



Wisconsin Crop Progress

July 19, 2010

Vol. 10, No. 15

A Week of Heat, Humidity and Storms

The past week began with warm, humid days, which allowed fieldwork to progress with many farmers harvesting small grains and completing second cuttings of hay. This changed when midweek storms brought more moisture across much of the state, once again slowing harvest of small grains and other fieldwork. The storms left many fields flooded and the high winds lodged corn and small grains in many fields. The recent weather also allowed fungus and molds to begin developing in some fields.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week ranged from 2 to 4 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 83 to 86 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 62 to 68 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 1.99 inches in La Crosse to 2.76 inches in Milwaukee. There were 4.5 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.cocorahs.org/>
- <http://www.weather.gov/>

Corn continues to respond well to the warm, humid weather, with the average height of corn throughout the state reported at 73 inches high. Corn silked was reported at 48 percent complete, 35 percentage points above the previous week. Across the state, 1 percent of corn was reported to be in the dough stage. Many reporters stated that corn is looking exceptionally well.

Soybeans were reported at 50 percent in bloom statewide, 8 percentage points above the five-year average. Soybeans have begun setting pods with 6 percent reported complete across the state. Condition of soybeans was reported as doing well across most of the state. A report in Juneau County stated that some soybean fields are poor to fair due to the excess moisture.

Oats harvested for grain continued to be ahead of schedule the past week, with 13 percent reported complete, 8 percentage points above the five-year average. Storms over the past week slowed harvest and many reports stated that high winds and heavy rains lodged oats still in the field.

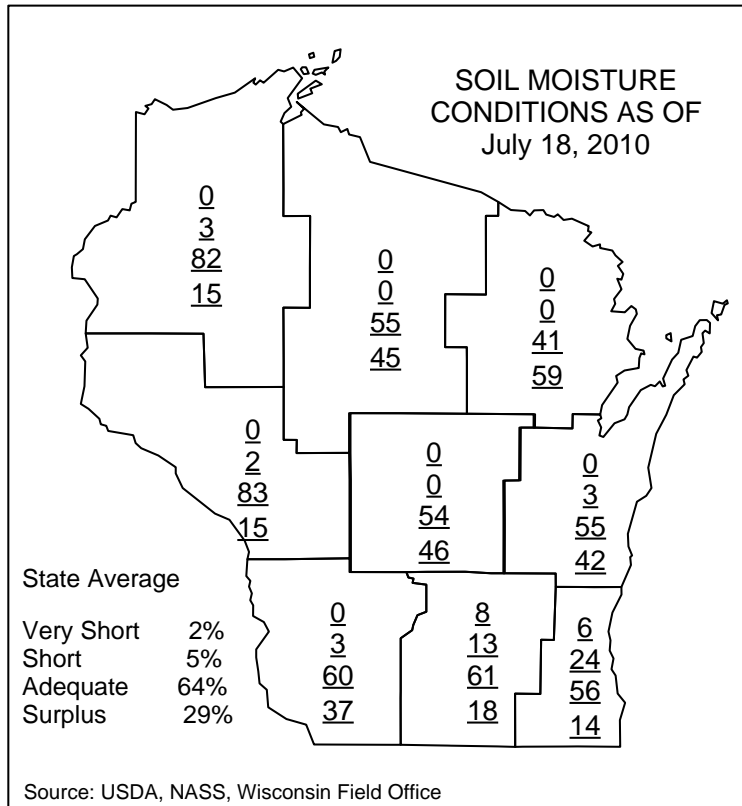
Second cutting **hay** continued over the past week, with 64 percent reported complete statewide. Reported yields for second crop were good to excellent. Many growers stated growth of third crop was doing well.

Winter wheat harvest continued, with yields reported as average. **Barley** and **rye** harvest was reported in the North Central District. Harvest of small grains in some parts of the state was delayed in the later part of the week due to rain.

Harvest of **tart cherries** has begun in Door County, and the heavy winds over the past week were reported as causing damage to the fruit.

