



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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

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Each growing season the USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office works to provide an accurate report depicting the progress of crop planting, growth (development), and harvest, as well as current crop conditions. Due to the nature of the report, the title has been changed to "Wisconsin Crop Progress". If you are interested in weather data in addition to what is provided in the table on the following page, please reference one of the following sites.

- <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>
- <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
- <http://www.cocorahs.org/>

Cold Weather Delays Spring Fieldwork

Below average temperatures and recent rain fall have delayed spring fieldwork in Wisconsin. Average temperatures were 3 to 8 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures were in the high 30s to mid 40s across the state. Average low temperatures reached down into the mid 20s to low 30s. Rainfall totals last week ranged from 0.18 inches in La Crosse to 1.64 inches in both Madison and Milwaukee. Soil moisture conditions were at 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 38 percent surplus. There was an average of 0.9 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

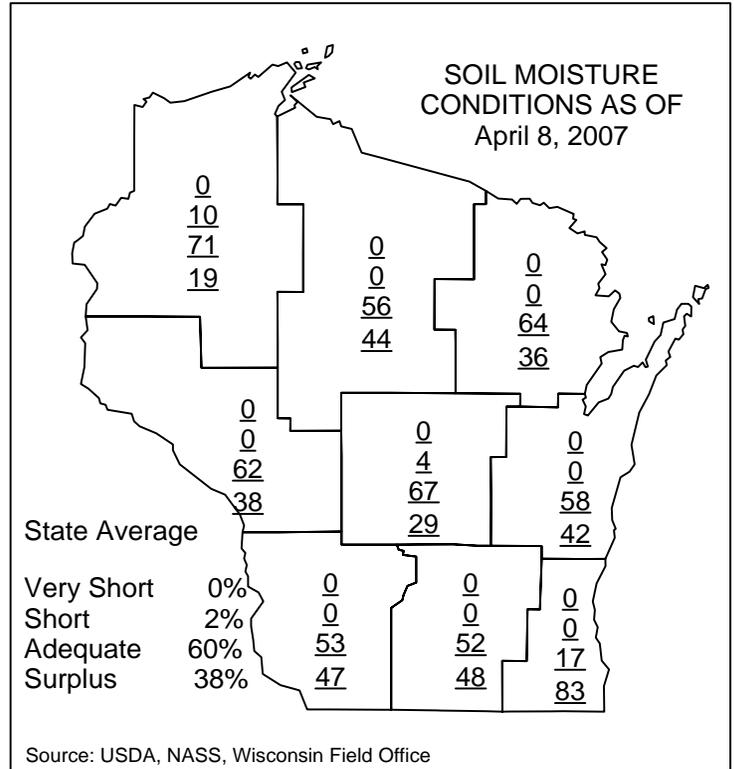
Oats planted was reported at 1 percent complete, unchanged from last year's average and below the 5-year average of 7 percent. Planting was limited to lighter soils in the southern and central areas of the state.

Spring tillage was reported at 1 percent complete, unchanged from last year's average and below the 5-year average of 4 percent. Rain and frost slowed tillage progress. A few farmers were able to begin spring tillage between the rains.

Alfalfa and winter wheat had begun to green up, however the cold temperatures have halted progress. Most reporters stated that it was too early to tell the extent of any winterkill. Some areas in the southern part of the state have started alfalfa seeding.

The **Maple Syrup** season was reported to be very poor this year. The high temperatures at the end of March slowed or even stopped production. Most growers collected very little sap compared to other years.

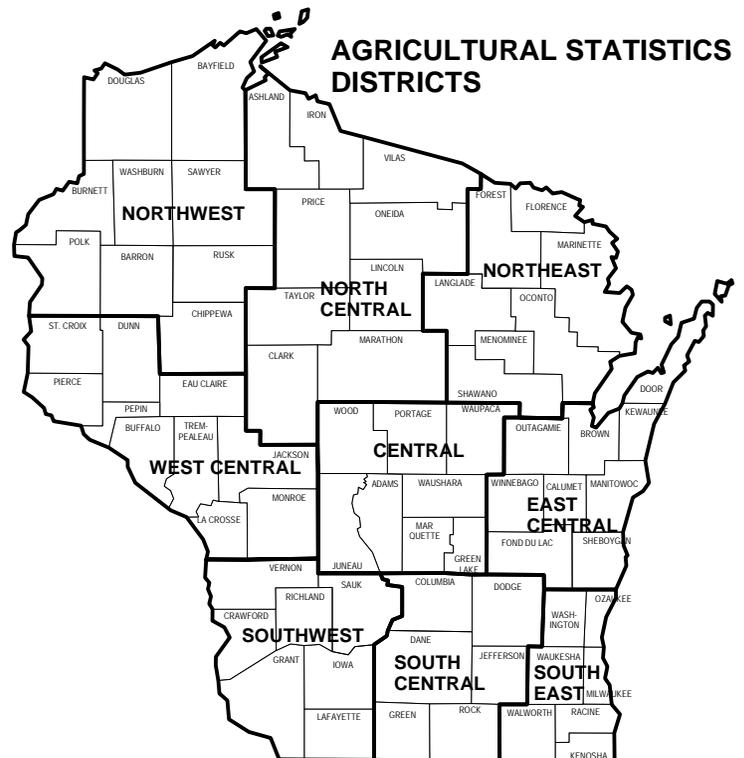
Manure hauling was kept to a minimum because of rainfall throughout the state.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of April 8, 2007

