



# Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition

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For the week ending July 24, 2016  
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## Heat & Humidity Boosts Crops, Stresses Livestock

There were 4.2 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Daytime highs were in the upper 80s and 90s this week, with extreme humidity pushing heat indexes into the triple digits in many areas. This heat wave also brought multiple waves of thunderstorms, with scattered reports of wind damage to crops and farm buildings. Cut hay was slow to dry and livestock was stressed by the hot, muggy conditions. However, reporters statewide noted that corn and soybeans put on a burst of growth in response to the greenhouse-like atmosphere. Abundant soil moisture helped to support pollination and limit heat stress in crops.

**Topsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 6 percent short, 84 percent adequate and 10 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 8 percent short, 83 percent adequate and 8 percent surplus.

As of July 24<sup>th</sup>, 64 percent of the state's **corn** acreage had reached the silking stage, 4 days ahead of last year, and 6 days ahead of the five-year average. Corn condition was 86 percent good to excellent.

Eighty-six percent of the state's **soybean** acreage were at or beyond the blooming stage, 13 days ahead of last year, and 15 days ahead of the average. Forty-four percent of soybeans had begun setting pods, 8 days ahead of last year, and 11 days ahead of the average. Soybean condition was 86 percent good to excellent.

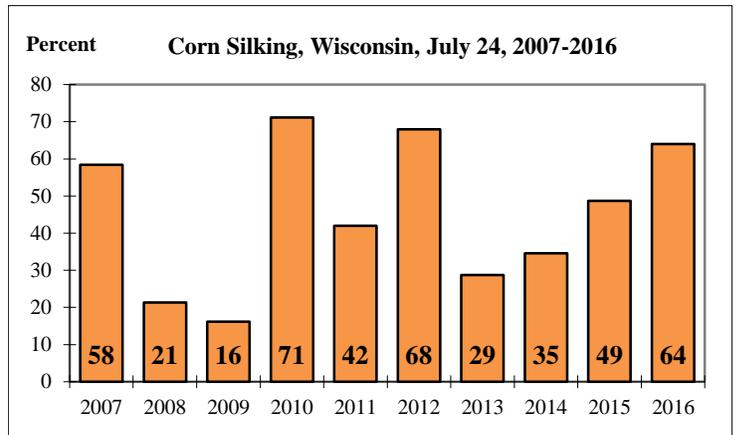
Three percent of **potatoes** had been harvested statewide. Potato condition was rated 94 percent good to excellent.

**Oats** were 87 percent coloring or beyond, 3 days ahead of last year. Oats for grain were 17 percent harvested, 4 days ahead of last year, but even with the average. Eighty-six percent of oats were in good to excellent condition.

Forty-five percent of **winter wheat** had been harvested, 6 days ahead of last year. Winter wheat rated 88 percent in good to excellent condition.

The second cutting of **alfalfa** was 92 percent complete. The third cutting was 31 percent complete. **All Hay** condition was rated 89 percent good to excellent.

**Pasture** condition was rated 77 percent good to excellent.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 24, 2016

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
All Hay.....	0	1	10	53	36
Corn.....	1	2	11	50	36
Oats.....	0	1	13	56	30
Pasture & Range	1	3	19	57	20
Potatoes.....	1	1	4	60	34
Soybeans.....	0	1	13	55	31
Winter Wheat.....	0	2	10	50	38

## Wisconsin Crop Progress as of July 24, 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, Second Cutting....	87	80	91	90	94	95	93	96	93	92	84	88	83
Alfalfa Hay, Third Cutting.....	34	22	24	25	15	38	27	55	40	31	14	16	15
Corn Silking.....	30	39	46	67	67	54	72	83	74	64	33	49	44
Oats Coloring.....	81	88	79	92	81	75	95	94	92	87	68	80	n.a.
Oats Harvested.....	5	11	9	19	15	16	31	32	10	17	8	10	17
Soybeans Blooming.....	82	87	66	79	91	90	90	91	84	86	70	62	56
Soybeans Setting Pods.....	36	25	13	33	28	34	42	69	65	44	23	23	15
Winter Wheat Harvested.....	19	7	9	8	35	41	31	66	57	45	11	16	n.a.

n.a.=not available

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of July 24, 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	4.4	3.8	4.2	4.4	3.7	4.8	3.6	4.4	5.1	4.2	5.1	6.0
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	2
Short.....	6	0	2	5	2	3	2	19	15	6	11	17
Adequate.....	79	94	81	87	82	88	87	70	78	84	80	72
Surplus.....	14	6	17	8	16	9	11	9	6	10	8	9
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	1	1	1	1
Short.....	8	0	1	5	2	4	7	18	35	8	11	14
Adequate.....	86	93	76	86	87	86	86	72	59	83	81	82
Surplus.....	4	7	23	9	11	9	5	6	5	8	7	3

# 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.J.:** Growing degree days are ahead of the 5-year average for our area. The area received two significant rainfalls this week and the crops are looking great!

