



Wisconsin Crop Weather

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

July 31, 2006

Vol. 06, No. 17

More Heat

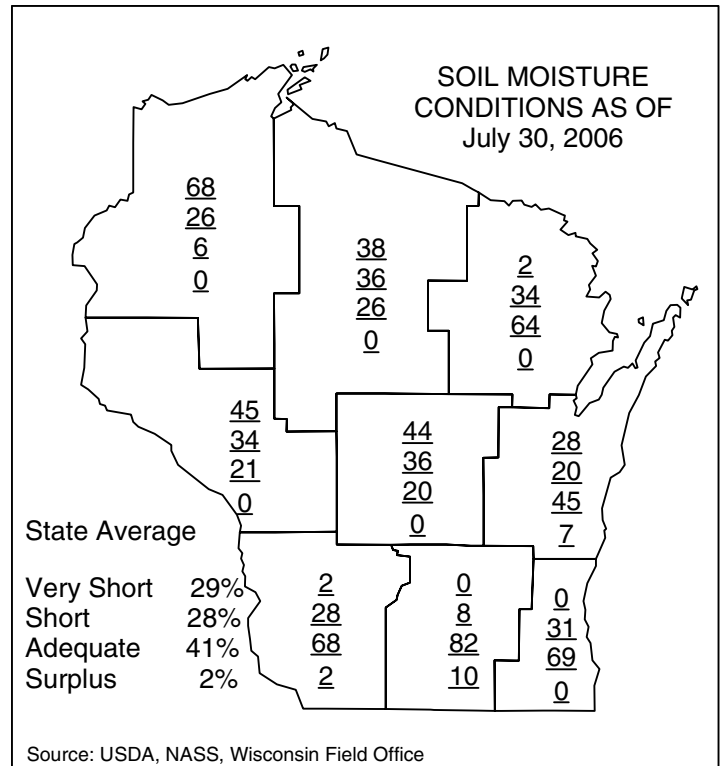
Showers were scattered around the state last the week, but high temperatures were everywhere. Temperatures were above normal for the week, ranging from 5 to 8 degrees above normal. Temperatures as high as 102 were reported in La Crosse, and high 90s in most other areas. Average high temperatures were in the high 80s to low 90s in most areas. Low temperatures averaged in the mid to high 60s during the week. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.28 inches in Milwaukee to 1.65 inches in Eau Claire. Soil moisture conditions were at 29 percent very short, 28 percent short, 41 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Last week there was an average of 5.7 days suitable for field-work in Wisconsin.

Corn dough was at 6 percent, ahead of last year's 4 percent and the 5-year average of 1 percent. Corn silked was at 75 percent, ahead of last year's 71 percent and the 5-year average of 50 percent, according to the Wisconsin Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Some moisture-stressed areas received rain, although not enough. Most corn is rated as fair to good, and more rain could help conditions. Corn height was reported at an average of 76 inches, slightly taller than last year's 75 inches and above the 5-year average of 73 inches.

Soybeans bloomed was at 78 percent, behind last year's 83 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 64 percent. Soybeans setting pods was reported at 48 percent complete, equal to last year's progress, and ahead of the 5-year average of 25 percent. Rain in some areas helped soybeans, as conditions were rated as mostly fair to good. Areas with little rain continued to show stress.

Third cutting **alfalfa** was at 13 percent complete, ahead of last year's 2 percent and the 5-year average of 1 percent. Areas with little rain in past weeks had weak regrowth, but other areas reported a good crop. Second cutting alfalfa was reported at 93 percent complete, above last year's 84 percent and the 5-year average of 75 percent. Second cutting alfalfa continued at record pace.

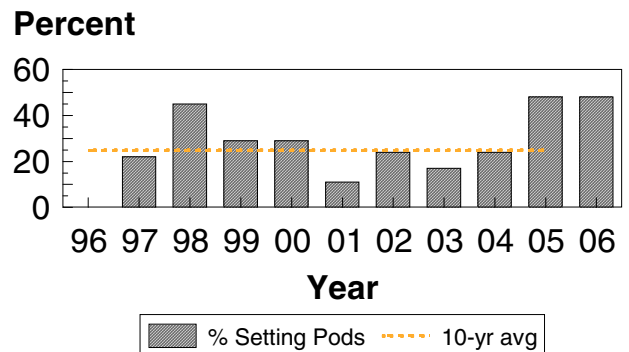
Winter wheat harvested was at 65 percent complete, behind last year's average of 67 percent complete, but ahead of the 5-year average of 51 percent. **Oats** harvested for grain was reported at 39 percent, behind last year's 41 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 25 percent. **Cucumbers** and **peas** were being harvested.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 30, 2006					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	9	16	23	32	20
Soybeans	5	13	28	32	22
Oat	3	10	28	49	10
Pasture	29	25	22	20	4



