

# Crop Progress & Condition



A field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service  
United States Department of Agriculture

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For week ending 8/16/09

## The Heat Is On!

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:** For the week ending August 16, 2009, there were 6.3 days available for field work across New England. Pasture condition was rated 1% very poor, 12% poor, 26% fair, 51% good, and 10% excellent. Last week began partly cloudy with above average high temperatures ranging in the upper 70s to upper 80s. Nighttime temperatures were above average throughout the region, ranging in the upper 50s to low 70s. Light to moderate rain fell on Tuesday and Wednesday; areas in Vermont and northern New Hampshire reported over an inch of precipitation. Temperatures dropped Wednesday and remained average to below average on Thursday in northern states and until Friday in southern states. Both daytime and nighttime temperatures during the remaining days of the week were relatively high due to a warm front passing through New England before the weekend. No precipitation was reported after Thursday. Total precipitation for the week ranged between 0.02 and 1.30 inches.

**FRUIT:** The apple harvest picked up pace this past week and was 10% complete at week's end, ahead of last year and normal. Picking of peaches was 50% complete at week's end on par with last year and ahead of normal. The pear harvest continued at a slow pace and remained at 5% harvested by the end of the week. Orchardists were busy monitoring for pests, summer pruning trees, mowing orchard floors and fixing orchard rows. The wild blueberry harvest received a major boost from the warm sunny weather this past week and was 50% complete at week's end. Cranberry growers were forced to irrigate due to dry weather.

**VEGETABLES:** The lack of rainfall helped the sweet corn harvest continue; however, it was still considerably behind last year and normal. The prolonged rains earlier in the year have led to smaller ears, but taste was not affected. Despite the warm and dry climate, various vegetable crops were still being damaged by several diseases and worms. Tomato crops are ripening, but late blight continues to devastate crops. Farmers were busy harvesting various vegetable crops, monitoring pest pressures, and spraying pesticides for insect and disease control when needed.

**FIELD CROPS:** Late blight continued to deteriorate the quality of potatoes in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Maine growers were still on a 5-day spray schedule. Farmers took advantage of the favorable weather and were very busy out in the fields. Thanks to the lack of rain, the cutting of hay was accelerated and is now relatively on par with last year and normal. However, hay conditions were variable across the region. Field corn was tasseling and maturing faster than in previous weeks. Oats and barley have yet to be harvested; both rated in good condition. The broadleaf tobacco harvest was 20% complete at week's end, far behind last year and normal; the poor conditions earlier in the growing season forced some farmers to plow down their crops.

### SOIL MOISTURE ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Soil Rating	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	-- Percent --		
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	13	0	0
Adequate	69	74	59
Surplus	18	26	41
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	9	0	0
Adequate	73	71	64
Surplus	18	29	36

### FRUIT CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	Percent Harvested			Fruit Set	Fruit Size	Condition
	2009	2008	5-yr Avg			
Apples	10	<5	<5	Average	Average	Good/Fair
Peaches	50	50	40	Average	Average	Good/Fair
Pears	5	<5	<5	Average	Average	Fair/Good
Blueberries						
Highbush	70	65	75	Average	Average	Good
Wild	50	45	45	Above Avg	Above Avg	Good
Cranberries, MA	-	-	-	Average	Average	Good/Excellent

### FIELD CROP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

Crop	Percent Harvested			Condition
	2009	2008	5-yr Avg	
	--Percent Harvested--			
Barley, ME	-	-	5	Good
Oats, ME	-	-	<5	Good
Potatoes				
Maine	-	-	-	Excellent/Good
Mass	15	<5	10	Fair
Rhode Island	10	10	10	Fair/Poor
Silage Corn	-	-	-	Fair
Sweet Corn	35	50	45	Good/Fair
Tobacco				
Broadleaf	20	50	45	Fair/Poor
Shade	45	60	55	Good/Fair
Dry Hay				
First Cut	95	90	95	Fair/Good
Second Cut	55	55	65	Fair/Good
Third Cut	10	5	10	Good/Fair

