



Wisconsin Crop Progress

May 24, 2010

Vol. 10, No. 7

Warm Temperatures Accelerate Crop Progress

Warmer, drier weather last week allowed more fieldwork to be done and encouraged planting and emergence of crops. Although the warm temperatures were needed, many farmers are still hoping for more moisture. Some failed winter wheat fields in Clark County were planted to corn, but despite the frosts in recent weeks little replanting of corn, soybeans, and small grains was reported.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week ranged from 1 to 3 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 67 to 76 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 46 to 49 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.02 inches in Eau Claire and Green Bay to 0.39 inches in Milwaukee. There were 5.7 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 planted was reported at 89 percent complete. Corn emerged was reported at 51 percent complete, 11 percentage points above the five-year average. Reports stated that some corn fields took three weeks to emerge, but the recent warm temperatures have aided all corn growth.

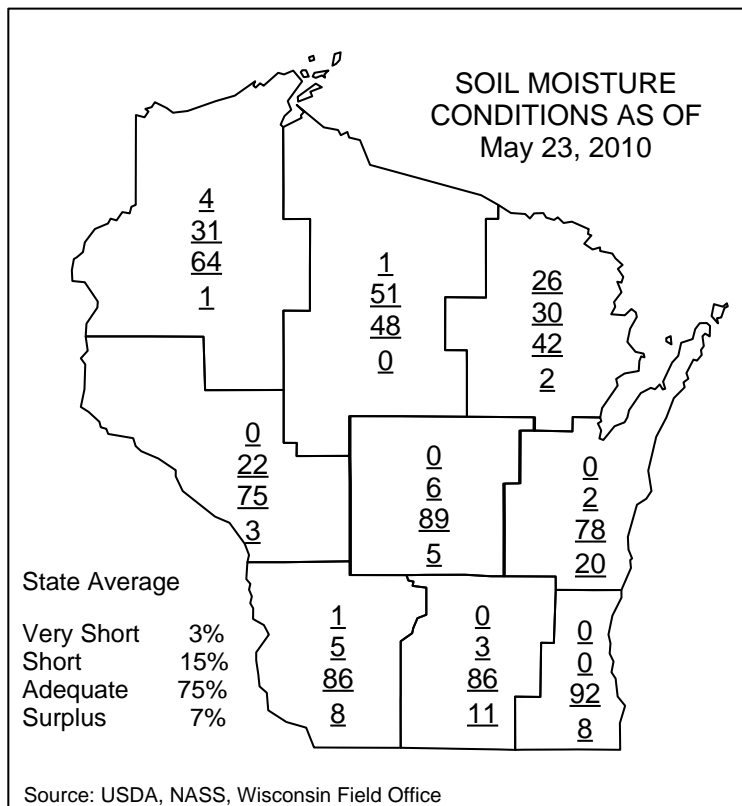
Soybean planting was reported at 55 percent complete, 24 percentage points above last week. Soybeans emerged was reported at 12 percent complete across the state, more than twice last week's 5 percent complete. A few scattered fields were replanted due to the hard frost earlier this season.

Oat emergence is nearing completion. Growers reported oats as looking good, with 86 percent rated as Good to Excellent.

Winter wheat was also reported as looking good, with 82 percent rated as Good to Excellent. Some reports stated that winter wheat has begun heading.

First cutting hay was reported at 13 percent complete, with yields ranging widely from low to excellent. Reporters also stated that some hay was being cut as haylage.

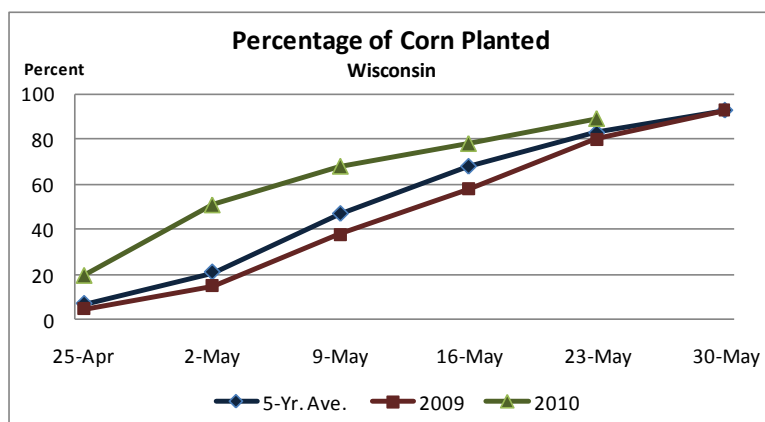
Chippewa County reported losses to many fruit blossoms in low-lying areas. Some **strawberries** were lost from the frost earlier this season. Trempealeau County also reported some damage to **apples and grapes** resulting from the frost. **Cranberries** were reported as responding well to the warmer temperatures as buds are continuing to swell.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 23, 2010

