	2	4.01	+1.04	10	
Bethel	30	70	51	+6	1936	+73	651	+55	1.20	+0.32	1	4.01	+0.75	10	
Caribou Municip	30	66	48	+7	1711	+263	529	+151	0.51	-0.19	2	3.22	+0.39	8	
Dover-Foxcroft	31	70	50	+7	1659	+64	442	-10	1.22	+0.38	3	2.77	-0.62	6	
Frenchville	33	63	48	+7	1526	+183	423	+100	0.55	-0.15	3	2.45	-0.55	9	
Houlton	28	70	48	+6	1736	+222	554	+130	0.55	-0.16	2	2.59	-0.32	9	
Livermore Falls	26	71	50	+7	1901	+336	652	+223	0.99	+0.13	1	4.62	+1.34	8	
Moosehead	30	68	47	+5	1448	+131	352	+42	1.08	+0.31	2	4.57	+1.46	10	
Portland_ME	32	68	53	+6	2351	+418	916	+279	0.95	+0.07	3	6.68	+3.44	12	
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b>															
Benton	29	69	49	+4	1858	+154	605	+129	1.22	+0.46	2	4.22	+1.36	12	
Berlin AG	28	69	49	+6	1800	+100	573	+76	0.65	-0.18	1	3.00	-0.08	8	
Concord	29	73	54	+8	2612	+527	1143	+404	0.67	-0.06	2	3.48	+0.73	11	
Diamond Pond	28	66	44	+4	1255	+137	276	+71	1.10	+0.26	3	4.44	+1.08	14	
Keene AP	32	72	54	+8	2512	+621	1065	+463	1.34	+0.63	1	2.64	-0.10	9	
North Conway	29	68	50	+6	1992	+79	691	+58	1.03	+0.09	2	3.50	+0.02	11	
Rochester	29	71	51	+3	2387	+121	996	+144	0.68	-0.30	2	3.52	+0.02	9	
<b>VERMONT</b>															
Burlington Intl	32	77	54	+8	2685	+466	1201	+360	1.20	+0.57	1	3.85	+1.24	11	
Island Pond	29	72	49	+7	1727	+333	502	+177	1.29	+0.59	4	4.83	+2.03	14	
Montpelier	31	70	53	+8	2204	+469	832	+320	0.85	+0.22	3	4.11	+1.59	13	
Pownal	36	73	54	+9	2251	+424	846	+294	1.11	+0.27	1	3.56	+0.22	9	
Rochester	30	75	52	+7	2035	+307	690	+186	0.61	-0.23	2	4.48	+1.12	13	
Rutland AG	31	74	52	+3	2191	-147	818	-82	0.66	+0.03	3	3.18	+0.46	13	
Springfield_VT	30	70	53	+8	2437	+555	1013	+417	1.03	+0.23	4	3.93	+0.82	14	
Sutton	28	65	47	+6	1767	+371	531	+194	1.18	+0.41	3	5.28	+2.33	14	
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>															
Boston/Logan_In	44	73	59	+6	3246	+430	1594	+366	0.54	-0.20	1	1.71	-1.13	8	
Fitchburg	34	76	57	+11	2973	+1088	1411	+813	0.99	+0.23	1	2.39	-0.45	8	
Greenfield	32	71	54	+3	2537	-35	1015	-36	1.25	+0.48	1	2.81	-0.27	8	
New Bedford	30	75	57	+3	2810	-66	1267	-3	1.91	+1.12	2	2.77	-0.22	10	
Otis_AFB	36	70	57	+6	2586	+288	1088	+223	1.12	+0.24	2	2.61	-0.78	9	
Plymouth	32	75	58	+7	2809	+468	1278	+375	1.47	+0.56	3	2.68	-0.91	11	
Walpole	35	76	56	+8	2896	+570	1350	+456	1.08	+0.19	2	2.22	-1.19	9	
Chicopee/Westov	33	73	57	+5	2845	-129	1306	-44	1.35	+0.53	3	2.62	-0.52	11	
Worthington	34	72	53	+6	2165	+282	787	+212	1.04	+0.20	2	3.25	-0.04	9	
<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>															
Providence	39	77	60	+8	3332	+659	1643	+509	0.85	+0.01	2	1.45	-1.73	8	
Woonsocket	36	76	57	+8	2910	+627	1332	+486	1.38	+0.47	2	1.90	-1.60	9	
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>															
Bridgeport/Siko	45	72	62	+8	3346	+425	1625	+297	1.57	+0.87	2	2.92	+0.17	8	
Hartford/Bradle	40	76	61	+10	3390	+576	1710	+468	1.08	+0.31	2	2.39	-0.82	7	
Norfolk	40	72	54	+9	2453	+586	1006	+433	1.19	+0.30	1	3.91	+0.39	8	
Thomaston Dam	40	73	57	+7	2887	+591	1293	+447	1.24	+0.34	2	4.42	+0.88	9	
Willimantic	34	76	58	+8	3016	+675	1419	+543	1.55	+0.63	2	2.30	-1.35	7	

