



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

June 17, 2002

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## Second Week of Wet Weather

As Wisconsin's air warmed to average seasonal temperatures last week, its rainfall remained above the seasonal norm. Farmers reported standing water, some of which has covered the younger plants in low-lying fields. In Oconto County, erosion deposits buried corn plants. Across the state, farmers called for warmer weather to dry out the fields and improve crop growth.

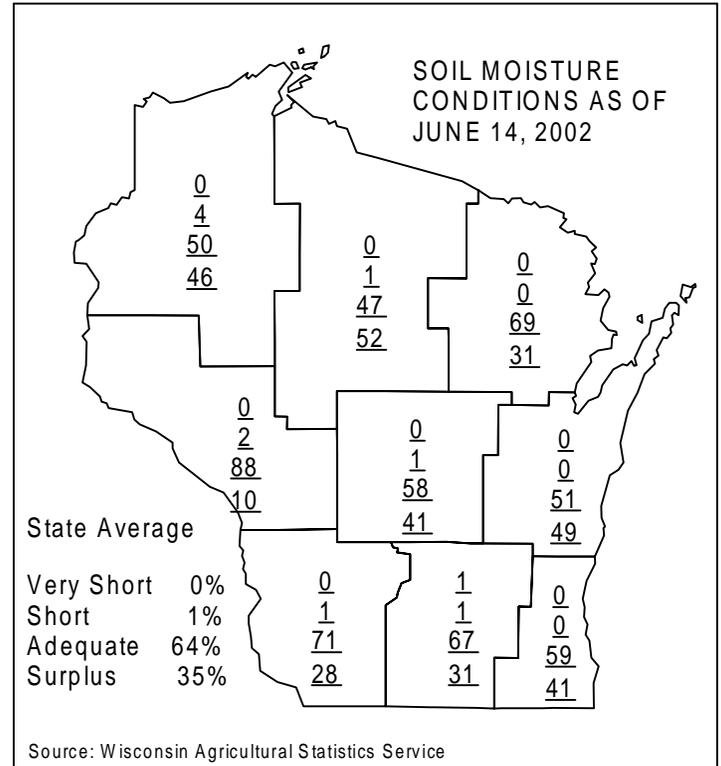
Last week saw an average of only 3.6 days suitable for fieldwork due to the wet weather. The state's soil moisture was 1 percent short, 64 percent adequate, and 35 percent surplus.

First crop **hay** harvesting was severely hampered by last week's weather. While farmers in Barron and Oconto counties reported that the moisture aided the **alfalfa** growth, last week's harvesting was halted, unless the fields dried between rainstorms. Farmers across the state still reported that the quality of the crop was excellent, but that yields were lower than normal. In Shawano County, hay yields were down about 35 percent from last year. Reporters in Barron and Dodge counties said that the quality of the uncut alfalfa is quickly dropping and called for drier weather to finish harvesting the first crop. A farmer in Dane County reported that second crop was six to eight inches tall last week.

Farmers across the state said that **corn** and **soybeans** are doing well, except in the lower, flooded fields. A Green County farmer reported that two weeks of flooding will kill the crops in the low areas. Throughout Wisconsin, corn and soybean fields are weedy, and post-emergence herbicide spraying will begin once the fields are dry enough. In Washington County, corn standing 20 inches tall has been spotted.

Last week, **oats** began to head out in the Central and Southern districts. **Winter wheat** heading progressed last week. A Grant County farmer revealed that two weeks of rain flattened some fields of winter wheat.

Langlade and Grant counties reported **potato** emergence last week; some potatoes are 8 to 10 inches high in Grant County. **Strawberry** picking began last week in Jefferson County. Additionally, **tobacco** planting was spotted in Dane County.

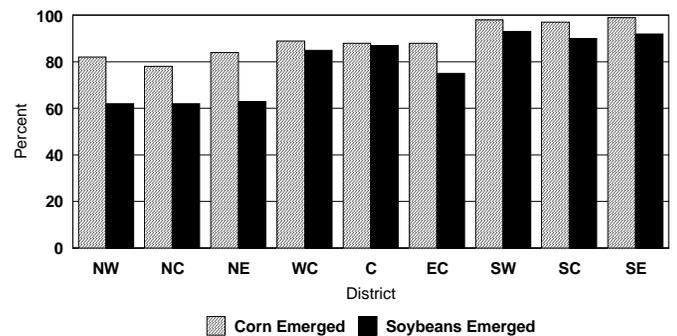


## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of June 14, 2002

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	0	2	10	63	25
Corn	1	3	19	54	23
Winter wheat	0	2	14	56	28
Soybean	0	3	18	53	26
Oat	0	2	14	60	24

