



# Minnesota Ag News – Crop Weather

USDA, NASS, Minnesota Field Office  
P.O. Box 7068 – St. Paul, MN 55107  
(651) 296-2230 · (651) 296-3192 FAX

Email: [nass-mn@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-mn@nass.usda.gov) - Homepage: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>

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COOPERATING WITH THE MN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE - CHANHASSEN MN,  
UNIV. OF MINN. EXTENSION SERVICE, DNR STATE CLIMATOLOGY OFFICE, USDA-FSA, AND USDA-NRCS

## FIRST CUTTING ALFALFA VIRTUALLY COMPLETED

Producers harvested 11 percent of the state's first cutting alfalfa during the past week, virtually completing the first harvest of the crop, according to USDA, NASS, Minnesota Field Office. Warm, dry weather across the state aided small grains development with more than half of the crop reaching the heading stage. Producers were also able to finish planting sweet corn and continue spraying activities.

The average temperature for the week was 67.7°, 1.1° below normal. Statewide topsoil moisture supplies as of Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup> were 3 percent very short, 21 short, 72 adequate, and 4 surplus. Statewide, on average, there were 6.3 days suitable for fieldwork during the week.

As of Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, the average corn height was estimated at 34 inches compared to 64 inches last year and 46 inches for the 5-year average. The average height of soybeans was 9 inches compared to 17 inches last year and 13 inches for the 5-year average.

Spring wheat was 56 percent headed compared to 94 last year and 78 average. Oats were 70 percent headed compared to 96 last year and 85 average. Barley was 56 percent headed compared to 94 last year and 78 average.

The first cutting of alfalfa reached 98 percent complete compared to 98 percent last year and 96 percent average.

As of Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 72 percent of corn and 68 percent of soybeans were rated in good or excellent condition.

Eighty-two percent of spring wheat, 79 percent of oats, and 81 percent of barley were rated in good or excellent condition.

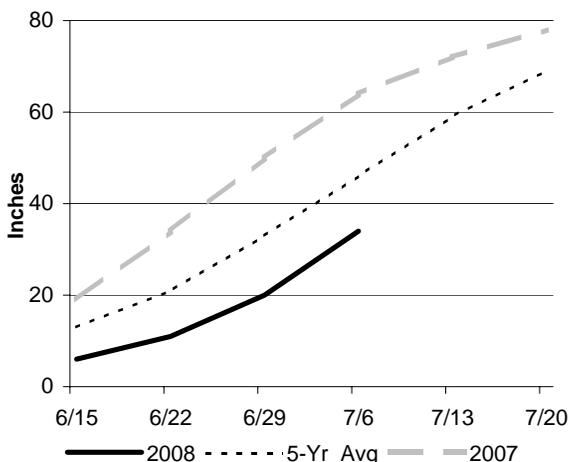
Seventy-one percent of green peas, 54 percent of dry beans, 63 percent of sunflowers, 55 percent of canola, 69 percent of alfalfa, and 63 percent of pasture were rated in good or excellent condition.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: 6.3				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	----- Percent -----			
Topsoil Moisture	3	21	72	4

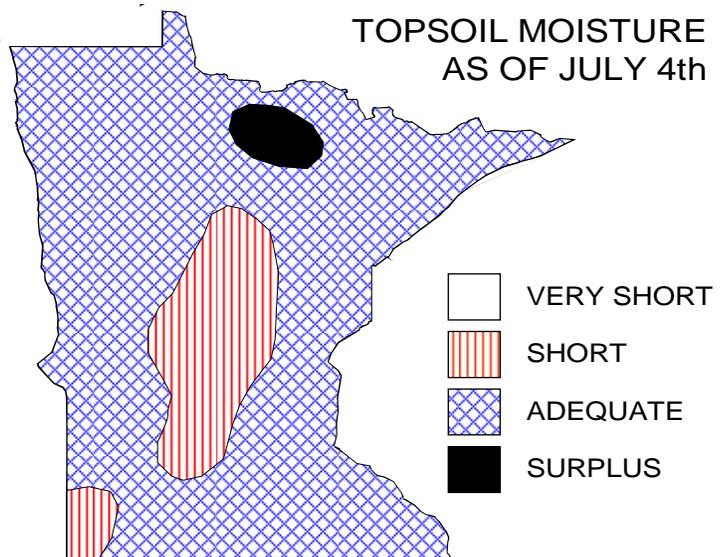
Crop Progress as of July 6, 2008					
Crop	Stage of Development	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Avg
		----- Percent -----			
Corn	Height (inches)	34	20	64	46
Soybeans	Height (inches)	9	6	17	13
	Blooming	9	N/A	35	21
Spring Wheat	Jointing	91	82	100	96
	Heading	56	25	94	78
Oats	Jointing	94	84	100	97
	Heading	70	35	96	85
Barley	Jointing	88	77	99	94
	Heading	56	21	94	78
Sweet Corn	Planted	99	93	100	99
Alfalfa	First Cutting	98	87	98	96

Crop Condition as of July 4, 2008					
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
	----- Percent -----				
Corn	1	4	23	58	14
Soybeans	1	4	27	57	11
Spring Wheat	1	3	14	62	20
Oats	0	2	19	61	18
Barley	1	2	16	60	21
Potatoes	0	5	13	53	29
Green Peas	1	4	24	61	10
Sugarbeets	1	4	27	52	16
Dry Beans	1	6	39	46	8
Sunflowers	1	5	31	50	13
Canola	0	0	45	50	5
Alfalfa	1	8	22	54	15
Pasture	2	5	30	56	7

CORN HEIGHT  
JUNE 15 - JULY 20



TOPSOIL MOISTURE  
AS OF JULY 4th



PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURES FOR THE WEEK ENDING July 6, 2008:  
 Temperatures averaged from 2.2 degrees below normal in the Southeast District to normal in the Northwest and East Central Districts. Extremes: 38 degrees in Hibbing, 93 degrees in Minneapolis. Precipitation averaged from 1.04 inches below normal in the East Central District to 0.59 inch below normal in the Northwest District. Greatest weekly total was 0.60 inch recorded in Warroad.

