



# Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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For the week ending May 6, 2018  
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## Planting Starts, Stalls

There were **3.5 days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending May 6, 2018, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Manure spreading, planting and tillage were going full tilt as this week opened, with many farmers reportedly working through the night. Widespread rain mid-week slowed or halted progress in many areas. Fieldwork resumed quickly in the northern portions of the state, where precipitation was light and scattered. The rains were much heavier across southern Wisconsin, particularly in a band from the Southwest to East-Central Districts. Reporters in these areas noted up to 6 inches of rain received, halting fieldwork and flooding low ground. Winter wheat, hay and pastures greened up rapidly in response to the warm, wet conditions.

**Topsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 4 percent short, 73 percent adequate and 23 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 6 percent short, 75 percent adequate and 18 percent surplus.

As of May 6, spring tillage was 30 percent complete statewide, 2 days behind last year and 5 days behind the 5 year average.

Corn planting was 15 percent complete, 1 day ahead of last year but 4 days behind the 5 year average.

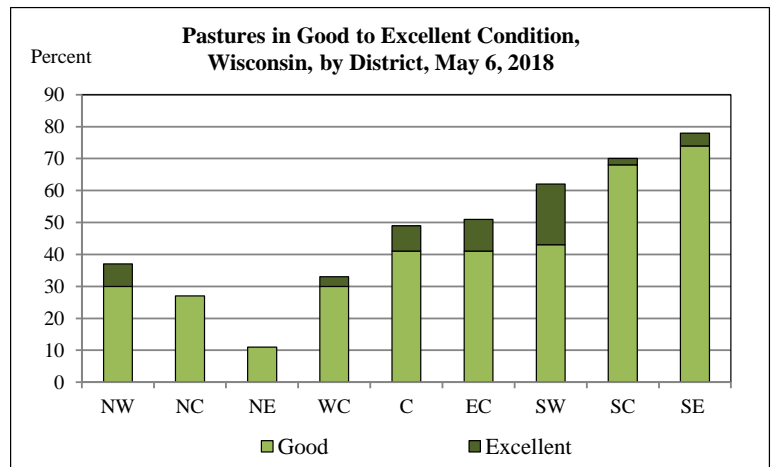
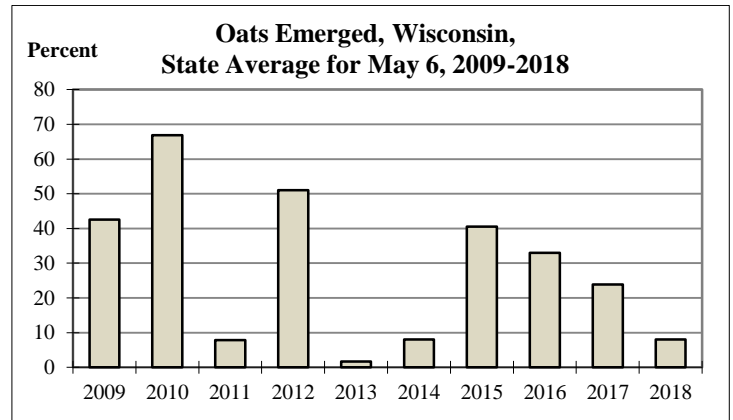
Five percent of the state's expected soybean acres have been planted, 3 days ahead of last year but 1 day behind the 5 year average.

Oats planting was reported as 29 percent complete, 8 days behind last year and 9 days behind the 5 year average. Eight percent of the oats had emerged, 11 days behind last year and 8 days behind the 5 year average.

Potato planting was reported as 18 percent complete, 12 days behind last year.

Winter wheat was 73 percent in good to excellent condition statewide, up 16 percentage points from last week.

Pasture condition was rated 48 percent in good to excellent condition, compared to 29 percent in good to excellent condition last week.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 6, 2018

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range	3	19	30	39	9
Winter Wheat.....	1	4	22	60	13

## Wisconsin Crop Progress as of May 6, 2018

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 Planted.....	10	5	1	7	7	2	27	30	29	15	3	14	25
Oats Planted.....	21	6	15	17	21	11	59	79	59	29	16	49	50
Oats Emerged.....	0	0	0	0	7	0	20	38	20	8	3	24	21
Potatoes Planted.....	37	20	21	16	15	n.a.	46	42	n.a.	18	3	46	n.a.
Soybeans Planted.....	1	0	0	1	0	0	7	11	14	5	1	2	6
Spring Tillage.....	20	16	18	23	17	10	51	54	45	30	15	35	42

n.a.=not available

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of May 6, 2018

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
Days Suitable.....	5.8	4.6	2.7	4.3	2.1	2.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.6
Topsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent		
Very Short.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0
Short.....	2	0	0	5	0	0	8	8	2	4	8	0
Adequate.....	81	100	69	79	53	35	83	81	84	73	76	72
Surplus.....	17	0	31	15	47	65	9	10	14	23	14	28
Subsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent		
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	1	2	0
Short.....	1	0	0	3	0	0	16	18	2	6	8	1
Adequate.....	87	100	68	87	70	48	76	72	84	75	80	74
Surplus.....	12	0	32	10	30	52	6	7	14	18	10	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.

