



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

August 6, 2001 - 3 p.m.

Vol. 01, No. 19

Thanks to Rain

Scattered locations throughout the state received significant rainfall in a short period of time late last week. The rainfall arrived at a critical time, with many reporters commenting on the stress many fields were under. In addition, Wisconsin saw temperatures 5-8 degrees above normal with high humidity. Farmers throughout the state have reported that high humidity and above normal temperatures have resulted in increased plant disease. Soil moisture was reported 16% very short, 31% short, 46% adequate, and 7% surplus. There were 5.2 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

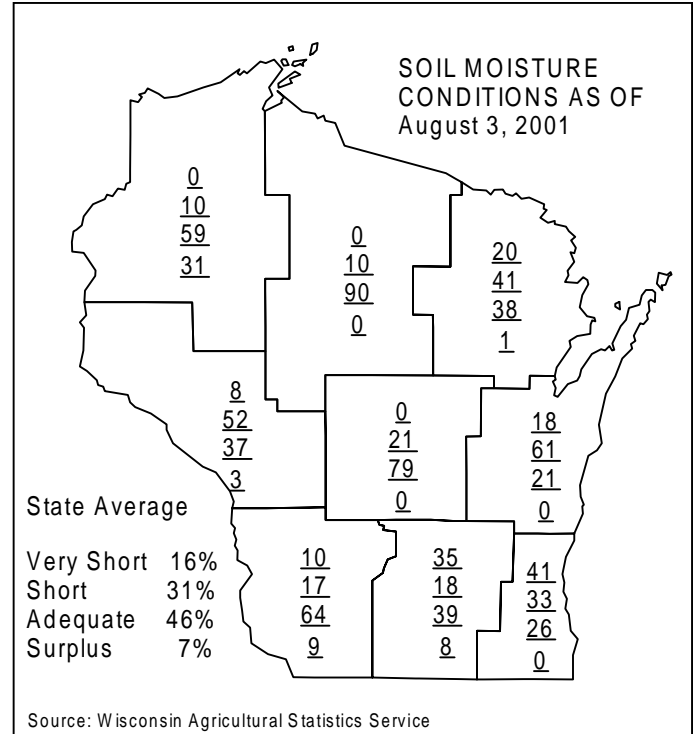
Corn silked reached 66% complete last week, compared to 84% last year, and 78% for the 5-year average. There were reports of corn starting to reach dough stage throughout the state last week. Farmers continue to report corn stages from a few feet tall to kernel formation.

Soybeans blooming reached 68% complete last week, compared to 82% last year, and 72% for the 5-year average. Soybeans setting pods reached 15% complete this week, compared to 49% last year, and 41% for the 5-year average. Reporters in the south central district reported several fields with soybean aphids.

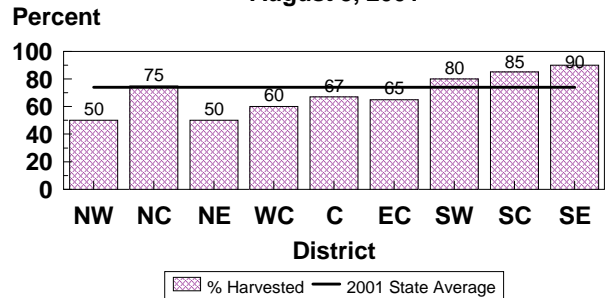
Winter wheat harvest reached 74% complete, statewide, behind 86% last year, but ahead of the 5-year average of 68%. **Oat** harvest reached 28% complete last week, compared to 57% last year, and the 5-year average of 44%. Small grain yields were reported good with abundant straw.

Second cutting **alfalfa** harvest reached 87% complete for the year, behind last year's 93%, but ahead of the 5-year average of 82%. Third cutting alfalfa harvest started last week with 11% complete statewide, compared to 17% last year, and 13% for the 5-year average. There were many reports of alfalfa and pasture fields growing again after last week's rainfall.

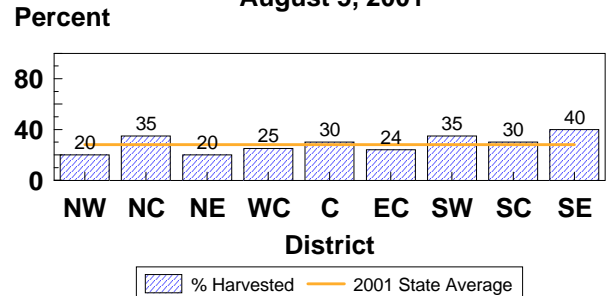
Door County reported **cherry** and **pea** harvest under way.



