



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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

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Most Crops Good to Excellent

Many farmers and county agents said that crops are in very good condition. Conditions are not as good in counties short on recent rainfall. Progress of major crops is still well behind last year. Hay and small grain yields have been average or above in many areas.

Average high temperatures ranged from 81 to 82 degrees, with average low temperatures ranging from 58 to 64 degrees. Precipitation totals last week ranged from 0.63 inches reported in La Crosse to 1.82 inches reported in Madison. Soil moisture conditions were at 5 percent very short, 26 percent short, 68 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. There was an average of 5.8 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Average **corn** height was reported at 83 inches with 82 percent tasseled and 9 percent reaching the dough stage. Corn condition was reported as 2 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 18 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 23 percent excellent. A few reporters noticed stalks having two ears on them with the cobs getting bigger.

The majority of Wisconsin's reporters stated that **soybeans** were looking good with blooming reported at 86 percent complete and 57 percent showing pods. Soybean conditions were reported as 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 58 percent good, and 22 percent excellent. A few Wisconsin counties have reported soybean aphids showing up. Moisture stress favors population growth.

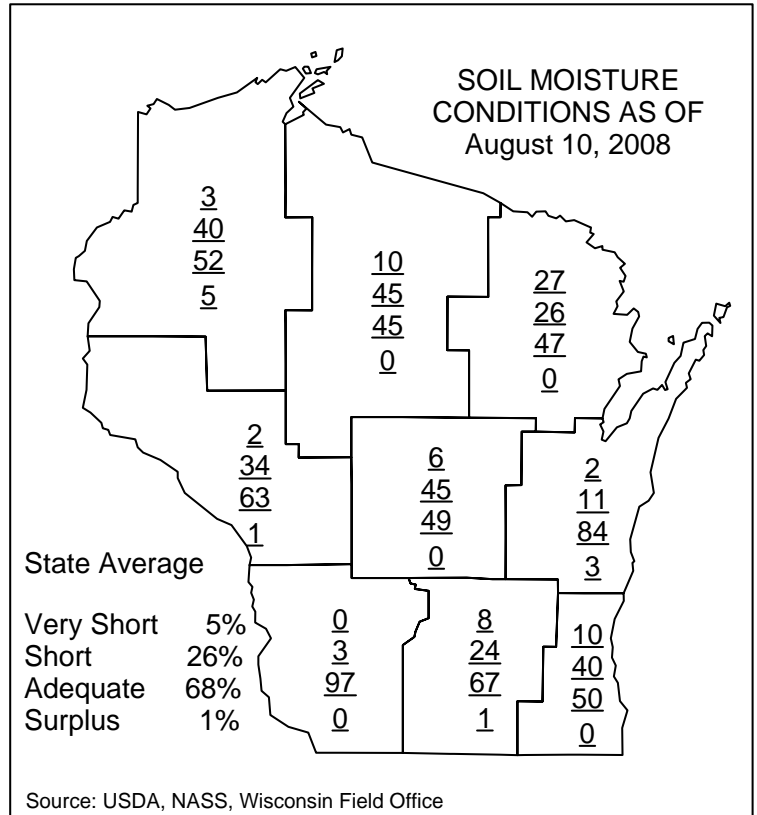
Second crop **hay** harvest was nearly complete with 94 percent harvested. Third crop hay harvest was at 19 percent done. In a few areas fourth crop hay harvest has started. In many areas, hay yields have been very good.

Winter wheat harvest was reported at 79 percent complete with some southern areas winding down or just about done with harvest.

Oat conditions were reported at 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Reports showed that oats harvested for grain is 43 percent complete. Some ripe oat fields were getting full of grass or lodging.

Pasture conditions were reported at 2 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 13 percent excellent.

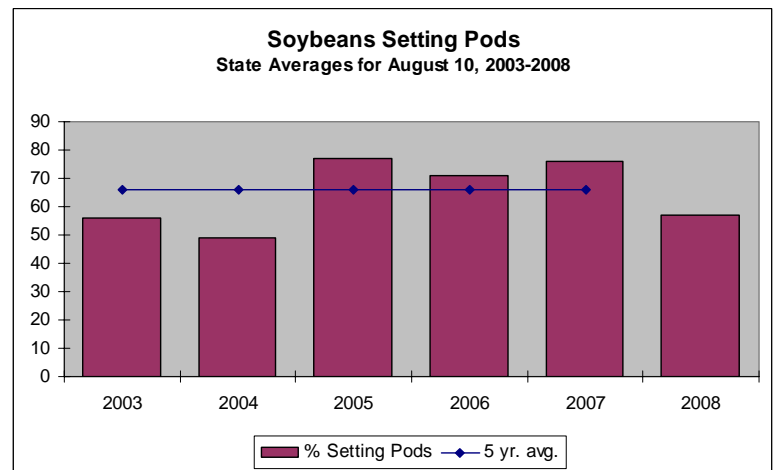
The **cranberry** crop looks very good and slightly above average yields are expected. Other **fruits** and **vegetables** were reported as being about 7-10 days behind last year. **Potato** harvest continued with potatoes looking very good and producing good yields and quality. **Sweet Corn** was coming off the field. **Apple** trees were showing a good amount of fruit. **Cucumbers** and **green beans** were being harvested.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 10, 2008

