

## May 7, 2026 Board Meeting

### • Crop Planting Intentions

- As of March 1, WI farmers intended to plant 3.70 million acres of corn. This is down 450,000 acres from 2025.
  - U.S. corn planted acres are estimated at 95.3 million acres, down 3 percent from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is expected to be down or unchanged in 37 of the 48 estimating States.
- Soybean acres in WI are estimated at 2.40 million acres. This is a 370,000 acre increase from 2025.
  - U.S. soybean planted acres are estimated at 84.7 million acres, up 4 percent from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is up or unchanged in 20 of the 29 estimating States.

### • Milk Production

- In March 2026, WI milk production totaled 2.85 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous March.
- Milk production in the 24 major states totaled 19.6 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year.
- As of March 1, 2026, WI had 5,091 milk cow herds. This is down 212 herds from March 2025.

### • Dairy Products

- In February 2026, Wisconsin cheese production totaled 284 million pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. American cheese production was down 9 percent, and Italian cheese production rose 10 percent.
- In 2025 Wisconsin produced 3.64 billion pounds of cheese, up 2 percent from 2024. This was 25 percent of the nation's cheese production.

### • Prices Received

- Milk price for February was \$17.70 per cwt down \$6.00 from February 2025. The U.S. price for February was \$18.30.
- Corn \$3.96 per bushel down \$0.55 from February 2025.
- Soybean price \$10.20 per bushel up \$0.29 from the previous February.
- Alfalfa hay \$147 per ton up \$11 from last year.

### • Crop Progress as of April 26, 2026

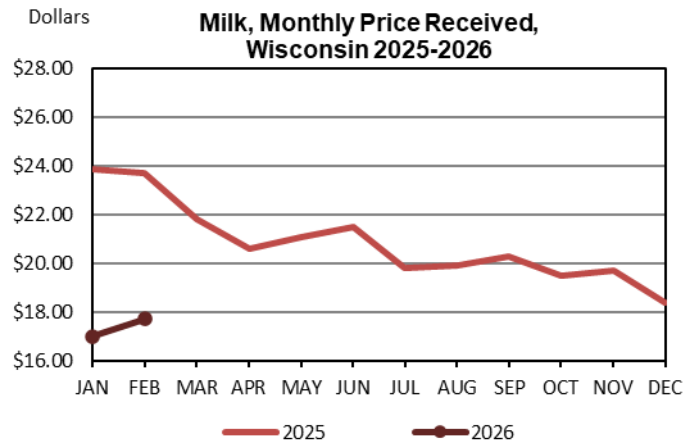
- Corn planting is 3 percent complete.
- Soybean planting is 3 percent complete.
- Oats planted was at 14 percent complete, compared to the 5-year average of 27 percent.

- Topsoil moisture ratings are at 1 percent very short to short, 99 percent adequate to surplus.
  
- **Other noteworthy items:**
  - 2025 Corn and Soybean county estimates will be released on May 5.
  - June Agriculture Survey
    - Collecting data from May 28 through June 19.
    - The data is used to set the planted acres for 2026.
    - Results will be released on June 30.
  - NASS is currently collecting data for the 2025 Organic Survey. This is a follow-on census survey for which reporting is mandatory.



## Milk Prices

The Wisconsin all milk price for February 2026 was \$17.70 per hundredweight (cwt) according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service - *Agricultural Prices* report. This was \$0.70 above last month's price and \$6.00 below last February's price. The U.S. all milk price for January was \$18.30 per cwt, \$0.60 above Wisconsin's price and \$0.80 higher than last month's U.S. price.



