



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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

May 21, 2007

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Corn Planting Progress at Record High

Corn planting progress intensified this week between intermittent rains. Planting progress of 89 percent is the highest percentage for May 20 since records began in 1980. Temperatures were highly variable during the week. High temperatures reached the mid 80s to mid 90s. Low temperatures ranged from the 30s to low 40s. Average temperatures were 0 to 2 degrees above normal. Rains were welcomed throughout the week. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.25 inches in Green Bay to 1.29 inches in Milwaukee. Soil Moisture conditions were at 6 percent very short, 28 percent short, 63 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. There was an average of 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn planted was at 89 percent complete, above both last year's average of 81 percent and the 5-year average of 72 percent. Corn emerged jumped to 55 percent complete, increasing 39 percentage points from last week. This is also above last year's average of 32 percent and the 5-year average of 26 percent. Corn is expected to continue to emerge at a rapid pace. Most reports indicated that the crop was in good condition; however, cold temperatures caused some frost damage in northern areas of the state.

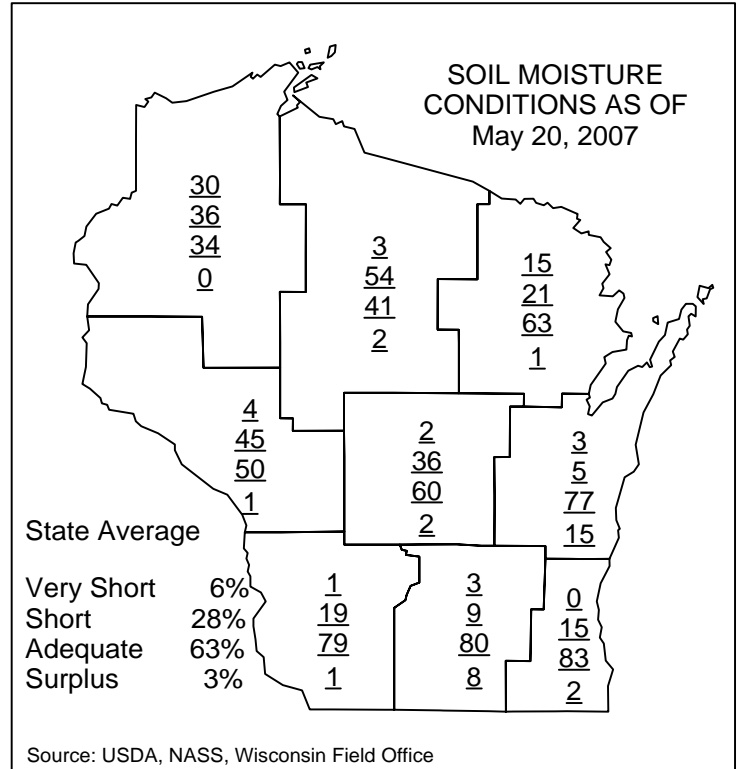
Soybeans planted was at 61 percent complete, above both last year's average of 44 percent and the 5-year average of 37 percent complete. Soybeans emerged was reported at 16 percent complete, the second highest recorded average since 1998. Last year's average was at 2 percent complete, while the 5-year average was at 4 percent complete.

The planting of **oats** is expected to be completed this week. Oats planted was reported at 98 percent complete, below last year's average of 100 percent, but above the 5-year average of 94 percent complete. Oats emerged was reported at 86 percent complete, below last year's average of 90 percent complete, but above the 5-year average of 72 percent.

Spring Tillage was reported at 91 percent complete, above both last year's average of 87 percent and the 5-year average of 80 percent complete. Progress was made on heavier soils.

Alfalfa and **winter wheat** appear to be in good condition. First cutting of alfalfa and hay crops began last week in some areas and is expected to continue this week. Reports indicate that the first cutting alfalfa crop is shorter than normal. There was concern about weevil damage in central and southern counties.

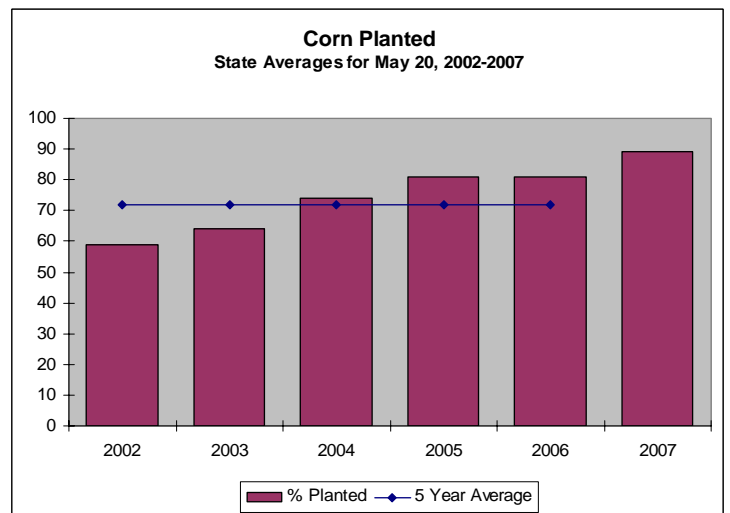
Potatoes, peas, snap beans, and sweet corn are emerging across the state. **Fruit trees** are done blooming in most areas and are beginning to set fruit.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 20, 2007

