



Wisconsin Crop Progress

Compiled by the Wisconsin Field Office of
USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

June 16, 2008

Vol. 08, No. 10

Severe Storms and Flooding Take a Toll in Many Wisconsin Counties

A steady succession of severe storms characterized by several inches of rain, high winds, tornadoes, and flooding prevented fieldwork and resulted in standing water in fields of many southern counties across Wisconsin. Soil erosion has become a concern. Many fields that were planted, and some that were due to be planted, may lay idle this year. The Governor declared a state of emergency for 29 Wisconsin counties, while President Bush issued a major disaster declaration authorizing FEMA assistance. Meanwhile, several northern counties were reporting dry weather with spotty rains and cool temperatures.

Average high temperatures were in the mid to upper 70s with average low temperatures ranging from 58 to 64 degrees. Precipitation totals varied across the state with 2.76 inches reported in Green Bay and 6.95 inches reported in Madison. Heavy rains were received across much of central and southern Wisconsin. Soil moisture conditions were at 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 37 percent adequate, and 62 percent surplus. There was an average of 2.3 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

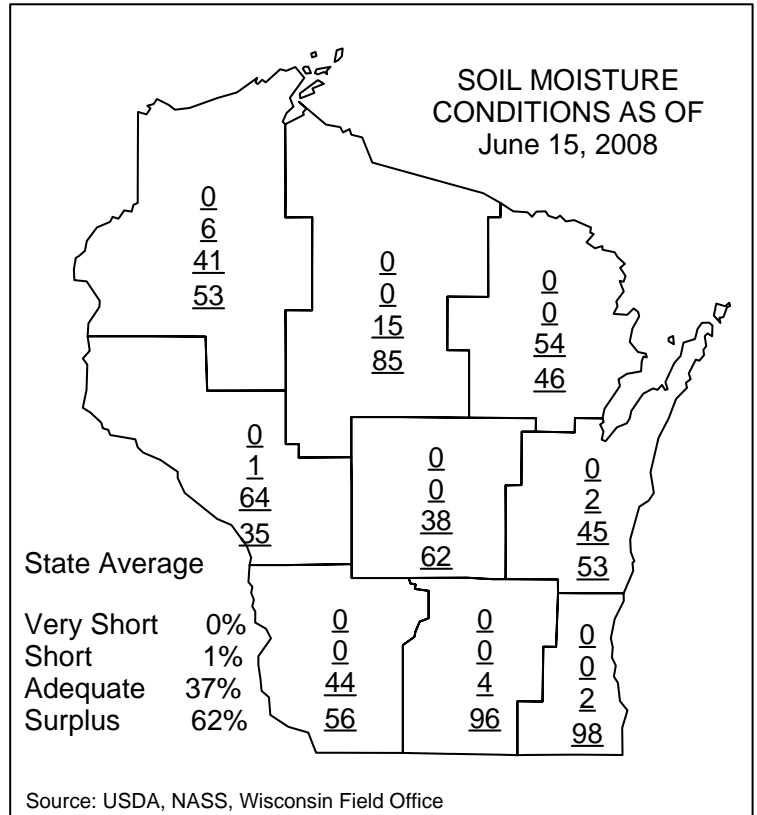
Cool weather continues to hold back **corn** growth with stress showing on heavy, wet soils. Emergence was reported at 94 percent complete with an average corn height of 8 inches. Corn condition was reported as 3 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 49 percent good and 11 percent excellent.

Soybeans were reported as 94 percent planted, with 79 percent emerged. Warmer weather is needed to speed up growth. Soybean condition was reported as 3 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Some soybeans may need to be replanted due to washouts and drowning.

Strong winds have lodged some **winter wheat, rye, and oats**. **Oat** conditions were reported at 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 13 percent excellent with 12 percent of **oats** headed. **Winter wheat** conditions were reported at 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 25 percent excellent.

Hay was being cut in some northeastern and north central areas of the states, while in many southern counties hay harvest was at a standstill. First cutting harvest was reported at 28 percent complete.

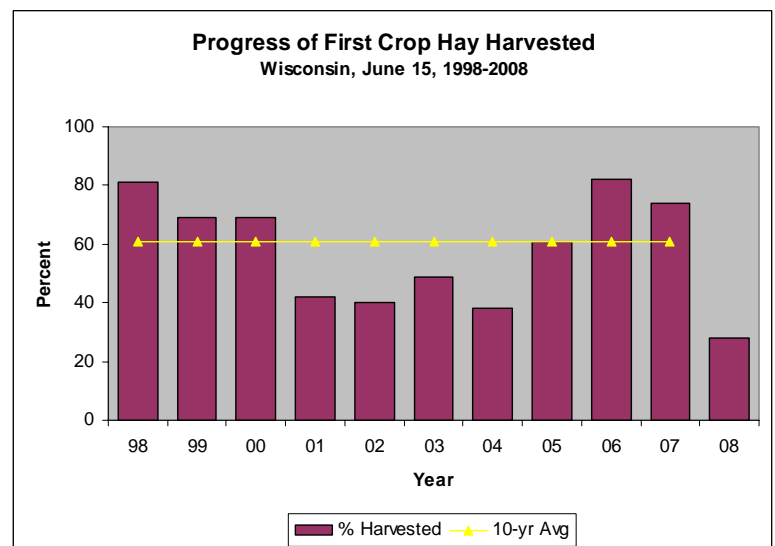
Some **potatoes** planted have yet to emerge. **Snap beans** are being planted. **Peas** and **strawberries** are blooming.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions
as of June 15, 2008

