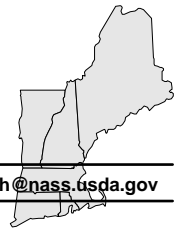




New England Agricultural Statistics



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June 11, 2007 – 4 pm

For week ending 6/10/07

A Mixed Bag of Weather

GENERAL CONDITIONS: For the week ending June 10, 2007, there were 5.7 days suitable for field work across New England. Pasture condition was rated 1% poor, 13% fair, 61% good, and 25% excellent. Thunderstorms on Monday and Tuesday brought between one and four inches of rain to many locations across the six-state region. There were scattered reports of hail during the storms, which caused damage to tree fruit and small fruit crops, minor damage to vegetables, and matting down of hay fields. Although field work was stalled, most farmers welcomed the moisture. Adequate moisture and overall warm temperatures helped promote re-growth in pastures. Temperatures ranged widely throughout the week; daytime highs remained below average in many locations. Frost warnings were posted Thursday morning in northern areas and higher elevations prompting small fruit growers to irrigate to protect against frost damage. Hot and muggy conditions arrived on Friday, followed by more rain on Saturday. Despite the week's variable weather conditions, most field activities took place as scheduled.

FRUIT: Damage from this week's scattered hail storms was apparent on apples, peaches, and other fruits. Orchardists continued to spray protective fungicides and insecticides, mow orchard floors, and monitor pests and crop development. Some tree fruit producers applied thinning sprays to apple orchards. Bees continued to pollinate Maine's wild blueberry crop this week. Producers noted that flea beetle infestation is high this year; however, no botrytis disease has been seen in wild blueberry fields. Cranberry growers ran their sprinklers to protect against frost on Thursday morning. The first strawberries of the season were harvested in Connecticut and Rhode Island. In central states, strawberries have begun to ripen, while in the north, they continue to blossom.

VEGETABLES: Harvest of early season vegetables continued, including spinach, greens, asparagus, and rhubarb. Vegetable producers kept busy transplanting and making successive plantings of various vegetable crops. Some producers in New Hampshire reported that vegetable transplants were uprooted on Tuesday by heavy rain and gusty winds. Other producers are reporting damage from flea beetles, striped cucumber beetles, and seed maggots; growers are spraying as needed. Farmers markets, roadside stands, and greenhouses across the region reported doing steady business as sales of vegetable transplants peaked this week.

FIELD CROPS: Farmers were busy this week chopping grass for dry hay and haylage between rain showers. Sunny weather and adequate moisture helped hay fields improve in quality, although some growers reported that grass for hay is getting overgrown. Silage corn planting began to wind down this week; some parts of the region reported that planting is complete and most of the field corn has emerged. Growers began to spray corn fields for weeds. Potato and small grain producers in Maine sprayed herbicides and cultivated crops in several locations. Potatoes in Massachusetts are blossoming and being hilled up. Shade tobacco transplanting in the Connecticut River Valley wrapped up this week, while broadleaf tobacco continues to be transplanted.

SOIL MOISTURE ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Soil Rating	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
-- Percent --			
Topsoil			
Very Short	1	1	0
Short	5	7	0
Adequate	86	83	27
Surplus	8	9	73
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	4	4	0
Adequate	89	89	46
Surplus	7	7	54

FRUIT CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

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

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	99	100	99	
Oats, ME	95	100	99	
Potatoes				
Maine	99	95	95	
Mass	100	100	99	
Rhode Island	100	100	99	
Silage Corn	95	80	80	
Sweet Corn	85	65	75	
Tobacco				
Broadleaf	60	45	50	Good/Fair
Shade	100	90	95	Good/Fair
--Percent Emerged--				
Barley, ME	75	95	75	Excellent
Oats, ME	85	95	75	Excellent
Potatoes				
Maine	<5	65	20	N/A
Mass	80	70	75	Good
Rhode Island	100	100	85	Good/Excellent
Silage Corn	75	60	60	Good
Sweet Corn	65	50	50	Good
-- Percent Harvested --				
Dry Hay				
First Cut	30	15	25	Good

