



Wisconsin Crop Progress

July 12, 2010

Vol. 10, No. 14

Rain, Heat, and Humidity

The past week brought warm, humid days and scattered showers across the state. In some areas, the added moisture really aided crop growth, while in other areas it caused stress. Many reporters stated that crops growing on lighter, higher soils looked excellent, while crops growing on heavier, lower soils were water logged and uneven. Weeds were also becoming a larger problem for many growers as rain showers and wind continued to slow herbicide applications.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week ranged from 3 to 9 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 84 to 87 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 66 to 72 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.89 inches in Madison to 3.49 inches in Green Bay. There were 4.6 days suitable for fieldwork. 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 continued to look good overall, with the average height of corn throughout the state reported at 59 inches high. Corn silked was reported at 13 percent complete, 9 percentage points above the five-year average. Throughout the state growers reported that corn responded well to the humidity the past week. However, some reported that corn growing in low-lying areas was uneven and yellow due to excess moisture. Late planted corn in Shawano County was reported as looking poor.

Soybeans were reported at 21 percent in bloom statewide. White mold was reported as a concern in Juneau County. In Kewaunee County, sandhill cranes were reported as a problem since they have been eating leaves and small pods that had started to form.

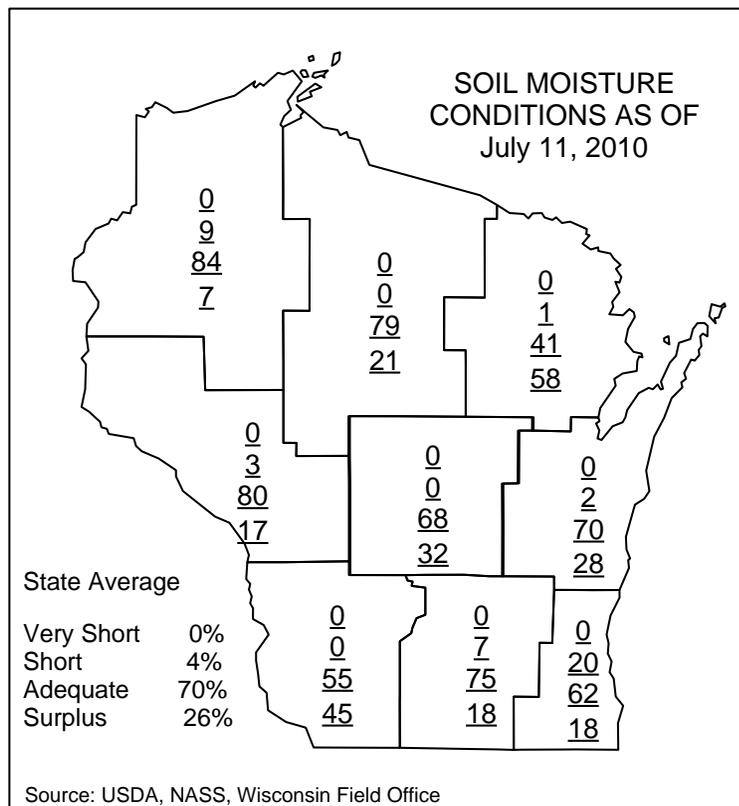
Across the state, **oats** headed was nearing completion, reported at 98 percent complete. Harvest of oats is ahead of schedule, with 2 percent reported complete statewide. This is the earliest oat harvest has been reported since records began in 1985.

Winter wheat was reported as looking excellent and having turned a golden color. Some growers reported that they have begun harvesting winter wheat.

First cutting **hay** was wrapping up, with 98 percent reported complete statewide. Second cutting hay continued, reported at 50 percent complete statewide. Reported yields for second crop were good to excellent. Third crop was reported as coming back and looking good.

Raspberries and **blueberries** were reported as being picked in Clark County.

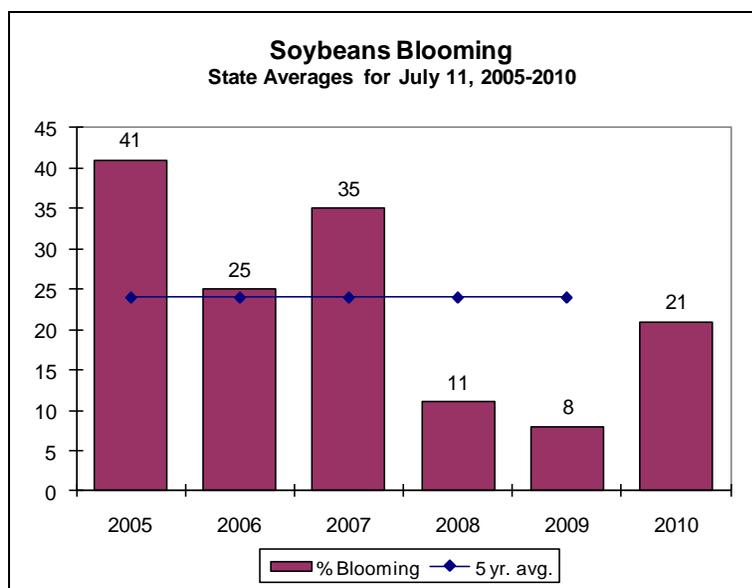
In Vilas County, **potatoes** were reported as being ahead of previous years, as they were in blossom and tubers had begun to form. Harvest of potatoes was reported as beginning in Portage County, and a report stated potatoes were starting to rot in the ground in Vernon County.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 11, 2010

