



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

May 28, 2002

Vol. 02, No. 8

Normal Temperatures for Wisconsin

After five weeks of below normal temperatures, planting, emergence, and growth for all crops were reported slow due to less than ideal weather conditions. The extended period of cool temperatures this spring caused crop progress to be delayed, until last week. In an effort to finish planting, farmers throughout the state took advantage of the best planting conditions so far this spring. Reports throughout the state called for warmer temperatures to boost crop progress. Several farmers in central Wisconsin reported frost five mornings last week.

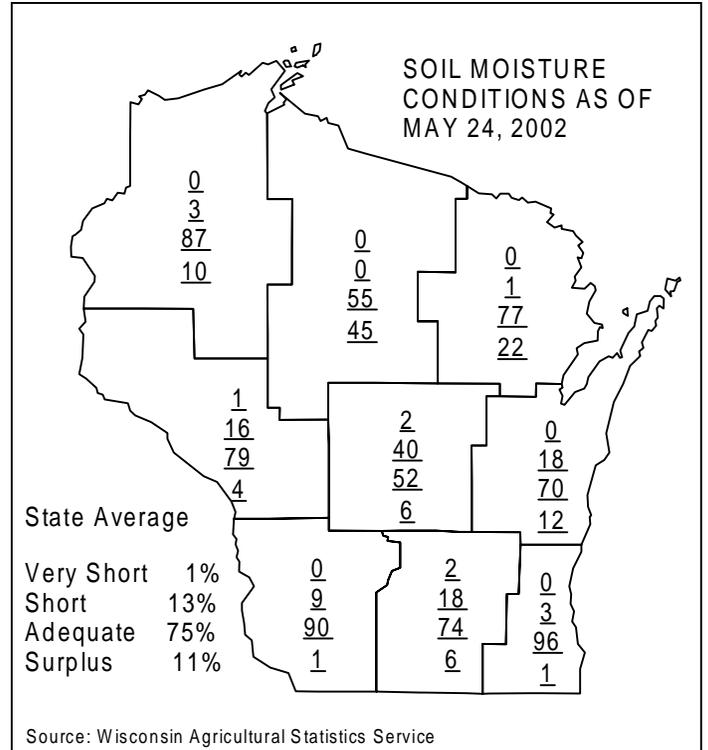
Late last week, temperatures began to increase into the normal temperature range for May. Wisconsin farmers saw 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork. Wisconsin soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 13 percent short, 75 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus.

Farmers throughout the state reported **corn** and **soybean** planting progressed at a rapid pace last week. Farmers are concerned about the prospect of replanting corn. Emerged corn in southern Wisconsin was reported to look yellow. Warm weather is needed to see emergence progress at a rapid pace. Some farmers in the southern two-thirds of the state were rotary hoeing corn fields planted several weeks ago. Several southwestern Wisconsin farmers reported some frost damage to corn and soybeans.

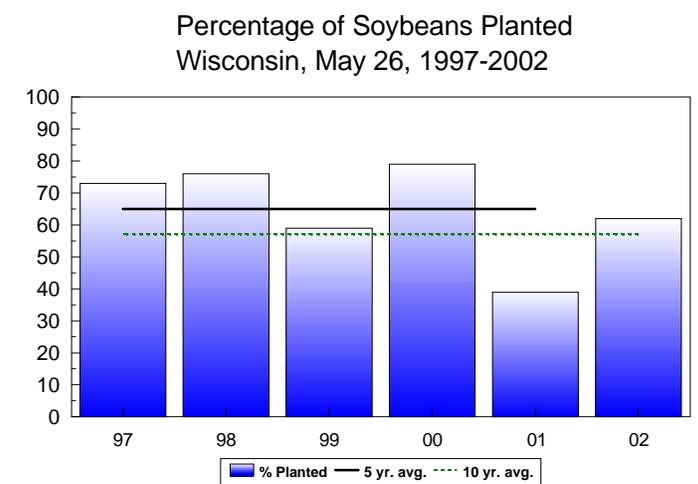
Alfalfa was reported short, yet maturing throughout the state. A Marinette County farmer reported disease showing in alfalfa fields. There were several reports, mainly in southern Wisconsin, of first cutting alfalfa last week. The state average reached 3 percent complete, compared to 4 percent last year, and 12 percent for the 5-year average. Northern Wisconsin farmers raised some concern about feed supplies with alfalfa and **pasture** fields behind previous years' progress.

Oats and **winter wheat** were growing well. A Dane County farmer reported flag leaf stage for winter wheat.

