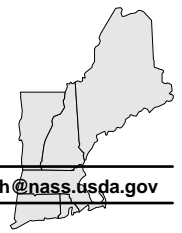




New England Agricultural Statistics



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June 18, 2007 – 4 pm

For week ending 6/17/07

Crop Weather

An Odd Mix of Cool and Warm Days

GENERAL CONDITIONS: For the week ending June 17, 2007, there were 6.4 days suitable for field work across New England. Topsoil moisture was rated 1% very short, 17% short, 78% adequate and 4% surplus. Subsoil condition was rated 12% short, 84% adequate and 4% surplus. Pasture condition was rated 5% poor, 13% fair, 59% good, and 23% excellent. Sunshine and dry weather in most parts of the region made it a good week for planting crops, making hay, harvesting strawberries, and spraying. Scattered showers and thunderstorms slowed field activities in parts of Connecticut and Massachusetts early in the week, and cooler temperatures prevailed in those states through Friday, hindering crop development. In the north, growers reported that some crops showed signs of stress due to lack of moisture, even though a little precipitation was received when a thunderstorm passed through the region on Sunday.

FRUIT: Strawberry harvest began in southern states this week with no problems reported so far. Approximately 10% of the region's strawberries have been harvested to date; producers in northern states expect to begin harvest very soon. Significant winter kill has been observed on peaches in New Hampshire, along with borers and peach leaf curl. Tree fruit growers kept busy mowing orchard floors, spraying for scab and weeds, and monitoring pests and crop development. Cranberries in Massachusetts were in full bloom this week, although cooler temperatures hindered development. Cranberry growers spent the week monitoring for insects, dodder, and other weeds. Pollination began to wrap up on wild blueberry fields in Maine. Growers expressed concern that the week's cooler windy weather was not optimal for pollination, but that fruit set appears to be very good.

VEGETABLES: Producers harvested a wide array of early season vegetables this week, including spinach, greens, asparagus, rhubarb, lettuces, beets, and radishes. Some farm stands are offering high tunnel tomatoes and the first summer squash of the season. Farmers continued to transplant tomato and pepper plants, and continued to make successive plantings of various vegetable crops. Growers continue to weed and cultivate crops while monitoring and spraying for insects. Sweet corn planting began to wind down this week; most of the crop in southern states has emerged.

FIELD CROPS: Weather conditions were ideal for farmers in northern Maine who finished planting potatoes, oats, and barley. Early planted potatoes in Maine are starting to emerge, while potatoes in southern states are blossoming and being hilled. Field corn planting began to wind down this week. Most areas report that silage corn is doing well, although some areas have reported slow growth due to cooler temperatures, and cutworm damage in wetter and late planted fields. Farmers continued to harvest the first cut of grass for hay and haylage this week. Many are following the first cut with manure applications. Frequent shower activity has helped regrowth in hay fields and pastures, but has frustrated producers in southern states trying to make dry hay. Broadleaf tobacco transplanting continued in Massachusetts and Connecticut this week.

SOIL MOISTURE ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Soil Rating	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
-- Percent --			
Topsoil			
Very Short	1	1	0
Short	17	5	1
Adequate	78	86	43
Surplus	4	8	56
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	12	4	0
Adequate	84	89	55
Surplus	4	7	45

FRUIT CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

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

FIELD CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	2007	2006	5-yr Avg	Condition
--Percent Planted--				
Barley, ME	100	100	100	
Oats, ME	100	100	100	
Potatoes				
Maine	100	99	99	
Mass	100	100	100	
Rhode Island	100	100	100	
Silage Corn	99	80	90	
Sweet Corn	90	75	80	
Tobacco				
Broadleaf	75	70	70	Good/Fair
Shade	100	99	99	Good/Fair
--Percent Emerged--				
Barley, ME	85	99	95	Good/Excellent
Oats, ME	85	99	95	Good/Excellent
Potatoes				
Maine	50	80	45	Good/Excellent
Mass	100	80	90	Good
Rhode Island	100	100	95	Good/Excellent
Silage Corn	85	65	70	Good
Sweet Corn	75	60	65	Good/Excellent
-- Percent Harvested --				
Dry Hay				
First Cut	55	30	35	Good

