



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

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

July 3, 2006

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## Second Cutting of Alfalfa in Full Force

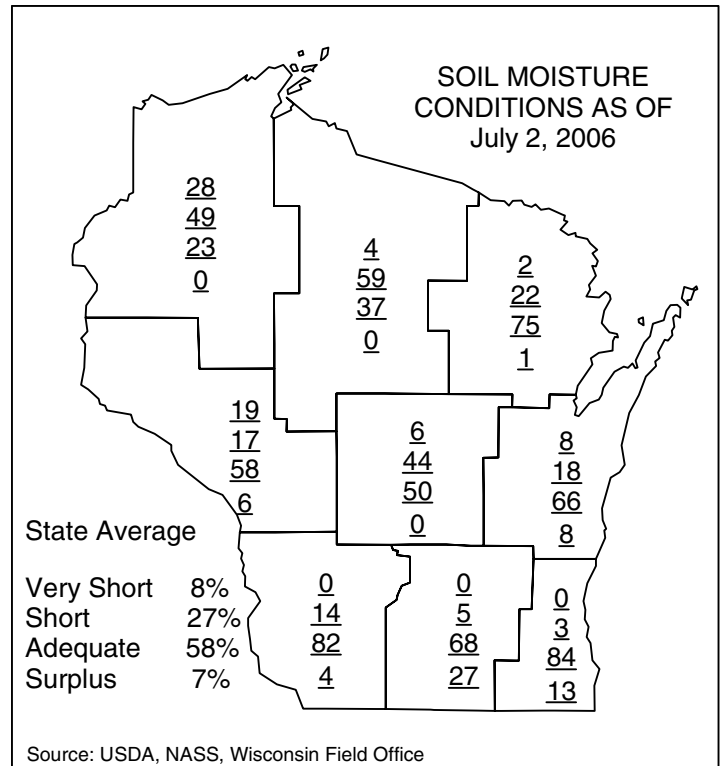
With first cutting alfalfa almost complete, second cutting hay was well underway. Spotty rains resulted in good quality for some, while others needed a break from dry weather to improve alfalfa quality. Temperatures were fairly normal for the week, ranging from average to 3 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures were in the high 70s to low 80s in most areas. Low temperatures averaged in the high 50s to low 60s during the week. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.50 inches in Green Bay to 1.56 inches in La Crosse. Soil moisture conditions were at 8 percent very short, 27 percent short, 58 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus. Last week there was an average of 5.1 days suitable for fieldwork in Wisconsin.

**Corn** height was reported at an average of 37 inches, slightly shorter than last year's 38 inches, but above the 5-year average of 27 inches, according to the Wisconsin Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn looked good this past week, and was above knee high in all but the northeastern and east central areas of the state.

**Soybeans** bloomed was at 5 percent, behind last year's progress of 15 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 3 percent. Soybeans looked good, although shorter than last year.

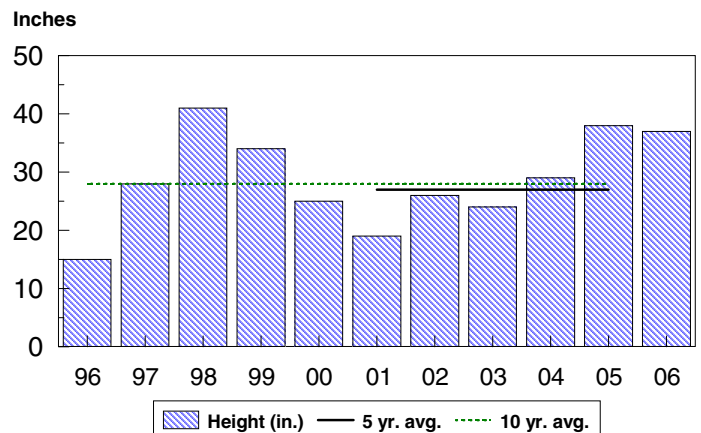
First cutting **alfalfa** was reported at 98 percent complete, above last year's 92 percent and the 5-year average of 87 percent. Dry periods this past week enabled producers to finish most of first cutting. Second cutting alfalfa was reported at 27 percent complete, above last year's 14 percent and the 5-year average of 7 percent. With first cutting almost complete, areas with timely rain had good second crop, while others waited for dry days to harvest.

