



# 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. 17, No. 21  
Issued August 21, 2017

For the week ending August 20, 2017  
Media Contact: Greg Bussler

## Heat Needed

There were 4.8 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending August 20, 2017, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Temperatures were close to normal this week, with highs in the upper 70s and low 80s. Rain interrupted fieldwork midweek, with heavy precipitation in the northern part of the state and light or scattered rains elsewhere. In some areas, reporters noted that light and sandy soils were getting dry while in other areas the soil was still wet enough to cause nitrogen deficiencies. Some reporters commented that corn will need a late first frost to reach full maturity.

**Topsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 7 percent short, 84 percent adequate and 9 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 87 percent adequate and 11 percent surplus.

Fifty-one percent of Wisconsin's **corn** has reached the dough stage or beyond, 2 days behind the 5-year average. Five percent of the corn has reached the dented stage, 6 days behind the average. Corn condition was 71 percent good to excellent, 1 percentage point above last week.

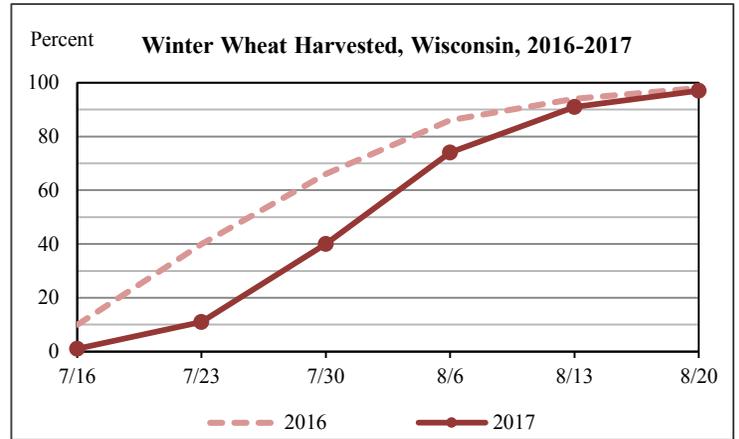
Eighty-seven percent of the state's **soybeans** were setting pods, 2 days ahead of average. Soybeans have just begun to color in the southern part of the state. Soybean condition rated 74 percent good to excellent, 1 percentage point below last week.

Harvesting of **oats** for grain was reported at 62 percent complete, 8 days behind the average.

**Potato** harvest was ahead of last year at 23 percent complete. Potato condition was rated 76 percent good to excellent, 4 percentage points below last week.

**Pasture** condition was 73 percent good to excellent, 3 percentage points below last week.

The third cutting of **alfalfa** reached 82 percent complete, 5 days ahead of the average. The fourth cutting was reported at 19 percent complete, 3 days ahead of the average. **All hay** condition was reported 80 percent good to excellent, 2 percentage points below last week.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 20, 2017

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
All Hay.....	0	2	18	58	22
Corn.....	2	7	20	50	21
Pasture & Range.	1	4	22	56	17
Potatoes.....	2	6	16	51	25
Soybeans.....	2	6	18	55	19

## Wisconsin Crop Progress as of August 20, 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			
Alfalfa Hay, Third Cutting.....	80	78	89	82	83	90	74	85	82	82	69	84	75
Alfalfa Hay, Fourth Cutting.....	15	4	18	5	18	11	33	38	16	19	7	27	14
Corn Silking.....	95	84	95	98	90	93	98	98	98	95	91	100	96
Corn Dough.....	52	15	22	53	50	43	79	54	48	51	34	69	54
Corn Dented.....	1	0	0	3	6	5	7	9	8	5	2	22	14
Oats Harvested.....	61	18	30	89	71	51	95	93	71	62	43	86	78
Potatoes Harvested.....	38	44	44	58	15	n.a.	20	10	n.a.	23	19	14	n.a.
Soybeans Blooming.....	97	99	97	98	95	88	96	99	94	96	92	100	95
Soybeans Setting Pods.....	89	99	94	90	83	73	88	93	79	87	77	93	84
Winter Wheat Harvested.....	87	80	88	98	94	97	97	99	99	97	91	98	n.a.

