



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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

July 9, 2007

Vol. 07, No. 14

Crops Get Relief

Scattered rains provided mild relief to crops last week. However, more rain is needed in areas to replenish reserves of soil moisture. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.30 inches in Milwaukee to 1.95 inches in Madison. Temperatures were 1 degree below normal to 3 degrees above normal. High temperatures reached the high 80s and mid 90s. Average low temperatures were in the high 50s to low 60s. Soil Moisture conditions were at 15 percent very short, 47 percent short, 36 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. There was an average of 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn height increased to an average of 58 inches, ahead of last year's 50 inches and the 5-year average of 41 inches. Corn silked was reported at 3 percent complete. While the majority of the crop remains in good to excellent condition, there is concern for corn planted in lighter soils. High temperatures later in the week caused the crop to begin to curl in some areas.

Soybeans bloomed was reported at 24 percent complete, ahead of last year's average of 19 percent complete and the 5-year average of 15 percent complete. Soybean conditions remain mostly good to excellent.

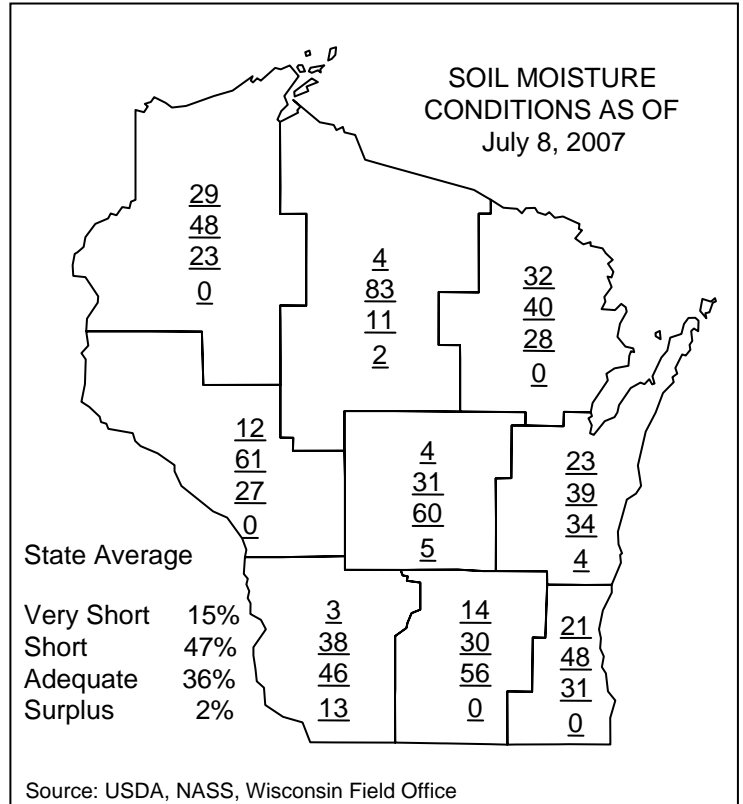
Oats headed was at 96 percent complete, below last year's 97 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 86 percent complete. The crop is starting to show some additional signs of stress from dry conditions and heat. Oat condition rated at good to excellent dropped to 69 percent, compared to 73 percent last week.

Harvest of first cutting **alfalfa** has been completed. Second cutting alfalfa harvest was at 44 percent complete, behind last year's average of 50 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 26 percent. Second cutting is providing good quality yields but short quantity. Several farmers have been spraying fields for insects.

Pasture conditions continue to decline.

Winter wheat harvest began in southern counties and is reported at 3 percent complete. This is above both last year's and the 5-year average of 0 percent complete. Harvest is expected to continue this week if the weather is mild.

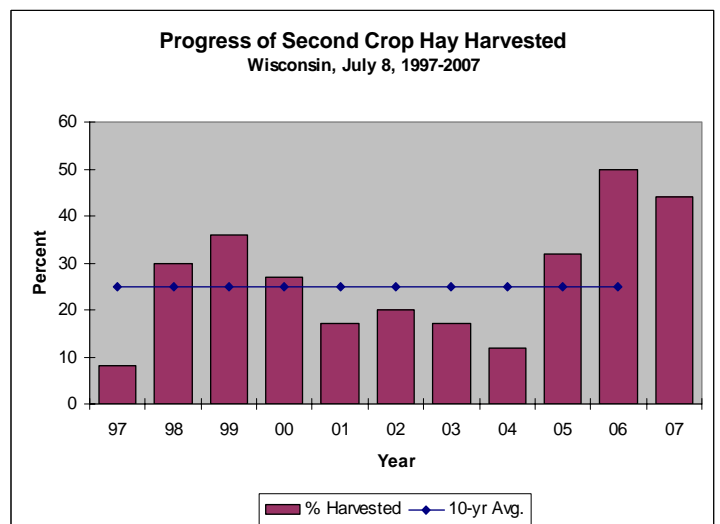
Sweet Corn and **potatoes** appear to be in good to excellent condition. Yields for **peas** have been variable across districts.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 8, 2007

