



# 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. 19, No.21  
Issued August 19, 2019

For the week ending August 18, 2019  
Media Contact: Greg Bussler

Wisconsin had 4.9 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending August 18, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Summer warmth and scattered thunderstorms created another excellent week for crop development, though crop progress remains behind average. Corn and soybeans were well into the pollination phase and busily making grain. Plenty of warmth and a late frost are needed to make sure corn and soybeans fully mature by harvest time. Reporters commented that corn fields were still uneven and some late planted spots would need to be harvested as silage. The small grains harvest was in full swing, while canning vegetables were nearing completion and the potato harvest was taking off. Reporters in some areas noted very good conditions for baling dry hay and straw this week, while other areas received frequent showers. Fall forages and cover crops were being planted in cleared fields.

**Topsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 9 percent short, 81 percent adequate and 10 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 5 percent short, 80 percent adequate and 15 percent surplus.

**Corn** silking was reported at 84 percent complete, 15 days behind last year and 13 days behind the 5-year average. Thirty-one percent of corn has reached the dough stage, 12 days behind last year and 9 days behind the average. Three percent of corn was dented. Corn condition was 63 percent good to excellent, unchanged from last week.

**Soybeans** blooming was reported at 83 percent, 17 days behind last year and 16 days behind the average. Sixty-four percent of soybeans were setting pods, 13 days behind the average. Soybean condition was 65 percent good to excellent, down 1 percentage point from last week.

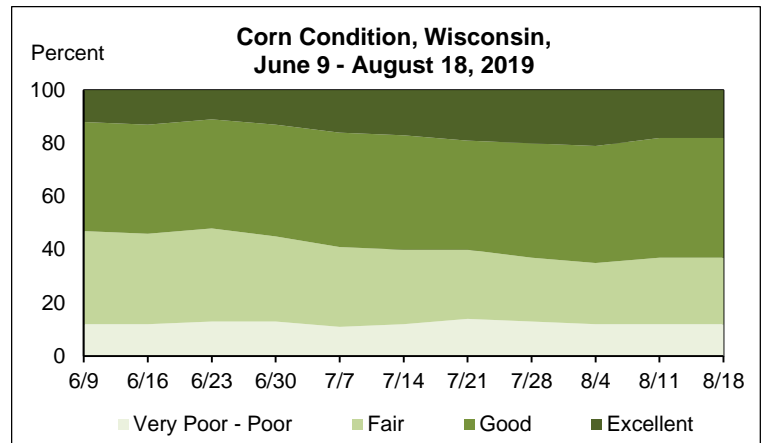
**Winter wheat** harvest was reported as 86 percent complete, 10 days behind last year and 8 days behind the average.

Ninety-two percent of **oats** were coloring or beyond, 12 days behind the average. Oats were 56 percent harvested, 3 days behind last year and 5 days behind the average. Oat condition was 70 percent good to excellent, down 1 percentage point from last week.

**Potato** harvest was reported as 12 percent complete, a week behind last year and 8 days behind the average. Potato condition was 81 percent good to excellent, down 2 percentage points from last week.

The second cutting of **alfalfa** hay was reported as 95 percent complete, 15 days later than last year and 13 days later than the average. The third cutting was reported as 57 percent complete, 11 days behind last year and 10 days behind the average. The fourth cutting has begun in some districts, with 3 percent complete statewide. **All hay** condition was reported 56 percent in good to excellent condition, down 2 percentage points from last week.

**Pasture** condition was rated 62 percent in good to excellent condition, down 1 percentage point from last week.



### Crop Condition as of August 18, 2019

	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn .....	3	9	25	45	18
Hay (all) .....	5	10	29	39	17
Oats.....	2	6	22	51	19
Pasture & range...	2	7	29	45	17
Potatoes .....	4	5	10	55	26
Soybeans .....	2	7	26	44	21