**Weather Summary For New England Agricultural Statistics**  
Prepared By AWIS.com

For the Period: Monday August 10, 2009  
To: Sunday August 16, 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	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS
	---	---	---	---	TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	INCHES	---	---	INCHES	---	---
<b>MAINE</b>														
Augusta_State_A	58	87	72	+4	1391	-119	458	-129	0.80	+0.03	3	5.98	+2.98	17
Bangor_Intl_Arp	55	88	72	+5	1322	-53	437	-54	0.01	-0.76	1	2.33	-0.60	10
Bethel	49	86	69	+3	1187	-187	330	-151	0.28	-0.63	1	5.20	+1.74	10
Caribou_Municip	53	88	69	+5	1152	+20	375	+52	0.48	-0.43	2	3.15	-0.63	11
Dover-Foxcroft	52	87	68	+3	1106	-97	324	-48	0.52	-0.32	4	4.71	+1.54	17
Frenchville	51	86	69	+6	1043	-8	316	+40	0.54	-0.41	2	3.94	+0.26	13
Houlton	52	88	69	+5	1129	-50	364	+5	0.39	-0.54	2	6.44	+2.82	14
Livermore_Falls	50	89	70	+6	1228	+40	373	+16	1.44	+0.52	3	6.26	+2.87	12
Moosehead	49	86	66	+4	918	-83	241	-17	0.15	-0.69	3	3.70	+0.20	15
Portland_ME	55	87	71	+3	1411	+37	486	-13	0.17	-0.46	1	3.60	+1.03	8
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b>														
Benton	57	86	70	+5	1170	-108	344	-48	0.56	-0.35	3	6.33	+2.88	11
Berlin_AG	47	84	69	+4	1160	-127	322	-92	0.28	-0.71	1	3.52	-0.20	9
Concord	55	90	72	+4	1542	+10	561	-36	0.86	+0.09	3	5.03	+1.95	12
Diamond_Pond	46	82	62	+1	703	-165	110	-59	0.62	-0.57	5	5.36	+0.88	18
Keene_AG	55	88	71	+2	1542	-166	583	-140	0.61	-0.30	4	6.09	+2.59	14
North_Conway	51	85	69	+3	1232	-201	349	-174	1.16	+0.25	3	6.53	+2.99	12
Rochester	57	88	71	+3	1532	-95	565	-104	1.30	+0.46	1	5.79	+2.50	7
<b>VERMONT</b>														
Bennington_AP	55	86	71	+5	1521	+180	524	+80	0.47	-0.51	3	5.23	+1.47	12
Burlington_Intl	61	89	74	+6	1674	+27	674	-9	0.40	-0.54	2	2.96	-0.60	10
Island_Pond	49	86	69	+7	1107	+54	331	+64	0.55	-0.57	3	4.97	+0.71	14
Montpelier	56	86	71	+7	1388	+90	473	+54	0.18	-0.73	3	4.32	+1.10	12
Rochester	47	87	69	+5	1234	-32	385	-16	1.18	+0.13	4	5.76	+1.82	11
Rutland_AG	56	86	71	+2	1413	-283	474	-233	0.75	-0.23	3	5.95	+2.22	10
Springfield_VT	58	88	71	+6	1534	+137	551	+67	0.91	+0.00	3	5.96	+2.47	18
Sutton	53	84	68	+5	1021	-50	266	-16	0.20	-0.92	3	4.73	+0.52	14
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>														
Boston/Logan_In	60	89	73	+1	1879	-44	806	-90	0.15	-0.55	3	4.00	+1.29	10
Fitchburg	56	92	74	+8	1857	+466	781	+290	0.17	-0.63	3	5.19	+1.91	13
Greenfield	51	88	70	+0	1572	-250	582	-225	0.24	-0.60	2	6.97	+3.61	12
New_Bedford	60	89	73	-1	1678	-245	652	-243	0.84	-0.14	5	4.12	+0.73	14
Otis_AFB	59	86	72	+2	1757	+200	704	+67	0.39	-0.38	2	3.52	+0.66	10
Plymouth	61	89	73	+3	1678	+58	651	-34	0.95	+0.04	4	4.75	+1.44	13
Walpole	58	87	72	+3	1620	-44	617	-79	0.77	-0.13	4	4.60	+1.29	11
Chicopee/Westov	57	89	73	-1	1791	-292	728	-280	0.15	-0.62	4	6.32	+3.24	16
Worthington	53	85	69	+3	1318	-37	410	-44	0.35	-0.60	4	7.04	+3.15	15
<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>														
Providence	58	89	73	+2	1849	+20	777	-54	0.70	-0.14	4	5.23	+2.13	14
Woonsocket	54	90	71	+2	1713	+77	671	+8	0.09	-0.82	1	5.35	+1.75	10
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>														
Bridgeport/Siko	63	89	76	+2	1924	-34	859	-78	0.14	-0.61	3	4.19	+1.00	13
Hartford/Bradle	60	92	74	+3	1969	-39	874	-84	0.16	-0.66	4	7.82	+4.79	14
Norfolk	58	83	69	+3	1414	+53	467	+6	0.67	-0.37	4	6.35	+2.42	13
Thomaston_Dam	60	88	73	+5	1736	+118	701	+58	0.63	-0.35	4	6.22	+2.39	17
Willimantic	59	90	74	+6	1905	+258	819	+150	0.36	-0.55	4	4.25	+0.57	15