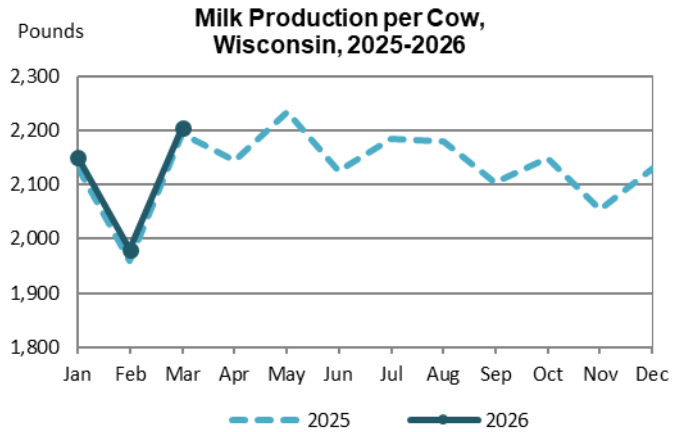
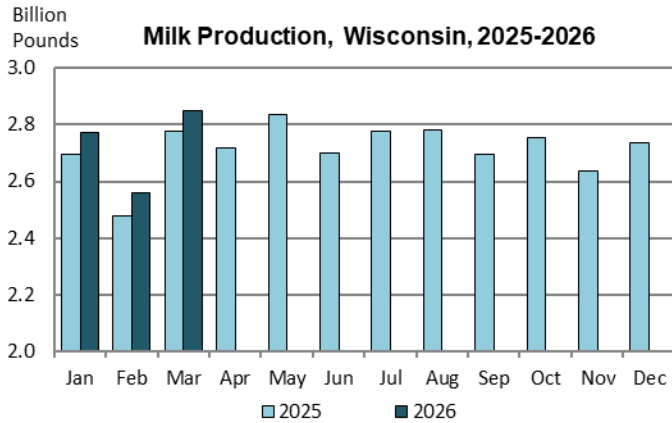
## Prices Received for All Milk – Selected States and United States

[Before deduction for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.]

State	February 2025		January 2026		February 2026	
	Price	Fat test	Price	Fat test	Price	Fat test
	(dollars per cwt)	(percent)	(dollars per cwt)	(percent)	(dollars per cwt)	(percent)
Arizona.....	23.10	4.18	16.20	4.15	17.40	4.19
California.....	21.90	4.33	17.50	4.35	17.80	4.36
Colorado.....	24.10	4.18	17.10	4.20	17.50	4.16
Florida.....	26.90	3.99	22.10	3.99	21.50	4.00
Georgia.....	27.10	4.07	23.20	4.08	22.50	4.10
Idaho.....	23.30	4.47	16.70	4.52	18.90	4.50
Illinois.....	23.20	4.41	17.90	4.46	18.30	4.46
Indiana.....	25.10	4.35	19.30	4.32	19.50	4.30
Iowa.....	23.50	4.59	17.00	4.62	17.90	4.59
Kansas.....	22.80	4.61	16.00	4.67	16.80	4.59
Michigan.....	24.40	4.40	17.80	4.48	18.30	4.46
Minnesota.....	23.90	4.67	17.30	4.74	18.10	4.69
New Mexico.....	21.60	4.22	16.10	4.44	16.90	4.36
New York.....	24.70	4.45	17.90	4.56	19.00	4.56
Ohio.....	25.20	4.38	19.60	4.43	20.10	4.43
Oregon.....	24.20	4.60	19.20	4.59	19.80	4.52
Pennsylvania.....	24.30	4.36	17.50	4.44	18.60	4.49
South Dakota.....	24.20	4.76	17.10	4.83	17.90	4.78
Texas.....	23.90	4.63	17.70	4.69	18.30	4.62
Utah.....	23.30	4.27	16.80	4.41	17.30	4.35
Vermont.....	25.00	4.50	18.20	4.58	19.30	4.60
Virginia.....	27.10	4.25	22.50	4.34	21.90	4.35
Washington.....	24.40	4.50	17.20	4.62	18.60	4.54
<b>Wisconsin.....</b>	<b>23.70</b>	<b>4.43</b>	<b>17.00</b>	<b>4.47</b>	<b>17.70</b>	<b>4.44</b>
United States.....	23.60	4.43	17.50	4.48	18.30	4.46

# Milk Production

Milk production in Wisconsin during March 2026 totaled 2.85 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous March according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Milk Production* report. The average number of milk cows during March, at 1.29 million head, was up 27,000 from March 2025. Monthly production per cow averaged 2,205 pounds, up 10 pounds from last March.



