



# 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 ending September 7, 2014  
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## Northern Wisconsin Drenched Again

Though this week started out with summery days in the 80s, temperatures were on the decline by week's end. The cold front brought a third consecutive week of heavy precipitation to northern Wisconsin, with reports of crop damage from hail, high winds, and water standing in fields. While the heaviest rains bypassed the southern part of the state, overcast and muggy conditions interfered with drying hay and kept soil moistures steady. Topsoil moistures were 19 percent surplus statewide compared to 11 percent surplus last week. Across the southern part of the state, small grains harvest was wrapping up and corn silage just beginning. However, reporters in the north and central regions commented that muddy conditions were severely limiting field work. Although corn made good progress during the warm beginning of the week, it remained behind normal maturity for this time of year. There were scattered reports of immature silage corn being chopped to supplement low feed reserves.

There were 3.7 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures this week were 1 to 5 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 77 to 82 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 56 to 63 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.29 inches in Milwaukee to 3.48 inches in Eau Claire. 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 September 7, eighty percent of **corn** was in or beyond the dough stage, up 10 percentage points over the previous week. Forty-one percent of corn was in or beyond the dent stage, up 18 percentage points from the previous week. Corn condition improved slightly with 72 percent rated good to excellent.

Ninety-six percent of **soybeans** were setting pods and 22 percent had leaves turning color. Soybeans condition was rated 74 percent good to excellent.

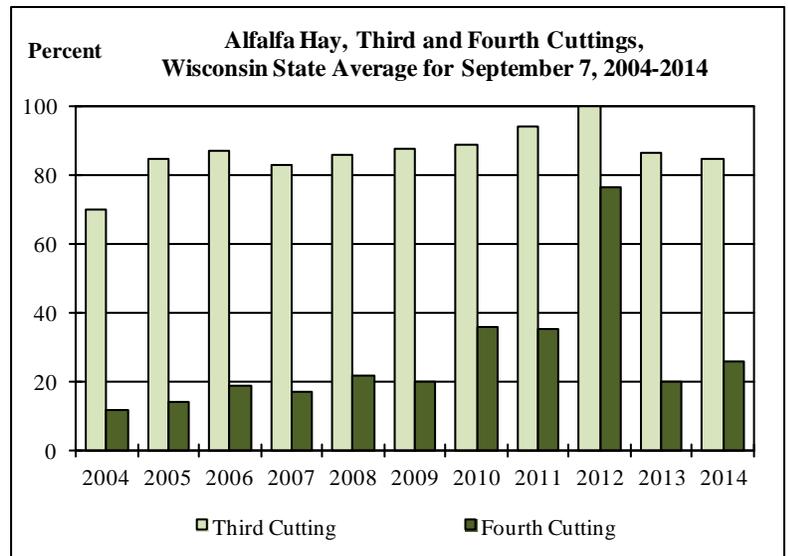
Eighty percent of **oats** for grain has been harvested.

**Potatoes** were 27 percent harvested with 76 percent rated in good to excellent condition. A Portage County reporter noted that potato harvesters were running 24 hours a day.

The **third cutting of alfalfa** was 85 percent complete and the **fourth cutting** was 26 percent complete.

**All hay** condition was rated 84 percent good to excellent.

**Pasture** condition was rated 67 percent good to excellent, up 6 percentage points from the previous week.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 7, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture & Range	1	6	26	55	12
Hay, All	0	3	13	57	27
Corn	2	6	20	49	23
Soybeans	1	4	21	50	24
Potatoes	0	1	23	65	11

## Wisconsin Crop Progress as of September 7, 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 in or past dough stage	69	78	46	84	70	72	96	93	76	80	70	74	85
Corn in or past dent stage	29	25	12	36	34	21	66	61	44	41	23	35	53
Soybeans setting pods	95	92	99	99	99	90	95	100	98	96	93	93	98
Soybeans turning color	20	14	9	23	19	14	33	34	13	22	9	20	33
Oats harvested for grain	77	47	50	99	95	71	100	100	99	80	73	95	98
Potatoes harvested	17	27	44	15	22	n.a.	68	44	n.a.	27	12	n.a.	n.a.
Alfalfa hay, third cutting	78	62	88	84	81	88	93	94	89	85	78	87	92
Alfalfa hay, fourth cutting	9	7	32	24	24	25	34	49	16	26	15	20	38

