



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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July 16, 2007

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Crops Hanging On

Despite dry conditions, corn and soybeans are holding their own in most areas. Rainfall will be critical in the coming week for both crops as they continue to develop. Rainfall totals ranged from 0 inches in La Crosse to 1.34 inches in Green Bay last week. High temperatures reached the 90s across the state, while lows ranged from the high 40s to mid 50s. Average temperatures were 0 to 2 degrees below normal. Soil Moisture conditions were at 22 percent very short, 48 percent short, 30 percent adequate, and 0 percent surplus. There was an average of 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn continues to reach record heights, increasing to an average of 69 inches last week. This is above last year's 62 inches and the 5-year average of 54 inches. Corn silked was reported at 20 percent complete, also above last year's average of 13 percent and the 5-year average of 8 percent. Corn in lighter soils continues to decline in condition.

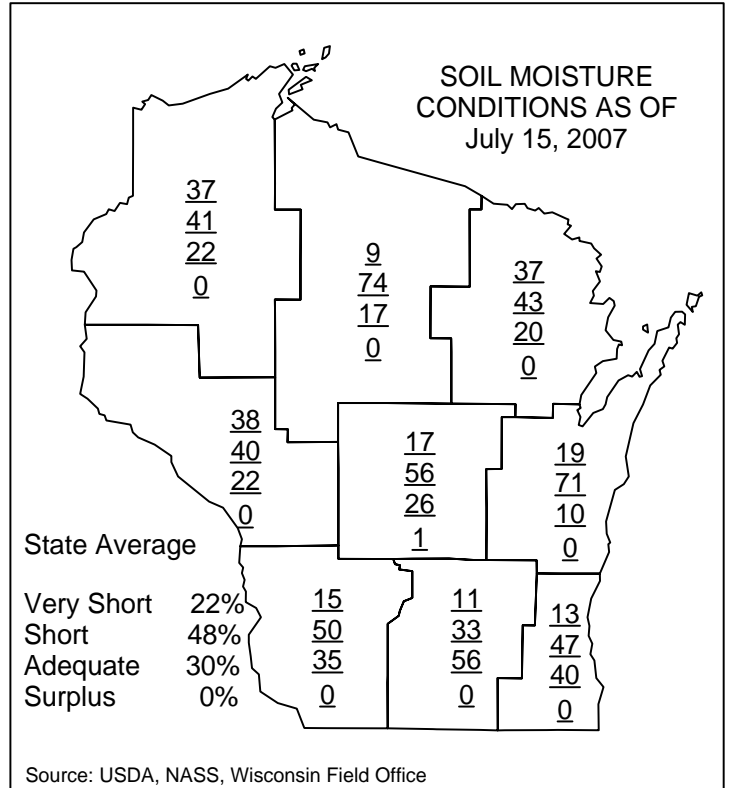
Soybeans bloomed jumped to 51 percent complete, significantly above last year's 34 percent complete and the 5-year average of 29 percent complete. Soybeans setting pods were reported at 6 percent complete, slightly ahead of last year's 4 percent and the 5-year average of 3 percent complete. Soybean aphids are increasing in numbers in most areas.

Oats completed heading out and harvest began last week. Reporters indicated harvest to be 3 percent complete, above both last year's and the 5-year average of 1 percent. The crop is in need of additional moisture.

Second cutting of **alfalfa** was 64 percent complete, slightly below last year's average of 65 percent, but above the 5-year average of 44 percent complete. Yields are below average due to insects and the lack of moisture, but quality is good. Regrowth on both alfalfa and **pastures** is slow due to the lack of rain.

Winter wheat harvested was at 21 percent complete, increasing 18 percentage points from last week. Harvest continues to be completed ahead of last year's average and the 5-year average, which were 3 percent and 5 percent complete, respectively. Reports indicate that the wheat crop is good in both quality and quantity. Straw yield is short, however.

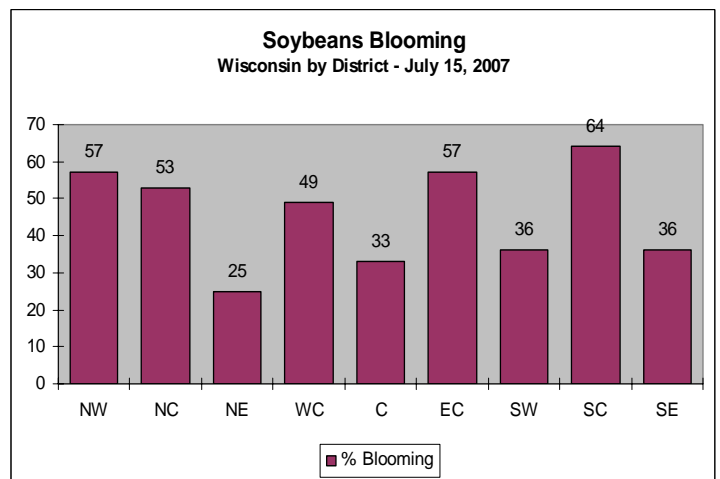
Potatoes are in bloom in central areas of the state. Leafhopper population is high and continues to be a problem. **Sweet corn** condition is good to excellent, and the crop is starting to tassel. Harvest for **cucumbers for pickles** is beginning. Harvest of **peas** for processing has begun in central areas of the state. **Snap bean** harvest will begin soon in that area.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of July 15, 2007