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

For the Period: Monday June 4, 2007
To: Sunday June 10, 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	42	75	58	-4	375	+83	118	+75	1.17	+0.40	4	3.90	+0.61	16
Bangor Intl_Arp	43	74	59	-2	323	+84	85	+58	1.44	+0.66	2	4.38	+1.19	13
Bethel	36	78	56	-6	280	+26	70	+38	3.36	+2.45	4	6.91	+3.44	12
Caribou Municip	37	74	58	-1	249	+65	60	+43	0.97	+0.34	3	3.47	+0.74	12
Dover-Foxcroft	42	79	57	-3	237	+48	48	+32	0.86	+0.02	3	3.57	+0.28	13
Frenchville	39	73	56	-3	219	+66	55	+49	1.74	+1.04	3	3.23	+0.40	11
Houlton	33	79	59	+0	255	+67	57	+39	0.63	-0.14	3	2.85	-0.23	12
Livermore Falls	34	78	55	-5	268	+76	66	+50	1.63	+0.65	4	3.87	+0.28	15
Moosehead	39	78	55	-3	194	+66	33	+31	0.90	+0.00	4	3.97	+0.68	14
Portland_ME	40	70	57	-4	355	+131	92	+74	2.76	+1.93	3	5.17	+1.99	14
NEW HAMPSHIRE														
Benton	35	79	58	-3	311	+43	82	+45	1.09	+0.19	4	3.74	+0.41	15
Berlin AG	37	78	57	-4	284	+37	74	+41	1.44	+0.49	4	5.21	+1.73	14
Concord	36	78	59	-3	468	+151	160	+104	1.95	+1.23	4	5.36	+2.50	15
Diamond Pond	34	74	54	-3	173	+50	29	+29	1.60	+0.55	4	6.35	+2.45	17
Keene AP	37	82	61	-3	450	+45	156	+63	1.93	+1.09	4	4.27	+0.84	14
North Conway	42	76	57	-5	303	+20	77	+33	2.37	+1.44	4	6.19	+2.54	14
Rochester	39	75	57	-7	370	+12	112	+41	2.73	+1.89	4	5.88	+2.49	13
VERMONT														
Burlington Intl	41	90	64	+2	479	+107	183	+102	0.64	-0.13	4	3.37	+0.43	14
Island Pond	32	81	59	+2	272	+89	68	+49	0.78	-0.20	4	3.76	+0.09	15
Montpelier	36	82	60	+1	381	+119	118	+80	0.46	-0.38	4	3.76	+0.58	14
Pownal	38	86	61	+2	397	+120	128	+85	1.33	+0.23	5	4.54	+0.29	12
Rochester	35	87	58	-2	309	+64	80	+46	0.98	+0.07	4	3.30	-0.52	15
Rutland AG	36	86	61	-3	381	-36	125	+23	0.92	+0.08	4	3.42	+0.16	13
Springfield_VT	37	83	61	+0	427	+133	155	+107	1.56	+0.65	5	4.88	+1.18	16
Sutton	35	80	58	+0	279	+98	66	+47	1.19	+0.21	5	5.57	+1.97	17
MASSACHUSETTS														
Boston/Logan_In	51	81	62	-4	599	+155	212	+123	1.57	+0.81	2	5.25	+2.37	10
Fitchburg	42	81	61	+0	582	+315	222	+186	1.56	+0.72	4	5.44	+2.17	13
Greenfield	39	86	62	-3	503	+58	177	+75	2.33	+1.42	5	5.07	+1.46	14
New Bedford	40	76	62	-4	466	+27	133	+49	1.27	+0.40	4	4.09	+0.74	11
Otis_AFB	45	73	61	-1	378	+96	91	+55	1.14	+0.37	4	4.32	+1.09	11
Plymouth	41	79	62	-2	470	+160	148	+101	1.48	+0.64	3	4.78	+1.34	10
Walpole	43	81	62	-2	540	+181	194	+129	1.89	+1.05	4	5.79	+2.61	13
Chicopee/Westov	38	86	62	-5	532	-18	194	+49	3.25	+2.27	5	5.47	+1.65	12
Worthington	36	82	59	-3	398	+124	121	+82	3.31	+2.40	3	5.10	+1.13	12
RHODE ISLAND														
Providence	47	76	63	-2	624	+224	211	+135	2.12	+1.34	3	4.37	+1.10	10
Woonsocket	43	80	61	-3	537	+183	177	+121	2.48	+1.54	4	5.69	+2.02	11
CONNECTICUT														
Bridgeport/Siko	49	78	65	+0	622	+163	202	+92	2.16	+1.34	3	3.31	-0.11	8
Hartford/Bradle	44	88	66	-2	680	+165	268	+132	2.65	+1.74	5	4.85	+1.13	13
Norfolk	39	86	62	+2	452	+183	157	+121	1.49	+0.39	5	3.05	-1.18	14
Thomaston Dam	42	84	64	+1	537	+163	185	+113	2.12	+1.14	5	3.88	-0.04	14
Willimantic	41	85	64	+2	566	+189	203	+132	2.43	+1.55	3	4.01	+0.36	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.

