

Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

May 23, 2005

Vol. 05, No. 08

Cooler Weather Slows Emergence

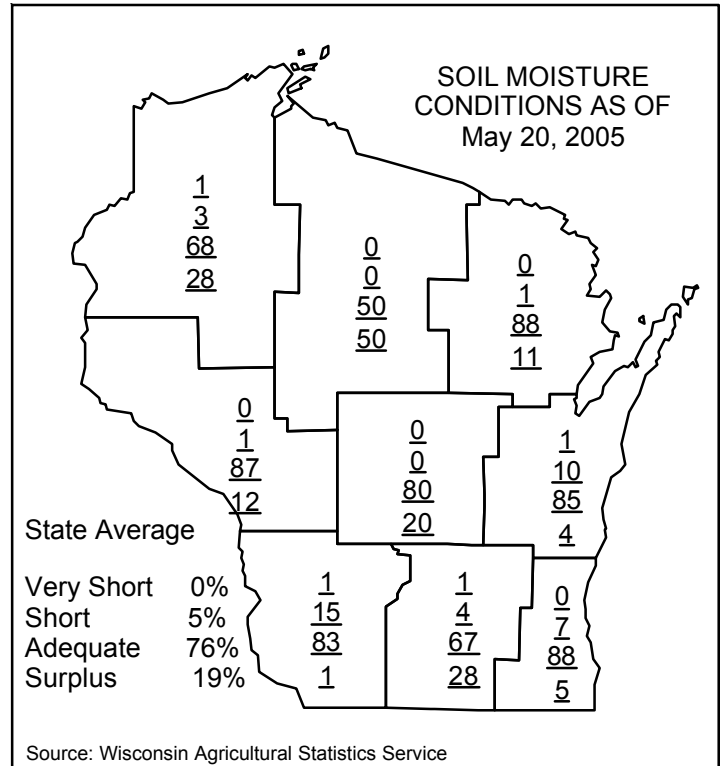
Temperatures were below normal across the state for this time of year, continuing to slow crop emergence. Low temperatures were reported in the low 30s, while high temperatures reached the mid 70s during the week. Rainfall this past week ranged from 0.61 to 1.60 inches, helping out some areas still below average for the season. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 5 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 19 percent surplus. There was an average of 3.8 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Farmers reported that the rainy days hindered their abilities to work in the fields.

Corn planted was reported at 83 percent complete, above both last year's 76 percent, and the 5-year average of 75 percent. Corn emerged was reported as 29 percent complete, much lower than last year's 45 percent, as well as the 5-year average of 39 percent. Although many farmers continued to cite low temperatures as hindering emergence, the corn that has already emerged has benefitted from the recent precipitation.

Oat conditions were reported as 2 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. With nearly all oats planted, oats emerged was at 79 percent, below last year's 89 percent, but above the 5-year average of 76 percent. **Spring tillage** completed was at 87 percent, equal to last year's 87 percent and greater than the 5-year average of 84 percent. **Soybeans** planted was reported at 54 percent complete, significantly above last year's 39 percent, as well as the 5-year average of 43 percent. Soybeans emerged was at 11 percent, higher than last year's 10 percent, but lower than the 5-year average of 13 percent.

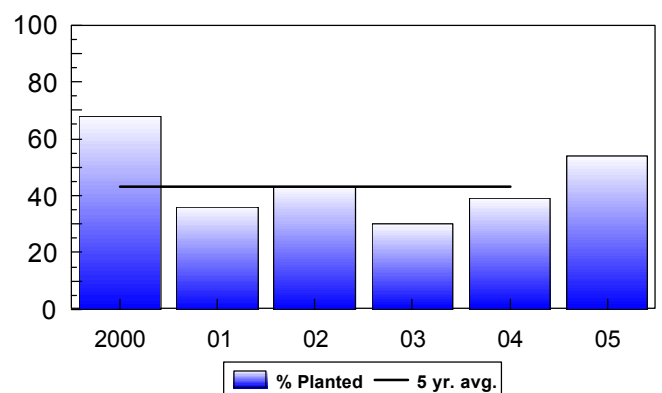
Pasture conditions were rated as 2 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. **Winter wheat** conditions were reported at 4 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 5 percent excellent.

