



Wisconsin Crop Progress

August 2, 2010

Vol. 10, No. 17

Dry Weather Needed to Finish Harvest

Many fields across the state were still heavily saturated with moisture last week. This prevented many growers from being able to get out into the fields to harvest small grains and hay. Some growers reported using combines with tracks to more easily enter fields that were too wet to hold machinery. Rain and high winds were reported as damaging fields in the Northern part of the state last week and hail damaged some corn and soybean fields in Rusk County.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week ranged from 1 degree below normal to 2 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 80 to 84 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 61 to 65 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.36 inches in La Crosse to 1.24 inches in Green Bay. There were 4.5 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 silked was reported at 89 percent complete, an increase of 14 percentage points from the previous week. Across the state, 15 percent of corn was reported to be in the dough stage. Overall corn was reported as looking good; however, reports indicated that some fields of corn were uneven due to the excess moisture.

Soybeans blooming was reported at 82 percent complete. Across the state, 37 percent of soybeans were reported to be setting pods. This is 18 percentage points above last year, but 4 percentage points below the five-year average. Some reports indicated that low-lying areas were turning yellow due to the excess moisture. Overall, disease was reported as minimal.

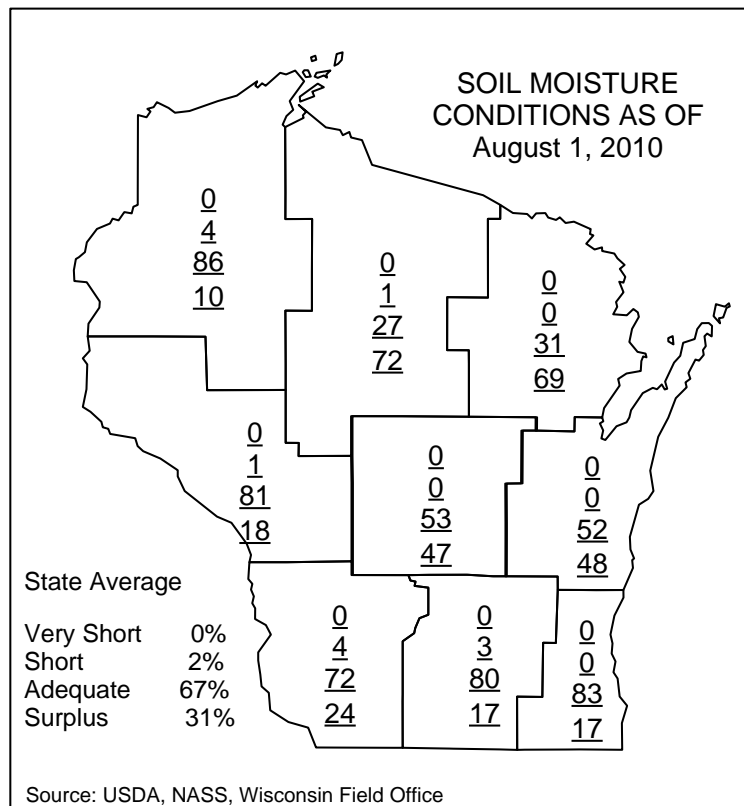
Oat harvest was reported at 42 percent complete across the state, 17 percentage points above the previous week. Oat harvest was delayed for some growers last week as fields were still too wet to get into. Many reports indicated that oat fields were lodged and weeds had begun to come through.

Second cutting **hay** neared completion statewide at 83 percent complete, while third cutting hay begun with 18 percent complete. Some second cutting hay was reported as being chopped back onto fields in Clark and Langlade Counties. Alfalfa was turning yellow due to saturated soils in Portage County. Many reports stated that it was difficult to make dry hay.

Winter wheat harvest was wrapping up for those growers that could get into their fields. Reported yields ranged from below average to excellent.

Excess moisture was reported as causing stress to **vegetable** crops in Clark County.

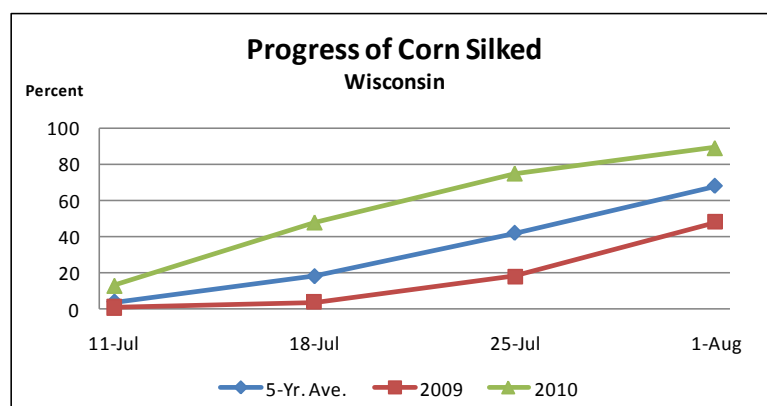
Mint was reported as being distilled in Columbia County.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 1, 2010