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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**State Weather Summary**  
For the Week Ending Sunday, August 16, 2009

STATE	AIR TEMPERATURES				PRECIPITATION	
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	LO	HI
ME	45	91	69	+4	0.10	2.26
NH	46	92	70	+4	0.02	2.01
VT	45	89	70	+5	0.14	1.45
MA	49	93	72	+2	0.03	0.95
RI	54	90	72	+2	0.09	0.70
CT	56	92	74	+3	0.04	0.69

**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:**

Finally, we have had some warm, sunny weather to help the crops along. **Ross Eddy (FSA), Hartford/Tolland:** A mostly dry week with warm weather allowed for crop harvest and in some cases, crops to progress. In other situations, crops have endured all that they could of the wet summer and were turned under being permanently stunted and/or diseased. Hot sunny weather over the weekend allowed for some dry hay to be baled. Broadleaf tobacco continues to be plowed down in some areas and harvested in others. **Richard Meinert (Ext), Litchfield:** Heat and sunshine are finally more normal. Haymaking is in high gear. Corn is still gaining height no reports of tasseling yet. **Nancy Welsh (FSA), New Haven:** Summertime, hazy, hot and humid most of the week. Silage corn is tasseling and looks better in most places. Sweet corn is coming on all at once. Some fields are seeing tip damage due to sprays being washed away by previous rains. Corn is nicely filled out for the most part and good and sweet. Vegetables are still suffering from earlier rains and diseases. **Dawn Pindell (FSA), Windham:** Hazy, hot and humid, bright sunshine, summer at last. Baling hay, picking peaches, blueberries and vegetables. Sweet corn ears on the small side but delicious. Field corn struggling to pick up height and put size on the developing ears. Tomatoes ripening. Grapes are looking better with the sun and heat. Traminettes with full clusters of grapes. Shatter on some varieties (incomplete clusters of 40 to 80% due to incomplete pollination with the wet spring weather). Reducing the use of sprays with harvest a bit over 60 days away.