Soybeans Setting Pods July 30, 1996 - 2006, Wisconsin



Crop and percent of acreage	Wisconsin Crop Progress, July 30, 2006											
	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This year	Last year	5-year average
Corn silked	76	54	71	76	65	54	95	83	80	75	71	50
Corn dough	2	7	6	1	2	10	9	9	2	6	4	1
Average height of corn	64	70	77	74	63	64	92	84	80	76	75	73
Soybeans bloomed	88	64	78	71	63	54	90	93	83	78	83	64
Soybeans setting pods	68	21	30	36	44	32	76	58	40	48	48	25
Second cutting hay	98	86	93	95	93	84	89	99	95	93	84	75
Third cutting hay	14	6	20	9	26	3	11	23	6	13	2	1
Oats harvested for grain	23	34	25	66	35	16	34	66	16	39	41	25
Winter wheat harvested	37	73	63	75	78	58	47	82	69	65	67	51

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Some rain early in the week helped. Third crop alfalfa yields will be way below normal. Some fields never greened up after second crop harvest.

RUSK-G.P.: A few small showers in this area this week, but no widespread rain. Crops continue to suffer under high temperatures.

MARATHON-M.K.: Some third crop hayfields are good and some are poor. We received 1.5 inches of rain.

TAYLOR-M.B.: We have had some good rainfall this past week. This is greatly improving the forage situation. It may be too late for some of the corn.

SHAWANO-T.A.: Rains have strengthened the crops. Expect that crop yields will be at least average, if not better. Quality also should be better than average.

EAU CLAIRE-R.S.: Welcomed rain this week, but amounts were very spotty. For some farmers, it will be too little or too late.

MONROE-W.H.: There is a lot of variability across the county for crop conditions. Some looks very good and some looks very tough. Rainfall timeliness and soil type are the determining factors.

PIERCE-J.K.: Third crop haying has started, and quantity and quality are good. It is amazing how the alfalfa keeps going in the dry weather. Corn and soybeans seem to be hanging in there also. Still could use some timely rains to get the crops to harvest.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Recent rains came too late for most corn. Hay yields are spotty. Hot, dry weather is promoting weed growth.

WAUSHARA-J.J.: Irrigated corn looks good to very good. Dry land corn and hay are poor to very poor. Third crop hay cutting has started on irrigated fields with very good quality, but yields are lighter than usual. Hay cutting is on schedule for fourth cutting. There is no third cutting of hay on dryland.

FOND DU LAC-R.P.: Rain has slowed wheat harvest. Yields for wheat are 65-76 bushels per acre, but it could take weeks to finish harvest between the rains. Third crop hay is going to yield excellent. Corn and soybeans are looking better with the recent rains.

SHEBOYGAN-T.B.: Rain last week saved some corn and soybeans on our well-drained soils. Corn and soybean fields look good to excellent. Wheat harvest is in full swing, and yields have been excellent, best in years. Some barley harvest, but no oats for grain yet. Second crop alfalfa hay harvest is almost complete, and good yields followed areas lucky enough to receive adequate rainfall. Field conditions range from muddy to very dry. Poorly-timed, post-applied herbicides left some fields stressed and yields significantly challenged. Most new seeded alfalfa fields have suffered from economic threshold levels of potato leafhoppers. Some isolated high levels of Asian soybean aphids have turned up in area soybean fields.

GRANT-L.F.: Corn looks good for now, but we need rain. Most corn is silking and setting ears. Moisture will be the key for the way the corn will yield. Oats are good, but not real tall. Straw is short. Second crop hay was very good, third crop looks promising. Pastures are starting to burn up.

COLUMBIA-R.S.: Soybeans in poor soil areas are beginning to show stress. Now with this hot weather coming, crops could be suffering. Winter wheat yields are very good; lots of straw. The heat could make the oats light. Weeds are showing up in the oats.

RACINE-L.F.: Rains are giving the final wheat producers headaches with trying to get grain and straw out of the field. Both crops are more than we have seen in the past few years. Corn and soybeans are getting timely rains.

WASHINGTON-K.R.: Rain over the week made for better looking crops.



USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office
P.O. Box 8934
Madison, WI 53708-8934
(608) 224-4848
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/rlsetoc.htm>

Robert J. Battaglia
Director

Ryan King
Statistician

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 30, 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 29	Mar. 1 to July 29 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	93	67	99	58	80	8	1910	1451	1.65	3.72	-3.72	12.96
Green Bay	89	63	99	52	76	6	1624	1334	1.12	4.35	-1.95	16.36
La Crosse	94	68	102	56	81	7	1965	1629	1.16	5.38	-2.19	18.06
Madison	88	66	99	54	77	5	1753	1585	1.02	7.51	0.22	22.27
Milwaukee	87	68	91	61	78	5	1653	n.a.	0.28	8.79	2.28	24.28

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.