



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

Vol. 16, No.8
Issued May 23, 2016

For the week ending May 22, 2016
Media Contact: Greg Bussler

Warm, Dry Conditions Favorable for Haying

There were 6.4 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending May 22, 2016, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. It was a beautiful week for planting, with very little precipitation and warm temperatures statewide. Fieldwork made quick progress with corn, soybeans, vegetables and potatoes all going into the ground. Many producers also started their first cutting of alfalfa during this window of excellent haying weather. There were some reports of varied impact of the frost on fruit and vegetable crops. Corn reportedly bounced back with the week's warm temperatures. Though this week's dry conditions were excellent for field work, rain is now needed to support crop emergence and growth.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 3 percent very short, 18 percent short, 71 percent adequate and 8 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 13 percent short, 81 percent adequate and 5 percent surplus.

Corn planted was 91 percent complete, the same as last year, and 13 days ahead of the five-year average. Corn emerged was 42 percent, 5 days behind last year, but 4 days ahead of the average.

Sixty-six percent of the state's expected **soybean** acres have been planted, slightly behind last year, but 9 days ahead of the average. Soybeans were 13 percent emerged, 4 days behind last year, but 2 days ahead of the average.

Ninety-five percent of the **potato** crop was planted, 4 days behind last year.

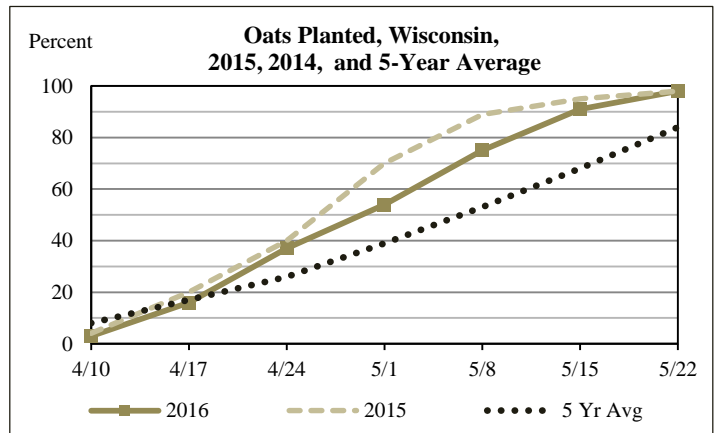
Oats planting was 98 percent complete, equal to last year, but 19 days ahead of the five-year average. Oats emerged was 81 percent, 5 days behind 2015, but 9 days ahead of the average. Oats condition was 84 percent good to excellent.

Winter wheat was rated 89 percent in good to excellent condition statewide.

The 1st cutting of **alfalfa** was 26 percent complete. **All Hay** condition was rated 82 percent good to excellent.

Pasture condition was rated 71 percent good to excellent, compared to 73 percent last week.

Spring tillage was 97 percent complete statewide, and over 90% complete in every agricultural district.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 22, 2016

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
All Hay.....	0	2	16	58	24
Oats.....	0	0	16	71	13
Pasture & Range	0	3	26	54	17
Winter Wheat.....	0	1	10	58	31

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of May 22, 2016

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.....	16	3	29	39	14	22	36	31	10	26	2	14	12
Corn Planted.....	91	92	88	92	93	89	95	93	80	91	76	91	69
Corn Emerged.....	37	22	12	53	44	25	55	52	32	42	17	61	30
Oats Planted.....	97	98	99	96	99	98	98	98	98	98	91	98	84
Oats Emerged.....	80	82	86	84	86	65	87	89	66	81	63	89	60
Potatoes Planted.....	86	70	88	100	99	n.a.	79	84	n.a.	95	85	98	n.a.
Soybeans Planted.....	55	89	72	58	60	77	71	66	48	66	33	67	39
Soybeans Emerged.....	5	8	1	13	11	15	12	12	24	13	1	28	9
Spring Tillage.....	97	98	95	97	96	98	97	97	94	97	89	93	77

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of May 22, 2016

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	6.7	6.5	7.0	6.0	6.4	6.7	6.6	6.4	4.9	6.4	3.8	5.2
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	4	0	10	2	3	2	6	1	0	3	1	1
Short.....	24	3	19	20	25	17	17	25	4	18	8	19
Adequate.....	65	85	64	72	68	76	74	61	82	71	78	76
Surplus.....	7	12	7	6	4	5	3	13	14	8	13	4
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	9	0	2	1	3	0	0	1	0	2
Short.....	14	0	16	18	15	12	12	19	0	13	6	24
Adequate.....	84	96	65	75	80	81	81	76	91	81	86	72
Surplus.....	2	4	10	7	3	6	4	5	9	5	8	2

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-L.H.: Need moisture.

