



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

May 29, 2012

Vol. 12, No. 8

## Needed Rain Received

Planting and haying progressed rapidly this week as daytime highs climbed into the 80s and 90s. Farmers contended with dry, dusty or hard crusted topsoil and high winds in some areas. A much-needed rain came late in the week, damping down dust and benefitting crops. Thunderstorms caused localized heavy rains, but additional precipitation is needed in many areas. There were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork this week.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 3 to 7 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 74 to 80 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 52 to 55 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.33 inches in Green Bay to 1.53 inches in La Crosse. 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/>

Statewide, **corn** was 95 percent planted and 65 percent emerged this week. Reporters noted corn being replanted in many areas due to storm damage, soil crusting or frost damage. Many reporters also noted that older hay fields were being replanted to corn as the first crop came off.

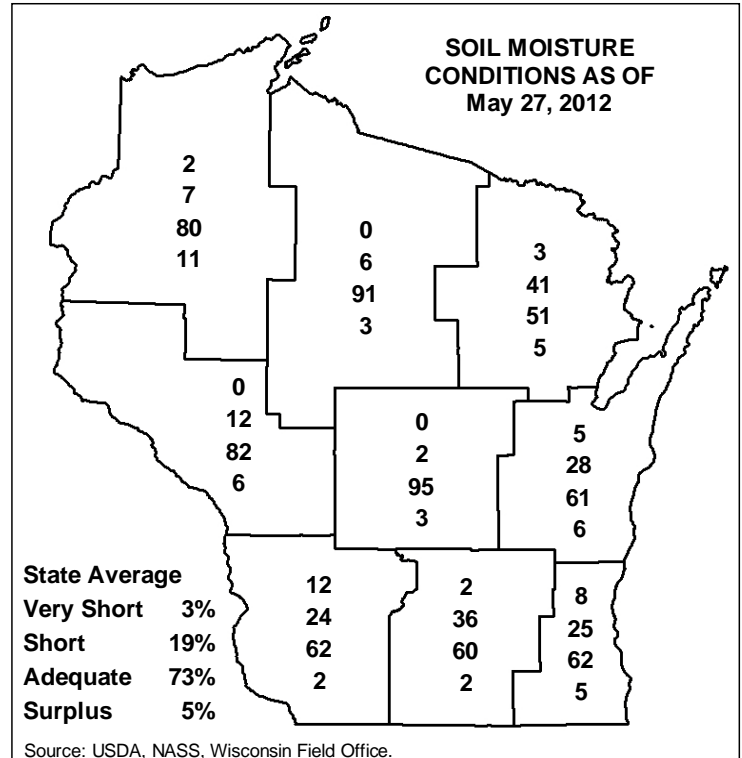
**Soybeans** were 79 percent planted and 31 percent emerged.

**Oats** were 97 percent emerged this week. Oats were 3 percent headed statewide, compared to 0 percent last year and 0 percent five-year average.

**First cutting hay** was 63 percent harvested this week. Frost damage, weeds and insect pressure meant quality and yield of the first crop varied greatly.

**Spring tillage** rose to 97 percent complete.

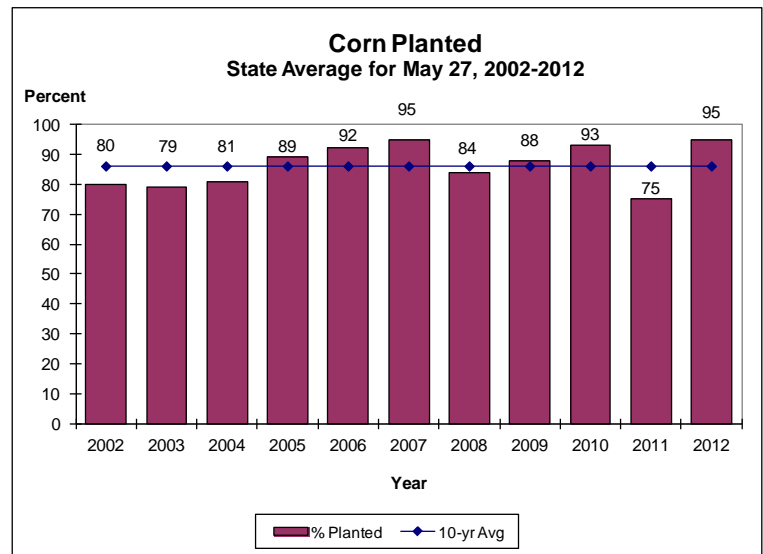
**Winter wheat** was reportedly heading out several weeks ahead of normal statewide. **Pea** planting was finished and emergence was reported at 90 percent in Door County. **Strawberries** were fruiting in southern Wisconsin, though berry size was reportedly smaller than normal. Reports on the **apple** crop indicate 50 percent losses in some areas. A reporter from Oneida County noted that the **cranberry** crop looks very good.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 27, 2012

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	3	6	22	59	10
Oats	1	3	23	56	17
Corn	0	3	20	62	15

