



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 28-May 4, 2014
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Dry, Warm Days Needed

Widespread rain and below average temperatures kept farmers out of fields for much of this week. However, a warm and sunny weekend helped planting and tillage to progress. While spring fieldwork remains ahead of 2013's record late season, progress was still well behind average across the state. Farmers were spreading fertilizer and manure wherever conditions allowed, though reporters noted that mud and standing water made many fields impassible. Topsoil moisture was 37 percent surplus statewide, up 2 percent from last week. Pastures, hay, and winter wheat have reportedly been slow to green up due to soggy and cool conditions. More warm and sunny weather is needed to dry out fields and warm soils for planting.

On average, there were 1.4 days suitable for fieldwork this week.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 3 to 8 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 48 to 53 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 38 to 42 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.94 inches in Green Bay to 2.42 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/>

As of May 4, **spring tillage** was 13 percent complete statewide, well behind the five year average of 45 percent.

Corn was 2 percent planted statewide, compared to 3 percent last year and a five year average of 23 percent.

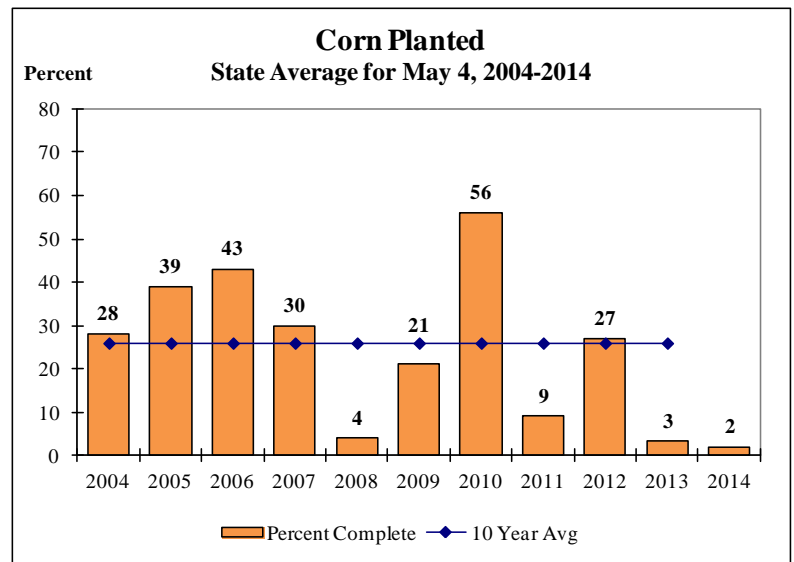
Soybeans were 1 percent planted this week, compared to 0 percent last year and a five year average of 4 percent.

Oats were 18 percent planted and 6 percent emerged this week.

Winter Wheat was 59 percent in good to excellent condition this week compared to 55 percent last week.

Potatoes were 40 percent planted this week.

Pastures improved steadily, with 26 percent in poor to very poor condition this week compared to 36 percent last week.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 4, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture & Range	14	12	40	31	3
Winter Wheat	1	7	33	49	10

Source: USDA, NASS

Wisconsin Crop Progress, May 4, 2014

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			
Corn Planted	1	0	0	1	1	0	4	7	3	2	1	3	23
Oats planted	3	0	2	9	13	5	48	46	20	18	13	16	59
Oats emerged	0	0	0	0	5	0	17	21	1	6	1	0	31
Potatoes planted	6	0	0	79	54	n.a.	0	4	n.a.	40	2	n.a.	n.a.
Spring tillage completed	2	0	1	11	12	9	27	23	20	13	9	11	45

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of May 4, 2014

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	0.8	0.7	1.8	1.1	1.7	1.6	1.2	2.1	1.8	1.4	2.3	2.4
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short	1	5	8	1	0	0	3	9	0	3	3	2
Adequate	59	46	34	67	55	46	66	66	78	60	62	70
Surplus	40	49	58	32	45	54	31	25	22	37	35	28
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Short5	5	5	8	9	0	1	6	10	3	5	7	14
Adequate	64	77	50	81	70	54	89	80	88	76	75	73
Surplus	30	18	42	9	30	45	5	8	9	19	18	11

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-D.B.: Waiting for dry, warm weather.

RUSK:-G.P.: A very wet week with limited field activity. Starting to hear about a little field work, but very limited and only on the lightest soils. We need a nice stretch of warm, dry weather. Forecast is not calling for it though. Pastures are greening up, but can't call any of it good at this point, just not much growth. A very small amount of potatoes and oats in but sure not much for the first week of May. Hay supplies are running short and after 2 years of reduced production, haylage supplies are also running short. Producers who usually have a year's supply as a cushion are looking anxiously toward first crop. Feed intakes ran 25 to 30 percent higher than usual this winter.

SAWYER-K.S.: Another cool and wet week, which included some of the white stuff, kept farmers from doing much field work. Some manure is getting hauled and signs of spring green up are occurring.

ONEIDA-B.E.: Still quite a bit of frost in the ground here. Cranberry beds now flooded up again, to try to get frost out of the ground and allow for spring clean up of floating leaves, etc. Over 1.25 inch of precipitation this past week here and temperatures are still quite a bit below normal.

PRICE/TAYLOR-D.E.: Another wet, cold week delayed field work again. Hay fields are not showing signs of winter kill, so that's the good news. The bad news is that manure pits are full and cannot be emptied.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Winter wheat is finally starting to green up on the last fields. If we can get past this weekend without rain, there may be a couple of fields that see some activity. These will be on heavy tiled parcels or the sandy soils only. The soil is very cold here yet.

EAU CLAIRE-D.S.: Winter kill on wheat. Soil temperature is 42 degrees at 2 inches deep. Too cold to plant corn.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Most of the week was rainy and cool, so very little field work was completed. However I did see in some of the sandier ground fields that looked as if they were worked up for the season. I did not see any fields planted as of the 3rd of May. It appears the crops are going to be late again this year.

TREMPEALEAU-L.N.: Continual rain all week along with cold weather has stalled any progress with planting. Reminiscent of 2013.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Soil still too cold for planting; also too wet in most places. Manure hauling on land suitable for it.

OUTAGAMIE-J.B.: Waiting for warmer weather.

SHEBOYGAN-E.P.: Need warm, dry weather. Heavy rains last week.

RICHLAND-J.C.: The last week of rain has put a halt to field work, especially with cool temperatures on top of the precipitation. There was fertilizer being top dressed on no-till over the weekend. Alfalfa finally starting to grow.

DODGE-R.H.: Pastures are looking good. Looking promising now for field work.

GREEN-D.M.: Winter wheat on higher ground, in spots, is very slow or did not survive the winter. The only day suitable last week allowed planting of spring wheat and alfalfa.

KENOSHA-R.R.: A lot of winter wheat is going to be worked up because of the hard winter.

WALWORTH-N.W.: Now that it has warmed up we are seeing some winter kill in the wheat fields. A few producers are getting started planting corn but some ground is still too wet and cold.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 5, 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 May 3	Mar. 1 to May 3 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	48	38	61	36	43	-8	98	146	2.42	6.72	+1.63	9.91	+2.98
Green Bay	51	40	59	35	45	-5	67	118	0.94	4.80	-0.04	7.59	+0.50
La Crosse	51	41	64	38	46	-8	137	180	1.64	8.53	+2.81	10.89	+3.00
Madison	53	42	64	40	48	-3	146	179	1.22	6.44	+0.48	8.33	-0.17
Milwaukee	52	42	64	38	47	-3	105	n.a.	1.54	5.41	-1.26	8.15	-2.03

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.

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