



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Vol. 18, No.21
Issued August 20, 2018

For the week ending August 19, 2018
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Soaking Rains Miss Most of Wisconsin

There were 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending August 19, 2018, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Wisconsin once again experienced widely variable rainfall and above normal temperatures this week. Clear, hot and humid weather persisted early in the week before giving way to another wave of storms beginning Thursday. Rains were heaviest in the south-central portions of the state while northern Wisconsin once again received light to no precipitation. Reporters in these dry areas noted that non-irrigated crops and pastures were showing significant stress. Dry conditions had crops maturing rapidly, and some fields were injured enough that they may not fully mature. Farmers in many areas were planning to begin chopping corn silage soon. High humidity and heavy morning dew made baling hay difficult, even in areas where precipitation was minimal.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 7 percent very short, 25 percent short, 66 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 5 percent very short, 19 percent short, 73 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus.

Sixty-two percent of the **corn** has reached the dough stage, 5 days ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Eighteen percent of corn was dented, 8 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of the average. Corn condition was 75 percent good to excellent.

Ninety-six percent of **soybeans** have bloomed, 1 day ahead of last year and 4 days ahead of the average. Eighty-nine percent were setting pods, 4 days ahead of last year and 7 days ahead of the average. Leaves were coloring on 4 percent of the state's soybeans. Soybean condition was 75 percent good to excellent.

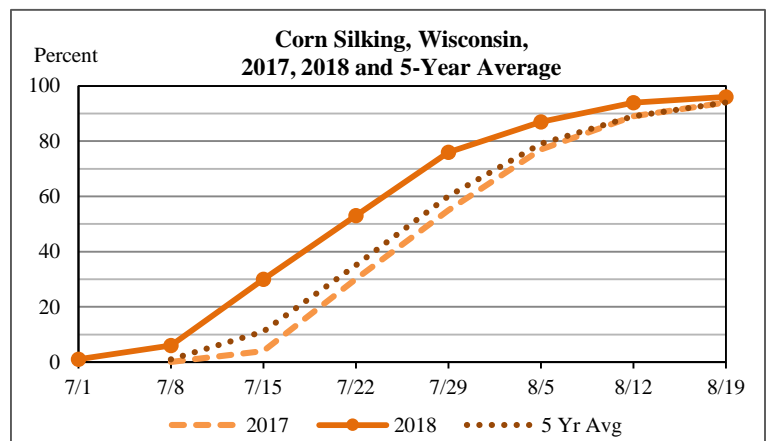
Oats harvested for grain was reported as 65 percent complete, 3 days ahead of last year but 2 days behind the average.

Potato harvest was reported as 16 percent complete, 11 days behind last year. Potato condition was 83 percent good to excellent.

Winter wheat harvest was reported as 96 percent complete, even with last year.

The third cutting of **alfalfa** was 79 percent complete, 1 day behind last year, but 5 days ahead of the average. The fourth cutting was 13 percent complete, 2 days behind last year, but 1 day ahead of the average. **All hay** condition was reported 76 percent in good to excellent condition.

Pasture condition was rated 63 percent in good to excellent condition, compared with 65 percent in good to excellent condition last week.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 19, 2018

Item	Very Poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn	2	5	18	43	32
Hay, All	1	4	19	54	22
Pasture & Range ..	2	8	27	44	19
Potatoes.....	2	4	11	55	28
Soybeans.....	2	6	17	47	28

Wisconsin Fieldwork and Crop Progress as of August 19, 2018

Item	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Alfalfa Hay, Third Cutting.	75	52	75	75	75	88	83	86	96	79	68	80	71
Alfalfa Hay, Fourth Cutting	14	4	3	7	7	15	25	16	13	13	6	17	11
Corn Silking	94	83	91	96	97	97	100	99	98	96	94	94	94
Corn Dough	54	29	41	65	63	44	83	73	57	62	45	49	49
Corn Dented.....	10	5	8	15	22	14	25	23	24	18	4	5	9
Oats Harvested for Grain ...	59	40	47	72	65	52	97	98	88	65	50	59	69
Potatoes Harvested.....	25	7	8	11	18	n.a.	22	14	n.a.	16	13	22	n.a.
Soybeans Blooming	98	88	94	99	94	86	100	99	99	96	93	95	94
Soybeans Setting Pods	93	73	81	92	88	79	94	95	93	89	80	86	82
Winter Wheat Harvested....	79	67	85	78	95	97	99	100	98	96	92	96	n.a.

