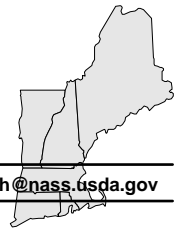




New England Agricultural Statistics



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

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July 23, 2007 – 4 pm

For week ending 7/22/07

Cool, Wet Week

GENERAL CONDITIONS: For the week ending July 22, 2007, there were 4.7 days suitable for field work across New England. Topsoil moisture was rated 1% very short, 10% short, 73% adequate, and 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture was rated 1% very short, 12% short, 71% adequate, and 16% surplus. Pasture condition was rated 7% poor, 23% fair, 54% good, and 16% excellent. Wet, cool weather dominated this week, hindering hay production and causing mold issues on raspberry and peach crops. The beginning of the week began with average temperatures and partly cloudy skies. Heavy rains fell on Wednesday in all areas of New England. Scattered showers continued through Friday, bringing cooler temperatures. The large amount of rain provided mixed blessings, greening up pastures and bringing much needed moisture to dry areas. However, corn growth was stunted in some areas and fruit and vegetable crops were starting to show signs of over saturation. Average temperatures returned for the weekend, but skies were still overcast in most locations. Growers reported needing more sunshine and warmer temperatures to boost crop development.

FRUIT: Pick-your-own strawberry operations completed harvesting and growers were busy renovating the fields. Pick-your-own blueberry and raspberry harvest was in full swing. Wild blueberries should begin to be harvested soon. Berry and tree fruit growers reported the abundance of rain this week promoted mold growth with raspberries and peaches. All tree fruit crops were reported in good condition and early apples and peaches began to show up at farmers' markets over the weekend. Orchardists were busy monitoring for pests, spraying insecticides as needed, and mowing orchard floors. Cranberries were in petal fall and growers were busy spraying for fruitworm and applying fertilizers.

VEGETABLES: The dry weather this weekend once again kept farmers' markets and greenhouses very busy. Sweet corn, green beans, peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, potatoes, and summer squash were very popular. Farmers harvested a large assortment of summer vegetables including beets, broccoli, cabbage, lettuce, radishes, and snap beans. The wet weather provided ideal conditions for slugs and growers reported the pests were causing damage to several crops. Vegetable growers were busy monitoring for pests, applying fertilizer as needed, spraying herbicides and fungicides, cultivating fields, and weeding.

FIELD CROPS: Field corn was reported in good condition and was beginning to tassel last week. Growers reported warm, dry weather would really boost crop development. In the wetter areas, the rain has hindered growth. Potatoes were reported in good to excellent condition and farmers were busy spraying for blight and insects and cultivating fields. The rain made it very difficult to harvest hay, but has improved the conditions of the fields and spurring pasture re-growth. The first cut of hay was reported to be a bumper crop, but the second cut does not look as promising. Growers reported armyworm damage in fields across New England. Shade tobacco harvest began this week with some areas in Connecticut starting the second picking. Farm activities included fertilizing, spreading manure, spraying herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides, cultivating fields, hoeing weeds, and cultivating fields.

SOIL MOISTURE ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Soil Rating	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
-- Percent --			
Topsoil			
Very Short	1	1	3
Short	10	21	4
Adequate	73	69	77
Surplus	16	9	16
Subsoil			
Very Short	1	1	0
Short	12	20	0
Adequate	71	73	82
Surplus	16	6	18

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	5	5	<5	Average	Average	Good
Pears	-	-	-	Average	Average	Good
Blueberries						
Highbush	20	30	20	Average	Average	Good
Wild, ME	-	-	-	Average	Avg/Below	Good
Cranberries, MA	-	-	-	Average	-	Good
Strawberries	100	99	100	Average	Average	Good/Excellent

FIELD CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	2007	2006	5-yr Avg	Condition
--Percent Planted--				
Sweet Corn	100	100	100	
--Percent Emerged--				
Sweet Corn	99	95	99	
-- Percent Harvested --				
Barley, ME	-	-	-	Excellent
Oats, ME	-	-	-	Excellent
Potatoes				
Maine	-	-	-	Good/Excellent
Mass	-	-	<5	Good
Rhode Island	-	-	-	Good/Excellent
Silage Corn	-	-	-	Good/Excellent
Sweet Corn	10	<5	5	Good/Excellent
Tobacco				
Broadleaf	-	-	-	Good
Shade	10	<5	5	Good
Dry Hay				
First Cut	95	90	90	Good
Second Cut	25	20	30	Good/Fair

