



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

August 2, 2004

Vol. 04, No. 17

Dry Weather, Great Hay

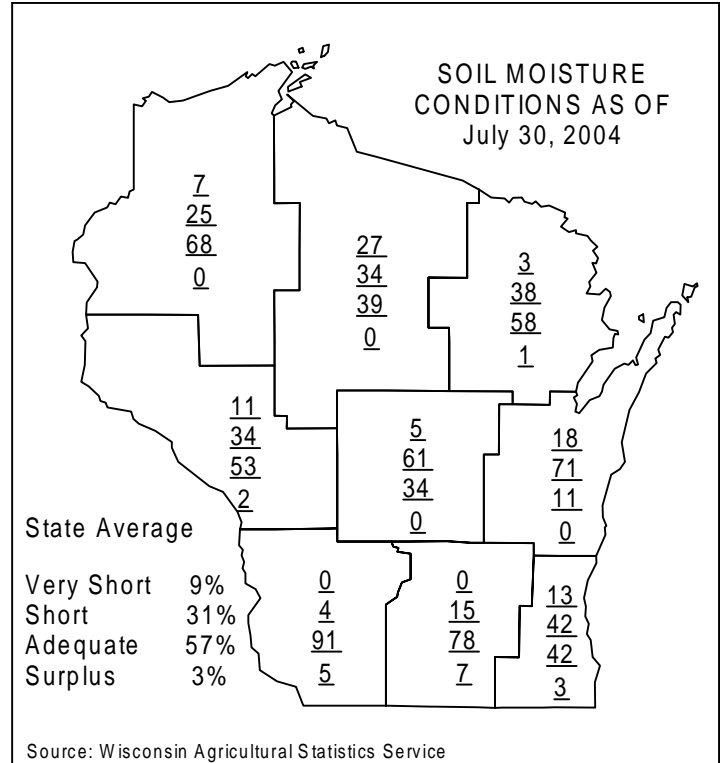
The dry weather has allowed farmers to put up second crop hay. However, it has put some crops under stress. Temperatures this past week were about 3 degrees below normal for this time of year, ranging from the low 50's to the low 80's. Precipitation was less than one inch across most of the state, but 2.5 inches fell in the south central part of the state. Year-to-date precipitation in the northwestern part of the state is about 2 inches below normal, while the west central part of the state is about four inches above normal. The rest of the state is about normal. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 9% very short, 31% short, 57% adequate, and 3% surplus. There was an average of 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Most **corn** is beginning to silk, but under stress in some areas due to lack of rain. Early-planted corn is almost done pollinating. The second crop **hay** is being harvested with good quality and yield. **Oat** harvesting is underway, and yields are looking good. **Soybeans** are blossoming, and starting to set pods. **Wheat** harvest has begun in most areas around the state with some reports of scab.

Oats harvested was reported at 24%, behind both last year's 25%, and the 5-year average of 31%. The average height of **corn** was reported at 69 inches, behind both last year and the 5-year average of 80 inches. Corn silking was reported at 38%, behind both last year's 54%, and the 5-year average of 67%. **Soybeans** blooming was reported at 58% complete, behind both last year's 65%, and the 5-year average of 71%. Soybeans setting pods were reported at 27%, ahead of last year's 23%, and the same as the 5-year average. Second cutting **hay** was reported at 69% complete, behind both last year's 76%, and the 5-year average of 81%. **Winter wheat** harvesting was reported at 45% complete, ahead of last year's 35%, but behind the 5-year average of 68%.

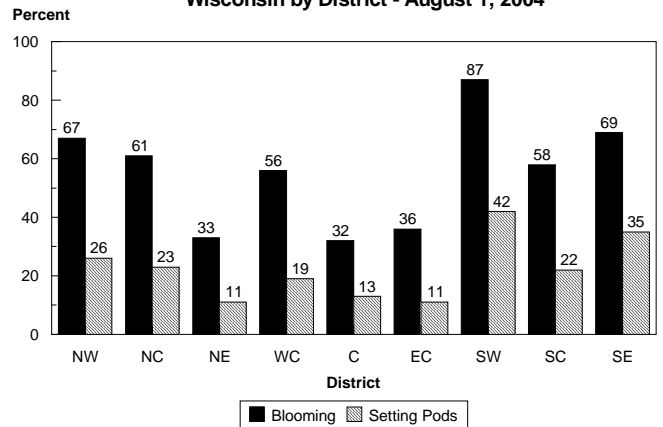
Corn conditions stayed about the same this week with 58% reporting good or excellent, compared to last week's 57%. **Soybean** conditions increased slightly this week with 62% reporting good or excellent, compared to last week's 61%. **Oat** conditions were the same as last week with 74% reporting good or excellent. Crops are in need of rain to prevent heat stress.

