

August Ends with Heat Wave

August closed out with the second hottest week of the year to date. Temperatures were well above normal statewide. Rains were spotty to heavy in the north and east, but bypassed the southern and west-central portions of the state. Four of the five major weather stations received no rain at all during this hot and humid week. Crops reportedly showed great progress where moisture was adequate. However, some areas that received rain reportedly did not get enough moisture to make up the deficit of the past two months. Reporters in many areas of the state commented that crops were badly stressed and pastures were inadequate for grazing. Some farmers were chopping silage early where corn has dried up, was unable to pollinate, or where feed supplies were running low. There were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 9 to 14 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 86 to 93 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 67 to 74 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from no precipitation received in Eau Claire, La Crosse, Madison and Milwaukee to 0.68 inches in Green Bay. 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/>

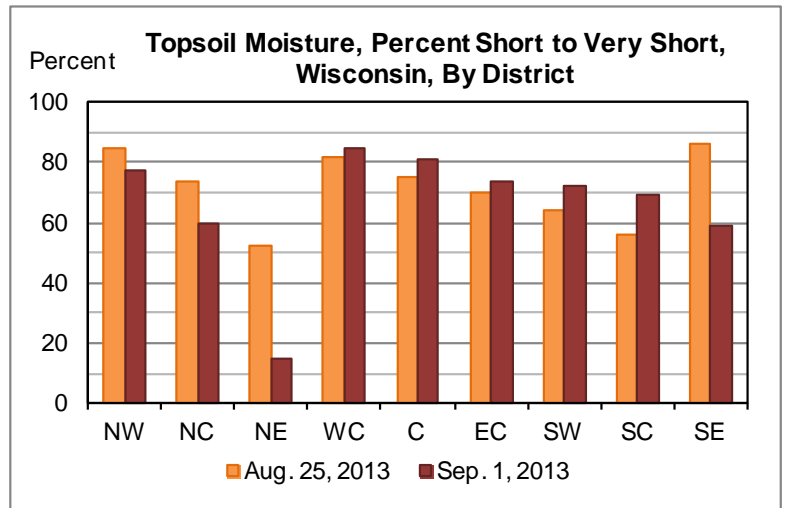
Corn was 61 percent in dough stage, and 20 percent in dent stage. Corn silage was 2 percent harvested compared to 16 percent last year and a five year average of 7 percent. Corn was reportedly curling and drying up in many areas. Corn needs rain and continued warmth to mature, with late planted corn still lagging behind in development.

Soybeans were 97 percent blooming, 87 percent setting pods, and 7 percent of the crop had leaves turning color. White mold was reported in soybeans in Shawano and Fond du Lac Counties.

Oats were 88 percent harvested for grain.

Third cutting alfalfa was 78 percent harvested and the **fourth cutting** was 10 percent harvested. Tonnage and quality was reportedly down due to dry conditions.

Early **apples** were being picked across the state. Reporters noted that the fruit is small in size due to the dry weather.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 1, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	22	34	25	18	1
Corn	7	17	31	34	11
Soybeans	7	16	31	35	11

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office

Wisconsin Crop Progress, September 1, 2013

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
	Percent									Percent			
Corn silked	97	99	100	95	92	95	100	100	98	97	94	100	100
Corn in dough	57	53	40	51	56	61	78	68	62	61	40	88	77
Corn in dent	12	9	5	10	23	19	22	35	30	20	5	58	39
Soybeans blooming	90	93	100	97	99	97	94	100	98	97	91	100	100
Soybeans setting pods	75	69	100	87	87	88	87	95	87	87	75	100	97
Soybeans leaves turned	3	0	2	5	9	4	11	12	6	7	n.a.	37	17
Oats harvested	83	66	85	92	95	96	96	99	100	88	79	100	97
Third cutting hay	76	38	94	71	71	92	86	90	78	78	67	100	89
Fourth cutting hay	2	0	20	3	19	13	13	15	11	10	3	65	28

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions, September 1, 2013

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	6.2	6.2	4.4	6.5	6.4	5.9	6.6	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.3	6.4
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	31	47	0	36	62	21	28	33	25	34	27	29
Short	46	13	15	49	19	53	44	36	34	38	45	42
Adequate	23	38	68	14	19	26	28	31	41	27	28	28
Surplus	0	2	17	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	21	35	9	33	52	15	16	24	25	27	18	n.a.
Short	50	18	30	53	37	46	47	41	49	43	47	n.a.
Adequate	29	45	61	14	11	39	37	35	26	30	35	n.a.
Surplus	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Wisconsin Crop Progress

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

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

BARRON-P.T.: No rain all week. Corn on lighter soils is drying up.