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

For the Period: Monday July 16, 2007
To: Sunday July 22, 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	57	83	67	-4	1079	+56	406	+55	0.71	+0.01	4	2.33	-0.56	15
Bangor Intl_Arp	51	85	66	-3	987	+72	338	+55	2.26	+1.49	5	3.20	+0.12	15
Bethel	51	82	65	-4	884	-45	274	-13	1.05	+0.28	4	2.45	-0.83	11
Caribou Municip	50	78	64	-3	804	+48	228	+36	1.47	+0.56	5	4.04	+0.65	21
Dover-Foxcroft	48	79	63	-5	768	-23	187	-24	0.36	-0.43	5	2.12	-1.19	15
Frenchville	50	80	64	-2	729	+32	190	+29	0.81	-0.06	3	5.19	+1.90	19
Houlton	47	80	65	-3	787	+6	226	+17	0.85	+0.01	5	4.19	+0.92	21
Livermore Falls	49	84	65	-3	865	+78	271	+66	1.63	+0.86	4	2.86	-0.38	11
Moosehead	46	80	62	-4	639	-5	123	-18	1.91	+1.00	5	4.96	+1.26	19
Portland_ME	55	81	68	-2	1058	+155	384	+108	2.24	+1.54	3	4.42	+1.50	11
NEW HAMPSHIRE														
Benton	49	78	64	-3	879	-1	265	+27	1.42	+0.65	5	5.39	+2.21	18
Berlin AG	48	78	64	-4	846	-33	244	-8	0.77	-0.07	4	3.92	+0.48	14
Concord	51	84	69	-2	1228	+177	515	+148	1.87	+1.14	5	4.82	+1.98	12
Diamond Pond	45	72	59	-4	558	-9	101	+14	2.36	+1.31	4	5.71	+1.54	15
Keene AP	54	82	69	-3	1176	-21	482	+20	1.81	+0.97	5	3.45	+0.18	13
North Conway	52	80	65	-4	922	-59	299	-23	1.30	+0.46	5	3.78	+0.34	14
Rochester	54	83	68	-3	1101	-20	436	+23	3.79	+3.02	4	5.65	+2.55	10
VERMONT														
Burlington Intl	52	83	67	-4	1270	+124	559	+125	0.86	+0.02	4	6.36	+3.09	18
Island Pond	45	75	62	-3	791	+84	208	+48	1.65	+0.67	5	7.46	+3.62	21
Montpelier	49	79	64	-4	1021	+130	358	+96	1.73	+1.03	5	7.40	+4.56	16
Pownal	49	82	65	-4	1034	+118	371	+100	2.02	+1.11	6	4.40	+0.62	13
Rochester	48	80	64	-4	929	+70	301	+57	2.20	+1.34	5	6.40	+3.02	17
Rutland AG	48	78	65	-6	1046	-148	387	-69	2.16	+1.26	5	4.81	+1.39	17
Springfield_VT	49	81	67	-3	1135	+171	459	+159	1.85	+1.05	5	4.90	+1.62	16
Sutton	49	78	63	-3	831	+114	230	+58	1.63	+0.66	5	4.96	+1.13	22
MASSACHUSETTS														
Boston/Logan_In	61	90	73	-2	1506	+168	707	+148	0.29	-0.34	2	1.19	-1.41	9
Fitchburg	56	87	72	+4	1437	+490	666	+367	1.38	+0.54	5	3.45	+0.09	14
Greenfield	49	85	67	-6	1220	-65	486	-34	1.27	+0.43	4	4.23	+0.84	13
New Bedford	57	85	73	-2	1288	-33	545	+7	0.67	-0.02	2	1.91	-0.88	11
Otis_AFB	61	84	72	+2	1126	+88	437	+73	1.10	+0.47	1	2.99	+0.37	6
Plymouth	60	85	73	+2	1289	+198	561	+158	0.69	-0.08	3	2.18	-0.90	10
Walpole	58	87	73	+2	1378	+233	621	+192	0.48	-0.29	2	2.29	-0.88	10
Chicopee/Westov	53	86	70	-6	1336	-141	592	-58	2.30	+1.50	4	5.35	+1.94	11
Worthington	51	82	66	-3	1032	+109	365	+91	2.32	+1.34	4	6.21	+2.40	11
RHODE ISLAND														
Providence	62	88	75	+2	1544	+283	716	+206	1.25	+0.55	3	3.02	+0.16	8
Woonsocket	57	87	72	+1	1363	+236	592	+187	0.83	-0.02	3	3.61	+0.03	11
CONNECTICUT														
Bridgeport/Siko	62	85	74	-1	1535	+186	695	+120	1.55	+0.70	3	2.83	-0.59	9
Hartford/Bradle	58	90	73	-2	1611	+186	780	+157	1.63	+0.93	4	3.20	+0.23	11
Norfolk	52	82	68	-1	1158	+231	466	+187	1.51	+0.60	4	4.45	+0.59	12
Thomaston Dam	56	85	71	+1	1355	+229	585	+183	1.55	+0.60	4	4.03	+0.35	12
Willimantic	57	87	72	+2	1414	+273	635	+222	1.50	+0.52	3	3.12	-0.62	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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Prepared by AWIS, Inc.

