



Wisconsin Crop Progress

August 8, 2011

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Heat and Humidity Continue

This week, temperatures remained above average across the state for the sixth week in a row, with 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork statewide. High humidity continued in most of the state, raising concerns about weeds, mold and other diseases. The northern regions of the state continued to experience surplus soil moisture, especially in low-lying fields. In contrast, the southern regions were still drier than average for the year. The Madison reporting station has received 2.81 inches less rain than normal this year, compared to 8.23 inches more than normal in Green Bay.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 3 to 6 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 85 to 89 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 65 to 71 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.02 inches in Madison and La Crosse to 0.81 inches in Eau Claire. Growing degree days for corn continued to be above normal for all reporting stations. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

- <http://www.noaa.gov/>
- <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
- <http://www.cocorahs.org/>
- <http://www.weather.gov/>

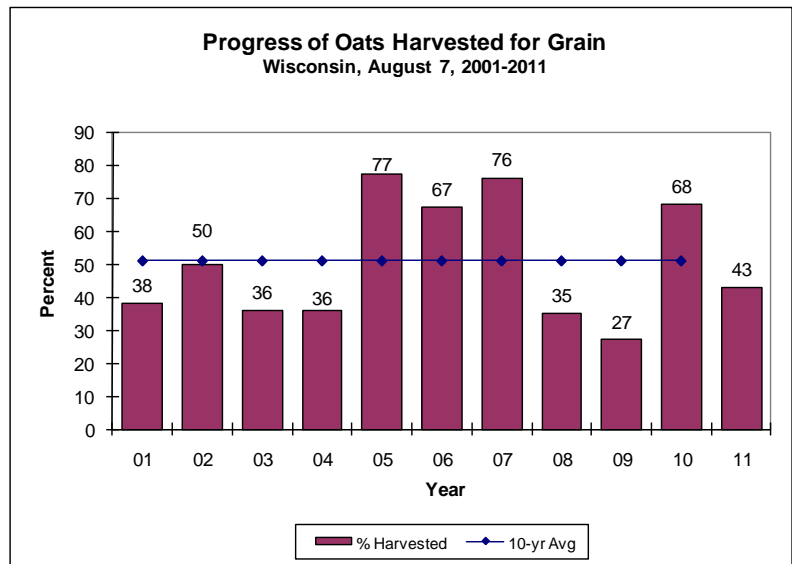
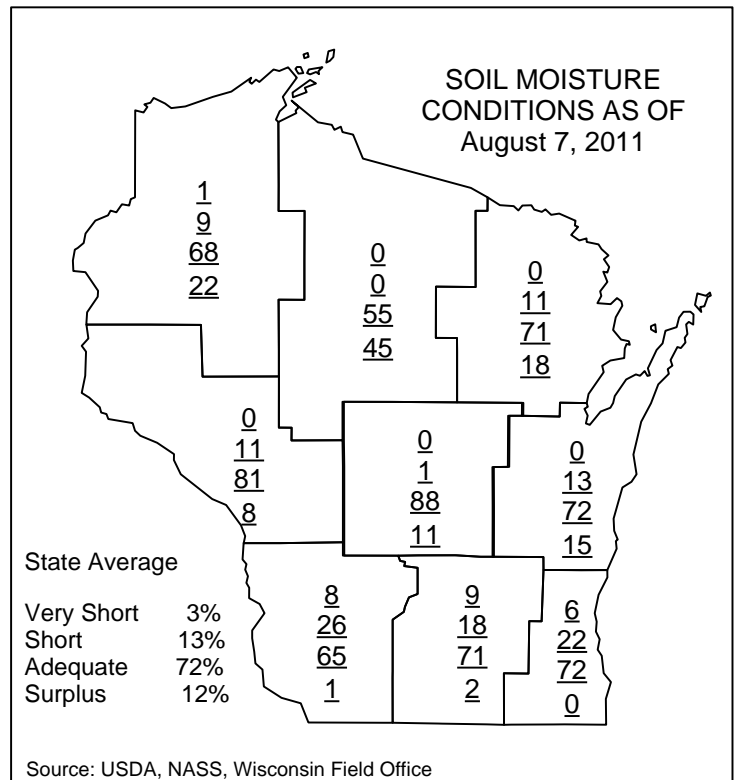
Corn across the state has been soaking up the heat and humidity, aiding growth and pollination. Many reporters commented that they are expecting high yields. Statewide, corn is 89 percent tasseled, and 17 percent in dough stage.

Soybeans were also responding well to the heat, with 89 percent blooming and 53 percent setting pods statewide. A reporter from Trempealeau County reported signs of lodging in the soybean fields, and a Calumet County reporter was concerned that the soybeans may have aborted too many flowers.

Haying was slowed or delayed in many areas as extreme humidity and rain prevented hay from drying properly. A reporter from Kewaunee County noted that preservatives were added to the hay to keep it from heating. Statewide, second crop hay was 95 percent harvested, and third crop hay was 34 percent harvested.

Wisconsin's **oat** harvest was 43 percent complete this week. As with hay, some producers were waiting for drier weather to harvest. **Winter wheat** yield reports varied widely across the state. Producers in the Northwest and West Central regions reported high weed pressure in their small grains.