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	2	5	11	55	27
Oat	0	1	17	66	16
Pasture	3	9	26	53	9

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



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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 planted	91	89	87	94	82	83	90	92	82	89	81	72
Corn emerged	53	40	52	73	50	41	60	53	42	55	32	26
Soybeans planted	59	66	58	71	35	67	69	57	51	61	44	37
Soybeans emerged	9	5	1	24	5	6	37	12	15	16	2	4
Oats planted	99	97	98	100	97	96	98	100	100	98	100	94
Oats emerged	95	78	89	90	83	69	88	91	98	86	90	72
Spring tillage completed	95	91	92	92	86	88	93	95	84	91	87	80

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Alfalfa fields are dry and could use a rain. Corn and soybeans are emerging fast.

POLK-C.S.: Corn has been planted. There is a lot of spraying going on. Soybeans are almost planted. Some farmers will start cutting alfalfa next week.

CLARK-N.S.: Corn has emerged and looks to be off to a good start. A few more hayfields have been plowed up late in the spring to make room for more corn. The first alfalfa field cut this season was observed this week.

VILAS-L.K.: One morning it was 26 degrees which does not do much for crops. We had a severe windstorm on Monday evening. We need a long, slow soaking rain.

LANGLADE-A.K.: It is very dry. Corn emergence looks good. We have had light frost for three mornings. Soybean planting is going good. In the alfalfa fields, 50-90 percent has been taken out due to winterkill in our county and northern Shawano.

OCONTO-K.H.: Earlier planted corn has emerged but needs some heat; it looks pretty pale in most fields. Oats and barley seeding looks anemic also. It should not be due to cool temperatures but maybe lack of moisture. Alfalfa generally looks very good.

LACROSSE-S.H.: Planting continues to occur across the county with much of the corn crop planted. Soybeans are still being planted. Alfalfa has benefited from the recent rain, but in some areas is now fighting against alfalfa weevil pressure.

ST. CROIX-L.M.: Freezing temperatures one night and 70-80 degrees the next day is very unusual. Alfalfa harvest has begun, but it is very short of moisture; it seems to have stopped growing in the last week or so. Older fields are showing more winterkill as days go by. I suspect some of these fields will get plowed up for corn. A lot of corn is up. Soybeans are also coming up.

PORTAGE-D.H.: Most of the corn has been planted, and I can see rows on many fields. Soybean and snap bean planting is getting underway. All local rains have missed us.

WOOD-F.M.: The weather was cooler this week. With spotty rain it was just enough to slow down fieldwork. All crops are ahead of average. Corn is emerging can see rows. Soybeans are not emerging. We had some light frost on Thursday morning. Hay and alfalfa fields look good.

FOND DU LAC-M.R.: Two good rains this week have slowed fieldwork, but will help with new plantings. Alfalfa is just starting to bud in many fields.

SHEBOYGAN-E.P.: Planting of crops is progressing nicely. All crops are emerging and looking good after a day of rain.

GRANT-R.R.: We really could use a good rain. A lot of the corn and soybeans will not germinate until we get a soaking rain. Stands are very uneven in almost all fields.

LAFAYETTE-M.R.: Seeds are in and crops are up and so are the weeds. Will see some contact herbicide action soon.

DANE-C.B.: Many are wrapping up spring planting and starting to cut first crop alfalfa. Corn emerged in 5-7 days causing many to miss the opportunity of applying 28 percent with their herbicide programs. Most will be side-dressing or using drop-nozzles for their nitrogen this year. Corn is 95 percent emerged and soybeans are coming up.

GREEN-M.M.: Majority of corn is out of the ground and farmers are finishing up soybean planting. Older stands of alfalfa were in full bud this week; much shorter than normal with a higher percentage of weeds, due to hard frost in April. First crop hay harvest will start in earnest next week. Some fields are also showing significant alfalfa weevil damage. Powdery mildew is showing up in many winter wheat fields at significant enough levels to warrant fungicide applications.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Spring planting is going good. Corn, winter wheat, and alfalfa are coming up very good.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 20, 2007

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 19	Mar. 1 to May 19 normal *	Last week	Since March 1	March 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	74	42	94	30	58	0	481	299	0.33	5.14	-1.71	6.76	-1.90
Green Bay	72	42	88	36	57	0	393	249	0.25	5.30	-0.86	7.32	-1.09
La Crosse	76	49	92	37	63	2	554	351	0.65	6.07	-1.33	8.61	-0.95
Madison	72	46	86	37	59	1	449	345	1.01	9.27	1.74	11.70	1.62
Milwaukee	70	45	89	42	58	2	364	n.a.	1.29	9.11	0.91	11.33	-0.35

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. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.