Widespread Rain Boosted Corn Heights

Near normal temperatures and steady rain helped corn to reach record average height. Corn height was reported at an average of 11 inches, ahead of last year’s 8 inches and the 5-year average of 6 inches. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.37 inches in Eau Claire to 3.65 inches in Madison. Temperatures were normal to 1 degree below normal. Average high temperatures were in the low to mid 70s. Average low temperatures were in the low to mid 50s. Soil Moisture conditions were at 1 percent very short, 15 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 8 percent surplus. There was an average of 4.3 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn emerged was at 98 percent complete, above both last year’s average of 91 percent and the 5-year average of 84 percent. Rain is helping corn to progress very quickly. The previous height record was last reached in 1998 with 10 inches on average. Corn condition benefited from the weather also, as it was rated as zero percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 10 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 34 percent excellent.

Soybeans planted was at 99 percent complete, above both last year’s average of 92 percent and the 5-year average of 88 percent complete. Soybeans emerged was 93 percent complete, ahead of both last year’s average of 75 percent and the 5-year average of 66 percent complete. The rain also helped soybeans to progress quickly, as the 93 percent emergence is the highest of the past 10 years.

Oats headed was at 15 percent complete, ahead of last year’s 7 percent and the 5-year average of 9 percent. Oat condition improved in most areas, with 85 percent rated as good to excellent, up from last week’s 81 percent.

First cutting Alfalfa was at 59 percent complete, behind last year’s near record completion of 70 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 42 percent. Rains continued to hinder first cutting of alfalfa in some areas, but second crop alfalfa is progressing well on fields that were cut early.

Winter Wheat is heading, and conditions have been rated as 82 percent good to excellent.
Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-R.C.: Crops are in; both no-till and conventionally tilled crops are doing very well. Leaf-hoppers in alfalfa appear to be the only major pest at this time.

POLK-C.S.: Most planting of crops is complete with the exception of sweet corn and snapbeans. No re-planting, but corn and soybean emergence is uneven due to moisture problems. First crop hay is winding down. Some farmers are spraying for insects when it is not windy.

TAYLOR-D.B.: Lots of hay has been cut; quantity and quality was not good. All other crops are looking good.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Corn is looking good at this point but soybean emergence has been very uneven, most likely due to dry conditions. Heavy rains in some areas, but little to no rain in eastern part of county is making things very dry. This allowed haying to continue but later planted crops and second crop hay needs moisture for a boost.

JACKSON-W.E.: Some armyworms are being sprayed. Some corn needs Roundup sprayed but there is too much wind and rain right now.

PIERCJ-J.K.: It has really been tough for the commercial sprayers to get much done because of the windy conditions lately. Alfalfa yields were generally pretty good. Have seen some surviving cultivating in action last week.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Most corn in this area has canopied. Alfalfa harvest is a struggle with the weather.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: Poor drying weather this past week, so there has not been much hay made; yields are not very good. Some corn had to be re-planted on account of cutworm damage.

WOOD-M.L.: Frequent rain made it tough for hay to progress, but total rain accumulation was pretty modest. On Thursday, some areas received 4.0 inch sized hail.

CALUMET-M.G.: Crops are looking extremely good.

FOND DU LAC-B.B.: Vegetables are growing at a fast pace. Strawberries are ripening rapidly. Much needed rain, totaling 3.0 inches, fell in the previous week; but very little ponding.

GRANT-G.C.: Plenty of rain all week. Hayfields are soggy, not a good week for haying.

IOWA-S.M.: Crops looking better after much needed rain. Insects are causing problems in the alfalfa and soybeans.

DANE-D.F.: Planting has been completed. Most corn has emerged extremely well. However, weed control is varied with some fields in excellent condition, others with very poor control. Soybean emergence has improved with rains from the previous week, growth seems slow. Most first crop alfalfa is done, with good to excellent quality but only fair yields. Those fields harvested later have greater yields but greatly reduced quality.

ROCK-C.O.: Rain has stopped most hay harvest and nitrogen applications. Wheat looks good, but is short.

KENOSHA-J.H.: First crop hay is two-thirds normal in quantity. There is heavy insect population in hay; it is being sprayed. We are dry in our area. However, some areas are not far away from having adequate moisture. Crops have potential but rain is needed.

RACINE-L.F.: Much-needed rain has arrived; overnight it seems the crops have doubled in size. Not asking for much, but now we need some warm weather. Several farmers with wheat are reporting that their crop is great, while others are pessimistic and think it will be less than last year with little straw.

WASHINGTON-R.B.: A lot of hay was cut on Friday. All crops look good.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on June 10, 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Growing degree days (modified base 50)</th>
<th>Precipitation</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Avg. max.</td>
<td>Avg. min.</td>
<td>High max.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eau Claire</td>
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<td>Milwaukee</td>
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<td>54</td>
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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. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.