

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service







Crop Progress & Condition

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www.nass.usda.gov/nh Week ending May 6, 2018 Issued weekly on the internet, April - November by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov Released May 7, 2018

Fair week for field work: New England averaged 3 days suitable for field work last week, as nicer weather stuck around for farmers in the New England states. Warmer temperatures were reported but soil moisture levels were still relatively high, making it difficult to get much field work done. Regional weekly temperatures ranged from 2 to 11 degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.04 to 3.04 inches throughout the region. Fields were looking a lot healthier from the warmer temperatures last week. Operations were tilling fields located in higher altitude areas, but moisture in lower fields were still soggy and need another week before real progress can be made. Grass was still reportedly low in many fields making it difficult to graze livestock. Cranberry development was moving along rapidly in areas where bogs aren't near water tables. Orchardists were spraying pesticides as leaves were starting to appear on trees. Overall, vegetables were catching up rapidly and gaining ground on the delay caused by New England's extended winter conditions. Field activities for the week included manure spreading, plowing, disking, fertilizing, and equipment repair and maintenance.

Crop Progress as of May 6, 2018 (in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
		Week	
APPLES: GREEN TIP	31	7	54
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME):	34	<5	34
GREEN TIP			
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): PINK	23	N/A	15
CRANBERRIES (MA): GREEN TIP	40	<5	<5
SPRING TILLAGE: PERCENT	11	<5	31
COMPLETE			
SWEET CORN: PLANTED	6	<5	8

Soil Moisture for Week Ending May 6, 2018

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	0	60	40
SUBSOIL	0	0	71	29

Crop Conditions as of May 6, 2018

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
PASTURE AND RANGE	0	28	16	38	18

