



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

July 26, 2010

Vol. 10, No. 16

## Another Week's Rain Still Sitting in Fields

The warm, wet weather has aided the growth of corn across the state, but the past week of rain left many fields with excess water. Recent rains left soils unable to carry the weight of machinery for fieldwork to be done, and across the southern half of the state many fields were flooded. Wind and hail in Marathon County was reported to have stripped soybeans, twisted corn, and lodged small grains. Many farmers are hoping for a few days of warm, dry weather to allow fields to dry out.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week ranged from 0 to 5 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 81 to 86 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 63 to 68 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 1.67 inches in Eau Claire to 6.62 inches in Milwaukee. There were 3.7 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/>

The past week of warm temperatures and humidity aided **corn** growth, with the average height of corn throughout the state reported at 79 inches high. Corn silked was reported at 75 percent complete and 6 percent of corn was reported to be in the dough stage. Many reports stated corn was looking excellent and doing well, however, some reports also stated corn was beginning to show signs of stress from excess moisture.

**Soybeans** continued to look good with 64 percent reported as being in bloom statewide. Soybeans setting pods was reported at 20 percent complete, 4 percentage points above the ten-year average. The warm temperatures and sunshine has aided soybeans, but some reports indicated stress due to standing water in soybean fields.

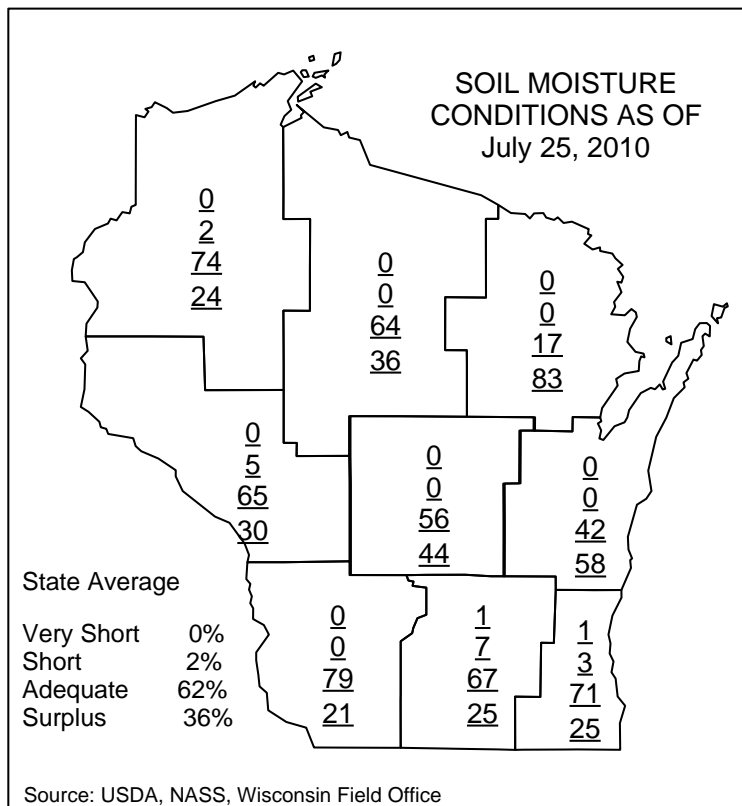
**Oat** harvest was reported at 25 percent complete across the state, 13 percentage points above the ten-year average. While oat harvest continued for some growers between rainstorms, standing water in fields prevented others from getting oats harvested the past week.

Another week of rainfall kept some growers from completing **second cutting hay**. Others were able to get into the fields, with 74 percent reported complete statewide. Many reports stated that rainstorms continued to affect yields as the wet soils delayed cutting.

**Winter wheat** harvest was slowed due to the rainfall; however, some areas were reported as having winter wheat harvest wrapping up.

Harvest of **cherries** continued this past week in Door County.

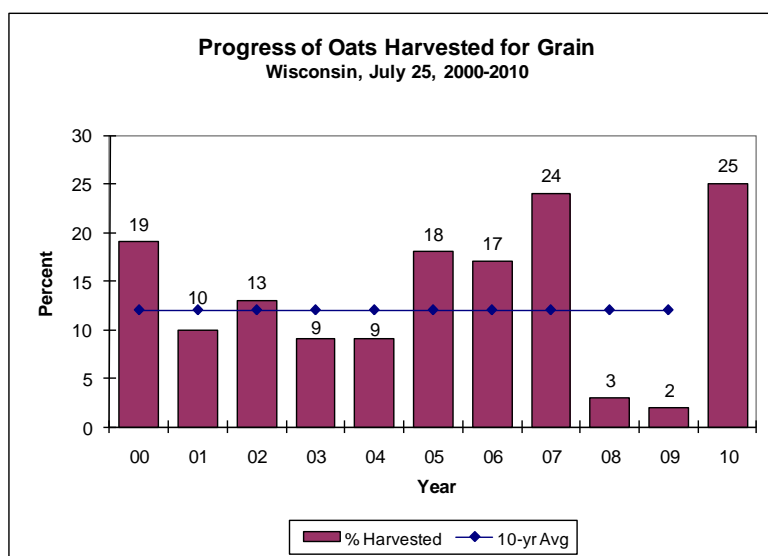
Reports indicated **fruit** and **vegetable** crops as struggling to recover from the excess moisture.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 25, 2010

