



# 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 May 12, 2019  
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There were 3.0 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending May 12, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Yet another wet and cool week kept crop progress behind normal in Wisconsin. Some planting, tillage and manure spreading was accomplished between rain events, though wet soils meant many fields were still inaccessible. Some corn was planted on higher and lighter ground, and there were a few reports of soybeans being planted. Cold soil temperatures continued to suppress germination of seeded fields. Reports of severe winterkill continued this week, with damage to alfalfa, winter wheat and winter rye noted in many areas. Farmers were planting more alfalfa and spring forages than planned to make up for a smaller, later first cutting of hay.

**Topsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 59 percent adequate and 41 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 62 percent adequate and 38 percent surplus.

As of May 12, **spring tillage** was 41 percent complete statewide, 2 days behind last year and 8 days behind the 5 year average.

**Corn** planting was 14 percent complete, 7 days behind last year and 11 days behind the average. Only 1 percent of the corn had emerged.

Four percent of **soybeans** were planted, 9 days behind the average.

**Winter wheat** was 45 percent in good to excellent condition statewide, unchanged from last week.

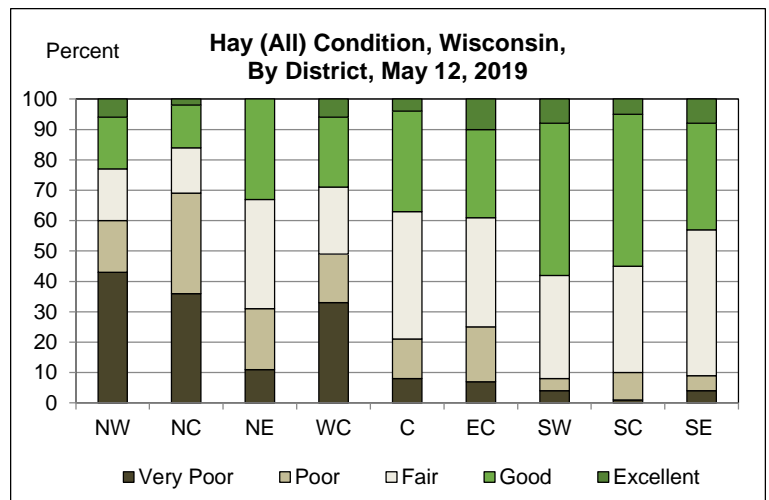
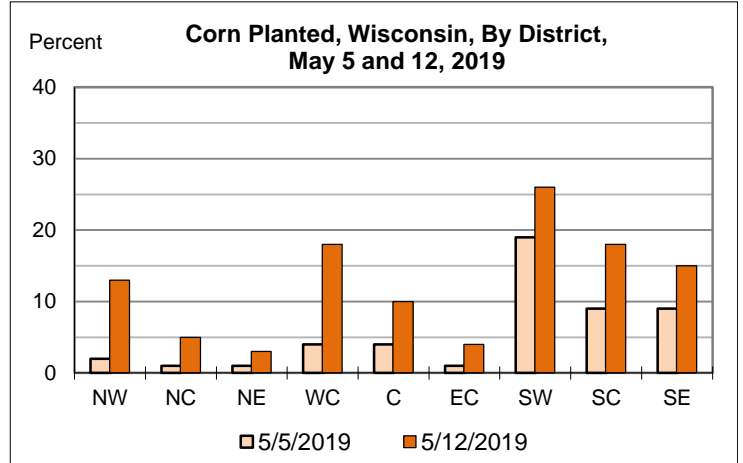
**Oats** planted were reported as 41 percent complete, even with last year but 11 days behind the average. Nineteen percent of oats had emerged, 2 days ahead of last year but 8 days behind the average.

**Potato** planting was reported as 59 percent complete, 6 days ahead of last year but 4 days behind of the average.

**All hay** condition was reported 36 percent in good to excellent condition.

**Pasture** condition was rated 41 percent in good to excellent condition, up 5 percentage points from last week.

*Wisconsin Crop Progress and Condition* will publish this year's alfalfa winterkill estimates on Monday, May 20.



