



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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For the week of April 7-13, 2014
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Precipitation Puts Fieldwork on Pause

Temperatures began to warm up and fields dried out at the start of the week, only to be followed by a weekend of rain and snow. Topsoil moisture reflects the wet conditions as it was 34 percent surplus statewide this week compared to 30 percent last week. The frost was finally exiting the fields in the northern parts of the state according to reports. Snow cover was mostly gone statewide until much of the state received a fresh coating of snow late Sunday night. Decisions were reportedly being made on whether to harvest the remainder of last year's corn and soybean crop that was left in the field. Most reporters noted fieldwork was still at a standstill for a majority of the last week.

On average, there were 1.5 days suitable for fieldwork this week.

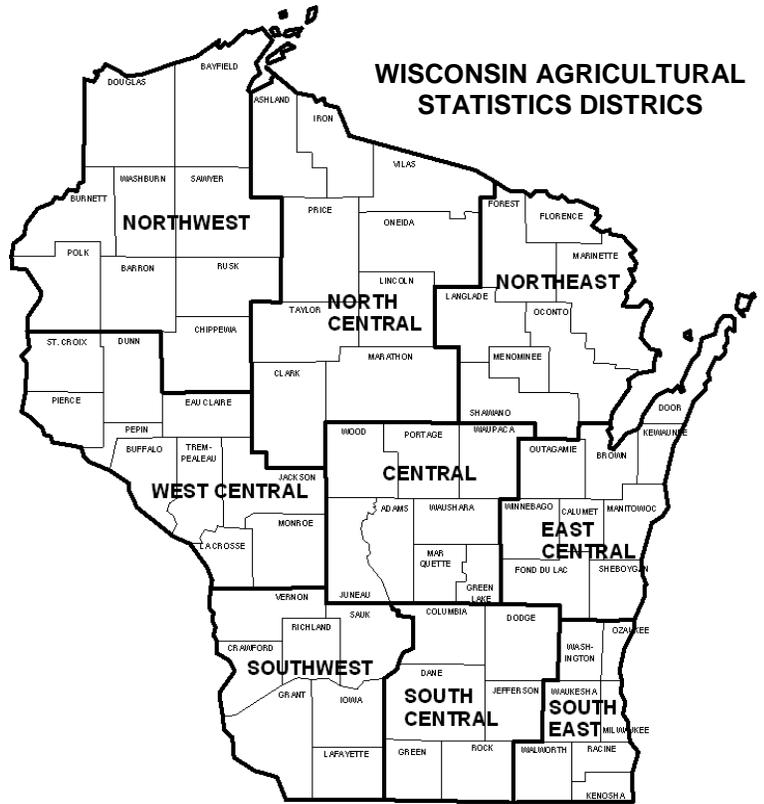
Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 5 to 8 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 57 to 63 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 33 to 38 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.20 inches in Madison to 1.78 inches in La Crosse. If 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/>

As of April 13, **spring tillage** was 1 percent complete statewide, compared to 0 percent last year and a five year average of 8 percent. **Manure spreading** was only occurring on drier soils in few parts of the state but operators were hauling where they could.

Oats seeding has begun, but is well behind a five year average of 21 percent.

Reports of **winter wheat** and **alfalfa** beginning to turn green were welcome signs to many. **Winter wheat** was reported to be 37% in good to excellent condition statewide this week.



Maple syrup run was reportedly slow to average in the north due to a delayed start to the season while reports from the middle and south of the state said the run was close to average. **Apple** tree pruning was wrapping up in the northern part of the state.

Pasture condition was 60 percent poor to very poor this week, improving slightly from 63 percent last week.

Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of April 13, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture & Range	40	20	24	16	0
Winter Wheat	3	10	50	34	3

Source: USDA, NASS

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of April 13, 2014

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
Days Suitable	Days									Days		
	0.8	1.3	0	0.6	2.2	1.5	2.8	2.0	1.6	1.5	0.2	0.0
Topsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent		
Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	1
Short	2	6	8	1	0	0	13	7	5	4	4	9
Adequate	64	75	43	63	50	44	65	61	75	62	66	60
Surplus	34	19	49	36	50	56	20	29	20	34	30	30
Subsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent		
Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	0	1	0	4
Short	14	7	8	11	1	1	23	15	6	10	13	27
Adequate	69	86	48	76	70	58	66	72	81	72	71	57
Surplus	17	7	44	13	29	41	7	7	13	17	16	12

Source: USDA, NASS.

