



Wisconsin Crop Progress

August 15, 2011

Vol. 11, No. 19

Cooler Weather Arrives

The heat wave of 2011 finally broke this past week, with temperatures normal to below normal across the state. There were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork. The southeastern area of the state received some needed rain, although some of the southern region still needs moisture. In the north and central regions, high humidity and wet fields slowed hay and small grain harvest, encouraged weeds and elevated the risk of mold and disease.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 3 degrees below normal to normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 77 to 80 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 58 to 63 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.14 inches in Green Bay to 2.11 inches in Madison. Growing degree days for corn remain above normal. 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/>

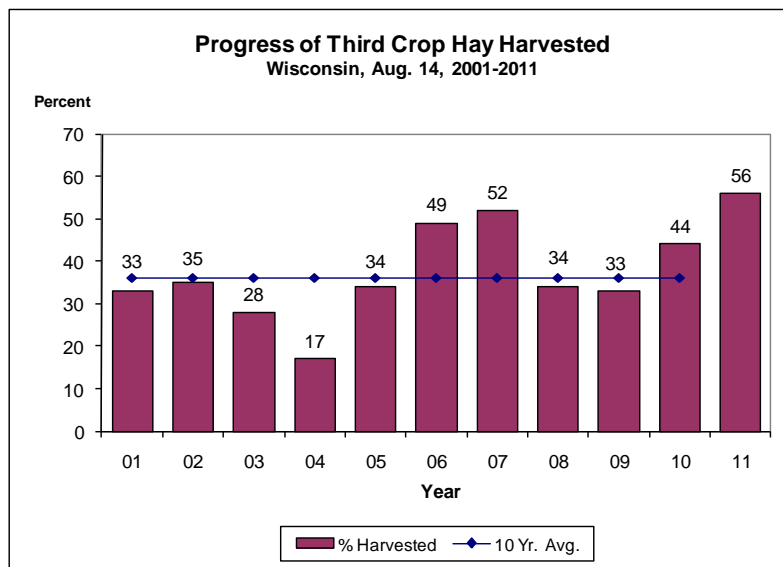
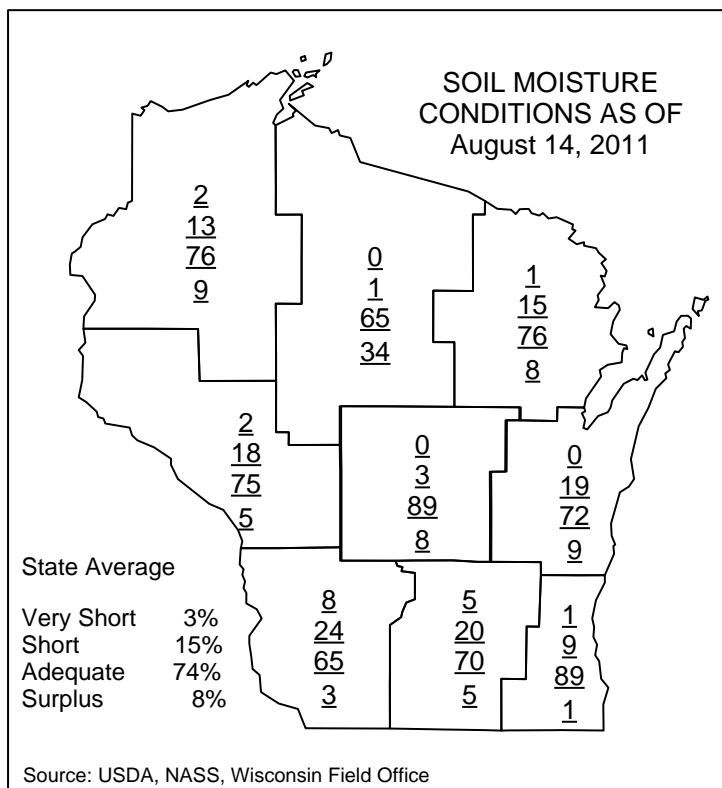
Statewide, **corn** was 95 percent silked and 36 percent in dough stage. Late planted corn was reported to be uneven in condition and development in many areas. A reporter from Dunn County noted that some corn appears to be destined for low quality corn silage.

Soybeans across the state progressed well last week. Statewide, 95 percent of soybeans were blooming and 76 percent setting pods. Plants were reported to be very tall in many areas. Weeds were reported in some high-moisture areas.

Third crop **hay** was 56 percent harvested. Rain, heavy dew and high humidity continued to interfere with baling and drying in northern and central Wisconsin.

Small grain harvest was reported to be in full swing across most of the state. **Oats** were 64 percent harvested overall. Many reporters commented that weed pressure was high in the fields still standing. Some reporters commented that test weights for **winter wheat** were low this year.

