



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 12-18, 2014
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Cold, Wet Soils Slow Planting, Emergence

Rain early in the week stalled fieldwork for a few more days. However, drier, breezy conditions and sunshine late in the week allowed fieldwork to charge forward. Farmers were reportedly working around standing water and mud to spread manure and get seed planted as soon as possible. Temperatures were below normal with some overnight frost reported in the north and central parts of the state. Cold and wet soil conditions have kept crop emergence behind normal and slowed the growth of hay and winter wheat. Topsoil moistures continued their slow decline, with 30 percent surplus this week compared to 34 percent surplus last week.

On average, there were 3.5 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 1 to 6 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 61 to 64 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 41 to 46 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.93 inches in La Crosse to 1.58 inches in Milwaukee. 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 18, **spring tillage** was 46 percent complete statewide.

Corn was 36 percent planted. Statewide, 1 percent of corn had emerged compared to 6 percent last year and a five year average of 19 percent

Soybeans were 8 percent planted this week.

Oats were 55 percent planted and 26 percent emerged this week.

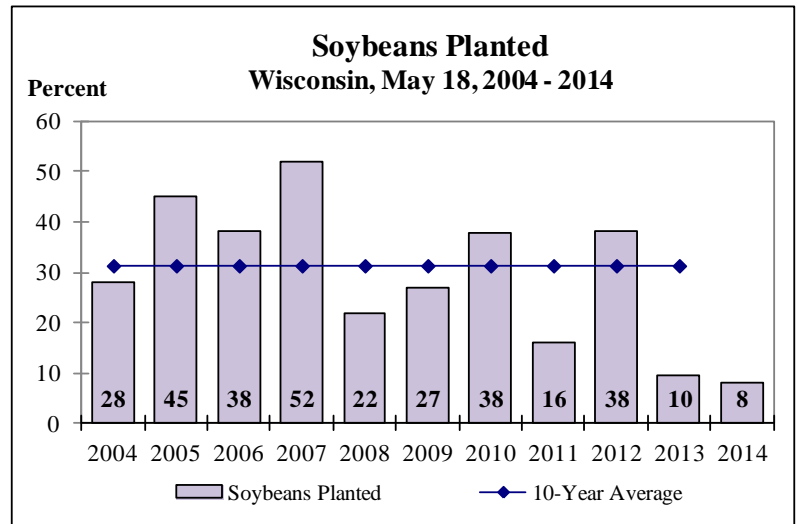
Winter Wheat was 65 percent in good to excellent condition this week compared to 62 percent last week.

Potatoes were 66 percent planted this week.

All Hay stands were 81 percent in good to excellent condition statewide.

Pasture condition improved quickly, with 62 percent rated good to excellent this week compared to 45 percent last week.

Reporters noted that fruit trees and vines including **apples, cherries, plums, cranberries** and **grapes** were budding.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 18, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture & Range	3	5	30	52	10
Hay, All	0	2	17	61	20
Winter Wheat	0	6	29	52	13

Source: USDA, NASS

Wisconsin Crop Progress, May 18, 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	19	6	8	36	26	7	66	56	49	36	20	39	61
Soybeans planted	1	0	2	4	6	3	10	21	11	8	4	10	26
Oats planted	44	17	26	63	46	28	91	88	62	55	39	65	85
Oats emerged	7	3	7	21	20	8	55	62	39	26	13	27	62
Potatoes planted	40	10	23	99	82	n.a.	15	42	n.a.	66	59	n.a.	n.a.
Spring tillage completed	31	29	22	55	41	19	78	66	48	46	30	53	75

Source: USDA, NASS

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of May 18, 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	3.8	3.7	3.8	4.3	4.3	2.1	4.3	3.1	2.5	3.5	3.9	4.9
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short	6	5	8	2	1	1	6	4	2	3	2	3
Adequate	65	49	55	75	71	40	76	77	75	67	64	78
Surplus	29	46	37	23	28	59	18	19	23	30	34	19
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Short	7	5	8	6	0	1	12	7	2	5	5	10
Adequate	72	71	64	87	77	56	82	79	82	77	74	81
Surplus	20	24	28	7	23	43	6	14	16	18	21	8

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.

