



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 August 11, 2019
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Wisconsin had 5.0 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending August 11, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Conditions were excellent for crop growth and pollination this week, with plenty of sun and daytime temperatures in the 70s and 80s. Thunderstorms brought needed moisture to most of the state, though rainfall totals varied. Some reporters in the eastern and southern parts of the state noted fields were full of standing water and mud yet again after localized heavy downpours. Conditions were drier in the northwest, however, where reporters commented crops were still looking thirsty. In many areas, fields were reportedly uneven and showed large variations in crop development and condition. Farmers were combining small grains and baling straw and dry hay where field conditions were favorable.

Topsoil moisture condition was rated 1 percent very short, 7 percent short, 80 percent adequate and 12 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 5 percent short, 81 percent adequate and 14 percent surplus.

Corn silking was reported at 72 percent complete, 15 days behind last year and 11 days behind the 5-year average. Fourteen percent of corn has reached the dough stage, 11 days behind last year and 8 days behind the average. Corn condition was 63 percent good to excellent, down 2 percentage points from last week.

Soybeans blooming was reported at 75 percent, 15 days behind last year and 14 days behind the average. Fifty percent of soybeans were setting pods, 11 days behind the average. Soybean condition was 66 percent good to excellent, down 3 percentage points from last week.

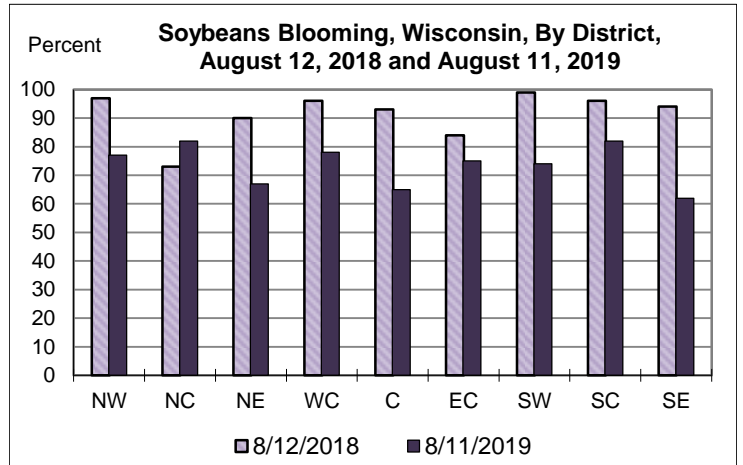
Ninety-eight percent of **winter wheat** acres were coloring, with all districts above 85 percent colored. Winter wheat harvest was reported as 69 percent complete, with southern Wisconsin well ahead of the northern districts. Winter wheat harvest is 10 days behind last year and 1 week behind the average.

Ninety-eight percent of **oats** had headed, with all districts above 90 percent headed. Eight-seven percent of oats were coloring or beyond, 11 days behind the average. Oats were 40 percent harvested, 5 days behind the average. Oat condition was 71 percent good to excellent, down 5 percentage points from last week.

Potato harvest was reported as 9 percent complete, 1 week behind both last year and the average. Potato condition was 83 percent good to excellent, down 2 percentage points from last week.

The second cutting of **alfalfa** hay was reported as 93 percent complete, 14 days later than last year and 10 days later than the average. The third cutting was reported as 42 percent complete, 10 days behind last year and 8 days behind the average. **All hay** condition was reported 58 percent in good to excellent condition.

Pasture condition was rated 63 percent in good to excellent condition.



Crop Condition as of August 11, 2019

	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn	3	9	25	45	18
Hay (all)	4	10	28	41	17
Oats	2	6	21	51	20
Pasture & range...	2	7	28	46	17
Potatoes	1	4	12	58	25
Soybeans	1	7	26	46	20

Crop Progress as of August 11, 2019

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	97	67	98	91	92	99	95	98	98	93	87	99	98
Alfalfa hay, third cutting	48	20	44	38	20	44	48	54	60	42	23	66	62
Corn silking	75	63	56	80	59	64	83	83	53	72	53	93	91
Corn dough	5	6	1	13	21	3	27	22	13	14	4	43	34
Oats coloring	79	67	90	88	85	86	94	96	98	87	74	96	96
Oats harvested	28	12	19	48	34	31	71	62	75	40	24	48	51
Soybeans blooming	77	82	67	78	65	75	74	82	62	75	66	92	92
Soybeans setting pods	39	26	42	68	27	39	54	68	37	50	29	78	76
Winter wheat harvested	38	22	27	52	47	65	61	91	89	69	46	91	87

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of August 11, 2019

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)
Days suitable	5.1	6.0	3.9	5.1	5.6	3.3	5.5	5.4	5.7	5.0	6.0	5.9
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	2	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	6
Short	17	6	0	15	4	2	6	6	8	7	12	28
Adequate	65	84	63	74	87	77	92	85	82	80	76	65
Surplus	16	9	37	11	8	20	2	9	10	12	10	1
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	4
Short	10	6	0	7	5	2	5	5	3	5	5	24
Adequate	74	72	49	82	87	77	94	85	85	81	82	70
Surplus	16	22	51	11	8	20	1	10	12	14	12	2

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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.

