



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

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

July 10, 2006

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## Dry Weather Continued to Stress Crops

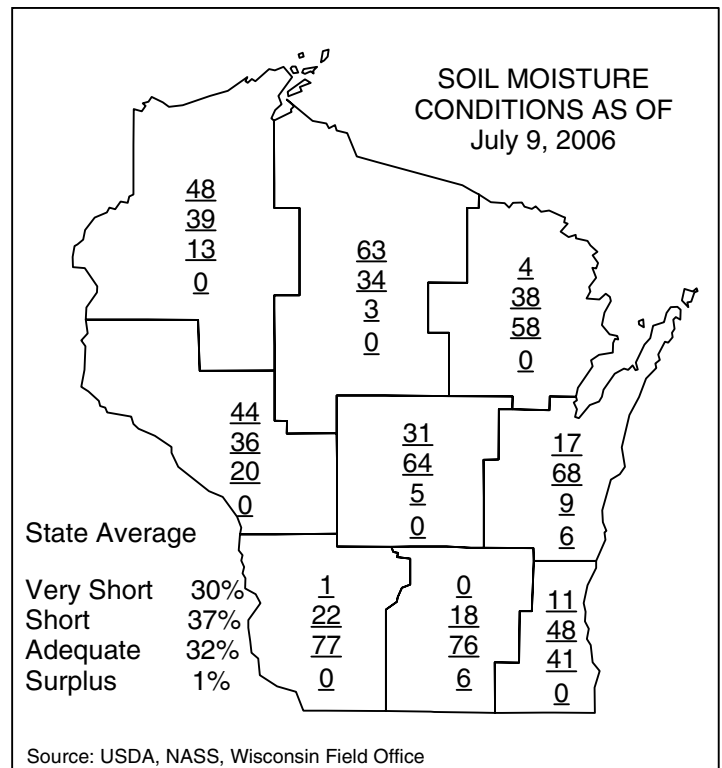
Crops throughout the state need rain, but received very little this past week, especially in north and central areas. Crops on lighter soils showed more stress, while crops on heavy soil are holding steady. Temperatures were fairly normal for the week, ranging from 2 degrees above normal to 1 degree below normal. Average high temperatures were in the low to mid 80s in most areas. Low temperatures averaged in the high 50s to low 60s during the week. Rainfall totals ranged from zero inches in Madison to 0.08 inches in La Crosse. Soil moisture conditions were at 30 percent very short, 37 percent short, 32 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Last week there was an average of 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork in Wisconsin.

**Corn** height was reported at an average of 52 inches, slightly taller than last year's 51 inches and above the 5-year average of 39 inches, according to the Wisconsin Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn looked good in most areas, despite continued dry weather. Corn on heavy soils is faring better, but all corn could use rain to keep moving.

**Soybeans** bloomed was at 21 percent, behind last year's progress of 36 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 13 percent. Soybeans on lighter soils showed some moisture stress in north and central Wisconsin, while soybeans on heavier soils are holding steady.

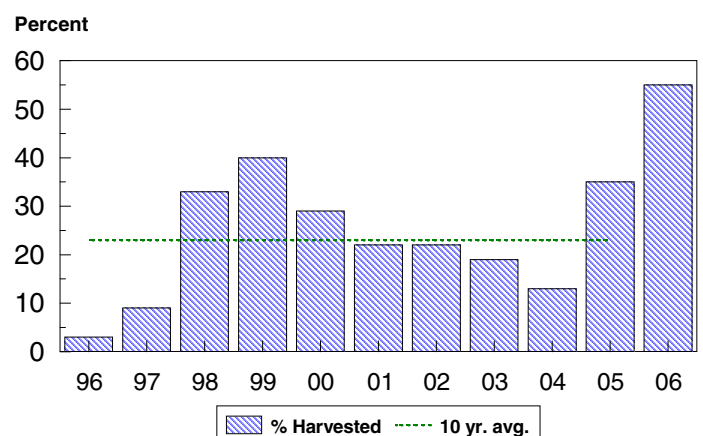
Second cutting **alfalfa** was reported at 55 percent complete, above last year's 35 percent and the 5-year average of 22 percent. Dry weather enabled farmers to harvest second crop. Farmers in some north and central areas of the state had low yields, since dry weather hindered strong regrowth. Overall quality was rated at good, but rain is needed to help with third crop regrowth. Leafhoppers have also been reported in the alfalfa, mostly in northern and central parts of the state.

**Oats** headed was reported at 97 percent, ahead of last year's 94 percent and the 5-year average of 82 percent. **Strawberry** harvest is complete throughout the state. **Sweet corn** was tasseling in some areas.



