

Crop Progress & Condition



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United States Department of Agriculture

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July 27, 2009 – 4 pm

For week ending 7/26/09

Cool, Wet Conditions Continue

GENERAL CONDITIONS: For the week ending July 26, 2009, there were 4.2 days available for field work across New England. Pasture condition was rated 13% poor, 28% fair, 37% good, and 22% excellent. Last week began with below average high temperatures ranging in the mid-60s to low 80s. Nighttime temperatures were generally average, ranging in the mid-50s to mid-60s. Significant rainfall moved into the area Tuesday and Thursday, ranging from 0.5 inches to over three inches north to south. Temperatures remained below average mid-week for all states. Throughout the weekend, temperatures remained below average in Maine, but were mostly average elsewhere, ranging in the upper 70s to mid-80s. Weekend weather was partly cloudy with rain. Total precipitation for the week ranged between 0.88 and 4.19 inches.

FRUIT: The strawberry crop harvesting was slowed due to persistent rain showers. Growers were busy renovating beds when the weather allowed. Highbush blueberry harvest was in full swing and was 25% picked at the end of the week. However, overcast skies and cool temperatures continued to delay crop maturation in Maine. Cranberries were in petal fall and beyond. Peaches were 15% harvested at week's end, slightly ahead of last year and normal. Tree fruit producers were busy monitoring for pests and mowing orchard floors.

VEGETABLES: Sweet corn planting came to an end last week. Harvesting was still just beginning in most locations, well behind last year and normal. As a result of the recent humid conditions, more cases of blight were reported, particularly in tomatoes. Growers were busy spraying pesticides, fungicides, and herbicides as needed. Harvesting of peas, beans, lettuce, cabbage, squash, greens, beets, broccoli, radishes, cucumbers, and snap beans continued.

FIELD CROPS: Wet weather hindered field work. First cut hay was 85% harvested and second cut was 25%, both behind last year and normal. The shade tobacco harvest began last week and was 5% complete at week's end. Both broadleaf and shade tobacco were reported in good to fair condition. Potato growers continued a 5-day spray schedule. Field corn was 100% emerged and conditions continued to decline due to excessive rainfall. Maine oats and barley were reported in good condition.

SOIL MOISTURE ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

| Soil Rating | This Week | Last Week | Last Year |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| -- Percent -- | | | |
| Topsoil | | | |
| Very Short | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Short | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Adequate | 51 | 50 | 75 |
| Surplus | 49 | 48 | 22 |
| Subsoil | | | |
| Very Short | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Short | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Adequate | 54 | 57 | 84 |
| Surplus | 46 | 43 | 14 |

FRUIT CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

| Crop | Percent Harvested | | | Fruit Set | Fruit Size | Condition |
|-----------------|-------------------|------|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | 2009 | 2008 | 5-yr Avg | | | |
| Apples | - | - | - | Average | Average | Good/Fair |
| Peaches | 15 | 10 | 5 | Average | Average | Good/Fair |
| Pears | - | - | - | Average | Average | Good/Fair |
| Blueberries | | | | | | |
| Highbush | 25 | 25 | 30 | Average | Average | Good |
| Wild | - | - | - | Above Avg | Average | Good |
| Cranberries, MA | - | - | - | | | Good |
| Strawberries | 95 | 99 | 100 | Average | Average | Good/Fair |

FIELD CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

| Crop | 2009 | 2008 | 5-yr Avg | Condition |
|-------------------------|------|------|----------|----------------|
| --Percent Planted-- | | | | |
| Sweet Corn | 100 | 100 | 100 | |
| --Percent Emerged-- | | | | |
| Silage Corn | 100 | 100 | 99 | Fair/Good |
| Sweet Corn | 99 | 100 | 99 | |
| -- Percent Harvested -- | | | | |
| Barley, ME | - | - | - | Good |
| Oats, ME | - | - | - | Good |
| Potatoes | | | | |
| Maine | - | - | - | Good/Excellent |
| Mass | - | - | - | Good |
| Rhode Island | - | - | - | Poor |
| Sweet Corn | <5 | 15 | 15 | Good/Fair |
| Tobacco | | | | |
| Broadleaf | - | - | - | Good/Fair |
| Shade | 5 | 20 | 15 | Good/Fair |
| Dry Hay | | | | |
| First Cut | 85 | 90 | 90 | Fair/Good |
| Second Cut | 25 | 40 | 35 | Fair/Good |

