



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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June 22, 2009

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Heat and Rain Spur Growth

The long awaited heat combined with some timely precipitation has helped to ease grower's minds for the time being. Similar to the past few weeks, the Northwestern district remains dry. They are the only district in the state to have reported a substantial amount of their soil moisture as very short. Many growers were relieved to finally receive some warm temperatures and noticed that weeds are starting to grow as fast as their crops. Across the reporting stations, precipitation ranged from 0.44 inches in Green Bay to 5.40 inches in Milwaukee. Average temperatures were 2 to 4 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 79 to 82 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 58 to 62 degrees. On average, there were 4.7 days suitable for fieldwork. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

- <http://www.noaa.gov/>
- <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
- <http://www.cocorahs.org/>
- <http://www.weather.gov/>

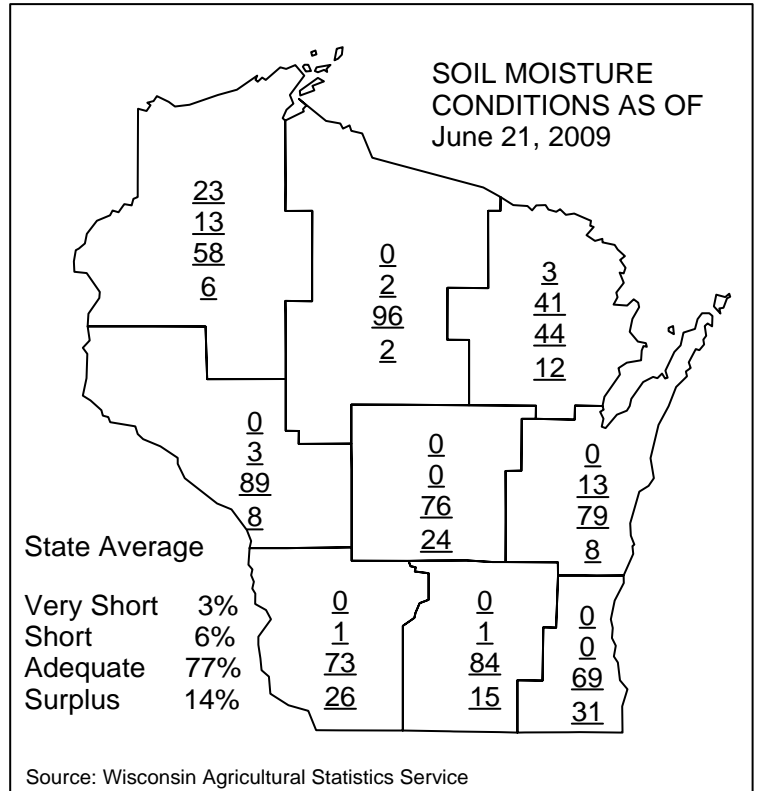
Corn was reported as looking much better this week after some significant growth. Corn is being side dressed with nitrogen as well as applied with some post emergence herbicides to take care of the weeds. Most fields were starting to really shoot up and get a good dark green color. The average height of corn throughout the state was reported as 13 inches high.

Soybeans emerged was 90 percent complete. Like corn, soybeans put on some sizeable growth this past week due mainly to the increased heat. Growers were trying to spray their beans between the rains and were hoping for a dry break. Even with a dry day, some fields remain too wet for the sprayers to get through.

Oats headed was reported as 28 percent complete, a jump of 17 percentage points from previous week. Some oats were reported as getting yellow on low-lying wet fields. Oats continue to be cut for forage

First cutting **hay** was reported as 87 percent complete. Some growers are hoping for more rain to get their second crop off in the right direction, while some are hoping for a break from rain to help their first crop dry out. For the most part, reports indicate that first crop came in with pretty good quality and yields, and second crop is off to an excellent start.

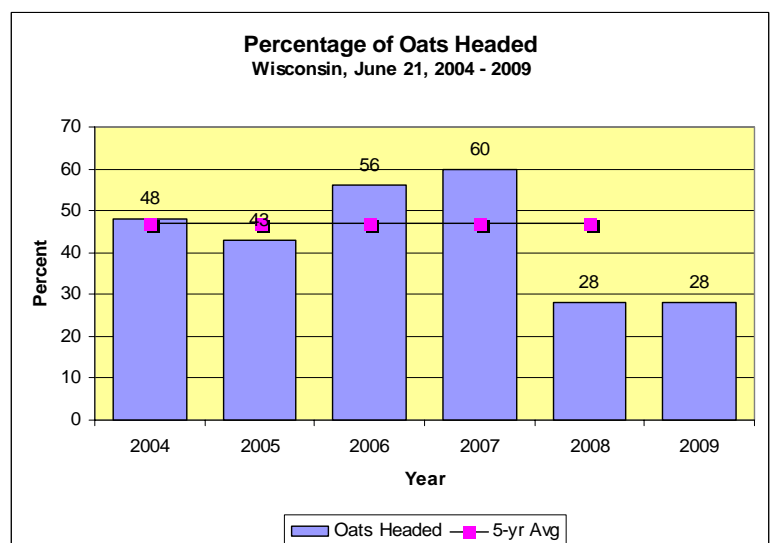
Pea harvest has started in the West Central district.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of June 21, 2009

