



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Field Office of
USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

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Rain's Too Late for Some?

The rains kept coming, indeed. Last week's scattered rains were surely welcomed; however, more is still needed in many areas. Many fields across the state have rebounded well from June and July's dry weather. Although, the lack of moisture may have been too much for too long for some fields. Seasonal insects are very active. Precipitation ranged from 0.32 inches in Milwaukee to 1.53 inches in La Crosse. With scattered showers all week, temperatures across the state averaged slightly below normal. Low temperatures were reported in the high 40's, and high temperatures reached 97. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 15 percent very short, 36 percent short, 48 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. As the rains persisted, there was an average of 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn conditions were rated as 7 percent very poor, 15 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 30 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. The average height of corn was 76 inches, in step with last year's 74 inches, and the 5-year average of 75 inches. Corn silked, at 75 percent, was well ahead of last year's 37 percent, and the 5-year average of 53 percent. Corn is beginning to show evidence of the dough stage, coming in at 5 percent, higher than last year's 0 percent, and the 5-year average of 2 percent. Lack of moisture has resulted in uneven field heights in many areas. Farmers have begun spraying for Armyworms, as their damage has become increasingly widespread.

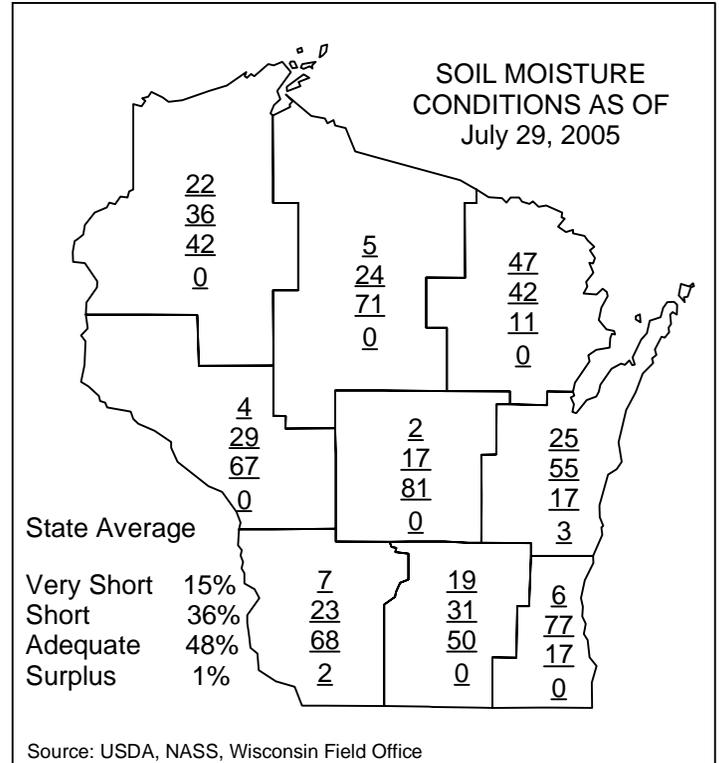
Soybean conditions were reported as 5 percent very poor, 14 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 34 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Blooming was at 85 percent, greater than last year's 56 percent and the 5-year average of 65 percent. Soybeans setting pods was at 51 percent, double last year's 26 percent and the 5-year average of 23 percent. Recent rains have helped soybean progress. Two-spotted Spider Mites and Aphids are still evident in soybean fields.

Oat conditions were reported as 2 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Harvest for grain is ahead of schedule, reported at 45 percent, ahead of last year's 22 percent, and the 5-year average of 26 percent. **Winter wheat** harvest is also progressing quickly, at 70 percent complete, well ahead of last year's 44, and the 5-year average of 46 percent. Reports indicate test weights are below average in some areas.

Second cutting **hay** was reported at 85 percent complete, ahead of last year's 68 percent, and the 5-year average of 77 percent. Quality continues to surpass quantity. Second crop yields and third crop regrowth vary, depending on moisture and soil quality. Leafhopper populations remains steady, despite many farmers spraying.

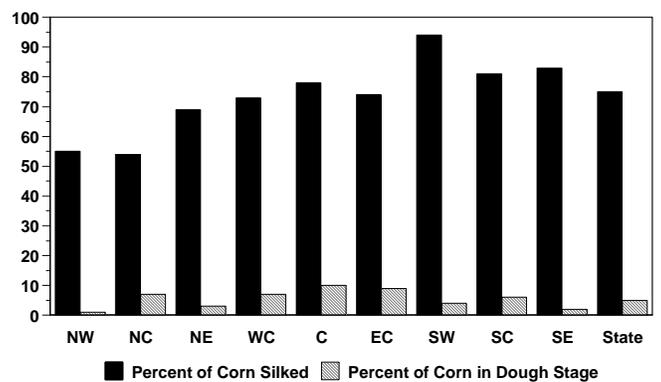
Pasture conditions were rated as 14 percent very poor, 25 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 26 percent good, and 4 percent excellent.

