Wisconsin State Climatology Office
Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies

Extension
University of Wisconsin-Madison

USDA Midwest Climate Hub
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NRCS
Natural Resources Conservation Service

AgWOW

Ag Weather Outlook for Wisconsin

Week of June 16, 2025

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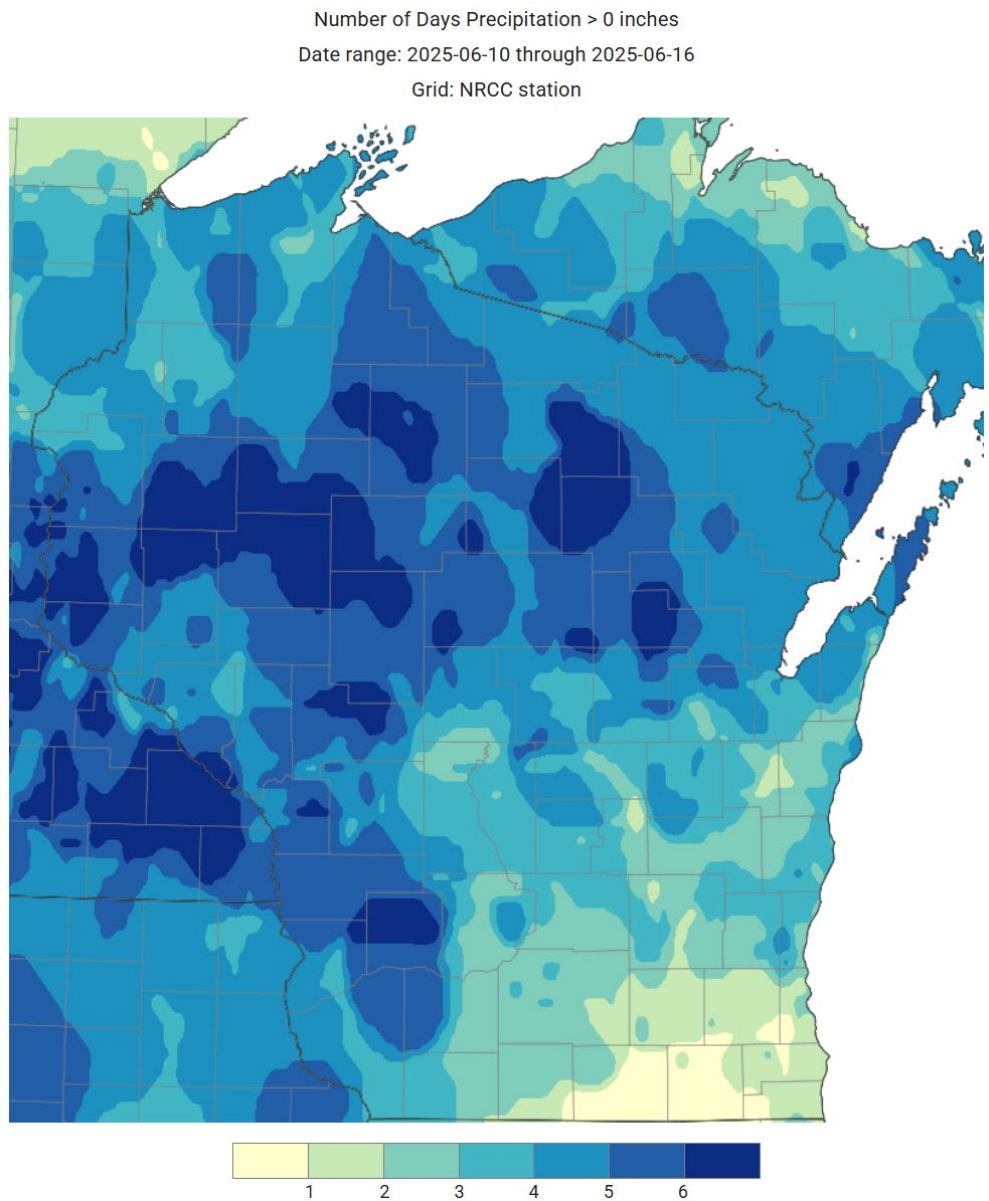
Key Points

Navigate to select slides by clicking on the links below.

1) Cooler-than-normal temps were common last week, as well as over the last 30 days. GDD's are running behind normal pace.
2) Several days of rainfall last week brought 1-3" of precip for many in the north and southwest. The southeast had some higher totals between the 17th and 19th .
3) The area of abnormal dryness in the north was greatly reduced in size from last week's report.
4) Another active precip week is in store, with some extreme heat incoming over the next several days.

- *For this week's agronomic recommendations from UW Extension, click here.*
- *For this week's crop progress updates from USDA NASS, click here.*

Rainy Days

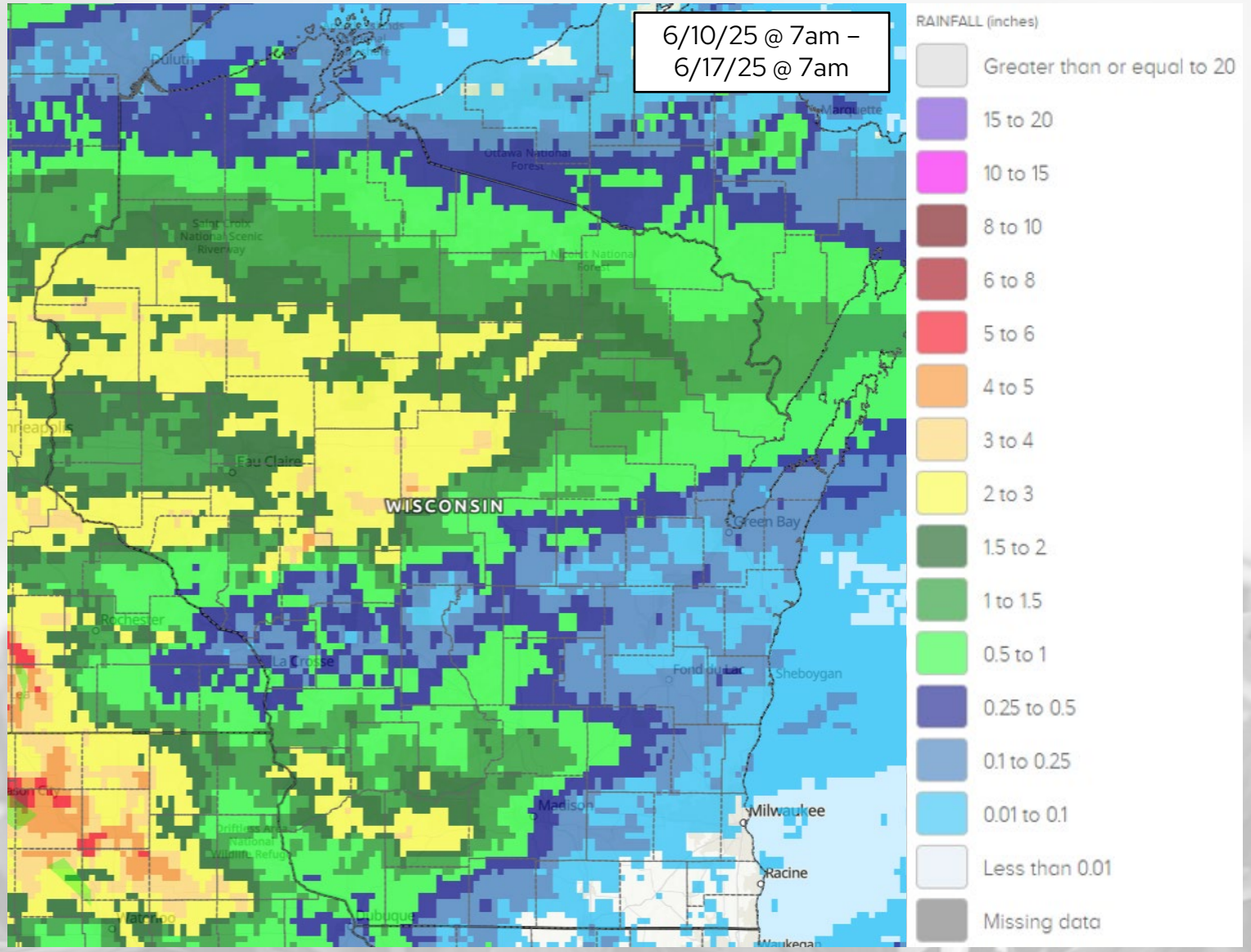


Wisconet Station (County)	Precip Total (5/1 – 6/9)	Precip Total (5/1 – 6/16)
Greenwood (Clark)	4.21	7.11
Durand (Pepin)	5.61	8.49
Rhinelander (Oneida)	2.95	5.12
Spooner (Washburn)	3.60	5.71
Crandon (Forest)	2.55	4.48
Brigham (Iowa) (Est. 5/7/25)	2.98	4.69
Arthur (Chippewa)	4.15	5.85
Soldiers Grove (Crawford)	4.10	5.69
Clear Lake (Polk)	3.37	4.93
Marshfield (Marathon)	2.90	4.04

Wisconet stations in this list are those that had the highest reported precip totals in the state last week.

https://scacis.rcc-acis.org/

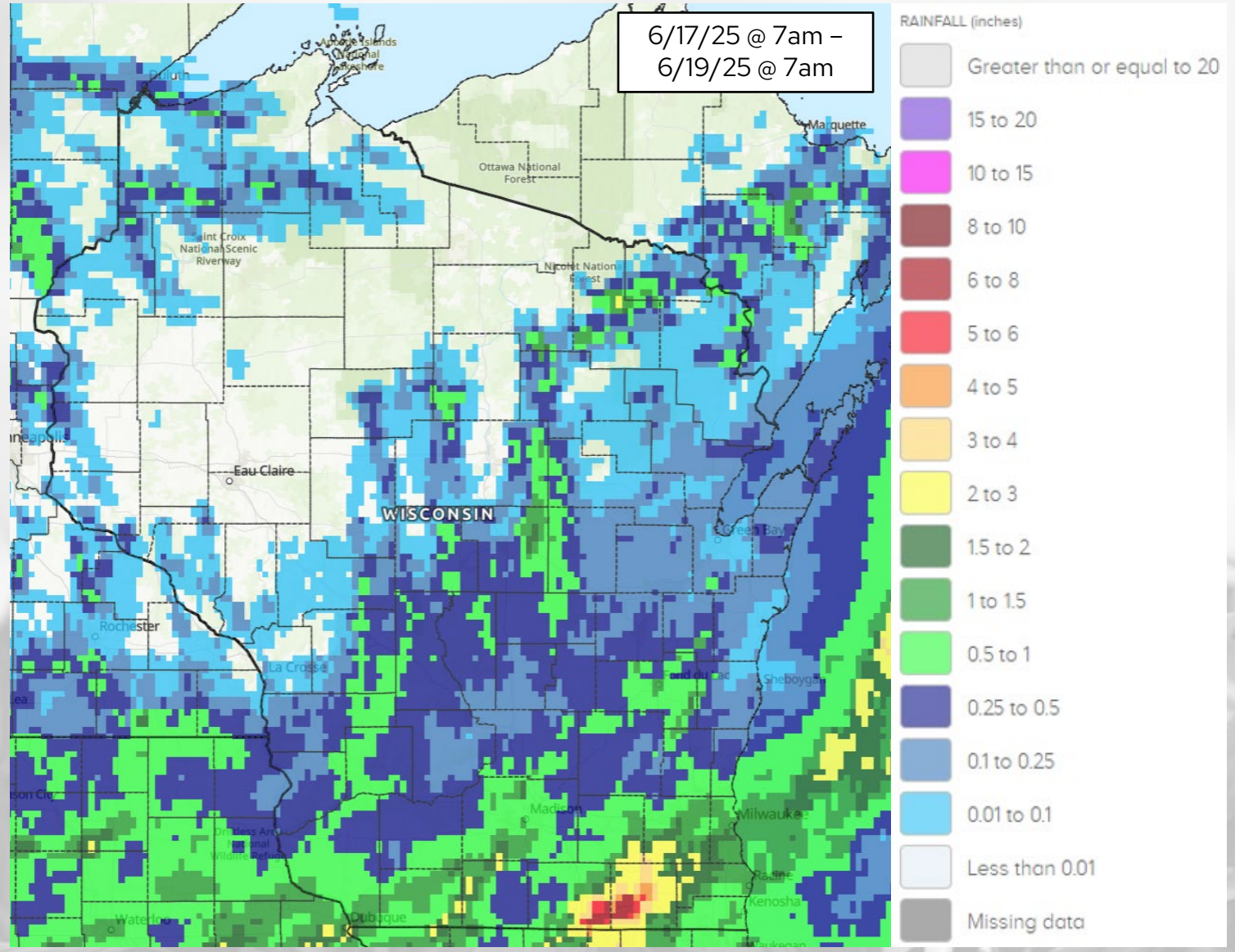
7 Day Precip



- An active week brough **multiple days of rainfall** to most of the state.
  - **3 days or more** of measurable precip was common across the north and west.
- There was a swath of **2-4”** across the NW, as well in parts of the SW.
- Lowest totals in the SE → **0.25” or less**
- Last week’s maximum total: Brantwood, Price Co. (CoCoRaHS) → **3.30”**

https://water.noaa.gov/

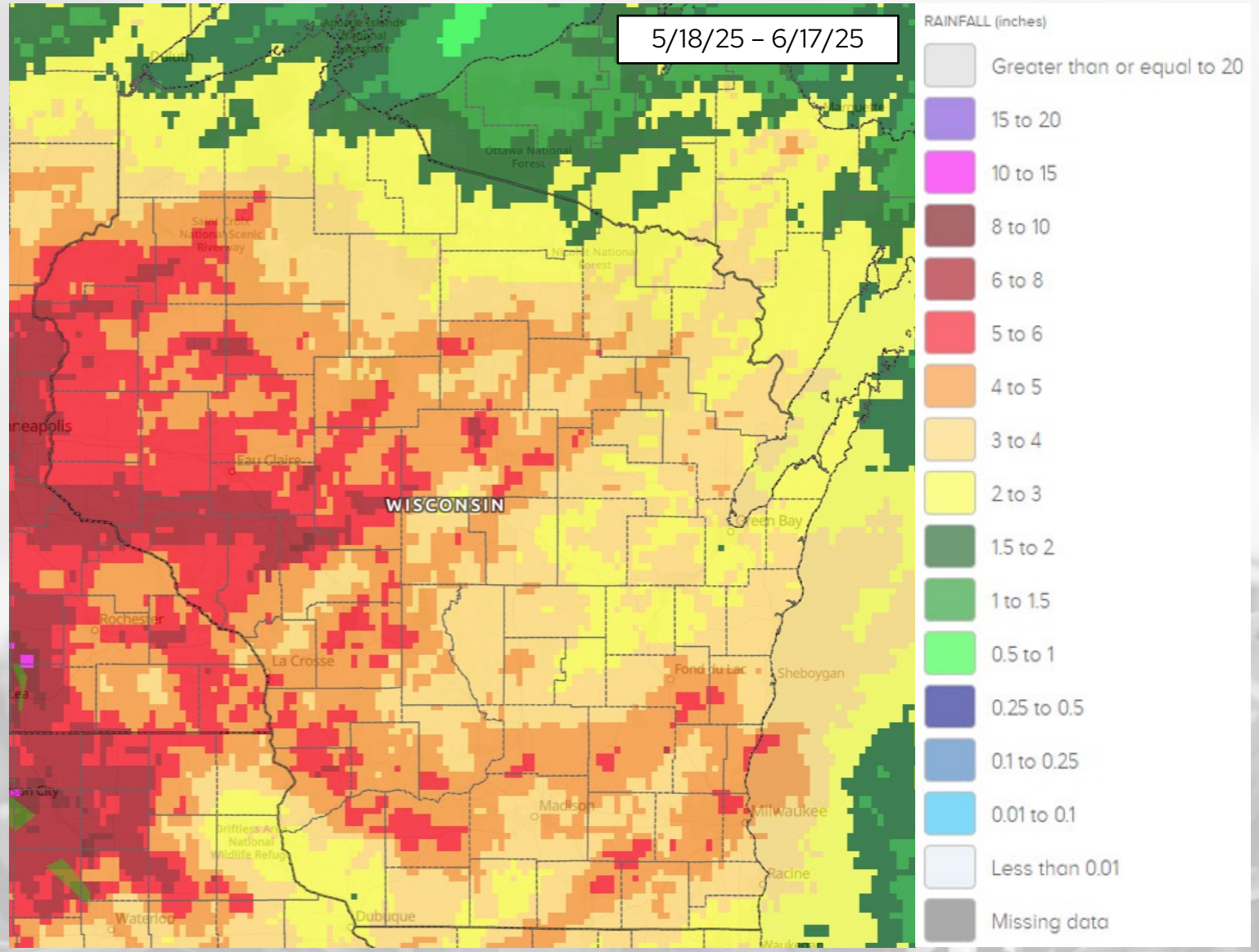
Addition – June 17-19 Rain



- After being missed by the June 10-17 rainfall, **the southeast has picked up 0.5" or more** since the 17th.
- **0.5" or more** was common across most of the south.
- Instances of **3" or more** across Rock & Walworth Cos.
- Maximum total: Clinton WWTP, Rock Co. (COOP) → **6.90"**