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	3	5	18	52	22
Soybeans	2	5	22	49	22
Winter Wheat	2	7	19	49	23
Oat	1	5	25	56	13
Pasture	8	24	36	27	5

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



Wisconsin Crop Progress, July 8, 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
Average height of corn	51	55	53	53	46	50	62	70	56	58	50	41
Soybeans bloomed	24	25	3	24	12	21	3	49	9	24	19	15
Oats headed	92	98	99	98	99	96	87	100	98	96	97	86
Second cutting hay	49	43	32	35	42	55	43	50	28	44	50	26

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BAYFIELD-S.S.: Whatever hay there is, is in the bale. There will be no more regrowth yet. It is hot and dry. Corn is still looking good. We need rain badly.

WASHBURN-K.S.: A much-needed rain fell on Monday. Reports were spotty; 0.10 up to 0.75 inches was reported. Due to dry conditions second crop hay is thin and short, and there are reports of insects. Leafhoppers are showing up and as a result some farmers are cutting rather than spraying. So far corn and soybeans are looking OK.

LINCOLN-F.O.: We received over 2.0 inches of rain this week. All crops are really growing.

OCONTO-K.H.: Three-quarters of an inch of rain last week did not last long in meeting crop needs with the heat that followed; it was also spotty. Areas on lighter soil in corn fields are readily apparent with tightly curled and grey-green color. Second harvest hay reported lighter than normal. Fields slow to recover with dry conditions. No wheat harvested yet but a number of fields approaching maturity.

BUFFALO-R.S.: The 0.30 inch of rain for the week keeps things green. Lots of second crop hay was made. Oats is in the milk stage. Winter wheat is in the dough stage. No corn is silking. Soybeans are in full bloom. Hayfields have light yields and a lot of insects.

DUNN-S.S.: First crop hay had good quantities but only fair quality. Second crop hay is about to begin; quantities will be short due to lack of moisture. The 2.0 inches of rain last night will help all crops except for those which are already beyond help. Hopefully pastures and hayfields will rebuild. The rain was a temporary life saver for crops.

MARQUETTE-K.V.: Tuesday resulted in most of the county receiving 3.0-4.0 inches of much-needed rain. Corn is recovering nicely and grass that was brown is greening up. Damage to winter wheat and second hay cutting is not reversible but soil moisture conditions are much improved. We went from severe drought to water standing in the fields in a two hour period and are very grateful.

SHEBOYGAN-T.B.: Vegetables and crops look excellent, with a few exceptions. Second crop hay has been coming in better than expected but well short of the excellent first crop alfalfa. Field conditions continue to be

dry and spotty. Rain has helped the crops in fields lucky enough to get moisture. The tough perennial weeds: quackgrass, Canada thistle, and yellow nutsedge are proving to be weed control challenges. Annual grasses like crabgrass and ALS resistant giant foxtail are proving to be control challenges that will have to be better planned for next year.

GRANT-R.R.: We received some rain last week, which has helped the corn, but we still are in need of much more. A lot of alfalfa is being sprayed for insects. The continued heat has really dried up the pastures.

DANE-J.K.: Snapbeans are being harvested. The rains came too late in some areas. All other crops look very good. Second crop hay yields were down some, due to bugs and drier conditions. Third crop hay may be shorter also, especially where it was drier. Weeds really took off after the rain on Tuesday. Corn should just about be set now for moisture after 2.30 inches of rainfall on Tuesday. Although, some fields of corn and wheat went flat Tuesday night. Early wheat will be harvested next week, kernels are hard.

DODGE-G.R.: Second crop alfalfa is beginning to blossom. Fields not sprayed are showing signs of hopper burn. Corn has been curling on warm afternoons. Wheat is nearing harvest. Oats are turning color. Soybeans, thus far, look uniform and healthy.

RACINE-L.F.: Some hail storms have hurt some acres, but the majority of our crops are wonderful. Wheat is coming close to being harvested.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: It is very dry here.



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

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 8, 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 July 7	Mar. 1 to July 7 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	85	60	94	56	73	3	1382	1051	0.68	2.82	-2.30	10.64	-4.78
Green Bay	80	57	88	49	68	-1	1241	951	1.61	5.33	1.10	14.01	0.14
La Crosse	87	63	93	60	75	2	1547	1191	1.89	5.17	0.20	16.73	0.80
Madison	84	59	90	50	72	1	1370	1165	1.95	6.78	1.84	18.69	2.30
Milwaukee	80	63	89	53	71	0	1227	n.a.	0.30	3.93	-0.43	15.38	-1.90

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.