May 6, 2018 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather S					mary	Accumulation Since April 1, 2018						
		Temperature			Precipitation		Pre	cipitat	ion	GDD 50	Base 40F			
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total	
Maine	AUGUSTA STATE A	87	36	56	+5	0.65	4	6.58	+2.05	20	80	+34	246	
	BANGOR INTERNAT	86	41	57	+7	2.01	3	8.01	+3.69	19	78	+47	240	
	BETHEL 6 SSE	87	37	57	+7	1.28	4	4.00	-2.29	14	58	+12	156	
	BRIDGTON 3 NW	88	33	56	+6	0.74	4	3.77	-1.44	19	64	+28	184	
	CARIBOU WFO	79	37	50	+3	1.91	6	6.26	+3.01	21	25	+5	141	
	DOVER-FOXCROFT	86	40	55	+8	1.36	5	4.85	+0.49	15	40	+19	144	
	DURHAM	88	30	54	+5	0.31	3	5.38	+0.08	17	46	+15	164	
	EAST SURRY	79	33	54	+5	0.22	3	6.89	+1.97	20	36	+16	169	
	EUSTIS	83	38	52	+8	1.50	4		+0.36	14	27	+13	130	
	FRENCHVILLE NOR	79	38	49	+3	0.86	5		+1.15	20	18	+1	136	
	HARMONY	85	41	59	+10	1.32	4		+0.05	15	60	+26	188	
	HOLLIS	88	29	55	+6	0.51	3		+0.24	16	62	+24	180	
	HOULTON AIRPORT	82	36	51	+4	2.23	7		+1.24	21	36	+16	152	
	LIVERMORE FALLS	87	35	57	+8	0.40	2	3.35	-2.27	11	58	+19	178	
	MILLINOCKET MUN	83	42	54	+4	2.43	5		+2.94	19	53	+23	187	
	MOOSEHEAD	78	37	54	+9	3.04	4		+1.49	14	24	+14	123	
	PORTLAND JETPOR	89	34	58	+8	0.68	5		+2.86	20	73	+34	240	
	RANGELEY	81	30	48	+4	1.30	6	3.15	-0.81	23	12	0	90	
	TOPSFIELD 2	85	37	53	+4	2.02	4		+2.39	18	48	+25	178	
	TURNER	87	35	56	+5	0.52	4		+0.45	16	64	+12	204	
	WEST ROCKPORT 1	83	35	55	+6	0.19	1		+2.20	12	50	+23	196	
	WHITING	78	32	54	+7	0.15	3		+3.34	9	34	+22	116	
	WOODLAND	79	43	57	+9	1.44	4		+0.20	12	68	+45	190	
New Hampshire	BERLIN	85	36	54	+6	1.90	4		+1.19	19	54	+15	168	
New Hampsime	BRADFORD 2	85	35	58	+9	0.71	3	4.48	-1.08	13	84	+13	204	
	COLEBROOK 3SW	81	33	50	+4	2.46	5	3.71	+0.59	13	24	-2	117	
	CONCORD MUNICIP	90	35	61	+4		6		+0.59	22	114	_	271	
	EAST MILFORD	89	36	60		0.60	-		+0.01			+42		
			33		+8	0.56	4			16 18		+58	266	
	EPPING	89		59	+7	0.50			+0.51				232	
	CREENVILLE 1 NN	82	31	51	+6	1.55	4 NA		+1.45	20	-	+11	114	
	GREENVILLE 1 NN	NA 07		NA	NA	NA 0.10	NA 2	NA 2.54	NA 2.61	NA	NA 52	NA 12	NA	
	HANCOCK	87	33	57	+6	0.19	2		-2.61	7	-	-12	136	
	JAFFREY SILVER	86	35	61	+10	0.27	2		-1.67	15		+30	230	
	JEFFERSON	82	31	54	+7	1.94	3		+2.08	19	-	+16	156	
	KEENE	88	34	57	+6	0.83	4		-0.24	16			191	
	LAKEPORT 2	85	36	58	+6	0.43	3		+0.34	14			226	
	LEBANON MUNICIP	88	36	59	+8	0.94	6		+1.08	21	96	+26	240	
	NORTH CONWAY	88	34	56	+7	0.98	5		+0.73	18		+36	210	
	TAMWORTH 4	86	30	54	+4	1.22	4		+0.73	16	-		160	
	WOLFEBORO	84	39	58	+8	0.97	4		-0.59	17	-	+32	229	
Vermont	AVERILL	81	32	51	+2	1.03	5		+0.25	19	-	-14	114	
	BARRE MONTPELIE	78	32	56	+6	1.81	7		+4.04	25		+15	187	
	BENNINGTON MORS	86	35	59	+8	1.53	5		+1.20	21	100	+19	248	
	BURLINGTON WSO	88	37	60	+8	1.16			+2.56	24		+42	274	
	CORINTH	79	32	52	+4	0.99	5		+1.11	20		+14	135	
	JOHNSON	82	31	52	+4	0.88	2		+0.86	17		-4	131	
	MARLBORO RAWS	84	35	57	+4	0.44	4	6.21	+1.44	16	74	-10	181	
	NEWPORT	83	34	53	+4	1.68	5	5.76	+2.33	22	52	+12	160	

