



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



Upper Midwest Region - Wisconsin Field Office · 2811 Agriculture Drive · Madison WI 53718-6777 · (608) 224-4848
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov

Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Vol. 18, No.4
Issued April 23, 2018

For the week ending April 22, 2018
Media Contact: Greg Bussler

Seasonal Temperatures Melt Late Snows

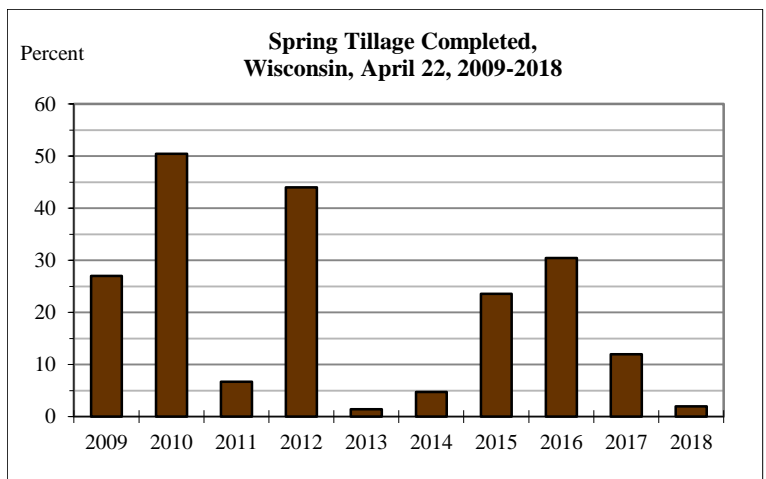
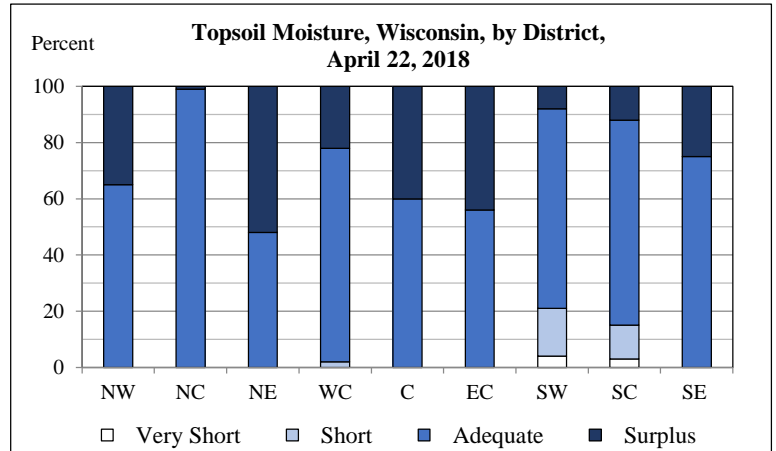
There were 0.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending April 22, 2018, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Last weekend's blizzard continued into Monday, with final snow totals of up to 30 inches in some areas. A second round of heavy, wet snow fell across southern Wisconsin on Wednesday, with up to 10 more inches of snow reported. Warm and sunny weather followed, however, with weekend temperatures in the upper 50s and low 60s. Reporters commented that the snow was melting quickly, recharging dry soils but leaving fields soggy. Overwintered crops were beginning to green up in the southern portions of the state, where farmers were hoping to start fieldwork soon. Reporters noted it may be a few weeks before central and northern Wisconsin can begin planting due to deep snow and still-frozen ground. Manure spreading continued where fields were able to support machinery.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 5 percent short, 70 percent adequate and 24 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 7 percent short, 76 percent adequate and 16 percent surplus.

As of April 22, **spring tillage** was 2 percent complete statewide, unchanged from last week and now 11 days behind the 5-year average.

Oats planted were reported as 3 percent complete, 15 percentage points behind both last year and the 5-year average.

