



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 May 17, 2015
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Spotty Showers

There were 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 17th, 2015, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Although storms dropped less rain than expected, planting was slowed in some areas but statewide planting remains well ahead of normal for mid-May. Temperatures were slightly below average for all but a few counties, with temperatures dropping to the 20s in some areas mid-week.

Due to variable precipitation, soil moisture levels rose in some areas but fell in others. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 24 percent short to very short compared to 27 percent last week. Statewide, **subsoil moistures** were 28 percent short to very short compared to 31 percent last week.

As of May 17th, **spring tillage** was 90 percent complete statewide, over 2 weeks ahead of last year and the five-year average.

Eighty-five percent of the state's expected **corn** acres have been planted, the highest percentage planted by this date since 2000, when 88 percent of the crop had been planted. Corn emerged was 41 percent, almost two weeks ahead of last year and 9 days ahead of the five-year average.

Soybeans planted was at 50 percent complete, the second highest percent by this date in more than 35 years. Soybeans emerged was 9 percent, one week ahead of the five-year average.

Oats planted was at 96 percent complete, over three weeks ahead of last year and more than two weeks ahead of the five-year average. Oats emerged was 82 percent.

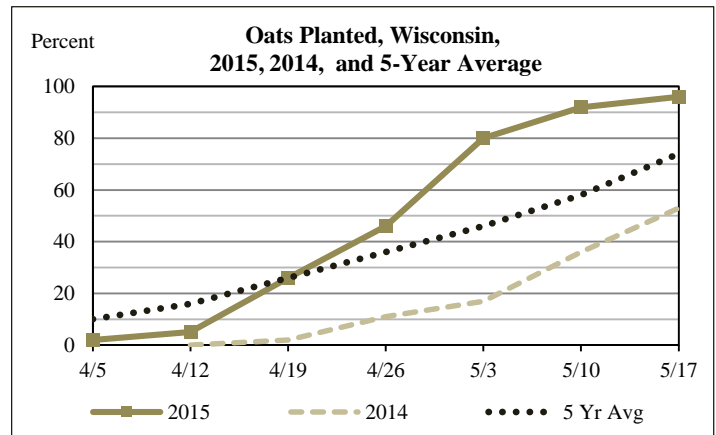
Potatoes planted neared completion in some districts, reaching 94 percent statewide.

Pasture condition improved week-over-week again with 69 percent rated good to excellent compared to 65 percent last week.

Winter wheat condition was 70 percent in good to excellent, up one percentage point from the previous week.

All Hay Condition remained at 78 percent good to excellent.

A reporter in Rock County noted that **rye** is being harvested for hay.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of May 17, 2015

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Hay, All	2	4	16	59	19
Oats	0	0	17	67	16
Pasture & Range	1	7	23	56	13
Winter Wheat	1	6	23	53	17

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of May 17, 2015

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	80	89	82	87	82	91	80	88	87	85	69	34	53
Corn emerged	48	36	32	42	46	51	31	40	55	41	9	1	14
Oats planted	93	93	90	98	99	99	99	98	99	96	92	53	74
Oats emerged	80	79	80	84	83	80	82	91	85	82	56	24	49
Potatoes planted	92	78	77	99	99	n.a.	91	80	n.a.	94	91	65	n.a.
Soybeans planted	45	61	61	53	51	60	31	50	51	50	25	7	20
Soybeans emerged	6	7	1	11	15	14	10	7	13	9	0	0	2
Spring tillage complete	85	94	91	94	92	95	92	83	88	90	81	44	65

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of May 17, 2015

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	3.3	3.3	5.6	3.5	5.9	5.4	4.6	4.7	4.1	4.5	4.8	3.6
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	5	0	1	3	0
Short	13	6	33	13	34	33	32	27	9	23	24	3
Adequate	78	92	66	77	60	65	66	66	83	73	70	66
Surplus	7	2	1	10	5	1	1	2	8	3	3	31
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	2	0	0	1	1	1	3	10	1	2	3	0
Short	19	12	22	22	33	31	34	33	20	26	28	5
Adequate	74	86	76	74	65	66	63	56	75	71	68	77
Surplus	5	2	2	3	1	2	0	1	4	1	1	18

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.

