



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

July 14, 2004

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Crops Need Heat

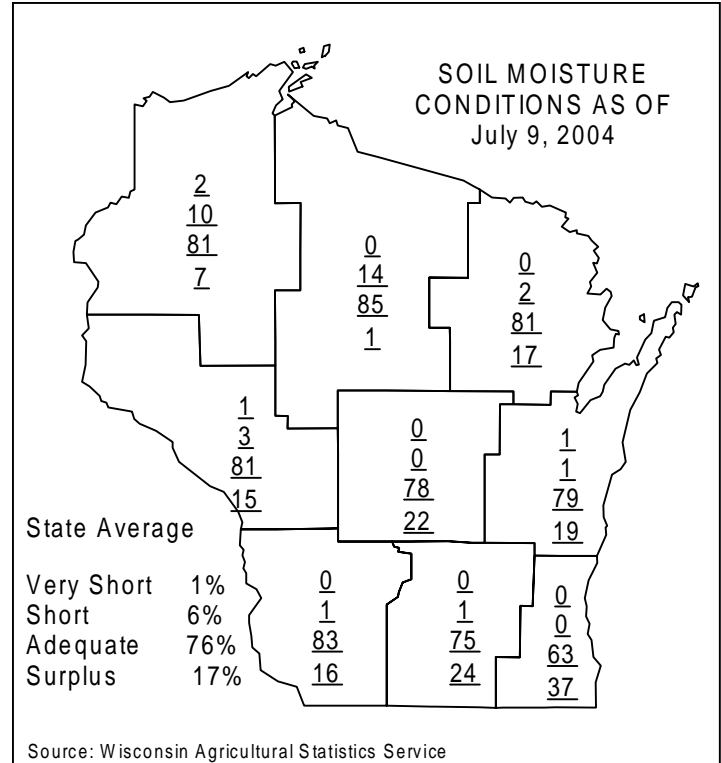
Cool, wet weather has slowed crop development in many areas of the state. Temperatures this past week were 5 to 8 degrees below normal. Precipitation ranged from trace amounts to around 2 inches. Year-to-date precipitation is above normal in most areas of the state. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 1% very short, 6% short, 76% adequate, and 17% surplus. There was an average of 4.2 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Most crops could still benefit from warmer weather and lots of sunshine.

Most of the first cutting **hay** has been harvested, and second crop alfalfa looking better, with good yields. **Oat** quality is reported as "all over the board." In some areas of the state, oats look very good, in other areas, oats are struggling. Some oats have started to turn color. **Corn** is improving, but needs more heat. In some areas, corn is uneven and shows a lack of Nitrogen; in other areas, the corn looks good. Some farmers have started to side dress. **Soybeans** are looking much better this week, but some good, old summertime weather is needed. Weeds have become a problem in many areas of the state.

Oats headed was reported at 87% complete, behind both last year's 91%, and the 5-year average of 89%. The average height of **corn** was reported at 37 inches, behind both last year's 43 inches, and the 5-year average of 46 inches. **Soybeans** emerged was reported at 96% complete, behind both last year's 100%, and the 5-year average of 100%. Soybeans blooming was reported at 13% complete, ahead of both last year's 10%, and the 5-year average of 7%. First cutting **hay** was reported at 94% complete, behind both last year's 100%, and the 5-year average of 98%. Second cutting hay was reported at 15% complete, behind both last year's 24%, and the 5-year average of 33%.

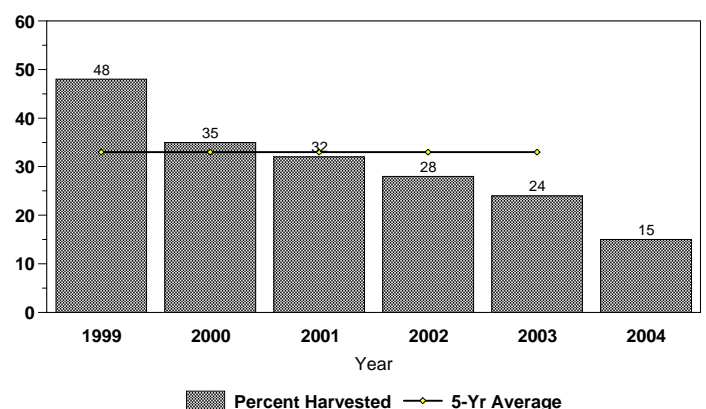
Pasture conditions were reported as 1% very poor, 5% poor, 17% fair, 57% good, and 20% excellent. **Oat** conditions were reported as 2% very poor, 6% poor, 27% fair, 51% good, and 14% excellent. **Soybean** conditions were reported as 3% very poor, 11% poor, 31% fair, 42% good, and 13% excellent. **Corn** conditions were reported as 5% very poor, 13% poor, 28% fair, 43% good, and 11% excellent. **Winter wheat** conditions were reported as 2% very poor, 7% poor, 25% fair, 55% good, and 11% excellent.

