



# Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Vol. 15, No.14  
Issued July 6, 2015

For the week ending July 5, 2015  
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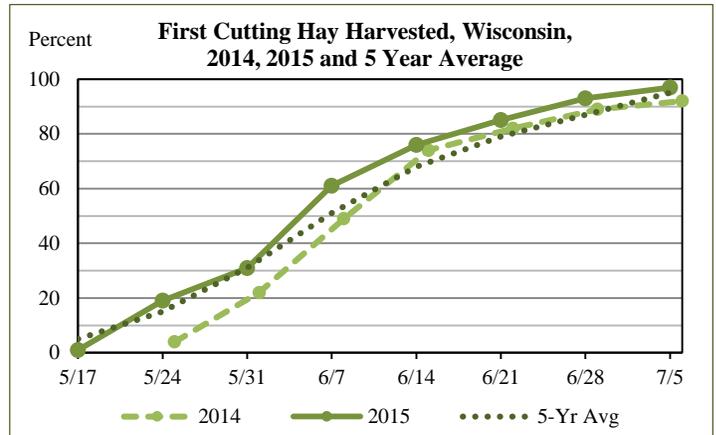
## Dry, Cool Weather Advances Hay Harvest

There were 5.9 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending July 5, 2015, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Despite some isolated rain storms, conditions were mostly dry and cool across the state this week. The lack of rain finally allowed farmers to bale dry hay, with the first cutting wrapping up and good progress made on the second cutting. Farmers were also chopping small grain and mixed forages and catching up with spraying during this window of favorable conditions. Reporters noted that corn was normal to ahead of normal in height for early July, though some commented that fields were uneven due to excess soil moisture. Soybean growth was reportedly slowed by below-normal temperatures early in the week, while green peas and other cool weather vegetables were looking excellent.

Topsoil moistures fell on average, with 12 percent surplus this week compared to 19 percent surplus the previous week. Some reporters noted that crops on sandy soils were in need of water.

As of July 5, the **corn** crop was rated 83 percent good to excellent, compared to 84 percent last week. Ten percent of **soybeans** were blooming statewide, 3 days ahead of both last year and the five-year average. Eighty-two percent of the soybean crop was rated good to excellent, down 1 percentage point from last week. Ninety-one percent of **oats** were at or beyond the heading stage, 9 days ahead of last year and 8 days ahead of the five-year average. Twenty-five percent of the oat crop has begun turning color, 3 days ahead of last year. Oats condition was rated 84 percent good to excellent, unchanged from the previous week. **Potato** condition was rated 90 percent good to excellent, compared to 92 percent last week. Sixty-seven percent of **winter wheat** has turned color, 5 days ahead of last year. Eighty percent of winter wheat was rated in good to excellent condition, up 2 percentage points from the previous week.

**Pasture** condition was rated 82 percent good to excellent, down a percentage point from last week. The **first cutting of alfalfa** was 97 percent harvested, 4 days ahead of last year and 3 days ahead of the five-year average. The **second cutting of alfalfa** was 41 percent harvested, the second highest percent harvested by this date in more than 35 years, trailing only 2012. **All hay condition** was 83 percent in good to excellent condition. A reporter in Sawyer County reported that some winter injury to the **cranberry** crop was impacting fruit set. A reporter in Adams County noted that some **sweet corn** is tasseling.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 5, 2015

|                   | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-------------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
|                   | Percent   |      |      |      |           |
| Corn.....         | 0         | 3    | 14   | 57   | 26        |
| Hay, All.....     | 0         | 3    | 14   | 54   | 29        |
| Oats.....         | 0         | 3    | 13   | 61   | 23        |
| Pasture & Range.. | 0         | 2    | 16   | 57   | 25        |
| Potatoes.....     | 0         | 0    | 10   | 70   | 20        |
| Soybeans.....     | 1         | 2    | 15   | 58   | 24        |
| Winter Wheat..... | 1         | 3    | 16   | 52   | 28        |

## Wisconsin Crop Progress as of July 5, 2015

| 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       |           |           |                |
| Alfalfa hay, first cutting..... | 93               | 91 | 97 | 99 | 97 | 99 | 100 | 99 | 92 | 97            | 93        | 94        | 95             |
| Alfalfa hay, second cutting.... | 38               | 14 | 25 | 43 | 24 | 56 | 51  | 46 | 49 | 41            | 20        | 22        | 35             |
| Oats headed.....                | 88               | 89 | 82 | 93 | 84 | 93 | 94  | 99 | 84 | 91            | 80        | 71        | 79             |
| Oats turning color.....         | 9                | 10 | 5  | 34 | 24 | 30 | 28  | 41 | 39 | 25            | 10        | 14        | n.a.           |
| Soybeans Blooming               | 5                | 2  | 12 | 7  | 9  | 8  | 9   | 19 | 13 | 10            | 2         | 4         | 6              |
| Winter wheat turning color....  | 34               | 69 | 33 | 54 | 70 | 59 | 61  | 89 | 69 | 67            | 40        | 50        | n.a.           |