### Crop Condition as of May 12, 2019

	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Hay (all) .....	19	16	29	30	6
Pasture & range...	5	17	37	33	8
Winter wheat.....	4	13	38	33	12

### Crop Progress as of May 12, 2019

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Corn planted .....	(percent) 13	(percent) 5	(percent) 3	(percent) 18	(percent) 10	(percent) 4	(percent) 26	(percent) 18	(percent) 15	(percent) 14	(percent) 7	(percent) 28	(percent) 46
Oats planted .....	33	10	15	38	30	28	70	76	63	41	28	41	66
Oats emerged.....	5	1	2	12	4	8	43	51	30	19	11	17	37
Spring tillage.....	33	10	12	47	46	24	72	48	51	41	29	45	61

### Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of May 12, 2019

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
Days suitable .....	(percent) 3.2	(percent) 3.6	(percent) 2.6	(percent) 3.8	(percent) 3.4	(percent) 2.6	(percent) 2.9	(percent) 2.3	(percent) 2.5	(percent) 3.0	(percent) 2.6	(percent) 3.2
Topsoil moisture												
Very short .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short .....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Adequate .....	56	31	51	54	66	51	83	65	54	59	60	71
Surplus .....	44	69	49	45	34	49	17	35	46	41	40	27
Subsoil moisture												
Very short .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short .....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Adequate .....	63	35	47	59	71	47	88	66	61	62	64	76
Surplus .....	37	65	53	40	29	53	12	34	39	38	36	19

# Wisconsin Crop Progress

## Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

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

**NW—BAYFIELD/DOUGLAS-K.R.:** Late spring snowstorm set spring tillage back. Hay fields are greening up nicely.

**NW—BARRON-P.T.:** There is almost complete winterkill for alfalfa. I have never seen it this bad ever.

**NW—RUSK/SAWYER-S.V.:** Only 1 day suitable for tillage if the fields were dry enough to get into.

**NC—MARATHON-A.N.:** Farmers are worried. Markets down. Growing conditions are difficult. Dead hay has messed up planned crop rotations.

**NE—OCONTO-G.J.:** In our neck of the woods, about 3 days of fieldwork could be done. Just starting to get on lower well drained soils mid-week then 1.8 inches of rain fell Wednesday afternoon and most of the day on Thursday. All is at a standstill for now. Hoping for warmer temps this coming week.

**NE—SHAWANO-S.S.:** Tuesday and Wednesday we finally got back in the field to combine some soybeans from the 2018 crop. Field was very wet and muddy but the beans were less than 12% moisture. Then Wednesday afternoon we received about a 1.5 inches of rain so waiting for it to dry again.

**WC—LA CROSSE-I.H.:** Another very cool week with just a few days for field work. Below normal temps, above normal precipitation.

**WC—PIERCE-D.S.:** Lots of hay was winterkilled this year.

**C—ADAMS/MARQUETTE/WAUSHARA-L.M.:** Another very wet week. Progress is being made between rain events. Hay crops are looking good while winter wheat appears to be spotty.

**C—PORTAGE/WOOD-J.W.:** Making good progress planting on sandy soils, heavier soils are very wet. Fieldwork is stalled. Manure hauling continued. Wood ticks are present. Fiddleheads emerging in wooded areas. A cool and wet week, need warm and dry.

**EC—BROWN-J.M.:** Wet conditions continue. 1.5 inches of rain 5/9/2019.

**EC—MANITOWOC-M.R.:** Finally heard of a couple corn planters rolling early in the week on some lighter ground, but they were halted mid-week with more rain. Some manure being moved out on fields where conditions allow. I think everyone would welcome a few weeks of nice and dry weather to allow a significant portion of the field work to get done that needs to be done here soon.

**SW—IOWA/RICHLAND/SAUK-L.A.:** The water table on many fields is still too high to be able to do tillage and planting. We may end up not planting 10-15% of our acres due to high water table.

**SC—DANE-F.P.:** Considerable progress has been made in planting corn. There are wet spots in fields, and some fields are too wet for planting.

**SC—GREEN-J.T.:** There have been a lot of rainy days but not a lot of actual precipitation. Our hills dry out quickly, and activity picked up over the weekend. Some have over half the corn and beans planted while others have not started.

**SE—WALWORTH-C.O.:** Rainy, cool, breezy.

### Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 12, 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 May 11	Mar. 1 to May 11 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire.....	59	38	67	31	48	-6	168	213	1.27	8.15	+2.25	12.95	+5.20
Green Bay .....	58	41	73	37	50	-3	139	176	1.15	7.51	+2.03	12.56	+4.86
La Crosse .....	61	45	76	36	53	-4	239	256	1.11	7.04	+0.47	12.24	+3.50
Madison.....	60	42	74	37	51	-3	223	254	1.37	7.13	+0.41	13.23	+3.98
Milwaukee.....	58	43	75	39	50	-2	170	NA	1.33	7.61	+0.08	13.39	+2.42

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 <https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more weather data, please reference the following sites:  
<https://www.noaa.gov/> <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/> <https://www.cocorahs.org/> <https://www.weather.gov/>

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.