WASHBURN-R.H.: We recieved over 6.0 inches of rain in the last week. Crops on irrigated soil look good, on sandy soil are dried up. Most are all done with haying. Gardens are looking good. Apples have good color, small in size. Grapes are mostly blue, they ripened very well this past week. Price of hay going up every day. Sold some square bales, (40 lbs) for \$4.50.

ASHLAND-C.B.: Rains in the area have helped relieve very dry conditions. Crops mostly look good, except are behind normal in maturity.

ONEIDA-B.E.: Significant rainfall this past week. We recorded right around 6.0 inches for the week! Temperatures were above average for most of the week as well. The heavy rainfall caused erosion problems on our roads, as well as in the cranberry beds. The above average temperatures are resulting in increased insect pest pressure.

TAYLOR-D.E.: Much needed rain came in very scattered areas but all got at least a shower.

LANGLADE-A.K.: What a week for crop progress in our area. We had a combination of heat units, humidity, adequate rainfall. Corn earfill has been tremendous, alot of corn intended for grain now has a chance without early frost. Beans need extended season as well but look good. Oats harvest is turning into a challenge with down crop and damp air conditions.

SHAWANO-B.R.: High humidity and temperatures brought out the white mold in soybean fields this week. We also had about 3.0 inches of rain with one extremely heavy downpour of 1.5 inches in fifteen minutes. The moisture and heat are very welcome to move the crops ahead in maturity. We still have a long way to go for much of it to be mature when frost arrives. Corn chopping will start right after Labor Day for those that had some planted early.

DUNN-G.M.: We recieved about 3.0 inches of rain in the last 2 weeks. Could use warm weather and more rain.

TREMPEALEAU-C.O.: No rain this week again with little chance for measureable precipitation in the near future. All crops showing signs of stress. Some corn having to be chopped, third crop hay being harvested with low yields.

MARQUETTE-K.V.: Less than 1.0 inch of rain in August. Crops are suffering now.

PORTAGE-J.B.: The 1.0 inch of rain on Saturday morning will really finish out corn and soybeans nicely now for what is at that stage. Helped third crop hay tremendously. Praying for silage on many fields. Need a late frost for July planted corn and soybeans to make silage. I've heard sweetcorn is running 9-10 ton/acre, 7-9 ton/acre on green beans, and potato yields are down compared to last year but price is much better so a better deal for them this year.

WINNEBAGO-S.E.: Very dry. We recieved 0.2 inches of rain end of last week.

GRANT-J.R.: Even though we have had dry weather, crops are looking really good. Some worries on how the heat and dry weather will affect the soybeans. A good couple rains would help a lot.

VERNON-K.L.: High temperatures and humidity the past week. No rain in the county. Oats for grain being harvested. Corn and beans showing signs of stress due to the heat. Weather reporters using the term "flash drought" when describing the heat and lack of rain. Producers started with fourth crop hay this week.

DODGE-R.H.: Need rain and warm weather.

WASHINGTON-K.R.: Lack of rain hurt soybeans last week.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 1, 2013

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. 31	Mar. 1 To Aug. 31 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	92	70	96	59	81	+14	2172	2091	0.00	7.63	-5.30	27.67	+4.42
Green Bay	86	67	89	61	76	+11	2083	1955	0.68	10.17	-0.42	23.94	+3.66
La Crosse	93	74	97	68	83	+14	2426	2346	0.00	8.22	-4.23	27.14	+3.75
Madison	88	69	93	61	78	+11	2307	2285	0.00	16.39	+4.07	36.47	+12.79
Milwaukee	87	69	95	65	78	+9	2158	n.a.	0.00	10.62	-0.55	30.13	+6.03

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.



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