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2018						
		Temperature			Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F		
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total	
	ROCHESTER	86	33	56	+6	0.69	4	5.12	+0.60	16	60	+14	161	
	RUTLAND	85	35	56	+5	0.97	4	4.31	+0.78	20	68	0	180	
	SAINT JOHNSBURY	85	32	58	+6	1.17	5	5.39	+1.91	22	90	+22	226	
	SOUTH LINCOLN	81	31	53	+5	1.56	6	4.74	+0.15	21	52	+3	143	
	SPRINGFIELD HAR	86	36	58	+6	0.62	5	4.72	+0.49	20	84	+24	220	
	SUTTON	83	32	52	+4	1.85	6	6.23	+2.63	26	38	+14	131	
	WOODSTOCK	85	36	58	+7	0.61	3	4.96	+1.00	16	79	+18	200	
Massachusetts	AMHERST	88	35	60	+8	0.38	3	4.45	-0.18	16	106	+21	260	
	BARRE FALLS DAM	94	33	57	+8	0.34	3	4.71	-0.02	14	63	+15	170	
	BEDFORD HANSCOM	89	39	63	+9	0.61	3	6.73	+2.08	17	147	+40	336	
	BEVERLY MUNICIP	89	38	63	+11	0.48	6	5.47	+0.42	21	134	+62	336	
	BIRCH HILL DAM	87	33	57	+6	0.32	2	4.05	-0.51	14	73	+15	186	
	BOSTON/LOGAN IN	89	41	63	+9	0.62	5	5.49	+1.10	19	138	+42	356	
	CHATHAM MUNICIP	76	40	55	+4	0.71	4	5.25	+0.21	23	62	+28	274	
	CHICOPEE WESTOV	90	36	63	+9	0.37	5	4.91	-0.24	18	134	+28	302	
	EAST BRIMFIELD	87	37	60	+8	0.27	3	5.89	+0.84	20	63	-22	170	
	EDGARTOWN	78	38	55	+2	0.04	1	1.04	-3.91	5	24	-36	78	
	FITCHBURG MUNIC	91	41	64	+11	0.80	5	6.28	+1.47	22	169	+66	381	
	GREENFIELD NO.	89	36	60	+8	0.22	2	4.11	-1.22	15	105	+31	266	
	HYANNIS BARNSTA	80	39	57	+6	0.43	3	5.78	+0.64	18	79	+29	270	
	LAWRENCE	88	38	62	+8	0.28	3	5.59	+0.45	15	126	+24	307	
	LENOX DALE	86	35	61	+10	0.85	5	2.47	-2.15	16	83	+16	187	
	LOWELL	91	38	61	+8	0.36	4	5.46	+0.58	16	120	+32	313	
	NEW BEDFORD MUN	84	38	60	+7	0.29	3	6.34	+1.23	20	103	+32	300	
	NORTH ADAMS HAR	86	36	59	+6	0.93	6	4.58	+0.08	24	94	+15	239	
	NORWOOD MEMORIA	93	41	65	+13	0.56	6	7.06	+2.29	21	158	+74	397	
	PITTSFIELD MUNI	86	34	59	+8	0.79	6	4.72	+0.20	25	96	+31	239	
	PLYMOUTH MUNICI	87	39	60	+9	0.44	4	5.92	+0.66	19	118	+51	334	
	TAUNTON MUNICIP	90	39	62	+9	0.36	3	6.32	+1.17	18	124	+39	322	
	WESTFIELD BARNE	91	37	63	+9	0.37	5	5.72	+0.57	23	133	+27	311	
	WORCESTER	84	35	61	+8	0.73	5	6.77	+1.90	23	112	+28	278	
	WORTHINGTON	85	34	57	+7	0.23	4	5.29	-0.13	21	75	+23	196	
Rhode Island	NEWPORT STATE A	77	41	57	+4	0.28	5	5.11	-0.08	21	74	+2	272	
	PROVIDENCE	90	40	63	+8	0.20	3	6.74	+1.69	20	139	+34	373	
	WESTERLY STATE	78	42	59	+7	0.16	4	4.79	-0.57	19	95	+33	310	
	WOONSOCKET	92	39	64	+11	0.11	2	6.25	+0.79	15	144	+50	346	
Connecticut	BRIDGEPORT/SIKO	83	44	60	+5	0.50	3	6.04	+1.21	21	130	+27	364	
	BURLINGTON	91	39	64	+10	0.21	2	3.24	-2.09	7	127	+31	302	
	DANBURY MUNICIP	89	37	63	+9	0.84	4	5.49	+0.52	23	142	+48	325	
	HARTFORD-BRADLE	92	41	65	+9	0.22	3	6.35	+1.89	22	162	+32	360	
	MERIDEN MARKHAM	89	42	63	+8	0.49	5	7.80	+3.68	24	138	+14	340	
	NORFOLK 2 SW	88	34	58	+7	0.40	4	4.47	-0.69	21	92	+24	228	
	NORWICH PUB UTI	89	42	63	+8	0.07	2	5.22	-0.51	16	137	+38	347	
	STAFFORDVILLE	87	35	57	+5	0.18	2	5.05	-0.29	15	74	+3	214	
	WEST THOMPSON L	90	34	60	+7	0.20	3	5.16	-0.28	16	104	+22	267	
	WILLIMANTIC WIN	91	38	64	+10	0.51	4	7.27	+2.25	23	146	+48	361	

REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

CONNECTICUT

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

It's amazing what a few 90 degree days will do! Manure spreading is over half complete. Corn is being planted. Only a few major wet spots still causing delays in fields. Welcome to summer!

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Fields are saturated at the moment. Rivers and lakes have started to recede, but it will probably be the end of the week before producers can get on their driest ground.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Pastures are still too short to put animals out on. With the great weather forecast for this week, grass may be high enough by the 15th. Leaves are starting to appear on the trees. Orchardist are spraying.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Spring cultivation is now in full swing. Peas and early vegetables are being planted. Fencing is underway and pasture use is expanding. A lot of manure has been spread. Looks like a great week ahead!