**Oats** headed was reported at 92 percent, ahead of last year's 86 percent and the 5-year average of 68 percent. **Strawberries** looked good, with harvest ongoing. **Sweet corn** was tasseling in some areas. **Cranberries** were setting fruit, and **snapbean** planting was near completion.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 2, 2006					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	2	7	20	47	24
Soybeans	2	5	21	56	16
Winter wheat	1	1	13	58	27
Oat	0	3	14	57	26
Pasture	4	11	26	46	13

**Average Height of Corn**  
July 2, 1996 - 2006, Wisconsin



Wisconsin Crop Progress, July 2, 2006												
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	85	95	93	96	94	75	98	98	90	92	86	68
Average height of corn	31	44	22	31	33	22	47	40	40	37	38	27
Soybeans bloomed	10	5	0	12	0	0	5	8	0	5	15	3
First cutting hay	98	95	99	99	96	98	98	99	94	98	92	87
Second cutting hay	32	29	18	25	16	16	31	42	15	27	14	7

**Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents**

**BARRON-A.B.:** Very dry conditions prevail across our county. Crops are needing rain. A lot of leafhoppers in alfalfa. Hay is very slow to grow-little to no third crop regrowth. Crops appear to be ahead of normal development. The best corn is at about V10.

**CHIPPEWA-T.P.:** Rain is needed again, as corn is rolling on sandier soils. Second crop yields will be below normal.

**CLARK-N.S.:** Potato leafhoppers becoming common. New forage seedings could use some rain to get them going.

**MARINETTE-S.R.:** Much-needed rain has been hit-and-miss, unfortunately with some extremely intense hail in some strips.

**BUFFALO-R.S.:** Total rain we received in June was 4.0 inches. Getting very dry again. Some corn leaves are curling. Rye and oats are starting to turn color and in the dough stage. Second crop hay is being harvested and has good quality. Soybeans seem very short and not filling between the rows.

**MONROE-W.H.:** Recent rains have been spotty. The coarse, textured soils in the area need some rain. Crops in areas that have received adequate rainfall look really good. Harvest of second crop hay cutting is beginning to hit full stride.

**PORTAGE-J.W.:** Sweet corn and field corn have tassels in boot. Snapbean planting is nearly complete. Good yields off first cutting of hay; many barns are full.

**WAUSHARA-L.K.:** Corn and soybeans look very good. Early sweet corn is tasseling out. We could use some more moisture. Good quality first crop hay was made. Some second crop hay was made, but need more moisture to make third crop hay to grow good.

**CALUMET-M.G.:** Timely rains have made the finish of first crop hay difficult; however, it has produced a great second cutting for those that got the first off early.

**SHEBOYGAN-T.B.:** Corn and soybeans are looking great where they survived the flooding. First crop hay was very good, and second crop seems to be heavy as well. Field

conditions vary a lot depending on where summer thunderstorms fell.

**CRAWFORD-V.H.:** Rains have been right on time. Tough to get the forage up, but we have a lot of it.

**LAFAYETTE-M.R.:** Symptoms of farming errors are becoming more obvious each day. Compaction, soil worked or planted too wet, typical uneven spread patterns from urea in corn, herbicide skips and misses, herbicide carryover-all things not done to perfection are starting to show.

**COLUMBIA-R.S.:** Winter wheat has lodged severely. We had hail, wind, and 3.40 inches of rain. Some corn and soybean fields are short, which is not good; this is a very large area affected. Oats are heading out very nicely. Winter wheat was just starting to turn. Weed control in corn fields looks good.

**DANE-J.K.:** Corn and soybeans look very good at this time. Soybeans do not seem to be growing as fast as last year. There will not be as much corn in tassel on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July as other years. Small grains look shorter than other years, but look very good. Crop emergence is very excellent. First crop hay was very good, and a lot of second crop hay is yielding good also. Quite a bit of hay was down when the rains came Sunday and Monday. Some wheat lodged quite bad, even though it is smaller than last year. Spraying Roundup in soybeans fields for the second time due to late weeds. Wheat is turning with very slight rust on some.

**WAUKESHA-D.W.:** We had more timely rain this week. All small grains, corn and, soybeans are doing very well.



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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 2, 2006**

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 1	Mar. 1 to July 1 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	82	56	89	49	69	0	1231	938	0.51	1.85	-2.55	11.09
Green Bay	77	57	88	52	67	-1	1011	842	0.50	2.83	-0.70	14.84
La Crosse	81	61	93	54	71	-1	1262	1064	1.56	3.52	-0.62	16.20
Madison	79	56	87	49	67	-3	1106	1040	0.76	2.39	-1.80	17.15
Milwaukee	77	60	91	57	69	-1	996	n.a.	0.72	2.93	-0.73	18.42

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.