https://water.noaa.gov/

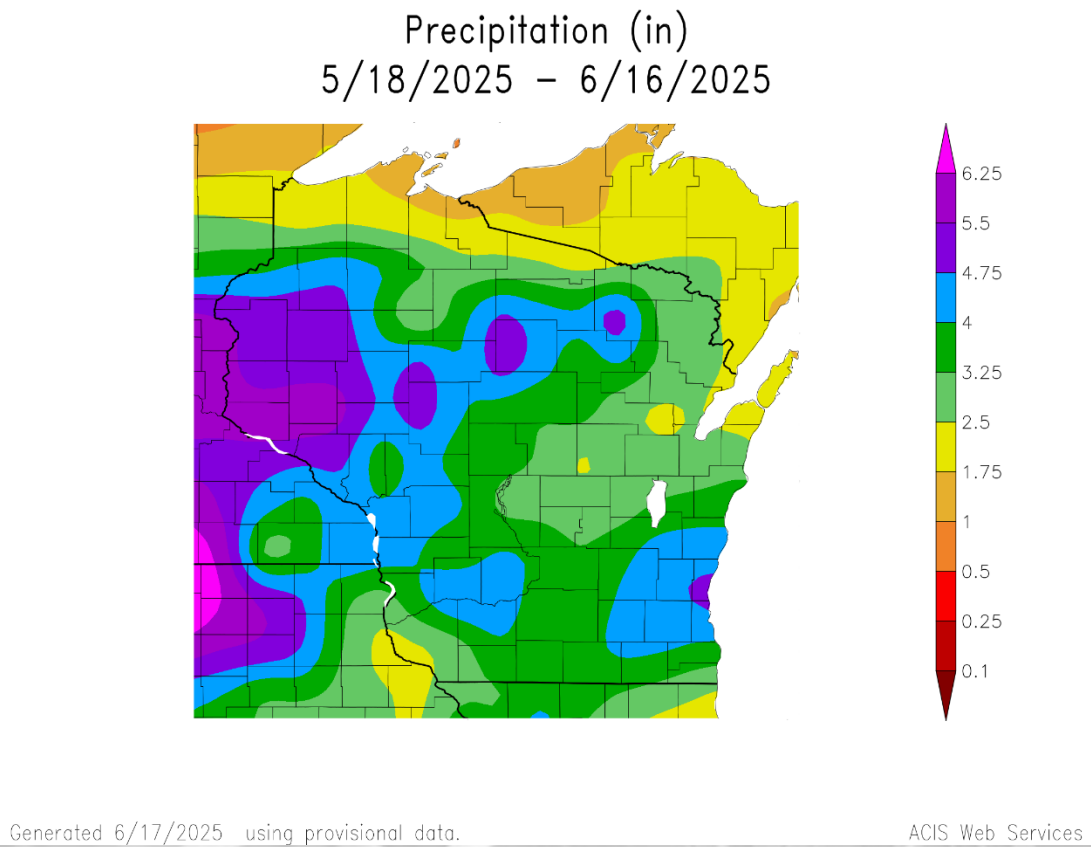
30 Day Precip

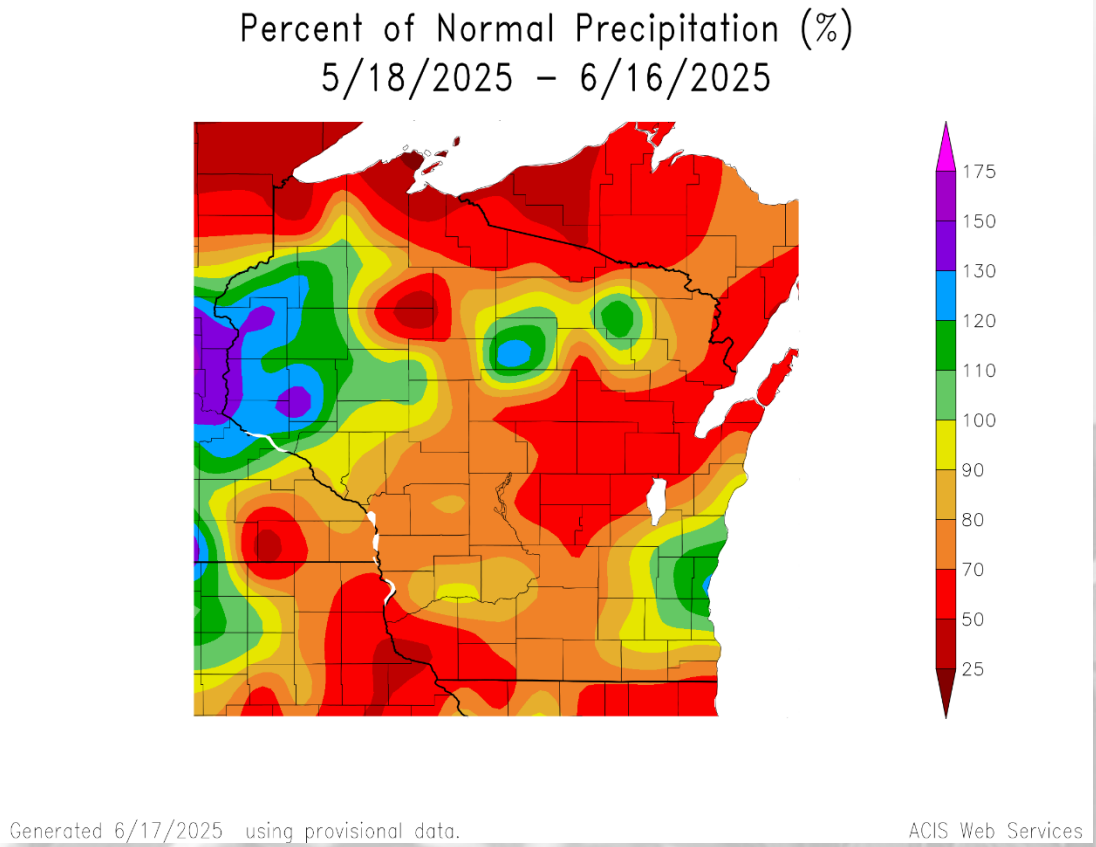


- **Heaviest precipitation was in the NW**, where totals of **5" or more** were common.
- **6-8"** was common between La Crosse and Eau Claire.
- **3-5" for the majority of WI**, with totals tapering to <3" in the far north, NE, and SW.

https://water.noaa.gov/

30 Day Precip Total/% Avg.

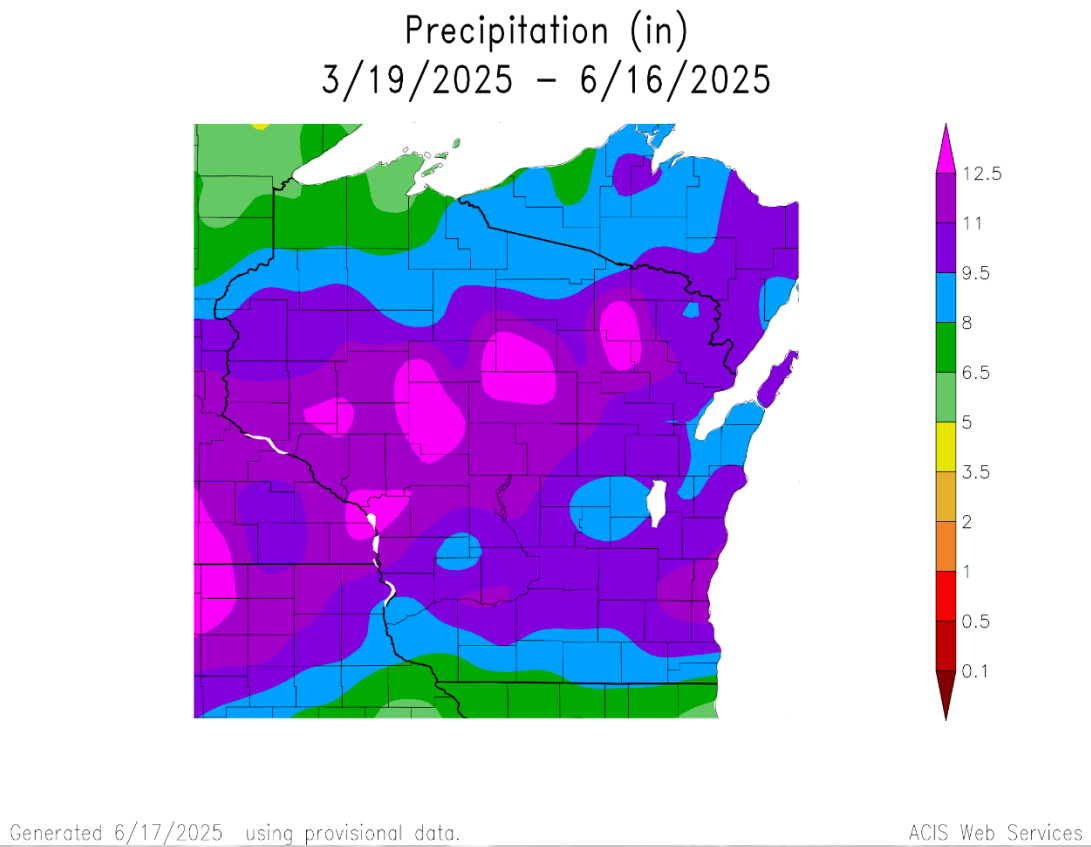


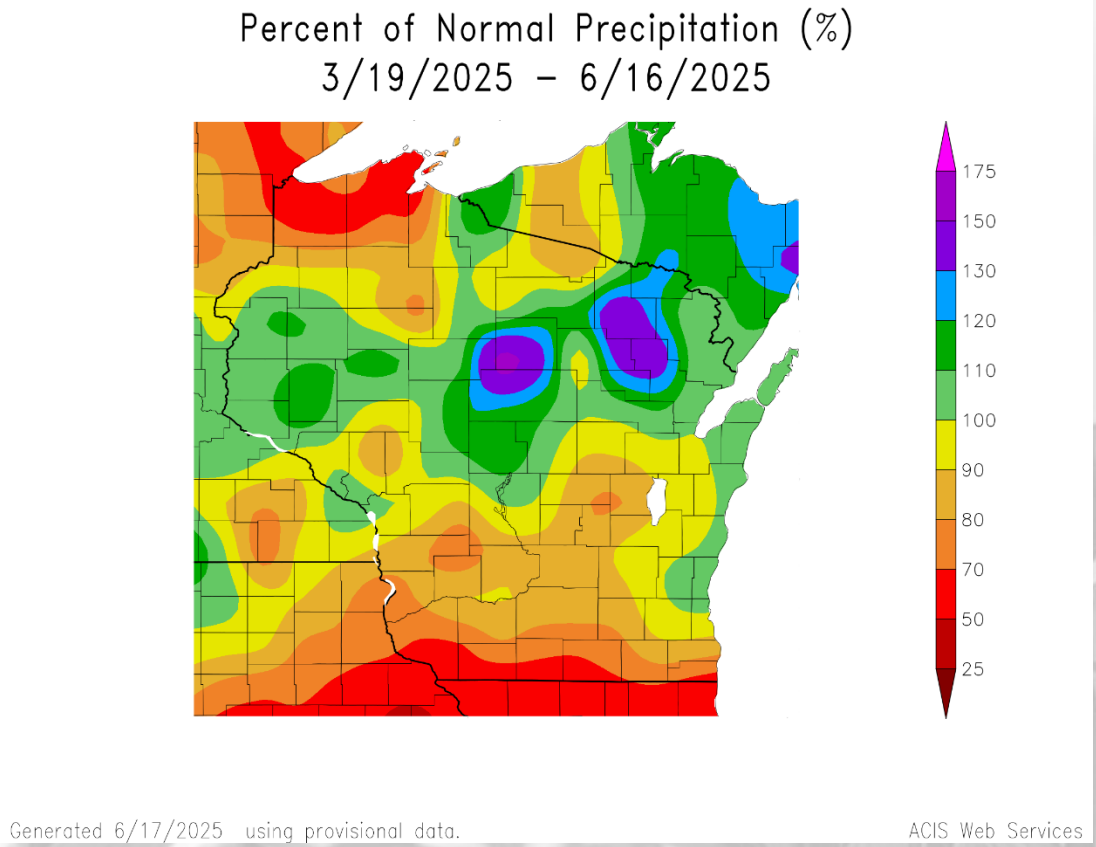


- **Below climatological normal** across most of the state. **80% of normal or less** in areas outside of the NW and just north of the Milwaukee metro.
- **4.75" or more** across the NW and in Ozaukee County → **near to above normal** totals.
- **50% or less of normal** in the far SW and along Lake Superior.

https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps

90 Day Precip Total/% Avg.

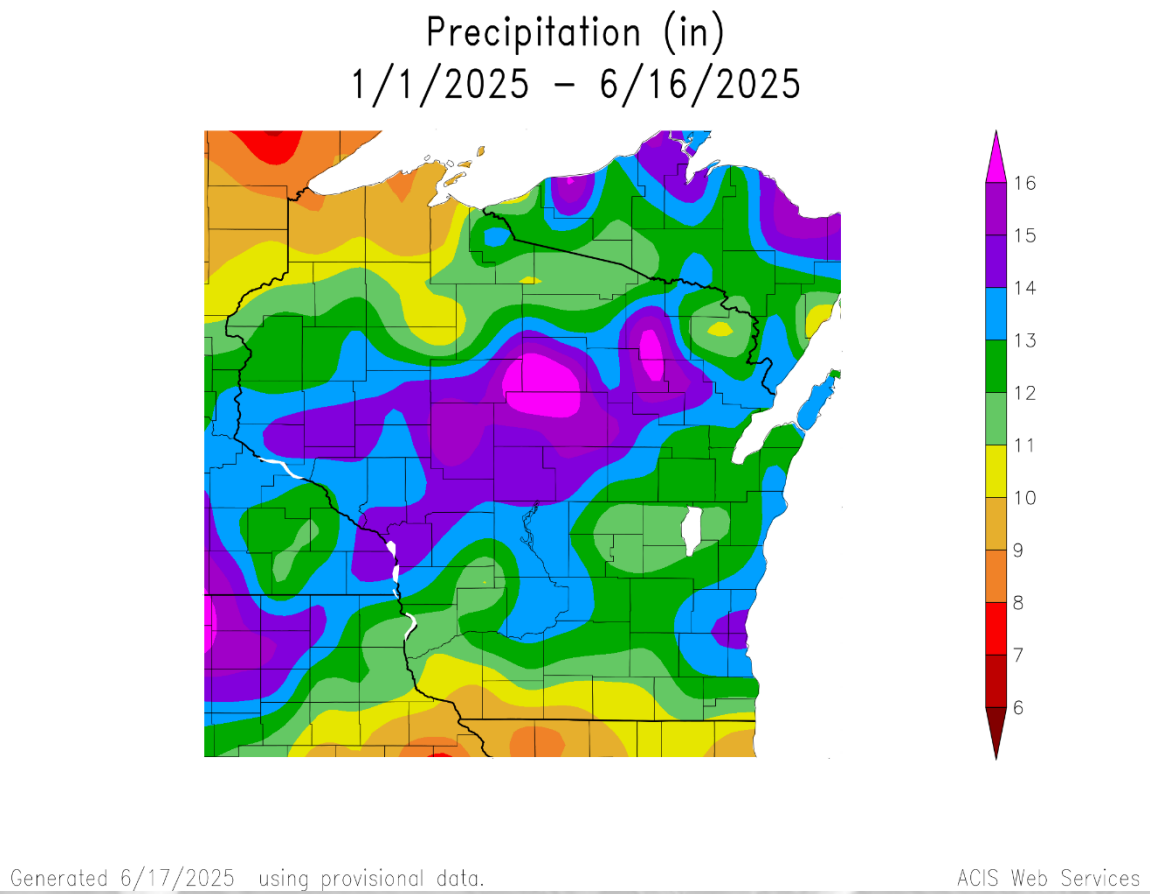


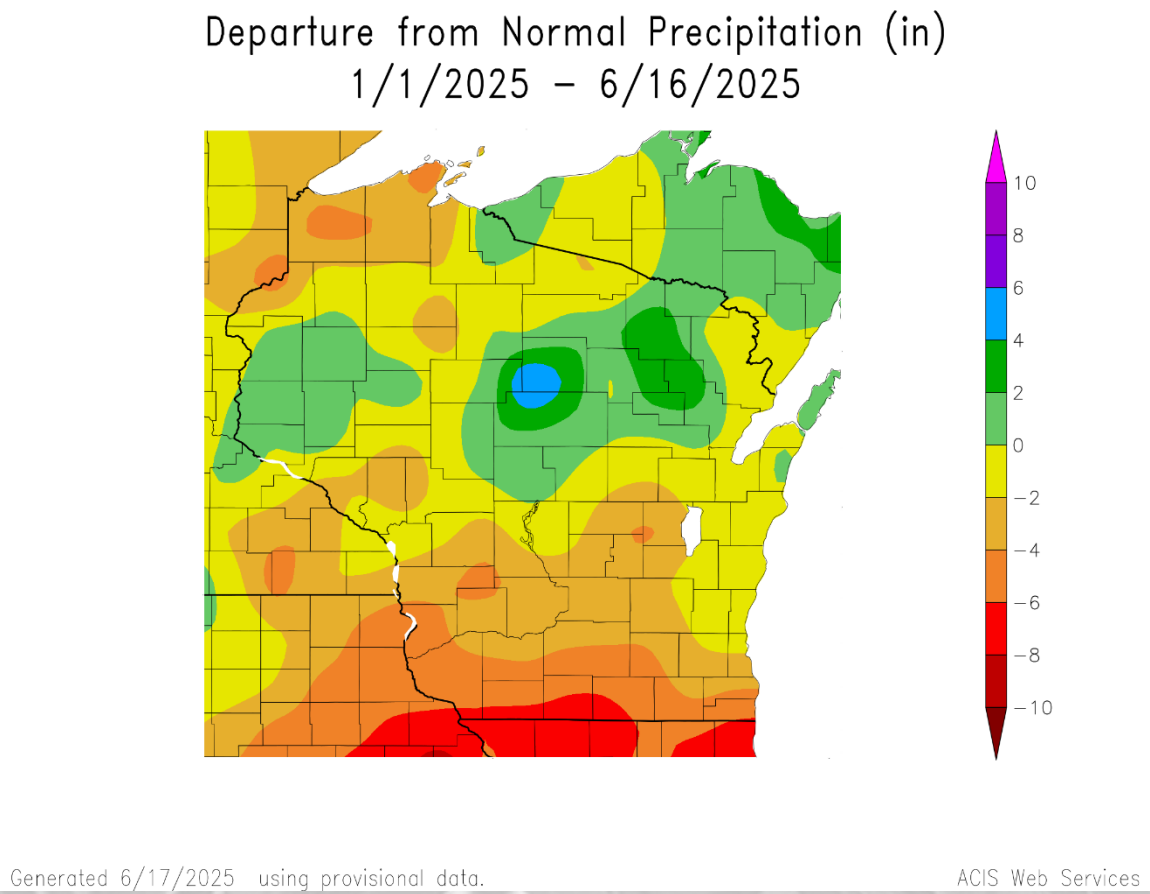


- **>9.5”** common across most of WI, with **pockets of over 1 foot** in parts of the north and west-central.
  - Near-to-above normal in these regions.
- **Lower totals** in the far south & along Lake Superior → **<8”, or <80% of normal**.

https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps

2025 Precipitation (so far)





https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps

Soil Moisture Models

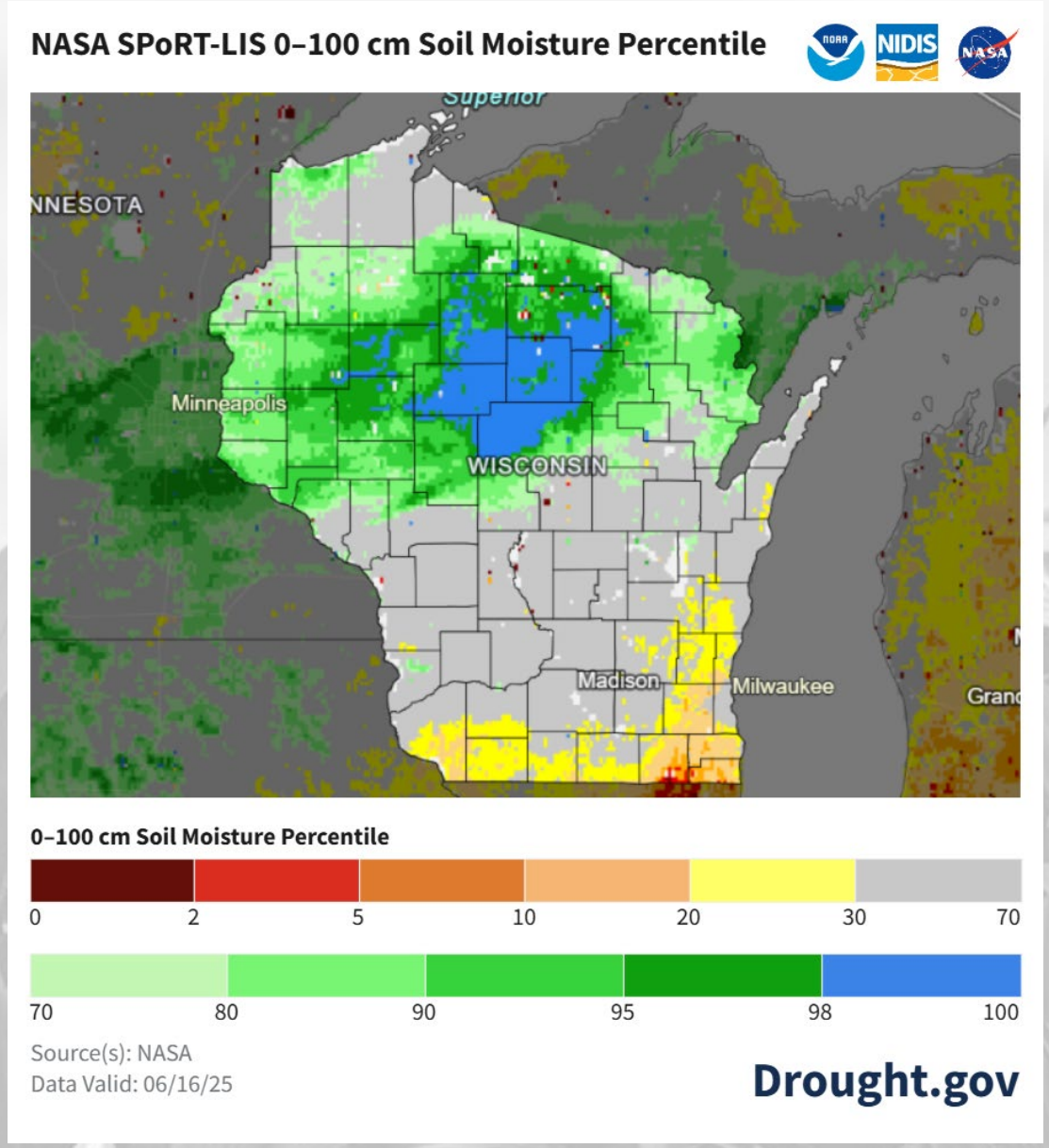
- Following a week of 1-3" or more across the north, soil moisture levels are **wetter than normal across the northern region**. Near normal in the far NW and central.

