

# Crop Progress & Condition



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

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Week ending April 6, 2014

*Issued weekly on the internet, April - November  
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS*

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**Poor week for field work:** The six state region had an average of only 1.5 days suitable for field work last week.

Snow accumulation remains on the ground in much of northern New England and in higher elevations. Average temperatures were in the 30s in northern New England and low 40s in southern New England. Maple production is off to a later than normal start due to the low temperatures. Field access was limited by excessive moisture, but farmers have been preparing to begin spreading manure in some areas. Fruit growers have been checking plants and trees for winter damage.

## **Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending April 6, 2014**

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0%	1%	28%	71%

## **Subsoil Moisture for Week Ending April 6, 2014**

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0%	0%	45%	55%

For the Period: March 31, 2014  
 To: April 6, 2014

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						April 1, 2014 - April 6, 2014					
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F		BASE
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT
MAINE												
Augusta_State_A	47	23	36	-4	1.25	4	0.56	-0.16	3	0	+0	1
Bangor_Intl_Air	47	21	35	-4	1.10	4	0.33	-0.35	3	0	+0	0
Bethel	52	21	35	-3	0.54	2	0.50	-0.28	1	0	+0	0
Bridgton	50	21	34	-3	0.68	3	0.30	-0.54	2	0	+0	0
Caribou_Municip	47	14	31	-2	1.14	4	0.56	+0.07	3	0	+0	0
Dover-Foxcroft	47	14	32	-1	1.52	3	0.50	-0.22	2	0	+0	0
Durham	51	24	37	-3	1.37	4	0.71	-0.19	3	0	+0	1
East_Surry	50	23	36	-3	1.24	3	0.68	-0.19	2	0	+0	0
Eustis	45	11	28	-3	0.75	2	0.43	-0.17	1	0	+0	0
Frenchville	43	15	28	-3	0.53	3	0.32	-0.17	2	0	+0	0
Harmony	50	16	33	-3	1.34	3	0.54	-0.24	2	0	+0	0
Houlton	47	8	32	-1	1.29	3	0.47	-0.07	2	0	+0	0
Livermore_Falls	49	17	34	-2	1.09	3	0.53	-0.31	2	0	+0	0
Machias	50	21	35	-2	3.74	3	1.87	+0.91	2	0	+0	0
Millinocket_Wtr	46	13	30	-5	1.35	2	0.32	-0.34	1	0	+0	0
Moosehead	45	9	28	-2	0.95	3	0.51	-0.15	2	0	+0	0
Portland_ME	53	25	38	-3	1.67	3	0.69	-0.17	2	0	+0	2
Sanford	51	23	37	-5	1.80	2	0.45	-0.48	1	0	+0	0
Topsfield_2	48	21	33	-2	2.56	4	1.05	+0.39	3	0	+0	0
Turner	48	24	36	-5	1.41	3	0.71	-0.17	2	0	+0	0
NEW HAMPSHIRE												
Berlin_AG	52	18	34	-2	0.75	3	0.44	-0.16	2	0	+0	0
Bradford_2	55	25	37	-4	1.02	2	0.41	-0.37	1	0	+0	1
Colebrook	51	12	32	-3	0.50	3	0.39	-0.11	2	0	+0	0
Concord	56	21	39	-2	1.34	3	0.49	-0.11	2	0	+0	4
East_Milford	59	25	40	-2	1.84	3	0.66	-0.18	2	0	+0	10
Epping	54	26	39	-2	2.31	3	0.73	-0.11	2	0	+0	3
Fitzwilliam	53	23	35	-4	1.51	2	0.32	-0.40	1	0	+0	0
Greenville	54	28	38	+1	1.94	3	0.55	-0.17	2	0	+0	3
Jefferson	49	24	35	-2	0.97	3	0.87	+0.33	2	0	+0	0
Keene_AG	60	23	39	+1	2.31	2	0.33	-0.33	1	0	+0	4
Lakeport_2	54	24	38	-1	1.13	2	0.43	-0.23	1	0	+0	1
Lebanon	55	23	38	-1	0.39	2	0.25	-0.29	1	0	+0	1
North_Conway	55	22	37	-2	0.72	2	0.63	-0.21	1	0	+0	2
Tamworth_4	53	19	35	-2	1.23	2	0.67	-0.19	1	0	+0	0
VERMONT												
Bennington_AP	56	26	39	+2	0.78	3	0.21	-0.47	2	0	+0	10
Burlington_Intl	54	25	38	-1	0.17	2	0.09	-0.45	1	0	+0	7
Corinth	45	19	32	-5	0.53	3	0.33	-0.15	2	0	+0	0
Island_Pond	52	18	34	+2	0.48	2	0.48	-0.06	2	0	+0	0
Johnson_2N	51	20	33	-2	0.33	2	0.33	-0.29	2	0	+0	0
Marlboro_Raws	51	24	35	+2	1.28	2	0.48	-0.02	1	0	+0	0
Montpelier_AP	51	17	34	-2	0.52	2	0.16	-0.32	1	0	+0	1
Newport_AG	54	15	32	-6	0.82	3	0.57	-0.03	2	0	+0	0
Rochester	53	23	36	-2	0.41	2	0.29	-0.43	1	0	+0	0
Rutland_AG	53	24	35	-5	0.24	2	0.13	-0.41	1	0	+0	0
Springfield_VT	54	23	38	+2	0.49	2	0.35	-0.43	1	0	+0	0
South_Lincoln	50	18	32	-2	0.18	2	0.11	-0.68	1	0	+0	0
Sutton	50	17	33	-1	0.78	3	0.58	+0.04	2	0	+0	0
Walden	48	14	28	-6	0.76	3	0.47	-0.07	2	0	+0	0
Woodstock	54	22	36	-1	0.60	2	0.34	-0.32	1	0	+0	0