**BAYFIELD/DOUGLAS-C.B.:** Nice weather this week. Fields starting to dry up. Some field activity started in well drained and sandy loam fields. Much of the heavy clay soils are still too wet to work up.

**SAWYER-K.S.:** Winter has turned to summer this past week with very pleasant temperatures and sunshine. As a result, lots of field activities happening simultaneously. Corn planting will likely start in earnest this week where field conditions allow. Topsoil moistures are getting dry due to warm temps and wind. Fire danger is extreme in some areas. Pastures are greening up nicely. Rain is forecasted this week which for the most part will be welcomed.

**CLARK-R.H.:** Finally farmers were able to scratch an itch. Some manure being applied on fields and some primary tillage. Talked to a few farmers that were concerned as manure pits were full and they needed to start hauling. Soil temperature this morning was 51 degrees in a fall tilled field, 52 degrees in a no-tilled field, air temperature was 53 degrees. Talking to farmers, money is tight but they are taking delivery of seed and fertilizer. About half inch of rain this week has really greened up hay fields and lawns. Winter small grains are looking good.

**MARINETTE-L.B.:** Manure is hauled, oats and new seeding planted. Starting to work corn ground and pick rocks

**MONROE-B.H.:** The area received between 3.5 and 6 inches of rain last week. That brought field activities to a halt on all but the lightest ground.

**PIERCE/ST CROIX-A.M.:** First full week of field work with tillage and manure hauling. Planters were actively in fields most of the week. Scattered showers did hinder some progress in areas. Pastures are becoming green. Preliminary indications appear to have minimal winterkill. Forecast looks good for fieldwork.

**PORTAGE/WOOD-J.B.:** Rained three different times last week for a total of 2.1 inches in my area. Varied a lot all over. Still reports of frost in the ground in areas last week. I saw a little oats on the high ground going in and the rest too wet to even spread manure on. Potatoes going in on the sands were even delayed a bit by the rains. There will be no fresh reds by the first of July in this area!

**DOOR/KEWAUNEE-T.S.:** Some limited manure application occurred this week.

**WINNEBAGO-R.V.:** Rain early this week greened up the winter wheat but the surplus of rain has since drowned out many fields and flooded areas. Corn planted early on in the week may already need to be replanted or will see reduced population.

**VERNON-K.L.:** Rain almost every day this last week, roughly 5 inches total with some localized heavier amounts. Temperatures are getting warmer each day.

**DODGE-M.P.:** The week started out great for field work and planting corn. With temperatures in the 70s, tractors were running around the clock trying to get crops in the ground. Tuesday night brought rain that continued until Thursday, some areas received close to 4 inches. This pretty much stopped all field activity. Wheat and alfalfa needed the rain however, and are now looking really good. Field work should resume this week.

**ROCK-C.O.:** Corn for the most part is planted. Still no lilacs blooming so spring is not here yet.

**WASHINGTON/FOND DU LAC-B.B.:** Just as field work went full speed ahead, 4.65 inches rain ground field operations to a halt. There was enough time to drill the oat crops at least. Pastures are growing at a good rate now. Winter wheat both improved and degraded dependent on site. Annual weeds are starting to germinate. A couple of weeks of dry weather would sure help.

**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 6, 2018**

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 May 5	Mar. 1 to May 5 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	75	47	83	23	61	+9	160	164	0.46	2.00	-3.26	4.96	-2.12
Green Bay	70	45	78	28	58	+7	115	133	2.41	6.15	+1.15	8.95	+1.74
La Crosse	76	53	84	33	65	+10	206	201	2.66	6.72	+0.78	9.62	+1.54
Madison	74	49	81	26	62	+10	173	199	3.41	6.60	+0.44	11.63	+2.96
Milwaukee	74	48	86	31	61	+11	145	n.a.	1.23	5.44	-1.44	10.26	-0.20

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/>

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.