



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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

August 3, 2009

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Spotty Showers and Cool Temperatures Continue to Hinder Progress

Less than adequate precipitation paired with below normal temperatures persisted across the state this past week. Harvest schedules were delayed for hay and small grains when light rain kept crops from drying out. Growers need continual dry days in order to complete the harvest of crops that are lagging behind schedule and warmer temperatures in order for crops to mature. It's still too early to assess the losses from high winds and hail in the Southwest district from a week ago. Damages varied from moderate to severe on crops.

Across the reporting stations, precipitation ranged from 0.03 inches in Milwaukee to 1.10 inches in La Crosse. Average temperatures were 1 to 6 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 76 to 80 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 54 to 62 degrees. On average, there were 4.8 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/>

Corn silked was 52 percent complete statewide, an increase of 31 percentage points from previous week. Across the state, 2 percent of the corn was reported to be in the dough stage. Reports indicated that corn fields are very uneven in maturity and are lagging behind normal mainly due to a lack of heat. Corn pollination continued and the little showers were just enough to keep the crop going.

Soybeans blooming was reported as 61 percent complete, while 21 percent were reported to be setting pods. Both were behind their five-year averages of 79 and 45, respectively. Reports on beans varied from some doing well to others that were not even flowering. Beans on lighter sandier soils were showing extra stress.

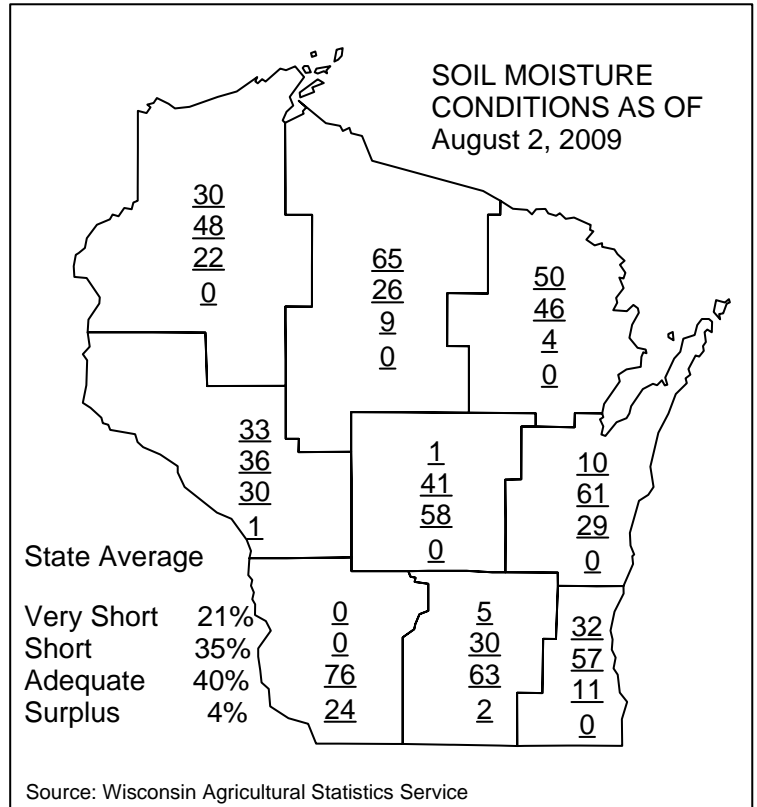
Winter wheat harvested for grain jumped to 23 percent complete statewide. Winter wheat harvest began for some, while others were still waiting for their crop to dry out due to a very high moisture content. Harvest of other small grains such as barley and rye was starting and is being fit in when weather permits.

Oats were well behind average with 13 percent harvested for grain across the state. Early reported yields were varied with some well above average.

Second cutting **hay** is still lingering near completion statewide at 87 percent complete, while third crop regrowth has been very slow. Cool temperatures overall made it difficult to harvest dry hay, and reported yields remain varied on quantity and quality.

Cattle on pasture were being fed hay due to poor **pasture** conditions, reported at 44 percent poor to very poor. Pastures were very dry with little to no regrowth.

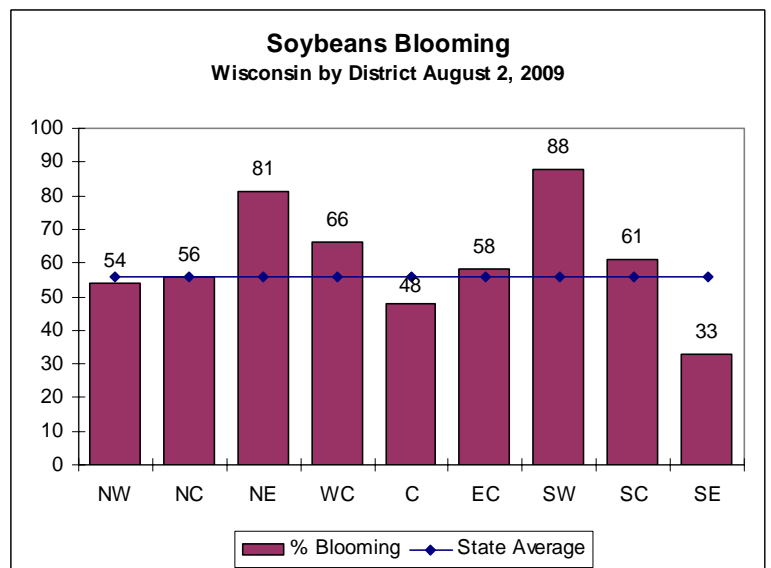
In Portage county, **Snap bean** yields were reported at average to above average, while the **green pea** crop produced average yields and quality.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 2, 2009