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	2	5	12	43	38
Soybean	1	3	15	48	33
Oat	1	8	19	50	22
Pasture	1	2	10	64	23

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



Wisconsin Crop Progress, August 1, 2010

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 silked	87	88	82	92	86	79	91	96	94	89	75	48	68
Corn in dough stage	20	15	11	12	22	9	18	14	26	15	6	1	5
Soybeans blooming	76	76	73	85	91	72	74	94	81	82	64	58	77
Soybeans setting pods	37	21	33	36	56	37	39	41	27	37	20	19	41
Oats harvested	37	13	11	46	58	23	58	93	64	42	25	12	35
Second cutting hay	85	59	75	87	80	82	85	96	89	83	74	86	88
Third cutting hay	14	1	12	31	16	12	19	32	15	18	n.a.	2	9

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.

BARRON-J.N.: With the sporadic rain, it has been difficult for farmers to get into the fields and make hay. Everything is coming along well.

CHIPPEWA-G.L.: After seven dry summers it is nice to see the crops looking just as nice as can be.

CHIPPEWA-J.C.: Difficult to get hay made. Soybeans and corn look the best in several years. Lodged small grains are making it difficult to harvest, but yields are very good.

RUSK-M.K.: Heavy rain and winds have flattened some oat fields. Hail up to 0.8 to 2.0 inches in diameter demolished some corn and soybean fields.

ASHLAND-C.B.: Some corn fields are uneven due to excess moisture.

CLARK-J.B.: Oats are in poor condition, too wet to get into fields. A lot of second cutting hay is being chopped back into fields, if you can even get back in field, too much rain. Corn roots are very shallow due to all the moisture.

LANGLADE-A.K.: 10.3 inches for July, everything is saturated. Last three weeks have been next to impossible to do any type of crop harvest. Do not get two days of sunshine; a lot of second crop blew back, a lot to make. Corn is excellent and soybeans are very good at this point, small grains are down flat and green. Need dry air and sunshine soon to save crops from disease and rotting in the field.

SHAWANO-J.N.: Some winter wheat was harvested this past week. Low test weight with sharp discounts at the mill. The fields are very wet with some wheat even left standing. Oats are not much better, with many fields lodged and weeds and grass coming through. Corn stands in some fields are giving up, too wet. Soybeans look great considering the saturated soils.

EAU CLAIRE-D.J.: Combined barley on Monday. Today more rain, 0.3 inches this morning.

MONROE-P.B.: Combining of small grains is progressing slowly due to rains. New seedings under grain are showing promise.

MARQUETTE-D.B.: At this time it looks to be the best corn and soybeans on the dry land that we have had in years.

WAUPACA-D.H.: Unharvested oat and wheat fields have become over grown with weeds. Excellent quality and quantities sum up second crop alfalfa harvest with more favorable weather conditions.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: Hay yields are good, problem is being able to get it dry and baled without rain.

OUTAGAMIE-D.F.: Wheat yields are good to excellent, straw is breaking down and grain quality is going backwards. Wet field conditions have made combining difficult, some combines with tracks are moving. Oat fields are turning green with grass and weeds growing taller than the oats.

WINNEBAGO-S.E.: Wheat harvest is finally progressing, still many wet spots. Very hard to make dry hay.

GRANT-D.W.: The warmer weather of late has really gotten the corn and soybeans in high gear. We probably have enough moisture to ensure a great crop.

SAUK-W.J.: Oat harvest is a problem due to wet conditions and severe lodging with lots of weeds coming thru. Corn and soybeans are excellent except in low areas. Second crop hay is nearly finished and third crop is moving along as weather permits. Third crop hay is yielding very well.

DODGE-S.B.: Pea yields were down this year. Rainfall has been timely making the third crop hay look excellent. Winter wheat yields were in the 80 bushel per acre range however, there were reports of light test weight.

WALWORTH-E.M.: Week before had 2.0 inches of rain Thursday pm, 2.0 plus inches Friday and 1.5 inches Saturday. No storms. Crops that were firing have lived to green plus. Third crop hay and lawns have rapid regrowth.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: Good week. We are finally drying out.



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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 August 1, 2010

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 Jul. 31	Mar. 1 to Jul. 31 normal*	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	83	62	91	58	73	1	1910	1537	1.17	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Green Bay	82	61	87	59	72	2	1771	1417	1.24	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
La Crosse	84	65	92	61	75	1	2126	1722	0.36	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Madison	82	62	88	60	72	0	2011	1677	0.43	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Milwaukee	80	64	86	58	72	-1	1925	n.a.	0.65	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

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.