**RUSK-G.P.:** Crops continue to do well. Had some heat this week, but some moisture to go with it so not much stress. Reports of some damage with the storm on Thursday morning, much more to the north of us. Spraying some alfalfa for bugs right now and spreading some fertilizer on hay as second and/or third crop comes off.

**PRICE/TAYLOR-D.E.:** Some second crop hay harvested but rain hampered efforts.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** It is like a natural greenhouse for the crops the last few weeks with high temps and plenty of moisture. Everything looks excellent. Milk cows suffered some in the high humidity days of this week. Had some high winds in a storm with a few buildings being damaged extensively in the area.

**LA CROSSE-I.H.:** With more than 3 inches of rain this week, fields are getting a little soft. The weather was a factor in keeping farmers from the field. However there is still a lot of second cut to be made and only a few persons are starting third cut hay. With the rain and hot weather the corn took off and grew very fast. Went to town in the morning and when I came back in the afternoon it seemed as if the corn grew at least two feet in height. Overnight it grew more until now it is way over my head.

**MONROE-B.H.:** Rainfall amounts varied widely across the county this past week with some areas getting very little, and some over 2 inches.

**PORTAGE/WOOD-J.B.:** The rains keep coming in perfect amounts, half inch to an inch at a time and a couple times a week for the past month. Little hard to make dry hay but the rest of the crops overall are very, very good for what is normally the hottest, driest time of year.

**WAUSHARA-K.W.:** Received 2-3 inches of rain in area Thursday through Sunday, 7/24.

**KEWAUNEE-T.S.:** The weather became very sultry in the past week and the crops responded by growing even more. The weather may not have been the best for harvesting winter wheat because of the higher humidity but more than a few acres have been harvested.

Yields were in the 60 to 70 bushel per acre range, with moisture content at 12 to 14% before the oppressive heat came into play. Little to no wheat was taken off late week. These same conditions are also making it difficult to make dry hay. While most of second crop is off and even some third crop too, some producers have hay cut they want to bale. They are being forced to wait until the humidity goes down in order for the drying to improve. The corn and soybeans are really looking good at this time. The corn is almost all tasseled out and it is getting tall. The soybean crop is also doing well. The plants are knee high and are starting to blossom and set pods. Adequate moisture over the past couple of weeks has really spurred the growth of these two crops. And with more rain chances in the forecast, the condition of the corn and beans should remain good. The rain has also caused the third crop hay to grow. If it keeps on the way it is, yields of third crop could be better than second crop. The oat crop is getting close to harvest, but it may be early August before this crop comes off. The plants are tall, meaning a lot of straw and, unfortunately, a better chance for lodging to occur. There hasn't been much lodging in the winter wheat and even in the oats, it is not all over. Some weeds are starting to show up in the wheat and oat fields, increasing the harvest pace somewhat in order to stay ahead of them. The heat and humidity has been tough on animals. Producers are reminded to keep them watered and provide adequate shade and ventilation.

**VERNON-K.L.:** Hot and humid this past week. Perfect weather for the corn that is tasseling. Rain in amounts of 1.0 - 3.5 inches throughout the county. Farmers anxiously awaiting some dry weather so that small grains and hay can be harvested. Crops overall look good to excellent. Vernon County has been fortunate not to have encountered any major storm damage to crops thus far.

**COLUMBIA-G.K.:** High winds from storms caused some lodging in oats, wheat, and corn fields. Some much needed rain arrived this past week.

**WALWORTH-N.W.:** Rainfall waited until Farm Technology Days were over. It was well needed with 1 - 2 inches received in the county.

### Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 24, 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 Jul 23	Mar. 1 to Jul 23 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	87	65	93	59	76	+4	1604	1406	0.75	9.32	+2.21	21.73	+4.35
Green Bay	86	63	90	58	74	+4	1469	1293	0.92	6.59	+0.66	17.77	+2.19
La Crosse	88	69	94	64	79	+5	1879	1582	3.07	11.74	+4.59	24.34	+6.32
Madison	87	67	94	61	77	+5	1670	1539	2.81	8.81	+1.88	22.74	+4.41
Milwaukee	89	69	93	64	79	+7	1567	n.a.	1.54	5.18	-0.98	16.99	-2.09

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/>