



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

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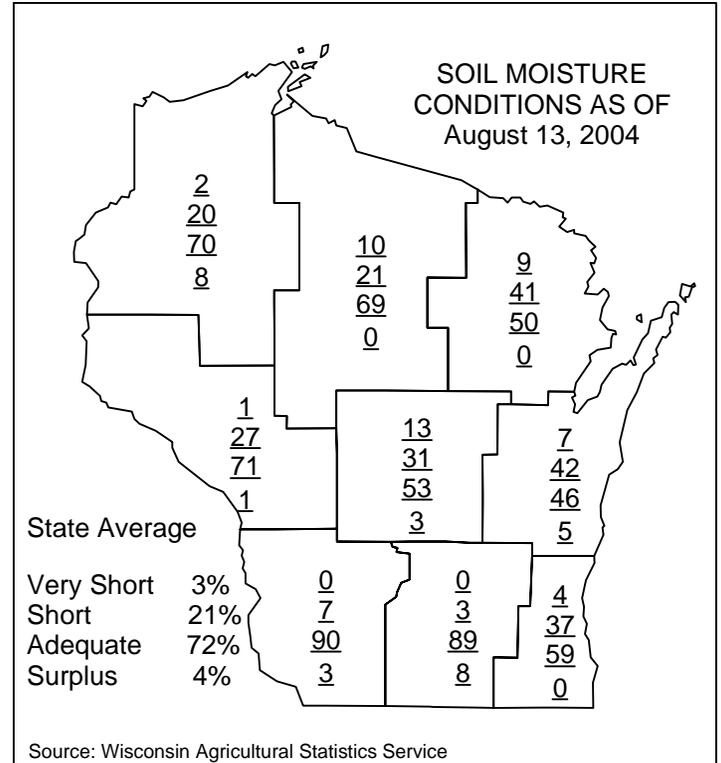
Cool Weather Slows Maturity

Hay is being made in the cool weather, but it leaves many other crops at a standstill. Temperatures this past week were 5 to 10 degrees below normal for this time of year, ranging from the mid 40's to the low 70's. Precipitation ranged from trace amount to almost 1 inch. Year-to-date precipitation in the northwestern part of the state is about 3 inches below normal, the west central part of the state is 5 inches above normal, and the south central part of the state is 2.5 inches above normal. The rest of the state is close to normal. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 3% very short, 21% short, 72% adequate, and 4% surplus. There was an average of 5.1 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn is looking good, despite being about 2 weeks behind. Some late-planted corn has not yet silked and will need a late frost and warm weather to reach maturity. Second crop **hay** harvest is almost complete, with reports of high quality. Third crop is looking good, but could use more rain in some areas of the state. **Oats** harvest has produced above average yields in some areas of the state, while others have yet to start harvest. Oats are producing more straw than normal. **Soybeans** look good and are setting pods around the state, but the cool weather has slowed development. **Wheat** yields vary from 20 to 70 bushels per acre across the state.

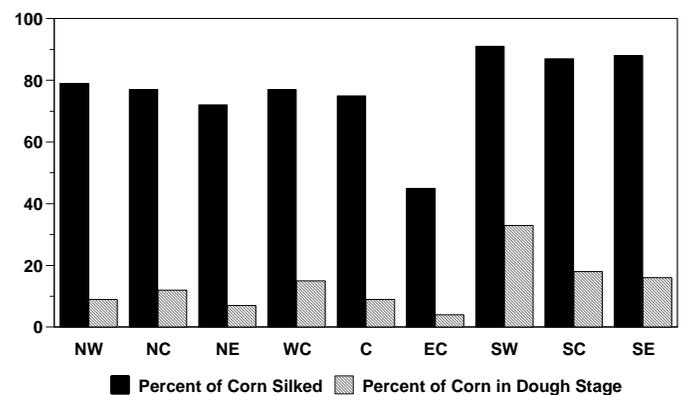
Oats harvested was reported at 53%, behind both last year's 68%, and the 5-year average of 73%. **Corn** silked was reported at 78%, behind both last year's 89%, and the 5-year average of 94%. Corn in dough stage was reported at 15%, compared to last year's 29%, and the 5-year average of 32%. **Soybeans** blooming was reported at 80% complete, behind both last year's 98%, and the 5-year average of 94%. Soybeans setting pods were reported at 54%, behind both last year's 76%, and the 5-year average of 67%. Second cutting **hay** was reported at 89% complete, behind both last year's 98%, and the 5-year average of 96%. Third cutting hay was reported at 18% complete, behind both last year's 31%, and the 5-year average of 33%. **Winter wheat** harvesting was reported at 76% complete, behind both last year's 83%, and the 5-year average of 93%.