MASSACHUSETTS

Amherst	61	25	41	-1	1.27	4		0.32	-0.40	3	0	+0	10
Barre_Falls_Dam	57	24	38	-2	1.97	3		0.58	-0.17	2	0	+0	2
Bedford_Hanscom	58	24	40	-4	1.77	3		0.50	-0.34	2	0	+0	7
Beverly_Ag	54	24	38	-6	1.96	3		0.44	-0.41	2	0	+0	4
Birch_Hill_Dam	57	25	39	+1	2.29	3		0.53	-0.25	2	0	+0	4
Boston_Logan_In	54	34	42	-4	1.69	3		0.60	-0.17	2	0	+0	15
Chatham_AP	56	30	41	-1	0.84	3		0.28	-0.50	2	0	+0	8
Chicopee_Westov	61	24	41	+0	1.65	3		0.38	-0.34	2	0	+0	16
Edgartown	57	28	41	-2	0.50	3		0.27	-0.63	2	0	+0	13
East_Brimfield_	56	27	39	-2	2.10	3		0.55	-0.34	2	0	+0	5
Fitchburg	59	29	42	+0	1.25	3		0.42	-0.48	2	0	+0	19
Greenfield	60	27	40	-2	0.97	2		0.22	-0.50	1	0	+0	13
Hyannis_AP	57	27	41	-1	0.88	3		0.19	-0.59	2	0	+0	12
Maynard	55	26	39	-4	1.87	3		0.57	-0.27	2	0	+0	6
New_Bedford	59	27	42	-2	2.12	3		0.19	-0.72	2	0	+0	14
Newburyport	54	27	39	-4	1.71	3		0.67	-0.19	2	0	+0	6
North_Adams_Har	58	28	39	+2	0.45	3		0.25	-0.59	2	0	+0	9
Norwood	58	30	41	-3	1.34	3		0.41	-0.43	2	0	+0	16
Pittsfield	56	25	38	-2	0.26	2		0.11	-0.61	1	0	+0	4
Plymouth	57	26	41	-4	1.85	3		0.17	-0.79	2	0	+0	7
Taunton_4NW	61	29	41	-3	1.53	3		0.39	-0.50	2	0	+0	16
Westfield_Barne	63	28	44	+5	1.03	2		0.20	-0.64	1	0	+0	30
West_Otis	56	24	37	-2	0.68	2		0.20	-0.70	1	0	+0	2
Worcester	55	29	39	-2	1.84	3		0.56	-0.24	2	0	+0	12
Worthington	57	27	38	+2	0.68	3		0.30	-0.42	2	0	+0	4

RHODE\_ISLAND

Newport_AP	58	31	43	-1	1.96	3		0.32	-0.58	2	0	+0	16
Providence	62	30	43	-2	1.93	3		0.31	-0.58	2	0	+0	25
Westerly-Wester	61	30	43	-1	1.23	3		0.28	-0.62	2	0	+0	18
Woonsocket	60	29	42	-2	1.51	3		0.56	-0.34	2	0	+0	18

CONNECTICUT

Bridgeport_Siko	57	33	43	-3	0.97	4		0.59	-0.25	3	0	+0	21
Danbury_AP	60	24	43	-2	0.55	3		0.20	-0.68	2	0	+0	22
Hartford_Bradle	61	30	44	-2	1.17	3		0.40	-0.38	2	0	+0	32
Meriden-Meriden	61	25	43	-1	1.38	2		0.26	-0.70	1	1	+1	24
Norfolk	54	27	38	-1	1.05	3		0.16	-0.74	2	0	+0	4
Norwich	60	32	44	+2	1.04	3		0.20	-0.76	2	0	+0	29
Staffordville	55	26	39	-3	1.55	3		0.62	-0.29	2	0	+0	4
Thomaston_Dam	61	27	42	+2	0.60	2		0.12	-0.78	1	0	+0	21
West_Thompson_L	57	27	40	-3	1.20	3		0.64	-0.26	2	0	+0	8
Willimantic	59	28	42	+2	0.78	3		0.49	-0.42	2	0	+0	21

Summary based on NWS data.

