



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

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

July 6, 2009

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## Cooler Temperatures Slow Development

Cooler temperatures last week slowed growth for crops across the state. Overall, crops were reported as faring well. Growers would welcome rain to boost crop and hay development, particularly in the East Central district where some corn leaves were curling. Across the reporting stations, precipitation ranged from 0.02 inches in Eau Claire and Madison to 0.12 inches in Milwaukee. Average temperatures were 3 to 6 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 71 to 75 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 56 to 60 degrees. On average, there were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

- <http://www.noaa.gov/>
- <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
- <http://www.cocorahs.org/>
- <http://www.weather.gov/>

The **corn** crop was generally reported as looking good. Some growers saw their corn stressed due to a lack of moisture. The average corn height across the state was 36 inches, an increase of 12 inches from last week.

The cooler temperatures last week slowed down **soybean** development. Soybeans were beginning to bloom in some areas of the state. Statewide, soybeans were reported as 4 percent in bloom. Growers continued to spray for weeds.

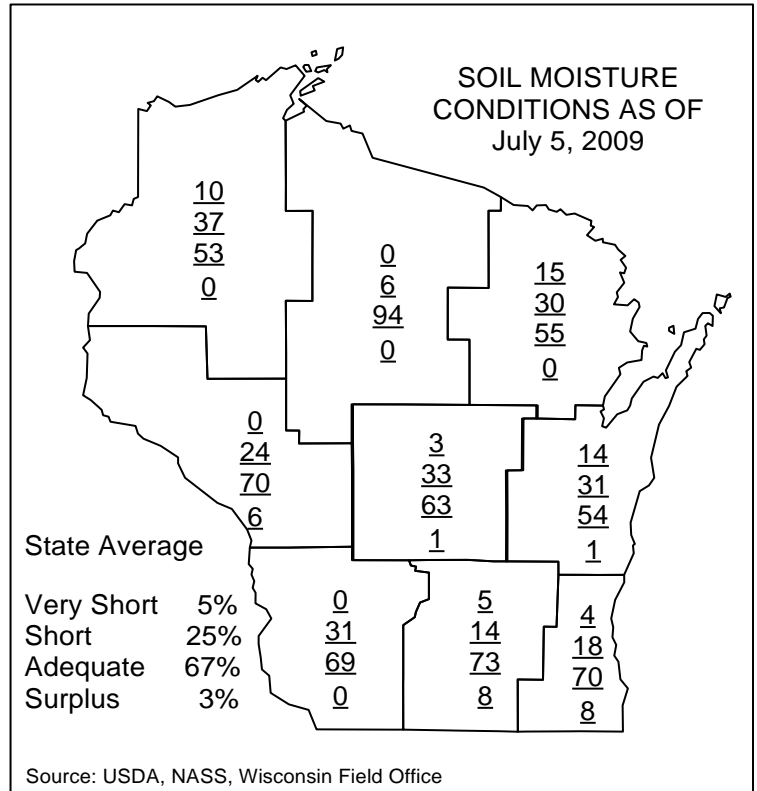
**Oats** headed was reported as 84 percent complete. This is an increase of 12 percentage points from last week.

Second crop **hay** cutting was in full swing last week, with 19 percent reported as complete. Second crop hay was looking good across much of the state, although some below normal yields were reported due to dry conditions. There were a few reports of second crop hay yielding better than first crop.

**Strawberry** crops across the state were reported as being fair to good.

**Vegetable** crops were looking good. Early planted snap beans were reported to be flowering and potato fields were blossoming.

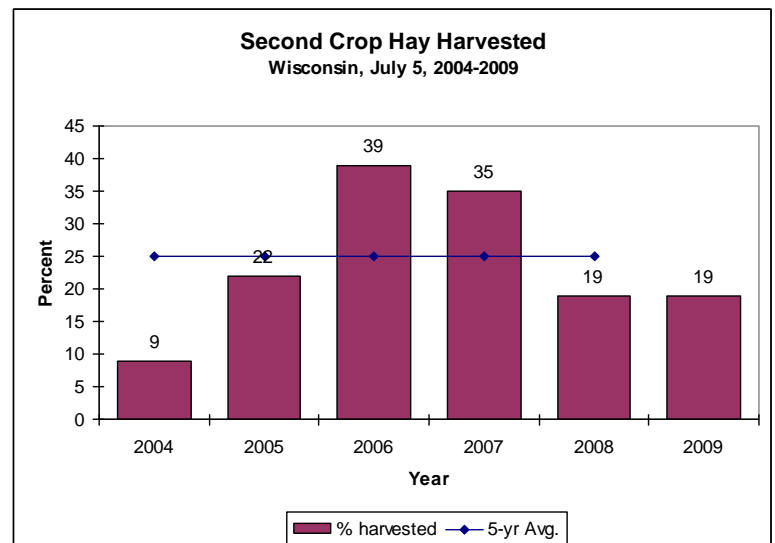
Some early **sweet corn** has started to tassel.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 5, 2009