Snap beans and **potatoes** are looking excellent. Early potatoes are starting to be dug. **Sweet Corn** has improved with early fields starting to tassel. **Pumpkins** and **squash** are about three weeks behind. **Strawberries** are looking good, but later than normal. **Peas** are being harvested, but yields are down due to too much moisture. **Pears** and **plums** are looking good, but there are concerns about the **apple** crop in some areas.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 9, 2004					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	1	5	17	57	20
Oats	2	6	27	51	14
Soybeans	3	11	31	42	13
Corn	5	13	28	43	11
Winter wheat	2	7	25	55	11

Percentage of Second Crop Hay Harvested
Wisconsin - July 11, 1999-2004



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	
	Oats headed	68	66	92	94	95	79	98	99	93	87	91	89
Average height of corn	25	20	18	31	18	21	60	45	51	37	43	46	
Soybeans emerged	99	97	88	99	93	85	99	99	97	96	100	100	
Soybeans blooming	5	2	1	14	6	10	12	22	11	13	10	7	
First cutting hay	86	90	92	99	90	94	98	98	95	94	100	98	
Second cutting hay	5	1	2	19	6	8	28	35	30	15	24	33	

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BURNETT-J.D.: Corn and soybeans need heat. Hay was poor in quality.

ONEIDA-P.L.: We need some heat degree days bad, with some more sunny days for drying and growth. Corn is short, and hay crop is poor due to the harvesting conditions. Poor quality first crop hay was late being made and some got rained on, or went in the silo. Small grain is short, but heads look to be filling in well.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Compaction problems showing up in many of the fields. With all the rain, second crop alfalfa is coming very good, although there is a lot of wheel track damage in the fields. Wheat is starting to turn in color.

MONROE-W.D.: Last week was our small window of a dry spell to make hay, chop oats/barley, and fertilize.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Soybeans look nice, but quite late, with many fields only showing a third trifoliolate. Good weather is still scarce. Corn needs heat, and grain conditions are declining due to lodging.

WAUPACA-D.H.: Corn and soybeans need warmer weather to catch up to where they should be. There are many weedy corn fields. Some corn improved with color before the recent colder days. Most first crop hay is completed, with quality down due to maturity while it was too wet.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: Corn and soybeans are growing slowly due to cool, wet weather. Oats are all headed and some is starting to turn color. Second crop hay is growing good, but have not seen any harvested yet.

FOND DU LAC-R.P.: White scab has overrun wheat. Corn and soybean planting continues on lower ground. Soybean stands are at 30 percent. Wheat was excellent and now white scab. Some corn has been replanted twice. Many acres of hay chopped back along with small grain silage.

SHEBOYGAN-T.J.: Cold, wet weather has really hindered crops in our area. A lot of corn and soybeans were planted the last week of June and early July. It would grow well with sunshine and heat, both of which are lacking. Second crop alfalfa is growing well.

GRANT-E.B.: Oats are turning fast. Showers every day make it hard to harvest second crop hay. A lot of fields are showing damage from first crop hay harvest where fields were too wet.

LAFAYETTE-L.W.: Rains every other day make hay harvest, even chopping, very difficult. Also, soybeans are not looking as good as they should with the excess rainfall.

COLUMBIA-J.J.: Corn looks pretty good where it is not flooded out or stunted from too much water. Soybeans are not doing well; very poor color and slow growth. Both corn and soybeans are at least two weeks behind. Barley is turning color.

DANE-J.K.: Corn and soybeans continue to look good, but are not growing too fast due to cold weather. Wheat and oats are ripening rapidly and look good. Have not seen much scab in wheat and not too much rust in oats; both are shorter than previous years. Fields are very soggy. Weeds are growing, but control is quite good, except for soybeans where the weeds were well established before planting and not able to spray after due to continued rains. Quantity of second crop hay seems to be plentiful. Hay is growing very fast and most farmers sprayed for bugs even as a preventative.

RACINE-L.F.: As of this week, the farmers were still trying to replant crops and many had finished when another 3" of rain was received. Most farmers have given up now. Wheat has disease, but is ready for harvest starting in the next 5-7 days.

WASHINGTON-R.B.: Most farmers planted corn and soybeans until Saturday. Some farmers replanted for silage. Still have fields not worked or planted. Some first cutting hay is left to harvest. Second hay cutting growing well and is starting to bud. Corn is looking better, but some is getting darker in color. Early-planted corn is 62 inches tall and some is 2 inches tall. Weeds are real bad. Corn fields are very, very uneven. Soybeans are starting to grow well. Wheat is getting scab bad, will lower yield and quality.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 11, 2004

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 10	Mar. 1 to July 10 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	75	58	85	49	66	-5	1070	1129	0.56	3.65	-1.88	17.11
Green Bay	70	55	79	52	63	-7	927	1027	1.35	6.30	1.77	22.71
La Crosse	74	58	83	51	66	-8	1274	1277	1.89	11.01	5.62	27.87
Madison	74	58	82	52	66	-5	1182	1248	0.52	6.09	0.75	24.37
Milwaukee	73	59	79	54	66	-5	1044	n.a.	0.48	6.17	1.43	22.76

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 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. N.a. = not available. T = trace.