



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 May 5-11, 2014
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Alfalfa Crop Largely Undamaged

This week started out cool and clear, finally letting farmers across the state get out into fields. Reporters commented that farmers made the most of every day available for fieldwork, with planting, manure application, and fertilizer spreading going full tilt. A warm front rolled through mid-week, bringing heavy rain and thunderstorms to the north of the state and patchier precipitation across the south. Daytime highs over the weekend climbed into the 70s and low 80s, boosting growth on pastures, winter wheat and alfalfa stands. Statewide, 82 percent of alfalfa escaped winter freeze damage this year, with 16 percent rated lightly damaged, 2 percent moderately damaged, and 0 percent severely damaged. Topsoil moistures fell slightly by the end of the week, with 34 percent surplus this week compared to 37 percent surplus last week.

On average, there were 3.9 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 1 degree below to 2 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 61 to 68 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 43 to 46 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.02 inches in Madison to 0.50 inches in Green Bay and 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 May 11, **spring tillage** was 30 percent complete statewide.

Corn was 20 percent planted statewide, although very little corn emergence was reported.

Soybeans were 4 percent planted this week, compared to 1 percent last year and a five year average of 10 percent.

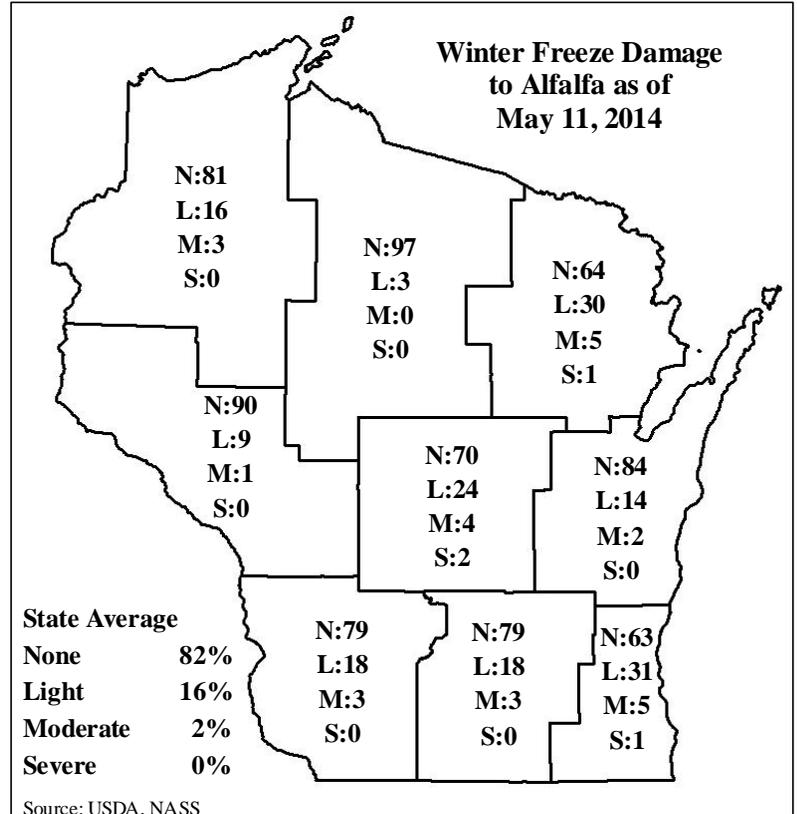
Oats were 39 percent planted and 13 percent emerged this week.

Winter Wheat was 62 percent in good to excellent condition this week compared to 59 percent last week.

Potatoes were 59 percent planted this week, jumping 19 points over the previous week.

Pasture condition continued to improve, with 45 percent rated good to excellent this week compared to 34 percent last week.

