



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

May 9, 2011

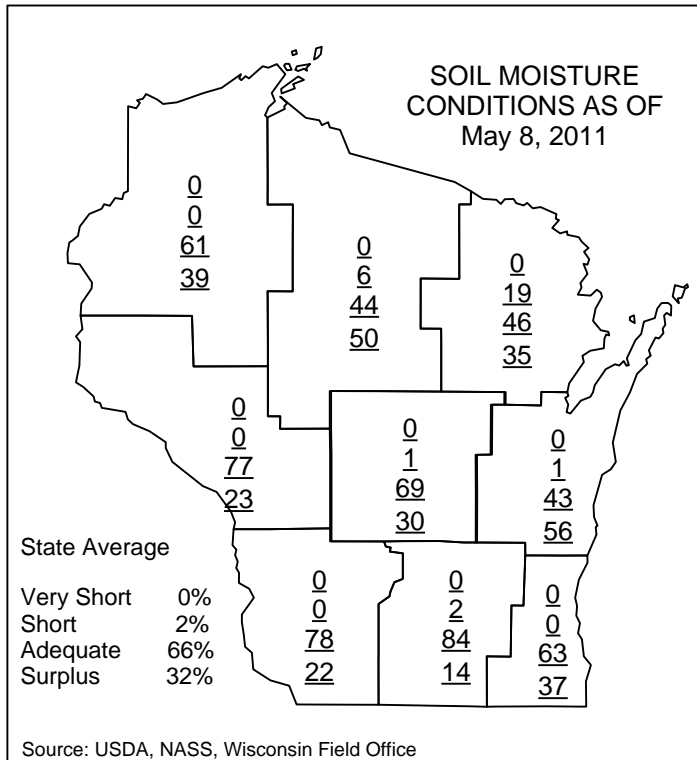
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## April Showers Bring May Plantings

Farmers were finally able to get into the fields last week with 4.3 days suitable for fieldwork statewide. Sunshine and wind aided in allowing tillage and planting to progress in most areas of the state. Statewide many tractors were rolling in the fields to make up for lost time in April. However, one reporter in Manitowoc County stated that there are still lots of wet pocket areas in most of the fields.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 1 to 8 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 54 to 58 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 35 to 42 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.0 inches in LaCrosse to 0.06 inches in Eau Claire and Milwaukee. 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** planting was at 16 percent complete statewide, compared to 66 percent last year, and the five-year average of 44 percent. A Chippewa County reporter noted that corn planting has begun on light soils, but dry conditions are still needed to plant on heavy soils. In the East Central District some farmers reported looking into putting in shorter maturity day corn from 105 days to 95 days.

**Spring tillage** increased dramatically with 32 percent complete, a 21 percent increase from the previous week. **Manure** storage systems have been at their limits with some farmers expecting to empty them very soon or as weather permits.

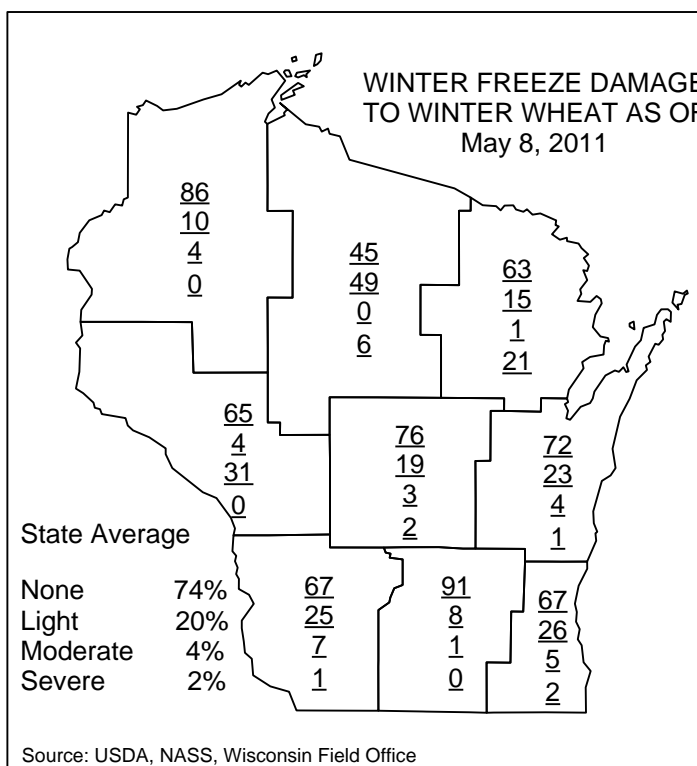
**Oats** emerged was at 9 percent, compared to 70 percent last year and the five-year average of 47 percent.

