Crops are Progressing

Warm weather and scattered showers helped Wisconsin crops progress last week. Average high temperatures ranged from 79 to 83 degrees, with average low temperatures ranging from 60 to 63 degrees. Precipitation totals last week ranged from 0.00 inches reported in La Crosse and Madison to 0.15 inches reported in Green Bay. Soil moisture conditions were at 3 percent very short, 15 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. There was an average of 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Average corn height was reported at 69 inches with 32 percent tasseled. Corn condition was reported as 2 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Despite being behind last year’s growth, most areas of the state reported corn looking good.

Soybeans bloomed was reported at 60 percent with 17 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. Some southern counties are hoping for timely rains this week for their soybean fields. Soybean aphids were reported in western St. Croix County.

Several counties reported second crop hay producing very good yields. Second crop hay harvest was nearly complete in some counties, with 71 percent harvested across the state.

Winter wheat harvest was at 16 percent and good yields were reported in the south central area of the state. A minimal amount of scab was present. Conditions improved somewhat with reports of 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 23 percent excellent.

Oats were reported as fully headed with 4 percent harvested for grain. Oat conditions were reported at 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 16 percent excellent.

Pasture conditions were reported at 2 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 12 percent excellent.

Cranberries were starting to flower and set fruit. Snapbean yields were reported as very good. Sweet Corn is tasseling. Raspberries and blueberries are now in season.

Wisconsin Crop Progress

July 28, 2008

Vol. 08, No. 16

Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 27, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>V.-poor</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soybean</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oats</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter Wheat</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>52</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pasture</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>54</td>
<td>12</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office
Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BAYFIELD-S.: The oat crop is real good; they are fully headed.

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Crops are progressing nicely.

WASHBURN-K.S.: We keep missing out on good rain. Rains have fallen north and south of us. Corn on lighter soil is starting to show a little stress due to lack of moisture. Otherwise, corn and soybean crops are looking nice. Some second crop alfalfa is being harvested; yield and quality appear normal.

MARATHON-G.M.: It is hard to make dry hay, because it rains a little just about every day.

TAYLOR-D.E.: Timely rains and warm weather literally poured the corn out of the ground. It is amazing how much the corn grew, with some tasseling now. Soybeans are looking much better. Some small grain fields took a beating in some recent storms resulting in areas that were almost flattened by wind and hail. There are a few fields that were seriously affected. Second crop hay is excellent with above average yields and quality levels.

FOREST-A.K.: Some first crop hay is still being harvested. I am getting ready for second crop hay. Oats are headed out nicely.

SHAWANO-T.A.: Row crops and the forages continue to do well.

LACROSSE-S.H.: Hay has good quality but quantity is down. Corn and soybeans continue to develop.

MONROE-W.D.: We have had a little rain but not enough to stop fieldwork. It was a good week to get soybeans sprayed and some oats cut for hay. Some second crop hay was chopped but a lot needs to be baled yet. Corn and soybeans are recovering nicely from last week’s hail damage.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Corn and soybeans look real good but are still two weeks behind past years. Most second crop alfalfa quality was very good as were the yields. Insect and disease pressures in all crops have been low. Snapbean yields were very good.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Second cut hay crop, oats and pea silage harvest were major activities this week. Yields are average and have good quality. Corn is beginning to tassel. Soybeans are starting to bloom. Rain caused more yellowing of crops in low areas of fields. Snapbean harvest began with average yields.

WAUPACA-D.H.: It is very difficult getting decent quality hay harvest with frequent showers. Corn has improved significantly with warmer weather.

CALUMET-B.L.: High ground corn, soybeans and oats are excellent. Wheat harvest is beginning with good yields. Hail damaged corn is recovering nicely with the heat and moisture. Soybeans are more questionable due to stem top breakage. Hail knocked many wheat kernels to the moist ground. Less yield and more wheat regrowth is anticipated.

FOND DU LAC-R.P.: Corn and soybeans look very good. There is still a lot of second crop hay to harvest. Rain has really pushed hay harvest back. Some winter wheat has been harvested with yields between 40-50 bushels per acre.

GRANT-E.B.: Second crop hay has very good yields and looks good. It is very hard to get hay to dry to put in bales.

IOWA-S.M.: Corn, soybeans and alfalfa need rain. Corn is trying to tassel. Second cutting alfalfa is very good.

DANE-J.M.: Corn and soybeans need rain. Second crop hay has been harvested; third crop is starting. Weeds are bad in sweet corn for canning. Corn has been sprayed for the third time plus had to apply fertilizer again.

GREEN-M.M.: Second crop hay has very good yields and looks good. It is very hard to get hay to dry to put in bales.

GRANT-E.B.: Second crop hay has very good yields and looks good. It is very hard to get hay to dry to put in bales.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Corn is anywhere from bad to good. Soybeans are the same. Second crop hay is average.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Growing degree days (modified base 50)</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Avg. max.</td>
<td>Avg. min.</td>
<td>High max.</td>
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<td>Milwaukee</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.

Robert J. Battaglia                         Craig Christianson
Director    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.