



WISCONSIN CROP PROGRESS

August 5, 2013

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Cool, Dry Conditions Continue

Unusually cool weather and light, scattered precipitation continued this week. Topsoil moisture supplies were down, with 44 percent short to very short this week compared to 34 percent last week. Reporters in the northwest commented that dry conditions have stalled crop growth. The Eau Claire weather station reported the second driest July ever recorded there, with 0.64 inches precipitation total for the month. The record stands at 0.12 inches in July 1936. In spite of this, total precipitation for the year to date remains the third highest on record for the Eau Claire reporting station. Crops were doing okay in much of the rest of the state, though reporters commented that crops need both rain and heat to ensure good pollination. The cool temperatures reportedly have left late planted corn and soybeans struggling to mature. There were 5.8 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 5 to 7 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 75 to 79 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 53 to 60 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.02 inches in La Crosse to 0.73 inches in Milwaukee. 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/>

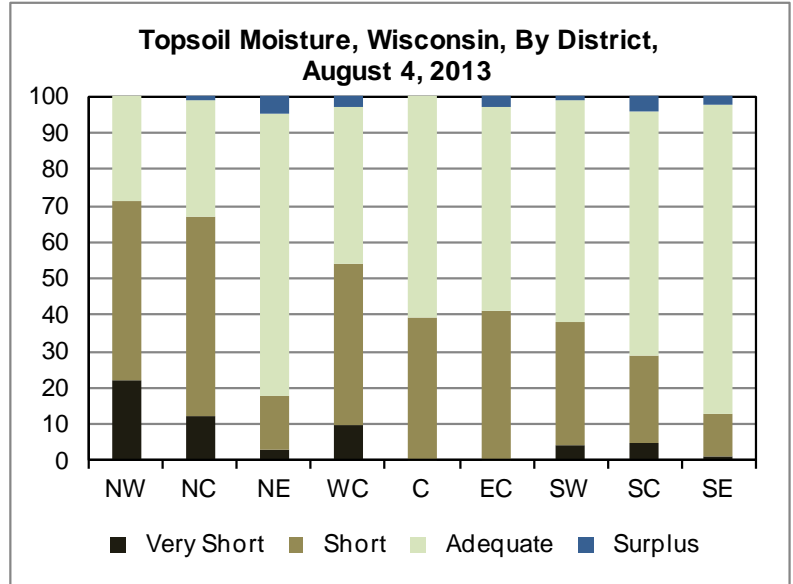
Corn was 67 percent silking and 6 percent in dough stage. Reporters commented that late planted corn needs heat to catch up.

Soybeans were 67 percent blooming and 24 percent setting pods.

Oats were 20 percent harvested for grain. Reporters commented that oat harvest was finally getting underway in the northern and central parts of the state this week.

Second cutting alfalfa was 86 percent harvested and the **third cutting** was 14 percent harvested. As with other crops, hay stands were in need of moisture and warm weather to promote regrowth.

Winter wheat yield reports were variable this week as more of the state began harvest. Yields from 40 to 80 bushels per acre were reported. **Cranberries** were in full fruit set in Oneida County, and looking good in Portage County.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 4, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	3	13	39	38	7
Corn	4	9	27	42	18
Soybeans	2	7	27	45	19
Oats	1	6	24	54	15

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office

Wisconsin Crop Progress, August 4, 2013

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
	Percent									Percent			
Corn silked	49	44	67	57	67	52	82	86	74	67	43	92	78
Corn in dough	1	11	2	2	4	4	17	5	2	6	n.a.	23	12
Soybeans blooming	47	46	79	66	68	73	52	88	64	67	50	91	80
Soybeans setting pods	10	17	17	20	21	28	25	38	17	24	9	61	42
Oats harvested	16	0	7	12	46	23	42	48	12	20	8	81	43
Second cutting hay	90	55	93	86	79	91	91	98	81	86	75	100	92
Third cutting hay	8	4	25	12	9	20	14	20	12	14	5	78	28

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions, August 4, 2013

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	6.3	6.8	5.0	6.3	6.0	5.8	6.3	4.9	3.8	5.8	5.2	5.9
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	22	12	3	10	0	0	4	5	1	7	4	37
Short	49	55	15	44	39	41	34	24	12	37	30	35
Adequate	29	32	77	43	61	56	61	67	85	54	63	28
Surplus	0	1	5	3	0	3	1	4	2	2	3	0
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	13	17	7	6	0	0	2	2	0	5	3	n.a.
Short	45	25	15	34	24	20	26	18	13	26	19	n.a.
Adequate	42	57	72	59	76	73	71	75	85	67	75	n.a.
Surplus	0	1	6	1	0	7	1	5	2	2	3	n.a.

