



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Field Office of  
USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

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## Keep the Rain Coming!

Wisconsin farmers were thankful for the rains this past week, but more rain is needed. Showers were spotty, leaving some areas, especially northern regions, with little to no rain. Precipitation ranged from 0.29 inches in Green Bay to 2.86 inches in La Crosse. Temperatures averaged 3 to 5 degrees above normal. Low temperatures were reported in the mid 50s, and high temperatures reached 99. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 40 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 23 percent adequate. With the scattered rain, there was an average of 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

**Corn** conditions were rated as 10 percent very poor, 19 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 32 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. The average height of corn was 72 inches, greater than last year's 58 inches and the 5-year average of 63 inches. Corn silked, at 46 percent, was also well ahead of last year's 24 percent and the 5-year average of 25 percent. With the welcomed rains, some corn is abandoning signs of severe heat stress. However, much corn is still suffering due to the heat and lack of moisture. The rains may be too late for some corn on marginal soil.

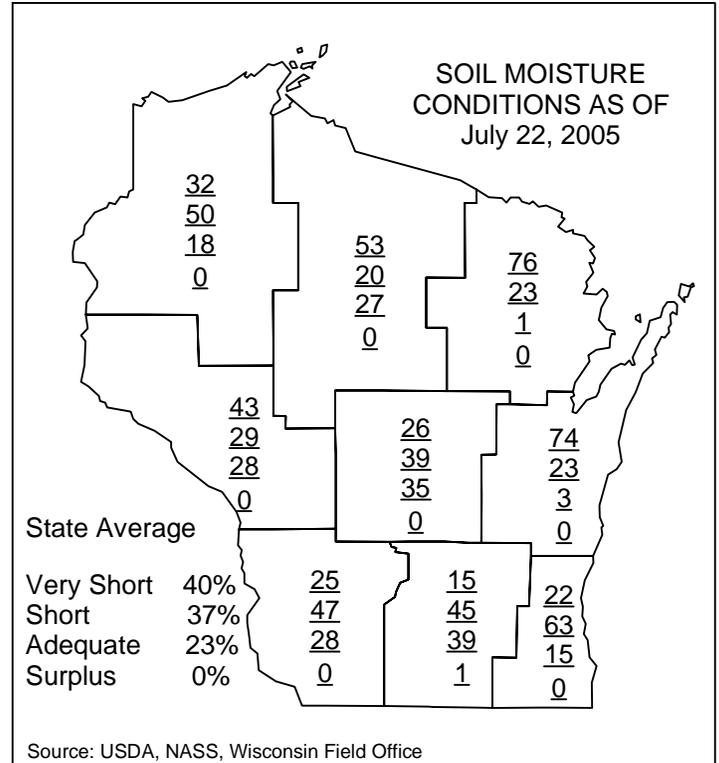
**Soybean** conditions were reported as 7 percent very poor, 15 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 36 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Blooming was at 74 percent, significantly higher than last year's 40 percent and the 5-year average of 42 percent. Soybeans setting pods was at 30 percent, with some southern regions already over 50 percent. Aphids are highly variable and have been sprayed in most areas.

**Oat** conditions were reported as 6 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Oats are completely headed, and harvest for grain is at 14 percent. Second cutting **hay** was reported at 75 percent complete, ahead of last year's 48 percent and the 5-year average of 63 percent. Second crop cuttings are showing decent quality, but lack quantity. Third crop regrowth is slow, and there are concerns about yields, while cutting has begun in some southern regions, but is short. Potato leafhoppers continue to be a yield-robbing pest in many areas.

**Pasture** conditions were rated as 17 percent very poor, 36 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 21 percent good, and 1 percent excellent.

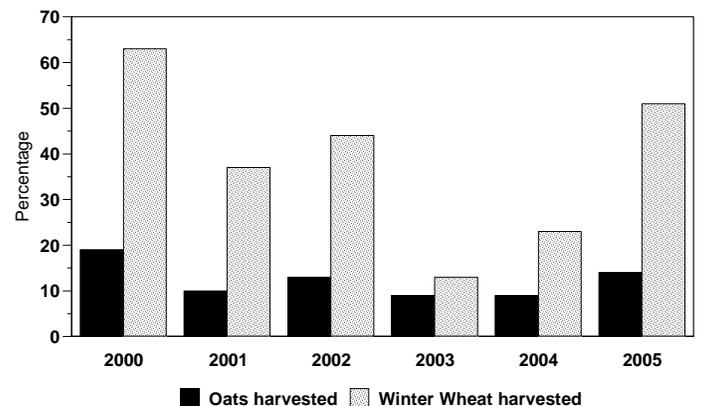
**Winter wheat** harvested was at 51 percent complete, well ahead of last year's 22 and the 5-year average of 33 percent. Due to the heat and lack of moisture, yields are less than expected in some areas.

**Fruit and vegetables** are hurting, despite spotty rain. Apple trees are beginning to drop apples. Snapbean, pea, and cucumber harvest are in full-swing.



Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	10	19	31	32	8
Soybeans	7	15	32	36	10
Oats	6	8	35	42	9
Pasture	17	36	25	21	1

Percentage of Oats and Winter Wheat Harvested  
Wisconsin - July 24, 2000-2005



## Wisconsin Crop Progress, July 24, 2005

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
Oats harvested for grain	5	10	4	14	17	13	19	26	7	14	9	10
Average height of corn	71	69	70	71	67	65	82	75	69	72	58	63
Corn silked	31	29	36	40	59	45	79	46	49	46	24	25
Soybeans bloomed	84	75	61	53	65	50	91	87	88	74	40	42
Soybeans setting pods	16	17	16	9	33	23	56	33	53	30	8	8
Second cutting hay	54	58	88	78	76	74	91	93	87	75	48	63
Winter wheat harvested	2	3	19	10	71	48	82	52	65	51	22	33

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

**POLK-C.S.:** Rain is desperately needed. Crops are suffering from the heat. Corn and alfalfa yields are declining rapidly. Aphid populations are increasing in soybeans.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Rain on Sunday night has helped crops, but need more. Corn and soybeans were both showing signs of stress. Hay and haylage production is down because of the heat and drought; regrowth is slow. Oats will be light because of the heat. Not much insect activity. Isolated problems with Armyworms.

**CLARK-N.S.:** Rains came just in time for corn pollination. Corn and soybean crops are no longer showing the drought stress symptoms they did two weeks ago. Soybean Aphids are present and below treatment thresholds in soybean fields. Later cuttings of second crop alfalfa are flowering.

**LINCOLN-F.O.:** Corn and soybeans are under severe stress due to lack of moisture. Corn leaves are rolling badly. Soybeans are not making much progress. There is little second crop hay. Small grains are ripening.

**LANGLADE-A.K.:** Fifty percent of the corn is now gone. If we get rain it would help the rest of the corn; silk is unknown. Twenty-five percent of the soybeans are gone, but some plants are trying to flower-there will be no pods. Hayfields and new seedlings are all brown.

**MARINETTE-S.R.:** Winter wheat is light, but yields are slightly better than expected. Any corn with sufficient moisture is tasseling, but many fields or field areas are beyond repair, no matter how much rain is received.

**EAU CLAIRE-E.P.:** Received some much-needed moisture last week and some wind this weekend. The rain is a reprieve for most after a hot, dry, two-week period. The rain brought out the silks and tassels.

**LA CROSSE-S.H.:** Corn and soybeans are dry and stressing. Second crop hay has good quality, but smaller quantity. Insect numbers in alfalfa are high.

**WAUPACA-D.L.H.:** Second crop hay is short. Grains are yielding good. Weeds are a problem.

**WAUSHARA-J.J.:** Irrigated crops look very good. Dryland is suffering. Snapbean harvest is in full swing. We did get a little rain on Thursday, but afraid it is a little too late.

**CALUMET-M.G.:** Crops are still burning up.

**WINNEBAGO-R.H.:** Corn and soybeans are looking good in fields that were planted early with plenty of fertilizer applied and a good shot of Nitrogen. Third crop alfalfa is growing very slow, but the quality looks good. We need rain for everything.

**GRANT-D.W.:** We received just under 2.0 inches of rain this week-very welcomed indeed. Timing is everything and the corn is pollinating now, so the rain should help considerably. We are still somewhat dry, but conditions have really improved since last week.

**RICHLAND-S.K.:** The rain we received this week really did our crops good. The corn looks very good. The soybeans are starting to set pods. We are nearly done with second crop hay. Second crop hay is a very good crop, both in quality and quantity.

**DANE-D.R.:** Today's rain was a help, but corn and soybeans are greatly in need of more rain. Corn is under stress and at critical stage if not irrigated.

**ROCK-C.O.:** Winter wheat yields were down as were straw yields; however, the quality was great with sixty-pound test weights. Dry, humid, weather has made the oat crop questionable. Corn has held up remarkably well given the growing conditions, but soybeans have been under attack by Aphids. Most farmers have sprayed for Aphids.

**WALWORTH-E.P.:** We got a nice shower Wednesday and Thursday morning; enough to make a third crop of hay. Winter wheat is going from 70-95 bushels per acre.

**WAUKESHA-D.W.:** Second crop hay is very short. Corn has come back with the rain. Soybeans are still behind; rain will help.



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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 24, 2005**

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 23	Mar. 1 to July 23 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	87	64	97	53	76	4	1663	1387	0.55	7.53	0.43	15.76
Green Bay	85	61	93	56	73	3	1513	1272	0.29	4.89	-1.07	13.15
La Crosse	89	68	99	58	79	5	1859	1560	2.86	5.75	-1.34	14.74
Madison	85	64	94	57	75	3	1708	1518	2.46	4.69	-2.20	15.54
Milwaukee	83	67	88	65	75	3	1515	n.a.	0.79	4.60	-1.61	14.45

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.