NW—BAYFIELD/DOUGLAS-K.R.: A little on the dry side. Scattered thunderstorms Wednesday have helped. Corn and beans are progressing nicely.

NW/WC—CHIPPEWA/EAU CLAIRE-J.C.: Drier weather allowed for excellent haymaking conditions. Some heavy localized rains halted harvesting for a few days. Irrigation occurring on fields where rain has missed the last two weeks.

NC—MARATHON-A.N.: There is extreme variability within the fields as far as crop maturity and quality. Lots of bugs.

NE—SHAWANO-B.R.: More wet weather and water standing in the fields. We had anywhere from 2.5 to 5 inches of rain in the county this week. Haylage harvest and wheat combining struggled between the rains. Alfalfa is growing very well in these conditions. Corn is now finally tasseling.

WC—TREMPEALEAU-L.N.: Pastures seem slow to recover this year. Some corn fields very uneven. Baled hay (small squares) going for premium price off the field in anticipation of a hay shortage.

C/EC—OUTAGAMIE/WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Heavy rain accompanied severe thunderstorms Monday and Wednesday evenings this past week. Soil conditions have become very wet again. Winter wheat harvest is going full tilt.

EC—KEWAUNEE-T.S.: This area received right around 5 inches of rain this past week, which really made the ground wet again. The soil has been wet for most of the year, and it's really been a challenge trying to get any field work done. But, even with this deluge, the crops are growing and for the most part are looking okay. As has been the case all year so far, the corn is by far the worst looking crop. Most fields in this area are uneven. This will be a problem when the time comes to harvest this crop, as parts of the corn will be mature while others won't be. Most likely, a great deal of this corn will be chopped for silage. The corn crop that is on the higher and better drained soils is looking very good. That is definitely where the best corn can be found this year. It's somewhat unusual for that corn to look good at this point of August; normally now it's stressed out from a lack of rain. That hasn't been an issue this year. The soybeans are really looking good now. They have weathered the excessive rain quite well this year and are growing tall. Some winter wheat and oats combining has been taking place this week, although the soil has been wet and ruts are being made. The wet soils are causing a delay in getting the straw off as the ground in some spots is too soft to adequately support the chopping equipment. At this time, it appears both crops are yielding well. This is amazing considering the crazy weather conditions that have existed here going back to last winter. A few producers are harvesting third crop alfalfa now. Manure is being hauled out, but care must be taken so that any rain

will not cause the manure to run off of the fields into any nearby bodies of water.

EC/SE—FOND DU LAC/WASHINGTON-B.B.: Good rains between August 3rd through the 7th with totals from 1.80 to 3.80 inches will help with the kernel/bean set and recovery of the third cropped alfalfa. Crops are still about two weeks behind but it's at least steady as it goes for now.

SW—CRAWFORD/GRANT-M.D.: Last two weeks have had ideal weather, getting an inch of rain each week and sunny the other six days.

SC—COLUMBIA-G.K.: Was a challenge getting wheat harvest and the straw baled again this week. Tough to string together three days in a row without rain.

SC—DANE-F.P.: A lot of corn is in the milk stage. Much of the third crop hay has been harvested. Some trees and shrubs are showing the effects of the cold winter weather.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 11, 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 Aug. 10	Mar. 1 to Aug. 10 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire.....	82	59	86	50	70	-1	1708	1730	0.98	9.73	+0.20	28.09	+8.17
Green Bay	82	61	86	56	72	+2	1728	1603	3.38	12.26	+4.25	28.19	+10.58
La Crosse	86	65	92	55	76	+2	2127	1936	0.71	12.60	+3.06	29.51	+9.02
Madison.....	82	61	86	54	72	+1	1949	1884	1.35	12.39	+3.08	30.10	+9.35
Milwaukee.....	83	66	90	63	75	+3	1787	NA	1.18	8.79	+0.50	26.61	+5.33

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.