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	3	7	30	49	11
Soybean	3	10	28	48	11
Oats	1	3	19	64	13
Winter Wheat	1	4	24	46	25
Pasture	2	5	17	48	28

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office



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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
Corn emerged	89	95	96	96	92	93	95	96	94	94	100	93
Average corn height	6	5	6	8	5	6	9	9	11	8	20	12
Soybeans planted	95	96	96	97	91	89	90	96	96	94	100	94
Soybeans emerged	64	58	73	84	78	80	83	81	86	79	95	81
Oats headed	0	0	2	17	6	15	29	10	18	12	30	26
First cutting hay	7	41	34	31	27	31	21	38	22	28	74	61

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

POLK-C.S.: Planting is complete. Emergence is slow and uneven. Alfalfa harvest is just getting started.

Spraying has been a challenge due to wind and rain.

WASHBURN-K.S.: Spotty rains, cool temperatures, and wet soils are keeping the last few acres on the heavier ground from being planted; otherwise 97 percent of the crop is in. Strong winds have lodged some winter wheat, rye, and oats. Hay is being cut, but not in any great amount due to the threat of rain. First cut hay is looking real good with normal yields expected. Still behind 10-12 days in heat units compared to the last two years and about 4-5 days behind the average.

CLARK-N.S.: First crop alfalfa harvest is in full bloom and lodged. Second harvest re-growth is 6-10 inches tall. Many low areas are flooded, with stand losses. Erosion was tremendous during last week's storms.

ONEIDA-L.O.: Potatoes planted have not emerged yet.

PRICE-M.K.: We have received nice rains over the past couple weeks which have helped the forages and small grains. Cool weather continues to hold back corn growth, but we are thankful to have been spared the flooding the southern areas have experienced.

LANGLADE-A.K.: What a year. There is standing water in spots. Alfalfa is excellent, but just no weather to harvest it.

MARINETTE-S.R.: Unlike a good chunk of the state, rains in our county were not very heavy, nor very consistent. It was just enough to make first crop harvest very aggravating.

LACROSSE-S.H.: Dry weather will be a welcome sight this week, as many farmers still need to cut first crop hay while others may be moving on to second crop. Alfalfa Weevil has been heavy in some second crop fields in the county. It will also give the corn a chance to "green up" as many fields still have a yellow look to them.

WOOD-M.L.: It is impossible to make even haylage this week. Fields too wet to carry harvest equipment.

Forages are lodged. Not everything was planted, and it will be a week before it will be possible again, at the best. Weeds are becoming a concern in corn.

WINNEGAGO-R.H.: Corn and soybeans are all planted and doing very good. Not any need to replant the corn and soybeans, because they need warm weather. We have had almost 10.0 inches of rain in the last two

weeks. Weeds are showing up in corn fields due to wet conditions.

CRAWFORD-A.B.: Sprayers have not been able to go for days and soybean fields are getting quite weedy. Hay quality is falling and will need several dry days since fields are soggy. Alfalfa Weevils are also feeding heavily in many fields. Winter wheat was heading out this past week.

DODGE-G.R.: Over 12.0 inches of rain during the week has saturated fields and prevented any further planting. Hay harvest is also at a standstill, with many fields flattened by intensity of downpours. Some wash outs evident in larger fields of corn and soybeans, where water was able to gain velocity. Many ditches and culverts piled with last year's corn stalks. Winter wheat has lodged in places.

JEFFERSON-B.K.: There is flooding everywhere. All corn is turning yellow. Pockets everywhere will never make decent corn. Soybeans will be O.K. where it is not drowned out. No hay making will happen for a full week, fields are too muddy. Lots of cut hay is now ruined. Early cut fields have 10.0-12.0 inches of regrowth and look great. Oats are also heading. Wheat is looking like an average to excellent crop. Spraying and side dressing are going to be difficult. Unsprayed corn has weeds taller than the corn.



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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 June 16, 2008

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 June 14	Mar. 1 to June 14 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	75	58	78	54	66	0	600	664	3.09	4.24	2.26	15.05	2.82
Green Bay	75	61	81	54	68	4	610	586	2.76	4.18	2.68	16.26	5.13
La Crosse	78	62	82	59	70	2	696	758	4.06	7.35	5.63	20.69	8.00
Madison	77	64	81	61	70	4	683	746	6.95	11.71	9.94	28.90	15.71
Milwaukee	76	60	83	51	68	3	548	n.a.	4.63	11.39	9.86	26.55	12.13

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. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.