



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

Compiled by the Wisconsin Field Office of  
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June 23, 2008

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## Flood Waters Receding; Extent of Crop Damage Still Unknown

A total of 22 Wisconsin counties have been declared a state of disaster, with 30 counties under the Governor's state of emergency. There were still fields with standing water throughout Wisconsin, and the extent of crop damage is still unknown. Many comparisons have been made between the floods of 1993 and 2008. On the upside, warmer days with sun and mild to moderate winds helped dry up some areas affected by flood waters.

Average high temperatures were in the upper 70s to 80 degrees, with average low temperatures ranging from 50 to 57 degrees. Precipitation totals last week ranged from 0.02 inches reported in Madison to 0.44 inches reported in Eau Claire. Soil moisture conditions were at 0 percent very short, 3 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 20 percent surplus. There was an average of 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

**Corn** conditions varied across the state with reports of cooler temperatures hampering growth. Some reporters in the Westcentral and Northeast districts reported that corn is back on track and starting to grow rapidly. Emergence was reported at 99 percent complete with an average corn height of 15 inches. Corn condition was reported as 6 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 44 percent good and 13 percent excellent.

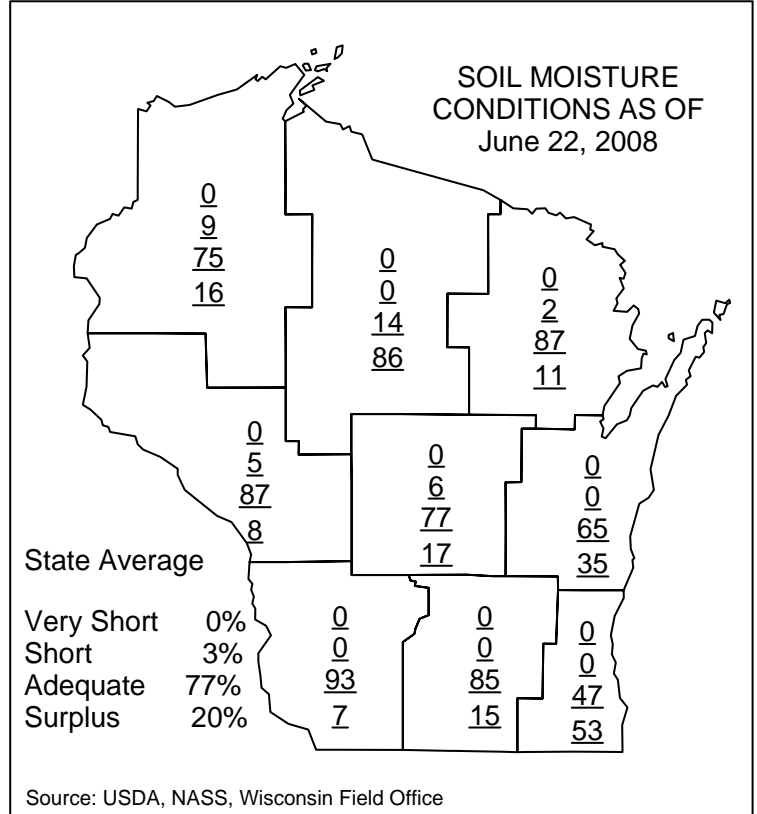
**Soybeans** were also quite variable with some fields showing good color while others were affected by the cool, wet conditions. Plants that had emerged were growing but short. Warmer temperatures should help spur development. Some late planting of soybeans was completed. Planting was reported at 96 percent complete, with 92 percent emerged. Soybean condition was reported as 7 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 8 percent excellent.

With the recent heat and dry weather **hay** cutting progressed. A lot of **haylage** was harvested with some very high yields reported. Very little molding was reported in the lodged first cut hay. First cut harvest was reported at 71 percent complete.

**Winter Wheat** conditions were reported at 2 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. **Oat** conditions were reported at 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 16 percent excellent with 31 percent headed.

**Pasture** conditions were rated at 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 12 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 35 percent excellent.

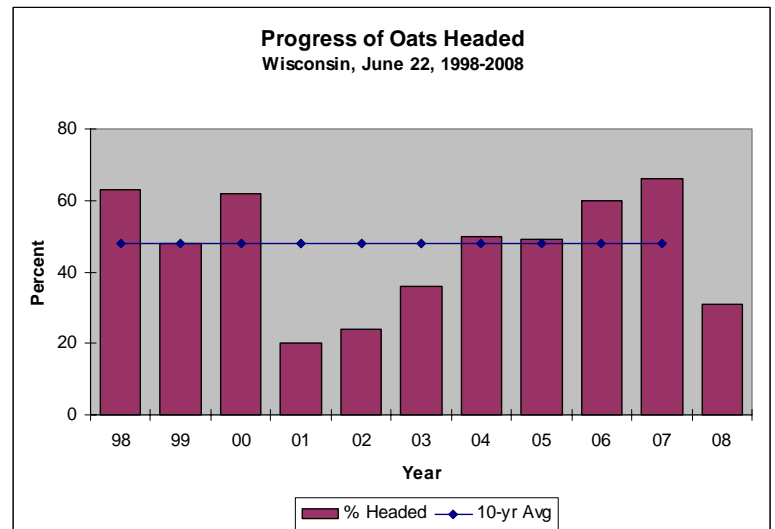
**Peas** will soon be ready to harvest. This year looks promising for a good **cranberry** crop.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of June 22, 2008