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	1	1	16	59	23
Pasture	22	26	18	30	4

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-R.C.: Still very early to conclude what impact winter had on alfalfa, winter wheat or pastures. There is still frost in the ground in places and water standing (now ice) in fields. Need heat.

RUSK-G.P.: There is no field activity yet. With frost in the ground, and recent rain and snow, fields are very wet. Do not know about winterkill as of yet. Maple syrup season was poor this year. Temperatures were in the teens the last three mornings.

CLARK-N.S.: Hard frost returned this week. Little field activity going on.

MARATHON-M.K.: Hayfields are looking good so far. There is no fieldwork as of yet. Maple syrup season is very poor.

FOREST-A.K.: Maple syrup season was very poor. No fieldwork yet, as there is snow on the ground.

SHAWANO-T.A.: Winterkill seems slight at most. We are optimistic.

BUFFALO-R.S.: Alfalfa emerged during March and is now frozen, so will have to see what it does now. Rye and winter wheat look fine. Some manure is being spread on frozen ground. Had 2.0 inches of rain that soaked in at the end of March, but the soil seems dry yet.

PIERCE-J.K.: Ground has been freezing and thawing every day for almost a week now. It can not be good for the alfalfa, but kind of early to tell yet. Most of the frost was out before this cold spell, so the rain we got soaked in pretty good.

JUNEAU-A.R.: Alfalfa was looking great, but will see how it survives this cold weather that just moved in. Looks like it will be a while before fieldwork gets going.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: Alfalfa and winter wheat made it through the winter in excellent condition. I did not see any fieldwork being done at this time. Alfalfa and wheat look great. A few oats sowed in late March on light soils. There is water running out of hillsides that has never run before. We will know more about wheat and alfalfa when the weather warms up.

FOND DU LAC-J.M.: So far no sign of winterkill. The frost had been out, but the ground was frozen again-very hard this morning. Planting decisions will be easy this year with the high grain prices.

SHEBOYGAN-T.B.: At the end of the week, winterkill damage was not evident on either alfalfa or winter wheat. Enough frost had gone back into the fields to allow fertilizer spreading on winter wheat, hay and pasture fields by the week's end. No spring tillage or planting activities have started yet.

GRANT-G.C.: Alfalfa looked like it came through the winter in good shape. Pasture and alfalfa greened up earlier in the week with plenty of warm rain. Wednesday everything froze up solid. Temperatures at 19 degrees and snow the rest of week did not improve conditions.

DANE-C.B.: Cold night time temperatures have many growers worried. Winter wheat is in the stage where it can survive down to -12 degrees Fahrenheit. Alfalfa and winter wheat have come out of winter looking great. Many are ready to do fieldwork. It is unlikely we will see as much activity in April as we have seen in the past three years.

GREEN-M.M.: Fieldwork has been limited to hauling manure. Very little tillage has been done due to wet soil conditions and cold temperatures. Alfalfa had made it through the winter and was greening up nicely thanks to record high temperatures in late March, but new growth is now showing some damage due to overnight temperatures in the teens this week.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Both alfalfa and winter wheat look O.K. Fields are very wet. Frost has been absent for about three weeks now. Garlic has emerged and now stands 4.0 inches above mulch line. On only one other occasion in the last 15 years has it begun emergence by March 20th. One farmer was disking corn stalks in late March.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on April 8, 2007

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 April 7	Mar. 1 to April 7 normal *	Last week	Since March 1	March 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	38	24	51	16	31	-8	73	11	0.47	3.46	0.99	5.08	0.78
Green Bay	42	30	57	20	36	-3	71	11	0.27	3.01	0.35	5.03	0.15
La Crosse	43	28	54	19	36	-7	95	26	0.18	3.36	0.66	5.90	0.99
Madison	43	29	59	19	36	-5	98	28	1.64	5.03	2.02	7.46	1.90
Milwaukee	45	32	61	21	38	-3	106	n.a.	1.64	4.85	1.42	7.07	0.14

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.