



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



Upper Midwest Region - Wisconsin Field Office · 2811 Agriculture Drive · Madison WI 53718-6777 · (608) 224-4848
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov

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Media Contact: Greg Bussler

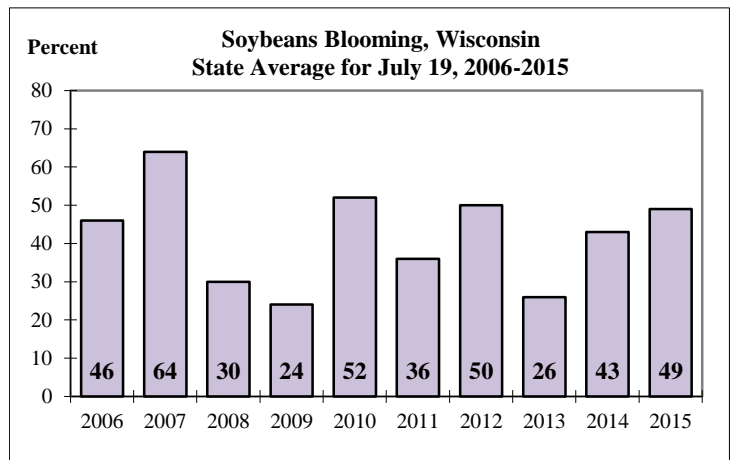
Timely Heat and Rain Support Pollination

There were 4.6 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending July 19, 2015, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Thunderstorms swept through the state on several days this week, bringing high winds, hail and heavy rain. A number of reporters commented that small grains had been flattened by the storms but other crops reportedly sustained less damage. Though the weather was unfavorable for making dry hay, this week's moisture and hot, muggy afternoons saw a burst of crop growth. Reporters commented that corn and soybeans were looking excellent as they moved into their pollination stages.

There were a few reports of ponding after heavy rains, though many areas of the state welcomed this timely moisture. Statewide, topsoil moistures were rated 9 percent short to very short, compared to 16 percent the previous week.

As of July 19, twenty-three percent of **corn** had reached the silking stage, 2 days ahead of last year but 2 days behind the five year average. The corn crop was rated 83 percent good to excellent, compared to 81 percent the previous week. Forty-nine percent of **soybeans** were at or beyond the blooming stage statewide, 2 days ahead of last year and 3 days ahead of the five-year average. Eleven percent of soybeans began setting pods, 2 days ahead of last year and 4 days ahead of the five-year average. Eighty-four percent of the soybean crop was rated good to excellent, up 2 percentage points from last week. Sixty-six percent of the **oat** crop has turned color, just over a week ahead of last year. The oat crop was at 5 percent harvested, 2 days behind last year and 8 days behind the five-year average. Oats condition was rated 84 percent good to excellent. **Potato** condition was rated 95 percent good to excellent, unchanged from last week. There were a few reports of potato harvesting in central Wisconsin. Ninety-four percent of **winter wheat** has turned color, 4 days ahead of last year. Eighty-one percent of winter wheat was rated in good to excellent condition, unchanged from the previous week.

Pasture condition was rated 82 percent good to excellent, up 1 percentage point from last week. The **second cutting of alfalfa** was 79 percent harvested and the **third cutting of alfalfa** was 5 percent harvested. This haying season continued at the second fastest pace in more than 35 years, trailing only 2012. **All hay condition** was 83 percent in good to excellent condition. A reporter in Clark County reported that **raspberry** picking has begun. A reporter in Fond Du Lac County noted that **apple** trees are starting to bend under the weight of their fruit. Multiple reporters noted that insect populations were low throughout the state.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 19, 2015

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn.....	0	3	14	54	29
Hay, All.....	0	3	14	53	30
Oats.....	0	3	13	63	21
Pasture & Range..	0	3	15	58	24
Potatoes.....	0	0	5	71	24
Soybeans.....	0	2	14	58	26
Winter Wheat.....	1	3	15	53	28

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of July 19, 2015

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			
Alfalfa hay, second cutting....	84	69	78	77	78	86	83	78	78	79	64	63	71
Alfalfa hay, third cutting.....	11	5	7	4	2	1	2	11	10	5	0	0	7
Corn silking.....	5	16	4	25	24	14	30	39	19	23	2	20	31
Oats turning color.....	51	60	41	88	59	57	69	68	76	66	47	51	n.a.
Oats harvested.....	3	1	1	17	4	2	4	5	15	5	4	6	14
Soybeans blooming.....	49	36	59	53	52	46	47	49	55	49	29	43	42
Soybeans setting pods.....	10	16	18	13	14	11	6	13	11	11	4	9	6
Winter wheat turning color....	79	93	87	91	91	96	92	98	96	94	81	89	n.a.

