



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

July 15, 2002

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Normal Temperatures Return, but the Dry Weather Continues

Most of Wisconsin's soil remained dry last week. While isolated areas received much needed rain, some fields haven't felt rain in weeks. Moisture stress on crops continued last week although the temperatures dropped back to normal. Many farmers who received rain last week remarked that crops greatly improved with the moisture but still needed additional rain.

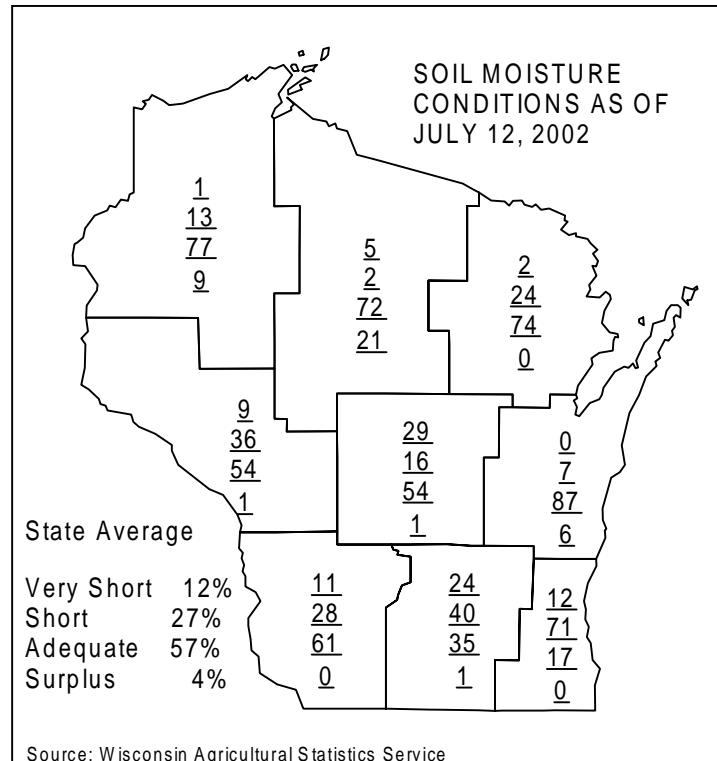
Wisconsin had an average of 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork last week. The state's soil moisture was estimated to be 12 percent very short, 27 percent short, 57 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus.

Last week, **corn** and **soybean** conditions varied across the state. Soybean growth in Barron County stalled due to excess soil moisture. Throughout Wisconsin, farmers observed varying heights and conditions for corn: short, yellowing corn in wet soils and moisture-stressed corn in dry soils. Although corn in the northern districts had not silked last week, the state saw an average of 3 percent of corn silked.

Across the state, farmers noted potato leafhopper in **alfalfa** fields. Fond du Lac, Grant, Rock, Barron, and Dane County farmers sprayed for potato leafhopper. In general, second crop hay/alfalfa was high in quality; however, farmers differed on yield descriptions, ranging from below average to excellent. In Lafayette County, third crop alfalfa harvest will begin soon. Dane County farmers called for rain to aid third crop growth.

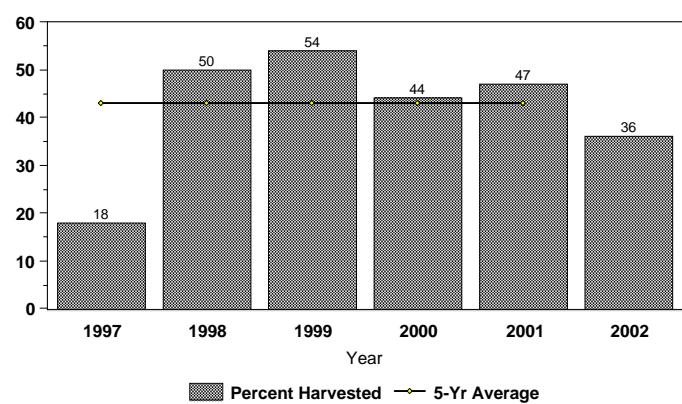
Rye was nearing harvest in Waushara County. While **winter wheat** harvest in the northern districts has not yet begun, Wisconsin averaged 5 percent complete. The hot weather affected the **oat** condition in Pepin County last week. **Barley** was nearing maturity in Grant and Columbia counties. Ashland County reported small oat and barley heads, and Dane County reported small winter wheat kernels. In Dodge County, high winds contributed to lodging in winter wheat and oat fields.

