



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

July 26, 2004

Vol. 04, No. 16

Dry, Sunny Week

Although temperatures were below normal, Wisconsin farmers were happy with last week's sunny and dry weather. Temperatures this past week were about 2 degrees below normal for this time of year, ranging from the 50's to the low 80's. Precipitation was less than one inch across the state. Year-to-date precipitation in the northwestern part of the state is about two inches below normal, the west central part of the state is almost five inches above normal. The southeastern part of the state is a little over an inch above normal, while the rest of the state is about normal. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 2% very short, 18% short, 75% adequate, and 5% surplus. There was an average of 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

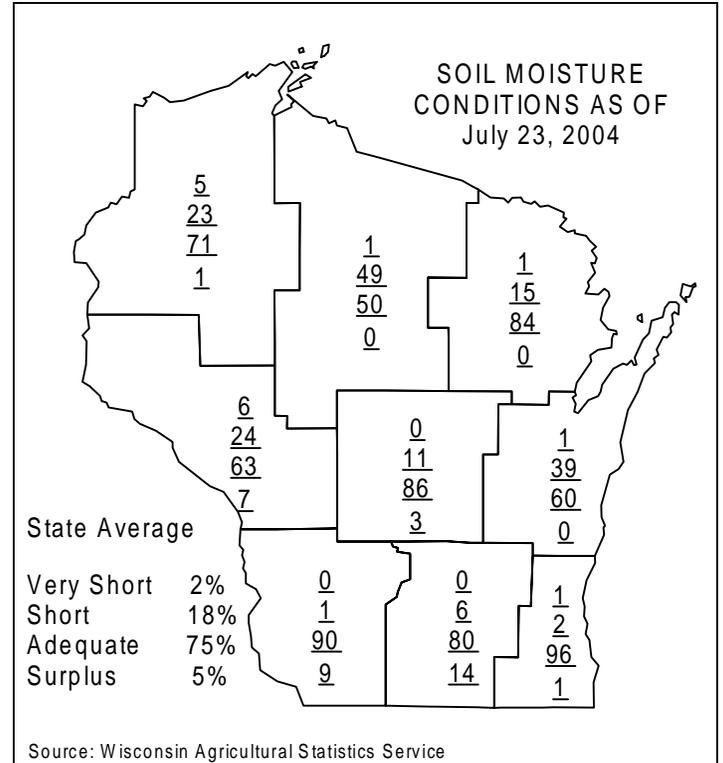
Corn is progressing very fast with the favorable weather conditions, with most corn tasseling and beginning to silk. Early-planted corn is beginning to pollinate. The second crop **hay** is reported to be of good quality and yield. **Oat** harvesting is underway, and yields are looking good. **Soybeans** are blossoming, and pods are starting to set in many areas of the state. **Wheat** harvest has begun in most areas around the state.

Oats harvested was reported at 9%, the same as last year's 9%, but below the 5-year average of 11%. The average height of **corn** was reported at 60 inches, behind both last year's 67 inches, and the 5-year average of 68 inches. Corn silking was reported at 25%, behind both last year's 27%, and the 5-year average of 36%. **Soybeans** blooming was reported at 41% complete, behind both last year's 45%, and the 5-year average of 47%. Soybeans setting pods were reported at 10%, ahead of last year's 6%, but behind the 5-year average of 11%. Second cutting **hay** was reported at 50% complete, behind both last year's 62%, and the 5-year average of 69%. **Winter wheat** harvesting was reported at 23% complete, ahead of last year's 13%, but behind the 5-year average of 42%.

Corn conditions stayed about the same this week with 57% reporting good or excellent, compared to last week's 58%.

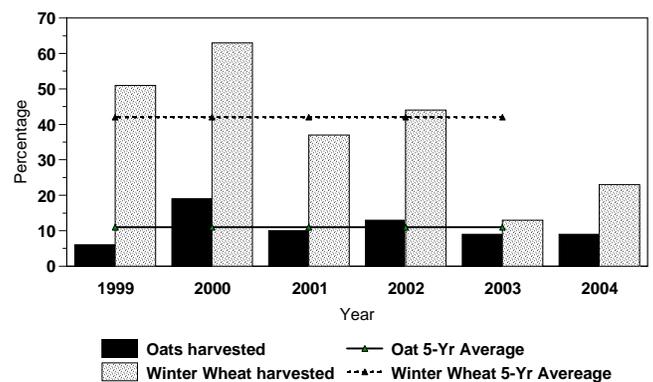
Soybean conditions stayed the same this week with 61% reporting good or excellent. Oat conditions were also steady with 74% reporting good or excellent, compared to last week's 73%. Crops are showing progress with the warmer and drier weather.

Potatoes harvest is underway on early whites and reds, and appears to be an excellent crop. **Blueberries, raspberries, and blackberries** look like they will do well if they get more rain. **Sweet corn** is starting to be picked. **Cucumbers and beans** are beginning harvest. Canning **peas** harvest has begun and yields are reported to be average. **Fruit** trees are looking good.



Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	2	8	33	44	13
Oats	1	5	20	55	19
Soybeans	3	14	22	39	22
Corn	5	14	24	37	20
Winter wheat	3	7	24	53	13

Percentage of Oats and Winter Wheat Harvested Wisconsin - July 25, 1999-2004



Wisconsin Crop Progress, July 25, 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 harvested	7	13	7	11	10	7	17	10	11	9	9	11
Average height of corn	53	53	54	55	44	41	84	63	81	60	67	68
Corn silked	3	5	4	10	7	13	62	37	47	25	27	36
Soybeans blooming	49	44	25	24	22	21	67	48	48	41	45	47
Soybeans setting pods	7	1	1	3	6	3	23	11	22	10	6	11
Second cutting hay	42	24	61	56	42	50	76	55	52	50	62	69
Winter wheat harvested	12	20	5	13	10	7	25	34	38	23	13	42

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-D.B.: The hot and humid weather this past week has given the corn a tremendous growth spurt. Corn and soybeans both look good. Second cutting alfalfa is of excellent quality and quantity.

POLK-C.S.: Corn and soybeans are progressing very fast. Corn is beginning to tassel. Soybeans are setting pods. Spraying alfalfa fields for leafhoppers. Wheat harvest is getting underway.

ASHLAND-G.M.: Just finishing most of first crop hay; very late start due to wetness. Corn was either replanted or just in. Second crop hay is in need of rain.

VILAS-L.K.: Oats and potatoes are excellent. Light rains are keeping topsoil from drying out, but could use some soakers. First crop hay is coming in good to excellent.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Corn has finally got going-a lot of growth. Soybeans look good, a little short. Second crop finally ready-good quality and quantity.

EAU CLAIRE-R.S.: Light showers are keeping most crops going, along with cool temperatures. We could use a good rain and heat to help corn crop catch up. Even early-planted corn is way behind average.

PEPIN-H.R.: Corn is really growing and showing good color with the heat. Soybeans also taking a good jump, as the rains and wet spots have dried up enough to get them started growing. Small grains should be ready to harvest this week. Second crop hay going up very fast now. Lots of hay in the area.

MARQUETTE-K.V.: Corn and soybeans are growing fast and color is improving. Just about ready for wheat harvest. Third cutting alfalfa is growing nicely. Some fields have first and second hay crop in. High incidence of fungal diseases on trees.

WAUSHARA-J.J.: Harvest season has arrived. Oats and hay are being harvested. Wheat and rye are very close-may start next week. Corn had good growth this week, with some tassels showing, and color is better.

FOND DU LAC-E.A.: Corn and soybeans are well behind from where they should be, but are doing better. Second crop hay is a good crop.

MANITOWOC-D.S.: With 20 to 25 percent of corn planted in late June, concerns run high. Second crop hay good to excellent, overall. Wheat also looks good to excellent. Oats very uneven and stressed from heavy rains.

GRANT-D.W.: The corn and soybeans have really grown in the last two weeks. Second crop hay was a little lighter than expected, but quality was alright.

RICHLAND-S.K.: This last week of dry weather helped to bale some dry hay. We are nearly complete with second crop hay yields, and quality is pretty good. The combines are out working on the oat crops and yields look, again, very good. The corn crop is recovering from the early setbacks of cold weather and rain, but most of the bottom fields will only make corn silage. The ridge corn is looking very good. Soybeans are coming along very good and seem to be right on schedule.

COLUMBIA-J.J.: Still lots of difficulty harvesting crops. Some first crop hay is still in the field. Wheel track ruts in just about every field. Quantity of hay above average and quality all over the place. Not much second crop hay put up due to weather conditions, maybe next week. Corn tasseling just started this week. Some fields two weeks away from tasseling yet.

GREEN-M.M.: Upland corn and soybeans are looking very good. Winter wheat harvest is showing problems with grain quality due to scab, resulting in large deductions at elevators. Some of the grain has also screened positive for mycotoxins.

RACINE-L.F.: Wheat is becoming a very nice surprise - yields are doing better than what was expected. Hot, humid, weather has given all the crops the boost they needed.

WAUKESAH-R.F.: Corn and soybeans are fair to good. Wheat looks very good. Second crop alfalfa looks good.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 25, 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 24	Mar. 1 to July 24 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	81	60	88	49	70	-2	1373	1428	0.79	4.85	-2.38	18.31
Green Bay	81	59	87	50	70	0	1211	1313	0.00	6.43	0.37	22.84
La Crosse	82	63	88	56	73	-1	1599	1605	0.81	12.23	4.96	29.09
Madison	80	61	89	53	70	-2	1475	1561	0.28	7.46	0.43	25.74
Milwaukee	77	63	87	53	70	-2	1338	n.a.	0.28	7.36	1.07	23.95

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.