



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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

July 21, 2008

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Showers and Humidity Cause Some Harvesting Delays

While some areas of Wisconsin were reporting dry weather, other areas have had enough of the rain and humidity. Several northern counties reported rain missing the area and the need for a nice long soaker. Further south there were reports of rain and humidity slowing hay harvest and causing stress and uneven crop growth. Precipitation in one county may be minimal while the next county over may be getting soaked.

Average high temperatures ranged from 83 to 84 degrees, with average low temperatures ranging from 60 to 66 degrees. Precipitation totals last week ranged from 0.29 inches reported in Milwaukee to 3.50 inches reported in La Crosse. Soil moisture conditions were at 1 percent very short, 8 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus. There was an average of 5 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn was showing better color, with the exception of where it has remained too wet for too long. Average corn height was reported at 60 inches with 7 percent tasseled. Corn condition was reported as 3 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 17 percent excellent.

Soybeans blooming were reported at 33 percent with 5 percent showing pods. Soybean conditions were reported as 2 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Fields were being monitored for the possible presence of aphids.

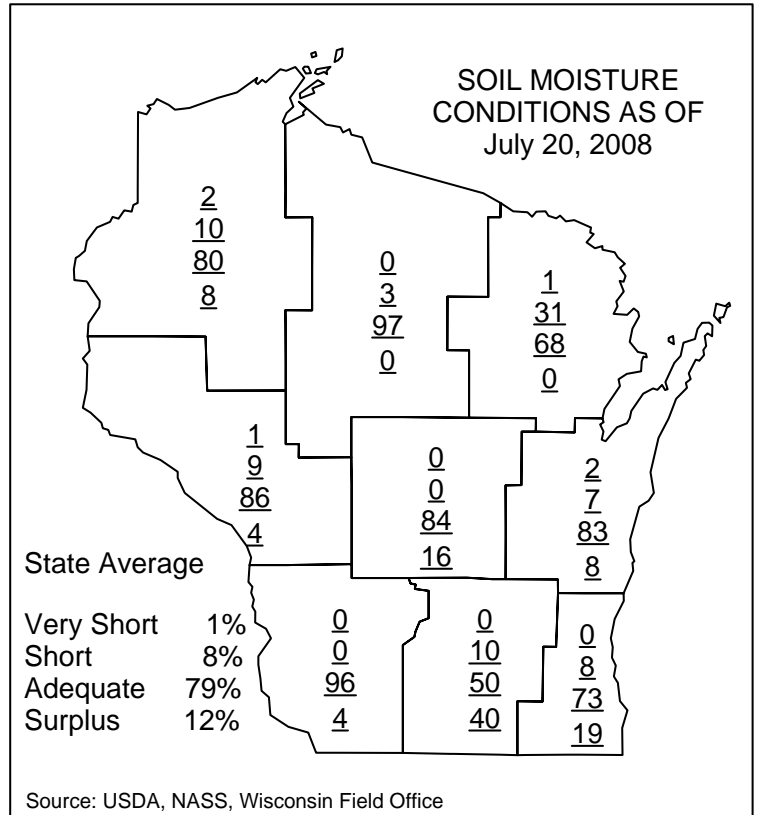
Second crop **hay** was reported at 54 percent harvested. Some areas have had below normal yields due to lack of rain, while quantities have been good in other areas. Farmers were keeping their eyes open for leafhoppers in the alfalfa fields.

Winter wheat harvest was at 2 percent. Dry weather is needed in the east-central part of the state for wheat to dry down. Conditions remained favorable with reports of 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 19 percent excellent.

Oats have almost finished heading at 95 percent complete, and 2 percent has been harvested for grain. Oat conditions were reported at 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 15 percent excellent.

Pasture conditions were reported at 2 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. One western county reported pastures showing a shortage of moisture.

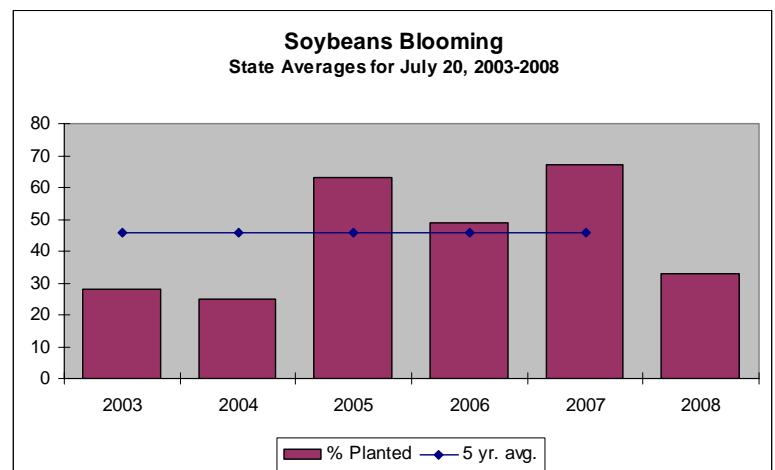
Potatoes are in full bloom. **Sweet corn** is tasseling. **Snapbean** harvest has started. **Raspberry** harvest is in full swing.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions
as of July 20, 2008