Sweet corn was being sold across the state, and was reported to be in good condition. A Portage county reporter indicated blackbirds have damaged some sweet corn fields. Door County's **tart cherry** harvest was wrapping up, with yields running 80 to 90 percent of normal. A reporter from Oneida County indicated that growing conditions have contributed to a good **cranberry** fruit set.



Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	2	4	15	52	27
Soybean	1	4	14	55	26
Oat	1	5	19	65	10
Pasture	3	9	27	52	9

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 week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Corn silked	90	77	74	93	89	70	97	96	90	89	72	96	84
Corn in dough stage	17	3	4	10	19	11	29	25	12	17	5	30	17
Soybeans blooming	80	96	84	92	96	83	93	92	83	89	71	88	85
Soybeans setting pods	33	43	44	60	70	42	53	61	46	53	24	54	53
Oats harvested for grain	30	0	4	53	65	19	86	70	65	43	18	68	55
Second cutting hay	93	95	94	97	83	96	98	99	99	95	91	91	93
Third cutting hay	21	30	30	32	18	44	37	46	38	34	13	34	25

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

RUSK-G.P.: A tough week for hay, lots of rain. Local reports as high as 7.0 inches of rain on Tuesday. Corn and soybeans look good. Preliminary reports of soybean aphids have gone away with this week's heavy rains. Weed pressure in small grains and soybeans is heavy, doing some second applications of glyphosate in beans and pre-harvest burn down in the small grains.

WASHBURN-P.H.: Third crop alfalfa is flowering and needs to be harvested. Corn silks are turning brown. Soybeans filled in and setting pods. Crops should have enough moisture to make grain.

CLARK-J.B.: Crops all look good, problem is getting in fields, even to spread manure. Second cutting hay that has been harvested is poor in quality. Third cutting has started, problem is all the moisture, producers are rutting up fields. Need dry weather.

ONEIDA-B.E.: Average highs and lows were much closer to normal this past week, and we saw a significant amount of rainfall, close to 2.5 inches. Abundant sunshine and very good growing conditions are contributing to a good cranberry fruit set. Insect and weed pressures continue to be low to moderate.

MARINETTE-S.R.: Quality and yield for second and third crop hay vary quite a bit.

SHAWANO-T.B.: Hay crops have been better than average this summer. Local crops are all looking very good but moisture comes too much at a time, which has continued to stave off drought conditions. Leaf diseases have been evident in all crops but none have caused crop failures.

EAU CLAIRE-D.S.: Wheat was yielding 47 bushels per acre. Oats was yielding 70 bushels per acre.

ST CROIX-D.K.: Crops in excellent condition.

TREMPEALEAU-D.W.: Great corn and soybean weather continues. Farmers struggling with small grain harvest due to weeds and humidity. Sweet corn is currently being sold along roadside stands. Livestock received some relief late this week as extreme humid conditions finally moved out of the area.

JUNEAU-J.W.: As of the moment everything is looking very good in Juneau County. Most cropland has not been affected by storms other than one or two pockets of hail and some areas that were prevented planting.

WAUPACA-L.B.: Twenty-two inches of rain here since April 1st, 7.0 inches in July alone. Humidity this year has been causing much disease issues, root rot, anthracnose, and molds in the berries.

OUTAGAMIE-D.F.: Second and third crop hay had good quality and good yield. Very few diseases reported in crops. Heat has made the corn and soybeans catch up. Wheat harvest is 60 percent completed, with yields running around 70 bushels per acre.

SAUK-J.P.: The rains have gone by on both sides of us, north and south. This is as dry as we have been this year. Crops look good, not showing much stress, but a good soaker would be timely. Wheat harvest was good, some up to 90 bushels per acre. Those that got first crop hay off early had good second and third crops. If producers got behind with first crop, then they are never able to catch up with the rain coming at the wrong times.

VERNON-K.L.: Weather hot and humid. Good height on soybeans and setting pods to the tip of the stem. Most of second crop hay completed. Third crop hay has some areas with leaf hoppers, but the quality is good. Overall, crops look good. Soil could use a little rain again to replenish the moisture.

DANE-J.M.: Third crop is very short to poor. No moisture. New seeding old fields of hay are good to fair stand and yield.

DODGE-S.B.: The humid weather conditions have slowed down third crop hay harvest.

ROCK-C.O.: Things look tough.

WALWORTH -E.R.: Rainfall has been very beneficial with 1.0 to 2.0 inches this week. Straw baling is difficult. No apparent plant disease issues.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: We need some rain. Second crop hay is done, third is growing very well.



USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office
 P.O. Box 8934
 Madison, WI 53708-8934
 (608) 224-4848
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/>

Robert J. Battaglia
 Director

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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 7, 2011

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. 6	Mar. 1 to Aug. 6 normal*	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	85	65	88	59	75	3	1777	1655	0.81	15.51	6.50	26.01	6.75
Green Bay	85	65	89	61	75	5	1672	1528	0.75	10.66	3.16	25.37	8.23
La Crosse	88	69	93	61	79	5	1995	1851	0.02	13.26	4.24	26.33	6.39
Madison	89	68	92	62	78	6	1929	1800	0.02	5.43	-3.32	17.28	-2.81
Milwaukee	85	71	91	66	78	6	1720	n.a.	0.13	7.15	-0.70	22.81	2.08

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.