Season CUMulative Precip Starts:

DFN = Departure From Normal.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Normals period 1971-2000 Used in DFN calculations

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## REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

*Reporters are from Extension Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Conservation District, farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

### CONNECTICUT

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinart

Getting planters ready seems to be the primary focus. Some manure being spread if the fields are dry. A lot of farms are waiting for the ground to thaw and the snow to finish melting.

### MAINE

AROOSTOOK, Larry James

Very little to report as we are still under several feet of snow. Trees are being tapped. We are still waiting for the first good sap day. A few people have started planting in their high tunnels.

CUMBERLAND/ YORK, Sandy Truslow

A cold March froze maple sap production for most of the month. During the first week in April, the sap was running well. Not much outside work being done right now, there is still snow on the ground in some areas. Greenhouses have had to spend a lot of money to keep the heat on in March. Threat of flooding on Tuesday.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Snow is piled high and deep. This could be a very late spring. Maple sap is just starting to run. Some north facing slopes have not run at all. The only things growing fast are frost heaves and pot holes! There is still over 30 inches of ice in many lakes and ponds.

HANCOCK/PENOBSCOT/WASHINGTON, Valerie Porter

Most fields are still snow covered with some open areas. Excessive moisture on most fields due to heavy rains Monday, Tuesday and Saturday. Blueberries fields have open areas but at this time, it is still too early to tell how the plants wintered. Longer days and sun being high is helping with the snow melt and higher fields may be cleared within a week or two. Farmers are performing maintenance checks on equipment and getting ready to start working as soon as possible.

PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

We still have 2 to 3 feet of snow on the fields.

SOMERSET, Elaine S. Moeus

Heavy rainfall with above freezing temperatures is expected during the week which may cause melting of existing snow pack - 1' to 2' in some areas - resulting in flooding.

### MASSACHUSETTS

BARNSTABLE, Russel Norton

Current conditions are seasonal after a colder than normal winter with abundant moisture since January. Fruit growers are pruning and applying dormant insecticides and fungicides. Fruit buds are still dormant. Monitoring for winter moth hatch. Greens from high tunnels are being harvested.

BERKSHIRE, Debra Senger

Because of heavy rains and snow the fields are too wet to get onto.

FRANKLIN, Heather Baylis

Soil is still too frozen to report on moisture especially in the Hilltowns where some fields still have residual snow cover. Maple producers on vacuum systems saw a drastic improvement with last week's warming temperatures and had really good sap runs. It will be a poor season for those with gravity fed systems.

NANTUCKET/PLYMOUTH, Deb Cannon

Cranberry plants remain winter dormant. Growers are installing sprinkler heads in preparation for spring frost later this month when the plants break dormancy. Other activities include drainage ditch cleaning and preparation for pre-emergence herbicide applications.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

Up to a foot of snow still on the ground.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Snow and ice still covering many field edges. Getting equipment ready for the spring rush. Field Crops: Hauling and stock-piling manure to corn fields. Vegetables: Starting transplants in greenhouses. Transplanting tomatoes into first high tunnels. Fruits: Pruning blueberry bushes and raspberry patches. Orchardists are pruning apples, chopping brush in orchard or push pruning out of the orchards. Seeing deer damage in many orchards.

SULLIVAN, Kelly Greenbacker

Some long awaited warm weather is finally here. Maple Syrup producers have been hard at work with good weather for sap flow this past week. With a late start to the season due to unseasonably cold temperatures in March, many are concerned it will be a short season this year. A few producers have reported that they are currently at about 50% compared to last year's production. Snow coverage still remains in northern areas.

### RHODE ISLAND

NEWPORT, Paul E. Brule

This past weekend the flower stands opened up. All they have to sell is pansies. It is still way too cold to do much of anything. In the last week or two a lot of fertilizer has been delivered to the farms. It's great to be back, but there is not much to say right now! It's been a real cold winter.

## VERMONT

CALEDONIA, Daniel Hudson  
Still a lot of snow in most fields.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley  
We still have a lot of snow and plenty of moisture. Questionable on manure applications! Sugar makers happy for the moment.

LAMOILLE, Heather Mateja  
Some signs of spring, but still lots of snow around.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett  
There is still a lot of snow on the fields here but it is starting to melt. The winter manure spreading ban was lifted on April 1, but the snow is still too deep to spread.

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