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	2	5	18	52	23
Soybean	1	3	16	58	22
Oats	1	3	17	61	18
Pasture	2	9	27	49	13

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	81	75	81	90	79	79	95	73	76	82	94	87
Corn dough	4	1	4	7	12	15	17	8	6	9	32	22
Soybeans blooming	95	95	92	76	89	88	96	95	69	86	95	89
Soybeans setting pods	58	55	55	45	50	43	84	75	47	57	76	66
Winter wheat harvested	43	50	79	71	86	73	76	96	83	79	98	84
Oats harvested for grain	27	24	33	41	58	22	86	62	46	43	85	66
Third cutting hay	13	25	40	18	13	13	12	30	16	19	43	27

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

CHIPPEWA-J.C.: Corn and soybeans look good with soil moisture becoming a concern on lighter soils. Second crop hay had very good yields with third crop harvest just underway.

RUSK-G.P.: Rain continues in a fairly timely manner. Crops are looking good. The biggest concern now is if there is going to be enough time before the end of the season to get everything ripe. Small grains are coming off and seem to be good. Soybean aphids are showing up.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Corn and soybeans do not look good. Second crop hay was good. Third crop hay regrowth is pretty much non-existent; fields are brown.

OCONTO-K.H.: Corn and soybeans generally look good, just late. Quite a few corn fields are just starting to tassel this past week. Curling leaves starting to affect some spots in fields due to dry conditions. Winter wheat harvest is winding down; yields reported as high as 80-100 bushels per acre. We need significant rain soon and a long fall to allow corn and soybeans to mature.

BUFFALO-R.S.: Lots of hay harvesting is going on. Second crop hay bales averaged 2.2 tons per acre, which is higher than normal here. Corn and soybeans are doing well in spite of cool nights. We received 0.18 inch of rain for the week. Oat yields were less than expected. There is lots of straw here.

EAU CLAIRE-R.S.: Crops are all looking good. Things are nice and green compared to the last couple of years. Timely rains have been perfect.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Drought stress is showing on sandy soils. Early snapbean and potato harvest continues with good yields and quality. Combining oats has begun with good yields.

WOOD-F.M.: Corn and soybeans that were planted in April and May are excellent, but the ones that were planted late are struggling. Forage crops are yielding very well. Moisture level in ground varies, and it is getting short in some areas.

BROWN-C.A.: There is a lot of poor corn on lower grounds.

DOOR-D.V.: Corn and soybeans are in excellent condition with most receiving adequate rainfall. Some soybeans are dying from Phytophthora root rot. A cooler summer has delayed all crops.

CRAWFORD-A.B.: Corn is looking to be an average crop overall. Most soybeans look great with lots of pods and still flowering. Aphid numbers are low to virtually none. Winter wheat is wrapping up with yields around 60-75 bushels per acre with some over 100 bushels.

GRANT-D.W.: Crops in this area are doing extremely well, except for those damaged in the June floods. Second crop alfalfa had good yields and quality which will help make up for the poor first cutting.

COLUMBIA-R.S.: We received 0.75 inch of rain on Sunday and Monday night which we really needed. Sandy ground crops have been really hurt by the hot, dry weather. Some corn is two feet tall and is tasseling.

DANE-D.R.: Local sweet corn is going to the market. Some third cut hay was made. Corn and soybeans need rain.

WASHINGTON-R.B.: Corn looks perfect from the outside but as you walk into the fields it is not as perfect. Leaves are yellow up to the ears. Some corn is light green and some is only chest high. Soybeans have come on strong and look good at this point. Farmers are finding aphids and may need to spray. Wheat harvest is done. Yields ranged from 25-100 bushels per acre. The average was between 60-70 bushels per acre. The moisture has not dropped. Many farmers who are trying for dry hay are still working on second crop cutting. Some have third cutting off with a nice fourth crop on the way.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: With 0.9 inch of rain, we have corn and soybeans looking better. Pastures could use more rain.



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

Robert J. Battaglia
Director

Craig Christianson
Statistician

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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 10, 2008

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 Aug. 9	Mar. 1 to Aug. 9 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	81	58	84	51	70	-1	1686	1728	1.01	11.72	2.27	22.53	2.77
Green Bay	82	58	86	52	70	0	1731	1603	0.92	10.95	3.08	23.03	5.59
La Crosse	82	61	85	50	71	-3	1908	1935	0.63	15.80	6.34	29.13	8.76
Madison	81	59	85	54	70	-1	1832	1884	1.82	19.49	10.34	36.68	16.08
Milwaukee	81	64	88	60	73	1	1707	n.a.	1.33	17.49	9.28	32.65	11.45

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.