STATE WEATHER SUMMARY

For the week ending Sunday, July 22, 2007

State	Air Temperatures				Precipitation	
	L	HI	AV	DF	LO	HI
ME	44	85	65	-4	0.36	2.31
NH	40	89	66	-3	0.43	3.79
VT	43	83	64	-4	0.66	2.31
MA	48	91	71	+0	0.29	2.60
RI	57	88	73	+1	0.83	1.25
CT	52	90	72	-1	0.89	2.49

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: Heavy thunderstorms and winds at the end of the week, however there are no reports of crop damage. **Ross Eddy (FSA), Hartford/Tolland:** Although up to 1.5 inches of rain fell Thursday, soil conditions remain dry. Peaches and early apples showing up at farmers markets. Sweet corn, green beans, tomatoes, cukes, potatoes, and summer squash showing up at farm stands and farmers markets. Field corn looks good and hay fields seemed to come back to life after showers. Topping broadleaf tobacco and starting second time around picking shade tobacco. **Dawn Pindell (FSA), Windham:** Blueberry picking is abundant, good size and color on berries. Apple development is good. Silage corn beginning to tassel with good height. Sweet corn, tomatoes, peppers, squash, blueberries and more in farm stands and farmers markets. Nice rainfall during the week gave everything a needed boost. Very little wind damage from thunderstorms that rolled through. **Nancy Welsh (FSA), New Haven:** This has been a warm week with scattered showers and thunderstorms bringing one to two inches of rain across the two counties. Vegetable harvest continues to progress nicely. **Richard Meinert (Ext), CT Cooperative:** Thunderstorms with torrential rains brought little relief from dry conditions. Most of the water ran off within minutes of the end of the storms. Grass is re-growing slowly due to dry weather. Some farms have skipped second cut on some acreage - the regrowth didn't justify the harvest cost. PYO blueberries look good - and taste better.