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	3	5	22	53	17
Soybean	2	5	26	55	12
Oats	1	2	16	66	15
Winter Wheat	1	3	21	56	19
Pasture	2	3	19	58	18

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office



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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
Average corn height	50	48	53	57	49	49	78	71	58	60	74	65
Soybeans blooming	17	20	22	14	16	41	57	35	32	33	67	46
Oats headed	95	95	93	96	97	94	100	100	92	95	100	99
Second cutting hay	34	50	54	55	64	47	64	75	42	54	75	61

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BAYFIELD-S.S.: Oats are heading out nicely. We are trying to finish first crop hay, but the weather is making it a challenge. We are also starting to cut second crop hay as well.

BURNETT-J.D.: It is dry again; rain has missed our area.

POLK-R.S.: Overall, corn is behind, but looks good. There is some leaf curling in corn that is on lighter soils. Soybeans are starting to bloom, but have some weed issues. Many dairies are getting started on second crop hay. Quality looks excellent, but yields are less than expected.

VILAS-L.K.: First crop hay is coming along between showers. It is a better than average crop. We could use a long soaker.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Corn, overall, looks good. Soybeans are O.K. Second crop hay is ready to be harvested. We need a nice rain.

SHAWANO-B.R.: With rain every other day, it is hard to make second crop alfalfa, especially any of it for dry hay. Corn and soybeans are looking very good except that they are about two weeks behind normal conditions. Winter wheat will probably start coming off by the end of the week.

DUNN-J.F.: Spotty rains helped a great deal this week. Crops look very good. Snapbeans are blooming; with a better than average second crop.

PIERCE-J.K.: After a nice 2.0 inches of rain on Saturday evening and some warm days, the corn and soybeans are really looking good. Second crop haying has started but has been difficult with the showers and high humidity. Quantity looks good.

ST. CROIX-L.M.: Sweet corn is tasseling. Snapbean harvest has started. There is very little field corn tasseled. Rain on Saturday was very welcome.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Dry and cool weather has hurt the growth of corn. Recent rains and warmer weather will help it catch up. Second crop hay yield is below normal due to lack of rain in this locality.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: Corn and soybeans look good so far with plenty of moisture. Second crop hay is yielding as good as the first.

DOOR-D.V.: Corn and soybeans are looking excellent after this past week's rain. Dry weather is now needed for winter wheat to dry down.

WINNEBAGO-R.H.: Corn and soybeans look very good if they were not too drowned out in June. They both turned yellow from excess water. Pea harvest was a good crop.

GRANT-E.B.: Heat and humidity is hard on making hay, but corn and soybeans are catching up. Saw a few fields just starting to shoot tassels. No small grain is harvested as of yet.

GRANT-G.C.: Corn is starting to look much better with heat units increasing. Soybeans are very short and full of blossoms, but have not seen a pod yet. There does not seem to be any insect pressure yet.

COLUMBIA-R.S.: Oats are beginning to turn. Winter wheat has turned also. We are waiting to harvest it, which is a couple weeks away. Corn height varies from knee high to over head high. Spraying is about done for soybeans.

GREEN-J.T.: All crops are very uneven due to the excess moisture.

ROCK-C.O.: Wheat was ready, then rain came. Early harvest had high test weights over 60 pounds. Corn has good and bad spots within the same row. Soybeans look the best of any crop.

WASHINGTON-R.B.: Wheat harvest has started. Corn is starting to tassel but very uneven. Soybeans are also uneven. I have not seen any aphids as of yet. I sprayed alfalfa for bugs. First crop hay cutting is done.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Corn is all the way from bad to very good. Soybeans look good. Winter wheat looks excellent. Second cutting crop of alfalfa looks very good.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 20, 2008

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 19	Mar. 1 to July 19 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	83	60	90	53	71	-1	1252	1320	1.30	10.14	3.47	20.95	4.06
Green Bay	83	62	88	53	72	2	1289	1210	1.47	10.82	5.30	22.90	7.84
La Crosse	84	65	90	58	75	1	1427	1488	3.50	15.65	9.02	28.99	11.43
Madison	84	66	88	59	75	3	1380	1449	0.62	19.20	12.76	36.39	18.56
Milwaukee	83	65	88	61	74	2	1242	n.a.	0.29	16.48	10.74	31.64	12.92

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.