



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

July 16, 2001 - 3 p.m.

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## One Extreme to Another

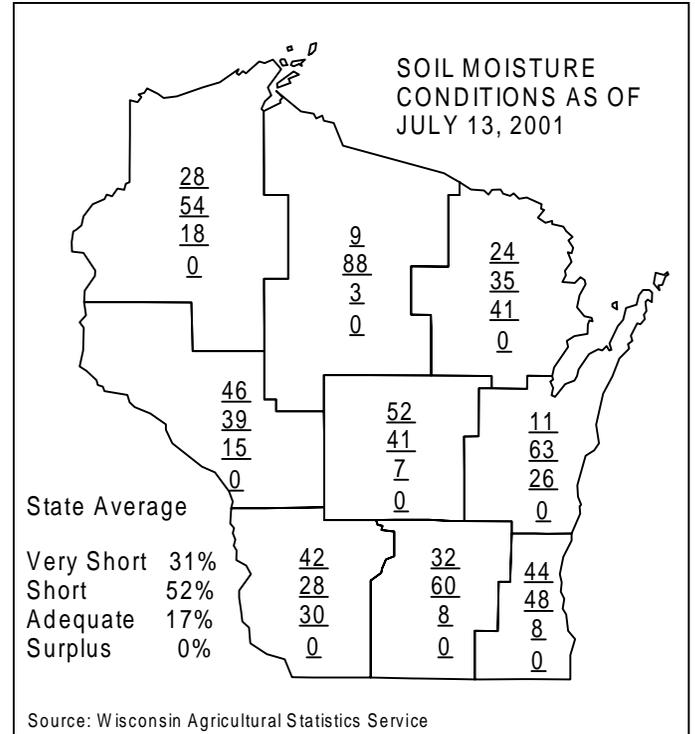
The growing season started out with a continual rain cycle. Now Wisconsin is experiencing a dry spell, with most of the state below normal for rainfall, after being above normal for most of the spring. For the first time this year, surplus soil moisture was not reported anywhere in the state. Soil moisture was reported 31% very short, 52% short, and 17% adequate. Farms with irrigation were watering crops, fruit, and vegetables last week, with no forecast of rain in the near future. Another week of sunny, dry weather lead to 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork.

**Corn** height averaged 42 inches, compared to 54 inches last year, and the 5-year average of 55 inches. Reporters around the state reported corn fields beginning to tassel.

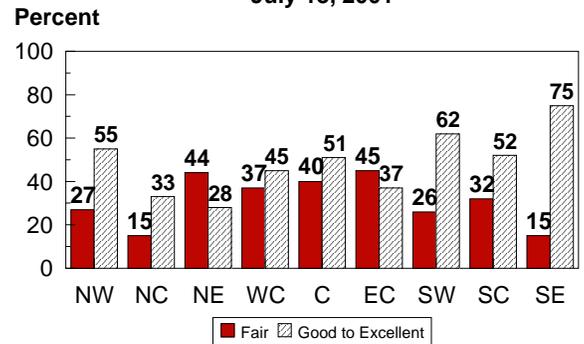
**Winter wheat** fields were rated 89% good to excellent, statewide. **Oats** headed reached 87%, statewide, last week, compared to 100% last year, and 96% for the 5-year average. Farmers reported winter wheat and oats reaching maturity, with harvest starting within the next 10 days. Small grains harvested as forage continued last week.

**Alfalfa** harvest reached 99% complete for first harvest, compared to 100% last year, and the 5-year average of 99%. Second cutting reached 52% complete for the year, compared to 47% last year, and 39% for the 5-year average. A positive side to last week dry weather, was good hay harvesting conditions.

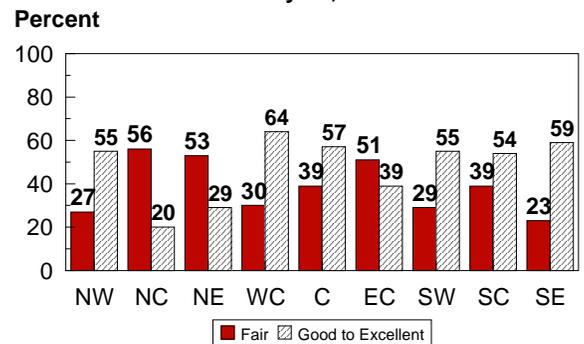
**Sweet corn** fields throughout the state were tasseled last week. A Bayfield County reporter commented on the great crop of **blueberries**; harvest will start soon. **Peas** were reported in bloom in Juneau County. A Portage County farmer reported late **snap bean** planting finishing up.