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

For the Period: Monday June 11, 2007
To: Sunday June 17, 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	46	81	65	+2	481	+94	158	+89	0.00	-0.77	0	2.17	-1.05	10
Bangor_Intl_Arp	43	84	65	+3	427	+100	126	+79	0.00	-0.77	0	1.79	-1.33	7
Bethel	48	84	64	+1	377	+35	103	+50	0.00	-0.97	0	4.92	+1.32	8
Caribou_Municip	45	86	67	+7	366	+110	107	+80	0.00	-0.64	0	2.55	-0.12	6
Dover-Foxcroft	43	84	64	+4	334	+72	77	+50	0.00	-0.90	0	1.48	-1.94	7
Frenchville	45	84	66	+7	333	+113	100	+85	0.00	-0.70	0	2.87	+0.04	7
Houlton	38	82	64	+4	354	+93	93	+64	0.05	-0.72	1	1.37	-1.71	7
Livermore_Falls	42	83	64	+4	365	+98	101	+72	0.00	-0.98	0	2.27	-1.46	10
Moosehead	41	83	62	+4	283	+93	60	+51	0.00	-0.91	0	2.29	-1.14	9
Portland_ME	45	82	63	+2	450	+141	125	+89	0.10	-0.74	2	3.62	+0.41	10
NEW HAMPSHIRE														
Benton	43	81	63	+2	403	+54	110	+57	0.13	-0.78	2	2.84	-0.63	12
Berlin_AG	45	82	64	+3	381	+51	105	+54	0.00	-0.98	0	2.83	-0.84	10
Bethlehem	44	83	63	+2	439	+91	120	+66	0.31	-0.65	4	3.72	+0.22	16
Concord	50	85	65	+2	577	+162	203	+117	0.09	-0.68	3	3.27	+0.34	13
Diamond_Pond	42	79	62	+5	255	+80	48	+45	0.04	-1.05	1	3.86	-0.23	12
Keene_AP	48	81	64	-2	549	+35	189	+56	0.39	-0.45	3	3.36	-0.07	13
North_Conway	46	83	63	+0	398	+22	108	+39	0.24	-0.72	3	4.95	+1.24	13
Rochester	45	82	64	-2	468	+6	151	+45	0.37	-0.47	2	4.12	+0.76	10
VERMONT														
Burlington_Intl	51	88	70	+6	621	+145	255	+138	0.06	-0.76	1	2.09	-0.97	11
Island_Pond	44	84	65	+6	377	+128	104	+73	0.20	-0.81	3	2.59	-1.25	13
Montpelier	46	84	65	+4	489	+146	158	+101	0.31	-0.53	3	2.44	-0.83	12
Pownal	48	82	65	+4	499	+139	163	+101	0.69	-0.38	4	3.79	-0.48	13
Rochester	46	84	64	+3	410	+85	113	+61	0.53	-0.36	2	2.04	-1.69	12
Rutland_AG	47	81	64	-2	481	-44	157	+16	0.27	-0.57	2	2.62	-0.71	11
Springfield_VT	50	84	65	+3	531	+149	193	+123	0.42	-0.49	4	3.11	-0.59	14
Sunderland	43	82	61	-4	425	-72	127	+6	0.25	-0.52	2	2.81	-0.47	9
Sutton	45	82	64	+5	378	+131	98	+68	1.11	+0.11	4	3.68	-0.10	15
MASSACHUSETTS														
Boston/Logan_In	50	79	64	-4	698	+132	249	+108	0.08	-0.65	2	2.27	-0.63	6
Fitchburg	47	81	65	+3	685	+328	264	+205	0.30	-0.54	2	2.98	-0.35	10
Greenfield	49	83	64	-3	605	+43	213	+64	0.64	-0.27	3	3.83	+0.19	12
New_Bedford	46	79	62	-5	553	-4	158	+27	0.12	-0.73	2	1.86	-1.53	9
Otis_AFB	48	73	59	-5	444	+65	104	+40	0.16	-0.61	3	1.83	-1.33	10
Plymouth	48	78	61	-5	548	+135	169	+89	0.09	-0.73	3	2.56	-0.79	9
Walpole	49	81	63	-3	632	+167	225	+123	0.11	-0.80	1	2.78	-0.54	9
Chicopee/Westov	46	82	64	-5	634	-46	232	+27	0.28	-0.70	2	3.86	-0.03	10
Worthington	44	80	61	-2	480	+119	145	+85	0.70	-0.21	4	4.62	+0.79	11
RHODE ISLAND														
Providence	51	82	65	-2	729	+213	251	+129	0.12	-0.65	2	2.55	-0.65	8
Woonsocket	50	80	63	-3	630	+172	208	+119	0.16	-0.82	3	2.88	-0.86	9
CONNECTICUT														
Bridgeport/Siko	56	84	66	-2	737	+157	247	+87	1.63	+0.86	5	4.17	+0.89	10
Hartford/Bradle	49	85	67	-2	798	+156	317	+124	0.20	-0.71	2	3.99	+0.34	10
Norfolk	45	78	62	+0	540	+184	183	+126	0.10	-1.01	1	2.13	-2.18	10
Thomaston_Dam	51	83	65	+1	646	+170	225	+120	0.99	+0.01	5	3.58	-0.34	14
Willimantic	51	83	65	+0	673	+191	242	+136	0.02	-0.82	2	2.72	-0.82	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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1-888-798-9955.

