



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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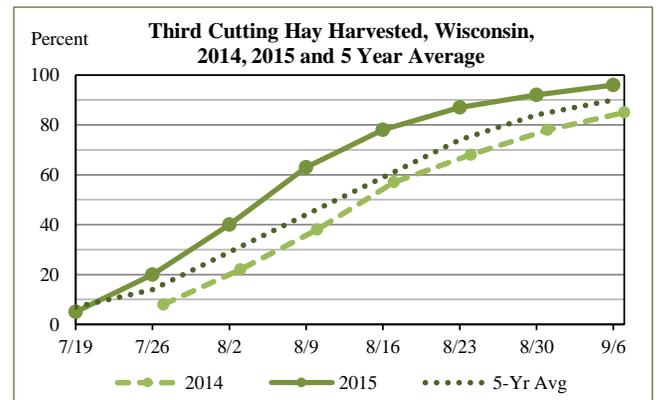
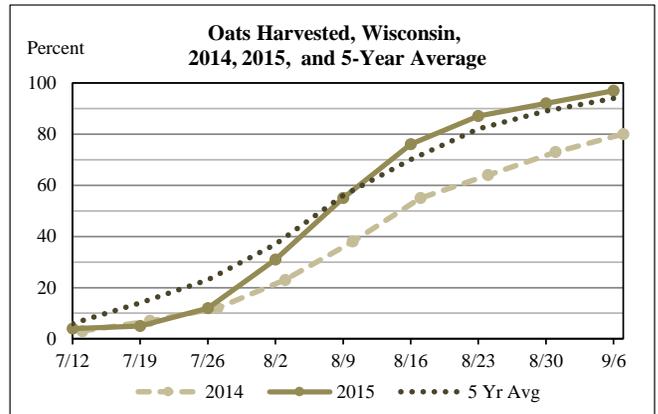
Hot, Humid Weather Boosts Maturity

There were 5.3 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending September 6, 2015, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Hot and humid weather provided a welcome boost to crop maturity this week, with temperatures 6 to 9 degrees above normal statewide. A midweek storm brought rain to the northern half of the state and there were showers and thunderstorms statewide on Sunday night. High humidity, fog and heavy dew made it difficult for hay to dry and reportedly contributed to the appearance of mold or mildew in some fields. Corn silage chopping and fall plantings were underway in some areas, with manure applications rounding out field activities for the week.

Topsoil moistures improved slightly with 18 percent short to very short on average compared to 21 percent the previous week. Subsoil moistures were 22 percent short to very short compared to 26 percent last week.

As of September 6, 56 percent of the **corn** crop was in or beyond the dented stage, one week ahead of last year and 1 day ahead of the five-year average. The corn crop was rated 77 percent good to excellent, equal to last week. Corn harvested for silage was 6 percent complete, 3 days ahead of last year but 6 days behind the five year average. Thirty-five percent of the **soybean** crop had begun turning color, 5 days ahead of last year and 2 days ahead the five-year average. Eighty percent of the soybean crop was rated good to excellent, 1 percentage point higher than the previous week. Ninety-seven percent of the **oat** crop had been harvested, over 3 weeks ahead of last year and 8 days ahead of the five-year average. Forty-four percent of **potatoes** had been harvested statewide, 10 days ahead of last year. Potato condition was rated 91 percent good to excellent, the same as last week. **Pasture** condition was rated 61 percent good to excellent, up 2 percentage points from last week. The **third cutting of alfalfa** was 96 percent harvested, while the **fourth cutting of alfalfa** was 49 percent harvested. This haying season continues at the second fastest pace in more than 35 years, trailing only 2012.

All hay condition was 78 percent in good to excellent condition, 1 percentage point up from last week. A reporter in Chippewa Falls County reported that **apples** that missed the hail earlier have a bumper crop, while damaged apples are being made into cider.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 6, 2015

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn.....	1	5	17	51	26
Hay, All.....	1	4	17	56	22
Pasture & Range..	3	11	25	46	15
Potatoes.....	1	2	6	71	20
Soybeans.....	1	5	14	53	27

