



Wisconsin Crop Progress

August 23, 2010

Vol. 10, No. 20

Weekend Storms Bring More Rain and Some Wind Damage

Spotty showers throughout the week kept some fields too wet to enter while other fields received the dry days needed for cutting hay. The weekend brought stronger storms and some wind damage to Chippewa, Brown, and Kewaunee Counties. Flooding and washouts from rainstorms were reported in Trempealeau County. Growers are hoping for multiple days without rain to allow both soil and hay to dry.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week ranged from 1 to 4 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 78 to 82 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 60 to 66 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.05 inches in Eau Claire to 0.68 inches in Milwaukee. There were 5.0 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 in the dough stage was reported at 76 percent complete, an increase of 18 percentage points from the previous week. Corn in the dent stage was reported at 34 percent complete. Across the state corn was beginning to mature with 1 percent of corn reported as mature. Some reports indicated corn was being chopped for silage. Many reports stated corn was well ahead of normal and looking excellent. A report from Brown County indicated that storms caused straight-line wind damage to some corn fields.

Soybeans setting pods was reported at 91 percent complete, and 3 percent of soybean leaves were turning color around the state. Strong winds caused some lodging in Chippewa County. Some spotty outbreaks of Sudden Death Syndrome, a root rot problem, were reported in Columbia, Rock, and Walworth Counties.

Oats harvested for grain was reported at 86 percent complete, up 10 percentage points from the previous week. Oat harvest continues to be slowed by wet fields.

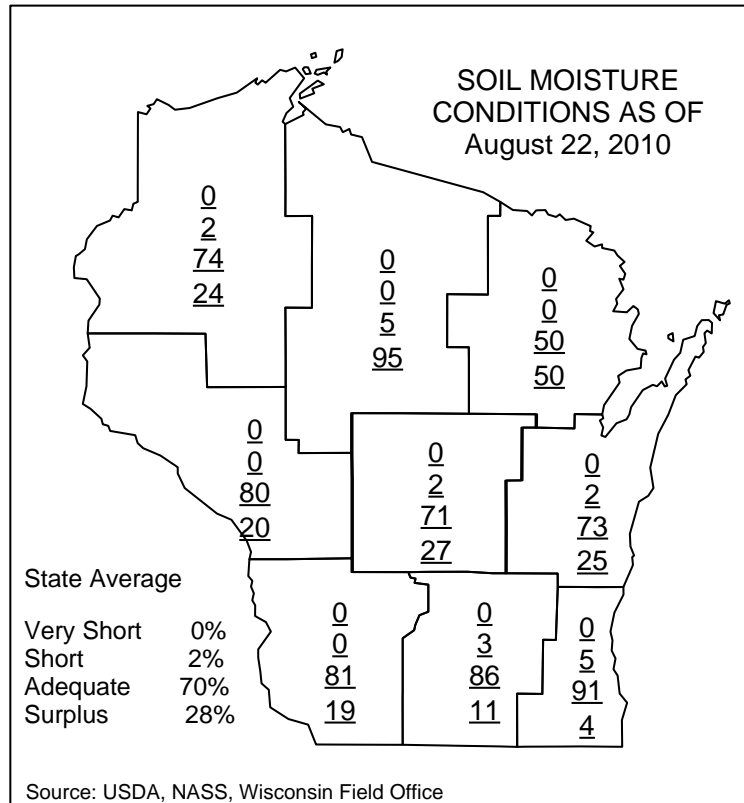
Third cutting **hay** was reported at 62 percent complete, an increase of 17 percentage points from the previous week. Some growers were able to start on fourth cutting hay, with 6 percent reported complete across the state. The spotty showers and high humidity continued to keep some fields too wet to harvest. Reports indicated high quantities of hay, but with the overabundance of weeds and moisture the quality was not as high.

Snapbean and **sweetcorn** harvest continued in Portage County.

Cantaloupe yields were reported as heavy and of excellent quality in Fond Du Lac County.

Pumpkin and **squash** were reported as being smaller than normal due to the wet season.

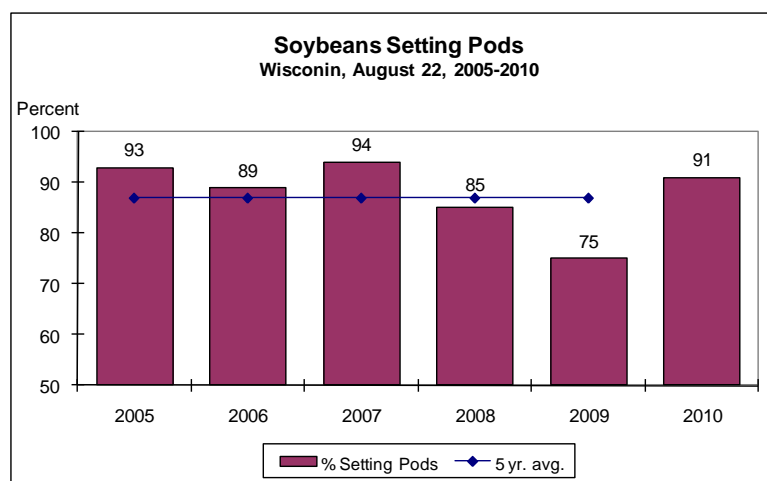
Cover crops were being planted where vegetable crops have been harvested in Oneida County.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 22, 2010

