

## Crops Stalled by Cold Snap

Though crops made some progress early in the week, a cold snap reportedly stalled crop growth in many areas over the weekend. Daytime highs plunged from the 80s to the upper 50s and low 60s and overnight lows dipped into the low 40s in the far north. Cities across the state recorded record low daytime highs for July 27. Rainfall was scattered, with some areas receiving a good soaker and some areas missed entirely. Reporters commented that late plantings, along with the wide swings in temperature and precipitation experienced this season have produced enormous variability in crop progress and condition. Early planted corn was tasseling and silking across much of the state, and regular rain was needed to ensure good pollination. Late planted corn badly needed additional heat to mature. Small grains harvest had started, though reporters commented that moisture content was still too high for combining in many areas. There were 5.2 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 4 to 7 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 74 to 78 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 53 to 60 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.43 inches in Eau Claire to 2.32 inches in Madison. 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** was 68 inches tall on average with 43 percent silking. Corn was reportedly curling in areas where rains have been insufficient.

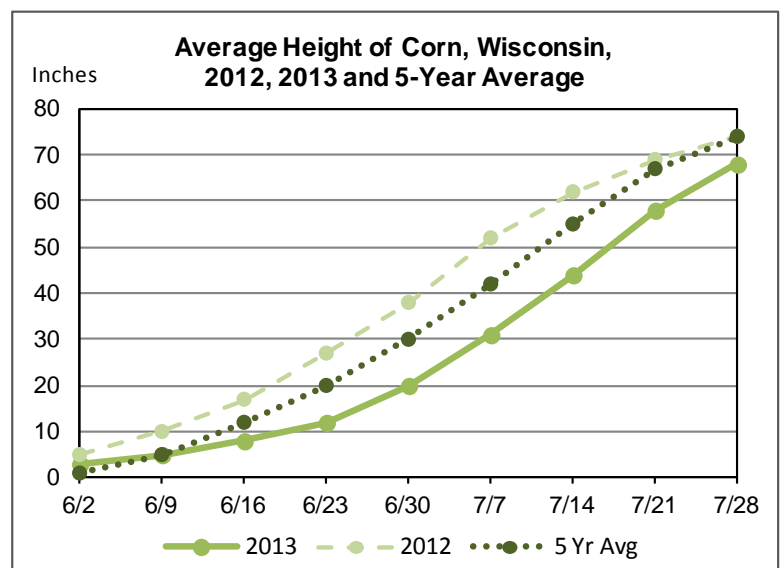
**Soybeans** were 50 percent blooming and 9 percent setting pods. Like corn, soybeans on light soils were reportedly showing stress in some areas.

**Oats** were 95 percent headed and 8 percent harvested for grain, with most harvest activity occurring in the southernmost parts of the state. Baling and harvest for oatlage continued.

**Second cutting alfalfa** was 75 percent harvested and the **third cutting** was 5 percent harvested. Yield reports were variable, though reporters noted that the second crop has yielded better than the first in most areas.

**Winter wheat** was being harvested for grain across the south. Yield reports varied from 70-80 bushels per acre this week.

**Apples** were reportedly looking good, with a much better crop than last year expected.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 28, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	3	11	34	42	10
Corn	3	9	27	42	19
Soybeans	2	8	28	44	18
Oats	1	7	23	51	18

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office

## Wisconsin Crop Progress, July 28, 2013

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
	Percent									Percent			
Average corn height (in.)	61	50	71	65	59	65	71	81	69	68	58	74	74
Corn silked	15	16	46	32	31	27	63	70	42	43	18	80	57
Soybeans blooming	34	33	58	43	33	63	43	68	46	50	31	79	65
Soybeans setting pods	1	0	8	7	11	14	8	10	14	9	n.a.	37	23
Oats headed	87	90	100	90	99	99	96	100	90	95	91	100	100
Oats harvested	5	0	5	8	6	14	13	17	5	8	4	64	24
Second cutting hay	74	37	82	74	54	86	84	94	56	75	60	100	85
Third cutting hay	2	0	6	7	6	4	7	5	0	5	n.a.	60	15

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions, July 28, 2013

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	5.9	5.0	4.7	5.5	5.5	5.3	4.9	4.6	4.7	5.2	6.5	5.7
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	12	3	5	4	0	0	3	3	3	4	5	39
Short	45	60	15	34	23	31	21	24	11	30	36	33
Adequate	42	36	70	60	77	66	74	67	83	63	55	27
Surplus	1	1	10	2	0	3	2	6	3	3	4	1
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	5	3	8	4	0	0	3	1	3	3	2	n.a.
Short	36	7	12	29	11	18	16	17	11	19	20	n.a.
Adequate	58	89	73	65	88	75	80	74	82	75	74	n.a.
Surplus	1	1	7	2	1	7	1	8	4	3	4	n.a.