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	2	8	22	48	20
Soybeans	2	5	23	49	21
Winter Wheat	1	3	26	51	19
Oat	1	5	24	57	13
Pasture	15	25	35	23	2

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 silked	17	8	20	30	16	11	32	17	29	20	13	8
Average height of corn	64	70	65	67	56	63	71	75	72	69	62	54
Soybeans bloomed	57	53	25	49	33	57	36	64	36	51	34	29
Soybeans setting pods	8	10	8	9	7	7	1	6	2	6	4	3
Second cutting hay	68	57	54	77	60	78	51	60	50	64	65	44
Winter wheat harvested	1	0	5	1	32	5	5	37	21	21	3	5

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BURNETT-J.D.: The rain missed us again this week.
CHIPPEWA-J.M.: Second crop hay is so poor in yield, that it is being cut in hopes it will rain and regenerate, so there will be a third cutting. Corn in some areas has stopped growing, and the top leaves are browning due to lack of moisture.
CLARK-N.S.: Despite dry conditions and occasional light rains, crops are in good condition. Corn has begun to tassel, and most soybeans are well into flowering. Second crop alfalfa was a little lower yielding than normal, especially if potato leafhoppers were not controlled. Soybean aphids are on the increase.
LANGLADE-A.K.: Corn and soybeans are holding their own, considering lack of rain. The next ten days will be critical for corn. Second crop hay quantity is very poor. We have only received 0.40 inch of rain this week.
SHAWANO-B.R.: Corn is tasseling and looks great. Soybeans should start to flower. Third crop hay is off to a good start. Wheat combining should begin this week.
DUNN-J.F.: Spotty rains have helped maintain the crops. A significant rain is needed to keep crops going. Corn on the non-irrigated soils is showing signs of drought stress.
ST. CROIX-R.K.: We need a steady soaking rain as there is no reserve. Crops are all suffering.
TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: We are losing yields almost daily as we pass time without rainfall. Third crop hay regrowth is limited. Irrigated fields are fine.
PORTAGE-D.Z.: Wheat harvest is beginning. Snap beans are still being planted.
WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Corn and soybeans are looking good despite the low moisture. Second crop hay yields are below normal, but quality is good. Weeds are growing well.
WAUSHARA-K.W.: Very serious moisture shortage at this point. Rain of 1.1-1.5 inches or so on July 3rd brought crops back from a moisture short situation; but no appreciable rain since and none in the forecast. Hot weather projected for coming week will place stress on corn and soybeans during a critical crop growth period. Some fields of corn are now having some leaf dieback as a result of the drought stress. Second crop alfalfa is short or will be non-existent.

FOND DU LAC-R.P.: Light rains have stalled hay harvest and combining of wheat. We really need 2.0 inches of rain soon as it is getting very dry.
SHEBOYGAN-M.B.: Crops look rather good despite the dry conditions. Rain is needed in the next two weeks.
GRANT-L.F.: Corn and soybeans look very good. Corn is starting to tassel and is growing quite tall. Soybeans have a nice color and good length. Oats are turning color and not extremely tall, some have lodged. Winter wheat is really turning. Second crop hay has mostly been harvested; a very good crop. Quality is also very good. We still need rain.
COLUMBIA-R.S.: All the rains have gone around us. Corn is beginning to roll again. Soybeans are showing some problems in marginal soils. Wheat is being harvested very rapidly. There will not be much straw this year.
GREEN-J.T.: Most of the county needs rain.
RACINE-L.F.: Wheat harvest has been a big surprise. Crop is much better than most thought. Few hailed out areas seem to be coming back. Corn is recovering but will never be a full crop. Soybeans are the same.
WASHINGTON-R.B.: Wheat is yielding 50-80 bushels per acre and has weeds in the short wheat. Hay needs rain. It is short; it is 6 inches tall on hills and 18 inches on the good soils. Soybeans are very weedy. Sprayed twice and found all are very uneven; they are short and poor in color.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on July 15, 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 July 14	Mar. 1 to July 14 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *	
Eau Claire	81	56	94	47	69	-2	1513	1194	0.41	3.08	-2.95	10.90	-5.36	
Green Bay	80	58	93	51	69	-1	1373	1087	1.34	6.66	1.66	15.34	0.74	
La Crosse	84	62	97	54	73	-1	1702	1347	0.0	4.92	-1.00	16.48	-0.33	
Madison	81	62	91	53	72	0	1519	1315	0.29	7.06	1.23	18.97	1.73	
Milwaukee	82	63	94	56	72	0	1381	n.a.	0.67	4.61	-0.56	16.06	-1.98	

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.