Planting, Haying Progress Between Rains

Much of the state received heavy rain early in the week, interrupting fieldwork and damaging fields. Reporters across the north of the state noted erosion and soil crusting in recently tilled fields, hampering crop emergence. However, sunny days with above average temperatures allowed planting and haying to progress well through the rest of the week. The excessive moisture has boosted crop condition but prevented farmers from making dry hay. Topsoil moistures were 21 percent surplus this week compared to 22 percent surplus last week.

There were 4.7 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 4 to 7 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 77 to 80 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 57 to 62 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.55 inches in Milwaukee to 2.91 inches in Madison. 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 June 8, spring tillage was 94 percent complete statewide.

Corn was 92 percent planted and 75 percent emerged, with 81 percent in good to excellent condition.

Soybeans were 82 percent planted and 57 percent emerged, with 81 percent in good to excellent condition.

Oats were 95 percent planted and 86 percent emerged. Four percent of the crop was heading, compared to 33 percent last year and a five year average of 12 percent. Condition was rated 83 percent good to excellent statewide.

Thirty seven percent of winter wheat was heading, with 68 percent of the crop in good to excellent condition.

Potatoes were 95 percent planted.

The first cutting of alfalfa was 49 percent complete.

All hay was 88 percent in good to excellent condition statewide.

Pasture condition was 84 percent in good to excellent, compared to 81 percent the previous week.
BURNETT-E.M.: Western Burnett County received more rain over the weekend. Anticipate many new acres of prevent plant. Soil is saturated with rainfall in that area.

CHIPEWA-J.C.: Hay harvest began this week with good yields and quality. Corn planting continues especially on some hay and winter rye harvested fields.

ONEIDA-B.E.: Early cranberry varieties near hook stage. Late varieties in bud break stage. Overall average temperatures were at or slightly above normal, we saw .035 inches of rain this past week. Insect pest scouting showed large numbers of brown spanworm, treated shortly thereafter.

TAYLOR/PRICE-D.E.: There are still some fields that are not planted, but that number is dwindling quickly. Hay harvest is in full swing with feed values at average or above average. Winter rye forage has been almost all harvested. Manure pits are finally getting emptied with first crop hay taken off and some other forage crops planted on fields with manure. Pastures and grass fields look very good, but topsoil moisture is still high making lower fields are real challenge.

PIERCE-G.A.: First cutting hay is occurring between rains. Significant soil erosion occurred in heavily tilled corn and soybean fields especially fields that were land rolled causing greater runoff.

WAUSAHA-K.W.: A lot of hay cut in the past 4-5 days.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: Again, this past week saw a lot of rain in this area that effectively stopped all fieldwork for most of the week. Locations here received anywhere from around 2 inches of rain to over 4 inches. At this time of year, this amount of water can be absorbed quickly with the heat, sunshine and the wind. The problem with the rain that fell was that a lot fell in a short period of time. This has caused a hard crust to form on some of the fields. Steady rains and warmer weather has pastures and hay crops dramatically improved. Alfalfa quality is going down, but tonnage will be up. Some emergence issues in corn and beans due to rains crustng soil.

COLUMBIA-G.K.: Haying in full swing. Some excellent haylage was harvested this week. A few low lying areas are still under water and may need to be replanted.

KENOSHA-J.H.: Crop condition & ability to get work done is improving.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Growing degree days (modified base 50)</th>
<th>Precipitation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Avg. max.</td>
<td>Avg. min.</td>
<td>High max.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eau Claire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
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<td>57</td>
<td>84</td>
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</tbody>
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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.

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