## Milk Cows and Production – 24 Selected States: March 2025 and 2026

State	Milk Cows <sup>1</sup>		Milk Per Cow <sup>2</sup>		Milk Production <sup>2</sup>	
	2025 (1,000 Head)	2026 (1,000 Head)	2025 (Pounds)	2026 (Pounds)	2025 (Million Pounds)	2026 (Million Pounds)
Arizona.....	191	194	2,275	2,270	435	440
California.....	1,710	1,707	2,085	2,105	3,565	3,593
Colorado.....	209	217	2,235	2,240	467	486
Florida.....	95	98	1,965	1,970	187	193
Georgia.....	85	86	2,125	2,130	181	183
Idaho.....	700	724	2,155	2,155	1,509	1,560
Illinois.....	77	76	1,950	1,955	150	149
Indiana.....	192	200	2,050	2,060	394	412
Iowa.....	244	245	2,135	2,150	521	527
Kansas.....	187	234	2,100	2,105	393	493
Michigan.....	446	462	2,385	2,385	1,064	1,102
Minnesota.....	442	453	2,040	2,040	902	924
New Mexico.....	243	234	2,215	2,225	538	521
New York.....	635	653	2,215	2,200	1,407	1,437
Ohio.....	254	256	1,955	1,965	497	503
Oregon.....	116	123	1,810	1,815	210	223
Pennsylvania.....	464	452	1,865	1,870	865	845
South Dakota.....	226	241	1,985	1,990	449	480
Texas.....	688	719	2,275	2,280	1,565	1,639
Utah.....	95	100	1,965	1,980	187	198
Vermont.....	113	113	1,905	1,915	215	216
Virginia.....	66	67	1,875	1,880	124	126
Washington.....	251	236	2,070	2,075	520	490
<b>Wisconsin.....</b>	<b>1,266</b>	<b>1,293</b>	<b>2,195</b>	<b>2,205</b>	<b>2,779</b>	<b>2,851</b>
<b>24-State Total.....</b>	<b>8,995</b>	<b>9,183</b>	<b>2,126</b>	<b>2,133</b>	<b>19,124</b>	<b>19,591</b>

<sup>1</sup>Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.  
<sup>2</sup>Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## Dairy Products

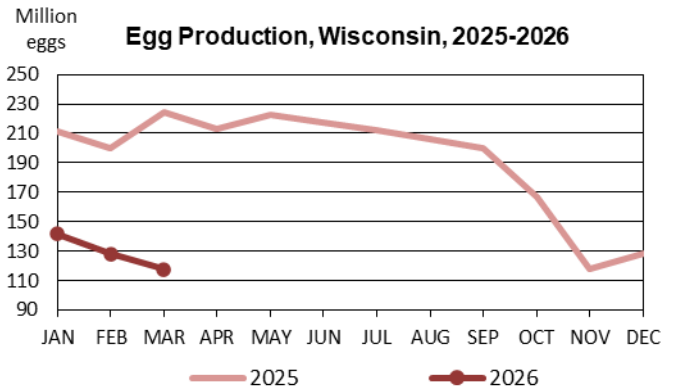
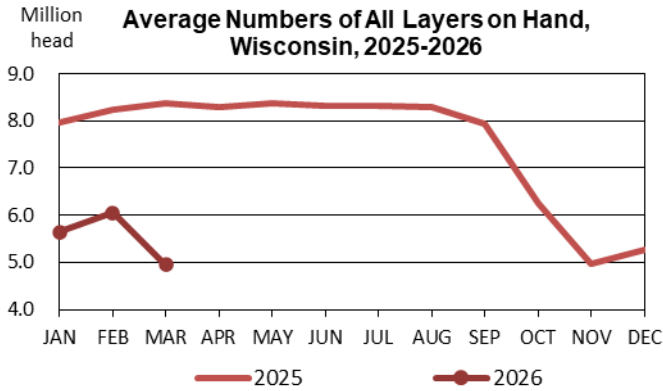
Cheese production in Wisconsin totaled 284 million pounds in February 2026, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Dairy Products* report. This was up 1 percent from the previous February. American cheese production in Wisconsin was down 9 percent, and Italian cheese production rose 10 percent.