n.a.=not available

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of August 20, 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.....	4.3	3.8	5.0	3.8	5.8	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.3	4.8	5.2	4.1
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Short.....	8	0	3	4	24	3	12	3	16	7	7	5
Adequate.....	88	98	66	91	72	84	79	80	80	84	83	82
Surplus.....	4	2	31	5	4	13	8	17	4	9	10	13
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Short.....	3	0	0	3	11	2	1	0	1	2	2	6
Adequate.....	93	99	64	93	77	86	94	81	85	87	86	82
Surplus.....	4	1	36	4	12	12	5	19	14	11	12	11

**Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents**

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

**BURNETT/WASHBURN-P.H.:** Tough to make dry hay. Corn ears forming. Bear damage starting in the corn. Soybeans pods set and bottom ones starting to fill.

**RUSK-G.P.:** A cool week again. Concern if the crops are going to make it before frost. Had a significant rain event with 1 to 3 inches reported across the area. Need heat now and not rain.

**ASHLAND/IRON-C.B.:** Significant rainfall throughout the area. Fields are very soft. Not much fieldwork got done this past week.

**TREMPEALEAU-L.N.:** Very rainy and hard to get hay made.

**PORTAGE-J.W.:** Some hay making, manure hauling. Potato, beet, snap bean harvests continue. Sweet corn harvest started, good yields.

**CALUMET-K.P.:** Warm temperatures and a little rain during the week are making the crops happy.

**KEWAUNEE-T.S.:** Even though this area did not receive that much rain in the past week, the ground is still quite wet for this time of year. Around a half inch of rain fell, enough to make the wet ground even more wet. It is actually amazing that the soil is as wet as it is considering that we are in the month of August. Usually at this time the ground is so dry that any rain would be welcomed. This year, it's been hard to go beyond two or three dry days before more rain comes. This has made combining grain, and baling and chopping straw and hay difficult. Usually, the corn would be showing signs of stress from too little moisture about now, but this year, some corn is showing the stress from too much rain. Some plants are turning a lighter shade of green, indicating that they may be lacking some Nitrogen. This is especially true for the corn that was planted late. Some areas in lower fields have standing water, which is also true in soybean fields. The plants in and around the water are turning yellow or dying from too much rain. For the most part, though, the excess rain has really made the soybeans and corn look great. Many soybean fields are at least knee high, with some plants waist high. The yield of the bean crop should be quite impressive this year. The corn crop is doing great too, but some pest

damage is showing up in the fields near woods. Raccoons have enjoyed a resurgence this year, and they are doing damage to the corn crop especially. The third crop that hasn't been cut yet and the fourth crop alfalfa are taking advantage of the rain by growing very well. There should be a good crop of either of them by the time they are cut. Some manure has been hauled out, but with conditions being wet, this task has been slowed. At the present time, the only fields open are those where the winter wheat or oats had been, or if there are alfalfa fields that have just been harvested.

**VERNON-K.L.:** Corn and soybeans looking very good. Farmers working on direct seeding of alfalfa. Sporadic rain showers, higher humidity and cooler temperatures this past week. Pastures looking good for this time of the year.

**DANE-F.P.:** No farmers have made any corn silage. There will be corn field low spots that can only be harvested for silage. Very little fourth crop alfalfa has been made for either hay or haylage.

**WASHINGTON-K.R.:** Many fields of corn are showing signs of Nitrogen deficiency.

**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 20, 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 Aug. 19	Mar. 1 to Aug. 19 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	76	58	81	50	67	-3	1940	1896	1.90	12.93	+2.07	27.41	+6.17
Green Bay	78	59	81	52	68	+0	1933	1760	0.82	11.06	+2.00	24.16	+5.58
La Crosse	81	63	89	57	72	+0	2455	2121	0.51	13.88	+3.13	31.56	+9.80
Madison	79	59	85	51	69	-1	2074	2061	0.48	15.23	+4.66	31.89	+9.90
Milwaukee	79	64	83	57	72	+1	2149	n.a.	0.33	10.68	+1.23	28.47	+6.06

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/>