



Wisconsin Crop Progress

June 25, 2012

Vol. 12, No. 12

Uneven Rains and High Temps Continue

Wisconsin received some much-needed rain this week, with up to 6 inches reported in the northern regions. Flooding and standing water in fields were reported in some counties. Rains were lighter across the central regions and spotty in the south, where dry conditions persist. Crops perked up with moisture, but southern Wisconsin needs additional rain badly. Cutworm, armyworm and leafhopper infestations were being treated in many areas, though rain and winds hampered spraying for some. There were 4.8 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures this week were 3 to 9 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 82 to 88 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 60 to 68 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.11 inches in Milwaukee to 2.76 inches in Eau Claire. 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/>

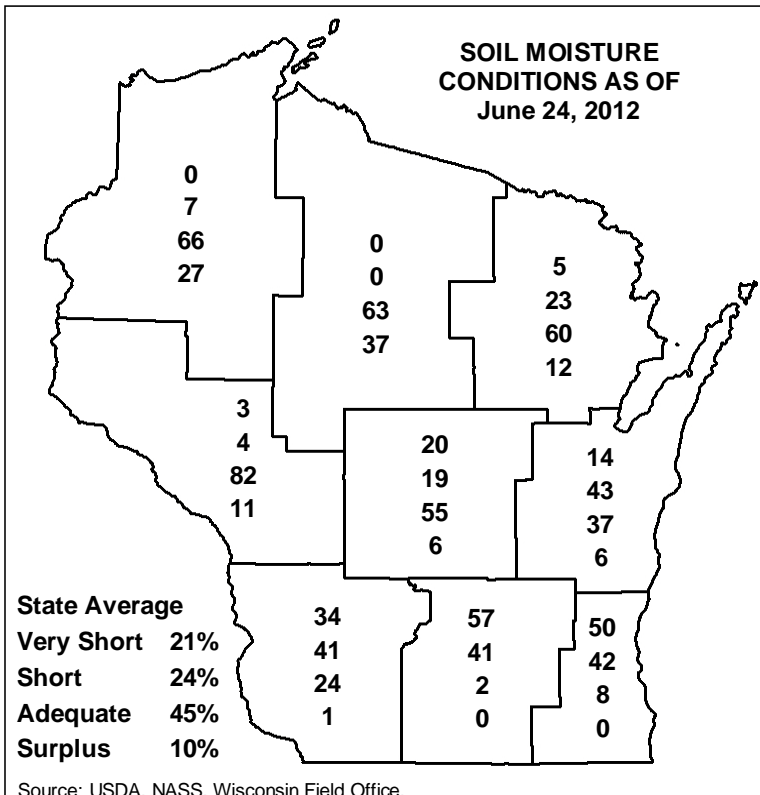
Corn had an average height of 28 inches statewide. Corn was reportedly looking good where moisture was adequate. But reporters in the south noted poor emergence, uneven fields, and signs of plant stress due to lack of moisture.

Soybeans were 60 percent in good to excellent condition on average, though condition was 30 percent poor to very poor in the South Central district and 44 percent poor to very poor in the South East district. Reporters commented that soybeans responded well to additional moisture, but weed pressure was high where weather conditions prevented timely spraying.

Oats were 89 percent headed statewide. Reporters from Grant and Trempealeau County noted oats being harvested this week.

Second cutting hay was 42 percent harvested, 34 percentage points above the previous record year. Heavy rain halted haying in the north. Third crop regrowth was slow in the south due to droughty conditions.

Winter wheat was ripening quickly. Reporters in southern Wisconsin anticipated harvest will begin in the next week or two. Fruit and vegetable crops were boosted by the rains this week, where received. The **cranberry** crop was reportedly looking strong, with all varieties blooming in Oneida County. A reporter from Crawford County noted that **apple** and other fruit trees were dropping fruit due to the hot, dry conditions. Reporters statewide noted that this year's **strawberry** season was shorter than usual due to the heat.