Peas, beans, and other vegetables were planted during the week. **Apple** trees seem to be unaffected by earlier reports of frost, as many are in full bloom. The first **alfalfa** cutting has started in some areas.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 20, 2005					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Oats	0	2	20	63	15
Pasture	2	7	37	47	7
Winter wheat	4	7	30	54	5

Percentage of Soybeans Planted May 22, 2000-2005 Wisconsin



Wisconsin Crop Progress, May 22, 2005

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	62	72	77	75	82	66	94	96	99	79	89	76
Corn planted	65	80	85	73	75	88	94	89	94	83	76	75
Corn emerged	5	8	10	13	13	17	51	43	71	29	45	39
Soybeans planted	19	36	46	30	35	70	69	67	79	54	39	43
Soybeans emerged	0	0	0	0	1	9	10	22	29	11	10	13
Spring tillage completed	80	88	89	79	83	91	92	91	97	87	87	84

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-D.B.: A slow week for spring tillage and planting with rain showers just about everyday. The rain has helped the alfalfa crop and also pastures. The oats look good, and some corn is starting to emerge. Warmer weather would really help things to grow.

CHIPPEWA-J.C.: Wet conditions halted any field progress this week. Early-planted corn is finally emerging. Fields that are not planted have lots of weeds. Alfalfa is short, and many stands are thin.

CLARK-N.S.: Corn and soybeans continue to emerge slowly. Forage growth is also slow with relatively short plant heights.

LINCOLN-F.O.: Weather has been cold and rainy. Rained most all of the days this week. Low temperatures have slowed down emergence of all crops. Some alfalfa fields are being plowed and planted to corn or reseeded. Very little corn or soybeans are emerging.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Corn planted three weeks ago is just poking through the ground. Some areas of the county recieved heavy rains in the last two weeks and farmers are unable to get into their fields. Winter wheat is tillering out nicely and starting to look better.

DUNN-J.F.: Soybeans were being planted between the rain showers. Alfalfa is looking nice. Most farmers have lucked out with the weather. Winter damage was restricted to those spots where water ran and accumulated or ice formed.

MONROE-W.H.: Alfalfa harvest should begin this week. The alfalfa crop has a lot of variation across the county depending on topography and soil type.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Early-planted corn is beginning to emerge. Too wet on heavier soils to make much progress.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: We have had much-needed rain. Now we need warmer weather for crops to grow. Plantings are ahead of schedule.

FOND DU LAC-R.P.: Most poor looking wheat and hayfields are replanted to corn or soybeans. Uneven emerging of crops this spring due to moisture and cold temperatures. Warm weather will help, along with rain. Hayfields that did not get worked under are looking very good with excellent growth.

SHEBOYGAN-T.B.: Spring tillage has progressed better than ever. With the dry soil conditions entire fields have been worked

this year, even wetter areas that seldom get worked up. Corn planting is wrapping up in our area with some corn to be planted following a hay crop on marginal alfalfa fields. Soybean planting is three-quarters completed. Crops have been emerging very slowly, but the rain late last week has many fields finally showing crop rows. Many of the winterkilled alfalfa fields which were rotated to corn are now green with volunteer alfalfa and may pose a weed problem.

GRANT-E.B.: Some who harvest by the calendar are cutting first crop hay. Not much for yield with the frosts and cold weather. The crops all need sun and warmth.

LAFAYETTE-M.R.: I saw one field of alfalfa cut and it looked like poor third crop windrows.

DANE-J.K.: Spring tillage is about complete, except for some speciality crops. Corn is planted, except for some silage corn and sweet corn. Soybeans are going in. Crops are emerging as the warmer days come, but look yellow. Field conditions are still very good.

ROCK-C.O.: Corn is growing very slow, but first crop alfalfa is being harvested with good yields. Some stands loss in corn are being reported, but very spotty.

WASHINGTON-L.K.: Last week was a bust-not enough time spent in the field . Corn is slow to emerge. Soybeans are not emerging at all. Oats are slow also. Stands do not fill in fast at these temperatures. Wheat does not look very good-very spotty. Drowned areas are filling fast with weeds. Heading is about a week away.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: Corn and soybean planting is about done. Some early-planted corn is emerging. Some rain and heat would help. Spraying of corn fields is going full blast.

Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service P.O. Box 8934 Madison, WI 53708-8934 (608) 224-4848 http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/rlsetoc.htm	
Robert J. Battaglia Director	Max Lord 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 22, 2005

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 21	Mar. 1 to May 21 normal *	Last week	Since March 1	March 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	65	47	72	32	56	-3	404	325	0.61	5.91	-1.21	7.80
Green Bay	63	45	74	39	54	-3	304	271	0.81	4.83	-1.52	7.76
La Crosse	67	50	72	41	59	-2	461	379	0.92	6.40	-1.21	9.08
Madison	67	48	73	43	58	-1	430	372	1.60	7.82	0.08	11.47
Milwaukee	60	46	69	42	53	-4	269	n.a.	0.94	5.02	-3.34	10.12

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