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of September 7, 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	2.5	1.5	2.5	3.5	4.2	3.7	4.8	4.6	3.6	3.7	3.5	6.5
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	1	43
Short	9	1	1	5	1	3	18	11	7	7	10	35
Adequate	57	50	71	79	69	70	74	82	88	74	78	22
Surplus	34	49	28	16	30	27	5	5	5	19	11	0
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	1	0	0	1	2	0	2	2	0	1	1	31
Short	8	5	15	13	4	2	22	15	24	12	15	46
Adequate	74	56	74	78	70	73	73	76	72	73	78	23
Surplus	17	39	11	8	24	25	3	7	4	14	6	0

# 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.

**BARRON-T.B.:** With seven inches of rain this week, there was not a lot of field activity. Some fourth crop hay cutting, but very little made it into feed storage. Water is standing in fields everywhere.

**BURNETT/WASHBURN-E.M.:** Heavy rains and storms went through both counties again last week.

**CLARK-R.H.:** Rainfall is a hindrance this week. Oats are nearly done after all the rainfall and we really need some dry weather to get them harvested. Corn is looking OK but needs time to mature with reduced Growing Degree Days this summer. Corn silage may be a couple of weeks away depending on storage type. Some corn is being green fed as farmers are trying to build forage inventories. Soybeans are beginning to show fall colors. Overall crops are looking OK, but farmers need a later frost date again this year.

**PRICE-D.E.:** More than enough rain for now. Corn is immature for this time of year due to lack of heat units. Soybeans are starting to turn color. Hay is better than average at this point. Need the frost to hold off.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** What a difference three weeks can make going from too dry to having water standing in the fields. We have received almost 12 inches in the last few weeks. Many farmers hoping to find a few days of good weather to get oats harvested or to cut long overdue alfalfa fields. Beans are looking pretty good. Corn is way behind normal with it anywhere from just blistering to some denting. Cover crops after wheat are coming along great.

**EAU CLAIRE-D.S.:** Need a good September to finish the soybeans and corn. Had 2.0 to 3.0 inches of rain last week.

**LA CROSSE-I.H.:** Wet this week, enough so that it squishes in some places when you walk. Only two days available for field work. Hay looks very good, better than second cut. Corn is coming along, some cobs turning white. Beans have flashes of color here and there. Was nice to see the sun at the end of the week.

**WAUPACA-D.L.H.:** With 7.0 inches of rain in August and 4.0 inches of rain last week - everything is too wet to do anything. The warm weather helped improve maturity of corn and soybeans. An extended growing season will be needed for crop maturity.

**DOOR-A.B.:** Fourth crop tonnage will be excellent as long as it stops raining long enough to harvest. The crop is the best looking fourth crop in many years and yields should rival first crop yields. As with many other parts of Wisconsin, heavy rain has hampered any field work. Saturated clay soils are going to make it difficult to get any field work done even with clear weather. Corn is very late this year and most silage is still at least three weeks from harvest.

**GRANT-D.W.:** Corn silage harvest is just beginning, probably 2 weeks late.

**DODGE-R.H.:** Heavy rain missed this area last week. Lot of third and fourth crop hay made. Corn husks are starting to turn brown on cobs.

**GREEN-M.M.:** About half of the soybean fields have leaves that are starting to turn color. Most corn is in the early dent stage and corn silage harvest will likely start next week if weather permits. Field work has been limited due to heavy rains.

**WALWORTH-N.W.:** Threat of rain all last week but received very little until Thursday. Good for the Walworth County Fair and good for producers starting corn silage harvest.

**WASHINGTON-J.N.:** Lots of tonnage for first, second & third crop hay. Lot of it put in without rain.

### Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 7, 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 Sep. 6	Mar. 1 to Sep. 6 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	77	56	84	47	66	+1	2306	2186	3.48	2.93	+2.03	35.60	+11.55
Green Bay	76	57	79	51	67	+3	2100	2048	2.88	2.88	+2.14	23.60	+2.72
La Crosse	82	61	87	50	71	+3	2673	2453	0.62	0.48	-0.33	29.96	+5.61
Madison	80	59	85	52	70	+5	2493	2389	0.87	0.87	+0.08	28.68	+4.17
Milwaukee	80	63	85	57	72	+5	2169	n.a.	0.29	0.29	-0.49	25.58	+0.75

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

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.