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Supplies as of August 19, 2018

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	5.9	5.1	6.3	5.9	6.2	6.2	4.7	4.0	5.0	5.4	5.9	4.8
Topsoil Moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very Short.....	11	0	0	15	16	14	0	0	2	7	6	0
Short.....	44	26	36	37	17	38	2	13	19	25	28	7
Adequate	45	74	64	48	67	48	98	73	79	66	65	84
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	2	1	9
Subsoil Moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very Short.....	10	0	0	9	12	12	0	0	3	5	4	0
Short.....	18	16	9	39	16	37	3	8	17	19	24	2
Adequate	72	84	82	52	72	50	97	80	79	73	70	87
Surplus	0	0	9	0	0	1	0	12	1	3	2	11

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.

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Another week of scattered rainfall. Some areas received over an inch, others only a trace. Most crops on sandy soils and hilltops are severely stressed or dead. Corn is starting to dent with some farmers looking to start chopping corn silage due to dry conditions. Soybeans are filling pods. Alfalfa growth is short for fourth crop as it struggles with the lack of soil moisture. Insect and disease pressure remains low. Weed control has been good with the exception of waterhemp becoming very visible in many soybean fields.

SAWYER-K.S.: Some very timely but spotty rains fell this week.

ASHLAND/IRON-C.B.: Continued very dry throughout the area. Some third crop harvest started on alfalfa fields. Grass hay is looking poorer every week due to the lack of rainfall.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Noticing soybean fields are weedy and a few have spots of brown. Spotty rain is good for corn but makes it difficult to make hay. Humid days also have an effect on the hay. Where the hay was cut and looks green on a good day, may be baled brown by the time a person can get to harvesting.

PIERCE/ST CROIX-A.M.: The past month has brought very spotty rain showers. Moisture is greatly needed. Crops are exhibiting stress in both corn and soybeans.

MARQUETTE/WAUSHARA-D.B.: Soybeans are starting to turn color in places due to being stressed during dry weather. Got some rain last week but more still needed

PORTAGE-D.Z.: Need some rain to finish off the crops

CALUMET-K.P.: A storm came through the north part of the county late last week, but the southern part of the county is still dry. If this dry weather we've had during August continues through the rest of the month, corn chopping season is not far away. Soybean fields look good across the county. Winter wheat fields are combined with just a few more straw bales to be taken off of the fields.

SHEBOYGAN/OZAUKEE-G.S.: Finally got some much-needed rain. All the crops will appreciate it. Combining progress is going well. Just a few producers in the area still working on it.

VERNON-K.L.: The county received a much needed 1-3 inches of rain this week. No storm damage encountered. Rain should help all crops, including the declining pasture fields. Corn and beans still looking good.

DANE-F.P.: This week we had from 1.5 to 6.0 inches of rain in the county. It was becoming very dry in this area. Corn, soybeans, and alfalfa are looking very much better. Several trees are showing a little color.

ROCK-B.K.: Several days of heavy rains. Soil is taking it in good. No ponding or washouts.

WASHINGTON-K.R.: Getting missed by rain.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 19, 2018

City	Temperature (degrees F)						Growing degree days (modified base 50) ¹		Precipitation (inches)				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal*	Mar. 1 to Aug. 18	Mar. 1 to Aug. 18 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date	Year dep. from normal*
Eau Claire	87	62	91	58	74	+4	2185	1877	1.30	9.18	-1.62	22.30	+1.27
Green Bay	85	62	88	57	74	+6	2091	1742	0.00	9.01	+0.09	21.74	+3.16
La Crosse	90	68	92	66	79	+7	2588	2100	0.89	8.58	-2.14	23.72	+2.16
Madison	84	64	88	61	74	+4	2249	2041	2.88	14.51	+4.08	33.10	+11.33
Milwaukee	82	69	88	65	76	+5	2162	n.a.	0.05	10.09	+0.75	25.77	+3.56

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.