



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

July 21, 2003

Vol. 03, No. 16

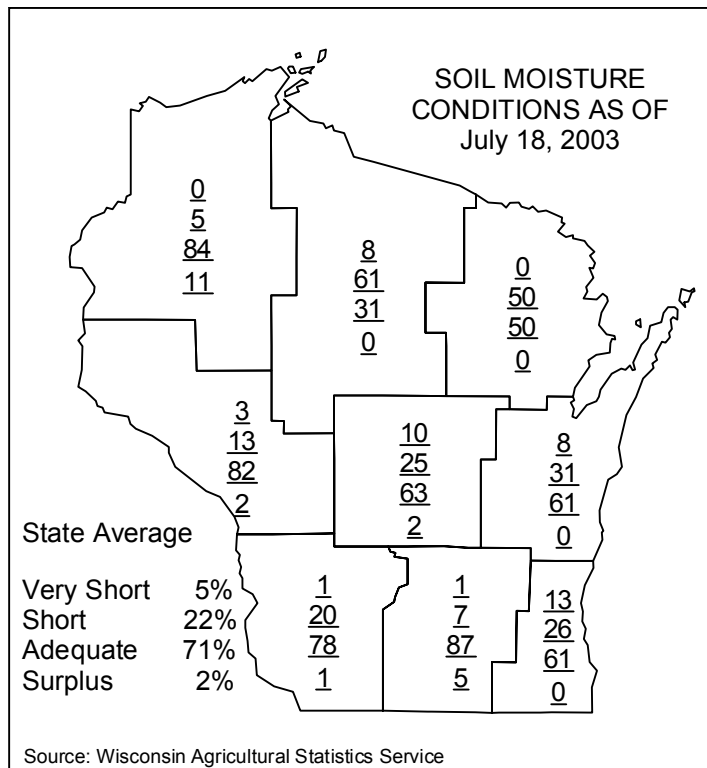
Dry Conditions Stress Crop Development

Favorable temperatures continued across Wisconsin for mid-July. Temperatures were mostly 1-4 degrees below normal for the week, but were sufficient for good plant development. Storms were scattered around the state for the week, with some areas getting up to 2 inches and other areas receiving no precipitation. The north and eastern sides of the state are showing signs of moisture stress. Soil moisture conditions, statewide, averaged 5% very short, 22% short, 71% adequate, and 2% surplus. The Milwaukee area remains nearly 6 inches of rain behind normal year-to-date totals. There was an average of 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Pasture field conditions began to decrease in the drier areas of the state. Conditions were rated 1% very poor, 5% poor, 25% fair, 59% good, and 10% excellent.

The **corn** crop responded well to near ideal temperatures for the week. Average height of corn advanced to 61 inches, compared to 60 last year and 64 inches for the 5-year average. Farmers across the state reported that tasseling of plants was not far off. Most areas of the state have received timely rains to allow the crop to continue developing, despite the late spring. Growing degree days are near normal or slightly behind for the season. **Soybeans** were blooming around the state. Reports of soybeans blooming were at 28%, behind both last year's 39% and the 5-year average of 33% blooming. Soybeans condition was rated at 85% good to excellent.

Drier conditions allowed second crop **hay** harvest to advance to 51% complete. This remains behind the 60% complete last year and the 5-year average of 65% complete. Quality was reported to be good in most areas, with quantity still behind normal. Northern areas of the state will have hay at a premium. High insect populations have hurt yields around the state. Small grain crops are turning color and harvest is not far away. Early **barley** was harvested in Grant County, with good yields reported. **Winter wheat** is days away from harvest in many areas. **Oats** continue to be harvested for oatlage, and soon grain harvest will begin.

Oconto County reported harvesting **snap beans** and **sweet peas** this week. Winnebago County reporters told of very good pea harvests. Early **sweet corn** arrived in farmer's markets in the last week. **Potatoes** were being irrigated in the Central Sands areas. Lincoln County reported a very heavy set of **apples** this season.

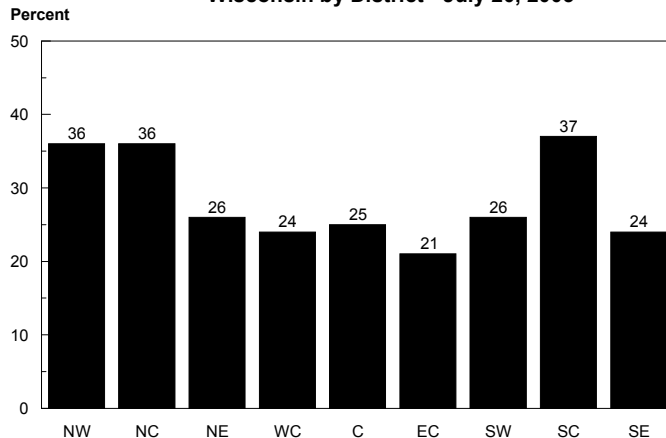


Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 18, 2003

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	1	5	25	59	10
Winter wheat	1	3	18	59	19
Oat	1	3	24	55	17
Corn	2	3	14	54	27
Soybeans	1	3	11	59	26

