



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 May 26, 2019
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There were 2.8 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending May 26, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Frequent rainstorms once again left farmers with little time for fieldwork this week. Soils remained wetter and colder than usual, and crop planting and emergence were well behind normal for the end of May. Pastures and fruit trees have been slow to develop and hay stands were still struggling to bounce back after widespread winterkill. With forage and hay supplies tight, some livestock producers reportedly may have to make their first cutting of alfalfa before the crop reaches optimal maturity. Reporters across the state noted that there would likely be some prevented plantings, and that wet field conditions were preventing herbicide and fertilizer applications as well as tillage.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 51 percent adequate and 49 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 53 percent adequate and 47 percent surplus.

As of May 26, **spring tillage** was 68 percent complete statewide, 7 days behind last year and 11 days behind the 5 year average.

Corn planting was 46 percent complete, 9 days behind last year and 14 days behind the average. Corn emerged was reported at 11 percent, 12 days behind both last year and the average.

Twenty percent of **soybeans** were planted, 11 days behind last year and 13 days behind the average. Statewide, only 1 percent of soybeans were emerged.

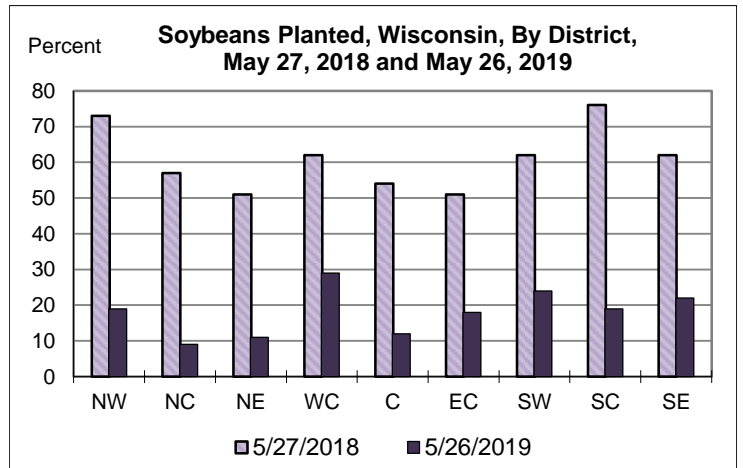
Winter wheat was 46 percent in good to excellent condition statewide, unchanged from last week.

Oats planted was 73 percent complete, 4 days behind last year and 11 days behind the average. Forty one percent of oats had emerged, 5 days behind last year and 13 days behind the average.

Potato planting was reported as 88 percent complete, 8 days ahead of last year but 3 days behind of the average.

All hay condition was reported 36 percent in good to excellent condition, down 1 percentage point from last week.

Pasture condition was rated 52 percent in good to excellent condition, up 5 percentage points from last week.



Crop Condition as of May 26, 2019

	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Hay (all)	20	17	27	28	8
Oats.....	3	7	30	47	13
Pasture & range...	4	12	32	38	14
Winter wheat.....	6	14	34	32	14

Crop Progress as of May 26, 2019

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Corn planted	49	23	22	59	33	30	62	54	42	46	35	77	82
Corn emerged.....	9	2	2	19	6	2	14	18	4	11	3	44	49
Oats planted	70	45	64	76	58	63	92	90	91	73	61	86	91
Oats emerged.....	33	10	21	35	16	35	67	73	75	41	28	59	73
Soybeans planted.....	19	9	11	29	12	18	24	19	22	20	12	59	59
Spring tillage.....	67	40	47	78	70	58	87	71	72	68	61	86	88

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of May 26, 2019

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
Days suitable	2.6	2.3	2.2	3.8	3.5	2.1	3.3	2.5	1.5	2.8	4.2	5.7
Topsoil moisture										(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Adequate	41	22	29	51	40	42	84	64	45	51	61	76
Surplus	59	78	71	49	60	58	16	36	55	49	39	7
Subsoil moisture										(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Adequate	49	23	33	56	47	38	89	65	45	53	62	83
Surplus	51	77	67	44	53	62	11	35	55	47	38	7

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

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

NW—BARRON-T.B.: Torrential rain early in the week halted field activities until Thursday and turned the holiday weekend into a working one. Alfalfa hay that survived the winterkill was in the bud stage by the end of the week and hay harvest should be going full steam in the upcoming week, along with planting operations.

