



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Field Office of
USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

July 17, 2006

Vol. 06, No. 15

Southern Rains Gives Crops a Boost

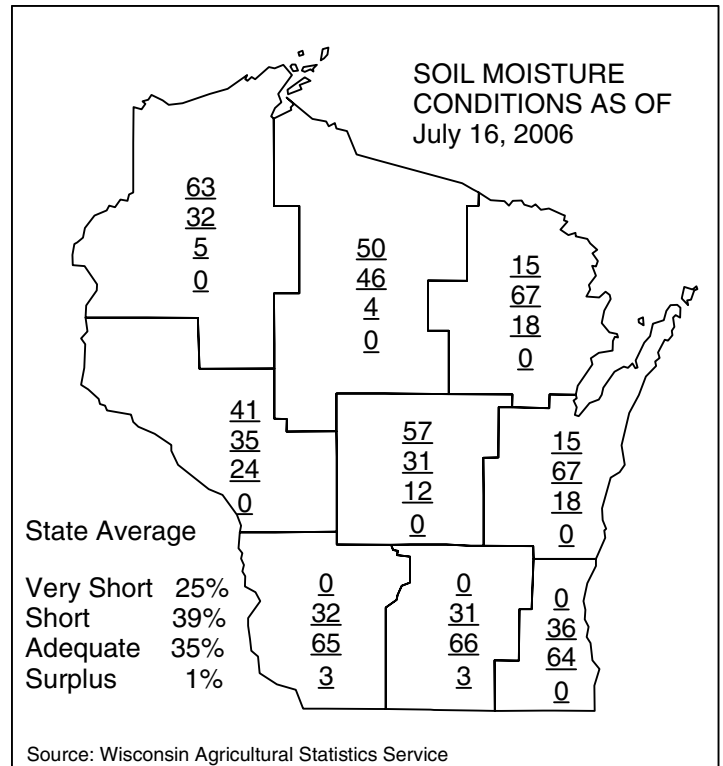
Crops in southern Wisconsin improved due to a nice rain last week, but most northern and eastern areas failed to see much precipitation. Rainfall totals ranged from zero inches in Green Bay to 2.14 inches in Madison and 3.5 inches in Milwaukee. Temperatures were above normal for the week, ranging from 1 to 6 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures were in the mid to high 80s in most areas. Low temperatures averaged in the low to mid 60s during the week. Soil moisture conditions were at 25 percent very short, 39 percent short, 35 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Last week there was an average of 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork in Wisconsin.

Corn silked was at 14 percent, behind last year's progress of 17 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 8 percent, according to the Wisconsin Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn on light soils still showed stress in many northern and east central areas due to lack of rain. Good amounts of rainfall in southern Wisconsin had corn looking very good. Corn height was reported at an average of 64 inches, slightly taller than last year's 62 inches and above the 5-year average of 52 inches.

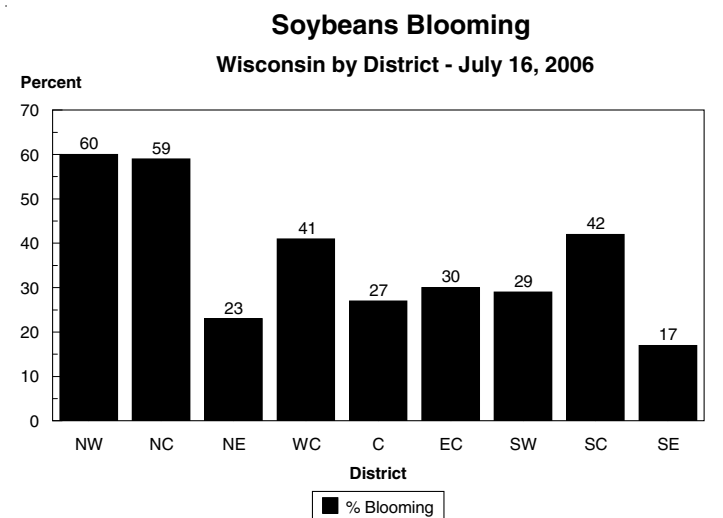
Soybeans bloomed was at 36 percent, behind last year's progress of 53 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 24 percent. Soybeans setting pods was reported at 5 percent complete, behind last year's 13 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 3 percent. Soybeans look good in the south where rain was plentiful, and were mostly fair to good in other parts, despite continued dry weather.

Second cutting **alfalfa** was reported at 67 percent complete, above last year's 58 percent and the 5-year average of 44 percent. Second crop alfalfa harvest continued, with better yields in areas where rain has been sufficient. Third crop regrowth is coming in nicely in parts of southern Wisconsin, but seemed very scarce in some northern parts of the state which lacked rain.

Winter wheat harvested was at 4 percent complete, behind last year's average of 17 percent complete and the 5-year average of 7 percent. **Oats** harvested for grain was reported at 2 percent, behind last year's 7 percent and equal to the 5-year average. **Potato, snap bean, and pickle** harvest was beginning in some parts of the state.



Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	5	10	19	42	24
Soybeans	3	9	23	50	15
Winter wheat	0	2	17	60	21
Oat	3	8	24	53	12
Pasture	20	23	33	20	4



Wisconsin Crop Progress, July 16, 2006

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
Corn silked	15	5	9	22	12	8	30	6	13	14	17	8
Average height of corn	57	64	53	62	54	49	81	71	66	64	62	52
Soybeans bloomed	60	59	23	41	27	30	29	42	17	36	53	24
Soybeans setting pods	10	5	1	2	6	3	1	10	3	5	13	3
Second cutting hay	72	70	78	82	57	50	60	72	42	67	58	44
Oats harvested for grain	5	0	0	5	1	0	1	0	2	2	7	2
Winter wheat harvested	3	1	3	11	14	2	7	6	1	4	17	7

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

CHIPPEWA-J.M.: Corn on the lighter soils is not likely to recover with rain. Alfalfa is not growing after second cutting due to lack of rain.

POLK-C.S.: Corn and soybeans are showing extreme stress. In eastern three-fourths of our county it is seriously damaged or dead. The western area might still do alright if rain is received now. Leafhoppers are a problem in alfalfa. We are watching for aphids in soybeans.

CLARK-N.S.: Dry weather continues. Some corn is starting to tassel, and most soybeans are flowering. We could really use a heavy rain. Found a couple of soybean aphids per plant in a field this week.

ONEIDA-L.O.: Very dry, rain needed. Corn looks good so far.

MARINETTE-S.R.: Many soil types are exhibiting drought stress. Most areas had fairly good second crop hay, but prospects for third are not good without substantial rains soon.

OCONTO-K.H.: Corn and soybeans look good, but are stressed by drought, particularly on lighter ground. Concern mounting as bloom and tasseling has begun.

DUNN-S.S.: What looked to be a great corn and soybean year two weeks ago is fast giving into the drought conditions. A rain soon would help a lot, but for some crops, it is too late. There was little to no second crop hay, but what there was seemed to be OK.

PEPIN-H.R.: Corn on the sandy soils and clay knolls show stress; need rain very badly. Sweet corn is getting ready. This coming week, with tassels coming, it will be a big test for the crops in our area. Lots of good second crop hay was made, but quantity is short.

MARQUETTE-K.V.: Received a good rain Friday morning, with most of the county receiving 0.25 to over 1.0 inch of rain. It will really help us get through the upcoming heat spell predicted. Many areas today received more rain than the cumulative total since June 1st. Crops on sandy knolls are lost.

WAUPACA-D.H.: It is very dry here. Corn is rolling bad, and it is very critical for corn that is about to tassel. Soybeans are stressed for moisture. People are baling alfalfa; it is an abundant crop. Third crop hay is very slow to recover due to dry conditions.

OUTAGAMIE-E.W.: Corn generally coming very well. Some is stressed on high spots and uneven stands in some fields because of replanting. Soybeans OK-some weeds. Alfalfa quality good; yields down slightly. A good, slow rain would do wonders at this point.

SHEBOYGAN-T.J.: Our later-planted corn and soybeans are growing rapidly, but will need timely showers to reach their potential. First and second crop alfalfa are very abundant. Some alfalfa fields will need to be sprayed for leafhopper infestations. Winter wheat is maturing rapidly with hot days.

CRAWFORD-V.H.: Crops are still looking great. The high heat will push the limit of our soil moisture.

GRANT-D.W.: The corn crop continues to look, probably, the best that I can remember. Soybeans seem to be lagging behind in their development. Alfalfa yields were excellent.

SAUK-D.H.: Corn and alfalfa crops are very good.

DODGE-G.R.: A most-needed rain of two-plus inches perked up corn, soybeans, and alfalfa Tuesday. Previous to rains, corn had been curling, alfalfa regrowth minimal, and soybeans looked "pale." Second crop alfalfa harvest is progressing. Wheat is nearing maturity.

GREEN-F.Z.: Corn looks good. It is starting to tassel. Third crop hay has grown to ten or twelve inches. Soybeans have been sprayed and look good.

KENOSHA-J.H.: Wheat harvest is imminent. Hayfields are growing well. Both corn and soybeans are looking good; however, continued rains are needed.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: Corn is the best I have seen in years. Soybeans look good too. Second crop hay has very good quality.



USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office
P.O. Box 8934
Madison, WI 53708-8934
(608) 224-4848
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/rlsetoc.htm>

Robert J. Battaglia
Director

Ryan King
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 July 16, 2006

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 July 15	Mar. 1 to July 15 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	91	62	100	54	77	6	1551	1214	0.08	1.96	-4.16	11.20
Green Bay	85	60	98	52	73	3	1300	1107	0	2.89	-2.18	14.90
La Crosse	89	66	98	60	78	4	1600	1370	0.42	3.69	-2.35	16.37
Madison	84	65	93	58	74	2	1415	1337	2.14	4.44	-1.48	19.20
Milwaukee	80	65	94	59	73	1	1303	n.a.	3.50	6.05	0.75	21.54

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.