### Cheese Production – Wisconsin and United States

Type	Wisconsin			United States		
	February 2025 (1,000 pounds)	January 2026 (1,000 pounds)	February 2026 (1,000 pounds)	February 2025 (1,000 pounds)	January 2026 (1,000 pounds)	February 2026 (1,000 pounds)
American.....						
Cheddar.....	59,472	57,810	49,147	307,696	351,866	314,734
Total American.....	87,315	88,477	79,454	442,498	497,132	451,028
Italian.....						
Mozzarella.....	84,926	97,596	89,729	373,136	431,117	394,759
Total Italian.....	133,409	158,665	147,048	474,243	555,424	506,325
Total Cheese.....	282,102	311,207	284,192	1,116,498	1,275,690	1,160,588

# Chickens & Eggs

Wisconsin egg production during March 2026 was 118 million eggs, down 48 percent from the previous March, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Chickens and Eggs* report. The average number of all layers on hand during March 2026 was 4.95 million, down 41 percent from last year. Eggs per 100 layers for March was 2,378, down 11 percent from a year ago.



## Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced – Wisconsin and United States: March 2025 and 2026

Commodity	Wisconsin		United States	
	2025	2026	2025	2026
Table egg layers in flock				
30,000 & above ..... 1,000 layers	7,186	3,736	279,286	297,172
Total layers ..... 1,000 layers	8,383	4,946	356,956	375,877
Eggs per 100 layers ..... eggs	2,676	2,378	2,458	2,454
Total egg production ..... million eggs	224.3	117.6	8,774.2	9,224.3
Table egg production ..... million eggs	217.8	111.4	7,492.6	7,912.6

## Prospective Plantings

Wisconsin farmers intend to plant 3.70 million acres of **corn** for all purposes in 2026 according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Prospective Plantings* report. This is down 450,000 acres from 2025.

Farmers intend to plant 2.40 million acres of **soybeans** in Wisconsin this year. This is 370,000 acres higher than 2025.

Farmers in Wisconsin expect to harvest 1.23 million acres of **all dry hay** for the 2026 crop year. This is 80,000 acres above last year.

Wisconsin farmers intend to plant 140,000 acres of **oats** for all purposes. This is down 10,000 acres from last year.

**Winter wheat** producers planted area is estimated at 275,000 acres, down 25,000 acres from last year.

Wisconsin farmers intend to plant 16,000 acres of **barley**, up 4,000 acres from last year

### Area Planted – Wisconsin and United States: 2024-2026

Crop	Wisconsin			United States		
	2024	2025	2026 <sup>1</sup>	2024	2025	2026 <sup>1</sup>
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)
Barley.....	11	12	16	2,381	2,299	2,352
Corn, all.....	3,750	4,150	3,700	90,909	98,788	95,338
Hay, all <sup>2</sup> .....	1,290	1,150	1,230	49,390	49,557	50,113
Oats.....	145	150	140	2,235	2,370	2,361
Soybeans.....	2,180	2,030	2,400	87,260	81,215	84,700
Wheat, winter <sup>3</sup> .....	265	300	275	33,535	33,153	32,410

<sup>1</sup>Intended plantings in 2026 as indicated by reports from farmers.

<sup>2</sup>Intended area harvested.

<sup>3</sup>Includes area planted in preceding fall.

### United States

Corn planted area for all purposes in 2026 is estimated at 95.3 million acres, down 3 percent or 3.45 million acres from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is expected to be down or unchanged in 37 of the 48 estimating States.

Soybean planted area for 2026 is estimated at 84.7 million acres, up 4 percent from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is up or unchanged in 20 of the 29 estimating States.

