



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

Compiled by the Wisconsin Field Office of  
USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

April 30, 2007

Vol. 07, No. 04

## Planting Continues Between Rains

Rain in the early part of the week kept most farmers out of the fields. Field activity picked up during the weekend on drier soils and between rainfalls. Temperatures reached the mid 70s and mid 80s during the week, while average high temperatures were in the 60s. Average low temperatures were in the mid 40s. Average temperatures were 4 to 7 degrees above normal. Rainfall totals were variable across the state, ranging from 0 inches in Eau Claire to 2.14 inches in Madison. The northern part of the state remains below average for rainfall since March 1. Soil Moisture conditions were at 2 percent very short, 10 percent short, 64 percent adequate, and 24 percent surplus. There was an average of 4 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

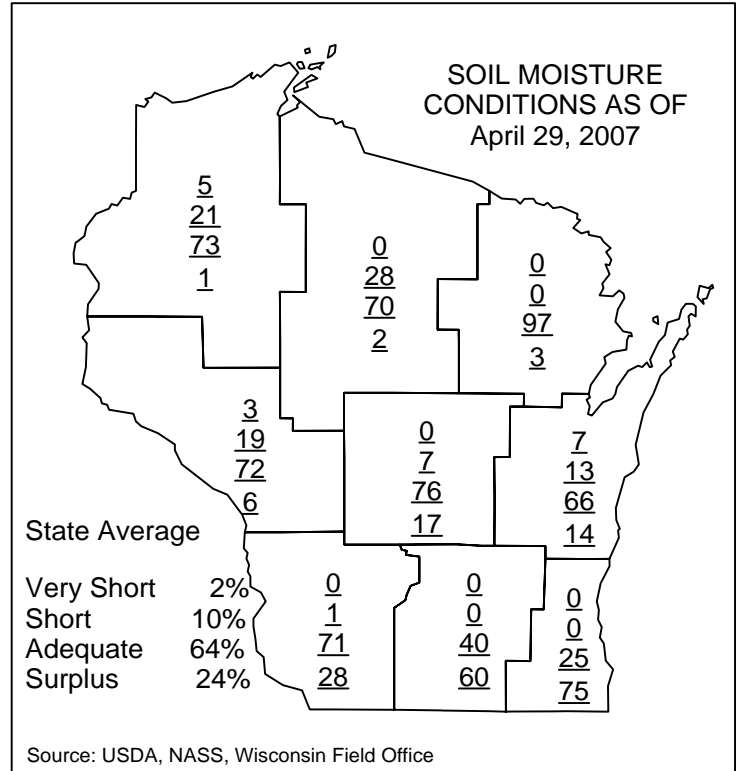
**Corn** planted was at 11 percent complete, below last year's average of 27 percent and the 5-year average of 16 percent. The majority of the planting occurred late in the week and over the weekend. There are concerns about soil temperatures in the northern areas of the state. Farmers in southern areas are apprehensive about the slow progress of planting, especially following last year's record corn planting pace.

**Oats** planted was at 55 percent complete, below last year's average of 76 percent and the 5-year average of 58 percent. Farmers are making progress across the state, as oats planted increased 36 percentage points from last week. Oats emerged was reported at 3 percent complete, below last year's average of 24 percent and the 5-year average of 19 percent.

**Spring Tillage** was reported at 31 percent complete, compared to last year's average of 49 percent and the 5-year average of 39 percent. Due to the rains throughout the week, the majority of work was done at the end of the week on well drained soils.

**Alfalfa** and **winter wheat** conditions appear to be improving across the state. There appears to be limited to no winterkill in both crops. **Pasture** conditions in southern locations deteriorated due to the large amounts of rainfall.

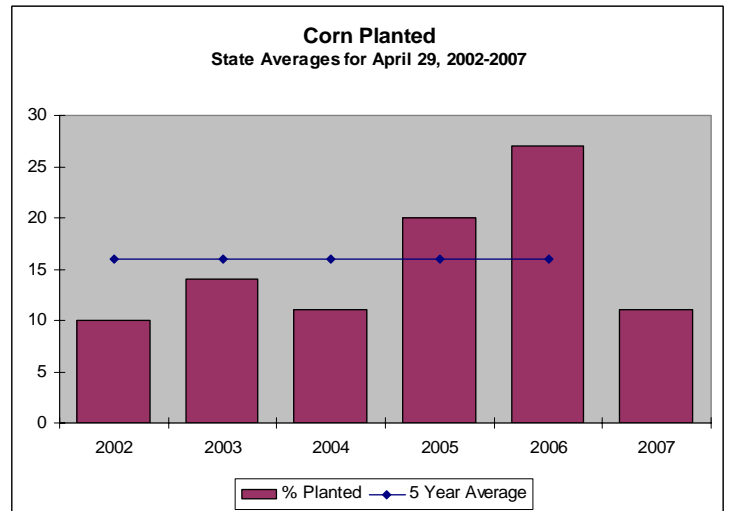
**Manure** hauling continued throughout the state. **Potato** planting continued in central areas and began in northern counties. Some central counties have nearly completed potato planting. Farmers continued to plant **peas** in central areas. **Fruit tree** buds continued to swell in central and northern parts of the state.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of April 29, 2007