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



Wisconsin Crop Progress, May 27, 2012

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	96	96	94	96	93	88	97	99	89	95	83	75	87
Corn emerged	57	60	78	70	70	55	49	82	58	65	37	32	53
Soybeans planted	68	83	77	79	80	75	80	86	73	79	47	43	65
Soybeans emerged	13	21	25	35	39	33	13	44	38	31	6	10	23
Oats emerged	95	95	95	100	96	97	99	100	100	97	89	60	83
First cutting hay	31	39	63	59	50	76	86	81	53	63	34	5	12
Spring tillage	95	97	96	98	96	94	99	100	94	97	91	85	93

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

**Coming soon - NASS's annual June surveys on crops and livestock.** In the first two weeks of June, NASS will survey about 140,000 United States producers and will visit 42,000 tracts of farm land to collect information. One of USDA's largest survey efforts, the responses will provide the foundation for estimates in the upcoming growing year. With both data collection and data release taking place over a span of only four weeks, the results will be available beginning on June 29 in the *Acreage* and other reports. **Farmers should watch for their survey and be sure to respond. Your information matters!**

# 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.

**BARRON-D.B.:** Received nice rain on Thursday. Crops all look good. First cutting hay was average yield.

**BURNETT-J.D.:** We almost had 4.0 inches of rain on Thursday.

**POLK-A.M.:** Rain showers were welcomed. Halted most field work but overall planting still ahead of schedule.

**CLARK-A.K.:** Apple trees going the way they are, there will be very few apples on trees. Blossoms must have frozen very bad. Generally speaking conditions are good. Would be nice if wind died down so spraying could be done.

**VILAS-R.K.:** Potato planting 50 percent complete.

**SHAWANO-T.B.:** Planting progressed very well, but droughty conditions becoming an issue. Soil is dry and weeds are coming on strong. First crop hay is either great or poor depending on winter injury.

**EAU CLAIRE-A.B.:** Horseradish planting is completed and the local pumpkin producer is 70 percent planted but got rained out this weekend. The rows are evident on corn and soybean fields and the weeds are also greening up the fields. Spraying is going full tilt. Hay and alfalfa harvest is in full swing, the quality is normal but the yield is down 20 percent for a first crop harvest. A few producers are taking the first cutting of hay and double cropping to corn. I have not seen any replanting to date.

**MONROE-P.B.:** Hay yields below normal for most farms. A welcome 1.0 inch of rain will boost second crop.

**ST CROIX-R.F.:** Most of the county received over 1.5 inches of rainfall this past week. We really needed the rain. Some older stands of alfalfa looked weak. Lots of dandelions were prevalent. Several producers have taken a cutting of hay and have now plowed these older stands and planted them to corn. Yields of first cutting hay have been below normal, however quality was excellent. Overall, spring-planted crops look good.

**WAUSHARA-K.W.:** First crop hay is short due to nearly three weeks without rain, (May 6 to May 24).

**BROWN-B.S.:** First crop hay was very short.

**CALUMET-B.L.:** Some small but timely rains came for the lighter and upland early planted crops. The rule of 85 and not E- 85 we are about 85 percent planted on corn, 85 percent completed on 1st cutting and about 65-70 percent planted on soybeans. Second crop regrowth looks very good. The late April corn is nearly 8 inches tall. A lot of our corn emergence

was fast and stands look very good. Garden centers are doing a great business now and many gardens are now getting their set plants out. Winter wheat headed out this last week and grew considerably. Still some lower heavier fields that will be planted in early June for silage which is typical for some of that type of soil.

**FOND DU LAC-K.B.:** Some replanted corn.

**GRANT-E.B.:** Extremely dry. The rain seems to go all around us. Everything needs rain really bad. If we get rain it will make all the difference.

**IOWA-S.M.:** Corn is being replanted, poor stands from the early, cold weather. Weed control is lacking because of the lack of moisture. Most first cutting of alfalfa is finished, average yield and quality. Insect pressure in the corn and alfalfa fields.

**VERNON-K.L.:** Vernon County received an average of 2.0 inches of rain. No flooding occurred. Farmers in the field this week finishing up with corn and soybean planting. Ground was very dry and absorbed all the rain. Hay being made when possible. Crops in the county off to a good start.

**GREEN-J.T.:** We received about an inch of rain on May 26. That was the first rain since May 6. There is some talk of corn replanting due to low stand densities from soil crusting. First crop hay yield was low, regrowth has been slow until the May 26 rain.

**RACINE-K.I.:** Starting to receive calls about apple damage due to warm March and cold April. Number of apple farmers have called with losses to their crops.



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

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 May 27, 2012

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 May 26	Mar. 1 to May 26 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	76	52	84	39	64	4	722	395	0.85	8.26	0.55	10.64	1.06
Green Bay	79	52	90	40	65	6	627	335	0.33	7.34	0.55	9.86	0.82
La Crosse	79	53	89	43	66	3	813	459	1.53	8.31	0.17	10.83	0.52
Madison	80	54	91	42	67	7	779	452	0.80	7.64	-0.57	10.07	-0.64
Milwaukee	74	55	90	45	64	6	591	n.a.	0.73	9.51	0.63	12.36	0.00

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.