- **Abnormal dryness** in the south exists along the state line, with the **driest conditions in the SE** where there was little to no precip last week.

Model Notes:
Red areas = top 5 driest in 100 years.
Dark red areas = top 2 driest in 100 years.
Blue areas = top 2 wettest in 100 years.

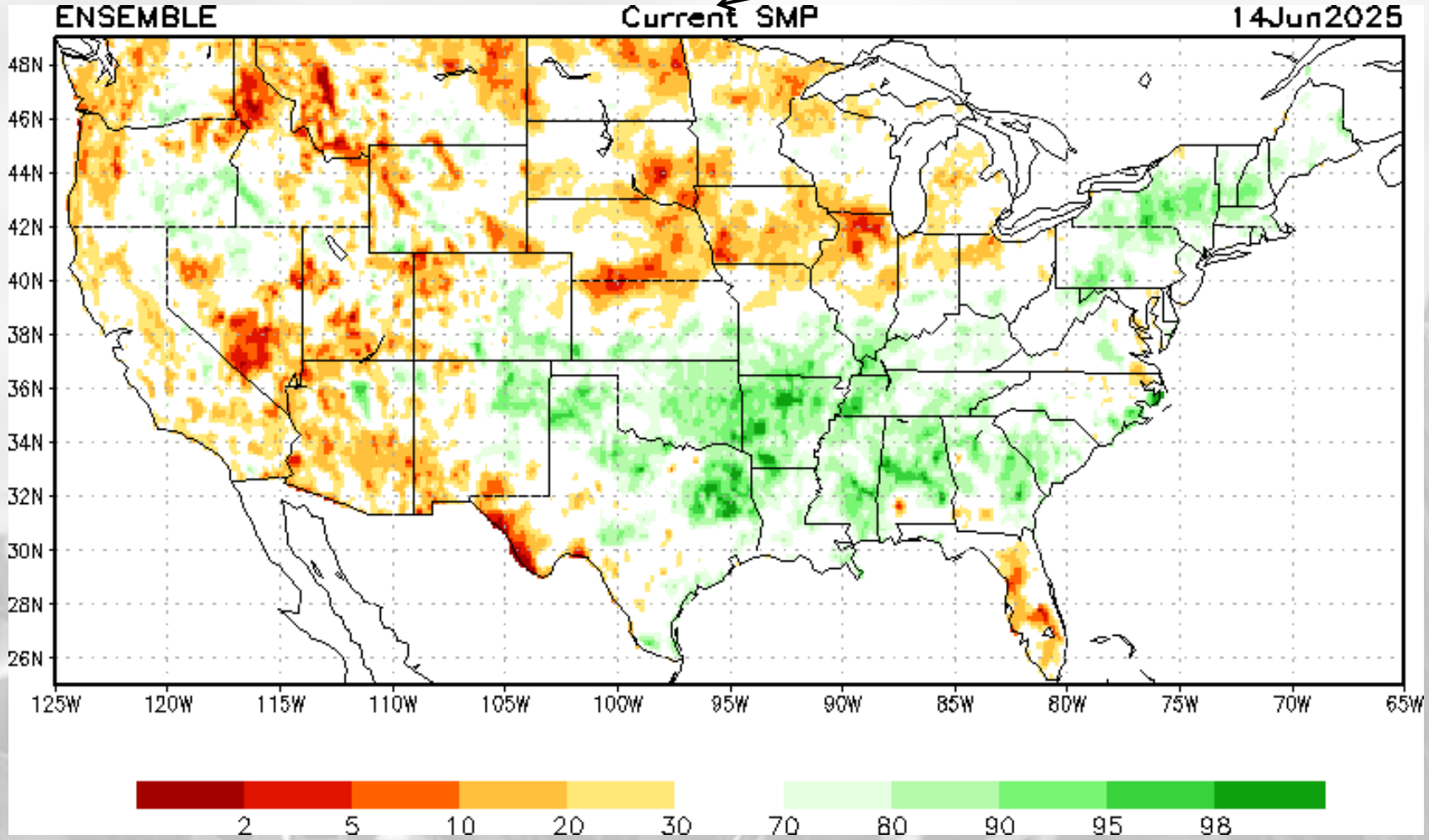
It's worth noting that each soil moisture model has their own characteristics and input variables, so there tends to be variation between models. Thus, it's worthwhile to look at multiple models opposed to just one.

https://weather.ndc.nasa.gov/sport/case_studies/lis_CONUS.html
https://www.drought.gov/states/wisconsin



Soil Moisture Models

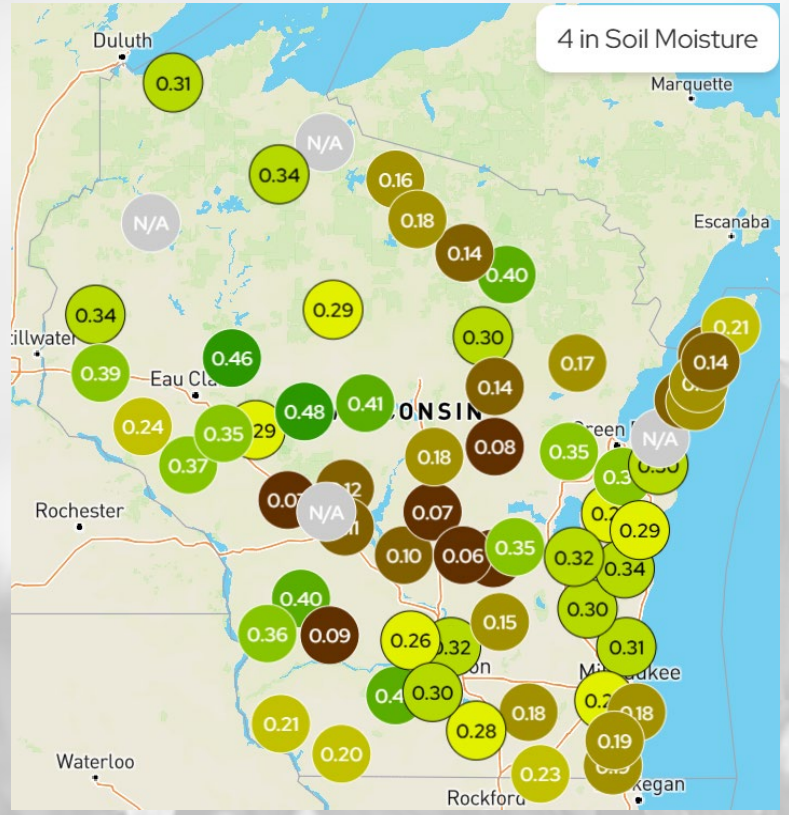
NOTE: this map displays the soil moisture percentile for June 14. It was the most recent update on June 19.

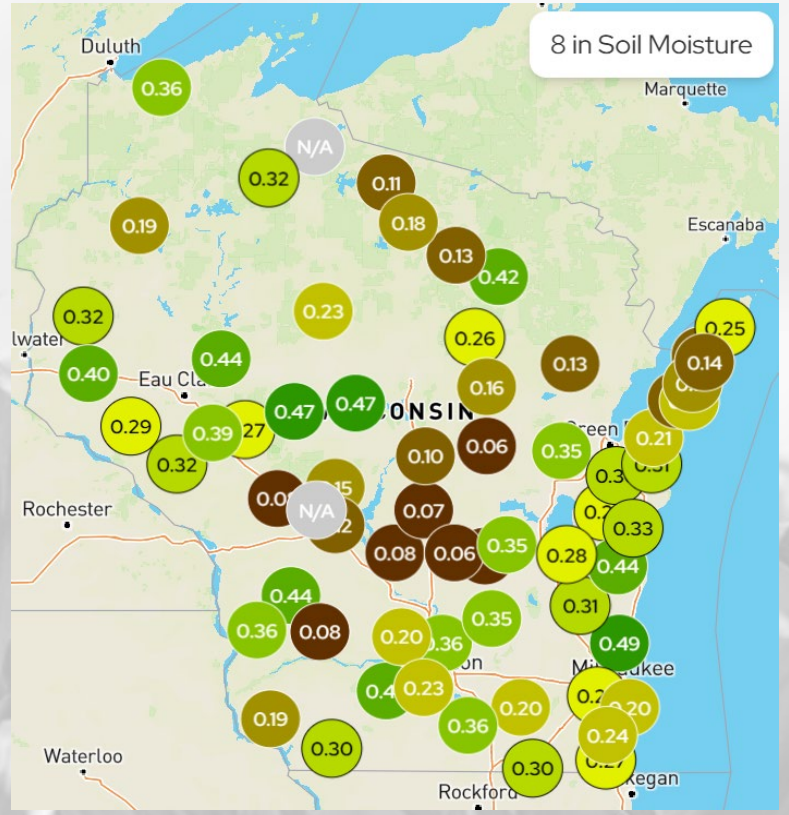


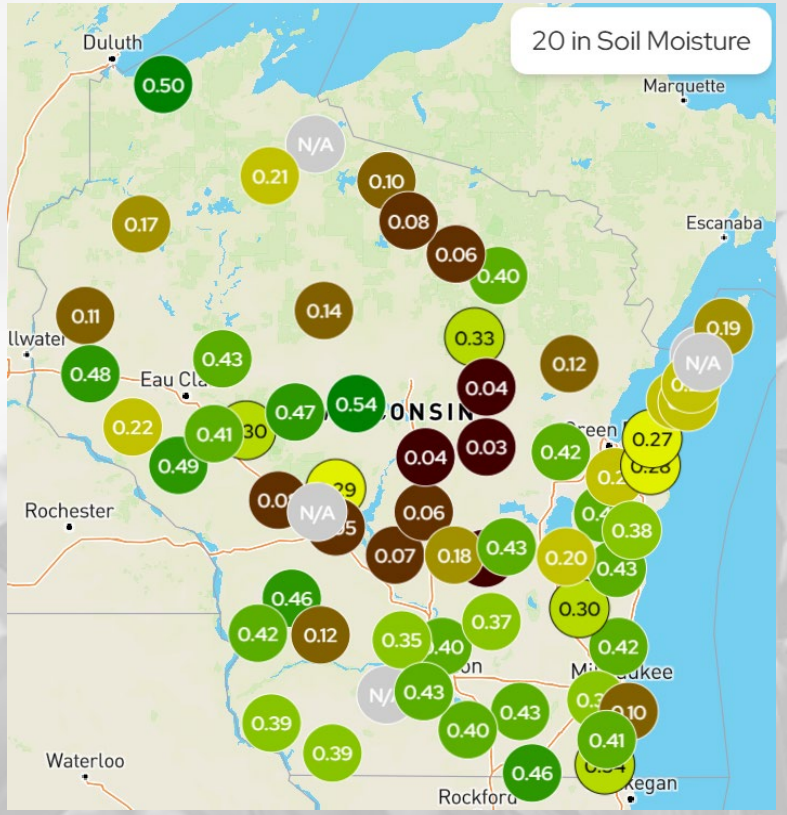
https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/Drought/Monitoring/smp_new.shtml

Wisconet Soil Moisture

Maps showing soil moisture conditions on June 17th @ Mid-morning.
Units of map values are {Volume of water}/{Volume of soil}.







https://wisconet.wisc.edu/

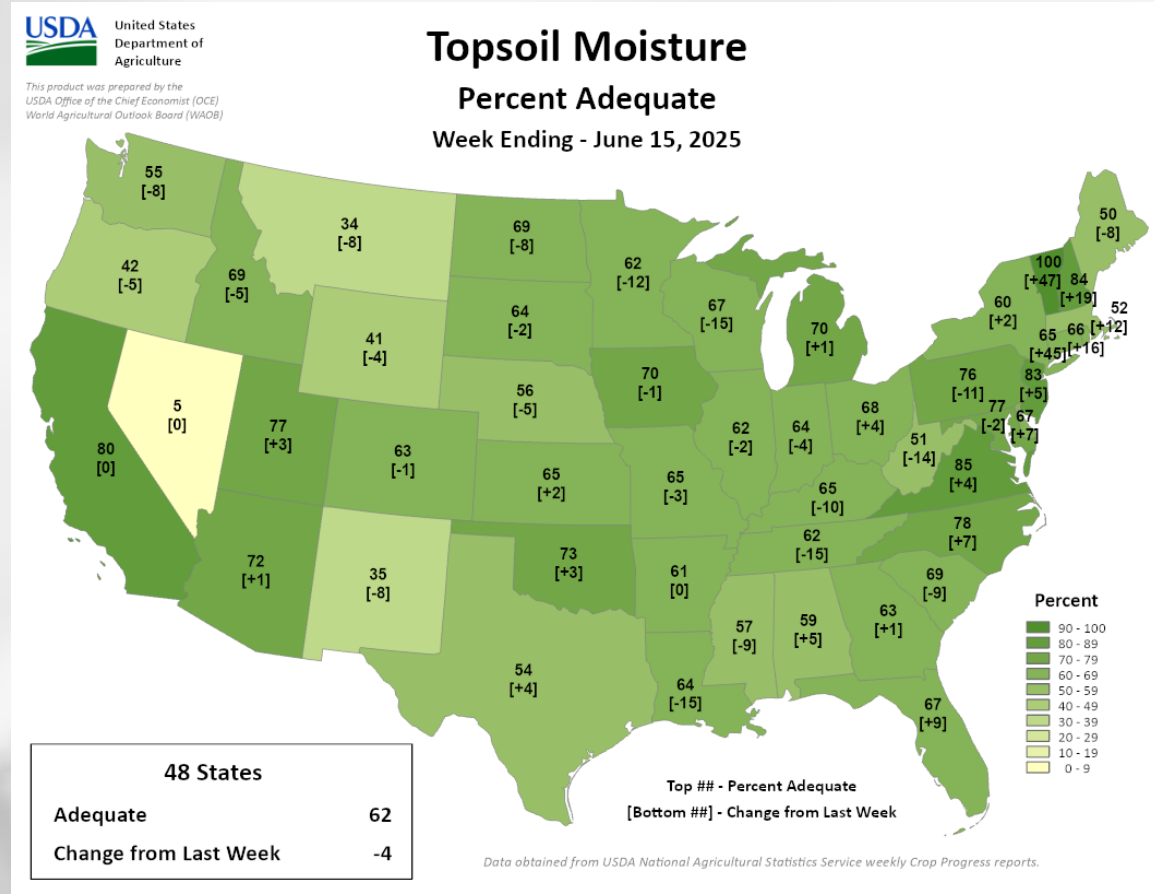
Wisconet Soil Moisture

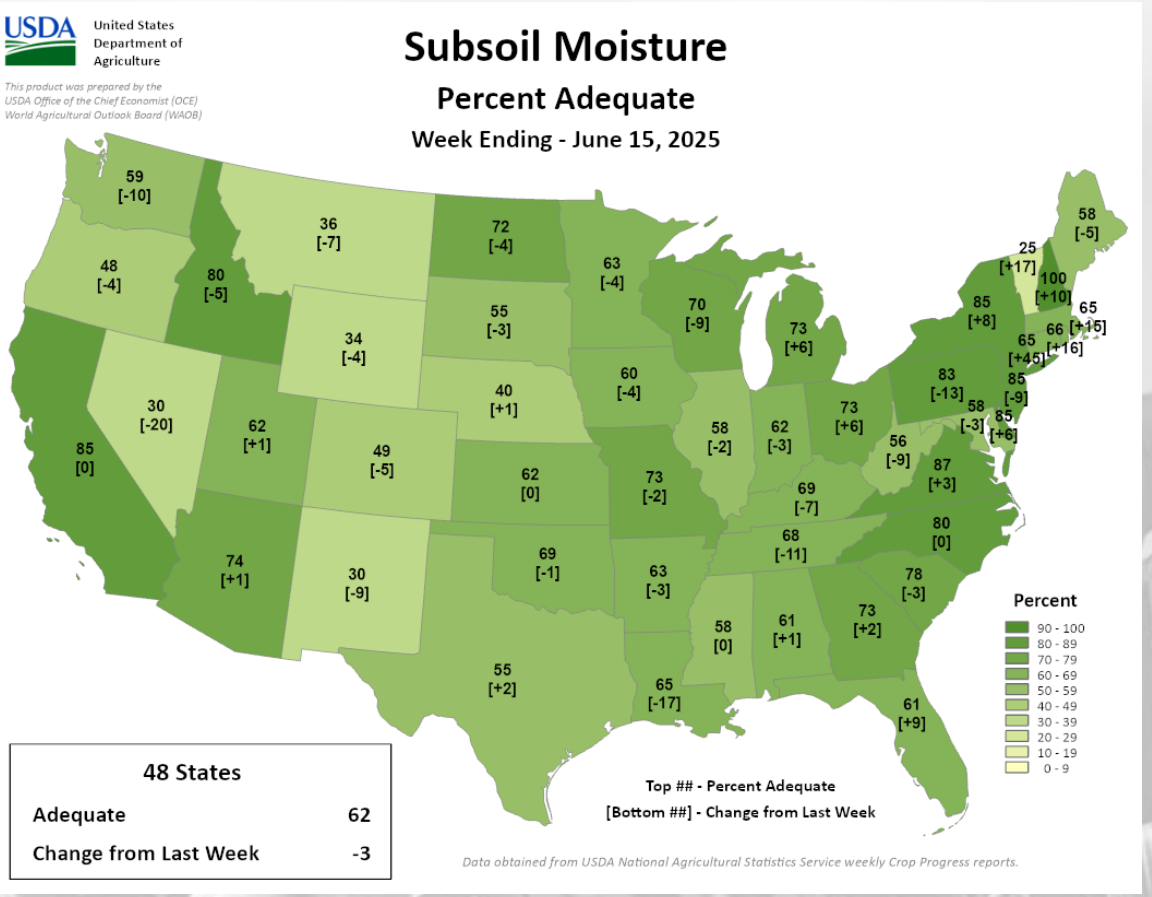
Change in soil moisture from June 10th (Start) to June 17th (End).
Units of change values are {Volume of water}/{Volume of soil}.

