



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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For the week ending April 29, 2018
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Spring Arrives, Finally

There were 3.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending April 29, 2018, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. A week of sunny, dry and breezy conditions allowed farmers to take to the fields. Temperatures were near normal, with daytime highs reaching the 60s and 70s in many areas. Most of the state's snow cover had melted off by the weekend, even in areas where the snow pack had been thick. Reporters in some areas noted that fields were too wet to support machinery while, in others, soils soaked up the snowmelt and dried out quickly. Soil temperatures remained unfavorably low for corn planting, except in the southern portions of the state. Manure hauling continued statewide with oats planting and spring tillage taking off.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 8 percent short, 76 percent adequate and 14 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 8 percent short, 80 percent adequate and 10 percent surplus.

As of April 29, **spring tillage** was 15 percent complete statewide, up 13 percentage points from last week, but 11 points behind the 5 year average.

Corn planting was 3 percent complete, 2 days behind last year and 5 days behind the 5 year average.

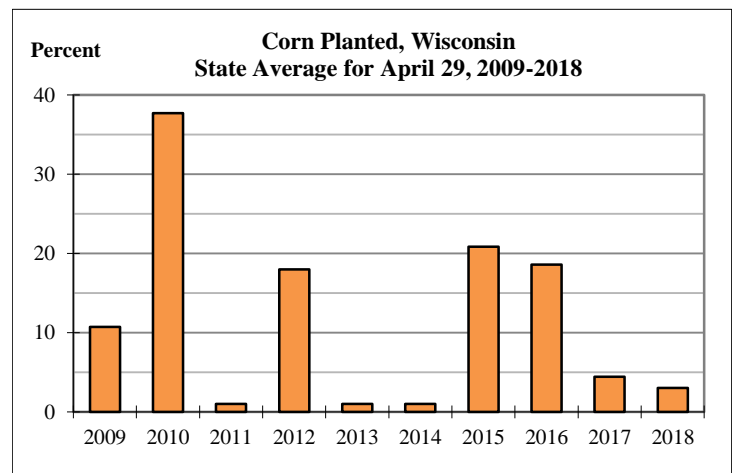
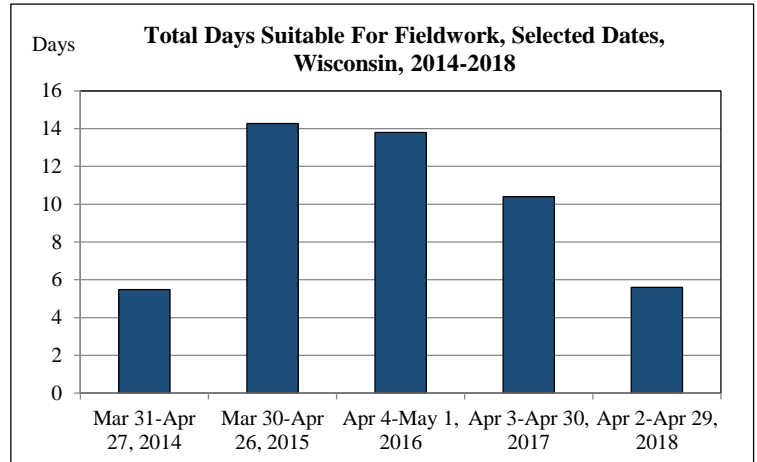
One percent of the state's expected **soybean** acres have been planted.

Oats planted were reported as 16 percent complete, 9 days behind last year and 8 days behind the 5 year average. Oats emerged was at 3 percent, 10 days behind last year and 5 days behind the 5 year average.

Potato planting is reported as 3 percent complete, 16 days behind last year.

Winter wheat was 57 percent in good to excellent condition statewide, up 6 percentage points from last week.