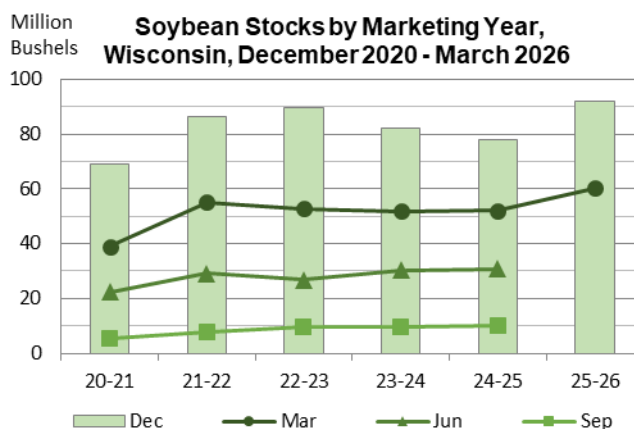
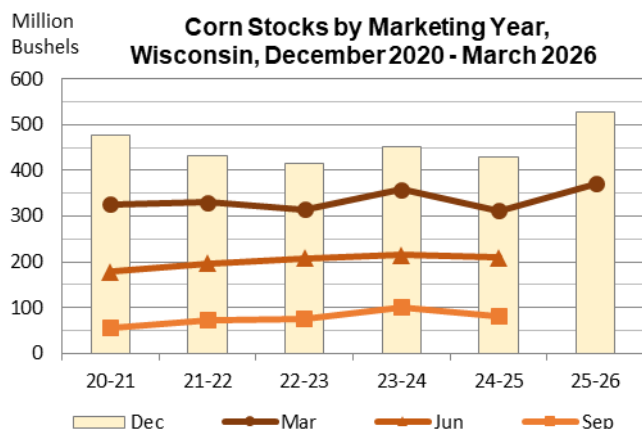
All wheat planted area for 2026 is estimated at 43.8 million acres, down 3 percent from 2025. If realized, this represents the lowest all wheat planted area since records began in 1919. The 2026 winter wheat planted area, at 32.4 million acres, is down 2 percent from the previous estimate and down 2 percent from last year. Of this total, about 23.1 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 5.79 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.54 million acres are White Winter. Area expected to be planted to other spring wheat for 2026 is estimated at 9.42 million acres, down 6 percent from the 2025 estimate. Of this total, about 8.78 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Durum planted area for 2026 is expected to total 1.95 million acres, down 11 percent from the previous year.

## Grain Stocks

**Corn** stored in all positions in Wisconsin on March 1, 2026, totaled 371 million bushels, up 19 percent from March 1, 2025, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – Grain Stocks report. Of the total stocks, 57 percent were stored on-farm.

**Soybeans** stored in all positions in Wisconsin on March 1, 2026, totaled 60.2 million bushels, up 16 percent from March 1, 2025. Of the total stocks, 27 percent were stored on-farm.

**Oats** stored in all positions in Wisconsin on March 1, 2026, totaled 3.27 million bushels, down 15 percent from the 3.86 million bushels on hand March 1, 2025. Of the total stocks, 38 percent were stored on-farm.



## Grain Stocks by Position – Wisconsin and United States

	Wisconsin		United States	
	March 1, 2025	March 1, 2026	March 1, 2025	March 1, 2026
	(1,000 bushels)			
<b>On-Farm Stocks</b>				
Corn	170,000	210,000	4,500,000	5,432,000
Oats	1,350	1,250	17,570	19,950
Soybeans	20,000	16,000	876,500	900,000
All Wheat	(D)	(D)	307,125	298,492
<b>Off-Farm Stocks<sup>1</sup></b>				
Corn	141,525	161,151	3,647,437	3,592,445
Oats	2,511	2,019	24,618	21,055
Soybeans	32,015	44,214	1,034,424	1,204,803
All Wheat	31,515	25,948	929,462	1,001,705
<b>Total Stocks</b>				
Corn	311,525	371,151	8,147,437	9,024,445
Oats	3,861	3,269	42,188	41,005
Soybeans	52,015	60,214	1,910,924	2,104,803
All Wheat	(D)	(D)	1,236,587	1,300,197