Research Farm	County	Total Precip (in)	4" Change (Start)	4" Change (End)	8" Change (Start)	8" Change (End)	20" Change (Start)	20" Change (End)
Arlington	Columbia	0.95	0.32	0.29	0.33	0.34	0.41	0.40
Black River Falls	Jackson	0.10	0.12	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.08
Dairy Forage ARS	Sauk	1.31	0.16	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.37	0.35
Hancock	Waushara	0.07	0.09	0.06	0.09	0.07	0.07	0.06
Kemp	Oneida	1.01	0.20	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.07	0.09
Lancaster	Grant	0.61	0.21	0.20	0.21	0.19	0.40	0.39
Marshfield	Marathon	1.14	0.33	0.40	0.42	0.47	0.52	0.54
O.J. Noer *(Turfgrass)*	Dane	0.64	0.30	0.27	0.23	0.23	0.44	0.43
Peninsular	Door	0.07	0.24	0.19	0.21	0.17	0.23	0.22
Rhinelander	Oneida	2.17	0.10	0.14	0.10	0.13	0.05	0.07
Spooner	Washburn	2.11	--	--	0.12	0.19	0.12	0.17

https://wisconet.wisc.edu/

Adequate Soil Moisture



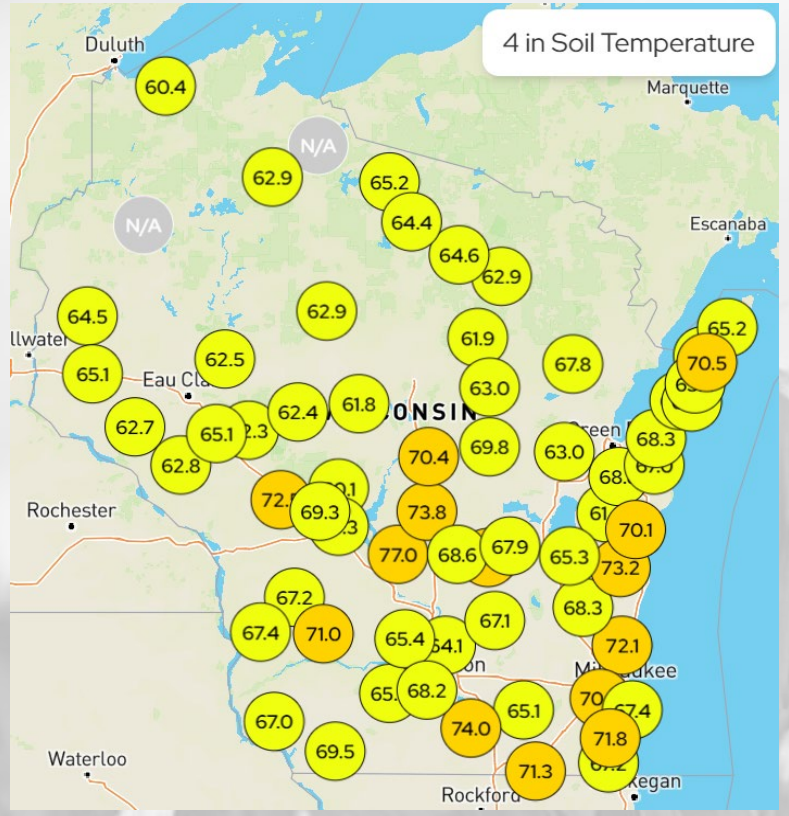


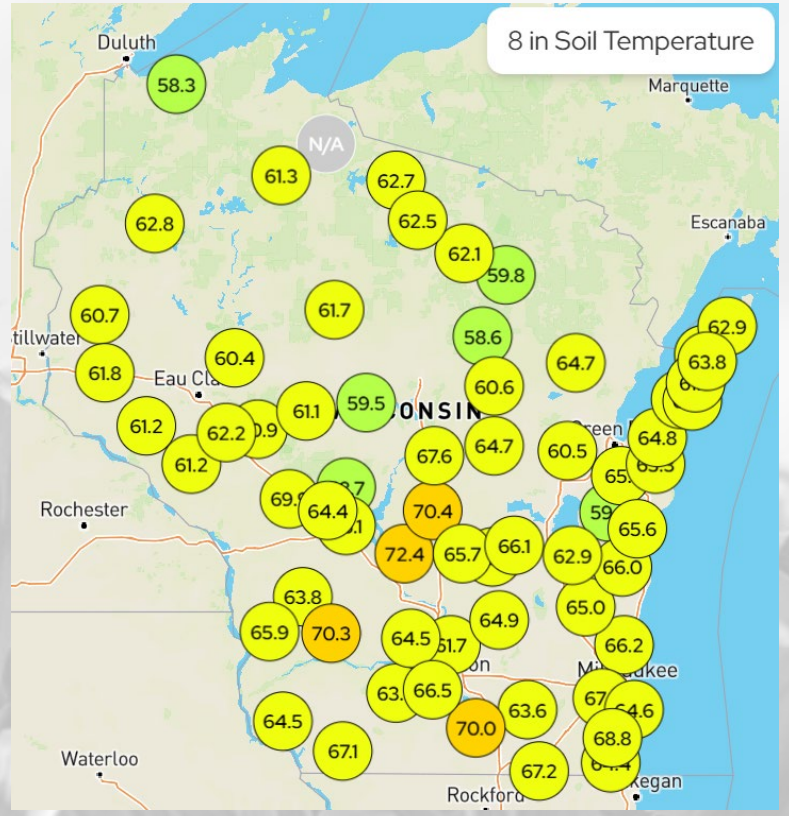
- **65-70%** of agricultural soils in the state with **adequate** topsoil and subsoil moisture.
- **15%** of fields in the state are reported as having **surplus** topsoil moisture, **up 7%** from last week.

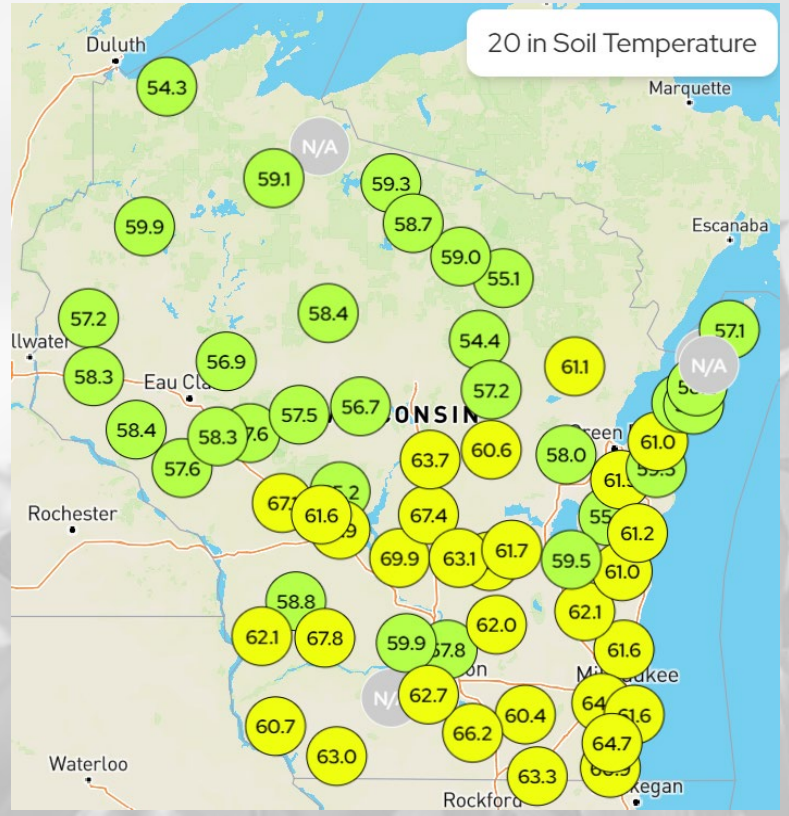
https://agindrought.unl.edu/Other.aspx

Wisconet Soil Temperature

Maps showing soil temperature conditions on
June 17th @ Mid-morning.

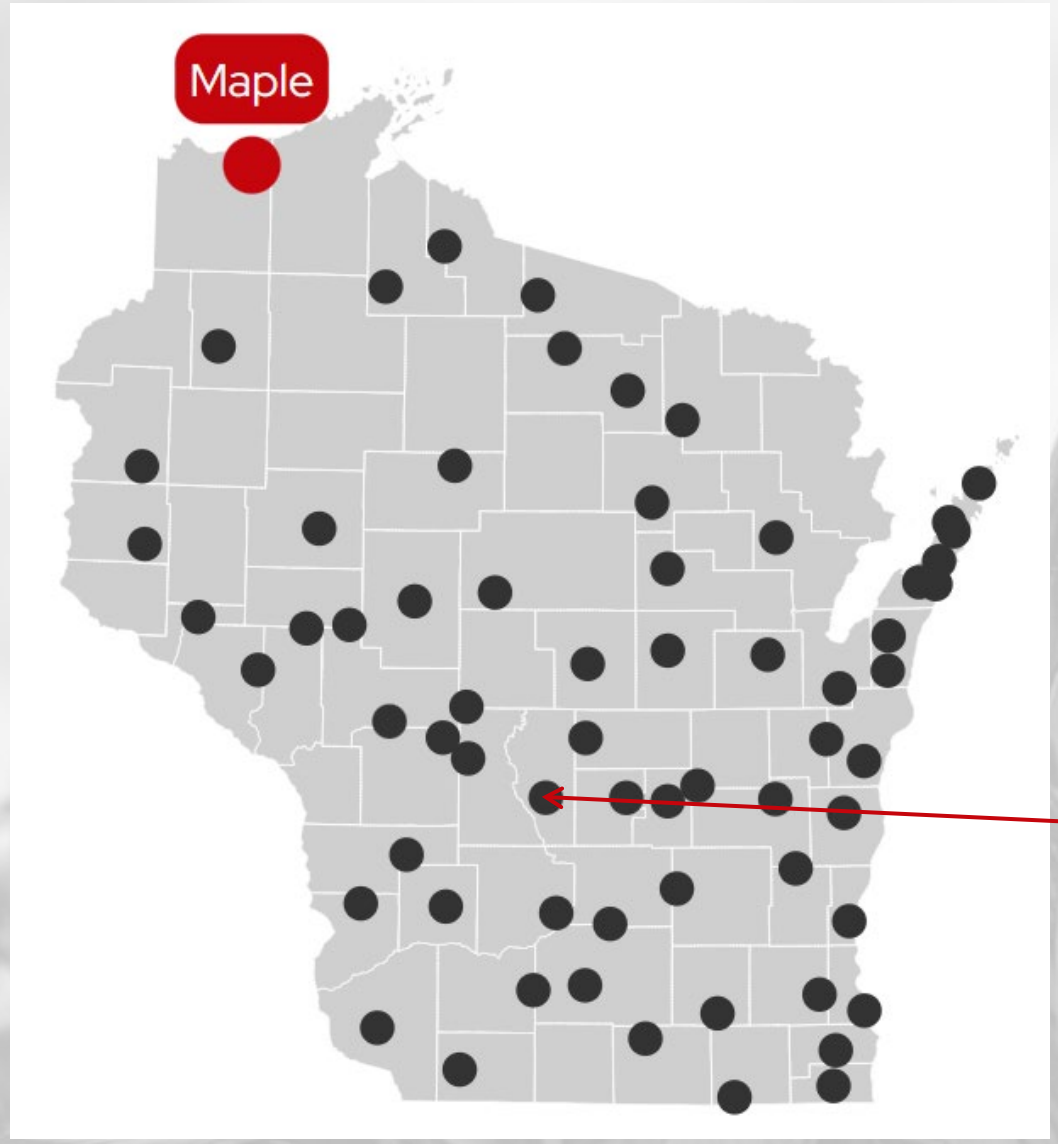






https://wisconet.wisc.edu/

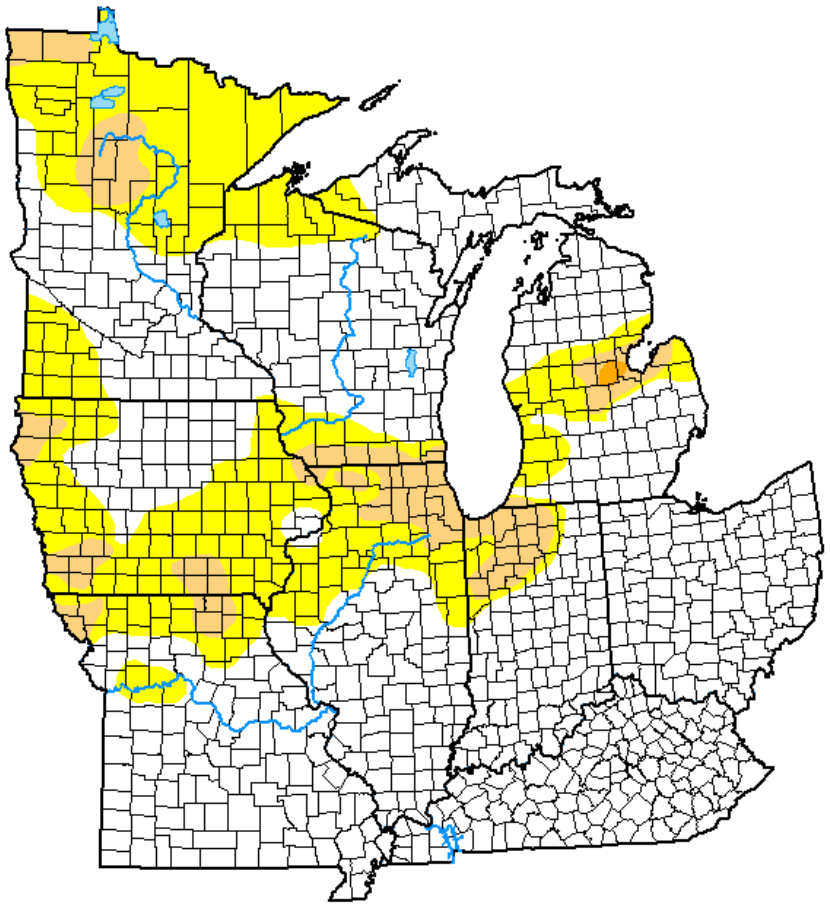
Wisconet Stations



- As of June 10, 2025, there are **65 Wisconet stations** across the state.
- To find data for the station nearest to you, **click this link** to go to a webpage with an interactive Wisconet station map.
- **Stations added since January 1, 2025**:
  - Taycheedah, Fond du Lac County (4/23/25)
  - Brigham, Iowa County (5/7/25)
  - Westboro, Taylor County (5/13/25)
  - Shanagolden, Ashland County (5/28/25)
  - Darlington, Lafayette County (5/29/25)
  - Grand Marsh, Adams County (6/12/25)

https://wisconet.wisc.edu/

US Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor

Midwest

June 17, 2025

(Released Thursday, Jun. 19, 2025)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	67.11	32.89	7.45	0.11	0.00	0.00
Last Week *06-10-2025*	62.68	37.32	8.83	0.11	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago *03-18-2025*	33.73	66.27	37.17	4.39	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year *01-07-2025*	44.12	55.88	29.47	3.56	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year *10-01-2024*	21.78	78.22	28.15	6.40	1.46	0.66
One Year Ago *06-18-2024*	77.60	22.40	0.78	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

Author:

Brad Rippey

U.S. Department of Agriculture

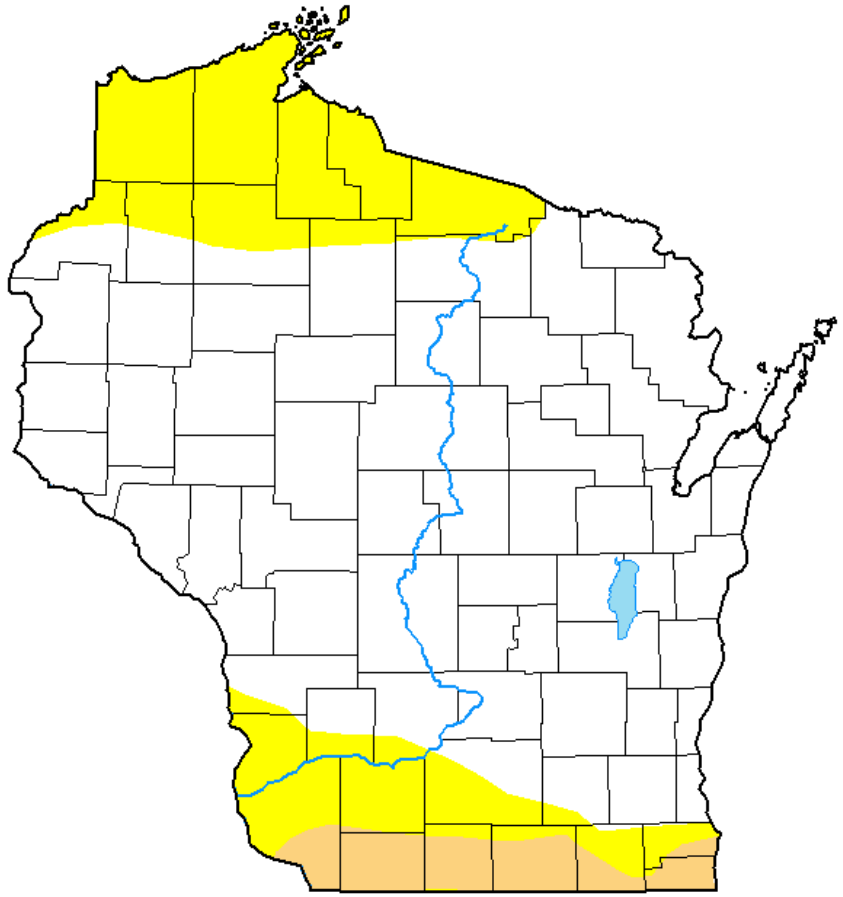
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

- Compared to last week:
  - **Decrease** in D0-D1 coverage.
- **Large reduction** in D0 coverage area in northern WI, with **no change** in the south.
- **0.1%** of the Midwest is in D2 drought, **unchanged** from last week.
  - All in eastern MI.
- **92.5%** of the Midwest is drought free (7.5% in D1 or D2).

