



# Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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For the week ending May 15, 2016  
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## Chilly Weekend Brings Late Frost

There were 3.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending May 15, 2016, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Rain early in the week slowed fieldwork while below normal temperatures and windy conditions made it a chilly week for planting. Overnight lows dipped into the 20s for much of the state over the weekend with snow squalls reported in some areas. Reporters noted widespread concern about frost damage to newly emerged crops and fruit blossoms. But, as of this report, it was too early to make a thorough assessment of the damage. In spite of adverse conditions, planting activities made good progress this week. Soybeans were going into the ground in many areas, but warmer temperatures are needed to support good emergence.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 8 percent short, 78 percent adequate and 13 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 6 percent short, 86 percent adequate and 8 percent surplus.

As of May 15<sup>th</sup>, corn planted was at 76 percent complete, two days behind last year, but 10 days ahead of the five-year average. Corn emerged was at 17 percent, 3 days behind last year, but 3 days ahead of the five-year average.

Thirty-three percent of the state's expected soybean acres have been planted, 3 days behind last year, but 5 days ahead of the five-year average. Soybean acres were reported at 1 percent emerged.

Eighty-five percent of the potato crop was planted, 6 days behind last year.

Oats planting was reported as 91 percent complete, one week behind 2015, but 12 days ahead of the five-year average. Oats emerged was at 63 percent, 3 days behind 2015, but 8 days ahead of the five-year average. Oats condition was 83 percent good to excellent, 3 percentage points above last week.

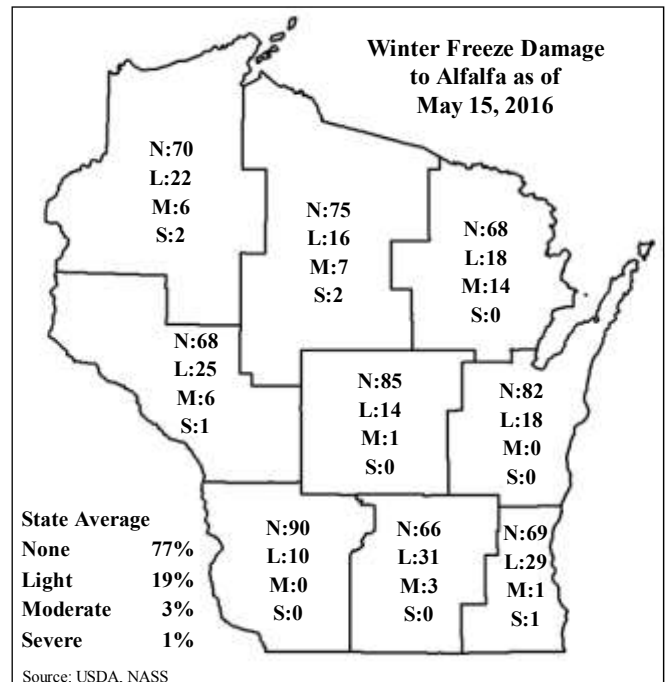
Winter wheat was rated 85 percent in good to excellent condition statewide.

The 1<sup>st</sup> cutting of alfalfa was reported as 2 percent complete. All hay condition was reported 86 percent good to excellent, unchanged from the previous week.

The Northeastern district of the state saw the most alfalfa freeze damage, with 14 percent of the crop showing moderate to severe damage. The state average was 4 percent moderate to severe damage, compared to 10 percent last year.

Pasture condition was rated 73 percent good to excellent, compared to 71 percent last week.

Spring tillage was 89 percent complete statewide, 1 day ahead of last year, and 15 days ahead of the five-year average.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 15, 2016

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
All Hay.....	0	2	12	62	24
Oats.....	0	0	17	71	12
Pasture & Range	0	5	22	56	17
Winter Wheat.....	0	1	14	56	29