STATE WEATHER SUMMARY

For the week ending Sunday, June 17, 2007

State	Air Temperatures				Precipitation	
	L	HI	AV	DF	LO	HI
ME	38	87	64	+3	0.00	0.23
NH	35	86	63	+1	0.00	0.90
VT	41	88	65	+3	0.00	2.55
MA	42	85	62	-3	0.03	1.20
RI	50	82	64	-2	0.11	0.16
CT	45	86	65	-2	0.02	1.63

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

CONNECTICUT - Ross Eddy (FSA), Hartford/Tolland: Off and on showers kept crops growing. Broadleaf tobacco progressed to 75% planted. Tomatoes in some areas are affected by a virus. Cultivating all crops and spraying for the likely insects. Beets, lettuce, strawberries and first summer squash are showing up at farmers markets. Silage corn planting finished up and hay chopping continues but dry hay tough to make. Heavy showers, some hail, and frequent lightning in western Hartford County Saturday afternoon. **Jude Boucher (Ext), Tolland:** Some places in the northern part of Tolland County still soaked from the heavy rain (thunderstorms) two weeks ago. **Marsha Jette (FSA), New London:** Corn is looking great. Producers are finishing up first cutting of hay. Weather has been most cooperative in our county a few showers and lots of sun. Vegetables are looking good! Strawberries are at their peak, absolutely delicious. **Dawn Pindell (FSA), Windham:** Temperatures near 50 degrees and rainy, cloudy days not supportive of good growth but crops are doing well with corn in stages from just planted to up about a foot, some cutworm damage in wetter fields, farmers struggling to decide to fertilize, lime, spray as needed or as they can afford, first cutting hay done where chopped, baling continues when the sun shines, greenhouse sales good, vegetable crops and fruit doing okay, strawberry picking is good. **Nancy Welsh (FSA), New Haven:** The weather this week was an odd mix of cool and warm days. The strawberry harvest began and the berries are sweet and plentiful. Early lettuce is being harvested and is very tender and tasty. Scattered thunderstorms during the weekend brought as much as an inch and three quarters of rain to some areas. **Richard Meinert (Ext), CT Cooperative:** Strawberry picking began across the area - the only bright spot in farm conditions that I could see last week. Rain, rain and more rain - occasionally mixed with hail continued to keep field equipment quiet. Some farms have hay down for more than a week and watched it get washed every day! Corn looks good except in gravelly fields where nitrogen leached out with all the rain!

MAINE - Dee Potter (Ext), Northern Aroostook: Cattle are happy, crops are growing. **Pam Hickey (Ext), Central Aroostook:** For the Central Aroostook area, crops are planted. The weather last week was great which allowed farmers to finish planting. The recent showers on Sunday (6/17) were welcomed. Some emergence of potatoes that were planted early. **Steve London, Southern Aroostook:** Farmers finished up this past week with herbicides on potatoes and small grains. Some cultivation has started on the potatoes, but not very much. **Donna Coffin (Ext), Piscataquis:** Great week for field work. Threat of weekend showers didn't come through. Some crops are a little stressed by shortage of moisture. **Janet King (FSA), Somerset:** What a great week for the farmers, anyone else who got to enjoy it. LOTS of haying is going on at this time. We could always use a little rain. **Rick Kersbergen (Ext), Waldo:** Lots of dry weather to get hay or haylage done. Some spotty showers, but things are getting dry. Corn looks good. **Trudy Soucy (FSA), Knox/Lincoln:** Strawberry harvest may start this week. Management practices on apples that occurred this week included spraying for weeds, scab, fly spec, and mowing. Most of the first crop of grass has been chopped. Farmers are also cutting first crop of dry hay. Normal management practices continue on vegetables such as weeding and cultivating. We do need some rain but currently crop conditions are good in this area. It was a great week for field activities. **Dr. David Yarborough (Ext), Washington:** Wild blueberries: Bees taken out of fields as wild blueberry pollination is complete. The cooler windy weather was not optimal for pollination but the fruit set appears to be very good. The winter injury is less apparent as new growth occurs. Flea beetle is still continuing to be a problem. **Jill Littlefield (FSA), Cumberland/York:** Showers have been spotty and scattered but heavy. Strawberries should be ready for picking soon. Early season vegetables are being harvested. Sweet corn could use some side dressing. Dry hay looks excellent so far. **Gary Raymond (FSA), Androscoggin/Franklin:** It is still a very good growing season so far. We could use some moisture. Pollination and fruit set are above average. Let's make hay while the sun shines! **Marcia Hall (FSA), Oxford:** Oxford County producers reported that they have started to harvest first crop hay in between showers. Potato growers have been cultivating crops in several locations. Bees are continuing to pollinate the wild blueberry crop in fields throughout