n.a.=not available

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of July 5, 2015

| Item             | District average |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | State average |           |           |    |
|------------------|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------|-----------|-----------|----|
|                  | NW               | NC  | NE  | WC  | C   | EC  | SW  | SC  | SE  | This week     | Last week | Last Year |    |
|                  | Days             |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | Days          |           |           |    |
| Days Suitable    | 5.5              | 5.7 | 6.0 | 5.5 | 6.2 | 6.6 | 6.2 | 6.0 | 5.4 | 5.9           | 4.6       | 4.2       |    |
| Topsoil Moisture | Percent          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | Percent       |           |           |    |
|                  | Very Short.....  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 1   | 2   | 1             | 0         | 0         | 0  |
|                  | Short.....       | 5   | 4   | 12  | 6   | 11  | 15  | 10  | 17  | 8             | 10        | 4         | 1  |
|                  | Adequate.....    | 88  | 87  | 78  | 80  | 83  | 79  | 61  | 70  | 76            | 78        | 77        | 68 |
|                  | Surplus.....     | 7   | 9   | 10  | 14  | 5   | 6   | 28  | 11  | 15            | 12        | 19        | 31 |
| Subsoil Moisture | Very Short.....  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 1   | 0   | 1   | 2   | 1             | 0         | 0         | 0  |
|                  | Short.....       | 7   | 1   | 7   | 7   | 12  | 12  | 8   | 15  | 7             | 9         | 6         | 1  |
|                  | Adequate.....    | 87  | 94  | 84  | 81  | 80  | 78  | 90  | 78  | 80            | 84        | 83        | 76 |
|                  | Surplus.....     | 6   | 5   | 9   | 12  | 7   | 10  | 1   | 5   | 12            | 7         | 11        | 23 |

**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.J.:** Excellent growing conditions this week. Most corn and soybeans are looking great, though corn on sandy knolls beginning to show stress from lack of moisture. Second cutting of alfalfa beginning throughout the area.

**SAWYER-K.S.:** The last of first crop hay for those that only take two cuttings should come down this week. Second crop hay for those on a three cut system is starting to be cut. Putting up hay between the rain showers has been a challenge. Yields and quality are very good, assuming it gets put up properly. Lots of nice looking crops, more so than in recent years. Rains have been very timely for the most part. Cranberry crop about average. Some winter injury impacting fruit set.

**CLARK-R.H.:** Dry weather has allowed dry hay making this week. Many farmers are wrapping up first crop, some have cut small grains for forage, and some have started second crop hay. Much like last week, have seen manure tankers applying manure, corn planters and soybean planters in the field. Many are also side dressing corn with nitrogen. Many are wrapping up applying herbicides to crops. Make sure to continue scouting fields. There are reports of armyworms and slugs in corn. Continue scouting for leafhoppers in alfalfa after second crop.

**SHAWANO-J.N.:** After all the rain fall in the past month it's actually getting dry on the lighter soils. Corn condition varies from very poor to good, soybeans look good so far. With so much alfalfa ground plowed up this spring, a lot of oats and peas are being harvested for forage.

**LA CROSSE-I.H.:** Some farmers are working on harvesting oats and peas, others are still making first cut hay. The quality of the first cut hay at this point is very coarse. Some farmers are working on second cut hay. Spraying beans is still occurring, as some farmers had to wait until fields dried out before beginning. People in this area would be happy if there were more than three days of sunshine at a time. It would help get more of the field work done.

**ST CROIX-D.K.:** With the showers and adequate heat crops are progressing well ahead of normal. Most corn was nearly 6 feet tall on the 4<sup>th</sup>. There were small areas of hail early in the week.

**ADAMS-D.B.:** Dry weather got first cutting hay wrapped up and a start on second. See first sweet corn tasseling.

**WAUSHARA-K.W.:** Corn is rolling by afternoon. Need rain.

**WOOD-M.L.:** A much-needed dry spell allowed hay harvest to progress. Corn is starting to get good color again. Fields still have ample moisture.

**FOND DU LAC-B.B.:** A very cool and rain-less week. Corn height averages 36 inches and has been progressing well despite the cool weather. Soybeans, on the other hand, nearly stalled out this week. A very nice second crop is being put up with a good looking rebound on the way toward third crop. Weed and insect pressure remains well in check.

**VERNON-K.L.:** Beautiful week for farmers to catch up on fieldwork. First and second crop hay are being harvested. Winter wheat is short, but starting to turn color. Cool temps have kept the pastures growing.

**DANE-F.P.:** There is a lot of corn that is 4 feet to 6 feet in height. In some wet spots in fields it is 2 to 3 feet in height.

**WALWORTH-N.W.:** Some needed dry weather this last week. The temperatures have been cool until this last weekend. Some "holes" in corn and soybean fields from standing water.

**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 5, 2015**

| City       | Temperature |           |           |          |      |                         | Growing degree days<br>(modified base 50) 1/ |                          | Precipitation |              |                           |              |                         |
|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|------|-------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
|            | Avg. max.   | Avg. min. | High max. | Low min. | Avg. | Avg. dep. from normal * | Mar. 1 to Jul. 4                             | Mar. 1 to Jul. 4 normal* | Last Week     | Since Jun. 1 | Jun. 1 dep. from normal * | Year to date | Year dep. from normal * |
| Eau Claire | 77          | 53        | 84        | 45       | 65   | -4                      | 1131   | 993                      | 1.15          | 4.83         | +0.05                     | 14.28        | -0.75                   |
| Green Bay  | 76          | 52        | 83        | 47       | 64   | -4                      | 1057   | 894                      | 0.84          | 3.25         | -0.61                     | 10.22        | -3.22                   |
| La Crosse  | 78          | 58        | 84        | 51       | 68   | -4                      | 1384   | 1127                     | 0.57          | 3.70         | -0.86                     | 16.30        | +0.78                   |
| Madison    | 76          | 53        | 82        | 46       | 65   | -5                      | 1216   | 1103                     | 0.08          | 3.15         | -1.41                     | 13.87        | -2.07                   |
| Milwaukee  | 72          | 54        | 80        | 51       | 63   | -7                      | 914  | n.a.                     | 0.00          | 2.49         | -1.59                     | 12.71        | -4.23                   |

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. n.a.=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more 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/>