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	2	4	14	37	43
Soybean	1	3	12	37	47
Pasture	0	2	12	58	28

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 week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Corn in dough stage	69	66	64	73	73	68	82	85	82	76	58	36	54
Corn in dent stage	13	15	32	26	22	27	50	46	54	34	11	1	13
Soybeans setting pods	76	93	73	94	99	86	95	96	94	91	79	75	87
Oats harvested	87	52	75	94	95	87	98	100	91	86	76	74	89
Third cutting hay	62	38	61	59	58	68	59	78	74	62	45	53	60
Fourth cutting hay	1	1	3	9	4	3	6	15	5	6	n.a.	1	1

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Crops still look in excellent shape. Partial lodging of soybeans due to chest high height and strong winds with storms. Soybean aphid populations are dropping quickly.

RUSK-G.P.: Corn and soybeans continue to look good. Small grains still in the field will probably not be combined, just cut and rolled up. Made some progress on third crop this week but rain mid-week slowed things down. One of the worst years ever for weeds. Gardens, new seedings, old hayfields and row crops all showing a lot of late summer weeds.

CLARK-J.B.: Need more than one day to get hay dry. Still too wet to harvest small grains in most fields. Soybeans and corn look good. A lot of pods on soybeans, and some corn well into dent stage.

MARATHON-S.N.: Spotty moisture throughout the county. Yields of second and third crop hay are very good when it can be accomplished. Overcast skies throughout the week and cool conditions hampered drying of land and hay. Combining oats is slow going due to wet fields. Lodging has promoted weed growth and in some cases has smothered the new seeding. Soybeans are tall and setting pods. Those that were planted after the June rains have slower pod development than those before the June rains. Corn looks very good.

ONEIDA-P.L.: Most of the grain is harvested. Green beans are all harvested. Some cover crops have been planted on the green bean fields. Getting set up to start the potato harvest, it will need to dry out a bit before they can dig. Fields remain pretty wet. Some water standing in fields and affecting the crops in the low areas. Most of the irrigation ponds are full. The flowages and wetlands are pretty well back to normal. The Rainbow Flowage is now only about 2-3 feet low compared to the 15-20 feet low that it was this spring. However some of the runoff lakes are still very low, especially if they have a small watershed feeding them. Leaves are beginning to turn. Fall weeds are a problem.

SHAWANO-T.B.: Crops are looking very good. This season has brought out many pests, diseases and insects that we have not seen in the area for a long time. The tonnages of alfalfa hay in the area have been exceptional, but it has been difficult to get high quality hay harvested.

EAU CLAIRE-D.S.: Pasture is best. Oats 80 bushels per acre. Third crop yield excellent; quality fair to poor.

PEPIN-H.R.: Too much rain for crops, crops could go without rain for rest of the season. Tomatoes rotten and potatoes rotten.

JUNEAU-J.W.: Last week was a pretty good week weather wise. A small but strong storm rolled through the southern end of the county causing power outage, downed trees and some damage to outbuildings. There was no report of crop damage. Juneau County fair was held and went very well.

DOOR-R.S.: Crops look good, need a little more rain.

FOND DU LAC-B.B.: Pumpkin and other winter squash are beginning to mature apace. Cantaloupe yields are heavy and of excellent quality. The corn stood up to 60 MPH gusts this past Friday. Good thing, it would be a shame to see this year's stands lodge.

GRANT-G.M.: Things are in excellent condition. Surprised corn is finishing so fast.

SAUK-J.P.: This was a great week for making dry hay. Corn moving along quickly toward maturity. Some wet spots in corn and soybeans will yield nothing. Sumac leaves changing color; fall is just around the corner.

COLUMBIA-J.B.: Other than spots that did not drain, both corn and soybeans look very good. Some spotty outbreaks of Sudden Death Syndrome in soybeans occurring.

DODGE-S.B.: High humidity has hampered the harvesting of dry hay. Corn is a lot farther along than any year we can remember. Harvesting for silage and high moisture should be starting soon.

WALWORTH-N.W.: Not much change in the last week. Corn is starting to dry down. Some talk of corn silage harvest to begin this week. Corn looks variable depending on soil types and elevation. Sudden Death Syndrome has started to show up in the soybeans, but all in all the soybeans look good. Fourth cutting hay is well under way. The great Walworth County Fair begins next week.



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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 August 22, 2010

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. 21	Mar. 1 to Aug. 21 normal*	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	80	61	86	52	70	1	2400	1933	0.05	16.20	5.03	22.47	0.87
Green Bay	78	60	85	53	69	1	2264	1796	0.40	18.03	8.74	25.67	6.80
La Crosse	82	64	87	59	73	1	2674	2163	0.48	19.79	8.74	28.30	6.37
Madison	81	65	89	59	73	4	2531	2102	0.31	19.71	8.89	29.76	7.56
Milwaukee	82	66	91	61	74	3	2475	n.a.	0.68	19.28	9.55	28.29	5.66

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.