### Crop Progress as of August 18, 2019

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay, second cutting .....	98	74	99	94	95	100	96	99	99	95	93	100	99
Alfalfa hay, third cutting.....	67	23	69	49	44	64	61	70	71	57	42	77	75
Corn silking.....	80	70	80	85	80	85	90	92	74	84	72	96	95
Corn dough.....	18	20	9	29	36	21	50	43	25	31	14	60	53
Oats coloring .....	89	75	97	90	93	94	95	97	99	92	87	97	98
Oats harvested .....	53	19	49	68	44	44	81	82	86	56	40	63	67
Soybeans blooming .....	82	84	78	89	88	84	81	85	69	83	75	96	96
Soybeans setting pods.....	50	45	66	75	64	58	67	74	52	64	50	88	86
Winter wheat harvested .....	70	38	77	72	77	84	75	96	94	86	69	95	94

### Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of August 18, 2019

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)
Days suitable .....	5.0	5.3	5.7	4.6	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.5	5.1	4.9	5.0	5.4
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short .....	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	7
Short.....	16	8	10	12	2	5	6	7	18	9	7	25
Adequate .....	74	78	64	82	88	82	92	79	78	81	80	66
Surplus .....	8	13	26	6	10	12	2	14	4	10	12	2
Subsoil moisture												
Very short .....	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
Short.....	8	3	0	4	2	5	4	6	13	5	5	19
Adequate .....	80	65	52	89	80	78	93	77	78	80	81	73
Surplus .....	12	32	48	7	18	16	3	17	9	15	14	3

# 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.

**NW—BURNETT/WASHBURN-P.H.:** Corn mostly pollinated. Ears filling kernels on majority of corn. Bears damaging fields now. Soybeans setting and filling pods. Was getting dry until rain on Saturday night. Still will need more rain for corn and soybean filling.

**NW—RUSK-G.P.:** A good week for crops, warm and sunny. Quite a bit of rain at the end of the week. Corn is still variable, but trying to even out. Soybeans looking better.

**NC—CLARK-R.H.:** Very difficult to string together 3 or 4 days of dry weather this summer. The pattern has been couple nice days then rain. Winter weather is still impacting plants. Answered many questions of trees dying this summer which may be related to winter stress and then the current wet conditions. Overall farmers continue to plant crops as some fields are drying out and they still need feed for livestock. Some will be planting fall small grains to cover forage needs later this fall and next spring.

**NE—SHAWANO-B.R.:** Rain forecast every other day this past week made for some delay of harvest for combining grains and getting third crop off. Both corn and soybeans are moving along well but we are now past the middle of August with both crops having a long way to go to maturity.

**WC—ST CROIX-D.K.:** Timely showers have helped crops along. We just need plenty of heat to finish them off.

**C—PORTAGE/WOOD-J.W.:** Fall seeding continues. Snap bean harvest has slowed with cooler temps. Wetter week stalled hay making

**EC—SHEBOYGAN-T.S.:** Sunshine, warmth, and a late-week shower gave producers opportunity for wheat and alfalfa harvest and getting straw baled; and gave the crops opportunity for good growth and maturity. Overall, crops are looking decent, despite the tough spring. Still a lot of unevenness, but they seem to have bounced back some.

**EC/SE—FOND DU LAC/WASHINGTON-B.B.:** Some nice rains this past week. We need more heat for the crops to take full advantage of the soil moisture at hand.

**SW—VERNON-K.L.:** Warm temps have continued to help the corn and beans progress. Many producers are doing third crop alfalfa harvesting due to having some nice dry days.

**SC—COLUMBIA-G.K.:** Hard to get much hay made or straw baled this past week. It rained at least every other day. Soil moisture for corn and soybeans is in great shape.

### Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 18, 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 Aug. 17	Mar. 1 to Aug. 17 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire.....	79	59	82	55	69	-1	1843	1859	0.77	10.50	-0.10	28.86	+7.95
Green Bay .....	77	60	81	55	69	+1	1860	1725	0.44	12.70	+3.89	28.63	+10.28
La Crosse .....	82	64	86	60	73	0	2291	2080	0.53	13.13	+2.63	30.04	+8.59
Madison.....	78	61	81	55	69	-1	2085	2021	0.55	12.94	+2.68	30.65	+8.92
Milwaukee.....	79	65	82	62	72	+1	1944	NA	0.38	9.17	0.00	26.99	+4.87

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/>

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.