Wisconsin had 4.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending July 21, 2019, according to the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. Very hot and humid conditions boosted crop growth this week, while frequent thunderstorms interrupted fieldwork and hay baling. Severe straight line winds and a few tornadoes damaged crops, farm buildings, trees and powerlines in many areas. Some areas of the state received torrential rains, with some flooding, erosion damage and ponding reported. The most damaging weather reportedly occurred from Thursday night through Saturday afternoon. Cooler, more stable air had moved into the state by Sunday but reporters noted that many fields were once again too wet to support machinery. Some reporters were concerned that lodged small grains may not stand back up before harvest time, while others noted that flattened crops were recovering already.

**Topsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 71 percent adequate and 27 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 72 percent adequate and 27 percent surplus.

**Corn** silking was reported at 10 percent complete, 12 days behind last year and 8 days behind the 5-year average. Corn condition was 60 percent good to excellent, unchanged from last week.

Ninety six percent of **soybeans** had emerged. Soybeans blooming was reported at 29 percent, 13 days behind last year and 11 days behind the average. One percent of soybeans were setting pods. Soybean condition was 62 percent good to excellent, down 2 percentage points from last week.

**Winter wheat** had 97 percent headed. Eighty two percent of winter wheat acres were coloring, 10 days behind both last year and the average. Winter wheat harvest has begun with 1 percent harvested for grain. Winter wheat condition was 59 percent good to excellent, up 3 percentage points from last week.

Eighty eight percent of **oats** had headed, 9 days behind last year and 11 days behind the average. Forty percent of oats had colored, 10 days behind the average. Oat condition was 70 percent good to excellent, unchanged from last week.

**Potato** condition was 74 percent good to excellent, down 9 percentage points from last week.

The second cutting of **alfalfa** hay was reported as 62 percent complete, 11 days later than last year and 9 days later than the average. All **hay** condition was reported 49 percent in good to excellent condition, 2 percentage points above last week.

**Pasture** condition was rated 62 percent in good to excellent condition, up 1 percentage point from last week.
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—POLK-J.P.:** Tornado/straight line winds caused countywide storm damage on Friday night. Extensive, massive damage to buildings and crops. Many still without power 2 days later. Lots of unknown damage yet. Can't get to areas.

**NW—RUSK/SAWYER-S.V.:** Severe rain and wind storms Monday (07/15) and over weekend has flattened some of the corn, soybeans, oats and hay crops.

**NC—CLARK/PRICE/TAYLOR-L.S.:** Severe storms rolling though last week, especially 7/19-20 did lots of damage to fields, trees, and residences. With many places receiving over 5 inches of rain last week, everything is saturated.

**NE—OCONTO-G.J.:** 90 mph winds, some crop damage.

**NE—SHAWANO-B.R.:** Storms brought heavy rains to many of us late in the week with totals of 2-5 inches. Some of the taller corn fields got hit hard with strong winds causing them to lodge badly. While there was some hail, it did not appear to cause much damage. Many trees were down from the storms. Once again it is now very wet in the fields with standing water in many spots. It was a difficult week to make haylage due to the various rains.

**WC—BUFFALO/PEPIN-M.L.:** Parts of our county received 6 plus inches of rain between Thursday evening and Saturday morning, on top of the inch and a half earlier in the week. Still waiting to hear from producers if flash flooding was a problem. However, the heat and humidity from between rainfall events made for some quick changes in corn and soybean conditions.

**WC—TREMPEREAU-L.N.:** Hot, humid weather with daily rain doses are helping with plant growth but do not lend well to crops. Record prevent plant acres. Wheat is getting close to looks good. A lot of uneven growing conditions on later planted crops. And then there are the crops that were planted very late. That is mainly corn, but there is also some soybeans in this category. These crops are growing too, but in both cases are only about 3 to 4 inches high. It’s unlikely that these crops will come close to maturing but they can be used for feed, which is the main reason they were planted (and perhaps for the upcoming Market Facilitation Program payments). A few producers have been direct seeding alfalfa and have also been planting sorghum sudan grass. And yes, there still are fields that have not been planted yet. These fields may remain idle for this year or they may be planted to winter wheat later. Or, these may be covered in manure. More than a few pits and other manure structures are getting full and will have to be emptied.

**SW—VERNON-K.L.:** 4 to 6 inches of rain Thursday night. Some livestock losses, property damage.

**SC—DANE-F.P.:** There are some corn fields which are shooting tassels, and a couple of fields that are showing silks. I saw a couple of wheat fields that have been combined.

**SC—GREEN-J.T.:** This county has some of the best looking corn in the southern part of the state, but none of it will produce the excellent yields we’ve seen the past couple years.

**SE—WALWORTH-N.W.:** The corn that was planted in April looks good. A lot of uneven growing conditions on later planted crops. Record prevent plant acres. Wheat is getting close to harvest. Weather looks favorable this coming week for getting it off.

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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 21, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Growing degree days (modified base 50)</th>
<th>Precipitation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Avg. max.</td>
<td>Avg. min.</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eau Claire........</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Bay ..........</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>92</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milwaukee..........</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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/

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.