Note: D0 is not considered drought.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

US Drought Monitor



June 17, 2025
(Released Thursday, Jun. 19, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	74.12	25.88	4.70	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 06-10-2025	52.97	47.03	4.70	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 03-18-2025	18.55	81.45	50.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-07-2025	36.12	63.88	39.54	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	18.68	81.32	29.83	8.45	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 06-18-2024	96.44	3.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

Author:
Brad Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture

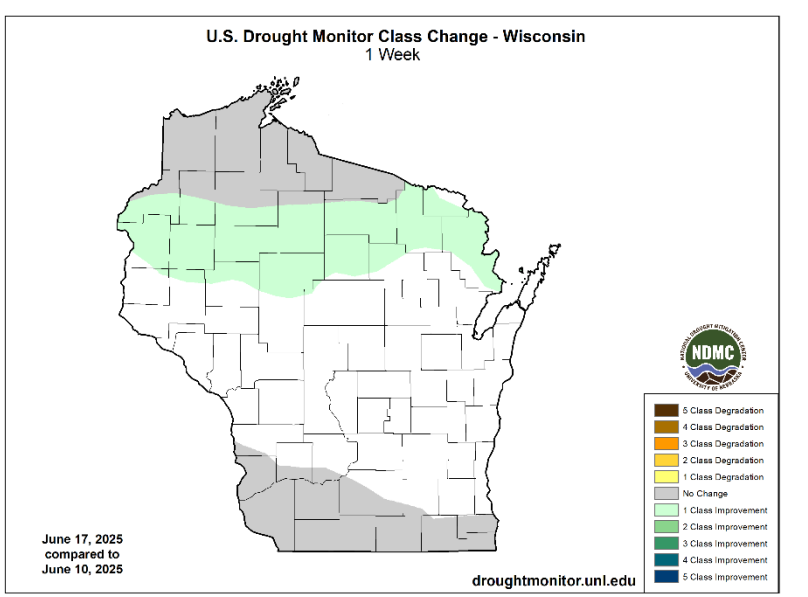
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

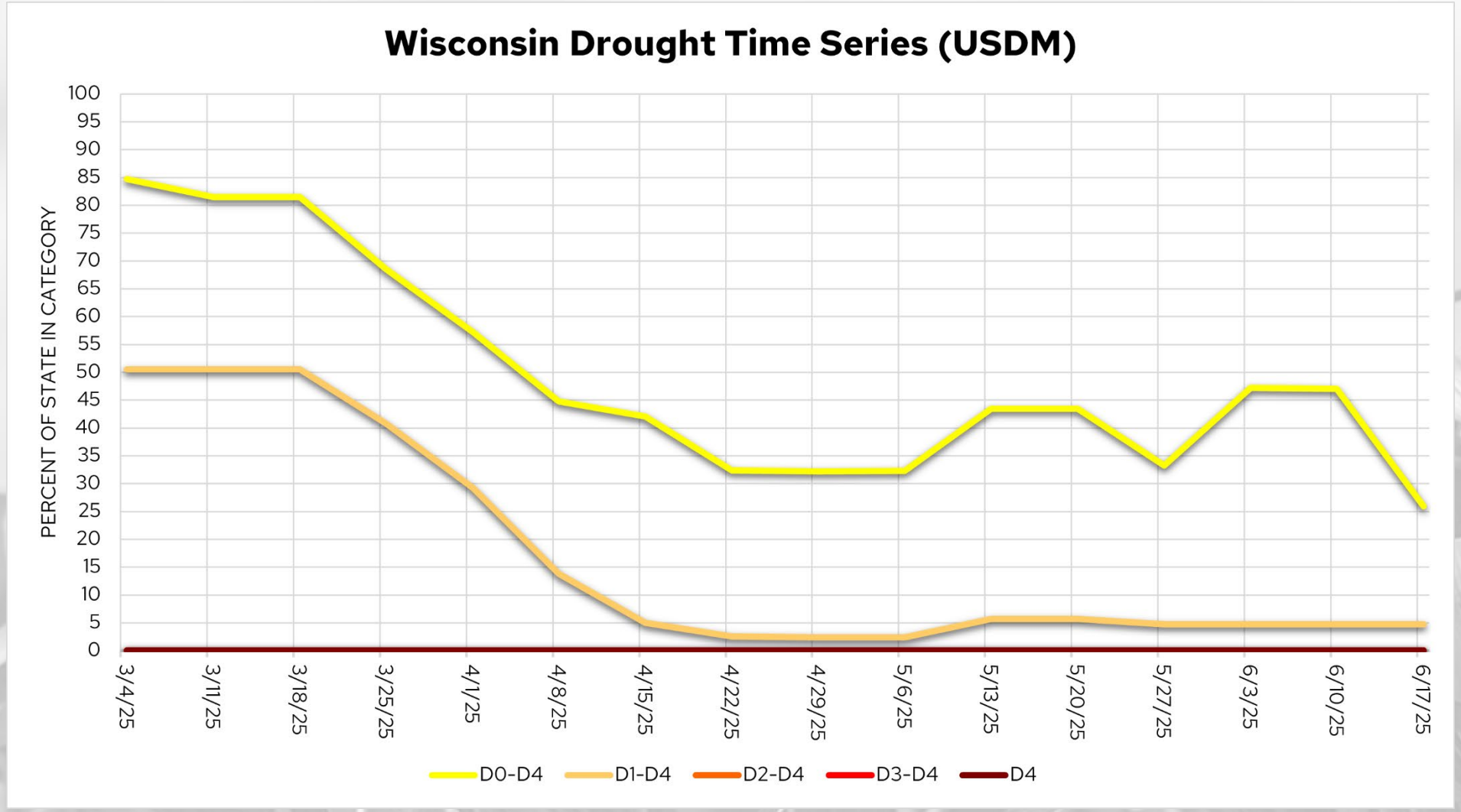
Amount of state in:

- D1-D4 – 4.7% --
- D2-D4 – 0.0% --
- D3-D4 – 0.0% --
- D4 – 0.0% --

Note: ↑↓ indicate change from last week. Red up arrows indicate increase in drought area; vice-versa for green arrows.

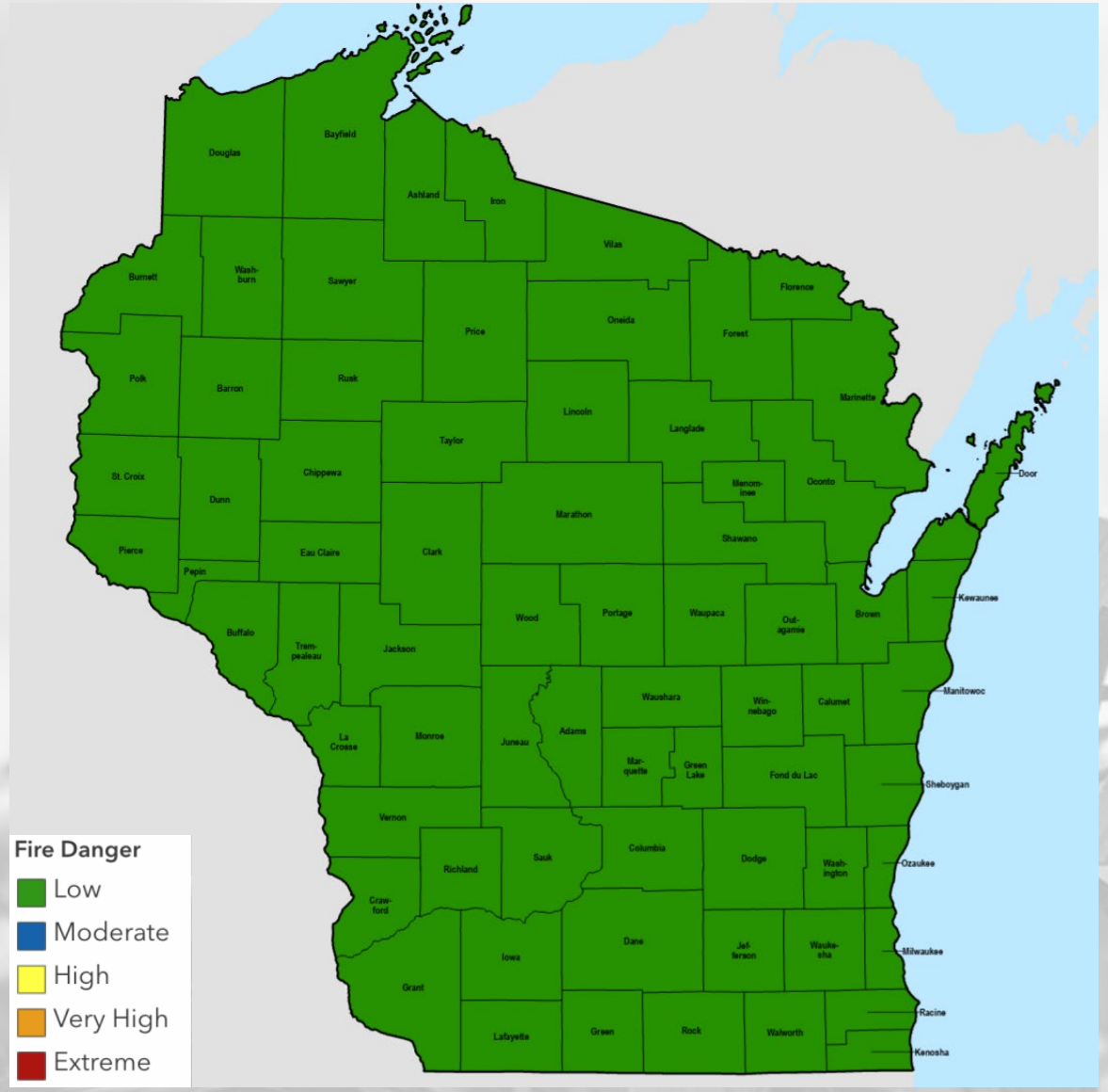


USDM Time Series



http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

Wildfire Risk



A fire danger of **LOW** means wildfires do not easily ignite and will spread slowly.

A fire danger of **MODERATE** means wildfires can ignite and will spread but are relatively easy to contain.

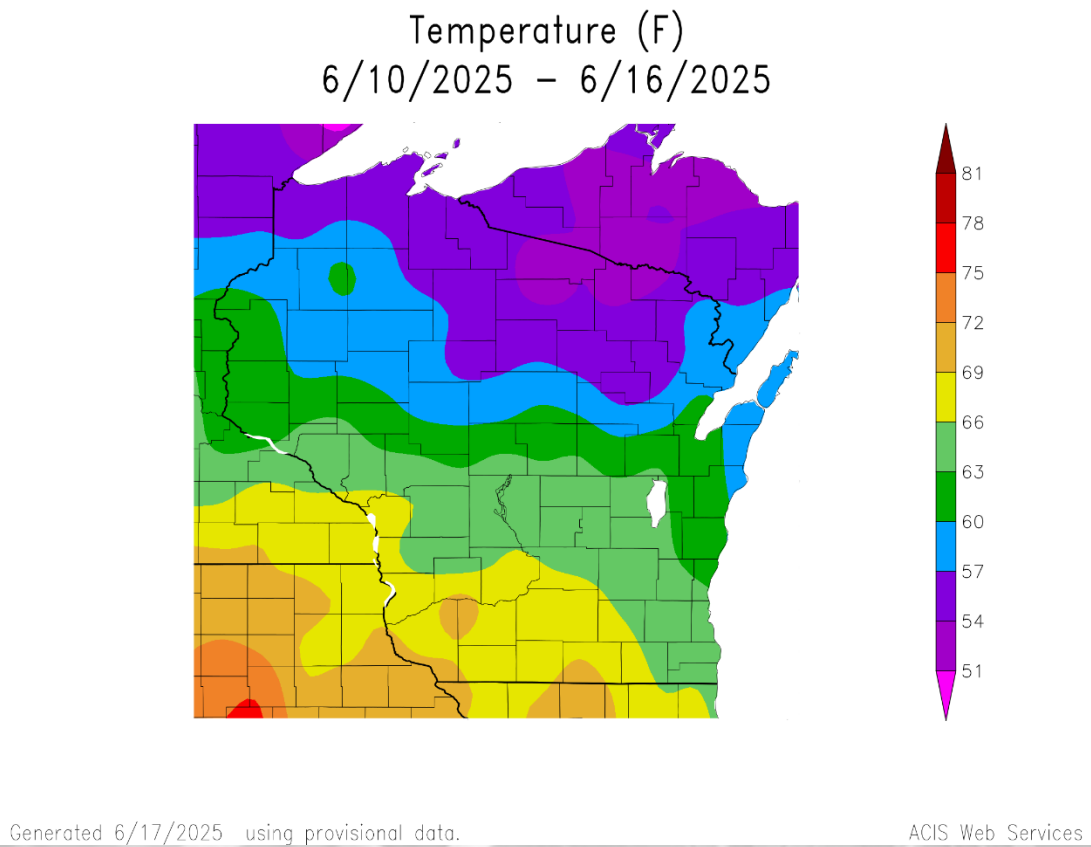
A fire danger of **HIGH** means wildfires ignite easily, spread rapidly, and can be challenging to control.

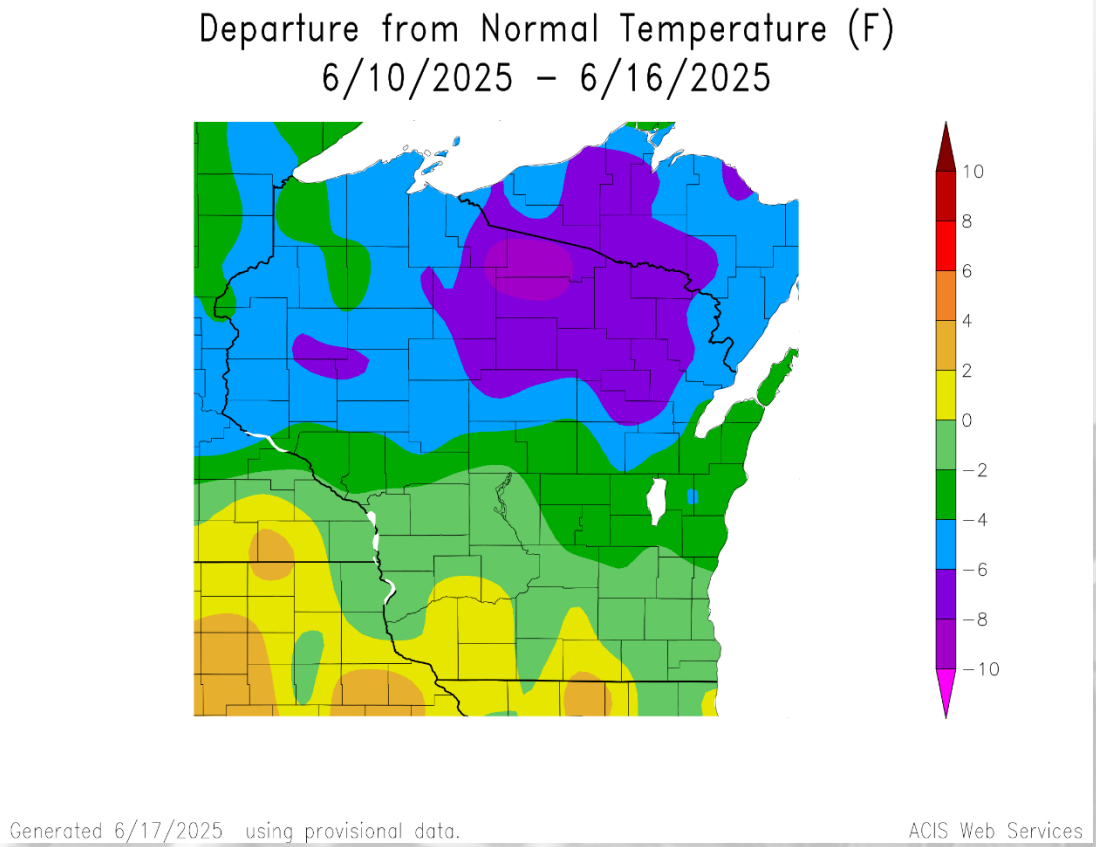
A fire danger of **VERY HIGH** means wildfires start easily, spread rapidly with increased intensity and are difficult to control.