Cranberries continue to be ahead of the regular growing season. They were reported as setting fruit and looking good with low insect pressure.

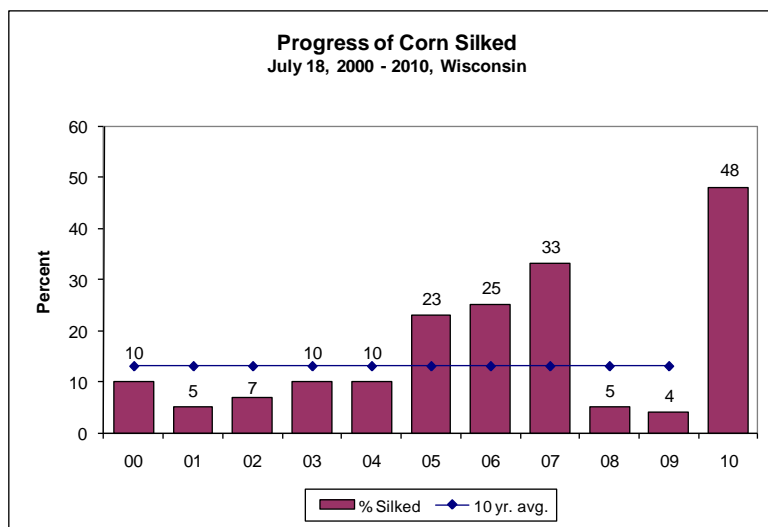
Due to the high humidity recently, mold was reported as showing up in **raspberry** fields in Waupaca County.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 18, 2010

| Item | V.-poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|--------------|---------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | Percent | | | | |
| Corn | 1 | 5 | 13 | 43 | 38 |
| Soybean | 1 | 4 | 18 | 50 | 27 |
| Winter Wheat | 0 | 1 | 14 | 54 | 31 |
| Oat | 1 | 4 | 13 | 57 | 25 |
| Pasture | 1 | 3 | 14 | 58 | 24 |

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 week | Last week | Last year | 5-year average |
| Corn silked | 30 | 33 | 38 | 54 | 50 | 26 | 55 | 62 | 55 | 48 | 13 | 4 | 18 |
| Average corn height | 66 | 68 | 66 | 77 | 70 | 60 | 74 | 82 | 76 | 73 | 59 | 58 | 63 |
| Soybeans blooming | 49 | 56 | 33 | 37 | 57 | 36 | 51 | 65 | 46 | 50 | 21 | 22 | 42 |
| Soybeans setting pods | 3 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 14 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 6 | n.a. | 2 | 9 |
| Oats harvested | 8 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 13 | 3 | 18 | 38 | 31 | 13 | n.a. | n.a. | 5 |
| Second cutting hay | 67 | 56 | 55 | 66 | 63 | 56 | 60 | 82 | 65 | 64 | 50 | 65 | 63 |

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

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

CHIPPEWA-J.C.: Heavy rains and wind caused some lodging of corn and oats. Second crop hay harvest had good yields. Oat harvest is just underway on early seeded fields.

RUSK-M.K.: 3.0 to 5.0 inches of rain over most of the area have fields very wet and some crops standing in water. Some oats and wheat are down because of the heavy rain and wind.

ONEIDA-P.L.: Sweet corn is tasseling, snap beans are blossoming, sweet peas are being picked, red potatoes are about "B" size, lettuce, radish, beets, and cool crops and greens are being harvested for the farmers markets. Pickles, squash and pumpkins are flowering. Barley, rye and wheat are being harvested. Oats will be about two weeks out. Heavy rains and wind caused some lodging in the grain fields. We got about 2.5 inches of rain this week, soaked in nice and sure is ideal for the crops. Heat days are ideal. High humidity and heavy dew keeps hay making at bay until late in the day. Pasture and hay growth is good thanks to the moisture.