Soybeans Blooming

Wisconsin by District - July 20, 2003



Wisconsin Crop Progress, July 20, 2003

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This year	Last year	5-year average
Winter wheat harvested	1	5	0	5	2	5	14	5	3	6	17	35
Average height of corn	51	50	49	60	51	54	65	62	64	61	60	64
Corn silked	2	1	1	10	7	14	20	14	10	13	9	23
Soybeans blooming	36	36	26	24	25	21	26	37	24	28	39	33
Second cutting hay	41	34	30	57	53	55	60	50	50	51	60	65

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BURNETT-R.B.: Corn is coming good, but about two weeks behind last year. Soybeans are short and lots of wet spots.

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Soybean Aphid populations remain low. Soybeans are short this year. Potato Leafhopper populations are high in new seedings and early regrowth of third crop. Little corn borer damage this year.

LINCOLN-F.O.: Very little rain in the last three weeks. Barley is turning color. Cool nights have slowed growth of corn, oats, and soybeans. Most first crop hay is done, yields are below normal. Second crop hay growth slowed by lack of moisture.

PRICE-M.P.: Corn has made remarkable growth this past week with plenty of sunshine and moisture. Some farmers have started to put second crop hay in silos.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Corn and soybeans are looking good considering a shortage of moisture. Some corn curling the last two days on light ground. Quantity of second crop is just as bad as first. Some fields actually look alright, but no tonnage when cut due to dry conditions and winter stress. Leafhopper population are at threshold.

OCONTO-D.T.: Snapbean harvest has just started, and peas are fairly well harvested. There are no tassels on corn yet, but should show in a few days.

PEPIN-H.R.: Corn has doubled it's height this last week. Some late-planted corn was waist high by July 4th. Color of most corn is very dark. Some early-planted corn is setting ears. Soybeans also looking very good in our area. Some small grains will be ready for the combine in another week. Second crop hay is good where the alfalfa was good in the first crop.

TREMPLEAU-H.T.: Oats are turning color, some lodging.

WAUPACA-D.H.: Corn and soybeans have excellent color. Oats are beginning to turn color. Second crop hay has excellent quality, behind in quantity.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: Second crop hay quality is good, but, poor yields partly due to Leafhoppers. Corn and soybeans look good. Corn growing about 3 inches a day. Some oats harvested for haylage.

KEWAUNEE-J.B.: Crops look better after 2.0 inches of rain last week.

MANITOWOC-D.S.: Corn is one week away from silking; however, cool temperatures may slow that down. Soybeans, overall, look good. Some no-till has spotty germination. Wheat turning color, straw short. Oats fully headed, soon will be changing color. Quantity average to above average. Quality looks good. Sprayed second crop oatlage for Potato Leafhopper. Some Leafhoppers in second-cut alfalfa.

IOWA-K.V.: Second cutting alfalfa is very good quality. Oats and wheat are almost ready to combine. Moisture check on wheat was 17 percent. Soybeans and corn crop has improved greatly. Finding Soybean Aphids will have to monitor the population.

COLUMBIA-R.S.: Weeds are taking over oats-need to be sprayed to make good straw; potential yields look good. Early sweet corn tasseling going on. Oats are getting lighter in color. Winter wheat has turned, but not ready to harvest. Much field corn ready to show tassels.

WASHINGTON-L.K.: Conditions are very dry. Early corn is the only crop that looks good, but we are starting to see firing of the bottom leaves in places. Grass is growing all over the fields because of no chemical activity, because we have no rain. Soybeans are not doing anything; they will not close up, because they are not growing very fast. Have not seen any blossoms yet because it is dry. Wheat is about a week and a half behind last year; we were cutting at this time last year. We still have green stalks yet. Expect to see poor quality at some point. Second crop hay is running about 1.5 tons per acre. Older seeding is not as good.



Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 8934
Madison, WI 53708-8934
(608) 224-4848
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/rlsetoc.htm>

Robert J. Battaglia
State Statistician

Bob Hunter
Statistician

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 19, 2003

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation			
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg dep. from normal*	Mar. 1 to July 18	Mar. 1 to July 18 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	81	59	84	51	70	-2	1386	1278	1.50	6.42	-0.13	17.30
Green Bay	79	54	82	50	66	-4	1114	1169	0.34	5.59	0.17	14.61
La Crosse	84	61	89	56	72	-2	1498	1441	0.02	4.17	-2.34	14.19
Madison	81	57	85	49	69	-3	1319	1404	1.23	5.45	-0.88	14.69
Milwaukee	82	60	85	53	71	-1	1117	n.a.	0.37	3.86	-1.73	12.55

1/Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. *Normal based on 1961-90 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. N.a. = not available. T = trace.