



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

June 1, 2004

Vol. 04, No. 08

## Rain, Rain Go Away

This past week there has been a considerable amount of rain throughout the state. Season-to-date precipitation is 1 to 5 inches above normal. Southcentral Wisconsin received a record amount of rain for the month of May. In some places the ground is saturated, with water standing in the corn and soybean fields. Silting and soil erosion has taken place in some areas. Soil moisture conditions were reported to be 44% adequate, and 56% surplus.

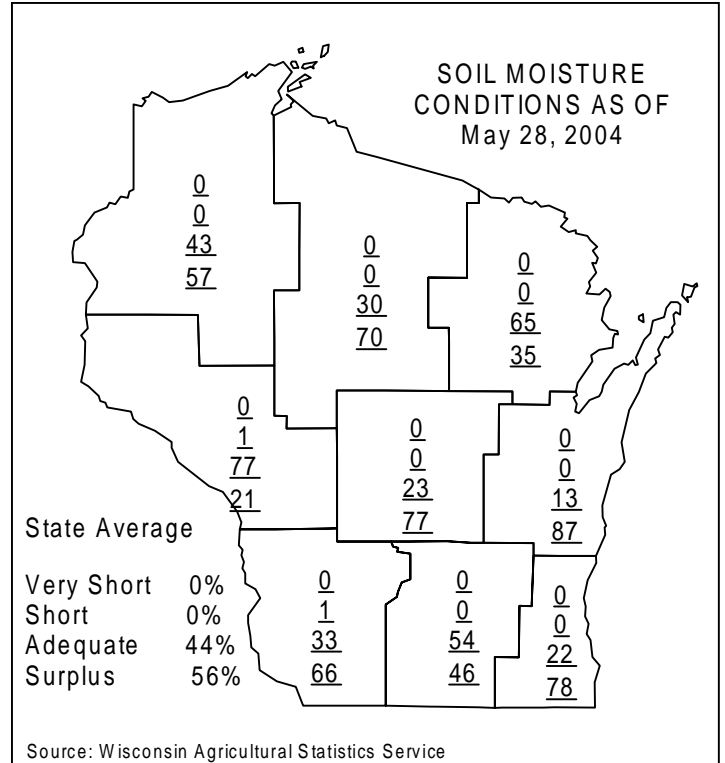
Average temperatures were 4 to 8 degrees below normal for this time of year. Temperatures ranged from the highs in the 70's to the lows in the mid-40's. There was an average of 2.2 days suitable for fieldwork this past week.

**Spring tillage** is 89% complete, behind both last year at 90%, and the 5-year average of 93%. This is the first time this year that tillage has been behind normal. Field conditions were very wet. Right now farmers are hoping that the rain will go away so spring tillage and planting can be completed. Warm, sunny weather would be welcome.

**Oats** emerged are reported at 95% , compared to 88% last year, and the 5-year average of 90%. **Corn** planted is reported at 85%, compared to 86% last year, and the 5-year average of 89%. Emergence is reported at 63%, compared to 46% last year, and the 5-year average of 59%. **Soybean** planting is reported at 55%, behind last year's average of 60%, and the 5-year average of 69%. Emergence is reported at 28%, ahead of last year's average of 18%, but behind the 5-year average of 31%. First cutting **hay** is reported at 6%, well behind last year's average of 11%, and the 5-year average of 18%. Hay crops are showing good growth, but rain has hindered many farmers from getting into the field to harvest the first crop hay. For the crops that are planted and not sitting in water, they are emerging quite well in spite of the cool, damp conditions. In areas where water is sitting in the fields, corn is starting to show signs of yellowing.

**Pasture** conditions were reported as 1% very poor, 3% poor, 12% fair, 59% good, and 25% excellent. **Oat** conditions were reported as 1% very poor, 7% poor, 19% fair, 53% good, and 20% excellent. **Corn** conditions were reported as 3% very poor, 12% poor, 28% fair, 43% good, and 14% excellent. **Winter wheat** conditions were reported as 1% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 42% good, and 30% excellent.

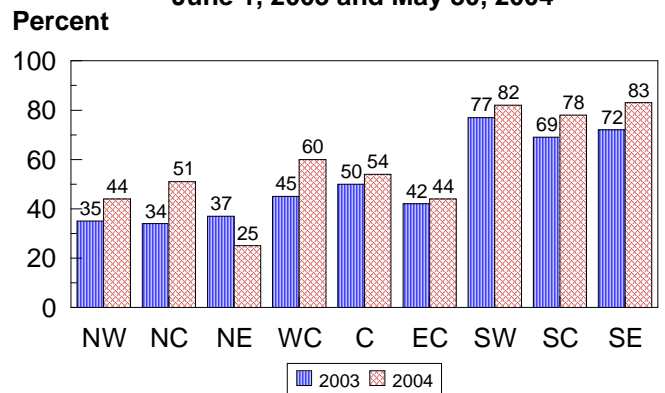
**Potatoes** on sandy soils are doing quite well with the rain and cool weather. **Cherries** are almost through blossoming.



Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	1	3	12	59	25
Oats	1	7	19	53	20
Corn	3	12	28	43	14
Winter wheat	1	5	22	42	30

## Corn Emerged

Wisconsin by District  
June 1, 2003 and May 30, 2004



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 emerged	97	100	92	100	97	80	98	100	100	95	88	90
Corn planted	86	91	52	91	78	70	90	89	86	85	86	89
Corn emerged	44	51	25	60	54	44	82	78	83	63	46	59
Soybeans planted	59	65	25	56	55	37	87	52	48	55	60	69
Soybeans emerged	16	30	11	10	21	14	63	29	44	28	18	31
First cutting hay	1	0	0	3	6	3	19	7	8	6	11	18
Spring tillage completed	93	94	75	95	86	77	95	86	90	89	90	93

**Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents**

**BARRON-A.B.:** It is wet and cold. Corn is yellow and slow. Hay will start in ten days.

**BAYFIELD-S.S.:** Fields are too wet to get into. Oats are coming alright, but showing some signs of yellowing because of too much rain.

**BURNETT-R.B.:** Even on the sand, too wet to go anywhere off sod. Have some corn planted for almost two weeks-not up, about the only thing growing is grass.

**MARATHON-M.K.:** Fields are very wet. There is no first crop hay harvested yet.

**VILAS-L.K.:** Hayfields are coming nicely due to adequate moisture. Oats looking real good. Could use a few more degrees of heat.

**FOREST-A.K.:** Oats are up. We are done planting corn. Hay is short.

**MARINETTE-S.R.:** Although little flooding of previously planted crops, the remaining unplanted fields may be far away from workability. Alfalfa still short and in vegetative stage.

**DUNN-S.S.:** Old alfalfa fields hit pretty hard by winterkill. New seeding looks good. Much-needed rain this past week slowed all fieldwork down, but very welcomed. Still some soybeans yet to be planted. Most corn is in and looking pretty good. Hay seems to be coming on, but will grow more with some warmer weather.

**EAU CLAIRE-R.S.:** First year alfalfa looks real good, some older meadows have a lot of alfalfa killed. All planting and tillage has come to a standstill due to frequent rains. We need some heat soon, as corn is yellow and not growing at this point; too cold at night.

**PEPIN-H.R.:** Some winterkill on the old stands in this area. There is no reseeding done. Most tillage is completed, except on low ground. Emergence of crops planted so far look good. Some soybeans on heavy soil planted before the hard rain may have some crusting of the soil.

**GREEN LAKE-D.S.:** Spring fieldwork was delayed almost the entire week due to excessive rain. Corn and soybeans that have emerged are decreasing in quality with every day of additional rain.

**WAUPACA-D.H.:** Very little progress planting or tilling. Oats and corn on heavy ground really show stress from excess moisture. Getting too late for corn now-maybe soybeans if people get going again on planting.

**CALUMET-M.G.:** Due to flooded fields, an estimated 20% of the corn will need to be replanted. There is now concern that herbicides may not work because of too much rain.

**DOOR-R.S.:** There is no reseeding of winter wheat or alfalfa.

**GRANT-L.F.:** There is no winterkill in alfalfa in our area, as most alfalfa is being cut or near cutting stage. Some or most of the winter wheat looks really good. Most spring tillage is done, but will not be finished for awhile. Ground is really saturated with water standing in corn fields and soybeans. This is serious in corn that is up, also soybeans, they will drown. There will be replanting when conditions presents itself. Lots of deep ditches in the fields due to rain and run off.

**SAUK-D.H.:** Alfalfa and winter wheat look good.

**DODGE-M.E.:** With over 16 inches of rain since May 7, all fieldwork has come to a complete stop. Some crop conditions have deteriorated because of constant flooding of fields.

**ROCK-S.H.:** Winter wheat is heading. Alfalfa is slow to harvest because of rain. Very little corn to plant or replant. Some ground still too wet to plant soybeans. Corn starting to get better color with some sunny days. Very little soybean leaf beetle pressure.

**WASHINGTON-R.B.:** Alfalfa has bugs. One farmer started to cut alfalfa on Friday. Wheat is heading out. Friday, farmers all over were trying to do fieldwork. One farmer got stuck, and one field was sprayed and left big ruts. Flooded corn is dead, some is rotten. Lost 20% of corn, will replant if it dries. Sunday was the wettest I have ever seen it. Total fields under water, soil erosion very bad. Corn has poor color-has yellow tint to it. Need dry and hot weather.

**WAUKESHA-D.W.:** Saturday and Sunday were very wet, no fieldwork done until Wednesday this week. Many soybeans have been planted this week. Many fields of corn will have to be replanted.



Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service  
 P.O. Box 8934  
 Madison, WI 53708-8934  
 (608) 224-4848  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/rfsetoc.htm>

**Robert J. Battaglia**  
 State Statistician

**Michael Lester**  
 Statistician

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

**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 30, 2004**

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 29	Mar. 1 to May 29 normal *	Last week	Since March 1	March 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	62	45	68	39	54	-8	431	435	2.05	9.18	1.06	12.12
Green Bay	61	44	70	41	52	-8	349	370	1.82	11.95	4.84	14.80
La Crosse	66	48	73	45	57	-7	564	502	2.12	12.57	4.08	14.82
Madison	66	48	76	44	57	-4	494	493	1.91	14.18	5.59	16.24
Milwaukee	65	45	79	43	55	-5	437	n.a.	0.78	13.14	4.02	15.67

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.