OCONTO-B.T.: The rain keeps piling up on our lower ground. Eight inches last month and 4.6 this month. No grain harvested in our area. The second crop hay harvested between showers looks good. Some finishing up on first crop. Some corn sprayed late. Weeds ate lots of expensive fertilizer. Corn and soybeans on low ground have lost the battle. Snap beans close to harvest.

SHAWANO-T.B.: All crops look very good except those areas of fields that have drowned. Weed control good on the fields that were able to get timely spray applications. Diseases are present on all crops due to the weather. Conditions favorable to development of fungus and molds. Second crop hay yields have been excellent but harvesting and producing dry hay is impossible. Small grain harvest would be in full swing if the weather would permit getting into the fields.

DUNN-S.S.: Have never seen soybeans or corn look this good for this time of year, really great. Hay is a different situation. Lots of it, but the quality is not the best and hard to make for dry hay. Oats and pasture are good, and if weather stays good should be a good year for most farmers.

PEPIN-H.R.: Most crops in this area are really looking great. Some no tilled soybeans had bug problems so they look very spotty. Lots of second crop hay made, most in silage form. Rains have made dry hay very hard to come by.

JUNEAU-J.W.: Storms rolled through and knocked down some corn and beans but we don't know if they will come back or not. Some oats that were almost ready for harvest got flattened- harvesting will be a problem. The entire county received between 5.0 and 6.0 inches from the storm. Quite a few trees down but no reports of significant crop loss due to flooding. Several washed out roads, shoulders, and culverts.

WAUPACA-D.H.: Heavy rain this past week and many fields have standing water. High winds did lodge the oats, wheat and some of the corn. Harvest of the small grains has been slow due to wet field conditions and frequent rain.

CALUMET-B.L.: Depending upon where you lived in the county we got 2.3 to 4.5 inches of rain Wednesday. We are saturated with many large flooded areas in many fields. Some winter wheat was starting to be combined before the rain. More corn is now in the green-yellow color phase. Quite a bit of second cutting to go and we have lots of growth on third cutting. Soybeans are greening up and flowering well. Several acres of sweet corn did not get planted due to wet conditions; some growers are looking at some later season green beans. Pea fields in the higher ground look excellent.

IOWA-K.M.: Over-all crops are looking good. Corn is tasseling across the county. Beans are looking good. Many farmers have finished their second crop and some are beginning to take third crop hay. Sweet corn and other vegetables are getting sold at stands across the county. Oats for forage have also been harvested by many producers.

ROCK-C.O.: We missed rain from storms on Wednesday evening, and now things look very tough. Damage has already occurred and lack of rain will only further lessen the quality of our crops. Wheat harvest is almost complete with yields ranging from 70 to 90 bushels per acre.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Crops look good. Rain Wednesday night helped corn. Winter wheat harvest started, 80 bushels per acre. Today fields are very dry.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 18, 2010

| 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 Jul. 17 | Mar. 1 to Jul. 17 normal* | Last Week | Since June 1 | June 1 dep. from normal * | Year to date | Year dep. from normal * |
| Eau Claire | 83 | 62 | 89 | 55 | 73 | 2 | 1598 | 1257 | 2.58 | 8.55 | 2.13 | 14.82 | -1.83 |
| Green Bay | 83 | 63 | 88 | 59 | 73 | 3 | 1462 | 1148 | 2.25 | 12.47 | 7.15 | 20.11 | 5.22 |
| La Crosse | 86 | 66 | 92 | 61 | 76 | 2 | 1777 | 1417 | 1.99 | 12.13 | 5.78 | 20.64 | 3.30 |
| Madison | 84 | 67 | 90 | 64 | 76 | 4 | 1674 | 1381 | 2.03 | 11.30 | 5.10 | 21.35 | 3.71 |
| Milwaukee | 84 | 68 | 90 | 65 | 76 | 4 | 1582 | n.a. | 2.76 | 10.59 | 5.05 | 19.60 | 1.11 |

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.