Winter wheat was 51 percent in good to excellent condition statewide, up 1 percentage point from last week.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of April 22, 2018

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat.....	1	9	39	46	5

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of April 22, 2018

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
Days Suitable	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.3	1.0	2.9
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	1	1	0
Short.....	0	0	0	2	0	0	17	12	0	5	6	1
Adequate.....	65	99	48	76	60	56	71	73	75	70	76	63
Surplus.....	35	1	52	22	40	44	8	12	25	24	17	36
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	5	0	1	1	0
Short.....	0	0	0	7	0	0	20	17	0	7	7	1
Adequate.....	68	100	49	82	74	66	76	72	91	76	81	67
Surplus.....	32	0	51	11	26	34	0	6	9	16	11	32

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-P.T.: A lot of snow gone but still some fields are covered.

BURNETT/WASHBURN-P.H.: Still snow on the fields and frost in the ground. Maple syrup ending. Poor year with starting and stopping 3 times. Last week was good but trees starting to bud so done with sap.

ASHLAND/IRON-C.B.: Snowstorm this past Monday dropped 20 inches plus of snow on the area. Temperatures in the 50s this past weekend have melted most of the snow cover. There is still some snow in the woods. No field activity yet.

FLORENCE/FOREST-T.B.: 14-20 inches of snow fell last Sunday throughout the county. Temperatures rose into the low 60s this weekend, melting any snow that hadn't melted. Soils are saturated at this time.

EAU CLAIRE-M.H.: Some manure being hauled as our snow cover slowly melts off.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Ground still frozen, seven inches of snow midweek. Snow still trying to melt. No field work this week.

ST CROIX-D.K.: Still frost in fields. No alfalfa or wheat has broken dormancy yet. Lots of manure was hauled from sheds with the frost.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Feeding of cattle housed outdoors and manure hauling were major activities this week along with snow plowing. Fields remained snow covered for the majority of the week.

WAUPACA-R.V.: Snow melt is occurring at a relatively quick rate causing excess water on farmland and residences alike. Higher degree weather over the coming weeks should allow spring tillage and planting to begin, contingent on the dry-up of acreage.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: The snow has stopped falling and temperatures are feeling more like they should at this time of year. However, it will be after May 1 before any ground in this area will be ready to till. First, the deep snow pack will have to melt, then the ground will have to dry out and warm up. There are quite a few areas in the fields where the snow has disappeared, but there are a lot of areas where it won't for a little while. Where the winter wheat and alfalfa are showing, they have yet to green up. There will be plenty of moisture in the ground from the melting snow, which contains a lot of water. Once the spring crops start to grow, adequate moisture will certainly help them along.

SHEBOYGAN/OZAUKEE-M.B.: Waiting for the snow to melt. Setting up for a late start to planting season.

SAUK-C.N.: Hoping to get into the fields soon with warmer weather and sunshine in the forecast.

COLUMBIA/JEFFERSON-L.A.: Planning to start tillage and planting this week. Great weather forecast.

DODGE-M.P.: Nothing is being done this week due to snow although we only had about 10 inches all together. Temperatures finally getting back to the 50s. Next week should be better. Still too early to tell the condition of the wheat and alfalfa.

KENOSHA-R.R.: Snow and ice is finally melting.

WALWORTH-N.W.: Last weekend's snow storm has producers patiently waiting for warmer weather. This next week looks promising for some field work to get done.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on April 22, 2018

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 Apr. 21	Mar. 1 to Apr. 21 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	43	24	60	20	34	-11	11	75	0.06	1.54	-2.21	4.50	-1.12
Green Bay	42	26	52	21	34	-10	7	65	0.34	3.72	-0.11	6.52	+0.49
La Crosse	44	27	60	21	35	-14	31	100	0.58	4.05	-0.21	6.95	+0.52
Madison	43	25	58	22	34	-12	22	104	0.94	3.16	-1.41	8.19	+1.07
Milwaukee	43	30	56	27	37	-8	22	n.a.	1.30	4.02	-1.20	8.84	+0.09

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. n.a.=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more 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/>