**MAINE - Doreen Conlogue (FSA), Aroostook:** It was a great week in the County - summer has arrived!! Crops continue to look good and many were finally able to "make hay." A few are starting to combine grain in southern Aroostook. This weeks forecast is for more sunshine! **Pam Hickey (Ext), Central Aroostook:** The beautiful sunny weather was welcomed. Crops are still looking excellent. Broccoli harvest continued. Farmers were able to take advantage of dry hot days to continue to harvest hay. Farmers are still on a 5-day spray schedule. Increased aphid activity; some Colorado potato beetle activity in some areas - mostly small and large larvae. Grain fields are maturing - soon to be harvested. **Steve London, Southern Aroostook:** Potatoes and small grains: Farmers spraying for late blight, some aphids and Colorado potato beetles. **Sandy Truslow (FSA), Cumberland/York:** Hot and muggy weather has arrived. Farmers are busy cutting hay on land that is not too wet. The quality is way off. Silage corn is very short and tasseling. Overall it looks like a poor year for feed everywhere. **Gary Raymond (FSA), Franklin:** The corn is liking the heat, but is it too late to produce a good crop. Some corn just will not amount to much because it is too yellowed from leaching and lack of oxygen in wet areas. The crop is very uneven. **Valerie Porter (FSA), Hancock/Penobscot/Piscataquis:** Due to excessive sun and humidity, hay crop is underway heavily this past week. Crop is okay but quality is down. Corn crop is increasing in height but tassels are on. Quality will also be down. Blueberry harvest is underway and crop looks pretty good. Veggies are being harvested and will be short supply due to early damage on most. Apples are starting to be harvested on early ones, small but good. Light showers would be good but nothing heavy. **Maria Granger (FSA), Kennebec:** Finally, some summer weather! Farmers are busy out in the field taking advantage of the good weather. Market stands now offer most vegetable crops, hay is being cut all across the county and the corn is starting to rebound. Some farmers had to pay for aerial spraying of their crops since they could not get on with their own equipment. **Trudy Soucy (FSA), Knox/Lincoln:** Finally, a week of summer weather!!! Hay was down everywhere you traveled in these two counties. Field activities are picking up with many fields starting to dry up nicely. The blueberry crop is nearly harvested with an average to above average yield anticipated. There now seems to be an ample supply of freshly picked sweet corn and other popular

vegetables available in this area. Another good week of weather is forecasted which is desperately needed in the mid-coast area. Although most crop yields are expected to be lower than normal, spirits are lifting with this stretch of nice weather. **Donna Coffin (Ext), Piscataquis:** Hot weather has helped the corn but fields are very spotty. A lot of variability. A few vegetable stands have started to pick their first sweet corn. **Kathy Hopkins (Ext), Somerset:** The heat and humidity this week have helped ripening crops. Silage corn is tasseling and growing better for the most part. Vegetables, except tomatoes and potatoes which are going down quickly with late blight, are readily available at the farmers markets. Sweet corn harvest has commenced. Farmers are finally able to get some dry hay in. **Janet King (FSA), Somerset:** Field work continues despite the intermittent rain showers midweek. A lot of square bale hay was made over the weekend. The humidity is great news for the corn, which has caused a boost in stalk growth height in some areas throughout the county - but the concern is whether or not there is sufficient length of season left for the ears to fully develop. There are many fields of corn that continue to show obvious signs of stress. **Rick Kersbergen (Ext), Waldo:** Some hot dry weather has finally come to Maine. Lots of poor quality hay being harvested. Corn is finally growing. Late blight has devastated the tomato crops in many gardens and vegetable farms. **Dr. David Yarborough (Ext), Washington:** Wild blueberries: Wild blueberry harvest progressing rapidly as good weather is allowing harvest to proceed without delay. Conditions are quite dry and rain is needed. Crop quality still good as temperatures are cooling down in the evening. Crop yields are not as good as last year but it is still expected to be an average crop.

**MASSACHUSETTS - Aimee Thayer (FSA), Berkshire:** Sunny, hazy, hot and humid! A downpour early in the week delivered 1"+ of rain. Fields are drying out overall but silage is uneven in maturity. Veggie fields lost to late blight or wet conditions were turned over. Harvest continues for summer veggies, blueberries, peaches and sweet corn which is small eared but tasty. **Lori Carver (FSA), Franklin:** Hot and humid! Producers continue to harvest hay while the sun shines. Potato harvest is underway. Peach harvest has started. Blueberries seem to be fairing well. Crops continue to show signs of stress from the unusual weather conditions this summer. **Frank Caruso (Ext), Plymouth:** Cranberries: With the annual summer field day tomorrow (Tuesday), we'll find out what the crop estimate will be. In spite of a lot of sanded beds last January and miserable weather when the bees first arrived in June, the crop seems to have set up well. Fruit quality may be a huge issue, as it was difficult to get fruit rot fungicide and fruitworm insecticide sprays applied with the frequent rains. Vine condition is excellent, more lush than usual. Growers are regularly having to irrigate, as things have dried out. Weeds are getting wiped and growers are maintaining ditches for good water flowage. All in all, it has been a completely different growing season from most growing seasons.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE - Dot Perkins (Ext), Belknap:** A good rain followed by hot weather is pushing the season right along. Late blight hit some folks quite hard. Sweet corn production is in full swing with folks paying upward of \$7.00 per doz. Peaches are full and sweet and the fruit crops are doing quite well. A small amount of hail damage has been reported. **Tina Savage (Ext), Carroll:** Summer is finally here! Hazy, Hot and Humid, temps around 90 degrees. Weather is just dry enough to finally get some dry hay in the barn. Folks who got an early first cut are finishing up a nice second, those who are just now taking a first cut are grateful to put some hay in the barn. Late blight on tomatoes and potatoes wide spread in commercial and home gardens. Now we need to be on the look out for downy mildew! **Carl Majewski (Ext), Cheshire:** Actual summer this week - lots of hot and humid weather, and pretty much rain-free. Late-planted field corn tasseling, the rest is maturing nicely. Less than perfect drying conditions, but farms are still

