



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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For the week ending March 31, 2019
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Dry, Warm Days Help Thaw

There were 1.2 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending March 31, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Though Wisconsin started March with heavy snow cover, fields were nearly bare and frost was beginning to leave the ground in some areas by month's end. A rapid snow melt, rain and ice dams caused flooding on many rivers and streams during recent weeks. Dry conditions have since brought water levels back down, though flooding remained a concern in some areas along the Mississippi. This week's sunny, breezy weather helped melt lingering snow and dry out standing water. Farmers were spreading manure where field conditions allowed.

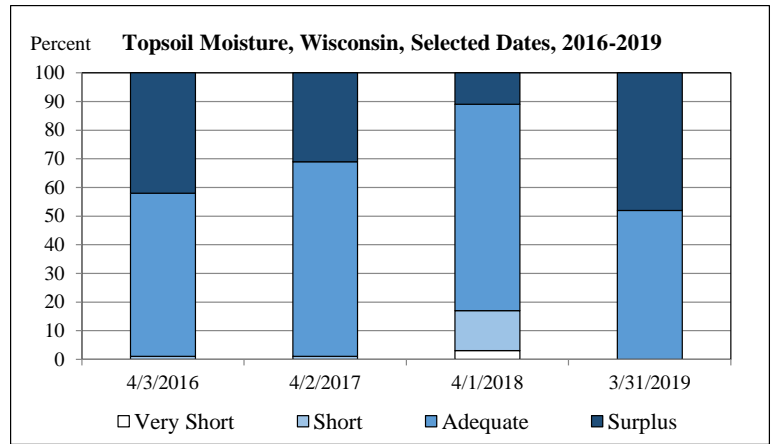
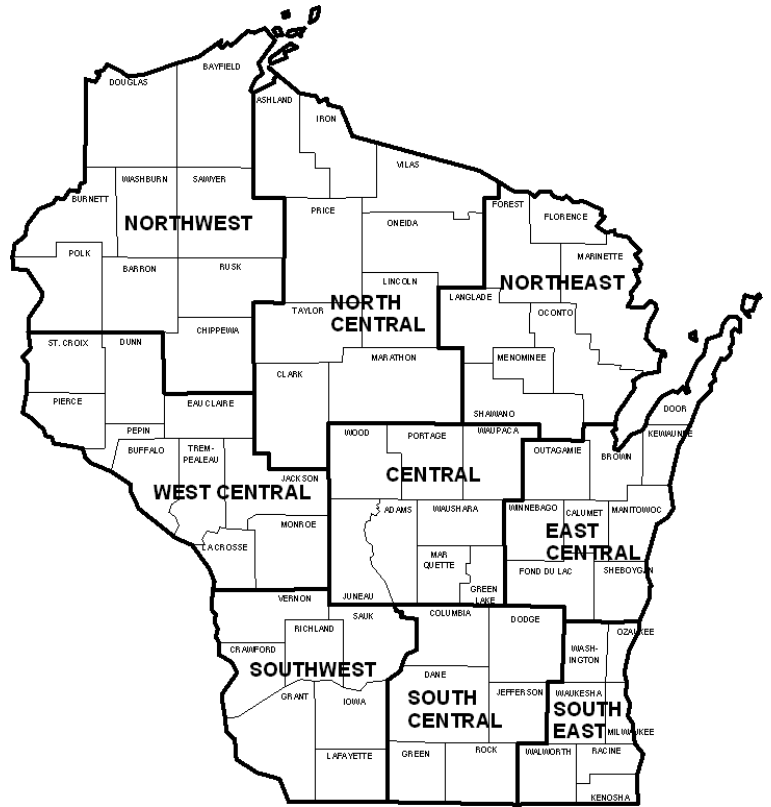
Most reporters said alfalfa and winter wheat had not broken dormancy. Winter wheat condition is based on those areas where the crop has emerged. Hay conditions will begin the first Monday in May. Statewide alfalfa winterkill numbers will be published in May.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 52 percent adequate and 48 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 52 percent adequate and 48 percent surplus.