Weather Summary For New England Agricultural Statistics

Prepared By AWIS.com

For the Period: Monday July 20, 2009
 To: Sunday July 26, 2009

| 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 DAYS | |
| | | | | | TOT | DFN | TOT | DFN | | | | INCHES | DFN | | |
| MAINE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Augusta_State_A | 57 | 80 | 67 | -5 | 964 | -139 | 241 | -150 | 2.63 | +1.91 | 4 | 6.40 | +3.53 | 19 | |
| Bangor_Intl_Arp | 53 | 80 | 67 | -3 | 900 | -91 | 225 | -94 | 1.28 | +0.55 | 3 | 5.27 | +2.23 | 17 | |
| Bethel | 51 | 78 | 63 | -6 | 814 | -191 | 167 | -156 | 1.83 | +1.03 | 3 | 8.46 | +5.23 | 19 | |
| Caribou_Municip | 52 | 80 | 64 | -3 | 781 | -39 | 213 | -3 | 1.33 | +0.38 | 4 | 4.40 | +0.87 | 19 | |
| Dover-Foxcroft | 50 | 80 | 65 | -3 | 739 | -120 | 166 | -74 | 1.54 | +0.77 | 5 | 6.52 | +3.25 | 20 | |
| Frenchville | 52 | 78 | 63 | -3 | 682 | -75 | 164 | -20 | 1.22 | +0.31 | 5 | 4.63 | +1.26 | 21 | |
| Houlton | 50 | 80 | 64 | -4 | 754 | -95 | 196 | -41 | 1.76 | +0.89 | 4 | 4.51 | +1.17 | 19 | |
| Livermore_Falls | 50 | 81 | 66 | -2 | 841 | -14 | 195 | -38 | 2.39 | +1.62 | 3 | 7.33 | +4.17 | 20 | |
| Moosehead | 51 | 79 | 63 | -3 | 603 | -101 | 129 | -34 | 1.05 | +0.14 | 4 | 5.05 | +1.38 | 19 | |
| Portland_ME | 57 | 80 | 67 | -3 | 983 | +3 | 268 | -46 | 2.56 | +1.88 | 3 | 9.07 | +6.21 | 13 | |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Benton | 51 | 79 | 65 | -3 | 803 | -145 | 183 | -83 | 1.66 | +0.88 | 3 | 5.77 | +2.62 | 18 | |
| Berlin_AG | 50 | 77 | 63 | -5 | 800 | -147 | 168 | -113 | 1.08 | +0.24 | 3 | 5.05 | +1.65 | 18 | |
| Concord | 52 | 82 | 67 | -3 | 1115 | -16 | 344 | -63 | 2.68 | +1.91 | 4 | 7.66 | +4.78 | 15 | |
| Diamond_Pond | 45 | 76 | 57 | -7 | 492 | -127 | 74 | -29 | 0.93 | -0.12 | 5 | 7.47 | +3.30 | 21 | |
| Keene_AG | 52 | 84 | 68 | -4 | 1124 | -157 | 375 | -131 | 2.93 | +2.09 | 4 | 7.25 | +3.98 | 15 | |
| North_Conway | 52 | 80 | 64 | -5 | 862 | -195 | 189 | -169 | 2.26 | +1.42 | 3 | 8.99 | +5.59 | 19 | |
| Rochester | 56 | 84 | 67 | -4 | 1086 | -119 | 328 | -129 | 2.84 | +2.05 | 3 | 6.99 | +3.87 | 12 | |
| VERMONT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bennington_AP | 50 | 81 | 68 | +1 | 1125 | +137 | 337 | +34 | 1.58 | +0.67 | 4 | 5.60 | +1.89 | 17 | |
| Burlington_Intl | 53 | 81 | 70 | -2 | 1215 | -15 | 425 | -53 | 0.85 | +0.01 | 2 | 4.95 | +1.68 | 18 | |