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1-888-798-9955.

STATE WEATHER SUMMARY

For the week ending Sunday, June 10, 2007

State	Air Temperatures				Precipitation	
	L	HI	AV	DF	LO	HI
ME	31	81	57	-4	0.50	3.36
NH	25	86	58	-3	0.00	3.27
VT	28	90	60	+0	0.12	1.90
MA	36	89	61	-2	0.41	3.31
RI	43	80	62	-2	2.12	2.48
CT	37	88	64	-1	1.49	3.33

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: Farmers are busy planting field corn, chopping grass, and cutting hay. **Ross Eddy (FSA), Hartford/Tolland:** Some varieties of apple trees have started their June drop. Showers during the week have stopped the taking of any more dry hay for the time being. Just a few corn fields remaining to be planted. The transplanting of tomatoes, peppers and eggplant is progressing well. Broadleaf tobacco continues to be transplanted. Strawberries plentiful at farmers markets. **Frank Himmelstein (Ext), New London:** Field preparation and corn planting continued throughout most of the week. Fortunately the county was spared some of the severe weather that occurred in other parts of the state this week. Weeds will be coming fast with warm moist topsoils providing ideal conditions for germination. **Marsha Jette (FSA), New London:** Finishing planting corn. Strawberries very flavorful and plentiful. First cutting of dry hay is being completed. Field corn that has emerged looking great, some knee high. **Dawn Pindell (FSA), Windham:** Busy cropping week with two days of heavy rain. Farmers are getting as much done with chopping, haying, planting as they can. High costs of diesel fuel and fertilizers are a problem. Orchard crops look good. Strawberry picking has begun with good color and size of berries. **Nancy Welsh (FSA), New Haven:** Scattered thunderstorms early in the week brought up to two inches of rain in parts of the county. Many crops really responded well to the needed rain. Hail struck the northern area of New Haven County, but no damages were reported to crops. Nice mild weather for most of the week allowed more vegetables to be planted. Field corn planting is complete. Haylage harvesting is in full swing. **Richard Meinert (Ext), CT Cooperative:** Scattered showers, torrential rains, sunshine, heat, humidity - you name it and we had it last week - even frost in some areas. Some hay got put in but most dry hay got washed several times. A fair amount of haylage was made around the showers. Corn is looking good with early planted fields approaching 12 inches tall.

MAINE - Steve London, Southern Aroostook: Farmers are spraying herbicides on grains and potatoes. **Rick Kersbergen (Ext), Waldo:** Good weather and lots of activities. Most of the silage corn is on the ground and first cutting has started. **Trudy Soucy (FSA), Knox/Lincoln:** Farmers have started chopping grass silage/haylage. Orchardists mowed grass and sprayed for scab and to thin crop. Vegetable growers were able to weed with spray and by hand, and cultivate between rows. Lowbush blueberry crop was also sprayed for weed control. Strawberry growers picked blossoms and cultivated for next year's crop. Most field activities took place as scheduled. Pollination of crops was good. Overall crop conditions are looking very good in Knox and Lincoln Counties. **Dr. David Yarborough (Ext), Washington:** Wild blueberries: Bees are continuing to pollinate the wild blueberry crop in fields state-wide. Union area fruit set looks excellent. Scouts are sweeping to sample for insect pests. Flea beetle infestation is high this year. No botrytis disease seen in the fields. **Jill Littlefield (FSA), Cumberland/York:** Lots of rain this last week. Four inches on Saturday alone. Some minor hail damage and gully wash outs reported. Sweet corn under plastic could be harvested by the 4th of July. Strawberries picking should start before the end of the month. Silage corn is about 95% planted and first cut grass is well underway. Sun and heat are what they require for the coming week. **Gary Raymond (FSA), Androscoggin/Franklin:** Beautiful weather for growth. Most crops are planted and haying is at full steam ahead. **Valerie Porter (FSA), Penobscot:** Great sunny week with adequate moisture has helped hay fields to become full and exceed in height. Apple trees have lost their blossoms and starting to bear fruit. Strawberries have been blossoming and show great color. Potatoes and corn is emerging from the ground according to producers. Potato producers have been cultivating crops in several locations. Crops have moisture along with sun to keep quality of plants looking good.