MAINE - Pam Hickey (Ext), Central Aroostook: Farmers are still on a five day spray schedule. The frequent showers provided excellent growing conditions for potato crop. Cultivation is finishing up. With the frequent showers crops are looking excellent. Potato blossoms are beautiful. **Steve London, Southern Aroostook:** There has been late blight found in PEI and New Brunswick, Canada, but none in Maine yet. European corn borers have a low population due to cool, wet weather. Potatoes still looking good. **Donna Coffin (Ext), Piscataquis:** Rains have made haying difficult. **Kathy Hopkins (Ext), Somerset:** Widespread rainfall was a big help to most areas. **Rick Kersbergen (Ext), Waldo:** Some beneficial rains finally came this past week and helped to green up some brown pastures and hayfields. Strawberry renovation is in progress and HB blueberries harvest has started. We have suffered some armyworm damage in hayfields and in sorghum sudan grass. **Dr. David Yarborough (Ext), Washington:** Wild blueberries: Crop is ripening and harvest is expected in mid-coast next week. The showers are alleviating the water stress and the berry size is increasing. There are still a considerable amount of green berries because of cooler temperatures. It is expected that the crop will be average to better than average at 70 to 75 million pounds. **Sandy Truslow (FSA), Cumberland/York:** Vegetables are being picked and sent to market. Needed rain arrived last week. Most crops look good so far. Sun and heat would be welcome. A few dry days would help with making hay. **Gary Raymond (FSA), Androscoggin/Franklin:** There was a bumper crop of first cut hay, well above average. Pastures are once again lush. With some heat this week the corn crop should take off. Small grains look excellent. **Valerie Porter (FSA), Penobscot:** Harvest of strawberries is complete and production was very good this year. Producers are reporting second crop of hay is looking good at this time. Necessary rain is helping with quality and production of second crop. Potatoes are starting to look great with necessary rain. Cultivation is in progress on field crops. Corn crop is sizing up and height is getting up there. Pastures look good and are providing necessary feed. Apples are starting to get some size to them.

MASSACHUSETTS - Aimee Thayer (FSA), Berkshire: Over 3 1/2 inches of rain this week. This has caused trouble with the sweet cherry crop. Fruit had been small due to the dry conditions

early in the summer. The heat and rain in the last couple of weeks has caused them to split and mold. There is a loss to unharvestable fruit. Signs of the same problem with the peach crop and the raspberries are huge but all the moisture is causing mold problems. Multiple fungicide treatments washed away with daily downpours. The window for treating has closed due to the imminent harvest. The weather also played havoc with hay makers having no luck drying the crop. Fortunately, the weekend was beautiful and that means good sales at farm stands and markets. The county's first sweet corn was harvested and enjoyed. Other summer vegetables look and taste good right now. **Frank Caruso (Ext), Plymouth:** Cranberries: Bloom is nearly completed, beehives are being removed from the beds to go elsewhere. Growers are happy with the job they did, although there are more bumblebees than I have ever seen everywhere you go. The early returns indicate average set on Early Black and Howes and good set on Ben Lear and Stevens. We received an excellent rainfall (an inch in most places) last Wednesday. Rain is critical as the berries are sizing up, and more is expected Monday. Growers are finishing up their fruitworm sprays and applying 'fruit set' fertilizers. **Emily Tchorz (FSA), Bristol:** Rain late in the week was much needed relief for local crops. The hot weather had begun to stress plants, but no expected losses have been reported. So far so good...**Ted Smiarowski, Jr. (FSA), Franklin/Hampshire/Hampden:** Lots of heat with a few rainy days keeps crops growing. All crops being harvested are in good supply.

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Tina Savage (Ext), Carroll: Some needed moisture fell this week, second cutting and pastures are re-growing well due to cooler damp weather. Strawberries are all but done, blueberries are just ready. Most all vegetables available at the farm stand, just waiting for the sweet corn. **Carl Majewski (Ext), Cheshire:** Half damp and muggy weather, the other half bright and sunny this past week. Field corn is doing excellent - just starting to see a few tassels peeking out here and there. Grass growth remains strong, but still tricky haying conditions. PYO blueberries and raspberries in full swing, with pretty good yields. Vegetable crops still doing well. **Steve Turaj (Ext), Coos:** Better weather this week, somewhat warmer and drier but heavy rains at mid-week still hampering field work. Still a number of past first cut hayland yet to be harvested. Second cut haylage beginning, looks good with fairly good regrowth generally. Field corn showing some growth, should benefit from warmer temps. Topdress nitrogen being applied on a few fields. Rather wet field conditions, some ponding in a few locations at midweek. Verified one hayfield, five-plus acres, hit hard by armyworms. In South Lancaster, near CT River, larvae mostly large stage. Growing degree days at 449 at Lancaster location, Base 50. Highbush blueberry and raspberry picking begins. Nursery/greenhouse tending to mum crop for the fall. **George Hamilton (Ext), Hillsborough:** Vegetables: Farmers kept busy harvesting, cultivating, hoeing weeds, monitoring pest pressures, spraying pesticides for insects and diseases - if needed. Very good demand for produce at most local farmers' markets and farm stands. Few corn earworms were caught in traps during the week. Growers harvesting an array of vegetables including: beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, greens, lettuce, potatoes, radishes, snap beans, summer squash and first sweet corn. Fruit: Blueberry harvest continued. First peaches and raspberries were harvested. Orchardists busy monitoring for pests, spraying if needed, and mowing orchard floors. Field Crops: Farmers making baled hay between showers. Silage corn is rapid growing. Second hay crop is looking good. **Dorothy Perkins (Ext), Merrimack:** Crops are moving along at a medium pace due to the cool nights and below average temperatures. Sweet corn is a little behind but a harvest is expected. Strawberry producers experienced a fairly normal yield and U-pick is just about done. Hay harvesting is meeting with agreeable weather and some folks have been bringing in some second cut. Blueberries are ripening and some growers expect to open U-pick fields in the next week or so. Cucurbits and cole crops are all being harvested, as well as beans and lettuces. As usual we are still waiting for the field tomatoes to

