



# Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



Upper Midwest Region - Wisconsin Field Office · 2811 Agriculture Drive · Madison WI 53718-6777 · (608) 224-4848  
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov

Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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For the week ending April 3, 2016  
Media Contact: Greg Bussler

## Heavy Rain and Snow Keep Fields Wet

There were 0.8 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending April 3, 2016, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Below-average temperatures, heavy rain, and snow kept farmers out of fields this week. This was in contrast to well above normal temperatures observed during most of the month of March. Warm days and nights and frequent rains caused extended periods of low or no snow cover during the month as well as rapid melting of the snow received. Reporters noted that mud and standing water in fields have prevented most fieldwork so far this year. Manure hauling was the most commonly reported activity, with isolated reports of tillage and oats seeding. Pastures, hay and winter cereals started greening up in response to March's warm weather, but reporters indicated that growth was now stalled by falling temperatures.

Statewide, **topsoil moisture** was 42 percent surplus, 57 percent adequate, 1 percent short and 0 percent very short. **Subsoil moisture** opened the season at 41 percent surplus, 57 percent adequate, 2 percent short and 0 percent very short.

As of April 3<sup>rd</sup>, **spring tillage** was 1 percent complete statewide, equal to last year, and to the five-year average.

**Oats** planting is reported as 1 percent complete.

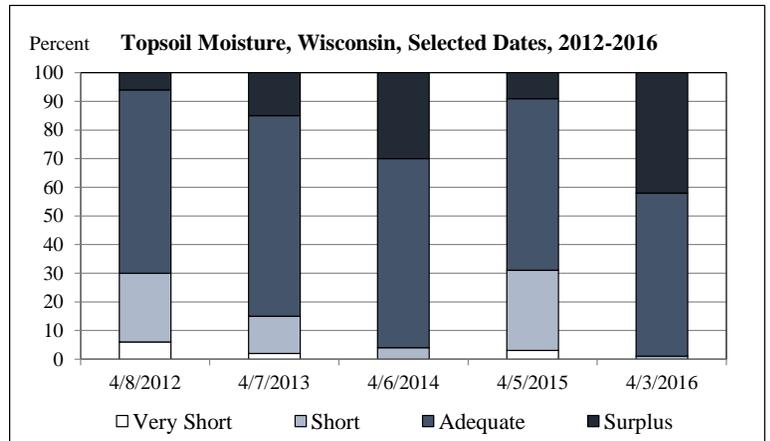
A few reporters noted the beginning of **potato** planting.

**Pasture** condition was rated 51 percent good to excellent compared to 23 percent on April 5 of last year.

**Winter wheat** was 79 percent in good to excellent condition statewide.

**Maple syrup** season is wrapping up in central Wisconsin, but continuing further north.

Reporters noted little winterkill in alfalfa and winter grains.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of April 3, 2016

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range	4	13	32	41	10
Winter Wheat.....	1	2	18	58	21

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of April 3, 2016

Item	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This Week	Last week	Last Year	
Days Suitable	Days									Days			
	0.9	0.0	0.9	0.9	1.9	0.4	1.2	0.4	0.5	0.8	n.a.	2.0	
Topsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent			
	Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.	3	
	Short.....	1	0	0	1	0	0	6	0	1	n.a.	28	
	Adequate.....	53	53	43	73	37	33	86	60	42	57	n.a.	60
	Surplus.....	46	47	57	26	63	67	14	34	58	42	n.a.	9
Subsoil Moisture	Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.	3	
	Short.....	1	0	0	3	0	0	8	0	2	n.a.	28	
	Adequate.....	52	16	43	71	56	38	89	65	57	n.a.	62	
	Surplus.....	47	84	57	26	44	62	11	27	44	41	n.a.	7

# 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-B.P.:** Very wet here-standing water in most fields. Over 2 inches or rain this week and 2 inches of snow. Could be a late spring? Maple sap collectors mudding out the sap.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Spring has gone back into the bottle here in the north. We had snow on Friday and Saturday morning and forecast for next week is cold with additional chances for snow. No field activity other than a little manure hauling and then only in the morning when the ground is frozen. Pastures and hay fields are starting to show a little green, but essentially no growth yet this spring. Winter cereals greened up with the warmer temps in March, but have started going backward now with areas of brown. Too early to tell how much winterkill in alfalfa.

**CLARK-R.H.:** March was very wet, soils are saturated. Pastures are becoming mud if cattle are on pasture. Home owners need to wrap up spring pruning.

**FLORENCE-T.B.:** A cold and wet week - temperatures were 10-15 degrees below normal. Rain and snow mixed to all snow on Sunday. Up to 2 inches snow cover.

**MARINETTE-N.S.:** Below normal temperatures and recent snow and rain contributed to wet field conditions. Very little field work being done at this time.

**ST CROIX-D.K.:** Rain and snow showers have held off any field work

**TREMPEALEAU-D.D.:** Just a good wet spring week. As far as I know no tillage passes were made but some more manure was field applied.

**PORTAGE-J.W.:** Three inches of snow Saturday kept activities slow. Manure hauling was the only activity.

**WAUPACA-D.L.H.:** The past week has been mostly cold and unfavorable for the beginning of spring field work. Another 1.6 inches of rain fell locally Thursday to continue the very soggy conditions. Two inches of wet snow fell on Saturday morning.

**FOND DU LAC-B.B.:** Two inches of rain during this period. We need things to start drying out and warming up.

**MANITOWOC-M.R.:** Saturated field conditions have brought any type of field work activity to a stop.

**CRAWFORD-J.B.:** Area farmers have been harvesting remaining 2015 corn, performing minimal spring tillage, applying animal waste and applying anhydrous ammonia.

**VERNON-K.L.:** The past week has had a combination of sun, snow, and over 2 inches of rain. A few farmers managed to spread fertilizer on pasture ground. Farmers dealing with mud everywhere. Looking forward to some sun and dry weather.

**GREEN-J.T.:** A few seeded oats this week. Overall, very little has been done.

**ROCK-D.C.:** Spring has been cool and wet.

**KENOSHA-R.R.:** Had over 1 inch of heavy rain. Water standing around.

**OZAUKEE-G.S.:** Cool, wet weather this week brought any notion of field work to a complete halt.

### Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on April 3, 2016

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 Apr. 2	Mar. 1 to Apr. 2 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	47	30	64	24	39	+3	58	3	0.59	3.29	+1.26	4.67	+0.82
Green Bay	47	33	55	26	40	+4	30	7	1.34	3.72	+1.50	6.20	+1.74
La Crosse	51	34	65	30	43	+3	71	16	0.95	3.64	+1.45	5.81	+1.45
Madison	50	34	61	24	42	+3	60	19	1.13	3.42	+0.95	5.65	+0.65
Milwaukee	52	34	61	27	43	+4	60	n.a.	0.83	3.50	+0.68	5.81	-0.50

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/>