Fruits and vegetables are slower than normal. Sweet corn harvest has begun in many areas. Pumpkins and squash are looking good. Summer raspberries are almost finished, with yields slightly lower than average. Blue mold has been identified in some **tobacco** fields.



Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	7	15	39	30	9
Soybeans	5	14	33	34	14
Oats	2	8	37	44	9
Pasture	14	25	31	26	4

Percentage of Corn Silked and in Dough Stage
Wisconsin by District - July 31, 2005



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 for grain	33	53	39	43	60	21	56	79	38	45	22	26
Average height of corn	75	80	77	75	70	74	84	76	70	76	74	75
Corn silked	55	54	69	73	78	74	94	81	83	75	37	53
Corn dough	1	7	3	7	10	9	4	6	2	5	0	2
Soybeans bloomed	87	84	77	71	80	73	95	90	93	85	56	65
Soybeans setting pods	51	41	32	19	54	38	86	60	62	51	26	23
Second cutting hay	71	80	97	84	79	86	95	95	89	85	68	77
Winter wheat harvested	23	45	63	55	91	66	95	60	84	70	44	56

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BAYFIELD-S.S.: Over 5.0 inches of rain in parts of the county, but all came in just a couple of hours, so a lot ran off. Barley and oats ready for swathing. With the rain from the past week, corn and second crop hay is really shooting up.

WASHBURN-K.S.: Corn and soybeans continue to suffer from lack of moisture. Cooler temperatures helped, but only spotty rain fell this past week. Corn on sandy soils will likely not set any cobs, soybeans not much better. Southern parts of the county still have OK-looking crops. Reports of Armyworm damage continued, although not widespread. Grasshopper numbers also are high. Oats and winter wheat yields are running 60-90 bushels per acre; however, test weights are a little low. The regrowth on hay is also very, very, slow or non-existent due to lack of rain.

VILAS-L.K.: First crop hay is still being made. Oats are almost ready for harvesting. Recent rains are improving all crops and pastures.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Alfalfa fields are suffering from lack of moisture with slow regrowth, and it is very short. Received 1.0 inch of rain last week that gave all the crops a short reprieve, but more rain is needed soon. Wheat yields are quite good, being in the 50-75 bushel per acre range. Corn in some fields is over 13 feet tall.

DUNN-J.F.: Corn on the light soils received a reprieve with 1.60 inch of badly needed rain in the earlier part of the week. Corn on the knolls and on the lighter soils have noticeable leaf damage along the margins on both lower and upper leaves. Some growers reported a light second crop.

MONROE-W.H.: Timely rainfall helped last week, sandy ground, however, is due for more. Small grain harvest has been in full swing for about a week, with mixed results for yields. A few corn fields have had severe Armyworm damage.

WAUPACA-D.H.: The rain Monday night helped crops tremendously. Oats are being combined, yields running above average. Last of second crop hay is being baled; yields are fair, and quality is excellent.

FOND DU LAC-E.A.: Corn and soybeans look good, but have been hurt by a lack of rain. Second crop hay is very short due to lack of rain, but has good quality; had to spray for insects.

GRANT-G.C.: Rain, storms, and humidity stopped any field operations. Excellent pollination weather for corn and soybeans, which jumped in height. Oats have gone down, and fields are turning green again with weeds.

LAFAYETTE-M.R.: Need rain and moderate temperatures; getting heat. Expect it will limit top-end yields.

DODGE-G.R.: Received as much rain this week as we have for the entire growing season thus far. Corn and soybeans look their best of the season. Third crop alfalfa is growing far better than second crop ever had a chance to grow. Few, if any, oats and wheat fields harvested as yet.

GREEN-T.J.: Need rain quickly to help out third crop hay.

RACINE-L.F.: Rains have helped in the areas that received them. Farms that missed the rains are in very dire condition. Corn is trying to come back with an obvious yield reduction. Soybeans look remarkable well.

WALWORTH-P.R.: Southern part of the county missed most of the rains of last week and continues to be severely stressed. Second cutting of hay was pretty uniformly short due to lack of moisture. Wheat yields ranged from 50-90 bushels per acre with fairly good test weights. Heaviest spider mite pressure in many areas, mainly in the headlands. Some fields have been sprayed for Aphids, but generally, pressure is not high. Goose necking is evident in many corn fields from corn rootworm pressure, and silk clipping by adult beetles is limiting pollination in some fields.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 31, 2005

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 30	Mar. 1 to July 30 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	81	59	91	49	70	-2	1803	1533	1.01	8.54	0.56	16.77
Green Bay	80	57	93	50	68	-2	1640	1412	0.57	5.46	-1.19	13.72
La Crosse	83	62	91	54	73	-1	2013	1718	1.53	7.28	-0.80	16.27
Madison	81	61	94	54	71	-1	1851	1672	1.26	5.95	-1.87	16.80
Milwaukee	80	65	97	59	73	-1	1669	n.a.	0.32	4.92	-2.00	14.77

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.