BAYFIELD-C.B.: Some fieldwork started on the sandy soils. No activity yet on the clay soils.

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Fieldwork is fast and furious as soils are finally drying out. Alfalfa looks in good shape. Winter annuals (yellow rocket, dandelions) are beginning to flower.

ONEIDA-B.E.: Early cranberry varieties coming out of hibernation now. Buds have started to swell and open and as a result we have sprinkle irrigated the past few cold nights, to protect from frost. Temperatures continue to stay well below normal for the most part, and we saw about 0.8 inches of rain here this past week.

PRICE-D.E.: Spring tillage is finally underway. Tractors are rolling along in the fields that are not too wet to work. Corn and small grains are starting to go in and manure pits are being emptied. Hay and pastures look very good with no signs of winter kill. Winter wheat looks excellent at this point. Apple trees are starting to bud.

MARINETTE-N.S.: Lots of activity over the weekend, especially on higher ground. Low ground is still too wet to work in many areas. Hay fields look good. Forecasted warmer temperatures this week will allow planting progress and improve hay and pastureland.

SHAWANO-J.N.: We should get a lot done this week if the rains stay away.

EAU CLAIRE-A.B.: All systems are go! Producers are doing anything they can to get their spring crops in. Good progress was made this past week.

PIERCE-G.A.: Considerable corn planting progress has been made 5/16 to 5/19.

PORTAGE-D.Z.: Winter wheat short due to moisture and cool weather.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Unseasonably cold and extremely wet conditions have halted most spring planting progress. Alfalfa looks great.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: Heading into the third week of May, not much fieldwork and not many crops have been planted. It looked as if last week was going to be the time where everything really got

going, but when at least 1.5 inches of rain fell early in the week, all work stopped and never started up again through the end of the period. A stretch of dry weather is forecast for later this week, so hopefully quite a bit of planting will be taking place by that time. Some adjustments may have to be made regarding which maturity corn and soybeans should be planted, but if most of these two crops can be put into the ground by the end of May, they should still turn out okay. The cooler and damper weather has really helped the growth of the alfalfa and winter wheat, which are both looking good. The cold conditions will make for a later first crop hay harvest, which is a good thing, since most of the planting is also going to be later as well.

MANITOWOC-M.R.: Another 2.0 inches of rain on Monday this week still has everything at a standstill. There has been no tillage or planting of anything yet this spring in the county. We could use about a month of dry weather to get the crops in.

GRANT-D.W.: People trying to get caught up. It's been awfully wet this spring. People are getting going now.

VERNON-K.L.: Another cool week with rain and light frost a couple of days. Farmers hitting the fields hard, i.e. manure hauling, planting oats, corn, and soybeans. Pastures and alfalfa look good, but slow in growing due to the cool temps. Grapes are breaking buds this week.

COLUMBIA-G.K.: Still some ponding out in low lying fields. Germination of corn and beans is very slow due to cold soil temperatures. Warmer temperatures are helping hay, pastures, and winter wheat.

GREEN-J.T.: We had 8 days of suitable planting that leading up to Mother's Day. Many farms finished planting corn by Mother's Day. A lot of beans were in as well. Rain was spotty this week, but planting resumed for 3 days. Winter rye cutting started this week. Over half of the planned winter wheat acres have been pulled out and planted to corn due to winter damage.

KENOSHA-J.H.: Had rain Monday evening – 4.0 to 5.25 inches fell in 2 hours. There will be lots of replanting.

WASHINGTON-J.N.: Very little freeze out on hay. Drills and corn planters going night and day the last 4 days.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 18, 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 17	Mar. 1 to May 17 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	61	41	75	30	51	-6	202	275	1.40	8.56	+1.98	11.76	+3.36
Green Bay	61	42	74	31	52	-3	152	227	1.19	6.64	+0.66	9.43	+1.23
La Crosse	63	46	76	38	55	-4	255	325	0.93	9.94	+2.74	12.30	+2.92
Madison	64	46	77	37	55	-1	269	318	1.37	7.83	+0.52	9.72	-0.09
Milwaukee	63	44	81	36	54	-1	199	n.a.	1.58	7.27	-0.80	10.01	-1.62

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.