Lincoln County **apple** trees have a light set this year, with some trees not expected to produce any apples. Last week, leafhoppers were spotted in **snap bean** fields, and rust pustules were observed in **sweet corn** fields in Portage County.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 12, 2002					
Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	3	13	38	36	10
Corn	2	6	21	50	21
Winter wheat	1	2	15	62	20
Soybean	2	5	20	54	19
Oat	1	9	20	53	17

Percentage of Second Crop Hay Harvested
Wisconsin - July 14, 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
Average height of corn	41	36	40	50	44	48	58	53	54	49	41	54
Soybeans blooming	10	5	3	20	16	24	28	32	22	23	0	13
Oats headed	67	65	73	91	93	89	99	95	96	87	84	97
Second cutting hay	19	18	22	36	42	43	49	52	50	36	47	43

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Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-A.B.: Yellow areas in low corn fields are shrinking, but the rolled areas of sandier fields are growing. Soybeans are flowering in all fields that were timely planted. Some poor stands exist in both crops. Leafhoppers are everywhere in large numbers on the alfalfa. Quality is good on the hay, but quantities are not. Wheat is full of scab. Many acres of soybeans are yet to be sprayed. Round-up ready corn looks to be a big failure for those unwilling to spray multiple times or to use conventional herbicides in a mix with glyphosate.

BURNETT-J.D.: Over three inches of rain since Friday have helped all crops.

ASHLAND-G.M.: Rain heading north and south of Ashland, Bayfield, Iron, and Douglas counties has left us very short of moisture. An inch early this week revived the corn, but our oats and barley are dried up; no crop will be taken for it is all uneven and heads are very small. Second crop hay is very small or none at all.

ONEIDA-P.L.: Potato crop is in blossom, looks good. Strawberries are being picked, and will be coming to the end next week. The rye is turning nicely and the oats are headed out. The heat and humidity sure pushed the crops. I think they are making up for the late start. We have been getting enough rain, but it is spotty.

OCONTO-K.H.: No rain during the week and hot temperatures increase moisture stress on crops. Snap bean development is variable. Second crop hay harvest continuing.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Quality of second crop is very good due to excellent harvest weather; however, quantity is reduced some due to past harvest compaction of fields.

BUFFALO-R.S.: The corn grew 18 inches in a week, getting dry. One tenth inch of rain for the week. Will start combining winter wheat. Second crop hay is short, but being harvested anyway. No corn silking yet. Gnats really thick around cattle. Soybeans are blossoming.

MONROE-W.D.: Crops look good, some hay and corn showing stress due to the lack of moisture. All second crop, from early first crop, hay is made. Others waiting for the second crop to mature. Most oats headed and changing color. Most corn looks great with some over 6 feet tall, needs a good drink.

PORTAGE-D.Z.: Early sweet corn starting to tassel. Received much needed rain earlier this week, but amounts varied greatly.

Second cutting of hay just getting underway. A few corn fields show some weed pressure and earlier this week moisture stress before our rains.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Warm weather has speeded corn growth. Most first crop hay harvested, yield is good. Some second crop harvested, yield is excellent. Winter wheat is ready to harvest.

FOND DU LAC-J.M.: Harvesting fine second crop hay, spraying for leafhoppers. Farmers are generally pleased with crop progress.

SHEBOYGAN-E.P.: Corn leaves were starting to roll. Corn and soybeans were starting to dry up from the heat and dry weather. Rain came Monday, but some did not grow any more.

CRAWFORD-V.H.: We are getting a little short of moisture.

LAFAYETTE-L.W.: Weed control in corn and soybeans looks to be very good. Both crops were affected some by the heat of two weeks ago. Second crop hay quality and quantity varies a lot depending on fertility and age of the seeding. Reports of several growers ready to cut third crop by end of next week.

DANE-J.K.: Corn and beans are beginning to shrivel every day from heat and dry weather. Any corn on hard ground is being hurt the most. Winter wheat looks like it will have small kernels and probably low test weight. Some sweet corn tasseling out.

DODGE-G.R.: Extremely dry conditions were alleviated by thunderstorms leaving an inch of rain Monday evening. Corn was starting to curl, but now looks healthy. Second cutting of alfalfa has begun. Crop is short. Winter wheat is rapidly approaching maturity. Oats fully headed with some fields turning color.

RACINE-L.F.: Need rain! Heat has been hard on crops without much moisture.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: Corn has shot up with the one inch of rain. Even with the rain, we are short. Beans are holding up well.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 14, 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 July 13	Mar. 1 to July 13 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	85	62	92	52	73	2	1288	1173	0.30	7.40	1.48	19.26
Green Bay	82	59	90	51	71	1	1126	1067	0.06	5.26	0.39	15.26
La Crosse	84	64	93	52	74	0	1446	1324	0.06	7.35	1.57	17.10
Madison	84	59	93	48	71	0	1301	1293	0.00	3.70	-1.99	14.57
Milwaukee	79	64	95	56	71	-1	1240	n.a.	0.92	4.07	-1.01	14.63

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.