



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

June 30, 2003

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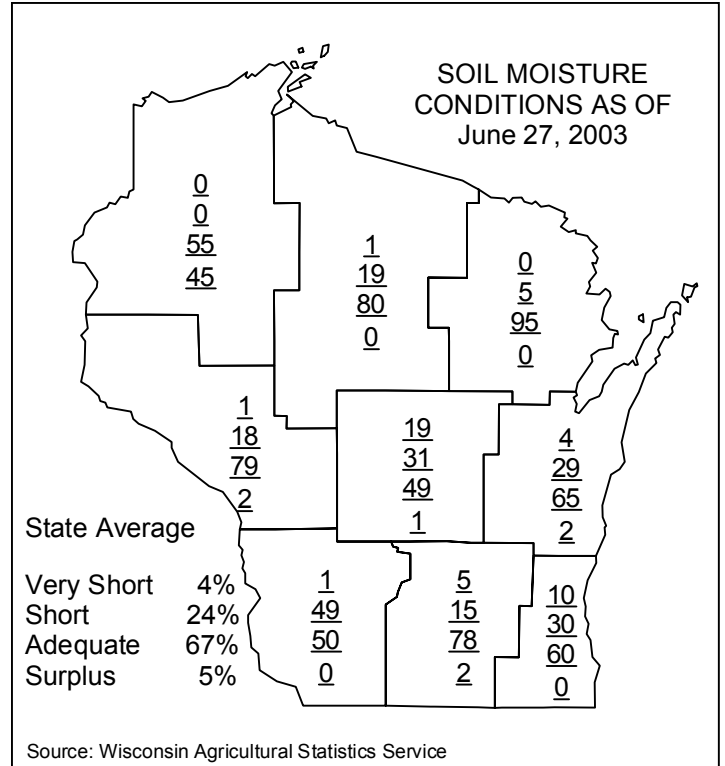
Summer Arrives with Rains and Warmth

The first week of summer brought improved farming conditions to Wisconsin. Rains and warmer temperatures were welcomed around the Badger State. There was an average of 4.9 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Temperatures were at or above normal for the first time since mid-May. This good news was accompanied with rains that fell across the state. Most areas of the state received from .75 to 1.50 inches of rain for the week. The rains were also conveniently scattered throughout the week. Topsoil moisture conditions were rated as 4% very short, 24% short, 67% adequate, and 5% surplus. Many areas of the state are still behind season-to-date totals for precipitation, but the rains are coming at appropriate times for crop development. Pasture field conditions were reported as 1% very poor, 7% poor, 35% fair, 50% good, and 7% excellent.

The rains of the past week will go a long way to improve second-crop **alfalfa** production. First cutting hay harvest, at 91% complete, surpassed both last year's 78% and the 5-year average of 86%. The crop was described as good quality, but lacking in quantity. Cool spring temperatures and damage from winterkill were blamed for the short first crop. Second crop harvest has begun in the southern two-thirds of the state. **Winter wheat** has headed out and is beginning to change color across the southern tier of counties. **Oats** headed out reached 68% for the week, above the 50% last year and equal to the 5-year average. Harvest of small grain silage continued. Winter wheat condition was ranked as 98% fair to excellent, with oats at 93% fair to excellent.

The **corn** crop across the state showed the most progress for the week. Warmer temperatures with some warm nights pushed corn growth. Average height of corn was at 19 inches, still slightly behind last year and the 5-year average, but farmers commented that corn was really beginning to stretch out. **Soybeans** enjoyed the warm weather and added moisture also. Many fields that were slow to develop in the spring, showed improved progress this past week. Soybean condition was rated 4% poor, 22% fair, 58% good, and 16% excellent.

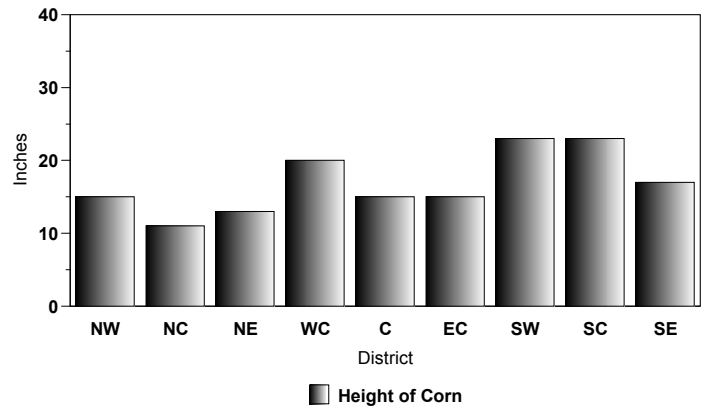
Spraying of pesticides and herbicides continued wherever problems occurred. Harvest of early **peas** continued in canning areas. **Strawberry** harvest was also underway. **Potatoes** were in full bloom, with good vine growth reported in Pepin County. **Cranberry** bloom was very good in Portage County.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of June 27, 2003					
Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	1	7	35	50	7
Winter wheat	0	2	19	56	23
Oat	0	7	18	60	15
Corn	1	6	23	53	17
Soybeans	0	4	22	58	16