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	1	3	20	57	19
Pasture	2	11	30	42	15

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



## Wisconsin Crop Progress, April 29, 2007

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This year	Last year	5-year average
Corn planted	14	7	6	19	8	10	10	12	2	11	27	16
Oats planted	65	18	33	69	41	43	77	68	22	55	76	58
Oats emerged	2	0	2	8	0	3	0	3	5	3	24	19
Spring tillage completed	41	24	31	51	31	27	32	22	21	31	49	39

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

**CHIPPEWA-T.P.:** Spring fieldwork is moving along at a rapid pace. Rain is needed to help low soil moisture levels.

**POLK-C.S.:** Alfalfa and winter wheat are greening up nicely; stand loss appears minimal.

**CLARK-N.S.:** Considerable progress was made this week in manure hauling, tillage, small grain planting, forage seeding, and some corn planting. Winter wheat looks better than expected. Pastures and forages have been slow to green-up, but are coming along now.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** We received 0.75 inch of rain mid-week which kept most of the farmers out of the field. Those that were able to get started have begun to plant corn and get some manure out. Alfalfa and winter wheat seem to have made good progress this week.

**SHAWANO-T.A.:** Fieldwork picked up heavily at the end of the week. Lighter soils have been worked up and many have been planted. Heavier soils are underway to being planting.

**BUFFALO-R.S.:** We received less than 0.20 inch of rain. Farmers plan to start planting now. Spring is three weeks late here. It is pretty dry and the soil is cold.

**TREMPEALEAU-D.D.:** Rain slowed progress this week, but now a dry spell will allow for rapid progress. Saturday and Sunday were very busy here, with corn being planted.

**PORATGE-D.Z.:** Alfalfa is off to a slow start. There is some leaf tip burn on winter wheat. We had a nice slow rain yesterday which was welcomed. Potato planting is still underway. Corn is starting to be planted.

**WAUSHARA-A.S.:** Both alfalfa and winter wheat look good, but rain and warmer weather would be better. Potato planting is nearly done. Some peas are also planted. Some farmers are ready to plant corn.

**FOND DU LAC-R.P.:** Winter wheat looks very good; little or no winterkill.

**OUTAGAMIE-K.J.:** Not much progress in fields due to rain on Thursday and Friday. Northern parts of the county received near 1.0 inch of rain over those two days, delaying further tillage and planting. Southern part of the county received less than 0.25 inch. Farmers were able to be in the field planting both corn and soybeans the later part of the weekend. Alfalfa stands look very good; many with high plant and stem counts.

**IOWA-S.M.:** Alfalfa and winter wheat look great after the rain and warm weather.

**DODGE-M.H.:** Rain continues to delay spring tillage. Some corn has been planted between the rains, but soil is still very wet. Some alfalfa winterkill has become evident, perhaps 5 percent of acreage. Winter wheat looks good.

**GREEN-M.M.:** First corn was planted late last week and over the weekend. Oats are starting to come up.

**ROCK-C.O.:** Rain will make it difficult for any activity for a few days. Fields have water standing in them. Wheat and alfalfa are improving, but still do not look as good as they did before the snow. Apple trees are just starting to bloom, and lilacs will be out by the end of next week. I am sure some spots in some fields will not get planted.

**WASHINGTON-R.B.:** Both alfalfa and winter wheat are coming out of the frost very well. Some tillage was done on Saturday and Sunday. Some beets, oats, and alfalfa have been planted.

**WAUKESHA-D.W.:** Last year I was done planting corn by April 28. This year nobody in this area has planted any corn. The soil is very wet here. Lots of fieldwork was done in the beginning of the week. Heavy rains have slowed things down-we need a couple of days to dry out. Some tillage was done last weekend with the warm weather. Some alfalfa and oats seeded last weekend. Rain and cool weather has halted fieldwork again.



USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office  
P.O. Box 8934  
Madison, WI 53708-8934  
(608) 224-4848  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/>

**Robert J. Battaglia**  
Director

**Jessica Scrimger**  
Statistician

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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on April 29, 2007

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 April 28	Mar. 1 to April 28 normal *	Last week	Since March 1	March 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *	
Eau Claire	68	46	76	36	57	7	215	118	0.0	3.78	-0.72	5.40	-0.95	
Green Bay	63	44	81	40	54	6	170	98	0.92	4.11	-0.30	6.13	-0.53	
La Crosse	69	46	85	39	57	4	246	150	0.98	4.69	-0.40	7.23	-0.07	
Madison	64	45	83	40	54	4	204	151	2.14	7.77	2.42	10.20	2.30	
Milwaukee	61	45	82	41	53	5	179	n.a.	1.17	6.86	0.79	9.08	-0.47	

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. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. n.a. = not available. T = trace. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.