## Wisconsin Crop Progress as of May 15, 2016

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 Planted.....	76	59	66	79	80	63	85	82	72	76	56	80	47	
Corn Emerged.....	10	16	6	19	10	8	29	21	18	17	6	32	11	
Oats Planted.....	92	73	83	94	97	92	95	95	90	91	75	95	68	
Oats Emerged.....	64	39	44	72	74	48	76	82	59	63	39	75	43	
Potatoes Planted.....	64	23	56	99	95	n.a.	79	84	n.a.	85	72	93	n.a.	
Soybeans Planted.....	25	26	30	28	29	44	39	35	31	33	18	43	18	
Spring Tillage.....	87	80	80	92	93	85	94	94	84	89	78	87	60	

n.a.=not available

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of May 15, 2016

Item	District average										State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year	
	Days										Days		
Days Suitable	4.2	2.9	6.3	3.4	4.3	4.4	3.4	3.8	1.6	3.8	5.7	4.5	
Topsoil Moisture	Percent										Percent		
	Very Short.....	1	0	4	0	1	0	2	1	0	1	1	1
	Short.....	6	0	12	8	14	4	9	11	0	8	10	23
	Adequate.....	78	87	60	83	77	79	81	72	79	78	79	73
	Surplus.....	15	13	24	9	8	17	8	16	21	13	10	3
Subsoil Moisture	Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
	Short.....	2	0	4	8	11	3	11	10	0	6	7	26
	Adequate.....	92	98	73	84	84	85	83	83	88	86	85	71
	Surplus.....	6	2	23	8	5	12	4	7	12	8	8	1

# 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.

**BURNETT-P.H.:** No rain for 3+ weeks. Cool temperatures but great planting conditions for seeding corn and soybeans. First corn planted is up but froze on Saturday night when it got down to 25 degrees.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Much cooler this week with rain and snow over the weekend. Field work slowed way down but looks to start up again next week with a better weather forecast. Still looks to be a timely spring with the bulk of the crop in by the end of the week.

**ASHLAND/IRON-C.B.:** Not as much field work done as the week before. Rains earlier in the week halted most fieldwork. Temperatures have been about average for this time of the year.

**FLORENCE/FOREST-T.B.:** Most small grains planted and field work continuing for corn ground. Very little corn planted. Weather very cold and very little sun to heat the soil. Snow on the ground both Saturday and Sunday morning with heavy snow squalls all day on Saturday. and temps below 40 degrees all day. Hay is green but growth is slow without the heat.

**EAU CLAIRE-J.C.:** Frost injured some emerged corn. Rain slowed activity in the fields. Alfalfa PEAQ readings are in the 230 range.

**JACKSON-T.W.:** Frost damage to alfalfa is uncertain. Most stands were still pre-bud. Temperature, wind speed and length of time of low temperature was variable across the region. If buds are frozen they should start to wilt today or tomorrow.

**MONROE-B.H.:** There were enough light showers last week to make the soil sticky for a while and slow field progress.

**PORTAGE-D.Z.:** Planting progressing a little ahead of normal; oats and alfalfa seedings emerging nicely; no corn or soybeans up yet, probably good as they are calling for possible frost the next two nights.

**FOND DU LAC-B.B.:** Received 1.05 inches rain for the period. This kept equipment out of the fields but has set moisture in the germination zone to ideal levels. It remains very cool but the oats, wheat and alfalfa are thriving. A great deal of corn should be planted later in the coming week.

**SHEBOYGAN-M.B.:** Significant rainfall early in the week has stopped planting.

**RICHLAND-J.C.:** There are some producers concerned about the frost over the weekend damaging corn and soybeans that were emerged. Alfalfa is showing slight wilt from the frost. Warmer weather this week should help crops recover.

**DODGE-R.H.:** Had 0.7 inches rain on Tuesday and 0.1 inch on Friday. Had frost on Sunday morning.

**WALWORTH-N.W.:** Frustrating week of weather with light rains and cold temperatures. Frost on Sunday morning hit the corn that had emerged. Hopefully the growing point is still below ground.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 15, 2016

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 May 14	Mar. 1 to May 14 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	60	43	72	30	51	-5	317	251	0.71	8.19	+1.94	9.57	+1.46
Green Bay	60	43	69	35	52	-2	213	208	0.13	5.75	+0.00	8.23	+0.24
La Crosse	62	45	76	32	54	-5	382	301	1.24	7.72	+0.83	9.89	+0.82
Madison	61	43	71	32	52	-4	302	296	1.38	9.94	+2.94	12.17	+2.59
Milwaukee	60	44	72	39	52	-2	226	n.a.	1.55	8.82	+1.02	11.13	-0.11

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/>