Most reporters commented that the **winter wheat** came through the winter with very little winterkill damage. However, a reporter in Lincoln County noticed severe frost damage in his area of the state..

Many reports indicated that the **pastures** were greening up, but there was little growth because of colder weather.

**Potato** planting was moving along well in Portage County. One reporter in Ozaukee County reported **Peas** were being planted.

A Waupaca County reporter noted there was winterkill in the **Raspberry** crop, but **Strawberries** looked good. **Apple** tree buds were swelling and should begin to bloom soon in Shawano County.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 8, 2011

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	2	4	20	57	17
Pasture	2	9	42	41	6

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

## Wisconsin Crop Progress, May 8, 2011

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 planted	6	0	3	10	11	1	41	21	29	16	1	66	44
Oats planted	23	2	4	31	28	5	71	73	56	33	17	95	79
Spring tillage	22	4	8	33	29	7	63	50	47	32	11	81	61

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-J.M.:** Things are finally warming up and planting is underway. Pastures greening up and improving.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Alfalfa and winter wheat seem to have come through the winter ok. Very little field work again this week, just too wet and cold. No planting of anything going on. Fruit trees are beginning to break bud, at least they should be safe from late frosts. Forecast is looking a little better, hope for next week.

**CLARK-K.J.:** Fields in some areas are dry enough to enable manure hauling. No other field work is being done at this time. A couple of days without rain would do the trick to get things moving.

**SHAWANO-J.N.:** Some are starting to haul manure. Some fields are still quite wet. Winter wheat is starting to look good, some needs nitrogen yet. A little oats went in this past week.

**EAU CLAIRE-A.B.:** As the soil temperature warms up the alfalfa and wheat fields look better every day. This past week the manure got spread and the tillage work is in full swing. Oats and corn fields are being planted as quick as possible and I know of some soybeans that have been planted. The limiting factors are soil type and how wet the field is. Over Mother's Day weekend a ton of home gardens and flowers were planted. Flowering crab trees are leafed out and starting to blossom.

**ST CROIX-D.K.:** Late cutting alfalfa got hurt on the hills and valleys with winterkill. No vegetables planted yet. Corn planted on lighter soils.

**PORTAGE-J.W.:** Potato planting is moving along well. Everything else remains slow. Still wet and cool.

**WAUPACA-L.B.:** There is 10% winter kill in raspberry crop. Strawberries look good. Asparagus is two weeks late, just coming up.

**FOND DU LAC-M.R.:** Finally able to till and plant on some of the better drained fields this week. However, most fields still have a wet spot or two. Alfalfa and winter wheat look good but are slow to grow. Soil temperatures still very cold.

**MANITOWOC-M.R.:** Finally had about a week of dry weather and a couple guys were starting some tillage in the fields. There are still lots of wet pocket areas in most fields. Had one report late in the week of one farm starting to plant corn and soybeans.

**GRANT-D.W.:** Finally a few dry days and the corn planters are going full blast. Good progress has been made this week.

**GREEN-J.T.:** It's still cold, and we had two hard frosts at the IL state line this week. Planting has progressed every day this week, with only minor showers.

**ROCK-C.H.:** Alfalfa and winter wheat looks good.

**OZAUKEE-K.A.:** A few acres of corn planted, going around wet places. Some oats were planted and peas planted. Manure hauling is progressing. Alfalfa is looking good. We need some warm temperatures to get crops to perk-up.

**WALWORTH-N.W.:** Winter wheat and alfalfa came through the winter in good shape. Peas have been planted and some are coming up. Dry weather over the week has permitted great progress on planting of corn.



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

**Stacy Leitner**  
Statistician

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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 8, 2011**

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 May 7	Mar. 1 to May 7 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	57	36	70	26	47	-6	127	181	0.06	5.24	-0.27	7.09	-0.21
Green Bay	54	36	63	30	45	-6	83	147	0.02	8.70	3.53	11.26	3.86
La Crosse	58	38	71	30	48	-8	150	220	0.00	8.00	1.85	9.91	1.59
Madison	58	35	69	27	46	-7	145	217	0.03	6.62	0.26	9.49	0.63
Milwaukee	58	42	66	39	50	-1	113	n.a.	0.06	8.89	1.78	12.35	1.71

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.