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of September 6, 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, third cutting.....	92	86	97	97	97	98	99	97	98	96	92	84	90
Alfalfa hay, fourth cutting.....	56	25	49	56	49	50	44	61	27	49	30	24	37
Corn in or beyond dough stage	86	69	81	92	96	90	93	97	91	91	84	79	85
Corn in or beyond dent stage..	60	27	33	56	67	58	55	63	65	56	40	38	54
Corn mature.....	6	0	0	7	6	4	4	8	6	5	1	3	9
Corn harvested for silage.....	3	1	2	4	8	4	12	15	13	6	2	4	14
Oats harvested.....	94	92	90	100	97	98	100	100	100	97	92	79	94
Potatoes harvested.....	38	63	77	91	33	n.a.	37	34	n.a.	44	39	24	n.a.
Soybeans coloring.....	29	12	17	37	45	33	37	35	49	35	10	20	31

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of September 6, 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	4.2	4.5	4.0	4.6	5.3	5.7	5.8	6.5	5.5	5.3	5.0	3.6
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	4	1	0	0	5	12	3	3	4	0
Short.....	2	7	6	9	17	14	16	32	24	15	17	7
Adequate.....	80	92	77	81	77	75	65	52	71	73	70	75
Surplus.....	18	1	13	9	6	11	14	4	2	9	9	18
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	4	1	0	0	7	5	3	2	5	1
Short.....	3	8	10	10	17	26	27	37	24	20	21	12
Adequate.....	86	92	78	82	79	70	66	55	71	74	71	74
Surplus.....	11	0	8	7	4	4	0	3	2	4	3	13

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.: Mid-week downpour canceled field activities. Fourth crop hay wrapped up and corn silage harvesting starting slowly. Fall seeding going on around area.

CHIPPEWA-G.L.: Apples that missed the hail earlier have a bumper crop. Damaged apples are being made into cider.

MARATHON-S.N.: Humid conditions prevailed last week. The heat helped mature the crops.

FLORENCE-T.B.: Hot and humid week. Third crop hay and pastures still doing well for this late in the year. Drying time long with humidity and heavy dew in mornings. Oats harvest almost complete. Drying during the day still the issue.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Crops are maturing quickly because of the extreme temperatures. In corn fields, some corn husks are white, but not yet hanging down. Opening a few husks found corn dented. Farmers in this area may be chopping corn in the next week or so.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Warm humid weather has helped mature corn and soybeans but has stopped most progress in harvesting dry hay. Some corn is being chopped for silage on low fields that are getting wet from recent rains. Soybeans are beginning to turn color.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: A lot of hay came off the fields this week in this area. This is both third and fourth crop alfalfa. The high humidity for the entire week made getting the alfalfa dry enough to store away for feed somewhat of a challenge. Trying to do any harvesting of any remaining grain or trying to make dry hay would have been impossible this week, again due to the high humidity. This also made it uncomfortable to be outside. But these conditions were perfect for growing and maturing of the corn, soybeans and alfalfa, and unfortunately, for the weeds as well. The corn cobs are starting to dry down, along with the stalks. Chopping corn silage will be starting soon. The soybeans are still growing, with most of the fields in this area nearly thigh high in height. The leaves are starting to turn now. Not many leaves have fallen off the plants yet.

The one problem that is getting worse in a few areas are the weeds. For those soybean fields where herbicide was applied early, the weeds are making a comeback. But because of the plants' height and the maturity, not much can be done at this point. Even walking in the fields and attempting to remove the weeds by hand is a problem as all the plants are so tall that trampling of the beans will occur. Hopefully the weeds won't be too much of a headache when the harvest time comes. Manure continues to be hauled out, and some late season alfalfa has been planted. In the next few weeks, the first of the winter wheat seed should go into the ground.

VERNON-K.L.: A very hot and humid week! Good drying weather for corn and soybeans. Some early corn silage for bunkers getting started.

DANE-F.P.: Rain is needed for the crops of corn, alfalfa, soybeans, gardens, and lawns.

OZAUKEE-G.S.: Warm humid weather last week. Over all, most crops look good.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 6, 2015

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. 5	Mar. 1 to Sep. 5 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	82	64	87	54	73	+8	2351	2171	1.41	1.41	+0.66	28.96	+5.03
Green Bay	82	62	88	55	72	+8	2302	2033	0.14	0.14	-0.46	16.38	-4.35
La Crosse	86	67	90	58	77	+9	2806	2436	0.06	0.06	-0.60	22.79	-1.45
Madison	84	66	88	56	75	+9	2551	2373	0.00	0.00	n.a.	23.00	-1.46
Milwaukee	83	65	90	60	74	+6	2247	n.a.	0.28	0.28	-0.37	18.04	-6.67

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/>