Apple trees were reported close to bloom in Chippewa County and in bloom in Oconto County. Fruit trees were reported blooming in Shawano County. **Pears** and apples in Walworth County are setting fruit. Frost caused blossom loss to **Cherry** and apple trees in Door County. Lower-lying areas were affected the most.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 24, 2002					
Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	3	8	33	46	10
Winter wheat	1	2	13	61	23
Oat	0	4	23	62	11



Wisconsin Crop Progress, May 26, 2002

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
Corn planted	67	48	64	80	74	71	90	90	86	79	76	89
Corn emerged	5	3	8	19	17	17	40	39	30	24	42	n.a.
Soybeans planted	20	35	47	54	43	55	79	73	72	62	39	65
Soybeans emerged	n.a.	n.a.	2	9	5	11	25	19	16	14	20	n.a.
Oats planted	72	71	82	97	98	86	100	100	100	90	94	99
Oats emerged	39	30	40	60	65	52	98	96	96	63	83	94
Spring tillage	68	62	88	93	74	76	91	89	92	82	85	95

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

CHIPPEWA-J.M.: Some corn just beginning to emerge, but not far enough along to make a replant decision. Alfalfa winterkill becoming apparent in some areas of the county.

POLK-T.J.: Farmers made a great deal of spring planting progress this week. The first corn emerged about mid-week. Alfalfa is growing very slowly.

CLARK-R.T.: Lots of fieldwork done this week. Hay growth is short.

LINCOLN-F.O.: Planting of crops going well. Some fields still too wet. Very little oats and corn have emerged. Pasture and hay crops show some growth, with very little winter damage. All crops are at least two weeks behind normal.

ONEIDA-L.O.: Producers that have decided to take a chance and plant have been busy planting small grains and corn. Hayfields and pastures are not growing like they should be.

LANGLADE-A.M.: Lots of planting done last week. Some oats has emerged, but most is slow to come up.

MARINETTE-S.R.: Wet and cool conditions continue. Alfalfa leaf diseases and leaf drop are fairly significant.

EAU CLAIRE-M.P.: Almost 100 percent of the crops have been planted. Apple trees are in bloom. Alfalfa is growing slowly with PEAQ values above 230.

MONROE-B.D.: Some corn has been in the ground for four weeks and still not up. Hay looks short and needs heat and rain. Some fields of oats look really good!

PORTAGE-J.W.: Taking about twenty days for early-planted corn to emerge, looks alright. Lots of frost-watching on cranberries, not much growth yet. Fruit trees blooming good, but question set due to frosts. Hay looks short now. Need heat.

WOOD-F.M.: Hay crop very far behind due to cold soil temperatures, will affect quality. Still keeping cranberry growers busy at night to prevent freezing. Apple trees blossomed and look good.

FOND DU LAC-K.G.: Planting of corn and beans nearing completion on lighter loam soils, but only maybe 50 percent done on clays. Fruit trees finally in blossom. Hay yields most assuredly will be down, due to cool, wet, weather and recent regular overnight frost. Also, more dandelion pressure than normal in hay.

SHEBOYGAN-T.B.: The planting of corn and soybeans progressed tremendously this past week. The best week so far this growing season for progression of fieldwork. The western, well-drained soils of county saw fieldwork completed. Eastern portions got off to a good start and put many acres in. No replanting yet, but concern for long-planted, but not emerged corn. Digging seed shows it to be in good condition, with many fields having germinated, but not emerged. Alfalfa is getting ready to bud, but most is of poor size. Farmers are thinking first crop hay will be as poor as average second crop. All the crops could use some growing degree day accumulations.

GRANT-E.B.: Had white frost three days. It's been a long time since we've had corn look this bad. It is yellow and brown. The ground is hard and it's having a hard time breaking through. No one is replanting yet, hoping for a little rain and warm weather. A lot of hay is being cut, but too cold to dry fast.

DANE-C.B.: Many rotary hoes getting across many acres. Much-needed rain fell Saturday morning, 0.70 of an inch fell in north-eastern part of the county. A lot of fieldwork was completed with winter jackets on this week. Corn with yellow plant tissue is disappearing with warm weather. Soybeans with full maturities can be planted through first week in June. If alfalfa fields have less than 25 plants per square feet, consider rotating to another crop. Flag leaf on wheat has emerged, and we should begin to see heads soon!

KENOSHA-J.H.: Corn is coming up slowly. Hay seems quite short.

RACINE-L.F.: Need some warmth to go along with the plantings that have been done. Corn is emerging nicely, but, again, it needs the sun.



Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 8934
Madison, WI 53708-8934
(608) 224-4848
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/risetoc.htm>

Robert J. Battaglia
State Statistician

Angela Byers-Krantz
Statistician

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 26, 2002

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 May 25	Mar. 1 to May 25 normal *	Last week	Since March 1	March 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	65	39	75	27	52	-8	296	374	0.16	9.12	1.52	11.20
Green Bay	58	36	76	30	47	-12	233	314	0.86	7.23	0.54	9.33
La Crosse	67	42	80	34	54	-9	368	432	0.12	6.57	-1.44	9.21
Madison	59	39	70	30	49	-11	325	425	0.61	7.57	-0.56	10.36
Milwaukee	56	40	69	33	48	-10	276	n.a.	0.54	7.67	-1.14	10.57

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 1961-90 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. N.a. = not available. T = trace.