



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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For the week ending April 30, 2017
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Cold, Wet Weather Limits Fieldwork

There were 2.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending April 30, 2017, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. After a promising start to the week, rainy and cold conditions returned late in the week and kept most fields too muddy for fieldwork. There was some planting of oats, corn, and potatoes on well-drained areas early in the week, but was stopped by the rain and snow later in the week. Manure hauling continues when field conditions allow.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 52 percent adequate and 48 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 59 percent adequate and 41 percent surplus.

As of April 30th, **spring tillage** was 21 percent complete statewide, 11 days behind last year and 8 days behind the five-year average.

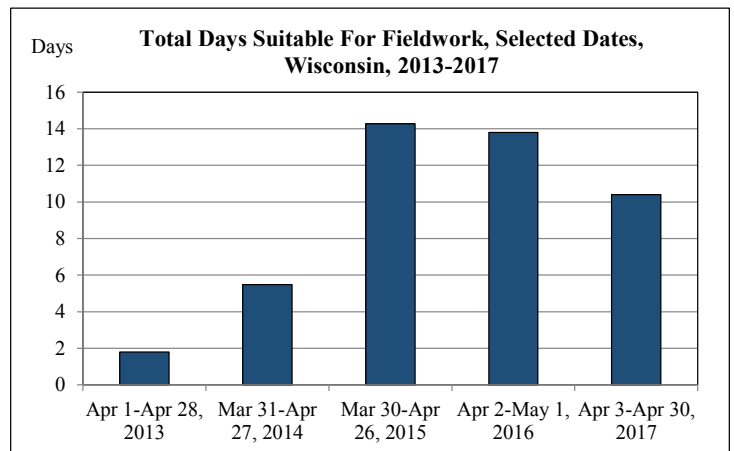
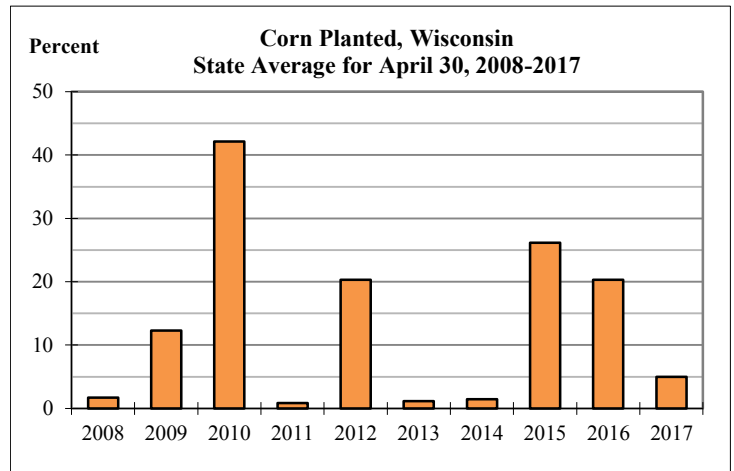
Corn planting was 5 percent complete, 10 days behind last year, and 6 days behind the five-year average.

Oats planting was reported as 33 percent complete, 7 days behind last year, and 5 days behind the 5 year average. Oats emerged was at 17 percent, 1 day ahead of both last year and the 5 year average.

Potatoes planting is reported as 27 percent complete, 8 days behind last year.

Pasture condition was rated 68 percent good to excellent, compared to 55 percent in good to excellent last week.

Winter wheat was 64 percent in good to excellent condition statewide, unchanged from last week.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of April 30, 2017

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture & Range	1	3	28	54	14
Winter Wheat.....	3	6	27	48	16

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of April 30, 2017

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			
Corn Planted.....	1	3	1	4	2	1	13	7	4	5	1	20	14
Oats Planted.....	31	13	18	29	34	13	65	55	42	33	19	52	44
Oats Emerged.....	7	1	1	17	16	2	44	33	18	17	5	16	16
Potatoes Planted.....	11	0	6	16	32	n.a.	62	91	n.a.	27	17	51	n.a.
Spring Tillage.....	19	6	10	25	28	13	36	21	24	21	13	51	36

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of April 30, 2017

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable.....	2.9	1.4	2.1	3.2	3.0	1.9	3.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.9	4.0
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short.....	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
Adequate.....	82	39	41	71	29	16	82	51	45	52	63	77
Surplus.....	14	61	59	29	71	84	18	49	55	48	36	18
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short.....	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Adequate.....	80	38	35	78	37	21	98	62	48	59	67	84
Surplus.....	16	61	65	22	63	79	2	38	52	41	32	12

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.