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	0	3	15	56	26
Oat	0	2	12	64	22
Pasture	1	5	23	58	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 week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Corn planted	87	96	96	94	92	64	94	94	91	89	78	80	83
Corn emerged	26	40	45	60	58	22	59	62	76	51	31	38	40
Soybeans planted	58	75	35	66	69	27	63	61	49	55	31	49	55
Soybeans emerged	2	4	4	18	21	5	19	14	10	12	5	9	12
Oats emerged	87	96	97	99	98	89	96	100	100	96	89	85	82
First cutting hay	8	3	6	14	10	6	23	22	26	13	n.a.	4	3

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

CHIPPEWA-R.M.: First crop hay suffered much from the freeze in early May new seeding more so than old stands. It just seems it does not want to grow. Moisture will soon be a problem, that is a lack of it. Our two cherry trees lost their few cherries from the freeze. Cannot tell about apples yet.

POLK-R.S.: Alfalfa harvest is under way, and a few dairies have already completed harvest. Fields that are still standing added significant growth this week of 3.0 to 4.0 inches.

MARATHON-S.N.: First crop hay cutting has begun. Yields have not been established. Corn is beginning to emerge. Few corn fields will be replanted due to the snow and freezing temperatures a few weeks ago. The heat and sunny conditions this week will accelerate corn growth and hay cutting. Lack of measurable rain remains a concern. Pastures remain short in length. Farmers turned out their cattle sooner this spring. Pastures seem to be keeping up with the grazing animals.

TAYLOR-D.E.: Spring tillage is about done with very few fields to be planted. First crop hay harvesting will probably start this week. Warm weather will help crop growth immensely. First crop will be of good quality as long as it can be harvested without being rained on.

FLORENCE-T.B.: Conditions still very dry in the county. We have had very low dew points and high winds and lots of sun. Legumes and grasses are dried out on hill tops and small grains are growing very slow. All forages are in a stage of survival and showing signs of low production.

EAU CLAIRE-D.J.: Got done planting soybeans on Wednesday. Got up to 83 degrees today. Alfalfa looks good but needs rain.

PEPIN-H.R.: Corn is getting almost all planted in our area. Some corn may get planted on hayfields just getting harvested. Soybeans also going in at a fast pace. Planting conditions are real good soil not too wet. Lots of hay being made in the last few days. Potatoes are up in the fields.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Crops looking good, could use more light rain. Soybean planting going strong. Snap bean and sweet corn planting continues as scheduled.

WAUPACA-D.H.: Corn and soybeans began emerging this past week with the warm weather. No areas required

replanting. A few fields remain too wet for planting. First cutting alfalfa yields look to be below normal.

CALUMET-B.L.: We dried out for about 3 days and that allowed some more corn and soybeans to be planted. The northeastern lower ground in our county has almost no corn in the ground. Wheat is looking very good. Early-planted corn has emerged well and is turning from yellow to green with the last warm days. Scissor cuttings show that most alfalfa is 23.0 to 26.0 inches tall with PEAQ readings of 175-200 with lab results holding right around 195-215. We have some early hay cut. With the onset of 80 degree temperatures projected for early next week a lot of alfalfa is planned to be cut then.

SAUK-W.J.: Winter wheat is heading. First crop hay is yielding excellent with excellent quality. Shower Thursday night softened the crust on corn fields and warm temperatures to follow has most corn emerging nicely.

ROCK-C.O.: Wheat is being sprayed for fungus, and so far no heads. Hay harvest has begun with limited yields. Not sure why hilltops are so sparse when we had good winter moisture. Corn and beans are up, but need some heat to get going.

DODGE-R.H.: After last week's two plus inches of rain, took till Wednesday for fields to dry out. Need more dry weather to finish corn and soybeans. A few people cutting first crop, oat yields are very low. Hay fields need some warm weather.

KENOSHA-E.M.: Hay crop is very short in height. Corn has pale color due to wet, cool and no sun. Some soybeans are beginning to emerge. Thursday night we received 0.30 to 0.40 inch of rain.



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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 May 23, 2010

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 May 22	March 1 to May 22 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	76	46	84	40	61	3	505	337	0.02	4.94	-2.21	6.20	-2.78
Green Bay	72	48	81	41	60	3	404	282	0.02	5.86	-0.57	7.57	-1.03
La Crosse	76	48	82	42	62	1	548	392	0.26	6.04	-1.70	8.29	-1.57
Madison	72	47	78	40	59	1	480	385	0.33	7.25	-0.54	9.15	-1.24
Milwaukee	67	49	74	45	58	1	397	n.a.	0.39	7.71	-0.85	9.00	-3.00

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.