



Wisconsin Crop Progress

June 6, 2011

Vol. 11, No. 9

Spring Planting Close to Completion

The summer-like weather this past week provided 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork, which allowed farmers to make progress with planting, harvesting first crop hay, rotary hoeing to open up the ground, and spraying the fields between windy days. High winds have dried fields up in clay areas as well as sandy areas where farmers have now turned on their irrigation systems.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 5 to 7 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 78 to 82 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 56 to 60 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.02 inches in La Crosse and Eau Claire to 0.23 inches in Milwaukee. Growing degree days for corn remain below normal. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

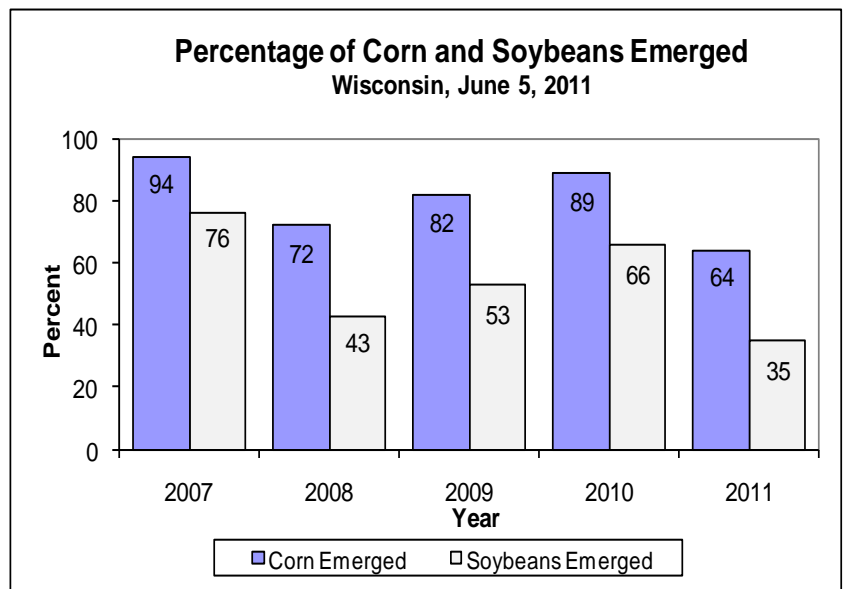
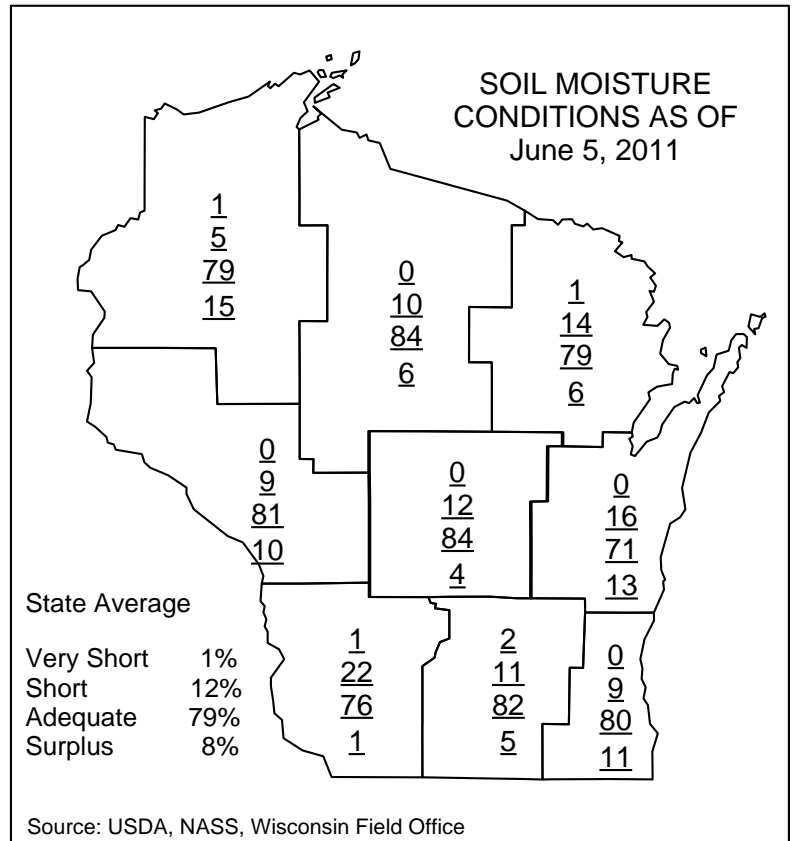
- <http://www.noaa.gov/>
- <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
- <http://www.cocorahs.org/>
- <http://www.weather.gov/>

Corn planting was almost done with 93 percent complete statewide, compared to 99 percent last year, and the five-year average of 97 percent. Some growers reported switching acreage to soybeans because they were unable to get corn planted in a timely manner due to wet fields.

Soybean planting was at 75 percent complete, compared to 90 percent last year. Soybean planting was wrapping up fast in several counties.

