Heavy Rains Leave Standing Water

There were 3.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending June 24, 2018, according to the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. Northern Wisconsin saw widespread flood damage to rural roads and infrastructure in the aftermath of heavy rains received from June 16 through 18. This was followed by sunny weather for the rest of the week, allowing fieldwork to resume by the weekend. Southern Wisconsin saw daily showers and thunderstorms, limiting access to fields. Reporters noted standing water and crops showing moisture stress in low spots. Haying and spraying were the main tasks for the week, though conditions continued to be poor for baling dry hay.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 3 percent short, 82 percent adequate and 15 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 4 percent short, 85 percent adequate and 11 percent surplus.

Corn condition was 87 percent good to excellent, 3 percentage points below last week. Ninety-five percent of the state’s soybeans have emerged, 2 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of the average. Soybean condition was 84 percent good to excellent.

Oats headed was reported at 48 percent, 1 day ahead of last year, but 1 day behind the average. Oat condition was 86 percent good to excellent.

Potato condition was 82 percent good to excellent, 15 points below last week.

Winter wheat was 84 percent headed, 4 days behind last year. Winter wheat coloring was reported at 16 percent, 5 days behind last week, though conditions continued to be poor for baling alfalfa. The second cutting was 15 percent complete, 2 days ahead both of last year and the average. All hay condition was reported 82 percent in good to excellent condition, 4 points below last week. Pasture condition was rated 83 percent in good to excellent condition, compared to 84 percent in good to excellent condition last week.

The first cutting of alfalfa was reported as 92 percent complete, 2 days behind last year, but 6 days ahead of the average. The second cutting was 15 percent complete, 2 days ahead both of last year and the average.
WAITING and soybeans still small. Oats and spring wheat are however, the rain encouraged more weed growth. Corn, finished and started with second crop hay.

ADAMS/JUNEAU: Oats and winter wheat is slightly changing color. Other than a little spraying, little else was accomplished.

ASHLAND/IRON: wheat and other areas in the corn fields. Overall and the side dressing of nitrogen on the corn received in much of the county. It is time to get the weeds sprayed accomplished in the fields this week. Progressing well on first crop hay harvest.

ASHLAND/LA Crosse-LH: Rain this week slowed progress in the fields. Other than a little spraying, little else was accomplished.

ST CROIX: A week of rain and drizzle made it hard for the farmers to get corn and soybeans sprayed. Soybeans needed the rain. However, the rain encouraged more weed growth. Corn varies from just planted to well above knee height. Not good weather for putting up dry hay this week. Overall, the crops in the county look good. Pastures still lush and green.

BURNETT/WASHBURN-P.H.: Lots of first crop hay done this week. Close to starting second crop for dairy producers. Most corn over knee high. Soybeans still small. Oats and spring wheat are heading out but short due to lack of rain in early May.

CALUMET: Additional 4 inches of rain over the entire county this past week. It has bunched up the corn and soybeans sprouted. Soybeans needed the rain. However, the rain encouraged more weed growth. Corn and soybeans look good except where water is standing.

RAIL: Soybeans are looking remarkably good. Corn and some other crops heading out but short due to lack of rain in early May.

D.C.: We have had a lot of rain. Some conditions are too wet. Slow rain and drizzle made it hard for the farmers to get corn and soybeans sprayed. Soybeans needed the rain. However, the rain encouraged more weed growth. Corn varies from just planted to well above knee height. Not good weather for putting up dry hay this week. Overall, the crops in the county look good. Pastures still lush and green.

G.P.: Corn is growing very nicely with the rain and some heat. Soybeans are looking better. Second crop hay is in full swing. Wheat and other small grains are looking fairly good as well.

PORTAGE-D.Z.: Rains from 5 to 9 inches last weekend have slowed everything to a crawl. Getting behind on spraying and side-dressed nitrogen application.

RUSK: Corn and soybeans are looking very nice and the rain and some heat. Soybeans are looking better. Second crop hay is in full swing. Wheat and other small grains are looking fairly good as well.

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