| Island_Pond | 49 | 77 | 64 | -1 | 760 | -7 | 185 | +5 | 1.12 | +0.14 | 4 | 7.63 | +3.79 | 22 | |
| Montpelier | 51 | 80 | 68 | +0 | 996 | +37 | 289 | -1 | 1.35 | +0.65 | 4 | 6.50 | +3.70 | 18 | |
| Rochester | 51 | 81 | 66 | -1 | 867 | -60 | 223 | -49 | 0.76 | -0.14 | 3 | 6.64 | +3.22 | 19 | |
| Rutland_AG | 51 | 80 | 68 | -4 | 1021 | -257 | 290 | -210 | 1.09 | +0.18 | 2 | 7.59 | +4.13 | 12 | |
| Springfield_VT | 52 | 82 | 68 | -1 | 1126 | +90 | 352 | +20 | 1.80 | +0.96 | 6 | 5.13 | +1.87 | 20 | |
| Sutton | 51 | 75 | 63 | -3 | 684 | -93 | 133 | -59 | 1.08 | +0.10 | 5 | 7.23 | +3.40 | 22 | |
| MASSACHUSETTS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Boston/Logan_In | 62 | 85 | 70 | -5 | 1360 | -74 | 497 | -118 | 2.90 | +2.27 | 5 | 6.49 | +3.93 | 13 | |
| Fitchburg | 57 | 83 | 70 | +2 | 1361 | +338 | 495 | +160 | 3.49 | +2.65 | 5 | 8.38 | +5.02 | 16 | |
| Greenfield | 54 | 82 | 68 | -5 | 1160 | -213 | 380 | -188 | 4.09 | +3.25 | 4 | 8.23 | +4.84 | 14 | |
| New_Bedford | 56 | 82 | 70 | -6 | 1203 | -214 | 387 | -209 | 2.54 | +1.83 | 5 | 7.88 | +5.12 | 15 | |
| Otis_AFB | 61 | 81 | 70 | -2 | 1282 | +160 | 439 | +31 | 1.93 | +1.29 | 4 | 7.58 | +4.99 | 11 | |
| Plymouth | 57 | 83 | 70 | -3 | 1195 | +16 | 378 | -73 | 2.66 | +1.89 | 4 | 6.74 | +3.66 | 13 | |
| Walpole | 57 | 82 | 69 | -4 | 1162 | -71 | 369 | -108 | 2.84 | +2.07 | 5 | 6.86 | +3.73 | 13 | |
| Chicopee/Westov | 55 | 84 | 70 | -6 | 1329 | -248 | 476 | -234 | 3.95 | +3.18 | 5 | 8.05 | +4.72 | 15 | |
| Worthington | 51 | 80 | 65 | -4 | 952 | -43 | 253 | -53 | 3.36 | +2.38 | 4 | 6.19 | +2.34 | 14 | |
| RHODE ISLAND | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Providence | 61 | 84 | 71 | -3 | 1346 | -8 | 484 | -80 | 3.65 | +2.93 | 5 | 10.22 | +7.38 | 15 | |
| Woonsocket | 57 | 84 | 69 | -3 | 1244 | +33 | 412 | -37 | 3.55 | +2.68 | 5 | 8.14 | +4.57 | 13 | |
| CONNECTICUT | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bridgeport/Siko | 62 | 81 | 72 | -4 | 1396 | -52 | 541 | -94 | 2.80 | +1.96 | 4 | 3.27 | -0.15 | 11 | |
| Hartford/Bradle | 59 | 85 | 71 | -4 | 1467 | -54 | 582 | -97 | 4.71 | +4.01 | 4 | 8.34 | +5.45 | 12 | |
| Norfolk | 55 | 81 | 67 | -2 | 1030 | +31 | 292 | -19 | 2.97 | +2.04 | 5 | 8.67 | +4.87 | 16 | |
| Thomaston_Dam | 57 | 82 | 69 | -2 | 1270 | +64 | 445 | +2 | 2.86 | +1.88 | 6 | 7.09 | +3.37 | 20 | |
| Willimantic | 58 | 83 | 71 | +1 | 1402 | +177 | 526 | +69 | 2.46 | +1.51 | 5 | 7.87 | +4.12 | 17 | |