Item	Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 9, 2006				
	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	3	9	27	45	16
Soybeans	2	8	32	49	9
Winter wheat	2	4	15	61	18
Oat	1	7	31	47	14
Pasture	17	19	37	24	3

**Progress of Second Crop Hay Harvested**  
July 9, 1996 - 2006, Wisconsin



Crop and percent of acreage	Wisconsin Crop Progress, July 9, 2006											
	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This year	Last year	5-year average
Oats headed	92	98	98	98	99	93	99	100	92	97	94	82
Average height of corn	41	49	41	47	45	40	66	67	50	52	51	39
Soybeans bloomed	20	19	12	18	13	22	17	31	12	21	36	13
Second cutting hay	59	52	61	64	32	29	57	70	40	55	35	22

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

**BAYFIELD-S.S.:** Everything is stressed because of dry conditions. Fields that have been cut are brown. Corn leaves are curling, and oats are sure to be light.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Another week without widespread rain. Crops on lighter soils are in big trouble; just about beyond saving. On heavier soils, just holding their own. Soybeans seem to be having a harder time of it-more than corn is. Spraying and sidedressing just about done. Leafhoppers and aphids are in the alfalfa.

**ASHLAND-A.R.:** All crops are showing stress. We are in dire need of rain. Only had several refresher showers. Harvesting of second crop hay has begun, with quantity light and quality good.

**PRICE-M.K.:** Second crop forage harvest has begun on some of the better fields that were harvested early, with quality being excellent, but yielding very poor quantities. Most hayfields are not growing back well due to very dry conditions. Small grains look very good, but the hot and dry weather may reduce bushel weight without moisture in the near future. Corn is doing very well on most soils, despite the dry weather.

**LANGLADE-A.K.:** Need rain. Corn and soybeans are showing stress. Second crop hay is drying up fast. Rains have been scattered and uneven.

**EAU CLAIRE-R.S.:** Second crop hay is very short. Pastures are brown. Corn looks great, but rolling every afternoon. Need rain soon.

**PIERCE-J.K.:** Corn is rolling during the day on the knolls and lighter soils. We need rain very badly. Oats are ripening prematurely from lack of moisture and will probably have low test weight. Finished second crop hay-good quantity and quality.

**PORTAGE-D.Z.:** Dry land is hurting the corn in some areas; leaves are curling. Second crop hay is half of what first crop was. Some oat fields are headed out and only one foot tall.

**WAUSHARA-L.K.:** Corn and soybeans look good, but are starting to roll during the day. It is very dry here. Second crop hay is a poor crop, but has good quality. Lots of leafhopper damage so far.

**FOND DU LAC-E.A.:** Corn and soybeans look good, but need rain. Winter wheat looks good, but some is lodged bad. Second crop hay is a good crop.

**WINNEBAGO-R.H.:** Corn and soybeans look very good. Small grains look good, as the oats are all headed out. Alfalfa fields look very good for a second crop. Maybe we will have third crop hay if we get enough rain. Peas are getting harvested and yields seem pretty good where there was enough moisture.

**GRANT-G.C.:** All crops look good. Oats and soybeans are shorter than normal. No major insect outbreaks observed in this area. Corn on lighter soils is starting to show dry weather stress.

**DANE-D.R.:** Corn is variable in height. Soybeans are shorter and slower than last year. Wheat is turning yellow.

**ROCK-C.O.:** Wheat harvest has begun, and should be in full swing next week. Yields are good, but lower test weights than last year. Corn crop looks great, with most fields sprouting tassels. Second crop hay is almost finished with better quality than first. Just a perfect week for hay making.

**RACINE-L.F.:** Crops look wonderful. It has been many years since we have looked this good. Hot weather last weekend seemed to help soybeans get caught up. Wheat harvest is getting very close.

**WASHINGTON-R.B.:** Need rain. Second crop hay cutting is very good if you sprayed. Corn is OK- some fields are showing dry areas. Soybeans are OK; need rain. No aphids seen. Wheat is turning fast, may combine in 10 days. Some fields are flat. Weeds are very bad in all fields. A lot of spraying is going on. Tallest corn is six feet.



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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 9, 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 8	Mar. 1 to July 8 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	86	58	92	49	72	2	1383	1070	0.03	1.88	-3.34	11.12
Green Bay	83	57	87	51	70	1	1152	971	0.06	2.89	-1.42	14.90
La Crosse	85	61	91	53	73	0	1421	1212	0.08	3.27	-1.83	15.95
Madison	82	59	85	52	70	-1	1251	1187	0	2.30	-2.81	17.06
Milwaukee	80	63	85	58	72	1	1149	n.a.	0.01	2.55	-1.92	18.04

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.