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	7	15	30	39	9
Soybeans	5	10	35	43	7
Winter Wheat	1	3	28	53	15
Oats	0	12	25	52	11
Pasture	14	30	20	29	7

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
Corn silked	37	26	35	65	63	28	86	49	16	52	57	69
Soybeans blooming	54	56	81	66	48	58	88	61	33	61	75	79
Soybean setting pods	15	10	42	24	25	29	26	19	0	21	30	45
Winter wheat harvested	3	6	7	13	16	15	65	35	31	23	30	63
Oats harvested	20	0	0	17	13	1	27	24	1	13	21	42
Second cutting hay	93	80	100	92	84	88	82	89	78	87	86	86

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-D.B.: Cool temperatures continue to hamper development of crops. We did receive some spotty rain showers this past week. Very little small grains have been harvested. The second cutting of alfalfa is about done while third cutting is very short.

WASHBURN-P.H.: We finally received some rain last week. Corn is tasseling and pollinating. Rows of soybeans are reaching full canopy and bloom with some pods forming. Aphids are present but in low numbers. Growing degree units are over two weeks behind.

CLARK-A.K.: It is still very dry. The little showers are keeping crops going. It is still hard to get hay to dry. Corn fields with poor weed control or compaction make the corn look very uneven.

VILAS-L.K.: We need rain badly.

LANGLADE-A.K.: We received rain this past week. Some had more and some had less. Corn that was not too far gone has really responded. We need heat units to make grain. Corn to maturity is 10 days behind normal. Soybeans are looking better. Hayfields are greening up hoping for a third crop.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Most of the county received only light showers while a couple small areas got up to 1.5 inches of rain. There has been no wheat harvested yet but will start as soon as we get two dry days in a row. Alfalfa did react to even the small rains so hopefully we will be able to see the third crop windrows now anyway.

JACKSON-T.W.: Need warmer weather, had too many cold nights; bad for corn and soybeans. It has been dry but we are starting to get some rain. It rained a lot last night which really helped topsoil moisture, but it is holding up wheat and other crops.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Snapbean yields were good and the second planting is up. Third cutting hay is very spotty due to dry weather. Field corn on non-irrigated land is also very spotty, with many fields tasseling un-evenly. Pastures are still poor despite some rains. Small grain harvest will be in full swing this week.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Cool weather is slowing crop development. Rainfall has helped but could use more. Pea harvest has finished with average yields and quality. Snapbean harvest continues with average or above average yields. Oats and wheat are ready for harvest.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: The rain came too late for some corn. Later planted corn will grow well with late showers.

SHEBOYGAN-E.P.: It is dry. Crops like corn are behind normal growth. Received a rain shower on Monday, the first rain for the month of July.

IOWA-S.M.: Corn and soybeans look great.

SAUK-W.J.: Third crop hay has begun but cool nights continue to slow development of crops. Hay is growing with showers. Hay that was sprayed is yielding best.

DANE-J.K.: Vegetables and crops look good but we are behind normal for the last few years. Field conditions in our area are very good. Second crop hay was harvested a month ago. Third crop hay yielded much less and the quality was not good either. Harvesting of small grains is slow due to green straw and damp weather. Straw seems to be yielding better than expected; a lot is being chopped for feed.

GREEN-J.T.: We have had plenty of moisture and there has never been any indication of drought stress on any crops. We are not flooded out but it has been a great year for moisture; warm weather is our only request. There has been no storm damage to crops here other than some lodging in small grains. Third crop hay has started but some are still waiting on a dry forecast to cut second crop hay for baling.

WALWORTH-E.M.: Wheat harvesting got under way Tuesday and Wednesday. Moisture is 14 to 16 percent. Rainfall is very light. Second crop hay is short on yield. Corn is beginning to tassel and silk.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 2, 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 August 1	March 1 to August 1 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	76	55	84	50	66	-6	1467	1557	0.79	5.29	-3.10	11.60	-7.10
Green Bay	77	54	79	50	66	-4	1331	1435	1.03	5.28	-1.66	15.71	-0.82
La Crosse	80	58	86	52	69	-5	1672	1744	1.10	5.76	-2.58	15.11	-4.26
Madison	77	57	82	51	67	-5	1539	1697	0.21	7.20	-0.88	23.95	4.48
Milwaukee	80	62	86	58	71	-1	1510	n.a.	0.03	6.73	-0.50	20.80	0.61

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.