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	1	4	11	46	38
Soybean	1	2	15	57	25
Winter Wheat	0	1	13	53	33
Oat	0	3	10	59	28
Pasture	0	1	10	61	28

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	7	1	4	15	9	10	20	17	25	13	n.a.	1	4
Average corn height	53	47	59	70	55	45	62	65	62	59	47	47	52
Soybeans blooming	11	20	24	12	27	23	12	28	33	21	10	8	24
Oats headed	95	99	99	97	100	94	98	99	100	98	94	90	93
First cutting hay	96	94	99	100	97	99	99	100	98	98	95	100	99
Second cutting hay	58	46	47	49	45	47	48	69	32	50	32	45	45

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

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-J.N.: Hay crops have been good. All crops are doing well, quality seems on track.

POLK-R.S.: Farms that have been able to harvest second crop alfalfa between the rains are reporting excellent quality and yield. A fair amount of hay down has been rained on, though. Soybeans are progressing well. Corn is also doing well, but there is a significant number of uneven stands.

MARATHON-S.N.: Sunny, high humidity and temperatures dominated the week. Intermittent showers produced 1.4 inches of rain on the Fourth of July weekend. Mid-week showers produced 0.30 inches to 0.60 inches of rain. Corn and soybeans look good for most of Marathon County. Farmers reported wheat and oats are looking very good with both crops turning a golden color. Farmers predict that they will be able to combine oats in two weeks. Farmers in the southeast part of the county report yellowing of corn and soybeans due to excessive moisture in their heavy soil.

VILAS-R.K.: Potatoes are ahead of previous years. Most are in blossom and tubers are forming. Heavier soils could use some drying. The crops in those fields are under some stress from excess moisture. Conditions are very favorable for the development of blight. Fungicides need to be applied to susceptible crops.

FLORENCE-T.B.: Not much change from the previous week. The weather for the most part was wet from rain or very high humidity. Was an excellent week for corn growth. Second crop hay has gotten off to a very good start.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Enough rain, 5.0 to 6.0 inches in our area this past week, impossible to hay. Over-all crop conditions are the best in years.

BUFFALO-R.S.: Saw a few corn tassels on July 4th, now a lot of fields are starting to silk. About 1.0 inch of rain for the week. With humidity it is hard to dry hay. Oats have turned color. Barley and wheat harvest looks like it will start in a week. Second cut hay is good yield. Some soybean fields really look poor.

TREMPEALEAU-J.H.: In general corn and soybeans look great except for a few wet areas. Corn just starting to tassel. Second crop hay yields okay. Wheat is turning color.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Snap beans flowering, but slightly pale. Saw a field of potatoes being harvested. Three

inches of rain slowed a lot of activity. Soybeans and corn suffering from excessively wet fields. Soybean fields are weedy. Too wet to apply herbicide.

WOOD-M.L.: It has been very difficult to harvest small grain nurse crops for alfalfa establishment typically harvested as forage. Fields are soft, oats and barley are thick, lodged and beginning to turn color. Second crop hay is excellent, corn in low areas appear to be permanently damaged.

WINNEBAGO-S.E.: Crops look good except for drowned out areas and fields that didn't get sprayed. Wheat is uneven in ripening.

CRAWFORD-J.B.: Wet weather earlier in the week caused minor flooding in the Gays Mills area. Also, heavy down pours in other parts of the county caused some prevented planting of both soybeans and vegetable crops. Vegetable crops hit by flash flooding a couple of weeks ago are recovering nicely. Some potatoes hit by that same flash flooding will be lost. With the exception of those situations, overall, crops in the county seem to be doing very well. Corn is beginning to tassel, oats and wheat are beginning to ripen and soybeans are starting to bloom. Hay has also done very well; however, as wet weather set in, quantity went up, quality went down.

GREEN-M.M.: Many corn fields have started shooting tassels. Majority of second crop has been harvested with yields above average. Most beans are flowering. Majority of corn and beans look good except in low-lying field were excess moisture has stunted growth.

OZAUKEE- K.A.: Dry and hot; could use rain. Spraying is almost done. Corn is looking good; seen some tassel July 4th. Soybeans are tall for this time of year. Not much disease pressure yet; alfalfa being sprayed for leaf hoppers. First crop hay all done. Wheat and oats turning fast.



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

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 11, 2010

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. 10	Mar. 1 to Jul. 10 normal*	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	84	66	87	58	75	5	1441	1110	1.14	5.97	0.40	12.24	-3.65
Green Bay	84	67	86	60	75	6	1298	1008	3.49	10.22	5.66	17.86	3.69
La Crosse	84	69	89	63	76	3	1603	1255	1.13	10.14	4.75	18.65	2.30
Madison	84	68	86	63	76	5	1495	1228	0.89	9.27	3.92	19.32	2.52
Milwaukee	87	72	91	66	80	9	1401	n.a.	0.90	7.83	3.09	16.84	-0.88

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.