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 precipitation 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, July 26, 2009

| STATE | AIR TEMPERATURES | | | | PRECIPITATION | |
|-------|------------------|----|-----|-----|---------------|------|
| | LO | HI | AVG | DFN | LO | HI |
| ME | 48 | 83 | 64 | -4 | 0.90 | 3.33 |
| NH | 41 | 85 | 65 | -3 | 0.87 | 4.08 |
| VT | 48 | 85 | 66 | -2 | 0.30 | 2.02 |
| MA | 51 | 87 | 69 | -3 | 0.85 | 4.54 |
| RI | 57 | 84 | 70 | -3 | 3.33 | 3.65 |
| CT | 55 | 85 | 70 | -2 | 1.76 | 5.06 |

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: Field corn is yellow in many areas because of too much rain. Corn is starting to tassel out much shorter than normal. There is early blight in tomato and potato plantings. **Ross Eddy (FSA), Hartford/Tolland:** Wet weather continues with Tuesday and Thursday evening bringing up to three and one half inches of rain each evening. Heat and humidity were around for the weekend with hit or miss showers on Sunday. Early in the week both first and second cut hay was put up, but that was it for the week. Field corn and sweet corn look great on well drained soils and terrible on poorly drained soils. Broadleaf tobacco has wide variability in each field and topping takes a couple of trips due to inconsistency from the earlier cool, wet weather. Shade tobacco is being harvested and put in sheds. Vegetable production continued with cabbage, summer squash, cukes, early potatoes and sweet corn being harvested. Blueberries are being harvested and peaches are being picked. **Richard Meinert (Ext), Litchfield:** A little heat and a little sunshine has perked up some of the field corn. A grower remarked "you could almost see it growing!" Blueberries seem to have loved the weather - they were hanging full and ripe in clumps like grapes as we picked over the weekend! **Marsha Jette (FSA), New London:** Producers are very discouraged with the summer weather and all too often rainstorms. Second cutting is not drying, even with two to three days of no rain, the moisture and temps prevent good drying. Vegetable producers, especially sweet corn are waiting to pick, running almost two weeks behind schedule. Although the county is one of two not identified as being hit with tomato blight, some producers have noticed blight in small areas. Hopefully August will be a better month! **Nancy Welsh (FSA), New Haven:** More rain this week. Conditions are not improving. Heavy rains, of the two to four inch variety, fell across the region adding to the misery. Warm and humid conditions helped diseases thrive. **Jude Boucher (Ext), Tolland:** A total of 3.7 inches of rain overnight (7/23-7/24) at my house in Tolland which was more than we needed after the two to four inches on Tuesday. Haven't heard of any hail falling this week...that's a change! More farm equipment mired in fields. All of the wet season diseases are showing up on each crop. Corn is stunted, and some in the silk stage is running out of nitrogen before harvest. I have never had to send so many growers in to hand side-dress silking corn or run over the middle two rows in each block to spin on additional N. Insect pressure has been relatively low this season. Systemic/protectant fungicide combinations are holding for fields infected with late blight early (so far). A little dry weather would help. **Dawn Pindell (FSA), Windham:** Wearing a winter coat to do chores at 5 a.m.! Cloudy, rainy, cool, and a bit of sunshine and warmth. Three and a half inches of rain fell on Friday morning. Field corn is suffering, yields will be down. Lack of growing degree days may mean it will not be able to recover for a decent harvest. Hay quality issues. Vegetables growing and trying to avoid slugs, its slugs galore everywhere. Walking after the rain, slug bodies were piled along the roadsides. I've never seen that before. Come on summer, where are you?

MAINE – Doreen Conlogue (FSA), Aroostook: Rain, rain go away! Last week was an "ok" week for field work but anyone wanting to bale hay is struggling. This week's forecast is for warmer temps but a chance of showers almost every day. Potatoes and grains continue to look good. **Pam Hickey (Ext), Central Aroostook:** Recent showers have delayed field work. Central Aroostook area is still on a five day spray schedule. Harvesting some local broccoli in the area. **Steve London, Southern Aroostook:** Potatoes and small grains: There is still more late blight being found in the area and farmers are spraying accordingly. **Gary Raymond (FSA), Franklin:** We need a break! Some farms depending on purchased hay are running out of inventory. Some hay harvested before the rains started is actually molding some on the outside because of too much moisture. Animals are eating it so far. This is a tough summer for everyone. **Valerie Porter (FSA), Hancock/Penobscot/Piscataquis:** The weather has shown no relief for farmers. Fields are saturated with standing water in many