Map updated on 6/19/25

https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/wisburn/#/

7 Day Temperatures

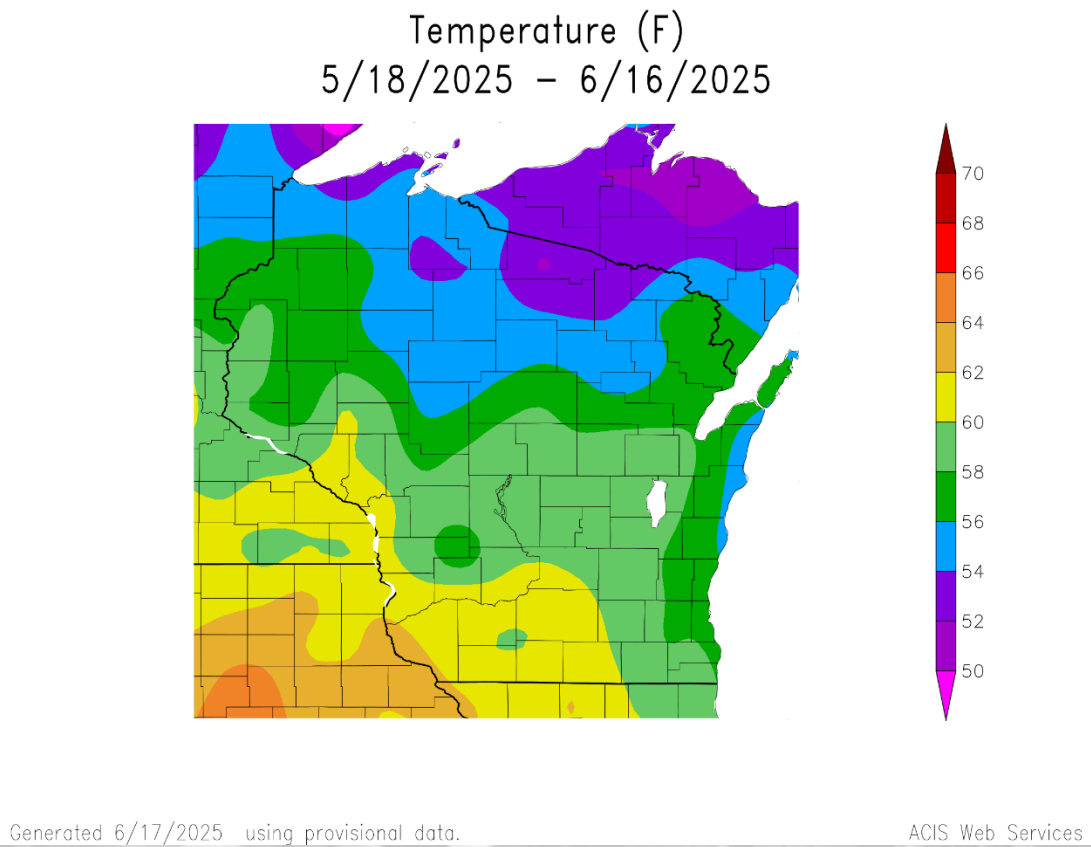


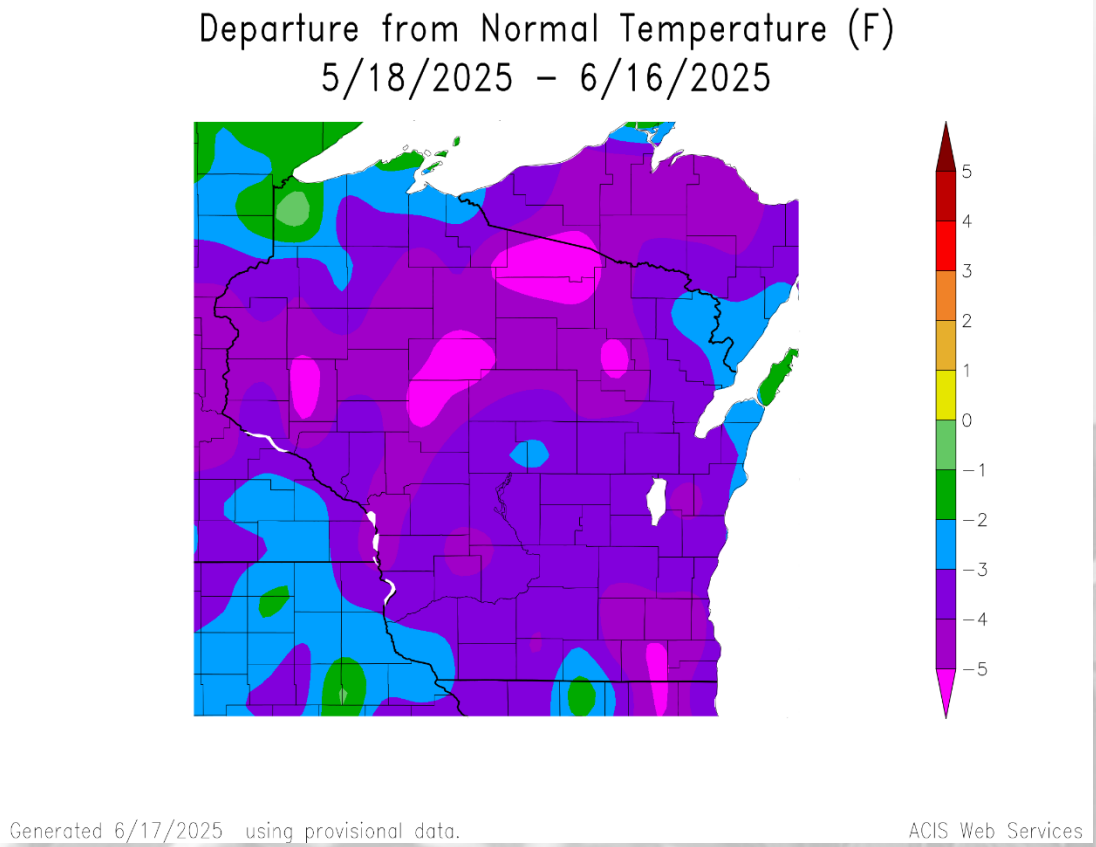


- Average temp. range of **66-72°F** in the SC & SW to **51-57°F** in the far north.
- **Below normal** across almost all of WI. **Close to normal** in the south, with **4°F or more** below normal in the north.
- In the north half of WI, **highs did not hit 80°F** last week at most locations.

https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps

30 Day Temperatures

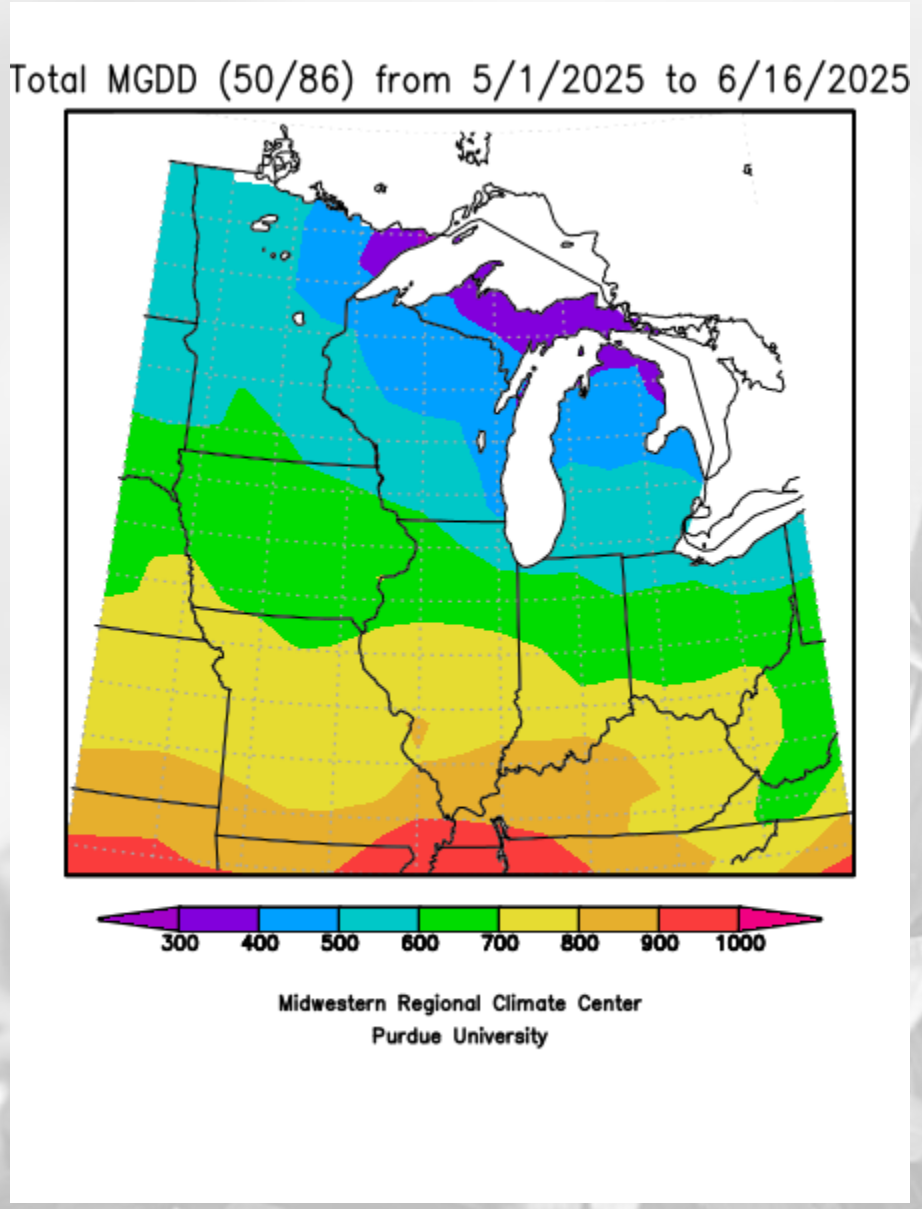


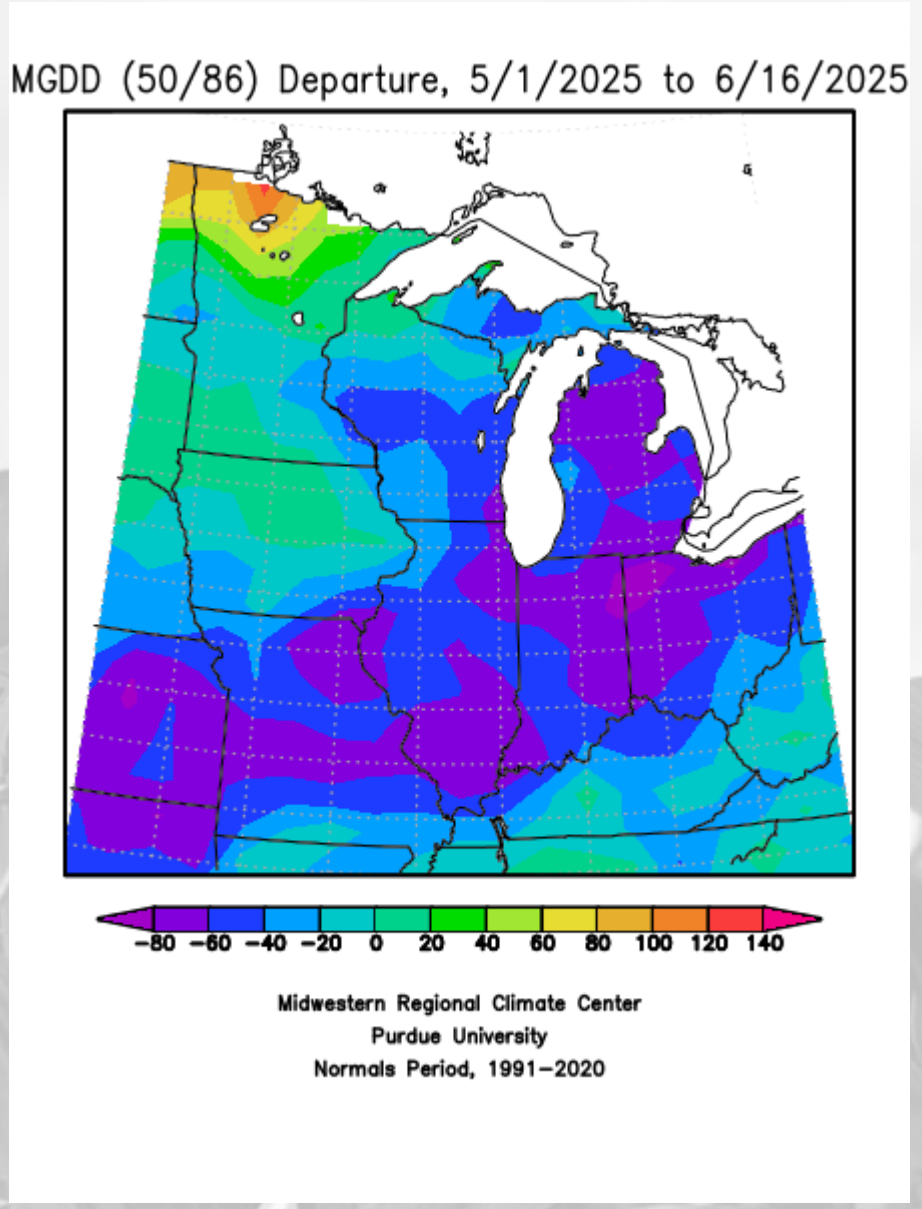


- Average temperatures for the past month ranged from **60-64°F** in the S & W to **52-56°F** in the N & E.
- **Below normal** across the entire state.
  - **3-5°F below normal** for most with some in the north at **>5°F below normal**.

https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps

Growing Degree Days (Base = 50°F; Since May 1)





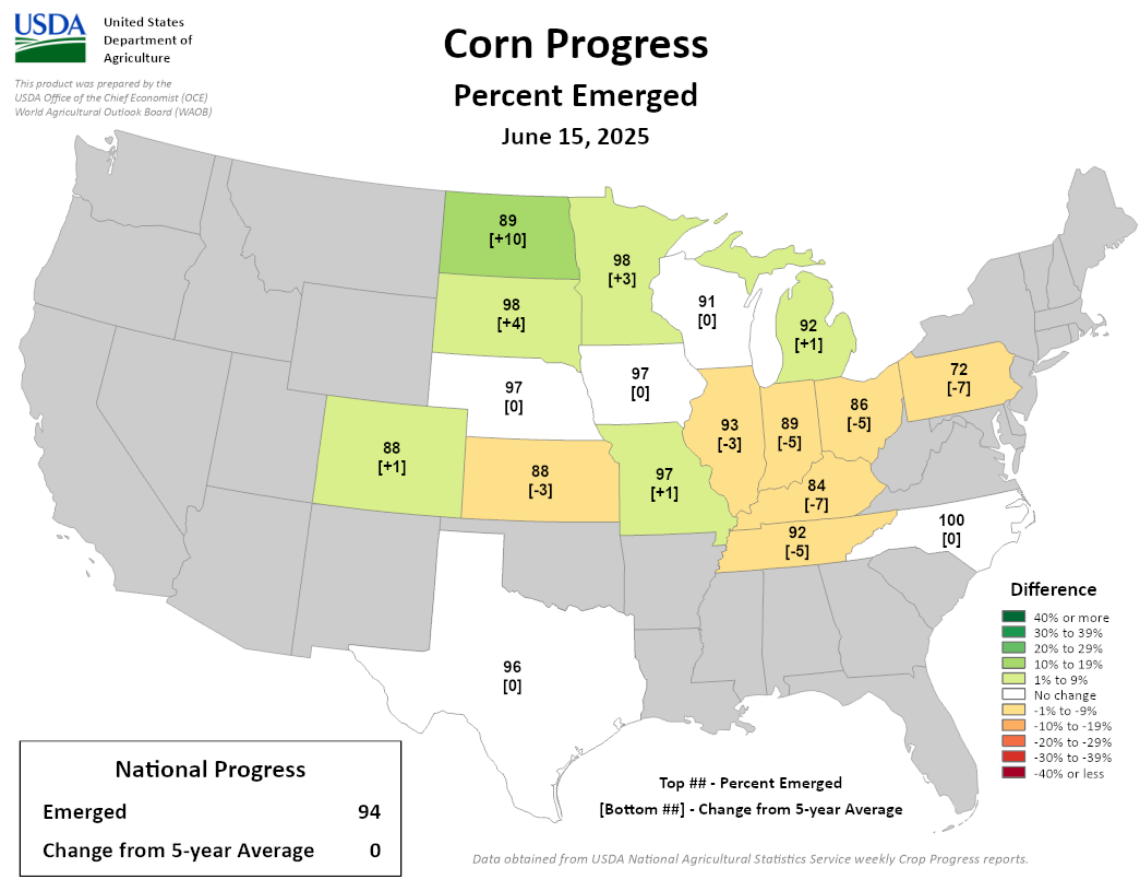
- **400-500** GDD in the N & E. **500-600** GDD in the S & W.
- GDD accumulation is **behind normal pace** across nearly all of WI. **40 GDD or more** behind schedule in the C & SE.

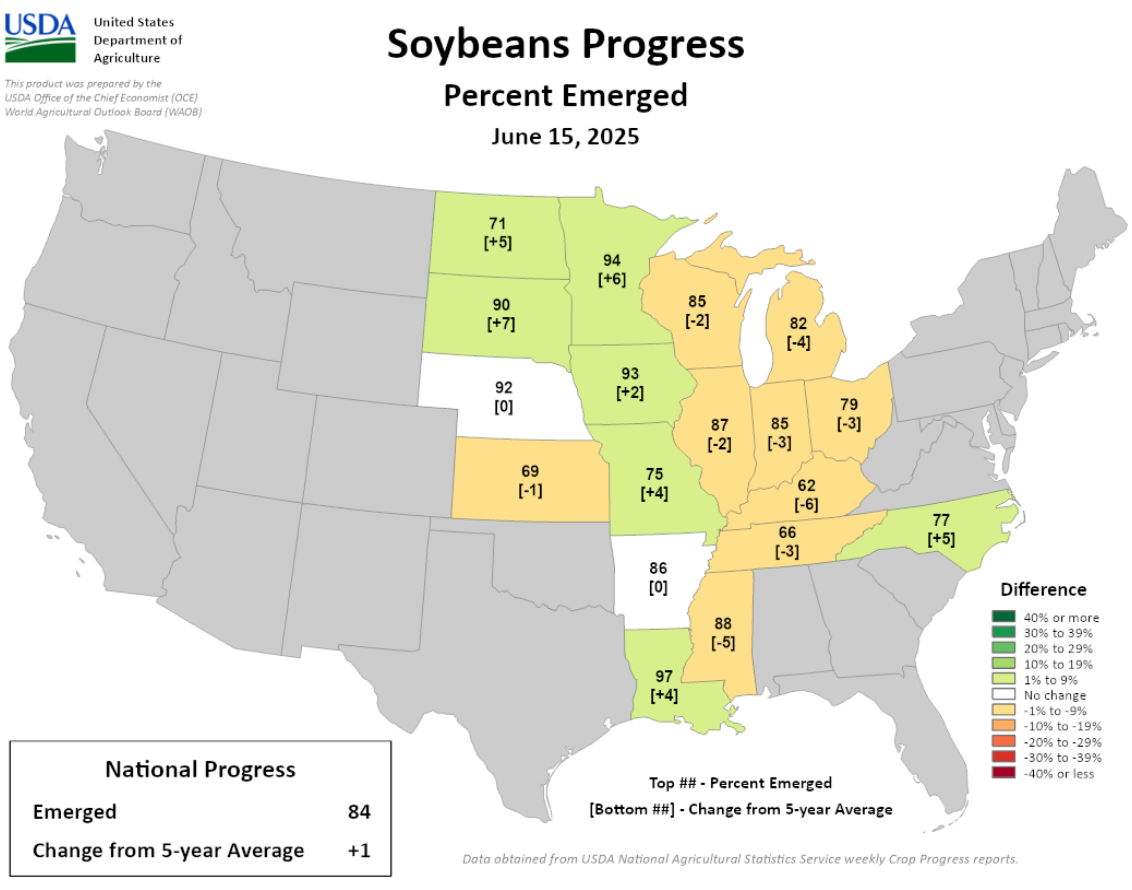
To calculate GDD for your corn variety and planting date, use this tool.