For a map of Minnesota's precipitation, please see the Minnesota Climatology Group's website; <http://climate.umn.edu/doc/weekmap.asp>.

Precipitation and Temperature Summary for 6/30/2008 through 7/6/2008

	Temperature				Precipitation				G D D	
	High	Low	Week Ave	Depart from Norm	Week Total	Depart Past Week	From Four Weeks	From Norm Since 4/1	Since May 14	Depart from Norm
<u>NW DIST 1</u>										
Crookston	86	45	67.2	-1.2	0	-.77	-1.19	-1.95	653	-139
Moorhead	90	46	69.6	.3	.03	-.71	.38	1.96	734	-91
Warroad	86	48	67.0	.8	.60	-.30	.23	1.04	600	-83
<u>NC DIST 2</u>										
Grand Rapids	88	43	66.2	-.3	0	-1.12	-1.94	2.73	658	-37
Intl. Falls	86	39	62.8	-2.2	.01	-.85	.36	2.41	542	-106
Itasca	86	42	64.1	-.9	.15	-.81	-.38	4.44	574	-68
<u>NE DIST 3</u>										
Duluth	86	47	66.0	2.1	0	-1.00	-1.92	1.55	562	-6
Grand Marais	80	45	58.3	.6	.41	-.40	1.06	8.06	322	-25
Hibbing	84	38	60.8	-3.9	0	-1.12	-.80	1.60	537	-81
<u>WC DIST 4</u>										
Alexandria	88	50	69.3	.5	0	-.86	-.91	-1.13	687	-98
Browns Valley	88	46	67.5	-3.5	0	-.81	.63	3.45	733	-138
Canby	90	47	70.1	-2.0	0	-.88	-2.40	.07	808	-115
Fergus Falls	88	40	66.4	-2.4	0	-.82	-.93	1.52	666	-132
Montevideo	90	49	70.0	-1.0	0	-.88	-1.48	-.43	780	-104
Morris	90	49	68.5	-1.6	0	-.94	-1.06	-.08	717	-143
<u>CENT DIST 5</u>										
Becker	87	50	70.0	1.3	0	-1.00	-2.56	1.11	775	-8
Collegeville	91	50	71.8	.8	0	-.94	-.87	2.56	807	-85
Hutchinson	89	50	70.4	-.9	0	-.94	-1.62	-.34	810	-92
Olivia	87	47	66.2	-4.5	0	-.93	-1.79	-.08	756	-134
St. Cloud	91	46	68.3	-.4	0	-.87	-1.32	.63	745	-38
Staples	87	44	66.1	-.3	.01	-.91	-.92	.33	609	-96
Willmar	89	53	70.0	-.5	0	-1.02	-2.91	-1.39	773	-101
<u>EC DIST 6</u>										
Aitkin	88	45	65.2	-.5	0	-1.08	-.70	1.68	608	-55
Forest Lake	88	49	68.5	-1.4	0	-1.06	-.90	1.74	781	-68
MSP Airport	93	55	73.5	1.4	0	-.96	-2.77	-2.37	897	-27
St. Paul - UofM	91	53	73.2	.7	0	-1.08	-3.14	-2.48	887	-68
<u>SW DIST 7</u>										
Lamberton	88	50	69.6	-2.0	0	-.86	-1.94	-.81	836	-95
Pipestone	87	46	68.1	-2.5	0	-.83	-1.39	.31	746	-118
Redwood Falls	92	49	70.6	-2.2	0	-.92	-1.92	-.14	836	-139
Worthington	86	47	69.5	-.8	0	-.93	-1.03	2.23	818	-38
<u>SC DIST 8</u>										
Faribault	87	44	68.3	-2.4	0	-.97	-2.03	1.16	790	-77
Mankato	87	53	68.7	-2.6	0	-1.15	-3.76	-1.89	808	-98
Waseca	87	54	69.7	-1.0	0	-.99	-1.79	.07	816	-79
Winnebago	86	52	69.6	-2.1	0	-.98	-2.06	1.23	871	-54
<u>SE DIST 9</u>										
Preston	85	49	68.0	-1.7	.15	-.93	-.56	9.13	787	-37
Red Wing	89	50	69.4	-1.7	0	-.97	-1.09	.55	818	-69
Rochester	85	53	69.5	.2	0	-1.01	-.09	3.58	857	40
Rosemount	86	52	69.4	-.9	0	-1.07	-2.34	-.21	779	-75
Winona	84	54	67.2	-6.6	0	-.94	.29	4.96	792	-201

m=some data missing

Corn growing degree days (GDD) are calculated by subtracting a 50 degree base temperature from the average of the maximum and minimum temperature for the day. The daily maximum is limited to 86 degrees and minimum of 50 degrees.

The MINNESOTA WEEKLY CROP-WEATHER REPORT (USPS-387190) is published weekly in April through November (crop season). Subscription rates are \$15.00 per year for non-reporters and free to survey respondents by the USDA-NASS Minnesota Field Office, P O Box 7068, St. Paul, MN 55107. Periodicals postage paid at St. Paul, Minnesota and other mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the MINNESOTA WEEKLY CROP-WEATHER REPORT, P O Box 7068, St. Paul, MN 55107.

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