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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Prepared by AWIS, Inc.

**STATE WEATHER SUMMARY**

For the week ending Sunday, October 21, 2007

State	Air Temperatures				Precipitation	
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	LO	HI
ME	25	73	49	+5	0.43	2.26
NH	19	76	51	+6	0.65	3.24
VT	27	77	51	+7	0.29	1.70
MA	28	77	56	+7	0.35	1.91
RI	36	77	59	+8	0.82	1.38
CT	31	76	58	+8	0.44	2.33

**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:** Much needed rain fell at the end of the week. Crops for this growing season have been very good. **Frank Himmelstein (Ext), New London:** Some much needed rain finally arrived later in the week. Hay growers still harvesting what little regrowth they can find in some fields. **Dawn Pindell (FSA), Windham:** Corn chopping is done, picking corn continues. 70 degree weather, ponds three feet plus below normal, and water recharge in wells a concern. Showers, at last, on Friday and Saturday helped. The fall colors on the trees came on this week for a bountiful display. The colors fit in with pumpkin, mum, apple and squash sales along with the occasional horse drawn hayride through the orchard. **Nancy Welsh (FSA), New Haven:** Nice and warm this week with some showers and steady rain at the end of the week. Vegetable producers are cleaning up their fields and pulling up plastic mulch in preparation for seeding rye cover crop for the winter. Pumpkins and mums are still plentiful and beautiful. Agro-Tourism is very popular and a lot of families are visiting the corn mazes and apple orchards. Apples are very sweet and delicious. **Richard Meinert (Ext), CT Cooperative:** Farmers in the area are down to the last crop of the season - pumpkins. Another week of unseasonably warm and dry weather brings the growing season to a close.

**MAINE - Rick Kersbergen (Ext), Waldo:** Most areas have finally received a frost, although some higher central Maine areas are still "frost free." Nearly all corn silage has been harvested. Some soybeans and even some sunflowers harvested for livestock feed. **Trudy Soucy (FSA), Knox/Lincoln:** The apple harvest is nearly complete. Most farm activities involve spreading manure before the December 1 deadline. We received some rain this past week and had our first frost. **Gary Raymond (FSA), Androscoggin/Franklin:** Beautiful weather to paint the barn, empty manure pits and get ready for winter. Good grazing remains available. **Laura Rand (FSA), Penobscot:** What a glorious week! Producers have been busy getting things tied up on fall activities. Rain received Friday and Saturday nights has provided minimal relief to dry conditions. Heavy winds Friday night. **MASSACHUSETTS - Aimee Thayer (FSA), Berkshire:** Unseasonably warm weather and still no frost has folks harvesting tomatoes and fall raspberries. There has been great weather for finishing up silage cutting. A front moved through Friday night with wind and up to two inches of rain. Cleared out Saturday and left temps in the 70's. Foliage is peak and farmstands and orchards continue to be busy for leaf peepers.