Average Corn Height by District

Wisconsin - June 29, 2003



Wisconsin Crop Progress, June 29, 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	46	50	40	77	71	63	88	82	79	68	50	68
Average height of corn	15	11	13	20	15	15	23	23	17	19	21	25
First cutting hay	79	85	87	95	89	94	93	95	97	91	78	86

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-T.J.: Two much-needed rains this past week yielded 2-3 inches of rain. The timing was just right for most producers.

BAYFIELD-S.S.: First crop hay is short. A lot of legumes killed during the winter. Received some much-needed moisture. Now need nice weather to continue first crop hay harvest.

MARATHON-M.K.: The heat is getting the crops to grow. The second crop hay will be better than first crop, if we get rain.

VILAS-L.K.: Need rain bad. Everything slow.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Second hay crop regrowth off to a good start. Hot weather this week helped move the corn and soybeans along and they are looking better. Oats is heading out, and the new seeding is coming along fine.

JACKSON-W.E.: Some second crop hay looks good. Older seeding is very poor.

MONROE-W.H.: Corn and soybeans have benefitted greatly from the warmer temperatures. Weed pressure is still a problem in fields that have not been sprayed yet. The last of first cutting hay has finally been cut. Those that cut first in late May have begun cutting second crop hay.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Some corn is knee-high. One early-planted field is waist high. Some early-planted soybeans are flowering.

WOOD-M.L.: Early-planted corn struggling to stay ahead of late, May-planted corn.

FOND DU LAC-R.P.: Corn and soybeans jumped 6 to 8 inches today with the heat. We are in need of moisture on all uplands. Second crop hay looks good on early-harvested first crop fields. We are looking at an average winter wheat yield this year. Some disease pressure in all fields. Oats are varying greatly in condition from yellow and started to grow very tall and green.

SHEBOYGAN-T.B.: Corn and soybeans grew very well this week with some GDD's, both crops are looking great. We are still dealing with Alfalfa Weevil in second crop hay, but unusually high reports of Aphids and plantbugs have some growers opting for insecticide treatments. First crop hay was better than average in both tonnage and protein.

IOWA-S.M.: Area crops received a much-needed rain this week. Farmers are starting to cut second crop alfalfa. Winter

wheat is starting to turn color. Most soybeans will canopy in seven days.

SAUK-D.H.: First crop hay has very good quality.

DANE-C.B.: Corn is progressing nicely, pay close attention to leaf collars to be sure post-applied herbicides are applied correctly. Corn post spraying is wrapping up, and many are switching to spraying soybeans. Leafhoppers are presently over threshold in most fields, spray before the plants turn yellow and damage has already been done. Few are beginning to cut second crop alfalfa this week.

GREEN-M.M.: Received some much-needed rain this past week. Many are starting second crop hay harvest. Corn and soybeans look much better after the rain.

WALWORTH-E.P.: Winter wheat starting to change color. The rain will help everything. Came to Phillips for breakfast Wednesday morning to a heavy rainstorm. They needed rain almost as bad as we did.

WASHINGTON-L.K.: First crop hay is all but done, only a field here or there remains. Second growth on early-cut hay is good. Late cut hay is being affected by the dryness. Corn leaves are starting to roll and turn gray in places. Weed control for post and pre emerge herbicide is very erratic because of the dry conditions. Some with hay to be cut have been noticing some sandhill crane damage on late-planted stands, or else corn seeds are picked down the row. Oats are uneven, and I suspect the wheat will be too. It didn't all finish heading the same time. Soybeans are slow to grow and are not making much progress.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on June 29, 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 28	Mar. 1 to June 28 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	80	60	90	52	70	1	986	890	0.83	2.95	-0.98	13.83
Green Bay	78	58	88	52	68	0	747	799	0.85	3.72	0.60	12.74
La Crosse	82	62	92	55	72	0	1055	1010	0.83	2.47	-1.21	12.49
Madison	84	62	92	53	73	4	918	993	1.51	2.10	-1.65	11.34
Milwaukee	83	60	93	54	72	3	686	n.a.	0.60	1.49	-1.74	10.19

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.