



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

June 23, 2003

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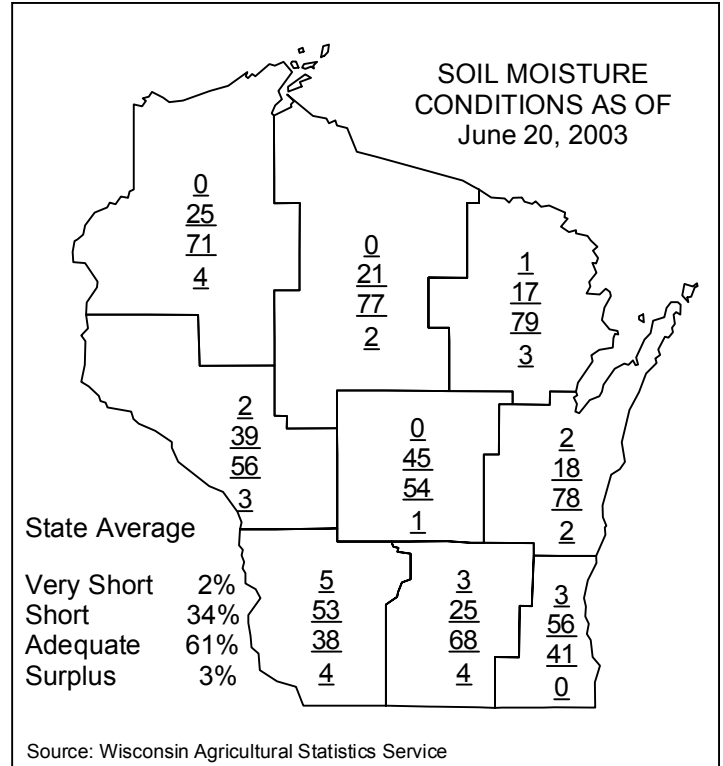
Spring Ends with Favorable Conditions

The last week of spring finally brought some warmer temperatures and sunny conditions. It was a perfect week to catch up on many field activities. There was an average of 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Temperatures for the week were mostly in the normal range for this time of year, with a few days of temperatures in the 80's. There were some scattered reports of rain, but most areas were under .25 inch for the week. Producers would love to see a good, soaking rain to nourish the crops. Topsoil moisture condition was ranked at 2% very short, 34% short, 61% adequate, and 3% surplus. The southern third of the state was the driest area, and has fallen behind normal season-to-date precipitation levels. Pasture field conditions were reported as 1% very poor, 9% poor, 36% fair, 47% good, and 7% excellent.

The dry week allowed for harvest of first crop **alfalfa** to jump ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. The near perfect harvest conditions made it possible to make haylage or dry hay. The crop was described as being good quality, but poor quantity was noted in many areas. Producers that waited for better quantity had to sacrifice quality as the crop matured. Regrowth of second crop was reported as good, but it could certainly use a rainfall. **Winter wheat** and **oats** were both heading out across the state. The condition of both crops was mostly good to excellent, but straw may be short. Oatlage was being harvested in some areas.

The warm weather and sun turned the **corn** a deeper green color and pushed average height of corn to 12 inches compared to 10 inches last year, and close to the 5-year average of 15 inches high. Application of Nitrogen and herbicides were common activities. **Soybeans** emerged rapidly in the favorable weather. Soybeans emerged were at 91%, equal to last year and 1 point behind the 5-year average.

Strawberry harvest has begun in some areas, with good quality reported. **Potatoes** and **cranberries** were beginning to bloom in Portage County. Early **pea** harvest was set to begin in Grant County. Planting of **tobacco** was winding down in Dane County, and planted acres look good.

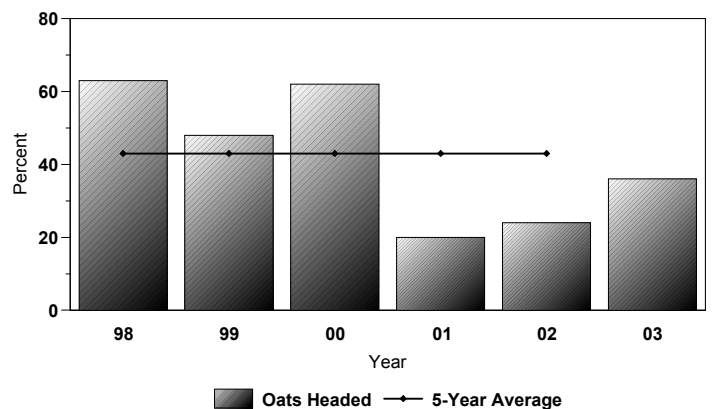


Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of June 20, 2003

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	1	9	36	47	7
Winter wheat	2	3	19	52	24
Oat	1	3	19	62	15
Corn	1	3	19	61	16
Soybeans	1	3	16	68	12