NW—BURNETT/WASHBURN-P.H.: Still very wet. High ground planted but need to wait on low ground. Still lots of corn and soybeans to plant. Very few alfalfa fields were saved. Grass hay and grass pastures are very slow to grow as well. Hay could be very short this year.

NW—SAWYER-K.S.: More rain fell over the weekend further delaying planting and slowing down fieldwork. Alfalfa injury is quite apparent with upwards of 75-80 percent kill in some areas. Pastures are looking good, however, cool wet temps are slowing emergence of corn and soybeans. We could use some warm days to dry things out so farmers can plant what they can.

NC—ASHLAND/IRON-K.R.: Soils are extremely wet as a whole. Earlier crops planted are germinating but have yet to emerge.

NC—MARATHON-A.N.: It feels like natural cycles are 3-4 weeks behind normal. Hay prices are high.

NE—MENOMINEE/SHAWANO-E.S.: The county received over an inch of rain three times in the last week, making it hard for farmers to get their crops in the ground. Many producers have been drilling grass mixes or clover on top of poor alfalfa fields to get some kind of hay. There are concerns with a large hay shortage due to hay stocks already being low from last year's April blizzard and the patchy winterkill this year.

NE—OCONTO-G.J.: Another mid-week rain event of 0.8 inches. All fields are extremely wet. Thoughts of prevent plant are very real. More rain expected over the holiday weekend. Reports of alfalfa being harvested. Not much growth yet.

WC—LA CROSSE-I.H.: 4.0 inches of rain last week prevented much progress. Hay fields are looking poorer, plus the absence of feed on hand leads many farmers to chop the existing short hay for feed. Some farmers are having trouble getting enough feed on hand. The fields which previously looked good are showing more signs of the previous winter's stress. While the fields look green, not much can be harvested when it is so short. Some farmers hauled manure during the week, but had to go around wet spots in the fields. Rain is predicted for this coming week as well. Not many corn fields planted.

C—PORTAGE/WOOD-J.W.: Weekend rainfall stalled planting. Some progress made with corn planting, very little on heavier soils. Potato fertilizing and hilling started on early plantings. Fields becoming very weedy where tillage has not begun. Apple trees blooming. Wood ticks, mosquitoes and gnats are present.

C/EC—OUTAGAMIE/WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Saturday's nice weather was short lived - back to rain and very cool conditions.

EC/SE—SHEBOYGAN/OZAUKEE-M.B.: As the spring is advancing it is becoming clearer how severe the winter wheat and alfalfa losses have been. Planting has not yet started on heavy soils in the area.

SW—VERNON-K.L.: Continued rain and cool weather. First cutting of alfalfa this past week. Farmers planting in fields that are wetter than preferred. Looks like there is going to be prevented planting above normal this year.

SC—COLUMBIA-G.K.: Farmers had two very long days of planting this week in between rain storms. Soils are wetter than we would like to see. Major switching to soybeans is expected this week.

SC—ROCK-B.K.: Very wet. Producers are struggling to find small windows in between rains to plant. A lot of prevent plant discussions are taking place around the county.

SE—WASHINGTON-K.R.: Not the best weather so far this year.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 26, 2019

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 May 25	Mar. 1 to May 25 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire.....	63	44	74	34	53	-6	283	374	1.34	9.84	+2.28	14.64	+5.26
Green Bay	65	48	84	40	56	-2	258	314	1.22	9.01	+2.34	14.06	+5.17
La Crosse	68	49	80	42	59	-3	392	432	1.29	10.56	+2.50	15.76	+5.53
Madison.....	68	50	80	41	59	0	369	425	3.20	11.34	+3.19	17.44	+6.81
Milwaukee.....	69	49	83	42	59	+1	295	NA	2.91	11.46	+2.65	17.24	+4.93

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. NA=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more weather data, please reference the following sites:
<https://www.noaa.gov/> <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/> <https://www.cocorahs.org/> <https://www.weather.gov/>

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