Farmers were busy cutting first crop **hay** with 34 percent harvested across the state. There were a few reports of farmers plowing up hay ground with intentions of either direct seeding, planting corn for silage, or soybeans. Some reporters noted alfalfa fields may have experienced more winterkill than previously observed. A Columbia County reporter noted that alfalfa was being harvested mostly for haylage with very good quality, but quantity was average. However, a reporter from Green County commented that quality would be lower, and yields would be average, due to delayed harvest.

Winter wheat was just beginning to head out in Monroe County, with wheat already headed out in Grant County. Dairy cows and heifers were now seen grazing in **pastures**. **Rye** harvest was pretty well done in Waukesha County. In Walworth County, **peas** were starting to blossom. Irrigation systems were running in Oneida County to protect **cranberry** vines from frost, with record low temperatures in the area. **Potatoes** looked good in Portage County.



Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	1	1	20	66	12
Oat	0	1	10	77	12
Winter Wheat	1	3	16	52	28
Pasture	0	3	16	66	15

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 planted	89	92	82	93	94	85	99	97	95	93	80	99	97
Corn emerged	52	44	44	66	62	43	77	78	82	64	39	89	84
Soybeans planted	62	71	52	77	83	62	86	81	81	75	50	90	89
Soybeans emerged	19	16	15	25	30	22	54	43	56	35	12	66	60
Oats planted	93	87	94	100	97	95	100	100	100	96	90	100	100
Oats emerged	75	61	75	95	87	71	97	96	96	85	68	100	99
First cutting hay	27	19	20	38	25	33	45	48	34	34	7	63	43
Spring tillage	84	95	88	98	95	92	99	99	100	95	88	100	100

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-T.J.: Farmers are finally catching up with spring planting and jumping right into harvesting first cutting hay. Alfalfa quality is very good but initial reports indicate that yield may be below average of the last 5 years.

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Harvest of first crop hay has started. Yields so far are average.

CLARK-J.B.: Planting is being completed with dry weather conditions. Hay fields are greening up, a lot of fields are being plowed up due to winter kill, and either direct seeded or planted to corn.

TAYLOR-D.E.: Farmers received a reprieve from the wet weather this past week and field work progressed tremendously. Very few fields are not planted at this point. Corn, soybeans and small grains are emerging and look good at this time. First crop hay is being harvested on many fields, but some of the hay is short due to the colder conditions in the spring. The warmer weather had a significant positive influence on hay growth, but much of first crop will still be shorter than normal.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Tractors ran day and night this past week and the majority of the planting was completed. Corn rows are starting to appear and the emergence is showing that some was planted into very wet conditions as the low spots are uneven. A few soybean plants are emerging also. Alfalfa harvest will be in full swing this week if weather permits. I believe the yields will be average at best. Winter wheat is looking much better now that nitrogen was applied to much of it.

DUNN-J.R.: Corn planting is winding down and beans are still being put into the ground as fast as the farmers can go. First crop hay looks good but is somewhat light on tonnage. Crops need heat as it currently is kind of stalled out.

TREMPEALEAU-K.L.: Many farmers finished up planting this week due to dryer conditions. Strong winds prevented progress on spraying. First crop hay is being harvested.

PORTAGE-J.B.: Dry weather last week aided planting. Wind blew all week and many areas went from saturated to now dry! First crop hay is short as the grasses have headed out very short. Irrigation pivots are running full tilt now, with some being repaired after severe wind damage over a week ago.

SHEBOYGAN-M.B.: It has been a good week to finish up corn planting and to get soybeans in the ground. First crop hay crop looks good and harvest is proceeding well.

GRANT-E.B.: Yield and quality of first cutting hay is excellent, but hard to make haylage and impossible for dry hay. We haven't seen a bale of dry hay yet. Winter wheat is headed out.

IOWA-K.M.: A dry warm week helped the farmers get in the fields to get their first crop hay harvested. Many producers were saying rain will be needed in the week ahead. Most crops are planted throughout the county.

DANE-D.F.: Good weather has allowed planting to be completed. First crop hay harvest progressed rapidly last week. Quality was excellent however quantity was only fair - several producers reported merging 5 to 1 when first crop in the past has been merged 3 to 1. Corn has shot up in the last week and expect more growth with predicted temperatures for this week. Some areas of the county have missed many of the rains the last 3 weeks and could show some moisture stress this week with highs approaching 95 degrees

DODGE-R.H.: Hay making very good.

RACINE-K.I.: This week was a good week to get a lot accomplished.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: Good week, most corn and beans planted.



USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office
P.O. Box 8934
Madison, WI 53708-8934
(608) 224-4848
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/>

Robert J. Battaglia
Director

Stacy Leitner
Statistician

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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on June 5, 2011

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 June 4	Mar. 1 to June 4 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	80	56	90	47	68	5	471	487	0.02	8.67	n.a.	10.53	-0.32
Green Bay	78	56	89	49	67	6	378	420	0.07	12.21	n.a.	14.78	4.80
La Crosse	82	60	93	55	71	6	538	559	0.02	11.17	n.a.	13.08	1.71
Madison	81	58	91	48	69	7	508	553	0.10	8.97	n.a.	11.85	0.00
Milwaukee	78	56	88	47	67	6	378	n.a.	0.23	12.21	n.a.	15.67	2.40

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.