As of March 31, **spring tillage** was 0 percent complete statewide, compared to 1 percent last year.

Statewide, 32 percent of the **winter wheat** crop was reported in good to excellent condition.

Warm daytime temperatures and below-freezing nights had **maple** sap flowing this week. Reporters commented that the sap run started later than usual this season. Reports were mixed about the quality and volume of this year's run.



Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of March 31, 2019

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This Week	Last week	Last Year
Days Suitable	Days									Days		
	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.3	2.2	1.6	2.6	1.5	1.9	1.2	NA	2.0
Topsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent		
	Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	3
	Short.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	NA	14
	Adequate.....	47	59	39	27	41	46	85	54	68	52	72
	Surplus.....	53	41	61	72	59	54	15	46	32	48	11
Subsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent		
	Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	2
	Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	12
	Adequate.....	59	10	37	35	58	48	88	59	55	52	79
	Surplus.....	41	90	63	65	42	52	12	41	45	48	7

NA=Not available

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Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

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

POLK-J.P.: Nothing started, still have some snow on ground in areas.

RUSK/SAWYER-S.V.: Still extremely wet in fields will be awhile before producers can get in for tillage.

ASHLAND/IRON-K.R.: Frost is still in the ground. Substantial snow cover in the woods. Fields are brown except for ditches and low lying areas.

MENOMINEE/SHAWANO-E.S.: Most of the ground is still frozen. Not much field work yet. It is too soon to tell what the winter wheat conditions are.

BUFFALO/PEPIN-M.L.: Increased flooding has begun in areas along rivers and tributaries with flood waters anticipated to crest for the first time this spring during the middle of week beginning 3/31/2019.

PIERCE-A.V.: Winter Wheat off to a good start. Manure being applied. Flooding in the townships of Lower Trenton, Diamond Bluff and along the river.

PORTAGE/WOOD-L.K.: Wheat and alfalfa both still dormant. The results of ice and rain storms in January is yet to be determined. Frost still coming out in most areas with some acreage still under snow cover. However, few producers were able to spread fertilizer on wheat this week more planned for next week. Some of the potato acreage left in ground last fall to be utilized as N in oat planting.

WAUPACA/OUTAGAMIE-D.L.H.: A cold month of March is about to end. Soil conditions are too cold and wet to allow any spring work to begin. Frost and snow still remain in shaded areas. Maple sap run is late and rated so-so at this time by most syrup producers.

DOOR/KEWAUNEE-A.B.: Some manure hauling has started where permitted. Another nice week of sun and favorable temperatures will have farmers in the fields in no time.

CRAWFORD/GRANT-M.D.: Manure applications being completed as the ground is firming up to carry equipment. Spring tillage/planting has not begun. Winter wheat is still dormant and crop is behind schedule due to late planting from wet Fall and early freeze where last year's emergence and growth was minimal. Scattered rains during the week with 60 degree temperatures this weekend should green things up.

SAUK-L.A.: We hope to start some tillage this week. The weather has been great to dry out fields the past 2 weeks.

COLUMBIA-K.W.: At this time there is not much activity in the fields. Some corn stalks are being chopped so the ground has firmed up some.

OZAUKEE/WASHINGTON-A.S.: Most of the winter wheat has not emerged yet due to late plantings. It has not rained for the last week but are expecting some rain and snow mix this weekend. The fields are drying out and the soil is getting warmer.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on March 31, 2019

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 Mar. 30	Mar. 1 to Mar. 29 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	47	26	58	14	36	+1	6	NA	0.00	0.73	-0.89	5.53	+2.08
Green Bay	48	28	56	22	38	+3	5	8	0.00	1.66	-0.16	6.71	+2.67
La Crosse	53	31	67	22	42	+4	22	22	0.00	1.78	+0.06	6.98	+3.09
Madison	51	29	59	20	40	+3	23	26	0.04	0.92	-1.08	7.02	+2.47
Milwaukee	50	31	61	23	41	+3	22	NA	0.11	1.64	-0.66	7.42	+1.63

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. NA=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more 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/>