## Percentage of Corn and Soybeans Emerged

By District, June 16, 2002



## Wisconsin Crop Progress, June 16, 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 emerged	82	78	84	89	88	88	98	97	99	91	85	n.a.
Average height of corn	5	4	5	6	5	6	9	9	8	7	6	10
Soybeans emerged	62	62	63	85	87	75	93	90	92	85	67	n.a.
Oats headed	n.a.	n.a.	1	2	2	3	45	25	28	12	13	22
First cutting hay	25	27	30	47	35	49	56	63	54	43	44	64

**Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents**

**CHIPPEWA-T.P.:** Fieldwork slowed with the frequent rains. First cutting will progress rapidly once a couple of days without rain occurs. Some corn emergence problems due to seed that was carried over from the previous year.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Little progress this week; cool and very wet. Corn planting mostly done, some soybeans to go. First crop has started, but is mostly still laying out in the field. Oats are mostly up, but slow to grow.

**MARATHON-K.B.:** The rainfall pattern that this area is under has made it very hard to make the first cutting of alfalfa.

**TAYLOR-D.E.:** Rain almost every day has made any fieldwork difficult. Crops that have been planted are emerging quickly, but low spots are getting drowned out. Hay harvesting has really just begun; but the fields are very wet, and harvesting for dry hay is not an option right now. Older alfalfa fields died out over the winter, and the cold weather stunted grass growth, so much of first crop has a lighter yield than normal.

**LANGLADE-A.M.:** Rain most of the week. Hard to get any haylage made. Many fields of potatoes and soybeans emerging.

**OCONTO-D.T.:** Another 1.50 inches rain Monday night put a cap on all the puddles around. Farmers were just getting back in the fields when this last rain came. Too wet to work in fields again. Alfalfa improved greatly with last weeks' rain and warm weather. Now, if only it does not age too fast.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** Well over a thousand acres still not planted in the eastern part of the county. Hay yields down by about 35 percent from other years. Quality is good if you get it off between the rains.

**BUFFALO-R.S.:** A wet week; two 1-inch rains and no drying hay weather. Winter wheat headed out June 1, straw is short. Most hayfields lodged during rain storms; corn and beans look good, except where standing in water. Hay quality is dropping.

**MONROE-M.Y.:** Hay looks good after the rains.

**JUNEAU-R.C.:** Some water still standing in fields. Corn is looking good, for the most part. Beans are looking very well. Spraying is cleaning up the weed problems in the corn and beans. Some oats starting to head. A few farmers have finished first crop. It was below average quantity, but good quality feed. Storms have made it difficult to get fieldwork done.

**PORTAGE-D.Z.:** Need some drier weather right now; have had nine days of rain so far in June. Most fieldwork on standby due to rains. Trying to put up hay before it starts to flower. Potatoes growing rapidly; won't be long before rows start to fill.

**DOOR-M.F.:** Wet weather late in the week has stalled all planting and harvesting activities. The hay that has been cut and received a few showers is now starting to mold while in the windrow and will most likely be chopped back into the field.

**FOND DU LAC-V.F.:** Impossible to rank dry hay; rain sometimes every 24 hours. Corn, beans and second crop hay growing good.

**IOWA-K.V.:** Corn and soybeans look good. Beau leaf beetle is working in soybeans; alfalfa insects are working in the hay. Post emergence spraying in corn and alfalfa is needed when fields dry out.

**SAUK-C.N.:** Hard time making hay with periodic wet weather. Crops need to be sprayed, but wet fields making task difficult.

**DODGE-J.F.:** First crop getting old and losing quality. Quantity is excellent now. For being planted late, the corn and beans are looking very good, except they are behind. Winter wheat is very thick and headed out nicely.

**ROCK-C.H.:** Nice-need rain. Some wind damage though.

**RACINE-L.F.:** Rains need to stop to get the rest of the hay off. The cool days are not what is needed for growth of the corn and soybeans. Hopefully the heat arrives again soon!

**WAUKESHA-D.W.:** Wheat and oats look great. Corn and beans are growing fast with the warm weather. No hay made this week.



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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on June 16, 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 June 15	Mar. 1 to June 15 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	77	57	85	51	67	1	631	666	1.41	3.92	1.79	15.78
Green Bay	73	56	85	52	65	0	515	586	1.61	3.52	1.89	13.51
La Crosse	79	60	86	52	69	0	752	759	1.54	4.46	2.60	14.21
Madison	77	58	85	51	67	1	654	747	0.49	3.27	1.34	14.13
Milwaukee	76	59	88	54	67	2	587	n.a.	0.75	2.74	1.07	13.31

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.