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: Alfalfa is looking good. Dandelions, yellow rocket and shepherd's purse are common this year and they are beginning to bloom. Early planted corn is in the VE stage. Emergence looks very even. Annual broadleaf weeds are 1 to 2 inches tall and grasses are just emerging. Soybean planting is winding down. No-till fields have an abundance of weeds that will need herbicide applications soon.

RUSK-G.P.: Some progress during the week, but wet weather continues. Rain on Sunday and colder temps will make a slow start to next week. Frost predicted for the next couple nights. Oats are looking good and 1st hay will be ready to cut soon. Corn coming up is yellow and have heard of some beans up already.

CLARK-A.K.J.: Hay fields have more damage than first assumed, wheel tracks from last fall are showing up big time. Fields that have corn stalks or corn crop still have wet spots. Frost on Wednesday morning did not do any good. The corn is very yellow. I don't know yet if the beans that were up are going to be alright or not. Need warm weather that is steady from one day to the next.

PRICE-D.E.: Wet weather hampered planting operations to a point, but many fields were able to be planted. Some are holding off planting soybeans at the time. Winter kill on alfalfa fields is more obvious with many fields to be plowed down. Other hay looks good along with winter crops. Warm weather helped growth process.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Not much rain, just enough to keep conditions good.

SHAWANO-J.N.: Great planting progress this week. We missed out on any rainfall this past weekend, could use some.

DUNN-M.B.: Increased rainfall this past week, pasture and crop conditions should improve.

TREMPEALEAU-L.N.: Row crop planting is way ahead of usual. Alfalfa fields are nearing optimum relative feed value for cutting putting pressure on dairy farmers. Some spotty frost this past week.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Very favorable weather has allowed most of the crops to be planted. Early planted corn has emerged, oats looks good. Alfalfa growth is slow due to dry conditions. Overall, spring of 2015 has been much better than the last years.

WOOD-B.E.: Temperatures were right around normal this past week, and we saw about 0.50 inch of rain. We are approximately 3.00 inches short on rainfall for the year so far, but have been able to sprinkle irrigate to make up for it, and the cranberry vines look good.

FOND DU LAC-B.B.: A cool week with three rounds of light showers (totaling 0.45 inches) allowed the planting and tillage to continue. Alfalfa and wheat made great strides.

VERNON-K.L.: Cooler temperatures, windy, sporadic rain, and cloudy this week. Light frost one day this week that nipped some of the alfalfa. First of the soybeans planted this week. Small grains looking good. Farmers still hauling manure and working ground when possible.

DODGE-R.J.: It was a great week for getting work done in the fields.

GREEN-M.M.: Corn is almost all planted, with about 50 percent of the fields already emerged. About 75 percent of the soybeans are planted. Alfalfa looks very good and harvest on some fields will start next week.

OZAUKEE-G.S.: Producers made a lot of progress in the fields again last week. Crops are looking good. Producers will probably start making hay this week.

WALWORTH-N.W.: A lot of gray rainy days but not much accumulation. Not too much planting left to do, but hard to finish when it showers every other day. Good weather for getting crops out of the ground.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on May 17, 2015

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 16	Mar. 1 to May 16 normal*	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	64	45	80	33	54	-2	394	264	92	582	-0.64	6.41	-1.91
Green Bay	62	44	72	36	53	-2	328	218	78	352	-2.34	4.51	-3.54
La Crosse	67	49	81	37	58	-1	500	313	63	667	-0.42	7.89	-1.39
Madison	66	46	80	33	56	0	426	307	21	621	-1.01	7.62	-2.14
Milwaukee	60	43	75	37	51	-3	264	-9999	23	696	-1.04	8.70	-2.74

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/>

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