## Corn Condition Wisconsin by District July 13, 2001



## Soybean Condition Wisconsin by District July 13, 2001



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 13, 2001					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	8	20	36	28	8
Oats	0	5	30	50	15
Corn	3	15	31	35	16
Soybean	3	8	36	42	11
Winter Wheat	0	1	10	60	29

## Wisconsin Crop Progress, July 15, 2001

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 height 1/	39	36	40	38	38	36	45	48	53	42	54	55
Oats headed	86	72	80	90	91	91	90	93	97	87	100	96
1st crop Hay harvested	98	98	99	98	96	98	99	100	99	99	100	99
2nd crop Hay harvested	48	50	57	45	62	56	49	61	57	52	47	39

1/Average height of corn in inches to top of plant, excluding length of extending leaves.

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

**BAYFIELD-J.M.:** Very dry soil conditions exist. Irrigation is being done daily in the fruit regions of Bayfield. A great crop of blueberries exist, with harvest starting soon.

**CHIPPEWA-J.S.:** Need a good rain shower. Some fields are starting to show moisture stress. Second crop hay harvest is underway.

**ONEIDA-P.L.:** Lots of hay made. Quantity is good, quality is fair, as it was overmature. Now we are getting dry, will need rain for second crop! Early oats are beginning to turn nicely. Winter wheat and rye are turning and looking good. Strawberry picking is ending this week. Farmers market opened last Saturday; peas, lettuce, radishes, small red potatoes, onions, pickles, flowers, and herbs were the main products. Sweet corn is tasseled.

**TAYLOR-D.E.:** The corn leaves are starting to spike from lack of rain. Oats are short with the early-planted fields headed out. Second crop hay yields are very low with low feed value.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** Weeds are a concern in many corn and bean fields that didn't get sprayed at the appropriate time. Second crop hay yields down significantly due to first crop harvest wheel track damage. Have gone from very wet to quite dry in just a matter of two weeks.

**BUFFALO-R.S.:** No rain for three weeks has really curled up the corn; some won't set cobs. No sign of corn tassels yet. Second crop hay harvest going fast. Pastures are dormant. Hope weather patterns change with new moon.

**EAU CLAIRE-M.H.:** We need rain. Crops are growing rapidly. Second cutting alfalfa is a bit short, but flowering. Barley and oat fields are starting to turn. Corn on lighter soils is rolling in middle of the day.

**JACKSON-J.W.:** It is surprising how dry it is with all the rain earlier this year. It just proves the old saying that one extreme follows another. Crops are suffering. What looks like a good crop of blackberries is ending up a poor crop.

**JUNEAU-R.C.:** From too wet to being too dry; how quickly things can change. Corn leaves are rolled, and soybeans are wilted. Second crop hay is somewhat stunted, but quality is good. Peas are in bloom. Raspberries are a good crop. We need a shower to make the heat payoff.

**WAUPACA-G.K.:** Dry weather has made it possible for hay to dry. Low fields will be planted to corn and soybeans. Some tillage

being done to control weeds on unplanted areas. Some beautiful corn and soybeans on medium soils. First crop hay remaining is very coarse and has lots of stems. Second crop growth has slowed due to lack of moisture.

**FOND DU LAC-B.P.:** Drought beginning to show on all land. Second crop hay yields are less than expected. Soybeans are short, even early-planted ones.

**BROWN-O.G.:** Lots of land not planted yet. Too late for beans or corn. Many considering planting winter wheat or direct seed alfalfa, later in the year.

**KEWAUNEE-C.L.:** Crops in low areas that were wet in spring are very poor now. In general, crops can mature if rain comes soon.

**GRANT-E.B.:** No rain for twenty-four days. The corn rolls up everyday no matter how hot it is. Some is starting to turn silver. Second crop quantity is good and quality should be good.

**IOWA-R.G.:** Crops are suffering from lack of rain.

**DANE-D.F.:** Just a short month ago we were waiting for the rain to stop. Most crops showing moisture stress. Continued dry weather could cause problems during corn pollination and for third crop alfalfa. Alfalfa first harvested in mid-May has had good quantity and excellent quality for both cuts. Alfalfa first harvested in early to mid-June has had either good quantity (first cut) or good quality (second cut), but not both. Tobacco is topping very short, and late-planted crop is not doing well.

**KENOSHA-J.H.:** Rain is badly needed for everything if there is going to be anything for yield. The corn is burning up, soybeans have stopped growing.

**WALWORTH-P.R.:** Corn is starting to show a considerable amount of drought stress in many areas. Wheat harvest has started, with quality generally fair. Second crop alfalfa on the short side. Some reports of bean leaf beetles, corn borers and ear worms.



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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 15, 2001**

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 July 14	Mar. 1 to July 14 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	89	55	96	50	72	1	1,244	1,194	0.00	5.29	-0.65	18.52
Green Bay	85	54	92	50	70	0	1,183	1,087	0.13	5.38	0.58	16.60
La Crosse	90	60	96	52	75	2	1,360	1,347	0.00	3.88	-1.74	16.87
Madison	86	57	92	50	72	1	1,302	1,315	0.00	5.43	0.26	16.90
Milwaukee	81	62	88	58	71	0	1,208	n.a.	0.00	4.68	-0.09	18.07

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 1961-90 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. N.a. = not available. T = trace.