catching up on long-delayed hay harvesting. Most vegetable crops doing okay - powdery mildew starting to creep in on certain crops. Early varieties of apples starting to appear here and there. **Steve Turaj (Ext), Coos:** Long awaited stretch of dry weather finally arrives at the end of the week. Hay being mowed, windrowed and baled across the county on most fields that hadn't yet seen it this year. Decent regrowth of those previously cut meadows. Nearly all silage corn now in tassel/silk. Summer veggies at farmstands but little sweet corn. Trying to stay ahead of fungal diseases is this season's story. **Steve Schmidt (FSA), Grafton:** For the week ending August 15th, we had some of the most summer like weather of the season. Temperatures remained warm, the sun was shining, and we went more than a day or two in a row without rain. Farmers made hay while the sun shined. Some upland fields remained too wet to get onto. Late blight is spreading rapidly. Crops on the river bottom soils are doing better than some of the other soils. A week of sunny, warm weather and no rain will do a lot to help things out. **George Hamilton (Ext), Hillsborough: Vegetables:** Farmers kept busy harvesting an array of vegetable crops, monitoring pest pressures, spraying pesticides for insect and disease control where needed. Seeing several out-breaks of diseases on array of vegetables. Corn earworm numbers remain high on many farms, along with fall armyworm moths increasing in numbers and damage seen. Also, birds are continuing to damage sweet corn. **Fruit:** Highbush blueberry harvest continues, and fall raspberry harvest continued. Orchardists harvesting peaches, plums, and JerseyMac apples. Orchardists busy monitoring for pests, summer pruning trees, mowing orchard floors, fixing up orchard roads and move bins into orchards. Cultivating and weeding newly renovated strawberry beds. **Field Crops:** Hay making and cutting haylage continued with some second cut being made. Growth has been good to excellent. Farmers making new seeding for pasture and hayfields. Corn growth looks good, but very uneven due to wet weather during growing season. **Nada Haddad (Ext), Rockingham:** Picking early apple varieties, peaches, blueberries, raspberries, and a whole array of vegetables. Irrigating, weeding, monitoring pests. Haying. Pasture looks ok. It's dry and very hot.

**RHODE ISLAND – Heather Faubert (FSA):** We finally got some heat this past week. This should help with tomato harvest and other field crops. Some farmers were actually irrigating last week.

**VERMONT – Jeff Carter, (Ext), Addison:** Continued hot weather finally crops growing rapidly. Still good soil moisture. Corn ears starting to fill. Hay crop regrowth still good, harvest second cut in progress. Some manure spreading on grass land. **Dr. Bob**

