Above average temperatures aided crop development during the week ending July 5, 2020, according USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. There were 4.8 days suitable for fieldwork. Field activities included cutting hay and limited spraying.

Heavy rains in northwest and southern Minnesota slightly increased overall Topsoil moisture supplies to 1% very short, 10% short, 73% adequate and 16% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 1% very short, 7% short, 79% adequate and 13% surplus.

Corn condition was rated at 85% good to excellent, up slightly from the previous week. Corn silking had reached 2%. Soybeans blooming reached 43% this week, advancing to 15 days ahead of last year and 1-week ahead of the 5-year average. Soybean condition increased slightly to 83% good to excellent.

Spring wheat headed reached 85%, advancing to 6 days ahead of last year and 1-day ahead of normal while 3% was turning color. Spring wheat condition declined to 77% good to excellent. Oats heading was 93% complete, 8 days ahead of last year and 6 days ahead of normal while 26% was turning color. Oat condition dropped to 68% good to excellent. Barley was 91% headed and 8% coloring with the condition remaining at 76% good to excellent.

Sunflower condition rating increased slightly to 74% good to excellent. Potato condition decreased to 90% good to excellent. Sugarbeet condition decreased slightly to 95% good to excellent. Dry beans blooming progress advanced to 28%, 12 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of average. Dry bean condition remained at 84% good to excellent.

Minnesota’s second cutting of alfalfa hay was 40% completed, 16 days ahead of last year and 2 days ahead of average. All hay condition improved to 62% good to excellent. Pasture conditions declined slightly to 62% good to excellent.
Maps from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center reflect data collected from 7:00 A.M. Central Time on June 29, 2020, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on July 5, 2020.

National Weather Service data, courtesy of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources State Climatology Office, is available at:
http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/climate/historical/summary.html

Growing Degree Days can be found at https://mygeohub.org/groups/u2u/gdd

Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/