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of July 19, 2015

Item	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year	
	Days									Days			
Days Suitable	4.5	5.2	4.8	3.7	5.1	4.7	5.1	4.3	4.5	4.6	5.7	5.5	
Topsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent			
	Very Short.....	0	0	4	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	2	0
	Short.....	4	2	14	7	10	9	12	12	12	9	14	8
	Adequate.....	85	96	76	76	82	85	59	76	72	79	75	75
	Surplus.....	11	2	6	17	7	6	28	10	15	12	9	17
Subsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent			
	Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0
	Short.....	6	0	12	7	8	14	10	14	13	9	10	5
	Adequate.....	88	98	84	78	83	83	87	78	74	85	84	80
	Surplus.....	6	2	4	15	8	3	2	7	12	6	5	15

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

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

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Farmers are having a hard time completing second crop hay as frequent and heavy rains slow drying and limit field access. Some corn is beginning to tassel. Growth is excellent. Insect populations remain low.

SAWYER-K.S.: More timely rains fell this week. Strong winds caused some lodging of small grains and pockets of standing water on heavier soil.

ASHLAND-C.B.: Nice week for field work. Lots of first crop dry baled hay being made throughout the area. Dairy farmers made a lot of progress this week getting their second crop chopping done.

PRICE-D.E.: Rain and storms rolling through the area once again hampered hay harvest. Some small grains were affected by winds. Crops responded well to the warmer weather and corn grew significantly in the past week. Some fields are showing stress in areas of excess moisture. Small grains are coloring nicely and some winter wheat has been cut, but no reports of yields at this time.

SHAWANO-B.R.: A perfect week in July for most of us, with two days of rain that came to about two inches and temperatures in the eighties. Just what you would wish for in the middle of summer. Corn, soybeans and alfalfa all doing very well this week. Wheat harvest is about two weeks away. Corn just starting to tassel. Soybeans flowering and getting a nice dark green color finally.

BUFFALO-S.M.: Regular rain is making it difficult to harvest the hay crop.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Strong winds and heavy rain did a job on the oats. What was standing tall is now flat. Hopefully some of it will stand again. This summer has been a difficult one as far as getting crops in. It just seems that there are not enough sunny days in-between the rains.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Warmer temperatures made excellent growing weather for all crops over the weekend. Making hay is becoming a challenge with the frequent rains.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: Got 0.8 inches rain on July 15. Crops have recovered and now look pretty good.

FOND DU LAC-B.B.: A showery and stormy week managed to provide needed rains totaling to 1.15 inches. We experienced some high winds but saw very little lodging of small grains. Apple trees are starting to bend under the weight of their fruit.

SHEBOYGAN-M.B.: At this point it appears to be one of the better growing seasons in recent years.

VERNON-K.L.: Lots of second crop hay going in. Corn silking and looking fantastic. Winter wheat harvest is close and oats are turning color. Most oats for forage is complete. Crops in the county look really good!

COLUMBIA-G.K.: 2.5 inches of rain in the past week. Scattered hail and high winds caused damage to wheat, corn and several farm buildings. Downed trees in various parts of the county along field edges.

GREEN-M.M.: Majority of corn fields have tasseled and are now pollinating. Winter wheat harvest will start soon, weather permitting. First and second crop hay have been a challenge to harvest but have had good yields.

OZAUKEE-G.S.: Recent rains and warmer temperatures are helping push crop maturity along. Crops look good.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 19, 2015

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 Jul. 18	Mar. 1 to Jul. 18 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	81	61	88	53	71	+0	1376	1280	0.75	7.66	+1.12	17.11	+0.34
Green Bay	82	59	87	50	70	+0	1325	1169	1.75	5.03	-0.37	11.99	-2.99
La Crosse	85	66	92	60	76	+2	1691	1442	2.14	6.24	-0.26	18.84	+1.40
Madison	83	63	91	52	73	+1	1498	1404	2.83	6.75	+0.39	17.47	-0.35
Milwaukee	80	63	91	57	71	-1	1179	n.a.	1.13	4.09	-1.59	14.30	-4.27

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. n.a.=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more 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/>