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-T.B.: Fields are very wet and muddy, snow is lingering along woods. Winter rye and wheat are greening up nicely. Some manure being hauled, but most fields too wet to drive on. Maple trees broke bud and most maple sap collectors are taking down buckets.

CHIPPEWA-J.C.: Some corn harvest resumed as frost remains in areas. Waiting for fields to firm up. Alfalfa appears good with little winter injury. Apple pruning wrapping up.

CLARK-R.H.: This week the snow is leaving the fields in the northern areas of the county. There were a large number of corn and soybean acres not harvested last fall that will need to be assessed to determine if it is economical to harvest this spring. Maple sap is being collected and with snow disappearing moving in the woods is much easier. Farmers are getting equipment preped for spring activity, but we'll have to wait for fields to dry.

MARATHON-S.N.: Snow on fields disappeared fast this week with cool, sunny, and breezy days. Manure spreaders and combines buried daily in the squishy fields. The frost has left the earth. Some rivers flooding low lying fields.

FLORENCE-T.B.: Snow melted off fields and standing water gone. Ground still to wet to get field work started. Another snow storm on the way early week! Just can't get away from winter.

SHAWANO-J.N.: Nothing going on besides some manure being hauled the high ground because of storage shortage.

LACROSSE-L.H.: Some farmers are taking soil samples in preparation for the planting season. Walking fields I found some alfalfa sprouting. But other than picking some of last year's corn and hauling manure, I saw very little field work being done.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Winter rye is greening up as are some south slope pastures. Some preplant anhydrous went down Thursday and Friday.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: Three inches of rain over the weekend. Amish farmers plowing on Friday 4-11 by Coloma. Some discing of corn stalks.

JUNEAU-J.W.: Spring showed up for a little while. Four inches of rain and 6 inches of snow over the weekend put a halt to any idea of field work. It should have really drawn the frost out. Winter wheat and rye were looking good and some producers had gotten fertilizer on the fall seeded crops and did some other fertilizer applications. There is a lot of water standing in fields after the weekend but the flooding doesn't appear to be too extreme yet.

FOND DU LAC-B.B.: Heavy rains totaling to 2 inches fell on 4/12. Still too soon to get a sure reading on the winter wheat. The same may be said for alfalfa. Manure applications have been the only field tasks carried out since the retreat of this winter's glacier.

MANITOWOC-M.R.: Still a little cold to be doing any field work and now way to wet with the rains over this past weekend. We did experience a little storm damage in the southern part of the county from some straight line winds on Saturday.

GRANT-R.R.: Right now we are getting very heavy rain , which we desperately needed. It will really slow the field work.

VERNON-K.L.: Farmers starting to haul manure last week. Amish out plowing. We had a couple of nice warm but windy days. Still some frost in the ground and road bans still posted. Nice soaking rain on Saturday and Sunday and woke up to approx 3 inches of heavy wet snow this morning. Robins, bluebirds and killdeers are back too.

GREEN-M.M.: Some farmers got started with spring tillage on lighter soils this week with some oats planted. Many livestock farmers were busy hauling manure.

DODGE-S.B.: In the last two days we have received 4.5 inches of rain. The frost is out of the ground as the first round of rain soaked in instead of running off. The warm temperatures last week helped the winter wheat start growing.

WALWORTH-N.W.: Heavy rains this weekend will bring the last of the frost out. Grass, alfalfa and wheat are starting to green up with the rain.

WASHINGTON-G.S.: Rain, hail and snow flurries over the weekend. Still not much happening in the fields around here.

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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on April 13, 2014

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 Apr 12	Mar. 1 to Apr. 12 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	59	33	66	26	46	+5	42	25	0.72	2.72	-0.20	5.92	+1.15
Green Bay	57	34	62	31	45	+5	34	22	0.63	1.77	-1.33	4.56	-0.74
La Crosse	63	38	69	29	50	+6	68	43	1.78	3.65	+0.42	6.01	+0.60
Madison	63	36	69	28	50	+8	65	46	0.20	1.60	-1.95	3.49	-2.63
Milwaukee	59	36	67	30	47	+5	44	n.a.	0.77	1.98	-2.06	4.72	-2.89

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.

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.