Percentage of Oats Headed

June 22, 1998-2003



Wisconsin Crop Progress, June 22, 2003

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This year	Last year	5-year average
Oats headed	13	11	21	34	24	20	56	54	45	36	24	43
Corn emerged	96	99	96	98	99	94	97	96	99	96	96	96
Average height of corn	10	7	9	12	9	9	14	15	12	12	10	15
Soybeans emerged	90	93	88	91	88	88	92	90	97	91	91	92
First cutting hay	71	62	78	86	75	89	85	88	92	81	60	72

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-D.B.: It was an excellent week for alfalfa harvest, with most farmers done. Good quality, but below normal yields. Corn and soybeans really doing well; could use a nice shower.

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Coarse-textured soils are becoming very dry. Leafhoppers have arrived, but populations remain low. Common leaf spot is affecting many fields. Soybeans are ready to be sprayed. There is no sign of soybean aphids yet. Corn is progressing, but some preemergence herbicides appear to have not worked.

PRICE-M.P.: Corn looks good, needs more warm nights. Weather is great for making hay, but quantity is down. More freeze-out than we realized earlier.

OCONTO-K.H.: All crops looking good. Good heat the past week has helped move things along. Dry week helped move hay harvest along. Reports on yields and quality vary. Tent caterpillars and gypsy moths are doing their thing; about half grown. No mass defoliation in the immediate area, but have heard there is some in the northern part of the county.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Corn and soybean emergence was uneven, and it is really starting to show in the height of the plants. The color of the plants is excellent, but we need heat to give it a good boost. Much hay and haylage made this week, with quality and quantity varying a great deal with each field. Many fields being plowed up now, with soybeans being planted into them.

DUNN-S.S.: First crop hay quantity only fair, quality good. Most all crops have been looking good. Regrowth not doing much, look for short hay supplies.

ST. CROIX-L.M.: A week of no rain has slowed corn development. Some corn on sandy ground was curling late last week. Rain will help speed development. Some corn is beginning to canopy. First crop harvest continues. Alfalfa weevils and leafhoppers are present. So far they are in scattered fields. Early-cut alfalfa regrowth looks good.

WAUPACA-D.H.: Crops are growing well with warmer temperatures and the sunshine. Everyday this past week has been suitable for fieldwork or harvesting haylage. Corn is still yellow, but improving. Oats is starting to head.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: With the warm weather, corn and soybeans are growing fast now and have a good color. The quantity of first crop hay has increased, but quality is not good anymore.

MANITOWOC-H.W.: Corn, soybeans, oats, and barley seem good, but need a rain, as no rain fell during the week. Most of hay done, but early-cut fields are brown, need rain badly. Seems crops shorter than usual; too dry and cold.

WINNEBAGO-R.H.: Corn and soybeans look good, as the corn has turned from yellow to green with the warmer weather during the daylight hours. Lots of early peas in blossom, and they look super. Most of the first crop hay has been either chopped or baled. Some second crop hay looks very good if fertilized and cut early.

GRANT-G.C.: Excellent weather for baling quality dry hay. Could not ask for better haying weather. Yields and quality are great. Lots of soybean fields are spotty with areas of poor emergence. Corn has taken off and starting to grow with good color.

LAFAYETTE-L.W.: Second crop hay is coming on fast. Saw some cut yesterday. Need rain soon to avoid reduced second crop where first cut was made a little later. Most reports about quantity and quality of first crop hay was good. Corn and soybeans look good, but a good rain would be very beneficial.

COLUMBIA-R.S.: Corn is coming very slow, as well as the soybeans. Weeds are showing up and need to be sprayed. Winter wheat appears to be short. There will not be nearly as much wheat straw available. Oat fields are some what uneven, but that is normal during dry weather.

DODGE-L.P.: Soybeans and corn are alright, but are not growing very good. Oats doing very good; nice dark green. Some hayfields are short.

RACINE-L.F.: Now that warm weather has arrived, you can hear the crops growing. Wheat will probably be ready in a month, looks great.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Corn is alright, but dry. Good haymaking weather. Sprays control weeds in corn and soybeans.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on June 22, 2003

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 June 21	Mar. 1 to June 21 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	84	52	88	46	68	1	848	766	0.00	2.12	-0.86	13.00
Green Bay	77	49	81	42	63	-3	618	681	0.13	2.87	0.56	11.89
La Crosse	84	56	88	49	70	0	900	870	0.00	1.64	-1.04	11.66
Madison	81	50	87	40	65	-3	765	858	0.19	0.59	-2.21	9.83
Milwaukee	71	52	85	47	62	-5	540	n.a.	0.01	0.89	-1.51	9.59

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 1961-90 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. N.a. = not available. T = trace.