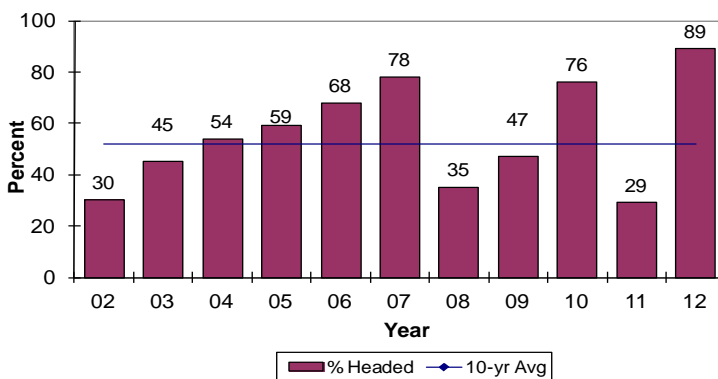


Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of June 24, 2012

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	8	16	27	41	8
Oats	1	5	20	65	9
Corn	4	11	25	45	15
Soybeans	5	11	24	49	11

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Progress of Oats Headed Wisconsin, June 24, 2002-2012



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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
Average corn height (in.)	21	19	29	29	25	16	34	34	29	28	18	17	22
Oats headed	80	85	97	85	81	94	91	100	100	89	72	29	53
Second cutting hay	17	13	50	34	38	51	57	65	52	42	24	0	2

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

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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.: Heavy rains this past week. Harvest of second cutting alfalfa began on Saturday.

WASHBURN-R.H.: Had over 6.0 inches of rain this past week. Stopped all field work. Old hay fields are growing nice now. Second crop alfalfa is looking good. All the fruits are growing. We are going to get some apples and grapes. Raspberries have a little fungus. New growth looking nice. No cherries this year. Blueberries are looking good.

ASHLAND-C.B.: Heavy rains in the area, up to 9.0 inches in 24 hours in the northwest part of the area. Crops in the low lying areas of fields have been severely damaged.

MARATHON-G.M.: Changed so fast from short to surplus for moisture conditions. Got 5.0 or 6.0 inches of rain this week.

FLORENCE-T.B.: Much needed rain this week. Variable throughout the county in the amount of rain. Corn got a very good bump because of the warm humid nights. Grains are short and the rain may have come too late to do any real good. Expecting to see low numbers at harvest. First crop hay looks to be about 50 percent of normal at best. Second crop and pastures did green up but will need more rain to increase tonnage and quality. Comes down to needing much more rain than we have been getting to really turn things around.

BUFFALO-R.S.: Four inches of rain for the week. Much appreciated.

MONROE-M.Y.: We had 1.0 inch of rain over the weekend and 1.5 inches last night. Most corn looks good.

ST CROIX-D.K.: We have had a lot of nice rain this last week. Everything is coming up really good.

GREEN LAKE-B.K.: Severe lack of moisture in this county.

JUNEAU-J.W.: Rain continues to be very spotty. All crops and areas could use a nice rain. Amounts received last week ranged from a couple tenths to 1.2 inches. Second crop also varies greatly based on the amount of rain. One farmer fertilized his hay after cutting first crop and he could still find the granulars after cutting second crop it's been so dry. Corn and soybeans have gotten just enough moisture to stay green. Soybeans are hurting more than corn in most places. Ninety degree heat without rain this week will really stress the crops.

BROWN-B.S.: Very short wheat.

DOOR-T.S.: Second crop hay has been light due to 3.5-4 weeks without rain. Corn and soybeans held up well. Some peas are short and matured too fast and may get passed. Insect issues are happening including army worms which several growers have had to spray for.

WINNEBAGO-S.E.: Still dry, hay and some soybeans damaged by insects. Second crop hay yield is low.

GRANT-R.R.: We just can't get any rain!

LAFAYETTE-M.Y.: We need rain.

SAUK-J.P.: It is still extremely dry here, it reminds some of the summer of 1988. We did get rain Wednesday evening; it was quite scattered and amounts varied from one quarter to three quarters of an inch. Second crop hay is thin with the quality about average.

DODGE-S.B.: We need rain; weeds are growing. Late planted crops are stunted.

ROCK-C.O.: Crop conditions have worsened significantly since last week. Wheat harvest has begun with low yields and good test weights. No rain this week will result in some acres not producing anything.

WASHINGTON-G.S.: We need rain. Crops are showing signs of heat/drought stress.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Corn looks bad. Alfalfa is brown. Soybeans are not moving. All lawns are brown. Flat out we need rain.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on June 24, 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 Jun. 23	Mar. 1 To Jun. 23 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	82	60	91	54	71	3	1223	813	2.76	3.65	0.40	15.42	1.90
Green Bay	84	63	92	54	74	8	1151	727	1.37	1.42	-1.11	11.97	-0.12
La Crosse	86	65	92	59	75	4	1381	925	1.24	3.24	0.33	14.78	0.97
Madison	88	66	95	53	77	9	1329	911	0.19	0.35	-2.56	11.43	-3.03
Milwaukee	86	68	94	57	77	9	1127	n.a.	0.11	0.90	-1.74	13.54	-2.02

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.