



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Vol. 14, No. 3
Issued April 21, 2014

For the week of April 14-20, 2014
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Rain, Snow, and Mud

Freezing overnight temperatures and wintery precipitation stalled progress across much of the state early this week. A midweek snowstorm dumped up to 20 inches of snow across the north, but reporters noted that warmer temperatures and rain over the weekend were melting snow cover quickly. Widespread rain and snowmelt reportedly left many fields too muddy to support machinery, with some standing water reported. Manure spreading and fertilizer applications continued wherever possible. Some farmers were reportedly harvesting corn left standing last fall while others were chopping or disking stalks to clear last year's corn fields. Reporters noted that hay, pasture, winter wheat and winter rye were greening up slowly and it remains too early to make an accurate assessment of winterkill.

On average, there were 1.5 days suitable for fieldwork this week.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 4 to 7 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 46 to 52 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 26 to 31 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.41 inches in Eau Claire to 3.00 inches in Madison. 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/>

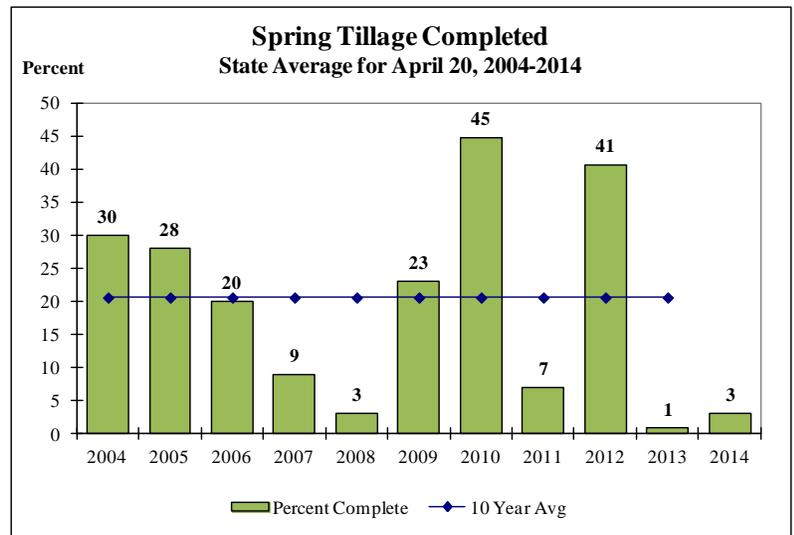
As of April 20, **spring tillage** was 3 percent complete statewide, compared to 1 percent last year and a five year average of 23 percent.

Oats planted was at 2 percent this week, compared to 0 percent last year and a five year average of 35 percent.

Pasture condition improved, with 48 percent poor to very poor this week compared to 60 percent last week.

Maple sap was still running in the far north, although reporters noted that trees in most areas have begun to bud, ending the sugaring season.

A reporter for Portage County noted that **potato** planting has begun.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of April 20, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range	27	21	31	20	1
Winter Wheat	1	9	37	48	5

Source: USDA, NASS

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of April 20, 2014

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
Days Suitable	Days									Days		
	0.6	0.8	0.0	1.2	2.7	0.4	2.9	1.9	1.9	1.5	1.5	0.1
Topsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent		
Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Short	2	6	8	1	0	0	6	8	5	3	4	5
Adequate	64	76	32	63	58	44	74	56	79	63	62	57
Surplus	34	18	60	36	42	56	20	34	16	34	34	38
Subsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent		
Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	1	2
Short	10	5	8	11	1	1	16	15	3	9	10	22
Adequate	72	94	44	81	73	54	77	75	84	75	72	61
Surplus	18	1	48	8	26	45	4	7	13	16	17	15

Source: USDA, NASS.

Wisconsin Crop Progress

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

BURNETT-J.D.: Got over 12 inches of snow on Thursday.
WASHBURN-E.M.: Received 14-20 inches of snow this week on Wednesday and Thursday!
ASHLAND\IRON-C.B.: 100 percent under snow cover. Just received 6-12 inches of new snow throughout the area.
ONEIDA-B.E.: We saw well over a foot of snow here in the past week, after most of the snow was already gone. Temperatures continued to be below normal, and we saw about .50 inch of rain as well. The majority of the cranberry beds here still have ice on them and we put a surface flood of water on those vines that were exposed.
LANGLADE-A.K.: Still looks and acts like middle of March instead of the latter part of April. No activity other than watching the snow.
JACKSON-T.W.: Wet conditions have limited field work to manure hauling and some stalk chopping.
MONROE-M.Y.: There is still some frost in the ground at some places. We had another 5 inches snow last Sunday night. Maple sap is slow. Alfalfa looks ok.
ST CROIX-D.K.: Cold week with snow on Wednesday. Warm up sounds like it will be this coming week
PORTAGE-D.Z.: 6 inches snow last Monday and cold most of week - very little to report.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Most of the 4 inches snowfall from Monday has melted. Cold wet weather has delayed farming activities by three weeks. It is still too early to determine winter kill since alfalfa and winter wheat have not broken dormancy.
DOOR-R.S.: Still some frost in ground. Rained some on Sunday day and evening with more today.
FOND DU LAC-B.P.: Waiting for warmer weather. Winter wheat looking good, don't see any damage.
GRANT-D.W.: Not much going on though we should see fieldwork pick up next week. I have seen a little tillage before the heavy rains last weekend, but it has been too wet and cold to resume activity.
DANE-J.K.: Snow gone. Got 3.4 inches of rain. Most of frost out. Alfalfa and wheat are greening up, not out of dormancy yet - too cold at night, especially for alfalfa. Don't see much evidence of winter kill. Very little spring field work done, some were succeeding last week. Small amount of oats on high ground. Some fertilizer went on, some manure going on where suitable. Fruit trees not doing much, too cold and soil is too cold deep down also.
KENOSHA/RACINE-J.H.: Wet - cold - slow to change.
WAUKESHA-R.F.: Hauled manure Saturday and Sunday. Alfalfa is coming and pastures are greening up.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on April 20, 2014

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 Apr 19	Mar. 1 to Apr. 19 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	47	26	66	20	37	-7	52	62	0.41	3.13	-0.46	6.33	+0.92
Green Bay	46	29	55	19	37	-7	38	53	1.52	3.29	-0.40	6.08	+0.18
La Crosse	50	31	70	26	41	-7	84	86	1.40	5.05	+1.01	7.41	+1.19
Madison	52	29	67	18	41	-4	83	89	3.00	4.60	+0.27	6.49	-0.41
Milwaukee	46	31	56	23	39	-5	51	n.a.	1.68	3.66	-1.28	6.40	-2..02

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.