Reporters statewide noted that **fruit trees** and **cranberry vines** have been slow to break dormancy.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 11, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture & Range	4	8	43	41	4
Winter Wheat	1	9	28	50	12

Source: USDA, NASS

Wisconsin Crop Progress, May 11, 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	6	0	2	14	10	2	39	39	44	20	2	13	41
Oats planted	22	7	14	40	35	9	76	80	41	39	18	33	71
Oats emerged	2	0	1	6	8	0	34	41	6	13	6	10	46
Potatoes planted	22	0	12	99	76	n.a	0	28	n.a	59	40	n.a.	n.a.
Spring tillage completed	15	11	9	26	32	12	52	50	42	30	13	24	58

Source: USDA, NASS

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of May 11, 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	3.5	1.7	3.3	3.8	4.0	2.2	5.3	5.5	4.4	3.9	1.4	3.5
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	10	3	2	3	1
Adequate	54	64	48	68	47	44	72	74	85	64	60	73
Surplus	46	36	52	32	52	56	24	16	12	34	37	26
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
Short	7	0	0	5	0	2	8	13	3	5	5	11
Adequate	66	65	51	81	63	61	84	78	89	74	76	78
Surplus	26	35	49	13	37	37	8	7	8	21	19	10

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.J.: A three-day window of opportunity for spreading fertilizer, lime and manure and some planting this week. Farmers made the most of it.

WASHBURN-R.H.: Got 2.0 inches of rain Thursday and Friday. On the 'sand farms', they are working the fields. Rye fields greening up and alfalfa doing well. Hopes to start spreading fertilizer this week.

CLARK-A.K.: Happy with hay fields this year compared to last year.

MARATHON-G.M.: Hay looks real good so far. Need sun and warm weather.

FLORENCE-T.B.: Not much field activity yet. Would expect that will change this coming week.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Mother Nature continues with below normal temps, above normal rain, and lack of sunshine. Pits are full and yards and fields are extremely wet.

MONROE-B.H.: Weather conditions improved last week. Rain today, then cooler for the coming week.

ST CROIX-D.K.: Lots of oats planted this week along with some corn before Friday's rain. Alfalfa fields look great after the rain.

JUNEAU-J.W.: Overall it was a good week for field work.

Farmers were putting in long days hoping to get as much done as possible before we get hit with more storms. It was great having a few warmer days and not much rain. Unfortunately, there is a lot of rain in the forecast. I've heard a couple reports of poor winter wheat stands.

DOOR-T.S.: Some tillage and manure application is occurring, but soil temps are still too cold and wet for corn planting and time is running short.

FOND DU LAC-M.R.: Some corn got planted this past week, but not a lot. Still very wet in many fields. Alfalfa looking good. More heavy rains forecasted.

WINNEBAGO-S.E.: Everything off to a slow start. Soil still cold. Alfalfa looks pretty good.

CRAWFORD-J.B.: This was a good week for field work. Quite a bit of corn was planted as well as oats seeded. Most of the unharvested 2013 corn has now been harvested. Winter wheat and alfalfa hay look good. Depending on weather, first cutting hay should begin Memorial Day weekend. Fruit trees should also begin to blossom within the next couple of weeks.

DANE-D.R.: Alfalfa condition - good. The snow cover helped it. Ash trees are slow budding out. Most of the corn going in is "no-till."

OZAUKEE-G.S.: Still cool and wet. Some planting taking place when weather permits. Forecast this week doesn't look too promising.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Slow getting into fields. About 3/4 done hauling manure.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 11, 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 10	Mar. 1 to May 10 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	67	43	75	34	55	+1	159	205	0.21	7.16	+1.34	10.36	+2.69
Green Bay	62	43	73	35	52	-1	110	168	0.50	5.45	+0.06	8.24	+0.62
La Crosse	68	46	80	41	57	0	202	247	0.50	9.01	+2.53	11.37	+2.76
Madison	68	45	83	37	56	+2	209	245	0.02	6.46	-0.19	8.35	-0.82
Milwaukee	61	44	81	38	52	0	148	n.a.	0.28	5.69	-1.69	8.43	-2.51

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.

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.