Potato harvest is underway with good yields and quality. **Cranberries** are reported average to above average. **Raspberry** harvest is near completion for the summer crop and was a very good year. The fall crop looks good also. The **wild blackberry** crop is suffering from rust. **Apple trees** may have a low yield this year. **Sweet corn** is available on roadside markets. Late **peas** and a few remaining **snapbeans** are being harvested. **Pumpkins** and **squash** need rain. **Barley's** almost ready for harvest.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 30, 2004					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	3	8	33	40	16
Oats	1	5	20	54	20
Soybeans	2	11	25	39	23
Corn	5	15	22	39	19
Winter wheat	4	8	25	57	6

Soybeans Blooming and Setting Pods
Wisconsin by District - August 1, 2004



Wisconsin Crop Progress, August 1, 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 harvested	10	22	10	14	22	20	40	16	15	24	25	31
Average height of corn	64	65	59	71	52	54	87	69	85	69	80	80
Corn silked	17	19	16	24	22	18	80	44	65	38	54	67
Soybeans blooming	67	61	33	56	32	36	87	58	69	58	65	71
Soybeans setting pods	26	23	11	19	13	11	42	22	35	27	23	27
Second cutting hay	62	61	79	77	51	65	90	64	62	69	76	81
Winter wheat harvested	18	34	15	26	38	27	68	70	52	45	35	68

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

RUSK-G.P.: Rain late Friday should really help the crops. More corn fields are showing tassels, and soybeans starting to look better with rain, heat, and spraying. Oat harvest just starting; no reports on yield yet. Second crop hay is moving along. The recent stretch of dry weather let some beautiful hay be put up.

LINCOLN-F.O.: Corn has good color and is near to tasseling. Barley is almost ready for harvest, looks like it will be a good crop. Oats look about the same. Second crop hay has good yields and quality. Lack of rain the last two weeks is starting to affect crops. Regrowth of third crop alfalfa is slowed by lack of moisture. Weeds are a problem in some fields.

ONEIDA-P.L.: Corn is slow to get to where it should be for this time of the year. Cool nights and lack of moisture is now taking its turn at slowing the growth and maturity. Rain is real spotty and amounts vary greatly throughout the county. Weeds are out-growing the crops in every situation. We need rain for the pastures and hay crop. Second crop hay is short, but will have pretty good quality. Have not seen any locally grown sweet corn yet at the Farmer's Market. Some of the oats may be light, as it started to get dry when they were filling.

FOREST-A.K.: First crop hay is done. Getting ready for second crop hay. Oats are still green.

OCONTO-K.H.: Early-planted corn is beginning to tassel although late-planted is only 18 to 24 inches tall. Soybeans seem to be lagging. Most fields do not have canopy closed yet. Small grains are approaching harvest. Have not seen any taken off yet.

DUNN-S.S.: Corn, soybeans, and potatoes look really good right now, but without substantial rain soon, crops will really start to hurt. Second crop hay quality is good, quantity fair. Pastures are really showing drying conditions.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Balers were able to get a lot done this past week. Combines are rolling in oats, wheat, and rye. Heat units will be welcomed in corn and soybean fields.

WAUPACA-D.H.: The favorable weather is allowing harvest of lots of dry hay. Others are being put up for haylage, with

excellent quantity and quality. Oats are turning-harvest in the next couple of weeks. Some corn is tasseling. We are a little short of moisture right now, but crops are not suffering.

WOOD-F.M.: Corn progressing with warm temperatures. Some corn tasseling is at waist-high with good color. Soybeans are growing, but will need a very late frost. Second crop hay harvest is started with very good growth, considering late first crop. Cranberry crop is reported to be average to above average.

SHEBOYGAN-T.J.: Late-planted corn looks good, but will need a long, warm fall to get to maturity. Second crop hay has very good quality. Winter wheat is being harvested.

IOWA-K.V.: Winter wheat harvest is almost complete, yields averaged 45 bushels per acre. Oat crop is very good, excellent test weights. Good pollinating weather for corn.

DANE-D.F.: Early-planted corn has pollinated, while late plantings have yet to tassel. Soybeans are short, but starting to set pods. Excessive moisture has raised concerns about diseases in all crops.

WASHINGTON-L.K.: The wheat is the worst I have seen in 30 years. No-tilled on sweet corn fertilizer-applied and fungicide-applied is yielding in the high 30's to low 40's. Straw is shorter than normal-is green and wet. The corn with late-applied Nitrogen still has not been moved to the root zone because of the dry conditions, so corn cannot even dry on the added fertility. Late-planted corn is better. All the 80-90 day corn will be hard-pressed to make a yield. The soybeans are just sitting still, not progressing much. Due to the dry conditions, early-planted soybeans are alright. Soybeans are getting nice, green color now, but late-planted ones are thin and green.



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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 August 1, 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 31	Mar. 1 to July 31 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	82	53	84	46	67	-5	1498	1555	0.67	5.52	-2.71	18.98
Green Bay	80	56	85	45	68	-2	1342	1435	0.18	6.61	-0.27	23.02
La Crosse	82	57	84	52	70	-4	1737	1743	0.21	12.45	4.21	29.31
Madison	78	59	82	51	69	-3	1609	1697	2.54	10.00	2.00	28.28
Milwaukee	78	61	83	54	70	-2	1476	n.a.	0.00	7.37	0.22	23.96

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.