places. Crops are yellow and growth has been affected. Yields and quality will be below average. Potatoes look pretty good but farmers are having a real hard time trying to spray. Herbicides and nitrogen is being applied but hard to build up soils with so much rain. Much-needed sun and warm days. **Maria Granger (FSA), Kennebec:** One step forward, two steps back. More rain fell through the county last week with over an inch picked up in most areas last Friday. Hay that had been cut has been left in the field and several farmers are reporting mold issues. Field crops will all be late this year, if they come in at all. The week ahead does not look promising with more rain and humidity predicted. **Marcia Hall (FSA), Oxford:** Oxford County received showers during the past week. Rained hard all day on Friday and producers reported more than two inches falling. Some hay was harvested in between showers. Corn is looking really yellow and stunted due to wet weather. Potato crop is looking good. Apple producers have reported that it's early and time will tell if they will be hurting at harvest time. (but they need sun). Small veggie growers have smaller crops this year due to many varieties not being planted due to wet saturated soils. Need sunshine and warm weather! **Kathy Hopkins (Ext), Somerset:** More rain all week with two inches on Friday that led to minor flooding. **Janet King (FSA), Somerset:** Corn is very short and very yellow, some corn still under water. Highbush blueberries are not ripening. Strawberry crop has finished harvesting. **Rick Kersbergen (Ext), Waldo:** Field crops are looking pretty sad with yellow stunted corn and hay crops are rotting in the field. Slugs are looking for drier ground! Some hay harvested this week in between rains. Another inch on Friday. Highbush blueberry harvest started, but very slow to ripen. **Dr. David Yarborough (Ext), Washington:** Wild blueberries; Overcast and cool temperatures continue to delay crop maturation. Mid-coast harvest usually begins the last week of July but most growers are planning on beginning harvest the first week of August. More reports of *Valdensinia* leaf spot disease reported, and a new sanitation protocol has been developed and is on the web to prevent the spread of this disease. <http://www.wildblueberries.maine.edu/PDF/Disease/ValdensiniaSanitationMethods.pdf>

MASSACHUSETTS – Aimee Thayer (FSA), Berkshire: More rain and cool temps early in the week then hot and humid with heavy rain, two to three inches. Blueberry picking has started. Solanaceous veggie growth picked up a little this week. Cucumbers, beans and squash are being harvested. Farmers are still reporting losses on hay, pumpkins, squash etc. Sweet corn harvest is starting in southern Berkshire. **Lori Carver (FSA), Franklin:** Just when we were starting to dry out - two nights of heavy rains. Disease continues to show it self due to this continued wet weather. Plants are really starting to show the stress. Producers continued to try to replace lost fertilizer and spray for disease and pests. **Ted Smiarowski, Jr. (FSA), Hampshire/Hampden:** Another week of heavy rains with high humidity and fields are saturated from the four plus inches of rainfall. Summer crops are growing slow and crop yields are down. Growers are applying preventative fungicide sprays on all crops. Reports are in with late blight on potatoes and tomatoes and verticillium and phytophthora capsici on cucurbits, peppers and eggplant fields. Tobacco crop is being downgraded every week due to the heavy rains and no sunlight.

NEW HAMPSHIRE – Tina Savage (Ext), Carroll: And so it goes, rain and cool temps, hard to believe that July is almost over! A few sunny days, most all followed by evening showers and thunderstorms. Several more inches of rain last week and a few flood warnings, not a good week for cutting hay, but folks are taking chances to get some hay in the barn. What looked like a huge crop of apples early in the season has thinned down to what looks like a nice crop of large sized apples. Tomatoes showing several diseases, no late blight yet confirmed in Carroll County. Slugs love the weather! **Carl Majewski (Ext), Cheshire:** A few rainy days and some scattered showers with generally more heat and humidity. Corn is catching up with better growing conditions. Second cutting

