



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



Upper Midwest Region - Wisconsin Field Office · 2811 Agriculture Drive · Madison WI 53718 · (608) 224-4848
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov

Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Vol. 14, No. 19

Issued August 11, 2014

For the week ending August 10, 2014

Media Contact: Greg Bussler

Rains Hit and Miss

The amount of rain received in Wisconsin varied widely during the week. A storm system moved through the west and south-central portions of the state Monday, bringing soaking rain to some areas while bypassing neighboring counties. The north and east received similar spotty showers overnight on Sunday. However, the remainder of the week was once again dry and clear, with daytime temperatures in the 80s. Corn, soybeans, and hay perked up in response to the rain, but areas that have been bypassed by recent storms were badly in need of moisture. Topsoil moistures fell on average, with 43 percent short to very short statewide, compared to 33 percent short to very short last week. Reporters statewide noted that dry conditions are slowing the growth of third crop alfalfa. Pastures were also suffering from the lack of moisture, with condition declining for a fourth week in a row. Winter wheat harvest progressed rapidly, though the oats harvest was lagging behind average.

There were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures this week were normal to 3 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 76 to 84 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 57 to 63 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.03 inches in Green Bay to 1.74 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 August 10, eighty-two percent of **corn** was silking, with 20 percent in dough stage. Corn condition was rated 69 percent good to excellent.

Soybeans were 88 percent blooming, with 65 percent setting pods. Soybeans condition was rated 70 percent good to excellent.

Ninety-two percent of the **oat** crop was turning color, with 38 percent harvested for grain. Condition was rated 78 percent good to excellent statewide.

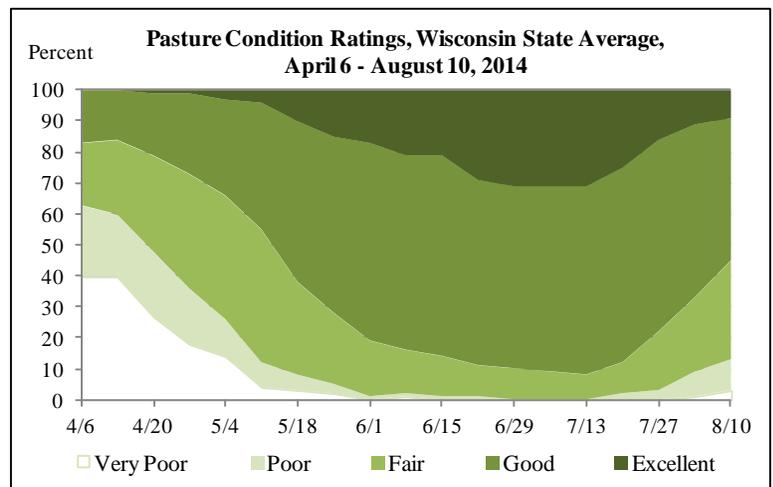
Seventy-four percent of **winter wheat** had been harvested for grain, up from 47 percent the previous week.

Seventy-five percent of **potatoes** were rated in good to excellent condition.

The **second cutting of alfalfa** was 95 percent complete and the **third cutting** was 38 percent complete.

All hay condition was rated 81 percent good to excellent.

Pasture condition was rated 55 percent good to excellent, down 12 percentage points from the previous week.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 10, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture & Range	3	10	32	46	9
Hay, All	0	4	15	57	24
Corn	3	8	20	46	23
Soybeans	1	5	24	48	22
Oats	0	4	18	62	16
Potatoes	0	3	22	61	14

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of August 10, 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 silking	75	77	44	88	80	60	97	94	88	82	68	76	88
Corn in or past dough stage	19	21	5	22	10	9	37	24	14	20	8	11	25
Soybeans blooming	84	88	90	86	91	77	93	96	93	88	79	74	86
Soybeans setting pods	64	62	56	64	60	46	73	76	73	65	45	38	56
Oats turning color	92	86	85	95	94	85	100	100	96	92	83	n.a.	n.a.
Oats harvested for grain	23	6	9	49	32	33	75	67	45	38	23	35	57
Winter wheat harv. for grain	40	57	53	73	75	62	84	90	84	74	47	n.a.	n.a.
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	93	93	95	94	93	94	100	98	90	95	90	91	95
Alfalfa hay, third cutting	26	19	42	25	36	44	54	51	36	38	22	25	43

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of August 10, 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	6.6	6.3	6.3	5.9	6.8	6.4	6.0	5.5	6.0	6.1	5.7	5.7
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	5	4	26	5	14	13	21	10	2	11	7	11
Short	29	34	47	21	28	34	44	30	33	32	26	33
Adequate	62	62	27	70	58	49	35	51	63	54	64	54
Surplus	4	0	0	4	0	4	0	9	2	3	3	2
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	4	4	4	1	12	10	6	6	0	5	3	6
Short	21	10	53	25	26	28	31	31	26	27	18	30
Adequate	72	86	41	71	60	58	62	60	72	66	76	63
Surplus	3	0	2	3	2	4	1	3	2	2	3	1

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.