Snapbeans are being harvested with average or above yields in some parts of the state. **Potatoes** are looking excellent. The **apple** crop may be poor this year. **Cucumber** harvest has been slowed due to the cold. **Pears, plums,** and tame **grapes** are looking good. **Tomatoes** are very late.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 13, 2004					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	4	7	31	47	11
Oats	2	4	20	53	21
Soybeans	3	11	25	43	18
Corn	5	15	26	38	16

Percentage of Corn Silked and in Dough Stage Wisconsin by District - August 15, 2004



Wisconsin Crop Progress, August 15, 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	40	57	25	43	72	36	89	60	79	53	68	73
Corn silked	79	77	72	77	75	45	91	87	88	78	89	94
Corn in dough stage	9	12	7	15	9	4	33	18	16	15	29	32
Soybeans blooming	92	78	78	88	63	61	94	92	77	80	96	94
Soybeans setting pods	64	46	29	47	33	29	74	66	68	54	76	67
Second cutting hay	77	94	88	94	86	92	97	92	89	89	98	96
Third cutting hay	6	9	7	12	18	9	36	36	37	18	31	33
Winter wheat harvested	38	85	59	56	79	61	91	99	92	76	83	93

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-R.C.: With rains finally over, farmers are thinking about starting third crop hay. Cool, wet weather has not helped the corn situation at all in terms of development toward maturity. If temperatures do not become more favorable in the near future, a large percentage of the corn crop will not make ripe corn. Small grains are posting average to slightly higher yields.

POLK-C.S.: Third crop alfalfa has been difficult to get done because of showers. Quality has been quite good, especially following treatments to control leafhoppers. Small grain yields are good. Corn and soybeans have a ways to go to make dry grain.

TAYLOR-D.E.: Oats yields are above average for the most part. Frost was reported on Friday in many areas of the county, resulting in very slight crop damage. The cold weather has slowed crop maturity rates considerably for corn and soybeans. There is some real concern about harvesting even high moisture corn. Soybean maturity indicates probable low yields.

VILAS-L.K.: Some first crop hay still being made. Will be some spoiled hay due to poor drying conditions. Frequent rains are keeping oats and rye from being harvested.

FOREST-A.K.: Too cold to do any fieldwork. Oats are turning. Some corn is five feet tall and some three feet. Second crop hay too hard to put up because of rain showers.

OCONTO-D.T.: Third crop hay just starting to be harvested. Have not heard of any disease or pest problems. Weeds are becoming a problem where rain washed the chemicals down too far to be effective. Corn and soybeans are looking very well in most places, except for real sandy ground, and there the need of rain really shows up. Snapbean harvest is going strong, with average or above yields. Wheat harvest is moving along well, with average yields of 50 to 60 bushels per acre.

DUNN-H.A.: Corn looks good, but is at least two weeks behind normal. Oats was the best in years. Third crop hay looks very good.

MONROE-M.Y.: We have had so much cool weather. A lot of corn is not tasseling out yet. I have not seen corn so far behind this time of the year. Oat thrashing is well under way.

GREEN LAKE-D.S.: Third crop alfalfa is turning out to be a very good crop this year, even though we need a little more moisture in areas that are behind. Corn is doing well, all things considered, but the cool weather set back the crops by 7-10 days.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Corn and soybeans are behind schedule because of a wet spring. Small grain yields are above normal. Some fields show signs of poor weed control and also lack of nitrogen.

FOND DU LAC-R.P.: Soybeans look good, but are way behind in maturity. The same could be said for some corn, but many poor stands and ranges of maturity in same field/rows. Lots of hay made this past week between rain. Some straw still to be baled. Cool weather has really slowed down crop growth.

WINNEBAGO-R.H.: Third crop alfalfa looks real good, except on hills that are dried up due to lack of rain. Many fields are being sprayed, and it sure helps the crop. Wheat harvest is done, with yields of 50-70 bushels per acre.

CRAWFORD-V.H.: Crops keep improving, just keep the early frost away.

DODGE-G.R.: Second crop harvest of alfalfa drawing to a close. Quality will be far superior to first cutting. Lots of leafhopper damage. Spraying all third crop with insecticide. Most corn has tasseled and is setting ears. Late-planted corn not yet tasseled. Soybeans look best of all the crops, with most fields flowering and beginning to set pods. Most oats yet to be harvested.

ROCK-C.O.: Corn needs heat to mature or it will be like the oat crops-poor. Oats had low test weights, but a lot of straw. Third crop alfalfa may be only crop without rain.

WALWORTH-P.R.: All crops need heat units. Early-planted soybeans look very good with virtually no insect feeding. Wheat averaged around 60 bushels per acre with dockage averaging from 3-15%. Quite a bit of lodging in oats. Insects in alfalfa are a problem.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: Just starting third crop hay. Corn is uneven and needs heat and rain. Soybeans are doing very well.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 15, 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 Aug. 14	Mar. 1 to Aug. 14 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	70	50	82	42	60	-10	1710	1821	0.84	6.88	-3.38	20.34
Green Bay	73	53	84	44	63	-5	1566	1691	0.18	6.91	-1.62	23.32
La Crosse	72	54	86	47	63	-10	1985	2038	0.16	15.48	5.37	32.34
Madison	71	53	81	45	62	-8	1833	1981	0.07	12.59	2.68	30.87
Milwaukee	70	57	84	51	64	-7	1714	n.a.	0.03	9.18	0.27	25.77

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.