Pasture condition was rated 29 percent in good to excellent condition, compared to 68 percent in good to excellent condition last year.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of April 29, 2018

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture & Range	14	20	37	24	5
Winter Wheat.....	1	5	37	51	6

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of April 29, 2018

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
Oats Planted.....	0	0	0	3	8	1	49	56	33	16	3	31	32
Spring Tillage.....	1	0	5	5	12	3	33	38	17	15	2	20	26

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of April 29, 2018

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
Days Suitable.....	2.5	0.0	0.8	3.6	4.8	2.5	6.0	3.5	4.7	3.4	0.3	2.6
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	4	0	2	1	0
Short.....	0	0	0	4	0	0	22	21	4	8	5	0
Adequate.....	76	99	70	83	77	61	69	72	92	76	70	52
Surplus.....	24	1	30	13	23	39	0	3	4	14	24	48
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	6	0	2	1	0
Short.....	0	0	0	8	0	0	19	22	2	8	7	0
Adequate.....	75	100	66	88	84	76	76	72	93	80	76	59
Surplus.....	25	0	34	4	16	24	0	0	5	10	16	41

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Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Most snow has melted except north facing slopes along woods. Solid manure applications and some fertilizer applications are beginning to occur. Road bans are limiting progress of liquid manure and fertilizer applications. Rye planted before October of last fall is greening up. Alfalfa is also beginning growth. For the few fields checked, little winter injury has occurred.

RUSK/SAWYER-S.V.: Snow is finally gone from fields. Have seen a couple producers in fields combining last year's corn, so fields are firming up.

LINCOLN/MARATHON-D.E.: Fields are starting to dry out but no field work has been done to date. The ground is very cold and wet.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Still have a little snow in the fields yet. Moisture is plentiful with water standing in several spots. Winter wheat is just starting to green up. No fieldwork will be done in this area for a few days yet.

BUFFALO/PEPIN-S.M.: Considerable amounts of manure hauling, spring tillage and some planting beginning. Warm temperatures and wind have dried the soils quickly after the snow melt.

DUNN-S.C.: North slopes still have some frost in the ground.

ADAMS/JUNEAU-J.W.: Spring has arrived finally. Soil temperature is still cold but a lot of field work was getting done. Fertilizer was being applied, and oats and even a little corn may have gotten planted. There is a lot of concern about the winter wheat and alfalfa but things are just starting to green up so we can't really tell how much winterkill occurred. We did have some livestock losses reported to the FSA offices as a result of the heavy snows received April 13-18.

MARQUETTE/WAUSHARA-D.B.: Tillage and planters have started running.

CALUMET-K.P.: Progress in the fields is still very slow, as there are several areas of standing water due to the snow from Blizzard Evelyn melting. Things are greening up quite nicely. Temperatures in the 50s and 60s are slowly drying fields up. Forecasted weather has temperatures in the 70s and windy with lots of sunshine. Farmers are anxious and looking forward to getting fieldwork started.

MANITOWOC-M.R.: Winter wheat really greened up this past week. Still way too wet from the snow melt for any fieldwork to happen. Hopefully they can get rolling this coming week.

VERNON-K.L.: Farmers started planting corn and oats, also spreading fertilizer & manure. Most of the frost is out of the ground. Weather cool, but sunny. Need a little rain to green things up.

DANE-F.P.: The weather has been cold with some tillage starting. It is very dry and there is plenty of fire danger.

GREEN-J.T.: All field activities have started and there have been five days suitable for planting corn and soybeans. It is dry and we could use some rain.

OZAUKEE/WASHINGTON-G.S.: We finally have conditions conducive to getting some field work done. Producers will be extremely busy over the next several weeks trying to catch up.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on April 29, 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. 28	Mar. 1 to Apr. 28 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	64	30	70	27	47	-2	63	118	0.00	1.54	-2.98	4.50	-1.83
Green Bay	58	33	66	29	46	-2	38	98	0.02	3.74	-0.66	6.54	-0.06
La Crosse	68	36	76	33	52	+0	95	150	0.00	4.05	-1.01	6.95	-0.28
Madison	64	34	73	32	49	+0	72	151	0.02	3.18	-2.20	8.21	+0.32
Milwaukee	56	37	66	33	47	-1	46	n.a.	0.19	4.21	-1.89	9.03	-0.57

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/>

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.