



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

July 19, 2004

Vol. 04, No. 15

Crops Showing Improvement

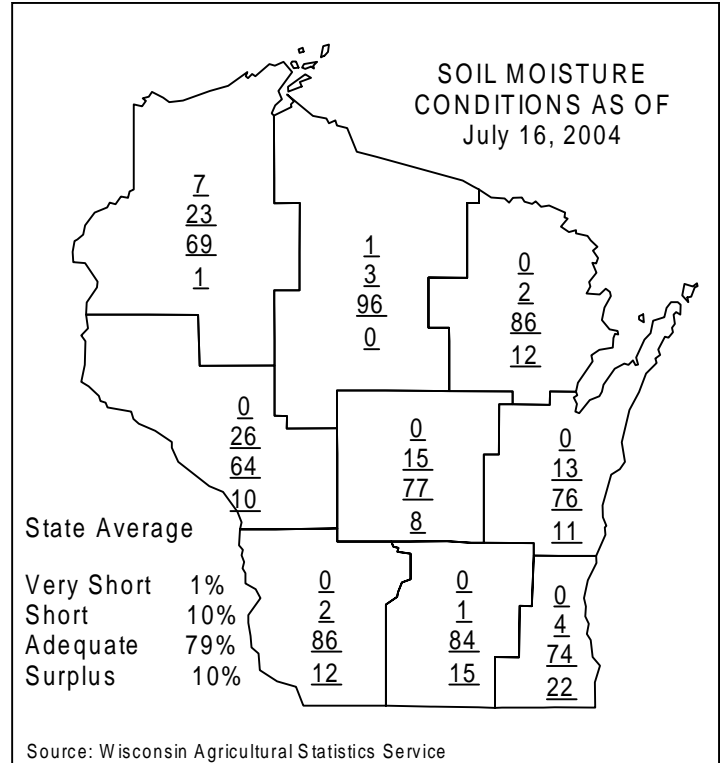
After four weeks of below normal temperatures, Wisconsin farmers were happy with last week's fairly warm, sunny, and dry weather. Temperatures this past week were about normal for this time of year, ranging from the high 50's to the high 80's. Precipitation ranged from trace amounts in some areas of the state, to a little over an inch in the south central region. Year-to-date precipitation is above normal in most areas of the state. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 1% very short, 10% short, 79% adequate, and 10% surplus. There was an average of 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn is growing fast now that the warm weather has arrived, and is starting to tassel in some areas. Some farmers are reporting problems with corn borers and weedy fields. The second crop **hay** appears to be of good quality and yield. **Oats** are mostly headed out and harvest has started. Most oats look fairly good. **Soybeans** are starting to look better as warm weather stimulates growth. **Wheat** fields are starting to turn color and in some areas, harvesting has started. Some corn and soybeans are showing Nitrogen deficiency. Weeds have become a problem in many areas of the state.

Oats headed was reported at 94% complete, behind both last year's 100%, and the 5-year average of 96%. Oats harvested was reported at 6%, ahead of both last year's 0%, and the 5-year average of 2%. The average height of **corn** was reported at 50 inches, behind both last year's 57 inches, and the 5-year average of 58 inches. Corn silking was reported at 10%, the same as both last year's average and the 5-year average. **Soybeans** blooming was reported at 21% complete, behind both last year's and the 5-year average of 24%. Second cutting **hay** was reported at 30% complete, behind both last year's 45%, and the 5-year average of 55%. **Winter wheat** harvesting was reported at 5% complete, ahead of last year's 4%, but behind the 5-year average of 17%.

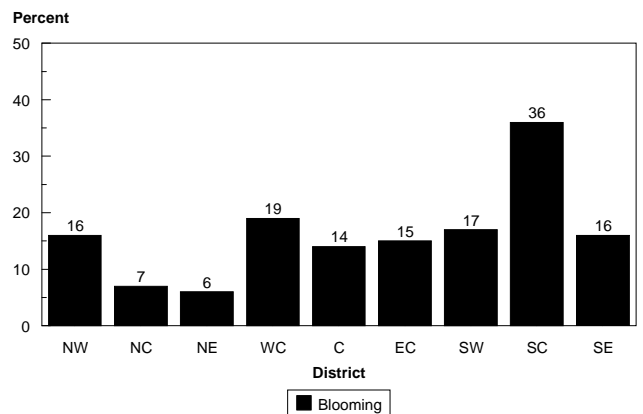
Corn conditions improved slightly this week with 58% reporting good or excellent, compared to last week's reporting of 54%. **Soybean** conditions improved this week with 61% reporting good or excellent, compared to last week's report of 55%. Overall, crops are rated as good or excellent, even though the state has had a wet spring and summer. Crops are showing progress with the warmer and drier weather.

Most vegetable crops, such as **potatoes**, **peas**, and **beans** look good. **Pears**, **plums**, **grapes**, and **red raspberries** also look good, but **apple** trees are not producing many apples. Canning companies are starting to harvest peas.



Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	2	4	23	53	18
Oats	1	9	17	52	21
Soybeans	6	8	25	41	20
Corn	7	10	25	39	19
Winter wheat	5	7	27	43	18

Soybeans Blooming
Wisconsin by District - July 18, 2004



Wisconsin Crop Progress, July 18, 2004

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
Oats headed	91	89	95	98	97	89	99	99	99	94	100	96
Oats harvested	5	8	5	6	9	4	10	7	6	6	0	2
Average height of corn	40	24	31	43	32	29	78	57	64	50	57	58
Corn silked	1	1	1	3	1	10	27	13	9	10	10	10
Soybeans Blooming	16	7	6	19	14	15	17	36	16	21	24	24
Second cutting hay	31	12	17	33	21	13	50	45	37	30	45	55
Winter wheat harvested	0	0	0	1	5	4	9	6	7	5	4	17

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Corn is rolling on sandy knolls. Weed control is bad on many fields this year, and it is beginning to result in corn showing moisture stress. Second crop alfalfa is yielding better than expected, even with the dry soil conditions.

RUSK-G.P.: Corn continues to improve with heat. Starting to get a little dry. Soybeans are progressing slowly. Lots of soybeans were put in late, so many fields are still small. Oats are pretty much all headed out. Peas and oats are being taken off for forage.

Second crop hay is starting, but have not heard much about quality or quantity. Some spraying for leafhoppers is going on.

MARATHON-M.K.: Big crop of second crop hay. Corn is growing very nice-looks great!

PRICE-M.K.: Corn and soybeans are starting to put on better growth with the warmer weather. Oats are looking very good this year. Second crop forage harvest is starting, with decent yields and good quality.

FOREST-A.K.: Some first crop hay to be harvested yet. Corn looks good. Oats are all headed out.

OCONTO-K.H.: Corn ranges in height from 6 to 48 inches. Many fields have uneven stands where standing water killed or stunted growth earlier in the year. Soybeans starting to look better as warm weather stimulates growth. Wheat fields are turning color, but just starting. Oats are headed, but still green. Second crop hay harvest has begun in our area.

BUFFALO-R.S.: Corn is looking better with warm weather. Second crop hay looks good. Soybeans seem slow growing. Small grain harvest should start this week. There is no corn silking yet.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Second crop hay harvest is about as tough as first. Soybeans are way behind and also the corn.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Oats are ripening. Early-planted corn flagging, no tassels or silk yet.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Corn here ranges from ankle-high to knee-high to hip-high. One thing is certain-it is far behind. Soybeans are improving. Some oats are turning color. Second crop hay looks good-some are harvesting it.

SHEBOYGAN-E.P.: Weather caused corn fields to have plants at different lengths. Oat fields are headed and turning color. Second crop alfalfa is growing well.

WINNEBAGO-R.H.: Early-planted corn looks very good-some

shoulder-high with good color. Soybeans also look good, but some fields have flooded parts drowned out and now are bare. Most of the oats were chopped for silage or bagged, but there are some nice looking fields. Second crop alfalfa looks good, with some fields ready for harvest.

CRAWFORD-V.H.: Even with cool temperatures and excessive rain, the crops are looking great.

LAFAYETTE-M.R.: Many farmers like the looks of the corn crop-even with the spotty wet areas, the overall yields could be rather high. Had ample rain to grow multiple high yielding alfalfa crops, but dry harvest is rare. Third crop hay has never looked better.

DODGE-G.R.: A break in the weather has allowed time to finish first cutting of alfalfa. Second crop has started to be made on fields cut before rains. Buds and blossoms visible on second crop regrowth which is of medium height. Winter wheat fields are rapidly ripening; oats are turning, but has a way to go before maturity. Soybeans in the area are short, but stands appear uniform; many fields have been sprayed. Corn is varying in height, color, and quality.

GREEN-F.Z.: Hay, oats, and corn look real good. There are spots where there is not any crop-not even weeds. Corn is tasseling. Second crop hay is being made. Will be starting winter wheat, barley, or oats soon.

WALWORTH-E.P.: Corn just starting to tassel. Nobody has done anything to winter wheat yet. A farmer cut some new seeding. He got 80 bales to the acre. He will cut again or leave it alone.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: Not much relief from the rain. Have had some warm days which helped both corn and soybeans. We need more heat. Corn is very uneven in height and color.



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

Robert J. Battaglia
State Statistician

Michael Lester
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 July 18, 2004

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 17	Mar. 1 to July 17 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	84	62	87	57	73	1	1231	1278	0.41	4.06	-2.28	17.52
Green Bay	81	60	86	56	71	1	1073	1169	0.13	6.43	1.12	22.84
La Crosse	84	64	87	60	74	0	1440	1441	0.41	11.42	5.08	28.28
Madison	82	62	89	57	72	0	1332	1403	1.09	7.18	1.00	25.46
Milwaukee	80	63	89	56	72	0	1195	n.a.	0.91	7.08	1.55	23.67

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