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	6	9	28	44	13
Soybean	7	10	33	42	8
Oats	1	2	15	66	16
Winter Wheat	2	5	26	48	19
Pasture	1	3	12	49	35

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	97	100	99	99	97	99	98	99	99	99	100	98
Average corn height	11	6	9	13	10	10	16	18	12	15	29	19
Soybeans planted	98	100	98	98	96	98	92	97	98	96	100	97
Soybeans emerged	96	90	85	96	93	95	87	88	95	92	100	92
Oats headed	10	5	22	25	17	21	60	50	24	31	66	52
First cutting hay	62	78	82	80	56	62	62	97	49	71	90	80

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

**Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents**

**BARRON-R.C.:** With the recent heat and dry weather, crops and hay cutting are progressing very well. Many crops are getting sprayed as weeds are also making advances. A few canning crops need to be planted.

**RUSK-G.P.:** It was a nice week with a few showers but not enough to stop any work. There has been great progress on first crop hay with lots of quantity but only average quality. Alfalfa is only showing buds, but the Relative Feed Values are coming back to 115-130 and protein levels are holding up well. Corn needs more heat. It is not growing well yet. Daytime temperatures are O.K. Soybeans are coming up better than expected with the cool, wet weather; they look pretty good. Pastures are doing well. Sprayers are really rolling. Lots of glyphosate is being sprayed.

**TAYLOR-D.E.:** This area did not experience the flooding that the southern part of the state did, however, almost daily showers have inhibited forage harvest significantly. Hay quality has severely diminished over the past week due to rain, but the quantity is at least average to above average. Pastures look very good. Row crops have been hampered by cooler weather resulting in slow growth and development. Some fields have deep ruts left by sprayers.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** A lot of haylage was harvested this week with very high yields. Rains were of the spotty variety and most fields are in good condition for moisture. Corn and soybeans are really starting to get good color and growing very well.

**SHAWANO-T.A.:** The alfalfa harvest is all we could hope for; regrowth is strong. A warm, dry week has the corn and soybeans back on track.

**BUFFALO-R.S.:** This has been the first opportunity to harvest dry hay with excellent yields and average quality. There is no flooding here.

**PIERCE-J.K.:** Tonnage of hay was better than expected. Most landowners are finishing first crop hay. Spraying of corn and soybeans continues when the winds allow. Corn condition is improving as it gets some heat and sunshine.

**PORTAGE-J.W.:** It dried out finally. Hay making, finishing planting crops, and spraying for weeds are the major activities. Corn is pale yellow; needs more sunshine. Some fields are very weedy.

**WAUSHARA-K.W.:** Sandy areas are at a point where they now need more rain

**CALUMET-B.L.:** While 5-7 percent of our row crops are lost directly, many acres are suspect. Corn is yellow but growing. Every wet spot in a field shows up as yellow crops. Soybeans are yellow or very pale green. First cutting hay crop is about 60 percent harvested with about 20 percent of that cut, but not harvested. Very little molding in the tall, mature, lodged first hay cut in most areas which is good. Wheat is moving rapidly. Our high ground shallow soils really needed the rain and those fields look surprisingly good.

**DANE-C.B.:** Corn needs to be cultivated to get air to root system, and most corn fields could use a nitrogen application of at least 50 units. All crops are struggling due to compacted soil conditions across my area. Winter wheat is showing good to excellent yield potential having 60-80 heads per square foot. Second crop alfalfa will be cut in a week.

**ROCK-C.O.:** Finally some good weather to harvest hay in. Corn is starting to show effects of too much rain with yellow stalks. Very uneven stands right now, but this week should help. Soybeans are being sprayed for weeds.

**RACINE-R.S.:** A lot of hay was cut and chopped last week with the weather finally giving area farmers a much-needed break. Spraying was also in full swing as the corn and soybeans which made it through the flooding, jumped in height. Numerous area farmers also began cultivating corn in an effort to better control weeds. Due to the flooding, crop adjusters are working full time assessing damage and some replanting is being done where water has receded.



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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on June 22, 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 21	Mar. 1 to June 21 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	78	50	85	46	64	-3	705	780	0.44	4.76	1.79	15.57	2.27
Green Bay	77	54	82	50	66	0	720	697	0.14	4.32	2.01	16.40	4.52
La Crosse	80	54	87	49	67	-3	816	888	0.04	7.39	4.74	20.73	7.10
Madison	77	55	84	50	66	-1	795	876	0.02	11.75	9.02	28.94	14.83
Milwaukee	76	57	83	52	67	0	666	n.a.	0.09	11.48	9.11	26.64	11.33

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.