



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

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

August 4, 2008

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## Rain is Needed in Most Areas

Timely rains and warm temperatures are needed for corn and soybean development to continue. Most Wisconsin counties reported dry weather and little or no rain. There were still some flooded areas, but for the most part, conditions are dry.

Average high temperatures ranged from 81 to 87 degrees, with average low temperatures ranging from 57 to 65 degrees. Precipitation totals last week ranged from no rain reported in Milwaukee to 1.55 inches reported in Green Bay. Soil moisture conditions were at 8 percent very short, 23 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus. There was an average of 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Average **corn** height was reported at 79 inches with 62 percent tasseled. Corn condition was reported as 3 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Most areas of the state reported corn progressing nicely with daily improvement.

**Soybeans** continued to make progress with blooming reported at 77 percent and 32 percent showing pods. Soybean conditions were reported as 2 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. Aphid populations are increasing, and some spraying has been done.

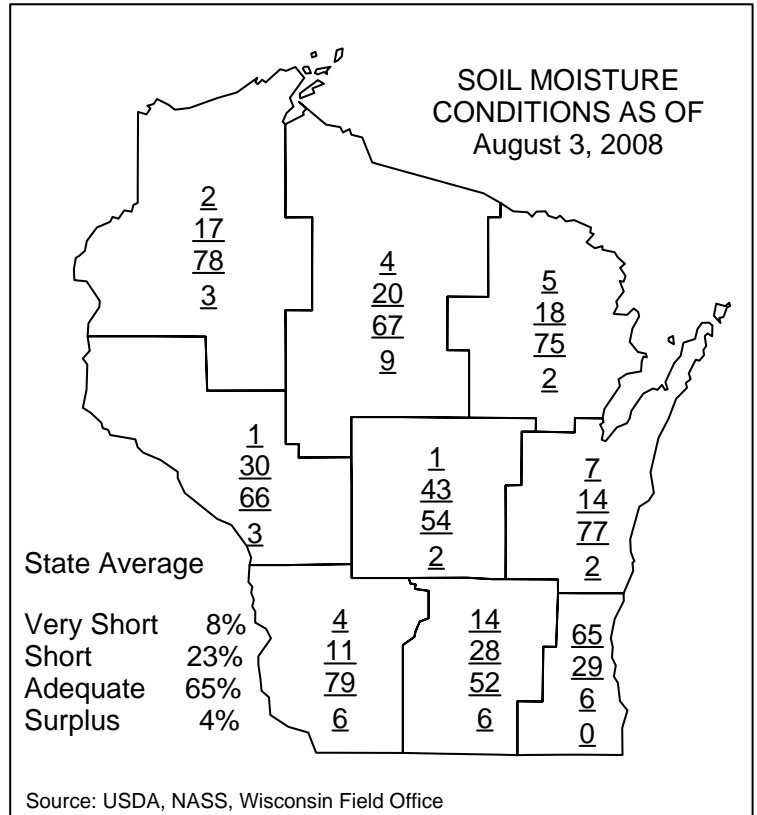
Second crop **hay** harvest was nearing completion with 88 percent harvested. Some areas were working on their third crop harvest.

**Winter wheat** harvest was in full swing with reports of very good to excellent yields on the 60 percent that was harvested. Conditions were reported at 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 27 percent excellent.

**Oats** showed improvement with conditions reported at 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Reports showed that 24 percent of oats had been harvested for grain.

One reporter in north-central Wisconsin noted that **pastures** look dormant due to the dry weather. Statewide, conditions were reported at 3 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 16 percent excellent.

**Snap beans** were being harvested. **Sweet Corn** was coming off the field. **Fresh potato** harvest began. Final **peas** were being harvested.

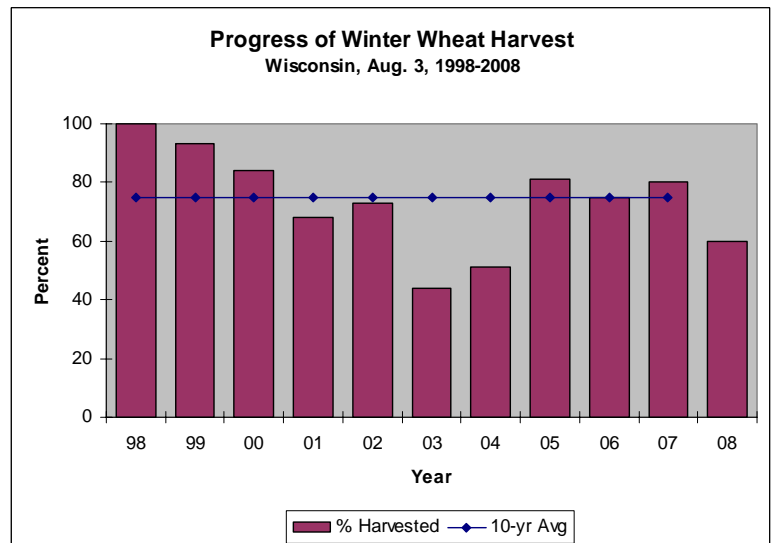


## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 3, 2008

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	3	6	22	50	19
Soybean	2	5	21	55	17
Winter Wheat	1	2	15	55	27
Oats	1	4	17	60	18
Pasture	3	8	21	52	16

