



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

June 24, 2002

Vol. 02, No. 12

Rain Continues to Hamper Hay Harvest

Wisconsin's third week of wet weather delayed first crop hay harvesting across the state. The northern districts received the most rainfall; fortunately torrential rains in Taylor County did not cause severe flooding, but low areas yellowed due to the excess moisture. Hail storms in Chippewa County caused crop damage as well. However, the warmer weather throughout Wisconsin helped spur crop growth.

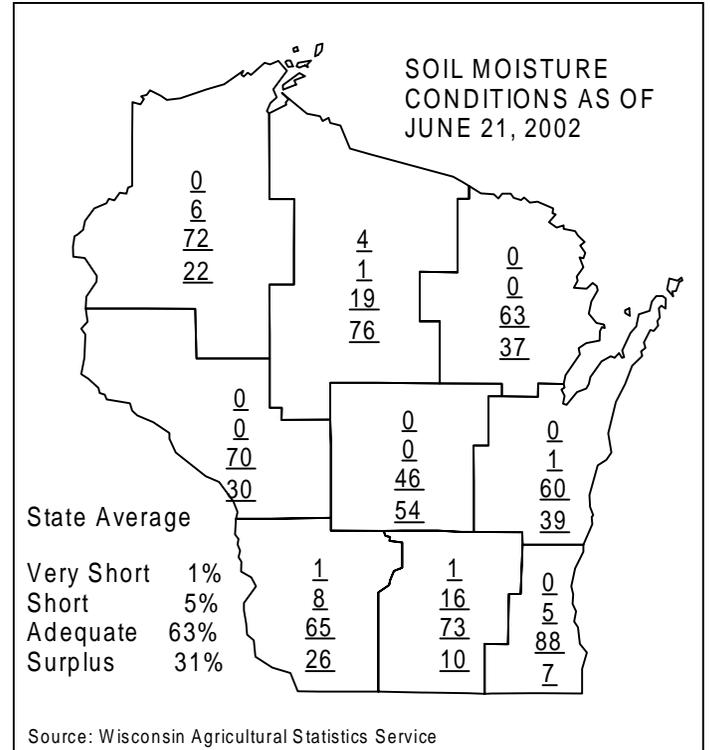
There was an average of 4.2 days suitable for fieldwork last week. The state's soil moisture was 1 percent very short, 5 percent short, 63 percent adequate, and 31 percent surplus.

Although the northern districts received the most rain, farmers throughout Wisconsin remarked that first crop hay harvesting was hindered due to the wet conditions. In Oconto and Lincoln counties, the hayfields were too wet to support the harvesting equipment. The quality of Barron County first crop **alfalfa** is quickly declining, with many fields in bloom. Potato leafhoppers were spotted in Chippewa, Dane, and Dodge counties' alfalfa fields. Across the state, the regrowth of the second crop hay looks great, especially where first crop was taken early. Washington County second crop hay was 12 inches tall last week.

Corn and **soybeans** improved in areas with warm weather; however, herbicide application was delayed in wet areas. Washington County corn fields are uneven in height. Corn in Wood County suffered from nitrogen loss due to too much rainfall. While the state's average corn height was 11 inches last week, some Walworth and Grant county corn was already knee high.

Oat heading in the southern half of the state progressed last week while oats in the northern districts have just begun to head out. Vernon County oats were reported shorter than normal. In Barron County, fungicides were applied to **winter wheat** because of the wet weather. Oats and **barley** in Lincoln County were 10 inches tall.

Potatoes in Waushara and Wood counties bloomed last week. The **cranberry** crop in Wood County began to bloom as well. Portage County reported **strawberries** smaller than average in size. Dodge County **peas** were well into bloom last week, with harvesting to start soon.

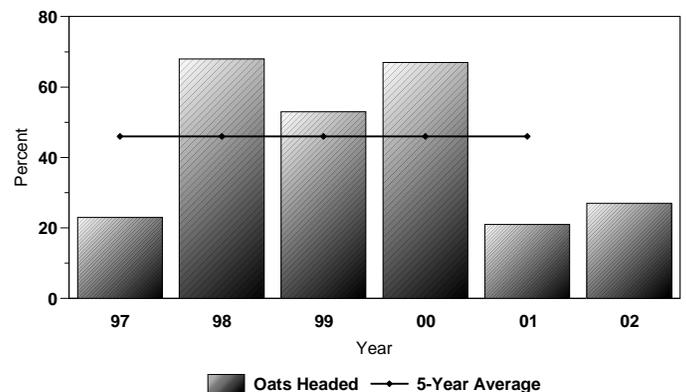


Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of June 21, 2002

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	1	3	16	55	25
Corn	1	7	21	52	19
Winter wheat	0	3	13	60	24
Soybean	0	5	22	59	14
Oat	0	6	18	58	18