finishing up for haylage, still a challenge for dry hay. Sweet corn showing up in farm stands. PYO berries going strong. **Steve Turaj (Ext), Coos:** Another wet week with rain nearly everyday in varying amounts. Haylage coming in despite difficult conditions for drying/wilting; dry hay much less so. Fields being rutted by wet soils and heavy equipment. Manure spreading as possible. Harvesting summer veggies and early small fruits. Harvested peas, garlic, beets, greens, and carrots. Verified more armyworms in grass haylands. Varying sizes of 3/4 to 1 1/2 inch lengths, probably have come in at different times. Some later season black cutworm damage in field corn also being reported. Need sun and warmer temps to get corn and warm season veggies growing. **Steve Schmidt (FSA), Grafton:** We received various amounts of rain around the county. Some area reported nearly five inches, while others reported slightly over two inches. Soils remain saturated on many fields, while the well drained river bottom soils are faring much better. Field corn, sweet corn and many other vegetable crops remain far behind on development for this stage in the growing season. Excessive moisture, along with cooler than normal temperatures and a deficit in sunny days has impaired crop development. Many farm stands are struggling to keep sufficient produce on their stands for their customers. Many stands still have not had sweet corn to sell. A number of producers have reported that some vegetable and berry crops have displayed a higher than normal rate of loss due to the wet cool conditions. **George Hamilton (Ext), Hillsborough:** Several heavy downpours of rain occurred during the week. Vegetables: Farmers kept busy harvesting, cultivating, hoeing weeds, monitoring pest pressures, and spraying pesticides for insects and diseases. Growers harvesting an array of vegetables including: beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, greens, lettuce, potatoes, radishes, snap beans, summer squash and sweet corn. Corn earworms were caught in traps and high numbers of squash vine borers still being caught during the week. Fruit: Peach, blueberry and raspberry harvests continued. Strawberry cultivating and weeding newly renovated beds. Orchardists busy monitoring for pests, spraying if needed, and mowing orchard floors. Field Crops: Farmers making baled hay after rains stopped. Second crop of hay is looking good. Silage corn is rapid growing. **Amy Ouellette (Ext), Merrimack:** Harvesting raspberries, blueberries and earliest peaches. Fungal diseases are present on many vegetable crops. Farm stands and farmers markets are bustling with activity. **Nada Haddad (Ext), Rockingham:** Renovating strawberry beds. Harvesting blueberries, raspberries, greens, and an array of vegetables. Replanting vegetable seedlings or seeds that have drowned. Some vegetables such as tomatoes and peppers are growing very slow. Some fields are very wet and work cannot be done. Cut flower season is suffering from the wet weather. Monitoring pests. Early blight, botrytis seen on tomatoes. Haylage being done. Pastures are ok. **Geoffrey Njue (Ext), Strafford:** Warmer temperatures, but thunderstorms made it difficult for hay producers to cut and dry hay. Forage corn is growing well but behind schedule. Sweet corn and

most vegetables are behind schedule. However vegetable growers were harvesting whatever was ready for farm stands and farmers markets. Growers were also busy weeding and spraying protective fungicides and insecticides as needed. Fungal diseases continue to be a problem on tomatoes and cucurbits. Fruit growers were mowing orchard floors and monitoring for apple maggots and blue berry maggots using UNH Extension recommended traps. Japanese beetles are out in big numbers on raspberries and blue berries and growers are spraying against them using appropriate pesticides as needed. Fall mums are growing well but most are behind schedule while poinsettia in greenhouses is growing on schedule for most growers.

VERMONT – Jeff Carter, (Ext), Addison: The corn crop is responding to Nitrogen side-dress fertilizer. Crop damage and prevented planting reports being processed through crop insurance agents. Still very wet fields with heavy rain storms every few days. Damage to hay crop fields with wheel track ruts. Hay harvested now is very poor quality. Most newly seeded fields still not harvested and oats and barley producing seed. Some Ergot fungus observed in grain and grass seed heads. Second crop regrowth for haylage looks good, some harvest started. Pasture re-growth good with this cool wet weather. **Dr. Bob Ceglowski (DVM), Bennington:** Unpredictable weather patterns continued. Despite rain being forecast for every day this past week, the last four days have been dry. A large percentage of field corn is tasseled out and looks superb. Third cutting haylage will begin this week. **Dennis Kauppila (Ext), Caledonia:** Another cool, damp week. Some haylage went in during the week, especially on drier fields. Second cutting is getting over mature where first cut came off in a timely fashion. Good corn this year is about waist high- concern rising about what this crop will look like at harvest. **Paul Stanley (CCA), Franklin:** Pastures are doing great with the moisture. We still get periods of sun mixed with the rains that seem to keep growth going. Second cut that has been harvested is coming back very well for third cut. Corn still creeps along in soggy soil. If we could get a stretch of good weather it would bring along what corn that is growing in spite of the wet conditions. Potato harvest has begun on the garden new potatoes. Blueberries are in full swing and very bountiful along with raspberries and black berries will be along soon. **John St. Onge (FSA), Lamoille:** Hotter temps are pushing crop growth. Most crops responded positively to last weeks higher temps with a burst of growth that was much needed. Intermittent showers have pastures and hayfields doing much better than they normally would at this point in the growing season. Looks like sweet corn harvest is going to be a little later for most this year. **Julie Jacque, (FSA), Windham:** Some fields look good and have recovered from the poor growing conditions and some fields have an inconsistent stand with yellowing and stunted growth. Vegetable crops seem to be coming along and coping well with conditions. Pest and fungicide applications continue to be a challenge with the rains.

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