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

# 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.

**BURNETT-J.D.:** Need rain. Dry in this area. Had some rain in Polk County this weekend, but we need some here.

**POLK-A.M.:** Moisture needed.

**SAWYER-K.S.:** Lack of rain, earlier extreme heat and now cooler temps are causing a lot of stress on crops. Seeing more variability in crops. Some are still looking good, others not so good.

**CLARK-A.K.:** No oats harvested, some wheat is being harvested. Potato bugs in garden. Garden doing well. Apples have good set, looking good compared to 2012. Second crop of hay needs rain.

**VILAS-R.K.:** Potato crop has advanced quite nicely. Grain is starting to mature. We are very optimistic about the crop potential.

**LANGLADE-A.K.:** Second crop and new seeding yields and quality were very good. Nothing happened last week with rain and cool temps, turn the heat back on.

**EAU CLAIRE-D.J.:** Various corn heights, depends on when planted. Corn burned on sand. Lots of late-planted corn and beans.

**MONROE-M.Y.:** We got 1.75 inches of rain last Sunday, July 21st and 0.25 inch yesterday afternoon. The people are starting to cut oats with the binder and shocking.

**ST CROIX-D.K.:** Need some rain.

**WAUSHARA-K.W.:** Central sands still short of water. Some light rain and cooler temps are helping crops. Hay crops have nearly stopped growing due to dry weather.

**KEWAUNEE-T.S.:** Up until late this past week, some parts of this area were getting very dry. This changed with the good amount of rain that fell. Most producers saw at least an inch of much needed rain. Some corn on the more shallow soils had been curling. Now, all crops are doing and looking good. The corn has continued to grow and some is tasseling, but as is the case with all the other crops, the cooler weather will slow this process down. The soybeans really needed the rain. They are doing very well. The harvest of the winter wheat is just starting, but most of this task lies ahead. A

stretch of drier weather would provide adequate conditions for getting the grain off at an optimum moisture. The oat harvest will be started soon as well. Both the wheat and oats look good, but some weeds are growing and may be a problem in some fields as the harvest continues. At this point, ragweed seems to be the weed that is most prevalent. Second crop hay harvest is almost complete. The hay that is remaining is to be made as dry, but the weather as of late has not been good for making dry hay. The pattern of sun and rain, at least this year, has been making it nearly impossible to get the hay off without getting rained on at least once. The second crop hay still standing has grown to the point where it is lodged nearly everywhere. Most fields have been harvested and third crop is coming back very well. With the adequate moisture, the yield should be very good. The cherry harvest has commenced in this area, with most growers very pleased with the yields. It will be much better than last year.

**GRANT-E.B.:** Nothing unusual. Wheat is about 50 percent harvested. Nice rain a couple of days this last week, really helped.

**COLUMBIA-S.H.:** Scattered rain amounts throughout the county on Sunday the 21st. Areas received anywhere from 0.75 to 2.0 plus inches. Rain was welcome in most areas of the county. Sandy soils were extremely dry and needed rain desperately. Low lying ground did not need any more moisture yet. Rain was very welcome to corn fields that were tasseling. Winter wheat harvest is a little later this year, but should be in high gear very soon.

**WASHINGTON-G.S.:** Crops looking pretty good considering the late start from the wet spring. Heat and spotty rains have really pushed crops along although it was unusually cool and cloudy this past weekend. Second crop hay, wheat and oats being harvested, or will be soon.

**WAUKESHA-R.F.:** Still harvesting first crop hay. Haven't had rain in one and a half weeks.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 28, 2013

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. 27	Mar. 1 To Jul. 27 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	76	53	87	46	65	-7	1472	1473	0.43	6.41	-1.22	26.45	+8.46
Green Bay	74	55	85	50	65	-5	1438	1355	1.13	6.94	+0.58	20.70	+4.78
La Crosse	78	58	90	51	68	-6	1663	1652	1.07	7.18	-0.54	26.10	+7.46
Madison	77	57	86	51	67	-5	1610	1607	2.32	14.84	+7.39	34.93	+16.05
Milwaukee	75	60	86	56	68	-4	1456	n.a.	0.67	7.07	+0.41	26.58	+7.04

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.



USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field office  
P.O. Box 8934  
Madison, WI 53708-8934

(608)224-4848  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/>  
Greg Bussler, State Statistician

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.