**Frank Caruso (Ext), Plymouth:** Cranberries: In spite of the crop being down from estimates, some growers are satisfied with their harvests. The fruit quality seems to be holding up nicely, in spite of above average temperatures and below average rainfall. Frost nights have been few, as temperatures have remained warmer than usual. We had a good dose of rainfall last Friday. **Ted Smiarowski, Jr. (FSA), Franklin/Hampshire/Hampden:** Farmers continue to harvest potatoes, parsnips, carrots, cabbage, and apples. The rainy week brought an excellent tobacco damp for farmers to take down their crops.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE - Tina Savage (Ext), Carroll:** Light frost touched most of the county this week. Silage corn is all chopped and packed. Some third cut hay made it into the barn this week. Corn stalks, pumpkins and mums still flying off the farmstand shelves. Glorious weekend for foliage, football and baseball! **Carl Majewski (Ext), Cheshire:** A couple more widespread frosts early in the week. Field corn all done and just a bit of late haylage/baleage left here and there. Good weekend weather for PYO apples. **Steve Turaj (Ext), Coos:** First hard freeze throughout the county early in the week, then warming up considerably by the week's end. Heavy rain helped to recharge aquifers. Most silage corn now chopped and packed into silos; anything not harvested was browned by frost. Some round bales still being put up. Apples still available at a few orchards. Christmas evergreens for wreaths, etc. beginning to be gathered. End of the year cleanup continues. **Tom Buob (Ext), Grafton:** Corn silage harvest finishing up. Forth cut harvest in the early stages and should continue in earnest. Quality and yields both very good in many locations. **Steve Schmidt (FSA), Grafton:** Nearly all of the corn is harvested around the county with only a few fields left to harvest. Some producers are still waiting to put in a little end of the season hay and haylage if conditions allow. We received our first significant frost late last week. However, the Connecticut River Valley area was not hit as hard. Alfalfa and grass continue with slow growth. **George Hamilton (Ext), Hillsborough:** Fruit: Farmstands and pick-your-own apple operations had a beautiful weekend! Apple harvest is winding down, harvesting Rome, Fuji, and Golden Delicious. Picking up drops and cleaning up orchards from harvest. Vegetables: Localized frost occurred during the week. Farmers kept busy working on pulling plastic mulch and tomato stakes, planting cover crops, and putting away equipment. Good demand for all vegetables continues. Growers are harvesting wide array of vegetables including: cabbage, kale, Brussel sprouts, winter squash and pumpkins along with

the tail end of warm season crops. Field Crops: Silage corn chopping continues with the end in sight and seeding cover crops on harvested fields. Some manure spreading and incorporating in soil is taking place. **Geoffrey Njue (Ext), Strafford:** Some areas in the county had the first frost of the season, while others have yet to experience a frost. It has been unseasonably warm for this time of the year. Some hay producers were still making the third cut for hay and haylage. Vegetable growers busy pulling out tomato plants and cleaning up the fields. Some continued to harvest cool season crops like broccoli, kale and other greens. Pumpkins continued to sell very well at farmstands and garden centers. Fruit growers were harvesting the last crop of apples. Greenhouse growers continued to monitor the seasonal progress of poinsettias. The poinsettia crop is doing well.

**RHODE ISLAND - Karen Menezes (Ext), Newport:** Cover crop being seeded, chopping the last of the field corn and some late haying being done at the beginning of the week. A much needed rainfall late week helped pastures and farm ponds. Pumpkins, winter squashes and cole crops being harvested. Some tomatoes and summer crops still around due to the mild weather. Lots of produce in farmstands and markets.

**VERMONT - John St. Onge/Kim Peterson (FSA), Lamoille:** Corn silage harvest is all but over with reported yields somewhat above average. We had a light general frost last week which was one of the later dates in recent memory. More third cut is being harvested before the weather finally turns against us. **Dave Blodgett (NRCS), Orleans:** Almost all corn has been harvested. By all reports, it was a very good corn year for them. While the weather remains nice, some farms are doing a little more fourth cut hay. Also manure is being spread on the cornfields. Pastures are still in pretty good shape. To date, we have only had one hard killing frost which is very unusual for this area. **Jeffrey Carter (Ext), Addison:** Finished corn silage harvest, starting shell corn for high moisture. Soybeans almost ready, should start this week. Hay crop completed, last of third cut haylage brought in. Lime spreading, manure on corn ground and fall plowing in full swing. **Julie Jacque (FSA), Windham:** Some corn standing will be left to dry down for grain. Weather slightly on the warm side. Needed rain showers fell throughout the week. **Sherwin Williams, Rutland:** Field work finished for the season. All crop land was seeded winter rye. Short on rain, hope for more before it freezes up. Fall sales in full progress with squash, cabbage, pumpkins and potatoes plentiful. It has been a real good all around season for market garden produce. Time now for fall clean up. Have Happy Halloween sales weather. Great year for squash and pumpkins.

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