



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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For the week ending April 17, 2016
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Warm, Breezy Week Jumpstarts Fieldwork

There were 3.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending April 17, 2016, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Temperatures rose steadily throughout this week, with daytime highs reaching the upper 70s and low 80s by the weekend. Sunny, breezy conditions and minimal precipitation helped dry out fields and jumpstart fieldwork. Though some reporters noted that fields were still too wet for planting, many commented that oats and alfalfa were going into the ground quickly. Potatoes were being planted in central and southern Wisconsin, though potato planting had not yet begun in most of the northern portions of the state. Some early corn seeding was also reported but many producers were holding off until the soil warms up. Spring tillage, manure spreading and fertilizer applications rounded out field activities for the week. Winter wheat, hay and pastures responded to warm conditions with a burst of growth. Reports on winterkill were variable.

Statewide, **topsoil moisture** had declined from the previous week, with 0 percent very short, 4 percent short, 69 percent adequate and 27 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 71 percent adequate and 27 percent surplus.

As of April 17th, **spring tillage** was 14 percent complete statewide, equal to last year and 3 days ahead of the five-year average.

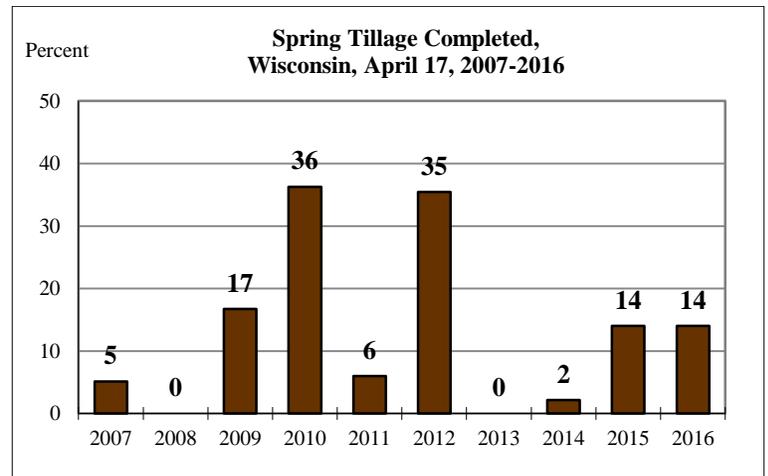
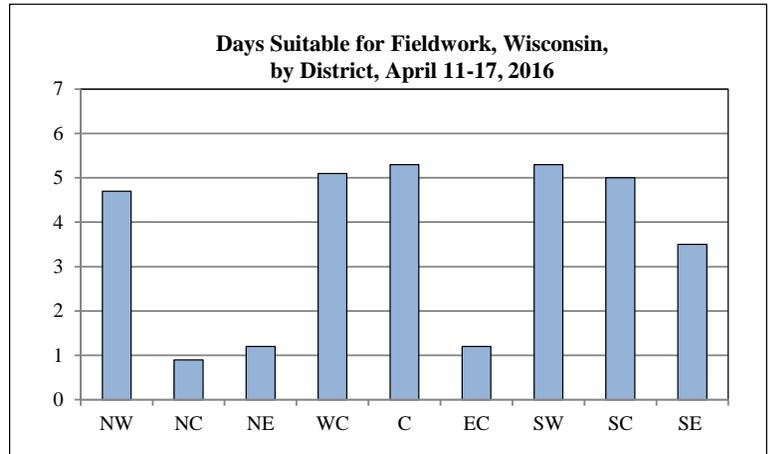
Corn planting has begun with 1 percent reported complete.

Oats planting was reported as 16 percent complete, 2 days behind 2015 and 1 percentage point behind the five-year average. One percent of the oat crop has emerged.

Nine percent of the **potato** crop was planted, one week behind last year.

Pasture condition was rated 80 percent fair to good, compared to 77 percent last week.