Percentage of Oats Headed

June 23, 1997-2002



Wisconsin Crop Progress, June 23, 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	95	90	94	97	95	95	99	99	99	97	92	n.a.
Average height of corn	8	7	8	10	9	9	15	15	13	11	9	16
Soybeans emerged	77	77	79	94	93	85	97	96	97	92	76	n.a.
Oats headed	3	6	7	19	23	17	65	52	52	27	21	46
First cutting hay	47	44	52	68	58	69	70	84	75	63	58	76

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BURNETT-K.S.: Corn and soybeans, in general, are looking good. The recent wet weather is delaying some herbicide applications. Quality of first crop varies due to all the rain. Some farmers are continuing to have difficulty getting hay crop put up. Regrowth on second crop hay is coming along nicely.

ASHLAND-A.R.: A lot of haylage has been harvested. Crop was light at first, but has thickened. No dry hay has been made yet. Some corn fields have been post-emergence sprayed.

LINCOLN-F.O.: Corn is about two weeks late. Most oats and barley is about 10 inches in height. Most first crop hay is short. Weeds are a problem in grain crops. Early apples have set very little or no fruit due to heavy frost in May. Hay crops had some rain damage.

PRICE-A.B.: Cut some hay and got it in, some was a bit damp.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Corn and beans grew and got good color this week. Fields are weedy. A much better week for haying. Quality is good, yield is two-thirds of normal. Some just about done, some just starting hay harvest.

EAU CLAIRE-R.S.: Impossible to dry hay for baling, some chopping being done where ground conditions will allow.

ST. CROIX-L.M.: Too wet to do anything. Spraying has become real difficult due to wet fields. Second crop hay from early-harvested hayfields looks good. Corn fields with good weed control are looking better than several weeks ago.

WAUSHARA-J.J.: Quite a lot of hay for silage is harvested. Very hard to get hay dry. Slow for that harvest. Most crops look good to very good. Potatoes are looking especially good, many are filling rows and blossoming. Strawberries are starting this week.

WOOD-T.P.: Unharvested hay is passing beyond the high quality dairy hay category we look for. We planted about 95 percent of the corn and 85 percent of the soybeans, some new seedings will wait now for drier soils. Most corn looks rough due to wet soils and loss of nitrogen with the excessive rainfalls. Hayfields are too wet to put equipment on them. Strawberry crops are starting to be harvested this week. Noted first potato acreage in bloom yesterday, with majority of fields closing the rows. Sweet corn acreage emerging. Cranberry crop looks good and is coming into bloom.

BROWN-D.S.: Every other day rains continue to hamper hay making and will begin to effect post-emergent herbicide applications.

MANITOWOC-H.W.: Corn, soybeans, oats, and barley show some too wet spots. Weeds are coming, but too wet to spray. Some vegetables to plant yet; too wet. Some first crop hay blown back on the fields.

GRANT-G.C.: Not the best week for dry baling hay, but some dry hay has been put up. Some early-planted corn has poor color in areas of the fields. Later-planted corn has good, dark green color. Oats are heading out and look great.

VERNON-B.V.: Winter wheat has a nice height, but some was down due to high winds. Corn has a nice, dark green color. The hot days have really helped corn grow. Oats are a little shorter than usual. Alfalfa crop very heavy. Height is great. Regrowth of second crop looks great.

COLUMBIA-J.J.: Rained five of the last seven days. Haying progressing very slowly; most has been rained on at least once.

DANE-C.B.: Cultivating corn where rain hit hard is beneficial. Roundup ready beans almost ready for herbicide application. Reaching the end of herbicide application to corn in the V6 and above stage. Leafhoppers arriving in the area.

GREEN-F.Z.: Corn is taking right off with hot weather. Oats all headed out and standing-looks very good. Hay crop is winding down. Some has lodged.

WALWORTH-A.A.: Lots of spraying for weeds in corn and beans. Hay being cut. Some corn is being cultivated.

WASHINGTON-K.R.: Corn fields are uneven in height with spots of yellow. No dry hay has been baled. The weather has not allowed it to dry.



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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 June 23, 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 22	Mar. 1 to June 22 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	80	59	89	48	69	1	768	782	1.77	5.69	2.57	17.55
Green Bay	76	57	83	48	66	0	632	697	0.89	4.41	1.98	14.40
La Crosse	80	61	88	47	71	0	902	889	1.44	5.90	3.08	15.65
Madison	81	61	88	49	71	3	800	877	0.11	3.38	0.50	14.24
Milwaukee	80	60	91	54	70	2	725	n.a.	0.13	2.87	0.36	13.44

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.