Warm, Dry Week Needed

The past week saw more rainfall across the state. Soil moisture levels improved with each rainstorm, and the added moisture has made it tough for growers to get much done in the fields. Many have tried to apply post-emergence herbicides for corn and soybeans, but were behind schedule due to wind and rain. A week of dry, warm weather is needed to allow farmers to get needed fieldwork done.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week ranged from 0 to 4 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 73 to 77 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 59 to 62 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.59 inches in Eau Claire to 1.27 inches in La Crosse. There were 2.4 days suitable for fieldwork. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

http://www.noaa.gov/
http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/
http://www.ccorahs.org/
http://www.weather.gov/

Many growers expect corn to be knee high by the fourth of July, and some corn already was. The average height of corn throughout the state was reported at 18 inches high. In some areas of the state the corn has been reported as showing stress in low-lying areas from excess moisture. Slug damage has been reported in Clark and Shawano Counties.

Soybeans being planted was wrapping up at 99 percent complete. Soybeans emerged was 93 percent complete, 4 percentage points above last year and equal to the five-year average. Spraying of glyphosate on Roundup Ready beans continued when possible between rain storms. Slugs were found in soybean fields in Barron, Buffalo, and Clark Counties.

Oats headed was reported at 69 percent complete throughout the state, 30 percentage points above the five-year average and 33 percentage points above the ten-year average. Oats have been reported as looking good, but weeds continued to be a problem in many oat fields.

Winter wheat has benefited from the moisture and was reported as growing tall. Winter wheat started to lighten in color.

First cutting hay was reported at 78 percent complete, 7 percentage points below last year and equal to the five-year average. Some growers were struggling to finish first crop hay with so much moisture, while others were starting to cut their second crop. Reports stated that remaining first cutting hay had high quantity, but low quality. Some hay was blown back onto fields in East Central district.

Cranberries were in bloom and honeybee hives were brought in to help with pollination.
Wisconsin Crop Progress

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

RUSK-M.K.: It is very wet, making haying a problem. First crop hay in the field yet is losing quality rapidly. Where first crop hay came off early second crop is doing great and could be ready to harvest soon.

WASHBURN-P.H.: Corn and soybeans looking good. Glyphosate spraying done last week and some this week. Oats headed out. Winter rye & wheat starting to lighten in color a bit.

MARATHON-G.M.: Too wet to get on any field right now, need a few weeks without rain.

TAYLOR-D.E.: Rain was much-needed, but everyone wishes it could be spread out a little more. Harvesting hay is extremely difficult to get off without getting rained on; some has been chopped back. First crop yields are above average, but quality will be lacking on much of it. Small grains look great. Corn and soybeans look pretty good, but with a little sunshine and warm weather, these crops will grow very quickly. The entire area received at least 6 inches of rain in the past two weeks.

SHAWANO-O.R.: Some are struggling to finish first crop with all the rain we have been getting while others are starting second crop already. This was an excellent week for the strawberries, but picking them was a little messy and wet. Corn is very good and nitrogen is being applied where they can get into the field. Some soybeans were very slow to emerge but after three weeks have finally come out of the ground.

BUFFALO-R.S.: 2.0 inches rain for the week. June total is 5.0 inches. Hardly enough dry days to spray. Slugs are eating the soybean leaves. Most of the first crop hay for baling is still out and lodged. A lot of oats, barley, etc are lodged. But everything is growing good. Lots of discussion of why stored corn is heating in the bin and what is going right now.

EAU CLAIRE-A.B.: A lot of spraying the later part of the week, Coop's agronomist indicated that they are way behind with spraying due to wind and rain. The early first crop hay's quality was/is great but the yield is down. The remaining first crop hay which is being cut, or is yet to be cut, is way over ripe, the quantity is up but the quality is down.

JUNEAU-J.W.: There was no weather fit for making hay this week. There is some that has been cut for ten days and is only bedding if anything. Corn and soybeans are showing some stress from all the rain. Hopefully we get some hot dry weather the next week and the crops should really take off.

WOOD-M.L.: Hardly any hay harvested in two weeks. Some corn and soybeans need to be sprayed but fields are too waterlogged to go on.

KEWAUNEE-A.O.: Sprayers are getting impatient with the rain. Weeds are getting tall and fields are too saturated to get into. Some 1st crop hay is still standing, but mostly for beef cattle at this point. Second crop looks very good and should produce a very nice crop.

MANTITOWOC-M.R.: Pretty wet across the county for the last two weeks. We could use about a 2 week dry spell to finish up first crop hay for those who need to, start second crop hay for those on schedule for that, and wrap up any late-planted crops that need to go in yet. The wet weather has allowed some crop fields to get fairly weedy as spray rigs cannot get moving. First crop hay that was harvested before the rains started was of pretty good quality and quantity. Did see a couple of farms that were chopping first crop back on the ground after laying for about ten days to remove it and hope for a second crop with better harvest conditions.

GRANT-R.R.: We continue to get rain about every other day. It would be nice to get a whole week without rain. There is a lot of first crop hay that should have been harvested quite a while ago.

DANE-J.P.: Crops in general look really good. Some producers need dry weather to finish first crop alfalfa. Second crop alfalfa has started to be cut and made.

ROCK-R.S.: Second crop of hay is starting to bloom. Some corn is near waist high; looks good. Some wet spots are showing in corn fields. There are some oats starting to turn ripe. Most winter wheat is headed out.

ROCK-C.O.: Too wet to make hay. Too wet to spray weeds in beans. Too wet to apply nitrogen to corn. Too wet to plant tobacco. Too wet to go fishing... wait a minute that's the only thing going right now.

Wisconsin Crop Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on June 20, 2010

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