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	1	3	23	55	18
Oat	1	2	15	63	19
Pasture	2	8	29	55	6
Corn	1	3	18	62	16
Soybean	1	4	25	58	12

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



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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 corn height	30	29	27	37	25	25	53	44	27	36	29	40
Oats headed	75	77	78	85	91	81	98	95	98	84	68	86
Second cutting hay	8	11	35	21	14	13	27	34	15	19	19	25

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

**Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents**

**POLK-C.S.:** Everything in our area needs additional rain. Brief showers have passed through with variable amounts. Crops still look good. Hay and pastures need much more rain.

**RUSK-G.P.:** A return to colder temperatures this week really slowed things down. Temperatures in the 50's and 60's and lows in the 40's turned the corn yellow. It is hard to harvest dry hay. Lots of spraying is going on. Second crop hay is on going with good quality and quantity. New seedings are looking particularly good this year.

**CLARK-R.H.:** Crops overall look good. I have seen some nitrogen deficiencies in corn and oats in low areas, which may be related to excessive water or weather conditions. Hay yields and quality have been good, the problem has been trying to string together days for making dry hay, which then reduces quality.

**MARINETTE-S.R.:** All corn on drier soils has been rolling for many days.

**SHAWANO-T.B.:** All crops look to be excellent at this time, but moisture stress issues are starting to appear on the sandy areas of fields during the heat of the day. The field conditions are very dry and crops are surviving on reserve soil moisture. We could use rain soon. Livestock are raising dust as they walk across pastures.

**PEPIN-H.R.:** All crops look good in our area. Some fields that did not get sprayed are very weedy. Lots of second crop hay is being made with good quality and quantity.

**ST. CROIX-R.K.:** We need rain but crops are progressing well for the amount of moisture. We also need warmer days.

**PORTAGE-D.Z.:** Crops generally look good. We are starting to see moisture stress in corn. Wheat and rye are starting to turn a little. Potato fields are blossoming.

**WAUPACA-D.L.H.:** Hay yields are slightly below normal. Warm weather has boosted corn growth.

**KEWAUNEE-T.S.:** The dry conditions in this area got worse in the last week, with most crops showing some stress from the lack of rain. Some producers reported some rain in the last week, but at most about a half inch fell. The rain was very scattered and most farmers did not receive anything. Most of the corn has some curling leaves, with its height now at around three feet.

Soybeans are growing slowly. Some weed spraying is now underway on that crop. Second crop hay harvest is going strong, with yields lower than preferred due to the

dry conditions. Oats and barley are pretty much all headed out now, and wheat is turning color. Harvest of triticale was taking place this week, with excellent yields.

**SHEBOYGAN-E.P.:** There is a problem with no rain at this time. It is so dry; there are ground cracks in corn rows between plants.

**SAUK-W.J.:** Crops look good in spite of getting dry late in the week. Cloudy and cool weather helped slow crop development most of the week. We need rain soon to continue excellent development of all crops.

**COLUMBIA-R.S.:** Everything took a big improvement this past week. Winter wheat is turning nicely. Second crop hay is short in height. Spraying has removed the weeds in soybeans and late-planted corn. Things are looking good so far.

**DANE-D.F.:** Crops are growing nicely. Rain is needed in many places for third crop hay and an additional boost for the corn and soybean crops. Cool temperatures last week slowed corn development.

**ROCK-R.S.:** It is starting to get dry in some areas in Rock county. Corn is doing great. The wheat crop is starting to turn. Soybeans have some spotty fields. Second crop hay is starting but it is short.

**WASHINGTON-R.B.:** Some places in our county received 1.5 inches of rain and some did not get any. Corn planted in wet areas is showing short and yellow plants. The cold and cloudy weather all week slowed the growth of crops. Still have first crop hay to do in some areas. The wheat crop is very good.



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

**Craig Christianson**  
Statistician

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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 5, 2009**

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	March 1 to July 4	March 1 to July 4 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	72	56	79	51	64	-5	1014	993	0.02	4.29	-0.53	10.60	-4.54
Green Bay	72	58	78	53	65	-3	892	894	0.05	2.65	-1.24	13.09	-0.40
La Crosse	75	58	81	53	66	-6	1150	1127	0.06	3.34	-1.23	12.68	-2.78
Madison	71	58	78	53	65	-5	1082	1103	0.02	4.56	0.00	21.31	5.29
Milwaukee	72	60	81	54	66	-4	964	n.a.	0.12	7.04	3.00	21.11	4.09

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.