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office

## Progress of Winter Wheat Harvest Wisconsin, Aug. 3, 1998-2008



## Wisconsin Crop Progress, August 3, 2008

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 silked	56	36	28	70	65	62	85	64	61	62	86	72
Soybeans bloomed	87	72	90	67	80	85	87	79	57	77	91	79
Soybeans setting pods	32	25	45	23	29	38	66	25	10	32	57	47
Winter wheat harvested	22	25	40	32	73	49	40	75	84	60	80	66
Oats harvested for grain	7	3	10	18	42	12	47	52	25	24	60	46
Second cutting hay	75	78	93	95	90	87	87	99	95	88	92	85

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

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

**BARRON-R.C.:** Timely rains have helped keep corn and soybeans looking good. Producers are finishing up with second crop alfalfa, with quality and quantity being reported as above average. Snapbeans are being harvested with reported yields ranging from very good to excellent.

**POLK-C.S.:** Corn and soybeans are developing very fast. Timely rains and warm temperatures need to continue. Spraying for alfalfa leafhoppers is going on. Soybean aphids are starting to reproduce and counts are starting to reach threshold levels.

**MARATHON-M.K.:** There is lots of hay. Corn and soybeans look good.

**PRICE-M.K.:** Corn looks very good except on lighter soils. Small grains are turning. Second crop hay harvest continues with apparent high quality and very low yields from the dry conditions. Forage crop growth is very slow due to the dry weather. Most pastures are dormant.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** Alfalfa harvest is in a wide range; some farmers are starting second crop and others are already cutting third crop. Spotty showers continue to cause problems with making dry hay. Hay had to be blown back into numerous fields because of poor quality due to showers and repeated rakings. Wheat harvest is in full swing with many reported yields of 80-95 bushels per acre and heavy straw yields. Corn and soybeans continue to make excellent progress.

**PEPIN-R.C.:** All crops are doing well considering the limited rains.

**PIERCE-J.K.:** Corn and soybeans look excellent with another 1.0 inch of rain on Sunday night. Oats are starting to be swathed and harvested. Second crop hay is finishing up and some have been working on third crop.

**WAUSHARA-L.K.:** Corn and soybeans look good but need rain. Showers have been missing this area. Second crop alfalfa had good yield and quantity.

**FOND DU LAC-R.P.:** Corn is improving daily. Some farmers are starting to seed alfalfa on wheat ground. Straw is selling at a very good price as yields were less than expected.

**KEWAUNEE-T.S.:** After waiting for rain to fall, it finally came late this past week. For the most part, the corn is looking good. Some fields, though, do not look so good,

mainly because of problems caused by spring fieldwork. Soil compaction, especially on clay soils, has caused some corn fields to be very uneven, with some plants tall and some short. These fields will be a challenge to harvest in the fall, particularly if the corn is going to be harvested for grain. Soybeans are really looking good, with some plants reaching knee to thigh high in height. Barring any problems with pests or damage from hail, they should yield well. Second crop hay harvest is beginning to wrap up, with nearly all of it in. Yields have been very good. Some producers here have started third crop hay harvest as well. Winter wheat harvest is in full swing, with a lot of grain and a lot of straw being taken off the fields. No oat harvest has begun here yet. Some fields are showing weeds.

**CRAWFORD-V.H.:** Crops are looking good all things considered. Majority of crop acres in county could use a good slow shot of moisture.

**DODGE-M.H.:** Corn that received Nitrogen side dress is looking very good. There is some yellowish looking corn across the countryside though. Soybeans are setting pods. Aphid numbers are below threshold but increasing rapidly. Some third cut hay crop was made over the past week.

**RACINE-R.S.:** For the most part, crops look extremely well although we are in need of some rain as hills and sandy ground are showing some major signs of stress. Some areas have corn that is half fired already. Yield potential is looking better, but we will not know what is truly out there until combines start rolling.

**WAUKESHA-R.F.:** All crops need rain.



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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 3, 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 Aug. 2	Mar. 1 to Aug. 2 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	86	57	90	51	71	-1	1548	1594	0.05	10.29	1.79	21.10	2.27
Green Bay	83	60	86	56	72	2	1587	1472	1.55	12.51	5.41	24.59	7.87
La Crosse	87	62	90	57	75	1	1757	1786	0.09	15.74	7.24	29.07	9.56
Madison	85	61	87	56	73	1	1690	1739	0.04	19.24	10.99	36.43	16.74
Milwaukee	81	65	88	61	73	1	1549	n.a.	0.00	16.61	9.23	31.77	11.54

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.