To see specific degree models for pests in your location, use the Vegetable Disease & Insect Forecasting Network.

https://mrcc.purdue.edu/climate_watch

Corn & Soybean Progress





- Corn and soybean emergence made **~10% jumps** in progress from last week, running at **near to normal pace**.
- Both crops are nearing emergence completion **(85-90%)**.

https://agindrought.unl.edu/Other.aspx

Crop Progress Report

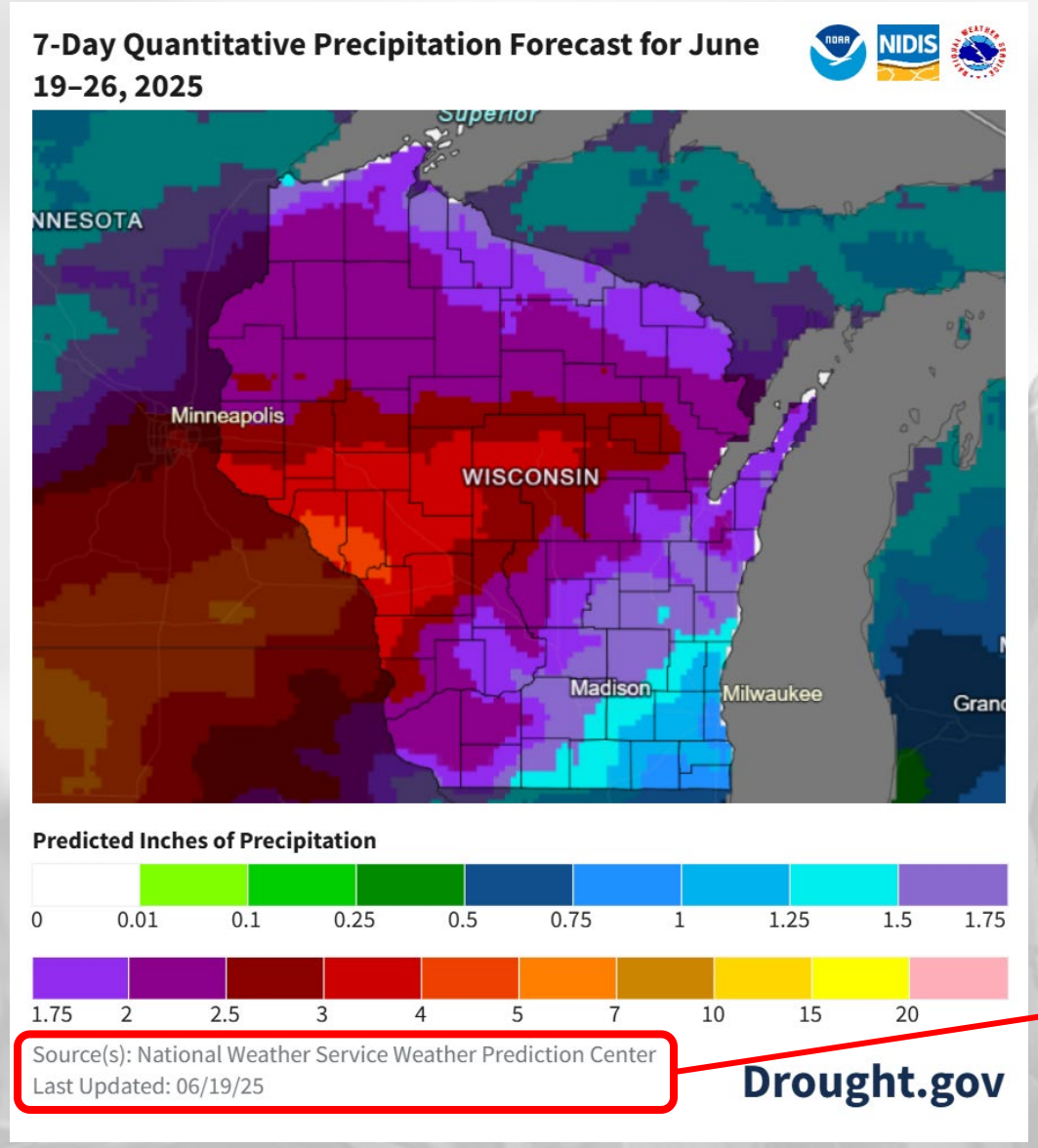
Crop progress report for Wisconsin for the week ending on June 15th

- Corn emergence is **91%** complete, which is **right at** the 5-year average pace.
  - Condition was rated **71%** good to excellent.
- Soybean emergence is **85%** complete, **1 day behind** the 5-year average pace.
  - Condition was rated **72%** good to excellent.
- Winter wheat is **83%** headed and is rated **70%** good to excellent.
- The first cutting of alfalfa hay was **79%** complete.
- Pasture and range conditions are rated **74%** good to excellent (**down 4%** from last week).
- Oats are **94%** emerged and **24%** headed.
- **80-85%** of agricultural soils in the state have **adequate** topsoil and subsoil moisture.

In the news: https://www.brownfieldagnews.com/news/wisconsins-corn-and-soybean-conditions-decline/
Full report: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Wisconsin/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2025/WI-Crop-Progress-06-16-25.pdf

https://agindrought.unl.edu/Other.aspx

7 Day Precip Forecast



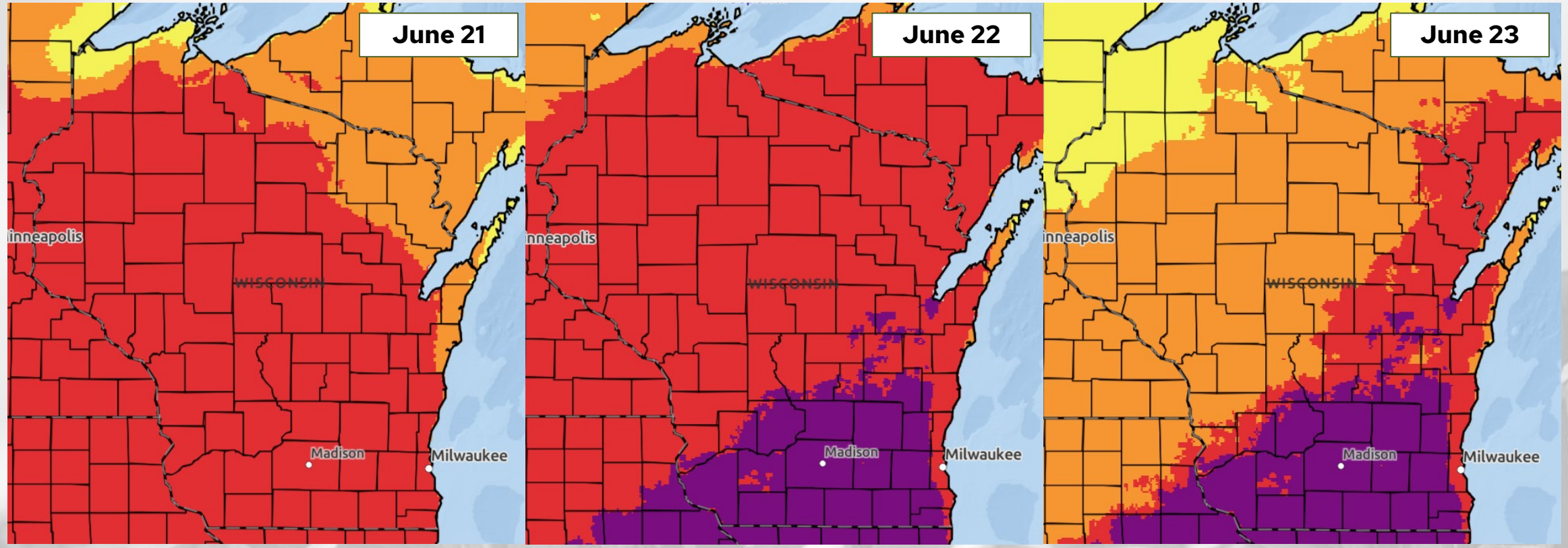
- A **very active** next 7 days for precip is forecasted for WI.
  - Highest chances for precip in the **west-central region**.
  - Where totals are forecasted to be higher, be aware of the risk for **excessive rainfall** early next week.
  - Check your local forecast for details on totals and timing.

Forecast for 6/19/25 thru 6/26/25
(Begins at 7am CDT)

https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/p168i.gif
https://www.drought.gov/states/wisconsin

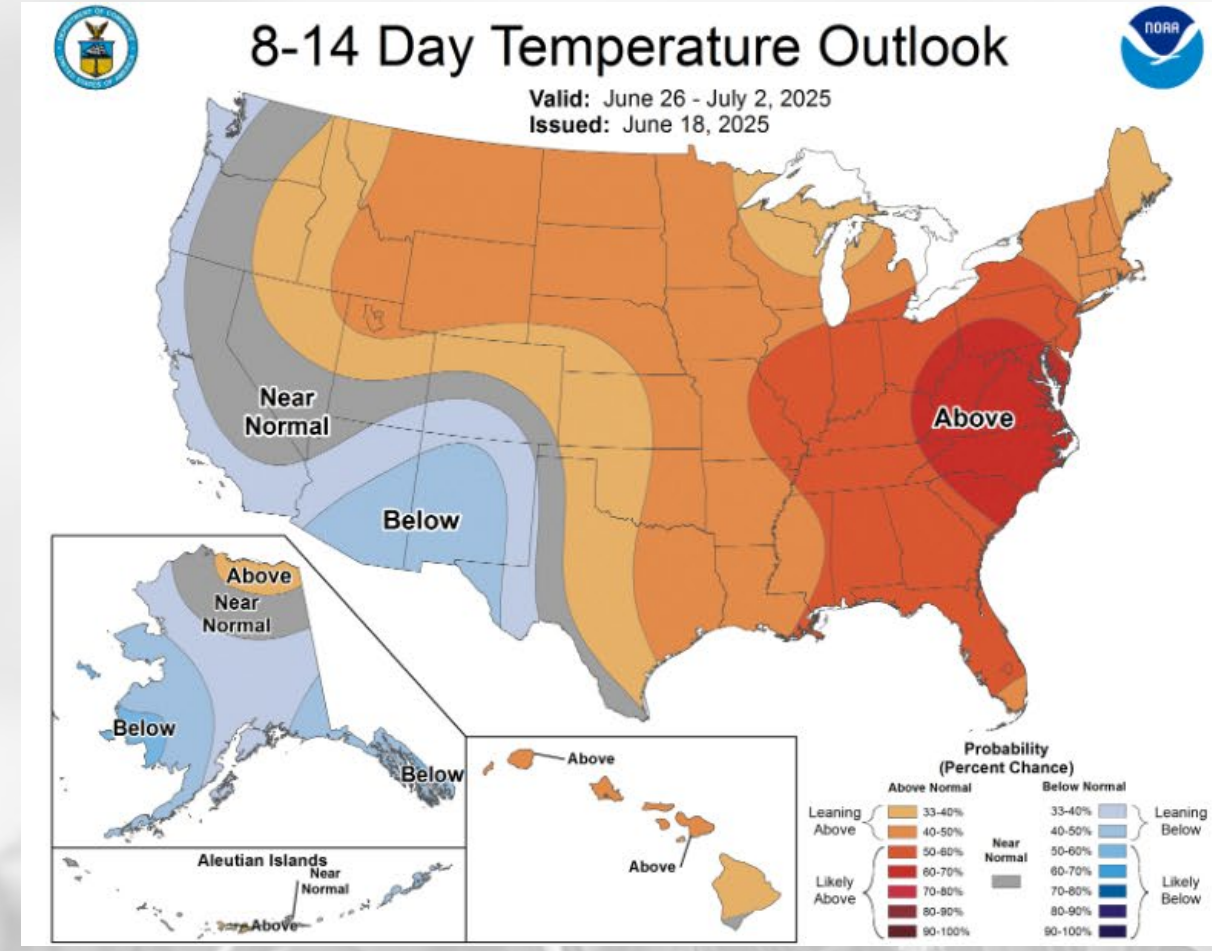
Extreme Heat Upcoming

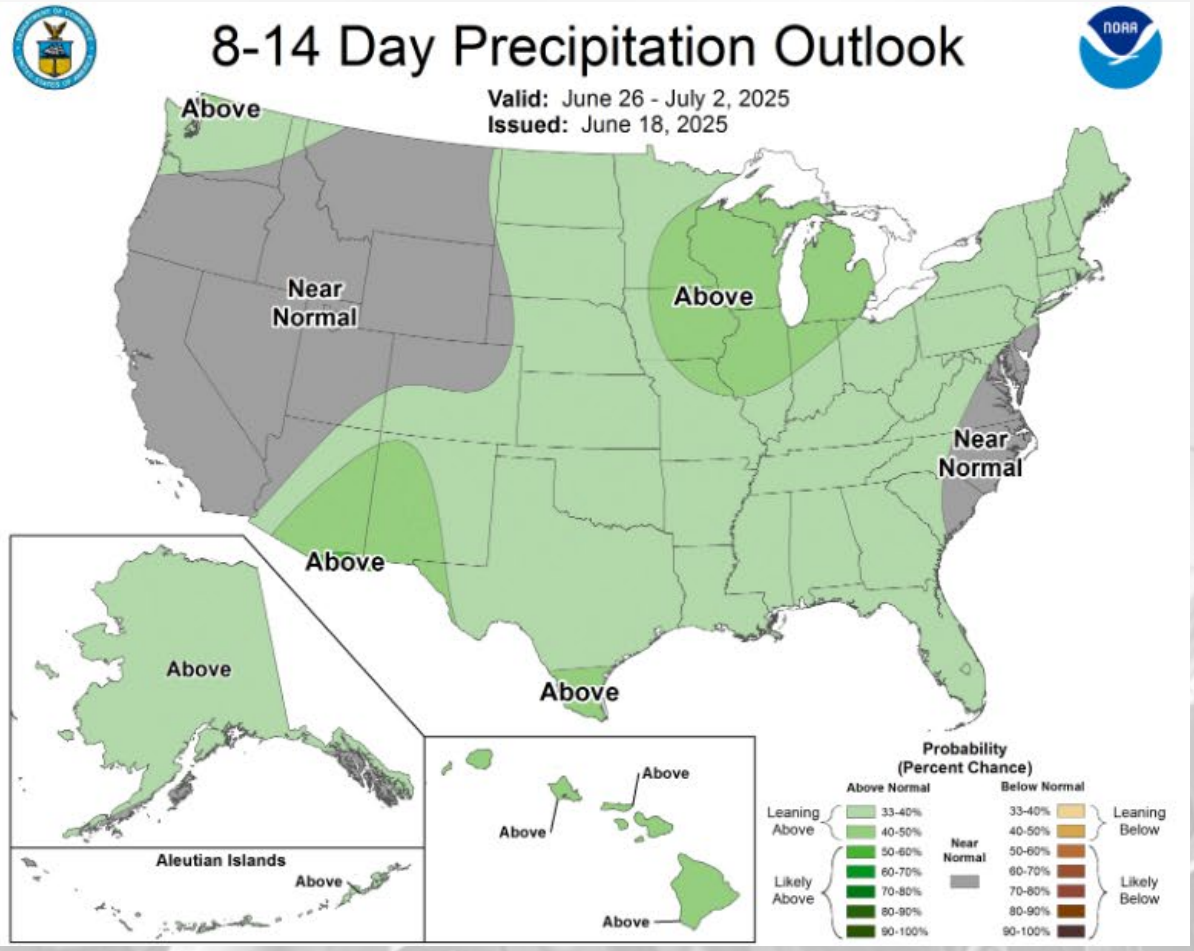
https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/heatrisk/



Little to no risk from expected heat.	**Minor** - This level of heat affects primarily those individuals extremely sensitive to heat, especially when outdoors without effective cooling and/or adequate hydration.	**Moderate** - This level of heat affects most individuals sensitive to heat, especially those without effective cooling and/or adequate hydration. Impacts possible in some health systems and in heat-sensitive industries.	**Major** - This level of heat affects anyone without effective cooling and/or adequate hydration. Impacts likely in some health systems, heat-sensitive industries and infrastructure.	**Extreme** - This level of rare and/or long-duration extreme heat with little to no overnight relief affects anyone without effective cooling and/or adequate hydration. Impacts likely in most health systems, heat-sensitive industries and infrastructure.