CHIPPEWA-J.C.: Spotty rain and hail in some areas slowed harvest of small grains and hay. Drier conditions at the end of the week has harvest machines rolling.

WASHBURN-P.H.: Corn and soybeans are burning up on sandy soils. Much small grain harvested this week. Also, chopping of third cut alfalfa and baling of lower quality second crop hay.

MARATHON-G.M.: Third crop hay is wonderful looking crop. Beans perked up this last week. Can use rain now. Getting dry. Everything is doing as good as it can.

ONEIDA-B.E.: Average high and low temperatures were close to normal this past week and there was abundant sunshine as well. Not much in the way of precipitation, .07 inch for the week, and we had to sprinkle irrigate several times. Fruit set continues on the cranberry vines.

FLORENCE-T.B.: Crops range from poor to very poor in the area. We need rain soon just for crops to survive.

EAU CLAIRE-A.B.: Oats harvest for grain is in full swing with varied reports for the yields. Producers are indicating 60 to 70 bushels per acre as an average with some fields reached 90 to 95 bushels per acre. We received another million dollar rain this week with the majority of the county receiving between 1.5 to 2 inches. That moisture will boost the second and third crop hay harvest, aid in pasture growth and help finish the corn and soybean pollination. We were seeing signs of stress due to lack of moisture prior to that rain. Overall, the crops are looking good in 2014.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: Received 0.5 inch of rain on 7/29; very dry on unirrigated fields.

FOND DU LAC-B.P.: Winter wheat is all harvested. Yields ranged from 57 to 70 bushel per acre. 2.0 inches rain last Monday. Oats are not all harvested yet, some in low spots are yellow. Looking forward to good harvest.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: Even though the past week was dry, the rain received here last weekend really made an impact on the growing crops, especially the soybeans. The beans were in less than ideal condition up until the rain fell. In the past week, they have grown up and outward. Getting taller and bushier is helping to shade the ground, conserving the moisture there. The plants are blooming,

but like the every other crop this year, they are behind in doing so. The corn is tasseling, but not every corn plant is doing this yet. The corn that came up late and was stressed because of the lack of moisture and cool temperatures still has not tasseled yet. This may cause a problem later this harvest season with some plants having mature corn and some plants having immature corn and more moisture. Drying costs may be higher this fall when trying to dry this corn. The same will also be said for the soybeans. All crops are behind in maturing. This includes the winter wheat and oats. The wheat harvest is going on, but the moisture content in the crop is in the 15 to 19 percent range. This level would cause the wheat to be docked when trying to sell it. Some producers are waiting for the moisture to come down before taking the wheat off. The oats in many cases have not turned completely yellow yet. The harvest of this crop is still about two weeks away, making its harvest about two weeks later than normal. Unfortunately this waiting period will allow more weeds to begin competing with the oats. The third crop alfalfa harvest is going on, but it is moving very slowly due to the lack of rain. The alfalfa plants are growing slowly and are very short. Yields will be low if the hay is harvested now.

SAUK-J.P.: The outlook here is starting to look a bit like last year, with the dry weather. It is not near as severe as last year but there is still time for a lot of good looking corn and soybeans to go downhill. Some of the garden crops like raspberries were early this year. Flowers are doing well and lawns greener than a year ago. Wild cucumbers are flourishing as are the Canadian thistles. Sumac is showing a hint of change so we know what is just around the proverbial corner.

COLUMBIA-G.K.: Small pockets of hail last weekend damaged some corn and soybeans. Some standing wheat was knocked flat as well. Several reports of DON (vomitoxin) showing up in wheat at the elevators and farmers being docked.

DANE-D.R.: Need rain. Some corn is about 7 feet tall and some about 5 feet. Color varies. Could be because it was wet early.

WASHINGTON-J.N.: Got 0.5 inch of rain a week ago today. Need a good soaker rain.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 10, 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 Aug. 9	Mar. 1 to Aug. 9 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	83	59	87	54	71	+0	1768	1712	1.61	13.89	+4.45	27.99	+8.28
Green Bay	81	57	85	54	69	-1	1600	1585	0.03	5.29	-2.60	15.96	-1.57
La Crosse	84	63	86	60	74	+0	2037	1915	0.61	12.14	+2.73	25.31	+4.90
Madison	82	58	85	55	70	-1	1901	1863	1.74	13.10	+3.94	24.85	+4.32
Milwaukee	76	62	85	58	69	-3	1581	n.a.	0.05	9.54	+1.32	20.49	-0.63

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.