the county. Pastures still looking good and animals are grazing. Sweet corn has emerged and looking good along with silage and grain corn. **Valerie Porter (FSA), Penobscot:** Farmers have started chopping grass silage/haylage. Some producers have done first cut of hay and quality and quantity look good. Orchardists mowed grass and sprayed for scab and to thin crop. Vegetable growers have been able to weed. Pollination of crops looks good. Overall crop conditions are looking very good in Penobscot County.

MASSACHUSETTS - Aimee Thayer (FSA), Berkshire: A good week for work in the field. Corn growth appears slower than usual. This may be due to cold weather. While sunny, we didn't get above the low 60's till the end of the week and nights in the 40's. Scattered thunderstorms dropped up to two inches although some of the county got no rain and a constant breeze all week drying out some areas. First cut hay is poor to fair in quality. But early reports of second cutting are excellent. Strawberry picking started Friday and the crop looks good so far with no problems reported. **Frank Caruso (Ext), Plymouth:** Bloom is everywhere, although there's much more away from the coast. Some Ben Lear beds were in full bloom last week already, and bloom moved rapidly over the weekend. Things were in suspended animation along the coast last week, with temperatures just barely reaching 60 degrees. First fruit rot fungicides are being applied, with second applications due in some beds later this week. Insect populations are on the increase, requiring insecticides as well. Dodder is much more noticeable now, as are many of the perennial weeds. It seems as if poison ivy gets worse every year. Most renovation projects have been planted, and watering is being done on a daily basis, as rain has been scarce. We could use a good soaking. **Emily Tchorz (FSA), Bristol:** First cutting of hay is complete in most parts of the counties. Yields are average to slightly below average. Strawberries are being harvested. Other fruit and vegetable crops are progressing well. Moisture levels are low in some areas, but conditions are still good. **Ted Smiarowski, Jr. (FSA), Franklin/Hampshire/Hampden:** The week was mostly cool with scattered showers and temperatures are below normal for this time of year. Vegetable growers are harvesting greens, rhubarb, strawberries, radishes, spinach, asparagus and lettuce. Planting tomatoes, peppers, pumpkins, winter squash, cabbage and eggplant. Sweet corn is in tassel stage. Potatoes are blossoming and being hilled up. All crops look very good. Fungicides are being applied to control diseases.

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Amy Ouellette (Ext), Belknap: Warm weather has kicked started crop growth. Most fruit and vegetable crops are doing very well. The strawberry harvest is almost ready to go. First cut of hay is in progress. **Tina Savage (Ext), Carroll:** Finally some first cut hay went in the barn this weekend, still plenty left to do if the weather will cooperate. Hit and miss showers and thunderstorms around the region on Sunday, with more scheduled for Wednesday may make it tough to get more hay in. Apples have set a decent crop of fruit, there are even peaches around! **Carl Majewski (Ext), Cheshire:** A mixed bag, as far as weather's concerned, warm and sunny one day, cool and raw another, with a few thunderstorms here and there. Corn is growing well - farms doing soil nitrate testing and working on post-emergence weed control. First cutting for haylage winding down, still lots of dry hay to harvest, but poor drying conditions are slowing things down. Regrowth is good on harvested fields. Vegetables are growing well, farms stand offering high tunnel tomatoes, radishes, and a variety of greens. PYO strawberries has begun, blueberry crop looks pretty good. **Steve Turaj (Ext), Coos:** Haylage harvest in earnest; with what looks like a good crop being packed into bunk silos. Dry hay being mowed and baled; probably one of the best years for first cut hay here for a while. Weather generally cooperative until week's end. All field corn now planted and most emerged well. Evaluating weed control. Appears to be better than average fruit set of blueberries, raspberries. Full bloom occurring on sunny days. Nursery and Garden centers doing well selling down much of their stock. Farmers market in Lancaster opens to perfect day. Greens and lettuce crop available now. **Tom Buob (Ext), Grafton:** First cut hay continuing and second cutting starting when weather permitted. Drying hay is still a challenge with the weather patterns. Corn is growing at a normal pace. **Steve Schmidt (FSA), Grafton:** Most of the corn is in the ground, except for a few wet fields or areas. Almost all of the corn is up. Corn generally looks ok. The heat has helped. Farmers are still cutting haylage and hay. **George Hamilton (Ext), Hillsborough:** Vegetables: Harvesting spinach,