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	1	5	23	53	18
Oat	0	2	19	64	15
Pasture	2	7	20	55	16
Corn	0	4	20	58	18
Soybean	0	5	26	59	10

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
Soybeans emerged	99	94	94	95	75	78	100	92	86	90	91	91
First cutting hay	90	86	89	91	82	84	90	90	65	87	64	75
Average corn height	9	7	9	13	10	7	25	16	8	13	14	18
Oats headed	10	0	27	28	20	19	55	49	29	28	28	47

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

CHIPPEWA-J.C.: Crops are looking good with enough rain to keep them progressing. More rain is needed to replenish sub-soil moisture. First crop hay is complete with average yields.

POLK-C.S.: First crop hay is almost complete; yields were less than normal. A lot of spraying is going on for weeds. Rain is badly needed to keep crops growing.

CLARK-R.H.: We have received spotty rains this week. Regrowth of hay looks good. Small grains look good also but have seen some that appear to lack nitrogen or have related weather conditions. Corn side dressing with nitrogen is beginning and post emergence herbicides are being applied. Hopefully some warmer temperatures will improve the crops with continued timely rains.

SHAWANO-T.B.: All crops are growing well and have responded to last weeks warm temperatures. Moisture is not an issue at this point as the scattered rain has fallen on almost all fields at some point. The field conditions are good, but some fields have wet spots that have hampered hay harvest and field spraying. The first crop hay was very good and much of it was harvested without rain on the cut hay. Weed development has accelerated with the warm temperatures and optimum spray timing is now. There are some leaf diseases on the developing wheat crop but severity is low and no incidence on the flag leaf.

BUFFALO-R.S.: We received a couple of inches of rain for the week. It is hard to make dry hay with the rain. All crops are growing well including the weeds. Oats are heading out and peas are in blossom.

DUNN-S.S.: We received rain the past two days which we really needed but could still use more. First crop hay quality and quantity is at 70 percent. Most of the crops look good but we need warm weather.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: The hay quality is excellent but quantity is a little below normal. Weeds are starting up in the soybeans fields. Corn is growing good with the warm weather.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: Temperatures heading into summer are finally warming up, and this was helping the growth of all the crops. In this area, the corn is really shooting up, with the height of the crop nearly doubling in the past week. Some producers were side dressing nitrogen. However, while the growth is good, more precipitation is needed. The weather forecast for last week predicted a lot of rain for the area, but only a few drops fell. For the

time being, all the crops look good, but their condition will suffer if more rain does not fall this week. With even more heat on the way, more stress will be placed on the crops. Soybeans have had good growth as well, with emergence ok. There are spots where the plants were drowned out because of earlier rains. Oats are doing well, with their height shorter than the past few years. The best looking crop now is winter wheat. It is just beginning to turn color. There should be some excellent yields at harvest next month. Second crop hay is really growing back rapidly. Some producers will be making their second cutting by the end of this week.

CRAWFORD-A.B.: First crop hay is nearly completed. Corn really shot up and turned darker green with the heat and humidity this past week. Soybeans are taking off also, but many need to be sprayed. Winter wheat is all headed out and with head counts look to be in the 60 to 75 bushel range in many fields.

COLUMBIA-R.S.: Weeds are really growing in the corn, oats and soybeans. It is hard to do any spraying due to wind and stormy weather. Most farmers who had wet spots are planting around them. It is hard to get first crop hay to dry. Winter wheat is headed out and looking good.

WALWORTH-E.M.: Some corn fields showing nutrient deficiencies due to wet soils and compaction. Lack of heat and sun has resulted in slow growth. Earliest planted corn is beginning to speed up growth.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on June 21, 2009

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	March 1 to June 20	March 1 to June 20 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	81	59	87	50	70	3	746	750	1.54	3.20	0.37	9.51	-3.69
Green Bay	79	58	87	54	69	4	616	665	0.44	2.54	0.37	12.97	1.18
La Crosse	82	62	87	55	72	2	851	852	0.95	2.71	0.21	12.05	-1.33
Madison	80	61	86	53	70	3	800	840	2.63	4.46	1.89	21.21	7.26
Milwaukee	79	59	87	52	69	3	675	n.a.	5.40	6.91	4.69	20.98	5.78

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.