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Wisconsin Crop Progress

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-D.B.: Need heat. Corn and soybeans have a long ways to go yet.

CHIPPEWA-G.L.: If not for the cooler temperatures, we would be in real trouble, after the second driest July on record.

RUSK-G.P.: Dry weather conditions, pastures continue to decline. Oats are getting close to combining. Corn and beans are holding their own with the dry weather, but cool temperatures are slowing development in a year that can't afford any more delays.

MARATHON-G.M.: No decent rain for a month.

TAYLOR-D.E.: Amazing how it goes from too wet to too dry in such little time. All crops are showing signs of distress from lack of rain. Second crop hay is coming back very slowly.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Corn is tasseling and soybeans are finally flowering. Alfalfa looks pretty good for the third cutting. Winter wheat starting to come off with below average yields and test weights all over the board at 51-59 pounds per bushel. We are now having our first tomatoes and cucumbers.

DUNN-S.S.: Second crop hay - 'very short in quantity'. Need moisture very badly this particular area.

LACROSSE-I.H.: Only 1.5 inches of rain during July put our crops in a holding pattern as far as maturing is concerned. Some aphids have been found on soybeans. Quality of second cut hay is good, although maturation is spread out due to the massive rains in June (when we had 8 inches more than average) making it difficult to get the hay in. Small grains are turning color and almost ready for harvest, although the oats are not very tall. Not sure of the quality of oats at this time.

JUNEAU-J.W.: Temperatures were a little cool and we need all the degree days we can get to help the corn and soybeans get to maturity. Some corn looks really good but right across the road there is corn that is barely knee high. Some of the late planted corn and soybeans are really

stressed by the dry weather. Hopefully we get a few nice showers and warm weather this week.

MARQUETTE-D.B.: Peas and snap beans continue to be harvested. A few early potatoes being dug now. Seed corn being detassled and male rows cut out.

OUTAGAMIE-D.F.: Too cold to help a struggling corn crop. Bring on the heat! Plus some timely showers.

SHEBOYGAN-E.P.: We got nice rain now that really helped all crops. Harvest of winter wheat is just starting and the oats harvest will be started soon.

WINNEBAGO-S.E.: Wheat crop not good.

GRANT-D.W.: Crops continue to make good progress. Moderate temperatures and sunshine have allowed folks to get their field work done on time.

SAUK-J.P.: Last week was a good week to live and work outside in Wisconsin. We need a few days when it is not pleasant to be outdoors, either too hot or raining. Corn is very uneven and is showing heat stress which rain and hot weather would help. Third crop hay is short but rain would help that too. Berry season is winding down. It was an exceptional year for strawberries and raspberries. Branches on apple trees are really bent over with all the fruit they are trying to support.

DANE-F.P.: Soil getting dry and has cracks. Winter wheat and oats harvests are starting.

ROCK-C.O.: Small grain harvest is difficult with rain; however, most have completed the work. Baling of straw is a different story.

RACINE-K.I.: Crops overall look very good. Beans look great, as does corn. Wheat ran well.

WALWORTH-N.W.: Showers off and on all week has prevented any progress on wheat harvest. Heat units are needed to mature the corn and soybeans. Seems like the last two weeks have been cool and cloudy.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 4, 2013

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. 3	Mar. 1 To Aug. 3 normal*	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	78	53	82	49	65	-7	1583	1596	0.04	6.45	-2.15	26.50	+7.58
Green Bay	75	55	80	51	65	-5	1546	1472	0.19	7.13	-0.07	20.89	+4.05
La Crosse	79	56	83	51	68	-6	1789	1787	0.02	7.21	-1.47	26.13	+6.49
Madison	76	57	80	52	66	-6	1728	1739	0.14	14.98	+6.62	35.07	+15.26
Milwaukee	75	60	82	54	67	-5	1579	n.a.	0.73	7.80	+0.30	27.31	+6.93

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.



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