Winter Wheat Harvested Wisconsin by District August 5, 2001



Oats Harvested for Grain Wisconsin by District August 5, 2001



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 3, 2001					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	7	19	38	34	2
Oats	1	10	30	45	14
Corn	5	14	39	32	10
Soybean	4	12	37	41	6

Wisconsin Crop Progress, August 5, 2001

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This year	Last year	5-year average
Corn silked	55	50	55	65	60	55	70	80	75	66	84	78
Soybeans blooming	58	55	65	63	70	62	73	70	75	68	82	72
Soybeans setting pods	5	7	13	15	16	14	15	14	20	15	49	41
Oats harvested for grain	20	35	20	25	30	24	35	30	40	28	57	44
Winter wheat harvested	50	75	50	60	67	65	80	85	90	74	86	68
2nd crop hay harvested	81	88	90	85	90	87	85	97	85	87	93	82
3rd crop hay harvested	6	10	9	13	11	16	12	11	12	11	17	13

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BAYFIELD-J.M.: Received much-needed rain this week. Crops now look good, with second crop hay growing fast in 90-degree heat. A beautiful crop of blueberries.

POLK-C.O.: This area has only received 0.3 inch of rain since June 20. Soybean fields are being infested with aphids, leaving fields yellow. Some are spraying, some are waiting for rain. Early-planted corn looks very bad, some has no silks, also very short. Alfalfa also hurt by leafhoppers.

RUSK-G.P.: Corn continues to improve with continued heat and moisture, but will still need a late frost to amount to much. Soybeans look good. Weeds are a problem in many corn fields and leaf diseases on all crops are showing up this year with high temperatures and humidities. Third crop quality and quantity are good with RFV's around 175. Oats are starting to turn, quality still unknown. Direct seeding of unplanted spring acres starting.

TAYLOR-D.E.: Corn varies greatly from a couple of feet high to cobs setting. Some small grains being harvested, but stems are short, and parts of fields spotty due to excess moisture in June. Second and third crop hay is lower in yield, but better quality than first crop. Soybeans are coming along well, despite the slow start.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Most of the county received much-needed rain. Cornfields are very uneven in height primarily due to spring compaction, and many are just starting to tassle. Soybean fields are looking fairly uniform now and have good color.

DUNN-J.F.: Had 4 - 5 inches of rain last week; localized flooding problems.

MONROE-M.Y.: We got 0.25 inch of rain, but are still short. Cutting oats with the grain binder is 80 percent done and shocked.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: Corn looks real good now since it has moisture, but there are some corn borers. Third crop hay is growing good now. Not much hay made this week, due to frequent showers and high humidity.

DOOR-M.F.: Cherry harvest over 80 percent complete. Last week's rain helped put some size to the crop. Snapbeans will begin harvest mid-week. Pea harvest 95 percent complete.

FOND DU LAC-V.F.: Corn and beans need more water. Got 0.17 inch of rain last night. Not enough when it is this dry. Picked first ripe tomatoes. Some ear worms in the corn.

SHEBOYGAN-M.B.: Winter wheat is the bright spot this year thus far in crop production. Yields are good to excellent with

reports of about 75 bushels per acre and one report of 100 bushels of wheat per acre. The corn crop, as a whole, is marginal. Dry weather has stunted much of the corn crop on the lighter soils. Late-planted acres of corn and beans are looking better, but the growing season is limited at this point. Rains this week were helpful; some areas with as much as 2 inches and other areas less than 0.5 inches.

GRANT-J.G.: Rains on Wednesday and Thursday totaled over 3 inches, which really was needed and helped.

LAFAYETTE-M.R.: Have been blessed with rain when we needed it this season. Oats yield and quality was good, with lots of straw. Big rain last night was needed, maybe not all 5 inches. Some are spraying soybeans for Chinese aphids.

DANE-D.F.: Heavy rain on Wednesday night, some areas reported up to 8 inches. Soybean aphids are found everywhere. Corn crop once again needed the rain, as it had been hot and dry.

GREEN-GC: Heavy rains Wednesday night and Thursday will keep things green and growing for awhile. Oat fields are excellent, with heavy test up to 38 lbs. per bushel. Second crop hay being harvested now, is running 80-plus bales per acre.

KENOSHA-J.H.: Welcome rain, but too late for many corn fields and not enough for most. Hope for more rain for the soybeans, as there is still time in those fields.

WASHINGTON-L.K.: Wheat is being harvested, but not at a storable moisture. Once again we are having to dry it some or take the deductions. Yields are pretty good. Test weight is good, and there is a lot of straw. We got 0.5 inch of rain, but we are still very dry. Corn leaves roll in the heat of the day and beans are still in a holding mode, not making much progress. Late-planted beans are very short. Hay is short with reasonably good quality. Corn is probably being hurt by the dryness.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on August 5, 2001

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. 4	Mar. 1 to Aug. 4 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	88	65	98	57	77	6	1771	1615	2.24	11.71	3.04	24.94
Green Bay	86	64	93	57	75	5	1681	1490	0.19	6.20	-0.68	17.42
La Crosse	92	69	100	63	81	8	1928	1808	0.39	5.39	-2.77	18.38
Madison	88	67	95	64	77	6	1827	1759	3.98	12.50	4.97	23.97
Milwaukee	84	69	94	65	76	5	1735	n.a.	0.36	7.12	-0.07	20.51

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 1961-90 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. N.a. = not available. T = trace.