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup>Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

## United States

Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2026 totaled 9.02 billion bushels, up 11 percent from March 1, 2025. Of the total stocks, 5.43 billion bushels were stored on farms, up 21 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.59 billion bushels, are down 2 percent from a year ago. The December 2025 - February 2026 indicated disappearance is 4.28 billion bushels, compared with 3.93 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions on March 1, 2026 totaled 2.10 billion bushels, up 10 percent from March 1, 2025. Soybean stocks stored on farms are estimated at 900 million bushels, up 3 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 1.20 billion bushels, are up 16 percent from last March. Indicated disappearance for the December 2025 - February 2026 quarter totaled 1.18 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

All wheat stored in all positions on March 1, 2026 totaled 1.30 billion bushels, up 5 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 298 million bushels, down 3 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 1.00 billion bushels, are up 8 percent from a year ago. The December 2025 - February 2026 indicated disappearance is 377 million bushels, 12 percent above the same period a year earlier.

Oats stored in all positions on March 1, 2026 totaled 41.0 million bushels, 3 percent below the stocks on March 1, 2025. Of the total stocks on hand, 20.0 million bushels were stored on farms, up 14 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 21.1 million bushels, down 14 percent from the previous year. Indicated disappearance during December 2025 - February 2026 totaled 15.0 million bushels, 51 percent above the same period a year ago.

The complete reports for all Farm Reporter articles can be found on the USDA NASS website at [www.nass.usda.gov/Publications](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications).



# Wisconsin Ag News – Crop Progress & Condition

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www.nass.usda.gov/wi

Cooperating with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

April 27, 2026 - For Immediate Release

Wisconsin had 3.3 **days suitable for fieldwork** statewide for the week ending April 26, 2026, according to the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. Parts of western Wisconsin received heavy rains later in the week, but above average temperatures helped dry fields. This permitted fertilizing, spreading of manure, spring tillage and limited planting where conditions allowed. Planting included small grains, potatoes, corn and soybeans.

**Topsoil moisture** condition rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 51 percent adequate, and 48 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 32 percent surplus.

**Corn** planting was 3 percent complete. **Oat** planting was 14 percent complete compared to the 5-year average of 27 percent. Three percent of oats had emerged. **Soybean** planting was 3 percent complete. **Spring tillage** was 17 percent complete compared to the average of 28 percent.

**Pasture and range** condition was 45 percent good to excellent, up 7 percentage points from last week.

**Winter wheat** condition was 53 percent good to excellent, up 4 percentage points from last week.

Crop Progress and Condition charts can be found at

[https://www.nass.usda.gov/Charts\\_and\\_Maps/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/2026/WI\\_2026.pdf](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Charts_and_Maps/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2026/WI_2026.pdf)

## Crop Condition as of April 26, 2026

Item	Very Poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Pasture and range .....	5	15	35	36	9
Wheat, winter .....	1	6	40	45	8

## Crop Progress as of April 26, 2026

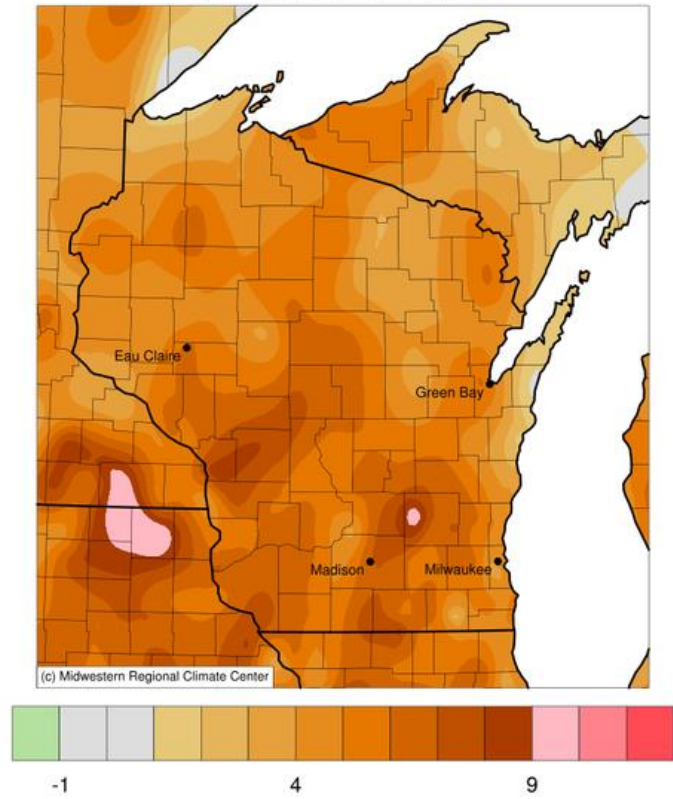
Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Oats planted .....	9	1	3	19	14	6	26	31	12	14	5	25	27
Spring tillage .....	13	1	5	21	20	7	27	26	18	17	9	24	28