Several reporters noted that **snap bean** yields were high this year. **Sweet corn** yields and ear size were reported to vary widely. A reporter from Sauk County commented that this summer's extreme heat has delayed the fruit set in **tomatoes**. And a reporter in waterlogged Portage County wrote that a third of the **pickle** crop had to be disked down due to rot and mold.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 14, 2011

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	1	4	16	50	29
Soybean	1	3	14	54	28
Oat	1	4	18	64	13
Pasture	2	9	27	51	11

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 silked	96	94	87	98	94	86	98	100	97	95	89	98	94
Corn in dough stage	36	34	8	37	32	20	51	52	23	36	17	54	35
Soybeans blooming	85	98	89	99	98	94	94	98	94	95	89	94	93
Soybeans setting pods	57	77	69	78	89	63	69	88	77	76	53	76	73
Oats harvested for grain	55	20	33	78	75	41	95	95	91	64	43	75	72
Third cutting hay	44	47	37	61	44	63	57	71	67	56	34	44	42

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-C.B.: Small grain harvest continues. Yields and quality are looking good. Third crop hay harvest continues. Corn and soybeans look good.

WASHBURN-R.H.: All crops looking good.

ASHLAND-C.B.: Continued timely rains have small grains, corn and soybeans looking good to excellent throughout the area. The rains have caused delays in baling hay. A high percentage of baled hay has been rained on at least once.

MARATHON-S.N.: We received 2.0 inches of rain Friday. The heat, humidity, and rainfall helped crops that were planted later than usual in the spring, catch up. Crops look great. Hope that there will be enough days in between showers to harvest the rest of third crop hay and small grain crops.

FLORENCE-T.B.: DRY. All crops are just trying to survive. Rain has been passing to areas around us. Any amounts of rain we got were dried up within hours. Grain is short and light hay is burning. Corn is stretched high. Leaves on trees are dry and dropping and apple trees are also dropping apples.

FOREST-L.O.: Rain showers at least every other day making it difficult to finish up first crop and also harvesting second crop hay.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Most crops look good; weeds are beginning to be a problem. Third crop hay is average. Problems exist with humidity and the hay not being able to dry properly when baling. Farmers are wrapping up the harvesting of small grains.

MONROE-P.B.: It was good harvesting weather for small grains and straw. Wheat yields topped 80 bushels per acre for some. Third crop hay is about equal to second crop hay in yield.

PORTAGE-D.Z.: Almost all crops look good; finally getting some good weather for wheat harvesting. Low test weights. Snap bean yields generally above average, but sweet corn yields all over the place.

WAUPACA-D.H.: Harvesting of small grains is finishing up. Crops continue to mature and overall look good with warm weather and well-timed rains. Insect pressure has been low.

FOND DU LAC-B.P.: Soybeans and corn look great - just six weeks ago it looked as if we would have a poor 2011 crop. Recent rains and heat have made some positive impact.

Wheat had a poor test weight and an average of 55 bushels per acre yield.

KEWAUNEE- A.O.: We have been having some grasshopper problems in soybean fields.

SHEBOYGAN-E.P.: Soil moisture was dry in this area due to lack of rain. High weed pressure in small grains.

GRANT-D.W.: It continues to be very dry over a sizeable chunk of southwest Wisconsin. Pastures are starting to dry up. So far, the corn and beans are not showing any obvious signs of stress.

IOWA-K.M.: Some producers are concerned about the lack of moisture in parts of the county that have been missed by the rains saying that the crops are starting to show signs of stress. Third cutting of hay is well on its way. Sweet corn is being sold in stands around the county with ears being smaller than normal.

COLUMBIA-B.K.: The county received various amounts of rain last week ranging from 0.8 to over 2.0 inches. Crops for the most part are looking very good after the previous hot spell.

DODGE-R.H.: Third crop hay was very good.

RACINE-K.I.: Overall crops look good. We have been getting timely rains. Wheat is finished up, and third crop hay looks good.

WASHINGTON-J.N.: Third crop hay tonnage is light, quality excellent. Corn and beans look full and very good.



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Director

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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 14, 2011

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. 13	Mar. 1 to Aug. 13 normal*	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	77	58	81	50	68	-3	1901	1786	0.21	15.68	5.70	26.18	5.89
Green Bay	77	59	82	53	68	-1	1801	1656	0.14	11.31	3.00	26.02	8.08
La Crosse	80	60	86	52	70	-3	2138	1998	1.10	14.36	4.39	27.44	6.50
Madison	80	59	85	51	69	-2	2066	1942	2.11	7.53	-2.12	19.37	-1.68
Milwaukee	80	63	87	58	72	0	1874	n.a.	0.25	7.39	-1.30	23.05	1.51

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.