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	2	5	14	41	38
Soybean	2	4	17	47	30
Winter Wheat	0	1	19	49	31
Oat	0	3	17	51	29
Pasture	0	2	11	58	29

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	74	73	70	81	69	59	70	91	75	75	48	18	42
Corn in dough stage	4	13	3	2	12	4	1	11	14	6	1	0	1
Average corn height	76	72	69	84	77	65	81	91	81	79	73	67	72
Soybeans blooming	54	73	70	68	84	61	55	82	50	64	50	39	62
Soybeans setting pods	18	10	28	11	44	10	17	32	21	20	6	8	22
Oats harvested	21	8	2	24	31	12	33	66	55	25	13	2	13
Second cutting hay	79	58	57	73	78	64	81	94	87	74	64	79	78

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.

**BARRON-D.B.:** Corn and soybeans look excellent. We had a hail storm Wednesday night. In some areas the snap beans were destroyed. Corn survived a little bit better. Hard to make dry hay with frequent rains.

**CHIPPEWA-J.M.:** Crops looking best in years. Temperature and humidity favoring good pollination.

**CLARK-A.K.:** Rain go away, 5.4 inches of rain since last week. Hay needs to be made. Oats should be combined. It is just too wet. More is suppose to be on the way Friday night.

**MARATHON-S.N.:** Days for crop harvesting was limited due to the addition of 2.0 to 4.0 inches of rain in the middle of the week. Straight line winds and hail north and east of Wausau stripped soybeans, twisted corn, and lodged small grain. Some damages to farm buildings were reported. Rain total for the month is 7.2 inches. Crops for the most part are in good condition. Second crop harvest of alfalfa is slow due to the wet conditions.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** No fieldwork done this week with excess water now being a problem even on tiled fields. Small grains need to come off but fields can not carry the weight of the machinery. Corn and soybeans are both growing at a faster rate than normal with the warm weather and moisture. Getting the alfalfa off the field is extremely difficult and the quality is going down fast. Chopping alfalfa back in the field is being done in many places once they are able to drive on the field.

**LA CROSSE -I.H.:** Very wet week with storms and winds that knocked some corn down. When the rain came it was very heavy. Very little fieldwork done this week. Temperatures were high, along with the humidity, it should have been good for corn growth. Tassels and silks are commonly seen, although a few fields of corn have been flattened by the winds. Trees in the area have received a natural pruning.

**TREMPEALEAU-J.H.:** Contrary to the last few years, no problem getting rain in July this year. Seems every 3-4 days the area receives a significant rainfall. Small grains being harvested when conditions allow. Some oat fields lodged and weedy. Corn and soybeans looking good. Finishing up on second crop hay between rain storms.

**GREEN LAKE-B.K.:** Extreme wet weather has led to some areas of stressed corn and soybeans; it is also contributing to the onset of late summer weeds. Field maintenance has become problematic.

**WAUSHARA-K.W.:** We have hay at all stages, some first crop yet, some second crop and also some who have third crop ready. It all depends on whether they were lucky and hit the few dry windows we have had. Wet ground slows drying for those who are cutting.

**BROWN-B.S.:** Standing water is preventing the area farmers from getting the wheat and oatlage harvested. Corn and soybeans are showing signs of excess moisture. Many fields that were intended for corn as grain will be taken as silage and even at that it will not be plentiful.

**SHEBOYGAN-S.D.:** It's been a wet week, again. Most are struggling to make dry hay. Everything looks green and lush so a little less moisture would be OK.

**LAFAYETTE-M.Y.:** Due to the heavy rains received Thursday - Saturday many of the bottom grounds are flooded and many of the bean acres are under water. Some corn acres too. This also put a halt to those who were not completed with the second hay crop. We received anywhere from 2.0-5.0 inches across the county.

**COLUMBIA-B.K.:** Corn and soybeans doing very well except for low lying areas that are just saturated. Wheat for the most part is done. Oat harvest started. Some wet field conditions are keeping the combines out of several fields. Third crop hay harvest on now.

**DANE-J.M.:** Soybeans went down Thursday due to 4.3 inches of rain. Looks like white mold can be expected. Beans were between 38 and 45 inches tall with pods setting. Third crop hay is starting to be harvested if it can stop raining.

**WASHINGTON-J.N.:** Thursday 3.0 inches of rain. Wheat harvest is winding down. Average is 70 bushels per acre; lots of straw. Corn is all tasseled. In my 82 years, I have never seen corn this tall this early. Starting to see cobs, two and three cobs on a stalk. If all goes well we should have a bumper crop.



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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.

**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 25, 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. 24	Mar. 1 to Jul. 24 normal*	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	81	63	84	58	72	0	1753	1408	1.67	10.22	2.98	16.49	-1.05
Green Bay	81	63	86	60	72	2	1618	1293	2.53	15.00	8.96	22.64	7.03
La Crosse	85	66	88	64	76	2	1955	1583	2.61	14.74	7.45	23.25	4.95
Madison	85	66	86	61	76	4	1853	1540	4.63	15.93	8.85	25.98	7.56
Milwaukee	86	68	91	66	77	5	1767	n.a.	6.62	17.21	10.89	26.22	6.95

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.