Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition

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 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.cccorahs.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.

Winter Freeze Damage to Alfalfa as of May 11, 2014

Wisconsin Crop Progress, May 11, 2014

Crop and percent of acreage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District average</th>
<th>State average</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>This week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Corn planted
6 0 2 14 10 2 39 39 44
Oats planted
22 7 14 40 35 9 76 80 41
Oats emerged
2 0 1 6 8 0 34 41 6
Potatoes planted
22 0 12 99 76 n.a. 0 28 n.a.
Spring tillage completed
15 11 9 26 32 12 52 50 42

Source: USDA, NASS

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of May 11, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>District average</th>
<th>State average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>NE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Days</td>
<td>Days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Topsoil Moisture
Very Short
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Short
0 0 0 1 0 0 4 10 3
Adequate
54 64 48 68 47 44 72 74 85
Surplus
46 36 52 32 52 56 24 16 12

Subsoil Moisture
Very Short
1 0 1 0 0 0 2 0 0
Short
7 0 0 5 0 2 8 13 3
Adequate
66 65 51 81 63 61 84 78 89
Surplus
26 35 49 13 37 37 8 7 8

Source: USDA, NASS
Wisconsin Crop Progress

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 warm weather.

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WASHBURN-R.H.: Very cool for the week. Rain in the forecast. I’ve heard a couple reports possible before we get hit with more storms. It was great having a warm weather.

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 warm weather.

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.F.: 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.


Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 11, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Growing degree days (modified base 50)</th>
<th>Precipitation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Avg. max.</td>
<td>Avg. min.</td>
<td>High max.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eau Claire</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Bay</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>73</td>
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<tr>
<td>La Crosse</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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1/ Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°F) + daily minimum (50°F))/2-50; where 86°F is used if the maximum exceeds 86°F and 50°F is used if the minimum falls below 50°F. *Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov.

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.