August 14, 2006

A Cool Change

Relief from extreme heat came as temperatures dropped over the past week. After successive weeks of average high temperatures in the 90s, temperatures were about normal, ranging from 2 degrees below to 1 degree above normal. Average high temperatures were in the high 70s to low 80s in most areas. Lows averaged in the mid 50s to mid 60s during the week. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.06 inches in Green Bay to 0.95 inches in Madison. Last week there was an average of 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork in Wisconsin.

Corn silked was at 95 percent, behind last year’s 98 percent and ahead of the 5-year average of 87 percent, according to the Wisconsin Field Office of USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn in the dough stage was at 43 percent, ahead of last year’s 33 percent and the 5-year average of 21 percent. Corn was rated as mostly fair to good, and beginning to dent. Corn dent was at 2 percent complete, compared to none last year and the 5-year average of 1 percent.

Soybeans bloomed was at 94 percent, behind last year’s 96 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 90 percent. Soybeans setting pods was reported at 75 percent complete, behind last year’s progress of 82 percent, and ahead of the 5-year average of 62 percent. Soybeans looked good, as conditions were rated mostly fair to good. Some farmers reported the presence of spider mites.

Third cutting alfalfa was at 46 percent complete, ahead of last year’s 33 percent and the 5-year average of 27 percent. Alfalfa cutting is again progressing very well, as it is slightly ahead of the record 44 percent complete in 1998. With recent rains, third crop regrowth has been good.

Winter wheat harvested was at 93 percent complete, behind last year’s average of 96 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 86 percent. Oats harvested for grain was reported at 86 percent, behind last year’s 88 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 64 percent. Sweet corn, snapbeans, and peas were being harvested.

\[\text{State Average} \]

\[
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
\text{Crop} & \text{V.-poor} & \text{Poor} & \text{Fair} & \text{Good} & \text{Excellent} \\
\hline
\text{Corn} & 7 & 9 & 27 & 39 & 18 \\
\text{Soybeans} & 2 & 7 & 29 & 41 & 21 \\
\text{Pasture} & 9 & 18 & 32 & 37 & 4 \\
\hline
\end{array}
\]

\[\text{State Average} \]

\[
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
\text{Crop} & \text{Very Short} & \text{Short} & \text{Adequate} & \text{Surplus} \\
\hline
\text{Winter wheat} & 4% & 29% & 65% & 2% \\
\text{Oats harvested for grain} & 0% & 4% & 94% & 0% \\
\text{Winter wheat harvested} & 0% & 87% & 13% & 0% \\
\text{Progress of Third Crop Hay Harvested} & 0% & 5% & 95% & 0% \\
\hline
\end{array}
\]

\[\text{Progress of Third Crop Hay Harvested} \]

\[\text{August 13, 1996 - 2006, Wisconsin} \]

\[\text{Wisconsin Crop Conditions} \]

\[\text{as of August 13, 2006} \]

\[\text{Crop and percent of acreage} \]

\[
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
\text{Crop} & \text{Corn silked} & \text{Corn dough} & \text{Corn dent} & \text{Soybeans bloomed} & \text{Soybeans setting pods} & \text{Third cutting hay} & \text{Oats harvested for grain} & \text{Winter wheat harvested} \\
\hline
\text{District average} & 95 & 28 & 1 & 99 & 92 & 28 & 81 & 87 \\
\text{State average} & 95 & 28 & 1 & 99 & 92 & 28 & 81 & 87 \\
\hline
\end{array}
\]

\[\text{Wisconsin Crop Progress, August 13, 2006} \]

\[\text{Crop} & \text{NW} & \text{NC} & \text{NE} & \text{WC} & \text{C} & \text{EC} & \text{SW} & \text{SC} & \text{SE} \\
\hline
\text{Corn silked} & 95 & 93 & 96 & 99 & 96 & 85 & 100 & 96 & 94 \\
\text{Corn dough} & 95 & 28 & 1 & 99 & 92 & 28 & 81 & 87 & 95 \\
\text{Corn dent} & 95 & 28 & 1 & 99 & 92 & 28 & 81 & 87 & 95 \\
\text{Soybeans bloomed} & 95 & 28 & 1 & 99 & 92 & 28 & 81 & 87 & 95 \\
\text{Soybeans setting pods} & 95 & 28 & 1 & 99 & 92 & 28 & 81 & 87 & 95 \\
\text{Third cutting hay} & 95 & 28 & 1 & 99 & 92 & 28 & 81 & 87 & 95 \\
\text{Oats harvested for grain} & 95 & 28 & 1 & 99 & 92 & 28 & 81 & 87 & 95 \\
\text{Winter wheat harvested} & 95 & 28 & 1 & 99 & 92 & 28 & 81 & 87 & 95 \\
\hline
\end{array}
\]
Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-A.B.: Weed pressure is coming on strong. Hay harvest will also happen in the next 12-18 days. Aphid levels are dropping in the soybeans. Twospotted spider mites were found in some fields. Corn ear size ranges from nearly normal to no ear at all. All of the corn is short compared to normal.

CHIPPEWA-J.M.: Crops have responded to recent rains; however, corn that was drought stressed is poorly pollinated.

POLL-C.S.: Corn and certainly soybeans have improved after last week’s rains. Small grain harvest is wrapping up with yields being average to below average. Second and third crop hay quality is good. Spraying for a few soybean aphids and alfalfa insects.

CLARK-N.S.: Crops look much better. Third crop hay looks promising.

SHAWANO-B.R.: We are starting to see some of the corn denting, and the soybeans are all setting pods. Growing degree days are ahead of the last few years for this area, and it shows. Third crop alfalfa varies from very short to extremely heavy depending on whether or not the field had adequate rain.

LACROSSE-S.H.: Corn and soybeans look good. Soybeans are setting lots of pods in some areas. Hay continues to be harvested with good quality.

PEPIN-H.R.: With the 3.0 inches of rain last week some of the poor looking corn and soybeans are showing a good comeback. It is hard to say what kind of ears will develop in the corn. Soybeans might be better. Lots of good third crop hay is being made, but it is short in some spots.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: More rain last night has everything greened up and growing robustly again. Some corn and soybean yields likely were hurt, but most acres are salvaged. Hay is plentiful.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Recent rains came too late for most corn. Third and fourth crop hay will be helped. Weeds are flowering.

WAUSHARA-A.S.: Drought conditions were extreme the last two weeks. Corn was hurt hard. It is hard to tell yet the amount of yield reduction; it will be significant on early planted dryland.

WISCONSIN CROPS

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 13, 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Growing degree days (modified base 50°F)</th>
<th>Precipitation</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Avg. Max.</td>
<td>Avg. Min.</td>
<td>Avg. Mar. 1 to Aug. 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eau Claire</td>
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<td>61</td>
<td>86 53 72 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Green Bay</td>
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<td>55</td>
<td>82 48 67 -2</td>
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<td>63</td>
<td>86 58 73 0</td>
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<td>82 53 70 -1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>80 61 71 -1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.