Winter wheat was 79 percent in good to excellent condition statewide, equal to the previous week.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of April 17, 2016

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture & Range	3	9	37	43	8
Winter Wheat.....	0	3	18	53	26

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of April 17, 2016

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
Oats Planted.....	11	2	5	20	9	3	34	35	10	16	3	20	17
Potatoes Planted.....	2	0	0	7	11	n.a.	22	15	n.a.	9	0	17	n.a.
Spring Tillage.....	11	2	6	18	14	3	26	20	13	14	2	14	12

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of April 17, 2016

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
Days Suitable	Days									Days		
	4.7	0.9	1.2	5.1	5.3	1.2	5.3	5.0	3.5	3.9	1.0	5.1
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Short.....	4	0	6	8	4	0	5	5	0	4	1	19
Adequate.....	77	57	55	77	80	51	83	76	38	69	54	66
Surplus.....	19	43	39	15	14	49	12	19	62	27	45	14
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Short.....	2	0	0	4	2	0	0	4	0	2	1	21
Adequate.....	84	67	53	81	84	37	92	73	55	71	62	68
Surplus.....	14	33	47	15	14	63	8	23	45	27	37	9

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.

SAWYER-K.S.: Spring field season is in full swing. Pastures and hay fields are starting to green up. A good warm rain will really bring things to life. Manure hauling, spring tillage and planting of small grains getting under way.

WASHBURN-P.H.: Starting small grain planting. Soils drying out for hauling manure and first tillage. Pasture starting to grow.

ASHLAND/IRON-C.B.: No field activity. Warmer temperatures predicted for this weekend. Fields may start drying out and some field activity may start.

MARINETTE-N.S.: Started to see some field work and more manure applications toward the end of the week. Expecting more as good weather pattern continues.

EAU CLAIRE-J.C.: Seeding of alfalfa and small grains started with good soil conditions. Primary tillage and manure applications rapidly progressing.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Persons are beginning to haul manure to get ready for spring planting. Some machinery is seen in yards having oil changes in preparation for a busy few weeks ahead.

ST CROIX-R.F.: Wow! What a difference a week makes. A week ago no spring tillage had started yet. Near record high temperatures during the past few days have changed that. Many acres of corn and oats have been planted in the last 5 days. So far hay fields look good. The maple sap season has ended. Dare I say we could use some rain.

PORTAGE/WOOD-J.B.: Peas and potatoes went in the ground all last week. The dairies hauled manure all week. Little oats went in on the sand. Excellent start to the planting season but very dry on the light ground. Need the rain predicted this week

DOOR/KEWAUNEE-A.B.: Fields are very wet for the most part, but some will be able to spread manure on lighter soils in the coming days. Significant field work is still a couple weeks away, we need some dry weather and sun before most can get in the fields.

GRANT-T.E.: We had several days last week where it wasn't raining and not so windy. Tillage and spraying was getting done quickly. Some planters are now being seen out in the fields. Rain is in the forecast this week.

DODGE-R.H.: Friday, Saturday, Sunday were beautiful days. Sunday there were a couple people out working up fields. Winter wheat and alfalfa look like they are in great shape with no winter kill.

GREEN-M.M.: Many farmers completed seeding of oats and alfalfa with a lot of manure being spread and fertilizer applied this week. Some corn was also planted at the end of the week. Majority of alfalfa and winter wheat has come through winter well.

OZAUKEE/SHEBOYGAN-M.B.: The winter wheat crop was looking better 3 weeks ago. With the cold and wet conditions some areas are turning brown. Will see if the crop responds favorably to the warmer temps.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on April 17, 2016

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. 16	Mar. 1 to Apr. 16 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	63	36	81	19	50	+7	114	50	0.01	5.21	+1.90	6.59	+1.45
Green Bay	54	33	74	29	44	+1	54	44	0.22	4.87	+1.45	7.35	+1.70
La Crosse	65	40	82	25	53	+6	139	73	0.03	4.80	+1.08	6.97	+1.07
Madison	59	33	78	26	46	+2	105	76	0.03	6.79	+2.75	9.02	+2.49
Milwaukee	51	35	63	30	43	-1	82	n.a.	0.07	5.35	+0.78	7.66	-0.40

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. n.a.=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more 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/>