ripen. Greenhouse tomatoes are filling in the gap and doing well as long as growers have gotten their fungicides applied on time. **Nada Haddad (Ext), Rockingham:** Strawberry harvest done. Renovating strawberry beds. Picking blueberries, raspberries, and a whole array of vegetables. Sweet corn harvest about to start by the end of the week. Some vegetables and fruits showing injury as a result of hail storms earlier. Mowing orchard fields and monitoring pests. Haying continues between showers.

RHODE ISLAND - Karen Menezes (Ext), Newport: Some green chop for second cut at the beginning of the week. Good solid rainfall mid week helped with a growth jump in both field and sweet corn. Lots of field work being done. Spraying fungicides and insecticides on potatoes. Harvesting sweet corn, cole crops, squashes and summer vegetables. Roadside stands are packed with summer vegetables and flowers.

VERMONT - John St. Onge/Kim Peterson (FSA), Lamoille: Last week brought more showers that were not really needed. A few people still have some acreage of first cut to harvest but many more are anxious to finish second cut. Crops are still looking very good but have had some reports of significant slug damage in veggies as a result of the wet weather that allows them to thrive. **Dave Blodgett (NRCS), Orleans:** A lot of rainy days has slowed hay harvest and made some fields too wet to work. Hay yields are

good due to the moisture level in the soil. Pastures are holding up well. Corn looks fairly good in most areas. The growth is a little stunted on the wetter fields. Armyworms have been a problem over the past week. Many of the larger farms are spraying their fields. **Jeffrey Carter (Ext), Addison:** Very wet conditions stopped hay harvest. Little manure spread on fields. Armyworm outbreaks being sprayed for control. Corn growth good, tassels showing. Pasture re-growth poor, improved with rain this week. First too dry this month, then too wet. **Julie Jacque (FSA), Windham:** Much needed rain showers arrived this past week. Crops were quickly revived. There are a couple of reports of some hail, but didn't hear of any crop damage. No army worm reported either. Second cutting hay started in a couple of places. Sweet corn, blueberries, raspberries and squashes (yellow, zucchini) all coming in nicely production-wise. **Dennis Kauppila (Ext), Caledonia:** A cool, wet week. Haying was just about stopped due to wet soils. Another inch of rain on Thursday made matters worse. On well-drained soils, however, some hay did get mowed on Friday. A few more scattered reports of armyworm damage. **Sherwin Williams, Rutland:** Spraying potatoes for blight and late hatch of bugs. Cultivating row crops and side-dressing corn fields as they get ready. Asparagus beds fertilized and ready for a rest. Rain for the week, 1.448. Lots of rain, but it was needed. Lots of growth and maturity for all crops. Market gardens full of good crops. Peas, green beans, broccoli, early potatoes, carrots, and summer squash with good quantity and quality.

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Gary R. Keough, Director
Lorie Warren, Statistician

Gerald D. Tillman, Deputy Director
Deirdre Davis, Statistical Assistant