**Ceglowski (DVM), Bennington:** Third cutting haylage was finished this week. Second and/or third cutting dry hay harvest benefitted from some dry weather. **Dennis Kauppila (Ext), Caledonia:** Cool start to the week, and a hot finish. In the middle were some locally severe thunderstorms with very heavy, spotty rain. The end of the week has given us the best drying weather of the summer, so dry hay and haylage are really moving- some first cut, some second, and the beginning of some third cuts. Most field corn is tasseled. **Paul Stanley (CCA), Franklin:** Thanks to some sun and warm weather things are changing rapidly in Franklin County. Corn is starting to catch up. Not a lot of height in the wet areas, however, it looks like we are going to get some ears in these areas. Corn will be maturing much later than usual and now we are going to have to predict our first killing frost. Just from shear predictions, we will be in good shape under some abnormal conditions. Always keep in mind that Mother Nature has a way of balancing things out. Pastures are super for this time of year when things are usually burning up and no growth is happening. Sweet corn is becoming more plentiful at the roadside stands and prices have begun to come down a little, much later than usual, showing where we will be with the field corn. Berries are very plentiful and in very good condition with the wet cool summer we have had. Apples look good and predicting when they will be ready for harvest will be another crap shoot. **Heather Darby, (Ext), Grand Isle:** Corn is tasseling and some is in the blister and milk stage. Some farmers have started third cut while others continue to work on second cut. Some dry hay is being made over the weekend as the forecast looks sunny and dry. **John St. Onge (FSA), Lamoille:** Last week saw a frenzy of field activities mainly centered around haying. The longest stretch of dry weather this summer has everyone working overtime to fill the barn with some dry hay. Pastures have generally gone down hill quickly to reach typical August grass growth levels. Corn crop is thriving in the heat which will help offset the stunted stalks that populate all the wet spots. **Dave Blodgett (NRCS), Orleans:** We had the best weather of the growing season this past week. Sunny and hot. A lot of hay went in over the weekend. This has been the first real opportunity to put up dry square bales. Most farmers were harvesting their second cut. Corn looks a lot better with the hot weather. Most corn has tasseled so the attention now turns to ear development. Quantity of the crop will be low but the hope is the quality will be good. Pastures have dried out some making them easier to manage. Regrowth of grass in the paddocks has slowed due to the usual summer slump. All and all, a very good week for cropping. **Julie Jacque, (FSA), Windham:** Hot, sunny weather has helped to dry out fields and given a boost to hay and vegetable crops. Corn, tomatoes and cucurbits maturing slowly. Blueberries doing very well.

**July 2009 CROP WEATHER SUMMARY:** Cool temperatures, cloudy skies, and heavy rainfall dominated the weather patterns across New England during the first week of July. Daytime temperatures were below average ranging in the mid-60s to mid-70s and nighttime temperatures were average in the mid-50s to low 60s. Precipitation of over four inches was reported in parts of southern New England and thunderstorms brought hail and tornadoes to Connecticut and New Hampshire, damaging apples, peaches and tobacco crops. Temperatures remained cool in the second week with daytime temperatures ranging in the upper 60s to mid-70s. Rainfall was lighter and sunshine was more prominent than the previous week. The latter half of the month was marked by significantly above average rainfall and below average to average temperatures. Daytime temperatures were initially below average but gradually increased to average levels ranging in the upper 70s to mid-80s, while nighttime temperatures remained average for this time period. During the latter half of July, most areas received over three inches of rain. Total rainfall for the month of July ranged between 4.67 and 10.58 inches, 0.70 to 7.41 inches above average. Average temperatures for the month of July ranged in the low to upper 70s for daylight hours and mid-50s to mid-60s for nighttime hours. Fungal diseases, weeds, and pests continued to be a significant problem in New England throughout the month of July due to cool and very wet conditions. Cases of late blight were reported, particularly in tomato and potato crops. The strawberry harvest was nearly complete by the end of the month, slightly behind last year and normal. Peaches were 25% harvested by month's end, ahead of last year and normal. Apples, peaches and pears were reported in good to fair condition. Massachusetts cranberries reached petal fall in the last week and were reported in good condition. Highbush blueberries were 35% picked by month's end, slightly behind last year and normal and were reported in good condition. Harvesting of sweet corn was just beginning at the end of July, behind last year and normal. Conditions for field crops declined due to excessive rainfall. The shade tobacco harvest started near the end of the month and was well behind last year and normal. The first cut of dry hay was 85% complete and the second cut was 35%, both behind last year and normal and were reported in fair to good condition.

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