MASSACHUSETTS - Aimee Thayer (FSA), Berkshire: The temperature fluctuated this week, from the low 40's overnight to the high 80's during the day. High humidity ended with some scattered severe thunderstorms passing through with wind gusts up to 60 mph with up to three or more inches of rain in the county. Pasture and field conditions remain good and first cut of hay continues. Some producers are reporting difficulty obtaining

nitrogen fertilizers. Farmers markets and local greenhouses are doing steady business and sale of veggie transplants peaked this week. Fruit set appears average for the orchardists. **Frank Caruso (Ext), Plymouth:** A rare occurrence last Thursday morning - a night in June growers had to run their sprinklers to protect against frost. These are few and far between, and cause the most damage as the tissues are so tender. The early varieties have scattered open blooms, and growers will start applying fungicides for fruit rot control later this week. Many insecticide applications have gone on to eliminate numerous insect pests that have reached thresholds. Dodder is now visible in beds untreated with herbicides. Renovated beds continue to be planted, including the ten acres in state bog. More than 40 people contributed by growers helped plant eight of the ten acres last Thursday (some of those people had been up all night watching the clouds go away and the thermometer plummet). Rain largely evaded the area during the weekend, and we could use some for these renovations. **Emily Tchorz (FSA), Bristol:** Rain early in the week came at just the right time. Planting continues throughout the county. First cutting of hay is well underway, with producers reporting slightly lower than normal yields. Some parts of the county are reporting dry conditions, and cooler temperatures have slowed crop progress slightly. **Ted Smiarowski, Jr. (FSA), Franklin/Hampshire/Hampden:** A hot and muggy week with off and on rain showers. Vegetable growers are harvesting greens, rhubarb, spinach, asparagus, and lettuce. Planting tomatoes, pumpkins, winter and summer squash, lettuce, peppers, eggplant, and beans. Shade tobacco is all planted and field tobacco is 50% complete. Potatoes are being hilled up and blossoming. All crops look good.

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Tina Savage (Ext), Carroll: Grass for hay getting over grown, not enough dry days to get dry hay in the barn. Well managed pastures growing well, excellent grass growing weather. Despite the lack of bees, fruit trees have set a large number of fruit. **Carl Majewski (Ext), Cheshire:** Weather was a mixed bag - heavy thunderstorms, muggy days, and occasional bright sunshine and clear skies. First cutting for grass and alfalfa has started in earnest, along with some dry hay as weather conditions allow. Most grasses that haven't been mowed are headed out. Corn is doing well - early fields at four to five leaf stages. Crops are growing well on vegetable operations - first high tunnel tomatoes have appeared, and first strawberries of the season should appear soon. **Steve Turaj (Ext), Coos:** Scattered frosts, even some hail, quite a week of weather. Most field corn now is emerging in earlier planted fields. Ready for haylage chopping, probably a little harvested at this point. Early grasses well headed out. Plenty of pasture grass, clovers available, good grazing. Garden centers and nurseries doing a brisk business. Raspberry cane borers, weevils, lily leaf beetles, a few insect pests being identified. Ticks seem abundant this year. Growing degree days pass 150 GDD mark at Base 50 at Lancaster. **Tom Buob (Ext), Grafton:** Rain and showers slowed hay harvest. Corn is growing well with the help of rainfall. **George Hamilton (Ext), Hillsborough:** Damaging hail and rain storm went through the county on Tuesday. Some damage reported to tree fruit and small fruit crops, minor damage to vegetables, and some hay fields were matted down. Vegetables: Transplanting tomato and pepper plants, and making successive planting of various vegetable crops. Harvesting spinach, greens, asparagus and rhubarb. Flea beetle, striped cucumber beetles, and seed maggot damage have been seen. Fruits: Fruit growers monitoring pest and crop development and applying cover sprays for pest control. Orchardists wondering if they should be applying thinning sprays to apple orchards. Mowing orchard floor and weed spraying under trees. Most strawberries were blooming beginning of the week. Field Crops: Planting and weed spraying corn fields. Farmers started trying to make haylage. Grasses heading out and maturing, especially orchard grass. **Nada Haddad (Ext), Rockingham:** Strawberries are ripening and PYO operation getting to open in 10 days or so. Thinning peaches and apples. Orchardists spraying protective fungicides and insecticides. Picking leafy green vegetables. Vegetable crops not growing too well because of the rain and cold weather. Some vegetable transplants were uprooted on Tuesday by heavy rain and gusty winds. Rain and cold weather all Monday and additional rain in some communities ranging from a few drops to four to five inches every few hour. Some communities were hit with hail ranging from pea to marble size hail. Hail damage showing on apples fruits, peaches and other crops. Successive planting of vegetables taking place. Need warmer and sunnier days. Making haylage. **Steve Schmidt (FSA), Grafton:** Almost all of the

corn is planted, with the exception of a few places that still need to dry out a little more. Most of it has emerged. Much of the corn is a few weeks behind, due to later than normal planting, and a lack of growing degree days. First cutting haylage is moving along. Grass was slow to start, but is growing well on higher fertility soils. Most of the sweet corn has been planted. Vegetable operations have most of their crops planted.