8-14 Day Temp & Precip Outlook

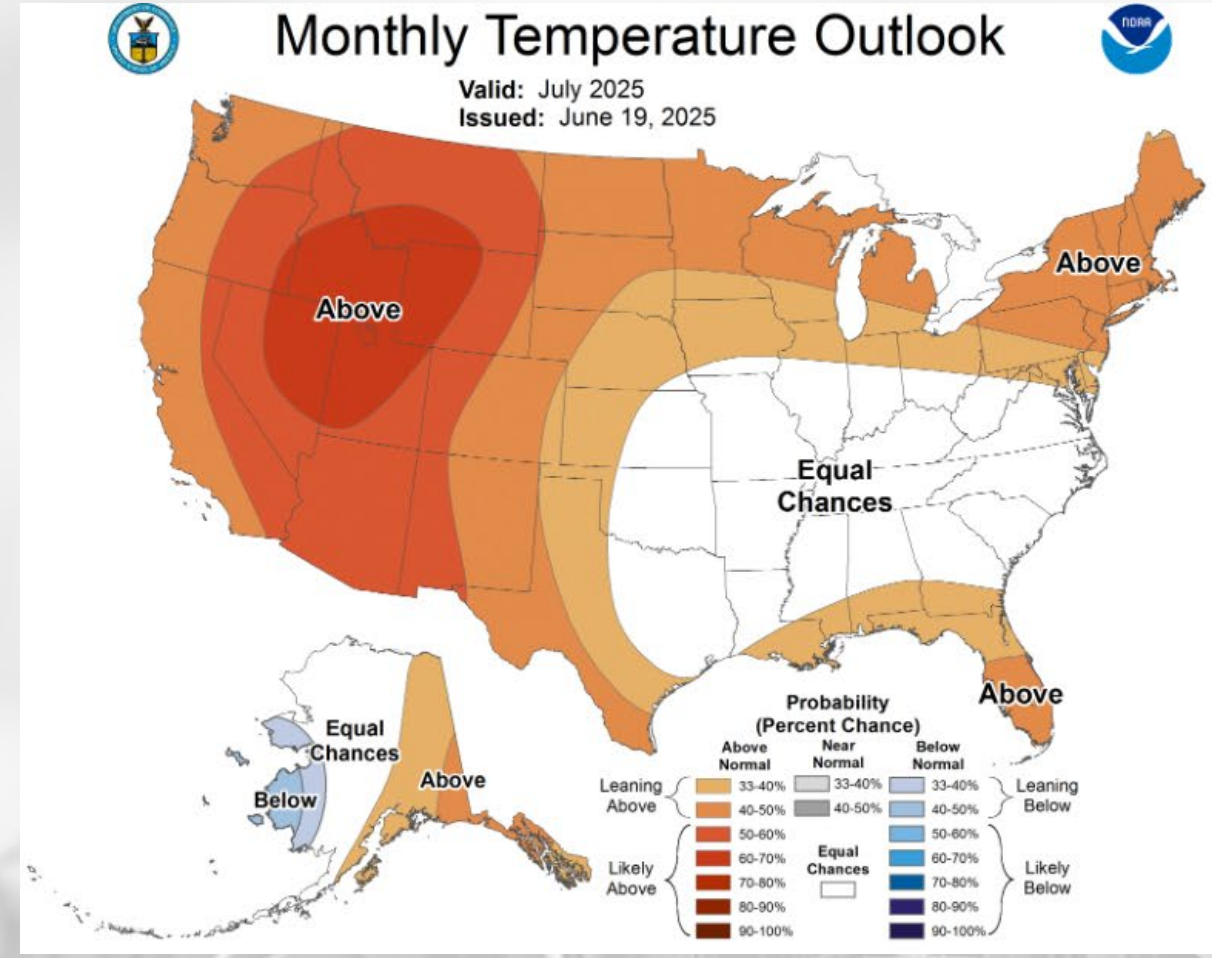


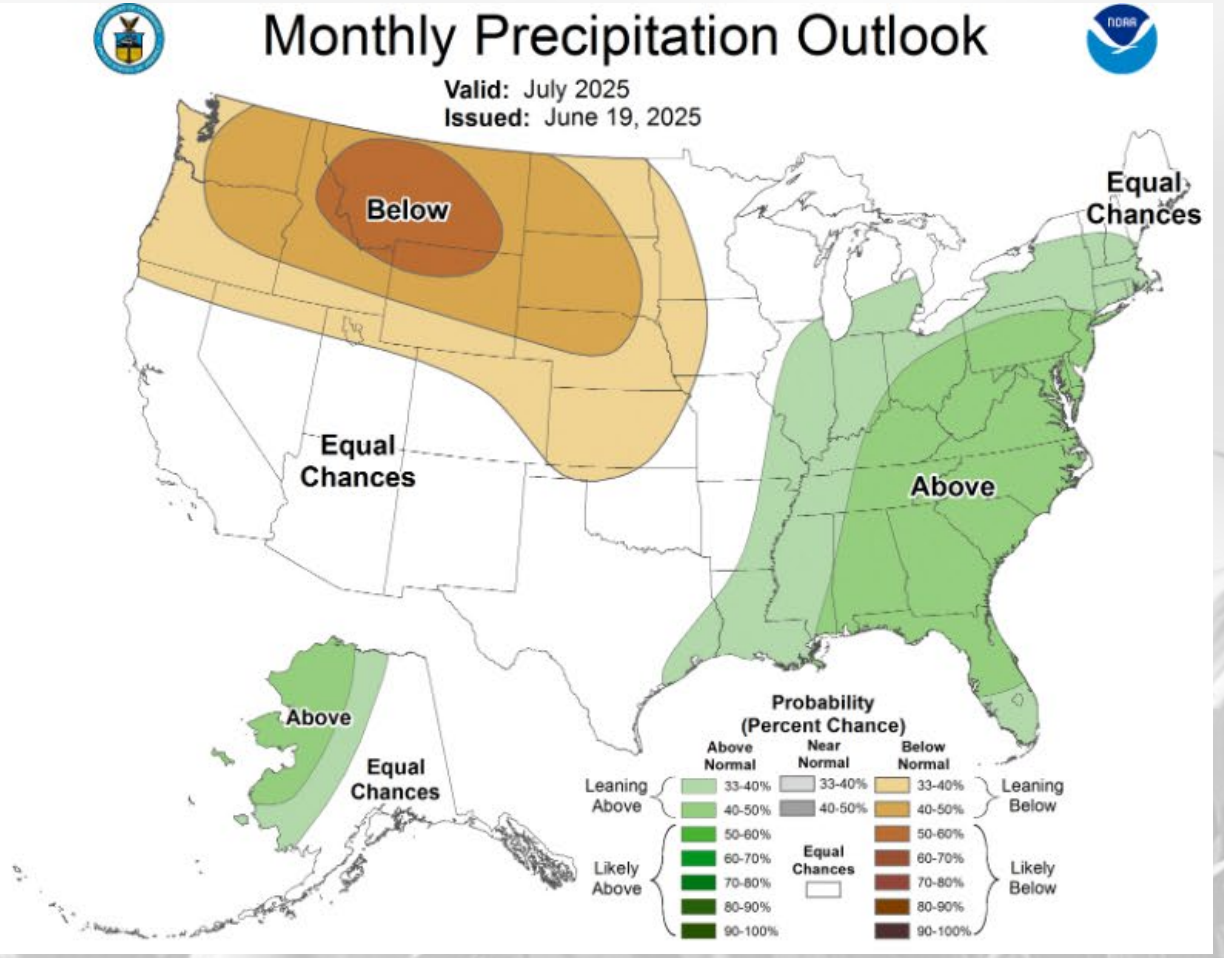


Late June into Early July: Temperatures are leaning towards above normal, more so in the south. Precipitation is leaning towards above normal statewide.

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/

30 Day Temp & Precip Outlook

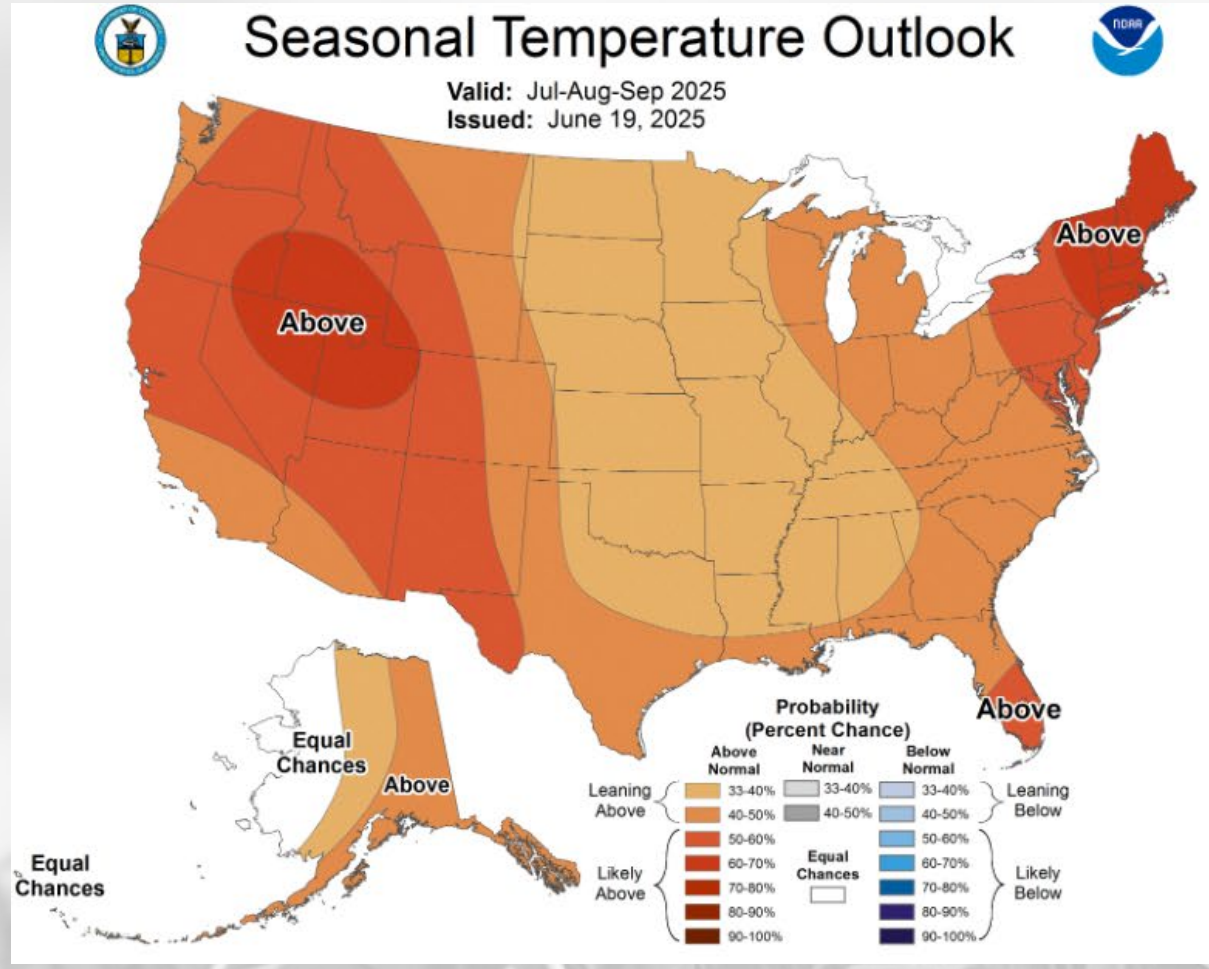


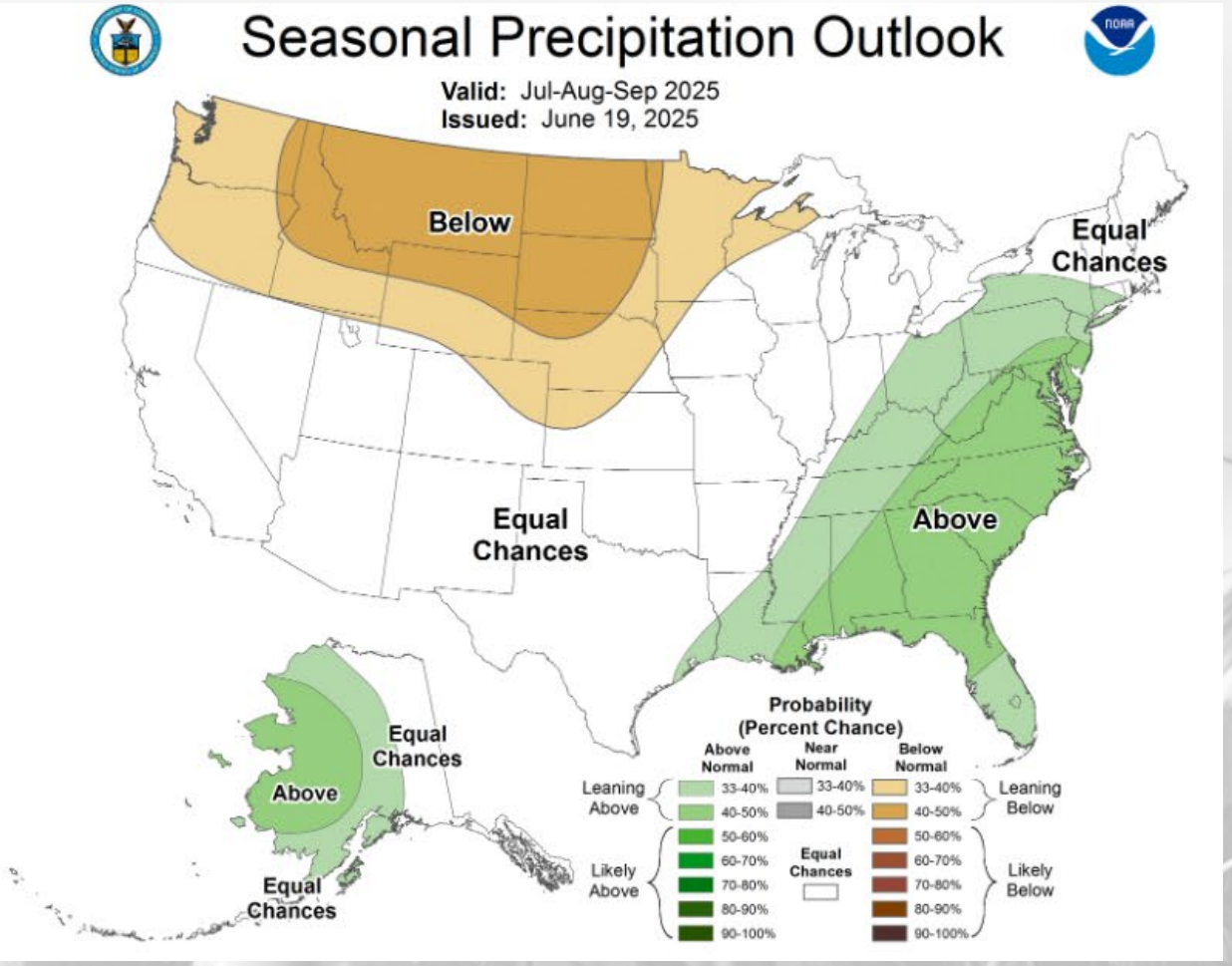


Month of July: Temperatures leaning towards being above normal, more strongly in the north. There is uncertainty for precip with equal chances for above, near, and below normal.

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/

90 Day Temp & Precip Outlook





Summer into Early Fall: Temperature chances lean toward above normal, with uncertainty (equal chances) for precipitation except for the NW & far NC (below normal lean).

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/

Take-Home Points

Current Conditions

- Multiple days of precipitation impacted the state last week, bringing **1-3" for the north and southwest**. Conversely, there were many locations that **received very low totals**, particularly in the east/southeast and between La Crosse & Eau Claire. However, the southeast picked up a **half inch or more** from the 17th to the 19th.
- Temperatures in the state were **below normal last week** except for the far south. 30-day average temperatures that were **3°F or more below normal** were quite common across Wisconsin, leading to a **lag in GDD accumulation** since May 1.

Impact

- Soil moisture conditions **improved in the north** with the rainfall last week, with **abnormal dryness** still in place in the far south. Wisconet stations show a **mixed bag in moisture gained or lost** since last week, depending on how much rain was received.
- The area of abnormal dryness (D0) in the north was **greatly reduced** from last week, with **no change in the south**.
- Corn and soybean emergence are **nearing completion**, with development running at a pace **near to the 5-year normal** for both crops. However, crop condition for corn, soybeans, and wheat **dropped from last week** (Source: NASS).

Outlook

- The next 7 days look **very active for precip**. Be aware of some potentially **excessive rainfall totals** early next week.
- Late June climate probabilities are showing a **lean towards above-normal temperatures and precip**. Be aware of the **risk of extreme heat** over the next few days.
- The outlook for July indicates a lean towards **warmer than normal** with **precip uncertainty** (*outlook updated on 6/19*).

Agronomic Considerations

Field Work and Conditions

- Avoid trafficking fields in moist conditions to prevent compaction.
- See these considerations for early season corn management. See how wildfire haze may impact corn growth.
- Crop growth has been slowed with cooler temperatures. Much of the corn crop is short due to a lack of heat units but is expected to rebound with upcoming warm temps.
- Corn is reaching the growth stage appropriate for taking presidedress soil nitrate tests (PSNT).

Manure Applications

- Reminder of Wisconsin's NR 151 Runoff Rules with the timing of manure spreading and current runoff levels. Check DATCP Runoff Risk Advisory Forecast.

Pest Management

- Scout fields to note which weed species are emerging and/or which species escaped herbicide application.
- As corn and soybean crops grow, note growth stages to time future applications and sampling.
- While slug issues have not been as severe this year, UW is monitoring populations weekly across the state with SlugNet. Slug pressure will decrease with increasing temperatures and crop maturity.
- Check moth trap catches in your region with the DATCP Pest Survey. Sign up for insect pest alerts specific to your region.
- Routine scouting in corn to watch for: true armyworm, stalk borer, and European corn borer.
- Alfalfa weevil populations are coming to an end. Potato leafhopper numbers are increasing; keep an eye on populations the next several weeks.
- Use the VDIFN model to see risk in your region for several economically important pests.

Forage Management

- Alfalfa stands in northern WI are still being harvested. See first harvest considerations here. Some regions are considering a second harvest.
- Consider annual forage options depending on your situation and forage goals.

Small Grains

- Scout for stripe rust and any signs of disease with recent cool and wet weather. Cephalosporium stripe is showing up in Wisconsin.
- Fusarium Head Blight risk is increasing across the northern part of state. Consider spraying fungicide, especially to susceptible varieties. Scab alerts and risk forecast can be found here.

Specialty Crop Considerations

Fruit

•Apple and grape growers can reference the NEWA weather station network to monitor for disease infection periods in their area. Check out your nearest weather station: NEWA Weather Station Network (Cornell).
•Apple scab fruit lesions have been observed in Southern WI, likely pushed along by recent rains. Continue scouting scab susceptible varieties. A reminder that protectants will typically wash off after ~1inch of rain.
•Apple growers should continue monitoring degree-day (base 50°F) accumulation for Codling moth. First generation larvae will emerge after ~250 degree-days (base 50°F) have accumulated from the biofix date. Second generation larvae will typically emerge at ~1250 degree-days (base 50°F) from the biofix date.
•Apple growers should keep track of degree-day (base 50°F) accumulation from petal fall to determine the end of plum curculio movement into the orchard. Plum curculio will typically cease movement into the orchard after ~308 degree-days (base 50°F) have accumulated from the petal fall date.
•Recent rain events have driven infection periods for grape diseases. Check out this article that overviews signs/symptoms of phomopsis, black rot, downy mildew and powdery mildew: Grape Scouting Report, June 2021 (UW Fruit News).
•Strawberry growers have reported signs of spittlebugs, which typically cause little damage unless large populations are present (~1/plant).

- Wisconsin fruit growers can reference the Midwest Fruit Pest Management Guide for a list of registered products and recommended best practices. View the MFPMG Online or order a hard copy here: MFPMG Hard Copy.

Vegetable considerations can be found on the next slide -->

Specialty Crop Considerations

Vegetables

- White mold was detected in high tunnels in the past 1.5 weeks. White mold can affect a wide variety of crops including beans, potatoes, cabbage, and pepper. Information on symptoms and management can be found here.
- Squash vine borer will be moving into southern WI over the next week. Monitor for activity of these orange and black moths. Row covers can be used to exclude adults early in the season but must be removed for flowering. If you use insecticides, the timing of treatment is key. Treatment must occur before eggs hatch and larva enter stems where they are well protected. More information on organic control methods can be found here.
- Scout for cabbage loopers, diamondback moths, and imported cabbage worms as risk is now high in southern WI.
- The second generation of seed corn maggot is in central and northern WI. The risk is high in central WI where mated females will begin laying eggs in the next 5-7 days. The 2nd generation poses a risk when eggs hatch and larva start feeding on newly seeded and transplanted crops. Cabbage maggot risk remains high in the north as well as along Lake Michigan.
- Continue monitoring for aster leafhoppers. Aster leafhoppers transmit aster yellows to a wide variety of crops including carrots, lettuce, celery, garlic, and many types of flowers. The best way to control aster yellows is by controlling the leafhoppers. Once plants are infected, they will not recover and must be removed to reduce the spread of this disease. Use the aster yellows index (page 19) in the Commercial Vegetable Production guide to help determine when to spray. You can also sign up for text alerts from Michigan State University on infectivity rates from their trapping network. Reports out of Michigan indicate elevated infectivity levels so far this year.
- Downy mildew spores were detected in air samples in Michigan. Spores are detected a few days to a few weeks before symptoms are seen. Keep an eye on cucumbers and melons. Find management information here.
- Continue scouting for Colorado potato beetle on potatoes and eggplant. Initial egg hatch is well underway in southern WI. Egg masses are now abundant in central WI. Colonizing adults will be impacting Antigo and Rice Lake regions in the next 3-7 days.
- While removing garlic scapes, be on the lookout for symptoms of fusarium basal rot, botrytis neck rot, white rot, and stem and bulb nematodes. This chart from the Ontario Vegetable report can help distinguish between symptoms.
- Potato leafhopper, a pest of snap beans and potatoes, continue to increase in population size.

User Survey

Are you a regular user of the Ag Weather Outlook for Wisconsin (AgWOW)? Or maybe you are viewing these slides for the first time this week? Either way, we want to hear your feedback on this new resource! Please take a few minutes and fill out this survey:

LINK TO SURVEY

Your feedback will help us better serve your ag-weather data needs through AgWOW.

If you have any trouble accessing or filling out the survey, please email Josh Bendorf at jbendorf@wisc.edu.

Thank you!!
-The AgWOW Team

Citizen Science Opportunity

CoCoRaHS – Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, & Snow Network

The Mission

(From cocorahs.org)

- Provide accurate high-quality precipitation data for end-users;
- Increasing the density of precipitation data available throughout the country;
- Encouraging citizens to have fun participating in meteorological science and heightening their awareness about weather;
- Providing weather education opportunities.

Sign Up Here:
https://cocorahs.org/Content.aspx?page=application

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