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Very warm temperatures mid-week pushed a lot of perennial crops along, although we're still running about a week behind last year. Asparagus harvest in the CT River Valley began in the middle of the week. Hay and pasture looking very good.

BARNSTABLE/BRISTOL/DUKES/NANTUCKET/PLYMOUTH, Hilary Sandler

Some Ben Lear are at early Elongation Stage, many remained at Cabbage Head Stage (Bud Break). Stevens, Early Black, and Howes are at the Bud Break (Cabbage Head) Stage. Bud Break (Cabbage Head) Stage tolerances are 25°F for Early Black and Howes; and 27°F for Stevens. Bud Elongation tolerance for Ben Lear and new hybrids is 29.5°F. NOTE: once Cabbage Head Stage is reached, bud tolerance advances every 5-7 days even if appearance does not change.

PLYMOUTH, Steve Ward

Cranberry plant development has progressed quickly due to the warm weather over the past week. However, wetland bogs with root zones closer to the water table may be at risk of delay as they struggling to dry out. Warm temperatures have also caused the frost tolerance to rise and will be an in important factor with colder nighttime temperatures over the upcoming week.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/STRAFFORD, Kelly McAdam

Strong winds knocked over trees, power outages in the area Friday evening. No reports of damage to crops or pasture land.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Warm weather all week, with just one day of rain. Everything's greening up at a rapid pace. Pastures and hayfields starting to grow nicely, animals just starting to go out to graze. Farms spreading manure and tilling; first corn to be planted this week, probably. Orchards getting ready to bloom. Vegetable operations are making progress with planting.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Manure spreading where possible, tillage begins on higher level cornfields. Rivers and tributaries still running high. Over the banks especially on northern stretches of Connecticut River. Cornfields, hay-lands ponding are inundated in low-lying areas. More noticeable green-up of other fields. Anticipating delayed corn planting considering wet, cold soils. Spring peepers make their appearance.

COOS/GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

Friday night, high winds and heavy rains. Power outages were reported in the county. Farmers are out getting their fields ready for planting.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Fruits: it was unbelievable how fast flower blossom developed during the week. Peaches, plum and sweet cherry were blooming. Apple and pear are at pre-pink to pink (earliest blooming apple varieties were at king bloom) in the Hollis area. Orchardists are fertilizing orchards and are applying protective fungicide sprays on fruit trees. Blueberries are at pink bud stage and apply mummy-berry spray. Planting fruit trees, grapes, raspberries, blueberries and strawberries. Finishing up pruning blueberries and pruning peach trees. Field crops: farmers are fertilizing hayfields; spreading manure, plowing, disking and fertilizing silage corn land. Vegetables: Continue vegetables planting, like peas, sweet corn and potatoes. Liming, fertilizing, plowing, disking and getting ready plant fields.

SULLIVAN, Jennifer Z. Gehly

Spring has finally arrived! With warmer temperatures and rain showers, things are finally greening up. Thunderstorms moved through the area Friday evening bringing strong winds and causing some power outages. The Connecticut River remains high. Farmers were busy during the week spreading manure and tilling fields. Peaches and apricots were blossoming.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

Hay fields and pastures are greening up. With the warm sunny weather this week many will try to catch up with planting and soil preparation.

VERMONT

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Warmer weather, but it's too wet to get into fields except those that are really dry. This coming week should see field work going full bore.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Green grass is upon us in Franklin County this week. Still wet conditions, however, warmer temperatures are getting things going. The wet conditions are hampering field work and May could change that with some good weather to catch up. Buds are swelling with tree leaves appearing in lower elevations.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

Drier weather during the first part of the week and warm temperatures allowed farmers to get out onto their fields. There was a lot of manure spread and some of the drier corn fields have been tilled. Soil temperatures are still too low to plant. Also with the warm weather the buds on the trees are starting to break giving the hillsides a blush of gold and green. It reminded me of Robert Frost's poem "Nothing Gold can Stay" where he describes this early blush of color. A series of strong thunder storms ended the week with a flash flood warning. Fortunately flooding was limited to those fields along the river that are prone to this. Farm activity this past week consisted of manure spreading, spring tillage on corn fields and fence repair in preparation for the grazing season.