greens, asparagus and rhubarb. Finishing most transplanting tomato and pepper plants, and continue making successive planting of various vegetable crops. Continue seeing Asparagus Beetle, Flea Beetle, Corn Maggot, Striped Cucumber Beetle, and Colorado potato beetle. Fruit: First strawberries were being picked during the week and Strawberry Pick-Your-Own operations opened over the weekend. Fruit growers are monitoring pest and crop development and applying cover sprays for pest control. Fire Blight strikes are being seen in most orchards. Also scab is being seen in some orchards. Mowing orchard floors and weed spraying under trees. Field Crops: Most farmers are finishing up planting and weed spraying corn fields. Farmers are trying to make haylage and baled hay. Grasses maturing, especially orchard grass. **Dorothy Perkins (Ext), Merrimack:** Fields have been harvested for first cut and haylage. The warm weather made it hard to get it cut on time. Raspberries and strawberries are setting fruit along with all the apples, peaches, and pears. All the corn has emerged and summer seems to be on the way. A late scattered frost the first week of June burned any transplants that were set out but they seem to have recovered. Hail storms last week also damaged some leafy crops but there were no reports of serious damage. Lots of winter kill of peaches has been reported. The warm weather is making it more noticeable. Borers and peach leaf curl is showing up now also. **Nada Haddad (Ext), Rockingham:** Strawberry picking starting today. Monitoring and managing pests in orchards. Thinning apples with thinning materials. Blueberry crops are growing well. Mummyberry disease noticed. Making successive planting of vegetable crops. Harvesting leafy vegetables. Making hay and haylage. Weather was unseasonably cold for two days delaying crop growth. **Geoffrey Njue (Ext), Strafford:** A dry mild week, excellent for field work. Grass in pastures and hayfields are doing excellent. Vegetable growers busy weeding, fertilizing and irrigating. Also harvesting cool season crops. Fruit growers mowing orchard floors and spraying for pests where needed. Harvesting strawberries has started in

some farms. Greenhouse growers busy planting fall mums.

RHODE ISLAND - Karen Menezes (Ext), Newport: Lots of haying done this week. Good sunshine and dry weather made it a good week for planting, harvesting strawberries, making hay and spraying. Potatoes look great and the strawberry season took off with a bang. The fields are looking dry and we could use some rain. Roadside stands are busy and local produce is starting to come in.

VERMONT - John St. Onge/Kim Peterson (FSA), Lamoille: Last week and particularly the weekend saw a frenzy of haying activity. Seems like there was a piece of farm equipment in every field of grass. Many are following up first cut with manure applications. Corn crop is looking excellent with good weed control. Many corn fields will be knee high by the end of this week. **Dave Blodgett (NRCS), Orleans:** Last week was warm and dry. A lot of hay was harvested during the dry weather. The crop looks good and the fair weather is allowing very good harvesting conditions. The quality of this crop should be high. Some of the drier soils were showing a little drought however rain showers on Sunday will help. Sunday's rain will help the pastures as well. The corn has been planted and most has germinated. The crop is getting a good start with the warm temperatures. **Jeffrey Carter (Ext), Addison:** Continued hay harvest for haylage and first cut dry hay. Manure spreading on hay stubble. Some hay ground plowed after first cut and corn planted. Pasture showing some wear, continuous grazed pastures slow to grow back. Corn growth is good and uniform. Some late planted corn with obvious skips from cutworm. Mostly a good corn crop so far. **Sherwin Williams, Rutland:** Planting late varieties of sweet corn. Cultivating early crops, started pest control on early squash. Started picking strawberries. Early vegetable crops doing well, now picking for market asparagus, rhubarb, lettuce, spinach, scallions and radishes. Some nice showers and warm weather gave all vegetable crops a big boost. 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**

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