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at [www.nass.usda.gov/Publications](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications).

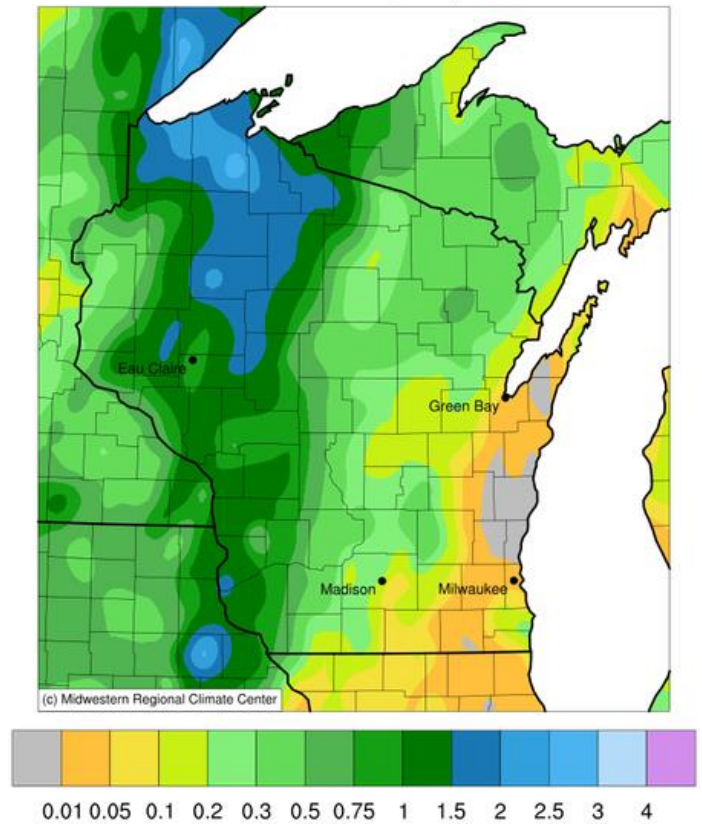
## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of April 26, 2026

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
Days suitable .....	(days) 3.0	(days) 1.6	(days) 2.8	(days) 3.2	(days) 3.1	(days) 4.2	(days) 3.5	(days) 3.5	(days) 3.4	(days) 3.3	(days) 1.1	(days) 3.3
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Short .....	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	1	1	10
Adequate .....	57	44	33	72	43	25	68	54	33	51	47	65
Surplus .....	41	56	67	27	57	74	32	43	67	48	52	24
Subsoil moisture												
Very short .....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Short .....	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	2	1	1	14
Adequate .....	76	46	43	77	51	65	82	73	48	67	64	66
Surplus .....	20	54	57	21	49	35	18	23	50	32	35	17

**Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals**  
April 20, 2026 to April 26, 2026



**Accumulated Precipitation (in)**  
April 20, 2026 to April 26, 2026



Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: <https://mrcc.purdue.edu/newclimate/home>

Additional soil moisture data are available at: <https://cloud.csiss.gmu.edu/Crop-CASMA/>