Spotty Showers and Cool Nights

Scattered afternoon showers and thunderstorms interrupted fieldwork in many areas this week. There were isolated reports of crop damage due to hail or high winds. However, the spotty precipitation produced by these storms was not enough to combat increasingly dry soil conditions. Topsoil moistures fell, with 33 percent short to very short compared to 23 percent short to very short last week. Reporters commented that irrigation systems were running in many parts of the state. Temperatures were slightly cooler than the previous week, with highs in the 70s and 80s, and overnight lows in the 50s. Reporters statewide noted that dry soil conditions and a lack of heat units were keeping corn development behind normal, especially for late planted fields. Cranberries were setting fruit this week. Snap beans and sweet corn development was reported behind normal. Haying and small grains harvest proceeded, though showers and heavy morning dews limited the time farmers could spend in fields.

There were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork statewide. Across the reporting stations, average temperatures this week were 2 to 4 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 78 to 82 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 55 to 59 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.35 inch in Eau Claire to 1.25 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 August 3, sixty-eight percent of corn was silking, with 8 percent in or past dough stage. Corn condition was rated 72 percent good to excellent. Soybeans were 79 percent blooming, with 45 percent setting pods. Soybeans condition was rated 71 percent good to excellent.

Eighty-three percent of the Oat crop was turning color, with 23 percent harvested for grain. Condition was rated 78 percent good to excellent statewide.

Forty-seven percent of winter wheat had been harvested for grain with 73 percent of the crop in good to excellent condition.

Eighty-nine percent of potatoes were rated in good to excellent condition.

The second cutting of alfalfa was 90 percent complete and the third cutting was 22 percent complete.

All hay condition was rated 84 percent good to excellent.

Pasture condition was rated 67 percent good to excellent, down 11 percentage points from the previous week.

### Wisconsin Crop Progress as of August 3, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop and percent of acreage</th>
<th>District average</th>
<th>State average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This week</td>
<td>Last week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn silking</td>
<td>54  50</td>
<td>31  77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn in or past dough stage</td>
<td>10  2</td>
<td>8  3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soybeans blooming</td>
<td>79  78</td>
<td>85  82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soybeans setting pods</td>
<td>52  46</td>
<td>52  46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oats turning color</td>
<td>78  60</td>
<td>93  88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oats harvested for grain</td>
<td>5  5</td>
<td>24  15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfalfa hay, winter cutting</td>
<td>83  90</td>
<td>87  85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfalfa hay, third cutting</td>
<td>16  10</td>
<td>13  20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 3, 2014

#### Soybeans Setting Pods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Wisconsin, August 3, 2004 - 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of August 3, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>District average</th>
<th>State average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This week</td>
<td>Last week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days Suitable</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>4.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topsoil Moisture</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Short</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsoil Moisture</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Short</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RUSK-G.P.: Crops are moving along. Corn and beans are both looking slightly better this week. Lots of brown round bales sitting out in the field right now. Lots of hay out there but the quality is not very good. Would be nice to get some more heat.

SAWYER-K.S.: Crops in general looking good. Pockets of rain moved through the county, some producing pea size hail and high winds. Some damage to crops but not very wide spread. Fields of small grains are starting to get opened. Oats, rye and wheat all look the best they have in many years. Some corn snotin and lots of dew at night. A few fields harvested this week. Reports from cranberry IPM scouts indicate cranberry yields will be about average, some spraying for fruit worm.

CLARK-R.H.: This has been an annoying week for farmers as the day seems to end with a rain shower. Spotty showers have limited hay drying and harvesting of winter small grains. Corn is tasseling, but 2014 is short on growing degree days - need some heat for the corn. Beans are looking good and spring planted small grains are ripening. A number of calls the past couple of weeks of winter injury and death to fruit trees.

LINCOLN-K.S.: Spotty showers, hit and miss. We need heat. Corn is varying heights.

MARINETTE-N.S.: Corn is uneven in many areas. On lighter soil, corn made good progress but dry conditions throughout July have caused plants to become stressed. Third crop hay continues to be harvested. Expecting to see more wheat fields harvested this week. Most areas would benefit from some additional rainfall.

ST CROIX-D.K.: Most unirrigated crops are suffering. Still could recover somewhat with a good rain. Some very scattered showers have helped. There has been more heat units but could use rain also.

TREMPEALEU-L.N.: Spotty rain bursts throughout the week. Soybeans burning on sand knolls. Corn needs heat and rain on a more consistent basis and is very uneven in parts of the county.

JUNE-J.J.: Spotty rain, could use a good soaking rain.


DOOR-R.S.: Corn is way behind, too cool. Can use more rain.

MANITOWOC-M.R.: Finally starting to see some corn tasseling in the county. Winter wheat harvest also got underway this past week along with some third crop alfalfa.

OUTAGAMIE-J.B.: Get lots of dew at night, takes time to burn off during day.

IOWA-L.M.: Need rain.

VERNON-K.L.: Everything could use a nice shot of rain. Some very isolated light showers. Corn pollinating and soybeans setting pods. Warm days and lots of dew at night. A few reports of aphids in the soybeans. Sweet corn showing up at markets and beans are both.

CROP HARVEST-J.T.: Corn looking average. Cranberry crop has good set.

K.A.: Corn is about 7.5 feet tall. 0.5 inch of rain last night.

K.L.: Pea harvest complete, good yields. Hard

Hail reported in eastern part of county. A little warm weather would sure speed crops along a little faster.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Corn is about 7.5 feet tall. 0.5 inch of rain last night.

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