CHIPPEWA-B.P.: Pastures and newly planted crops are in need of rain. Top soil is very dry except in low spots and springs. Winter wheat has improved some with the heat but still suffering from a hard spring. Many older alfalfa fields are really poor. Several nights this past week with temps dropping to 27 by early morning. Fruit trees and flowers really damaged. Soybeans were not out of the ground and very little corn was up, so no damage there. Five fields of hay cut and chopped in the area.

LINCOLN/MARATHON-K.S.: Frost May 16th, 17th, and 18th, which could affect fruit, ginseng, and early planted corn.

CLARK-A.K.: The top soil is getting dry but the weather next week will help with that. I dug about 30 post holes on May 21, the top soil was dry but the subsoil was very wet. Corn that froze is coming back, not so with the beans.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Winter wheat is looking very good. Alfalfa is starting to be cut but most will go another week or two. Just starting to see corn rows in a few fields. A lot of field work done this past week as the ground has finally dried out.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Corn and bean planting going strong. Sunny days make for long days in the field, but lots of work getting done.

ST CROIX-D.K.: Warm, dry week. Put lots of hay in storage. Early planted corn that froze two weeks ago is now recovering. We could use a nice shower.

JUNEAU-J.W.: Producers are finishing up planting and a lot of first crop hay has come off already. There doesn't appear to be significant damage to the grapes or apples in the area from the frost a couple of weeks ago. Corn may have gotten nipped a little bit and some early planted corn could have been damaged. Some winter wheat may have been nipped as well just as it was heading out.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Planting of corn and beans is going full tilt with the favorable weather of the past week. Some early planted corn that had emerged before the heavy frost mornings sustained considerable damage. Later planted corn and oats are slow to emerge with recent cold and now quite dry weather conditions. The alfalfa needs more warm weather and some rain.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: Nearly all spring crops have been planted. Producers were very busy the past few weeks getting seeds into the ground, helped by the extended period of dry weather. Temperatures have finally warmed to the point where it feels like spring, warming the soil and spurring the germination and emergence of the crops. Earlier this month, it looked as if the planting season would stretch into June, but that will not happen now. You would be hard pressed to drive around and find a field that has not be tilled and planted. Some of the crops planted in late April and early May are starting to come up. This includes the oats and even some corn. However, while the planting season went well, the soil is getting dry. Moisture will be needed to help the later planted crops germinate. It has been a few weeks since this area received any substantial rainfall, and at least an inch now would be welcomed. Some producers are cutting hay already. The alfalfa looks good and the tonnage should be okay too. The alfalfa along with the winter wheat made it through the winter in great shape. Yields of both crops should be pretty good. The first crop cutting will continue to be harvested for the next couple of weeks. There has been a push to harvest the alfalfa earlier in an attempt to get higher protein. This comes at the expense of reduced yields.

VERNON-K.L.: The area was hit with a second frost this week. Some emerged corn killed off but re-sprouting now. Grape and vegetable growers experienced losses due to both frosts. First crop hay looks really nice and some farmers starting to cut and chop. Everything could use a nice rain.

COLUMBIA-G.K.: Great week for field work. Hay making is underway. Some excellent quality alfalfa was harvested this past week. Farmers are deciding to either take high quality hay or wait for more quantity.

OZAUKEE-M.B.: Excellent week to wrap up corn and soybean planting. Now, on to first crop alfalfa harvest. Alfalfa harvest has just begun in the last couple of days. All things considered it has been a very good planting season.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 22, 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 May 21	Mar. 1 to May 21 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	70	37	81	27	53	-5	388	335	0.00	8.19	+1.13	9.57	+0.63
Green Bay	69	40	80	31	54	-3	281	281	0.00	5.75	-0.56	8.23	-0.34
La Crosse	72	42	82	30	57	-4	460	392	0.01	7.73	+0.16	9.90	+0.10
Madison	68	39	78	30	54	-4	367	385	0.02	9.96	+2.24	12.19	+1.95
Milwaukee	63	44	71	36	53	-4	274	n.a.	0.11	8.93	+0.51	11.24	-0.71

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/>