RHODE ISLAND - Karen Menezes (Ext), Newport: Heavy rains in the beginning of the week stalled up some work, but the moisture was welcomed. PYO strawberries opened this weekend and the berries look great. The cool weather has slowed down some things. Spraying potatoes and all summer vegetables, planting pumpkins and starting some winter squash. Roadside stands are packed with flowers and early vegetables. Some hay done this week, but not much.

VERMONT - John St. Onge/Kim Peterson (FSA), Lamoille: Good week for getting first cut grass crop harvested for haylage. Several promised rain showers never appeared which helped to keep the harvest moving along. Corn planting is all but over with early prospects for yields already looking good. Grazing conditions are optimal. **Dave Blodgett (NRCS), Orleans:** Almost all corn has been planted. A lot of first cut hay was harvested last week. The yields look pretty good. The nice weather last week allowed

some really nice hay to be put up. The corn has emerged in most places and is two to four inches tall. The germination looks good and the seedlings look healthy. So far so good. Pastures are doing well. There is adequate moisture in the ground and the warm temperatures are helping the grass recover after grazing. **Jeffrey Carter (Ext), Addison:** Corn growth good to excellent, even germination, and some weed pressure. Weed control chemicals good control. Timely planting, corn to 12". Some first cut hay then plant to corn. Obvious corn acreage increase this year. First cut hay for haylage nearly complete, some dry hay harvested. Orchard grass full head, dandelions and lilacs gone by. Pasture re-growth good, hay re-growth good. New seeding hay fields look uniform. **Julie Jacque (FSA), Windham:** Cool weather persisted with a short warm, muggy spell for the week. A small window of good weather allowed for haying and green chop. **Dennis Kauppila (Ext), Caledonia:** Some very warm temperatures, with some scattered light frost one morning. Showery with a few muggy days. Most of the corn is in and emerged. Farmers concentrating on a first cut of hay which looks good. **Sherwin Williams, Rutland:** Cultivating all crops to kill early weeds. Spraying to control bugs on vine crops and early squash. Strawberries beginning to show promise. 1.284 inches of rain for the week. Finally rain enough to do some good. Good cutting of asparagus and rhubarb. Plenty of lettuce, radishes and scallions now in the garden market. All small vegetable crops, germination good and beginning to grow. Bee's beginning to do their job with warm weather and sun.

May 2007 Crop Weather Summary: Wet weather during April and high soil moisture at the start of May delayed the start of field work this year for many farmers. Sunny skies and warmer temperatures during the second week of May pushed along the development of leaves, fruit blossoms, and grasses. By mid-month, moderate to heavy rains slowed field work once again, and nighttime low temperatures brought the threat of a late spring frost. Much warmer weather arrived on May 24 and remained throughout the Memorial Day weekend, with daytime high temperatures ranging in the 80s and 90s, breaking record highs in some locations. Vegetable producers planted early season vegetables throughout the month, while also harvesting asparagus, rhubarb, spinach, and lettuce. Strawberries and highbush blueberries reached early to full bloom by the end of the month. Dry sunny weather in the second week of May came in conjunction with fruit trees coming into bloom, providing ideal conditions for pollination. Wet weather the following week increased concerns for scab infection. Orchardists and berry growers kept busy throughout the month monitoring for pests and spraying protective fungicides and pesticides. Wild blueberry producers in Maine spent the month burning and mowing fields, and spraying fungicides for mummyberry. Although potato and small grain producers in Maine began planting late this year due to soil moisture, dry weather during the last week of the month allowed most growers to catch up with historical planting rates. Meanwhile, potato growers in Massachusetts and Rhode Island completed planting by month's end. Planting of field corn surpassed the halfway mark by the end of May. Early planted corn had emerged in many locations thanks to warm weather during the last week of the month. Shade tobacco transplanting was close to completion in Connecticut and was near the halfway mark in Massachusetts at the end of the month. Broadleaf tobacco transplanting remained ahead of schedule this month. The first cut of grass for dry hay and haylage began in Southern New England near the end of the month; growers reported the quality to be good to fair.

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**

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