POLK - A.M.: Cool damp weather has spring field work off to a slow start. Most small grains are planted and some spring tillage complete. Reports indicate a decent amount of winterkill alfalfa crops. Reports of colony collapse on bees.

BARRON - T.B.: Wet and cold most of the week. I saw the first corn being planted, and the field got snowed on by the end of the week. Growers getting anxious to begin planting, but the weather remains against them. Alfalfa hay seeding progressing, but slowly. Manure still being spread, but seems to be coming to the end. Alfalfa doubled in size last week, and stands look good with very little winter damage. Small grain cover crops are getting thick stands.

BAYFIELD/DOUGLAS - C.B.: About 2-3 inches of snow throughout the area this past Wednesday night and Thursday early morning. Recent temperatures have been below normal. No field activity.

CLARK - R.H.: Farmers just get going and then comes the rain and snow. Some field work and manure did get hauled early in the week. Today we have snow on the ground. Soil profiles have excessive water and will need a few days to dry before farmers will get back in field. Soil temperature is hovering around 42 degrees.

FLORENCE/FOREST/LANGLADE - D.E.: Extremely wet conditions have prevented spring tillage and planting. Some reports of winter kill on alfalfa, but it is hard to estimate the true impact with excess water laying in fields.

SHAWANO - B.R.: Getting both colder and wetter as we move into May. It will be a few days without rain before anything moves here. Winter wheat looking fairly good overall but still need to wait to determine the loss of alfalfa from winter kill.

LA CROSSE - I.H.: Off and on again rain kept most persons from accomplishing much in the fields. Although I did see some manure being hauled up and down the highway, having only 2 days when it was possible to get into the fields makes getting anything done almost impossible. Snow this week didn't help either.

ST CROIX - D.R.: Mostly tillage and fertilizer spreading going on since it has been cool. Alfalfa continues to look good and growing fast.

WAUPACA - D.L.H.: Very wet weather continues. Some winter wheat is showing stress from the continued wet conditions. Alfalfa is taking off, but we need more sunny dry days to get things really growing and the farmers in the fields.

GREEN LAKE/MARQUETTE - L.A.: Very wet soil conditions. We are making steady progress planting, but passing over many wet spots.

DOOR/KEWAUNEE - T.S.: Some direct seeded alfalfa went in this week as well as some oats. Manure storages are full and this wet spring is keeping everyone from hauling manure.

SHEBOYGAN/OZAUKEE/WASHINGTON - G.S.: Had a few good days to get into the fields. But the rain returned in the latter part of the week. Everyone is looking forward to dryer and warmer weather.

CRAWFORD - J.B.: Not much corn planting going on. Cold wet weather has now stopped field work.

SAUK - C.N.: Two nice days to start the week and to get something accomplished in the fields followed by rain throughout the rest of the week. Enough to stop all activities.

COLUMBIA - G.K.: Extremely wet conditions. Standing water on most fields. Will be a few days without rain before farmers can get into their fields to plant corn and soybeans.

GREEN - M.M.: Majority of oats and new seeding has been planted with much of it emerged. Some corn planters were rolling early in the week, but everything is now at a standstill with the rains. Majority of alfalfa looks to have survived the winter in good shape except for some older stands with poor fertility that are thin with heavy weed pressure.

KENOSHA - R.R.: Cabbage, oats, some corn planted. Field work been done and fertilizer spread and N putting down.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on April 30, 2017

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. 29	Mar. 1 to Apr. 29 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	58	38	73	31	48	-1	160	125	0.87	5.49	+0.92	9.56	+3.15
Green Bay	60	40	73	34	50	+2	158	104	1.09	6.46	+1.98	9.81	+3.10
La Crosse	61	42	75	32	52	+0	252	158	0.26	5.98	+0.83	9.83	+2.50
Madison	61	39	74	32	50	+1	210	158	1.82	7.63	+2.18	12.33	+4.33
Milwaukee	63	43	74	39	53	+5	207	n.a.	1.26	8.85	+2.67	12.86	+3.20

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/>

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.