



Extension University of Wisconsin-Madison



Midwest Climate Hub U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



AgWOW

Ag Weather Outlook for Wisconsin Week of July 7, 2025

Josh Bendorf

Climate Outreach Specialist Wisconsin State Climatology Office jbendorf@wisc.edu

Anastasia Kurth

Regional Crops & Soils Educator Sauk, Juneau, and Richland Counties UW-Madison Division of Extension anastasia.kurth@wisc.edu

Bridgette Mason

Assistant State Climatologist Wisconsin State Climatology Office bmmason2@wisc.edu

Rue Genger

Emerging & Specialty Crops Program Manager UW-Madison Division of Extension rkgenger@wisciencemberging.com Steve Vavrus State Climatologist Wisconsin State Climatology Office sjvavrus@wisc.edu

Emilee Gaulke Diversified Vegetable Educator Waukesha County UW-Madison Division of Extension emilee.gaulke@wisc.edu Dennis Todey Director USDA Midwest Climate Hub dennis.todey@usda.gov

Derrick Raspor GLRI Field Coordinator Wisconsin USDA-NRCS derrick.raspor@usda.gov

Key Points

Navigate to select slides by clicking on the links below.

- Early July was <u>rainy</u> for most, with totals of 0.5-2" across much of WI and pockets of 2-4"+.
- 2) <u>Above-normal temps</u> continued pushing <u>GDD totals</u>.
- 3) <u>Above-normal soil moisture</u> lingered in the west and north, but levels <u>declined</u> since last week. The <u>USDM</u> shows abnormal dryness and drought coverage have been reduced *slightly*.
- 4) More rain is on the way over the next 7 days, with <u>mid-to-end of July</u> leaning towards near-normal precip & below-normal temps.
- For this week's agronomic recommendations from UW Extension, click <u>here</u>.
- For this week's crop progress updates from USDA NASS, click <u>here</u>.

June Climate Rankings

Climate Division	June Precip Anomaly	June Precip Rank	June Temperature Anomaly	June Temperature Rank		
WI01 (NW)	1.47"	24 th Wettest	0.3°F	50 th Warmest		Record Driest
						Bottom 1/10
WI02 (NC)	2.11"	17 th Wettest	0.0°F	55 th Warmest		Bottom 1/3
	1 05″	26 th Wottost	0 0°E	28th Marmost		Normal
	1.05	20° Wellest	0.9 F	20° Warmest		Top 1/3
WI04 (WC)	1.19"	22 nd Wettest	1.2°F	34 th Warmest		Top 1/10
					100	Record Wettest
W105 (C)	0.82″	32 nd Wettest	2.0°F	21 st Warmest		Record Coldest
	-0.28″	52 nd Wattast	1 5°E	21 st Warmest		Bottom 1/10
W100 (LC)	-0.20	JZ Wellest	1.5 1			Bottom 1/3
W107 (SW)	0.52″	27 th Wettest	2.6°F	14 th Warmest		Normal
						Top 1/3
W108 (SC)	-0.33″	42 nd Wettest	2.9°F	13 [™] Warmest		Top 1/10
WI09 (SE)	-0.53"	47 th Wettest	2.6°F	17 th Warmest		Record Hottest

Statewide, June 2025 ranked as the **25th wettest** June on record. This is following a May that was the **26th driest** on record.

For temperature, June 2025 ranked as the 32nd warmest on record – only 1.2°F above average, despite the heatwave.

Period of record: 1895-2025 (131 Years)

https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/climate-at-a-glance/

7 Day Precip



- 0.5-2" across most of WI.
- Pockets of 2-4"+ in the NE, NW, westcentral, and south-central. Some of these higher totals fell in a 24-hour span:
 - <u>Burnett, Dunn, Chippewa, Eau</u>
 <u>Claire, & Jackson Cos</u>: July 4 AM & July 5 AM.
 - Door Co: July 5 PM-July 6 AM
- <0.5" in north-central WI and small pockets in S WI.

https://water.noaa.gov/

30 Day Precip



- 6-10" for a large portion of the western half of WI due in part to a very rainy end to June.
- Highest totals (10" or more) in a few pockets around the south and west.
- Totals taper to 5" or less in the far north and towards Lake Michigan.

https://water.noaa.gov/

30 Day Precip Total/% Avg.



- The majority of WI is at or above normal precip since June 8, with totals of 4" or more for most.
- Areas where 30-day totals topped 6" had totals that were **110% or more** of normal (**150%+** in the north and west-central).
- Near or slightly below normal in the east, far north, and far south-southwest where totals were lower (5" or less).

2025 Precipitation (so far)



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

Soil Moisture Models

- Above-normal soil moisture levels are lingering in the top 1 meter of soil, especially in the north and west where rainfall totals have remand higher over the last couple of weeks.
- Near to slightly below normal in the east, south, and far north where 30-day precip totals are slightly below average.

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.

NASA SPoRT-LIS 0–100 cm Soil Moisture Percentile





0-100 cm Soil Moisture Percentile



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

Soil Moisture Models



Wisconet Soil Moisture

Maps showing soil moisture conditions on July 8th @ 8am. Units of map values are {Volume of water}/{Volume of soil}.



Wisconet Soil Moisture

Change in soil moisture from July 1st (Start) to July 7th (End). Units of change values are {Volume of water}/{Volume of soil}.

Research Farm	County	Total Precip (in)	4" Change (Start) (End)		8" Ch (Start)	ange (End)	20" Change (Start) (End)	
Arlington	Columbia	0.23	0.37	0.3	0.36	0.31	0.44	0.41
Black River Falls	Jackson	2.93	0.13	0.17	0.12	0.19	0.24	0.24
Dairy Forage ARS	Sauk	0.43	0.29	0.23	0.3	0.25	0.33	0.33
Hancock	Waushara	0.46	0.1	0.08	0.09	0.08	0.07	0.06
Kemp	Oneida	0.16	0.17	0.14	0.17	0.14	0.07	0.06
Lancaster	Grant	0.99	0.34	0.28	0.36	0.31	0.41	0.43
Marshfield	Marathon	0.62	0.42	0.39	0.48	0.47	0.55	0.55
O.J. Noer (Turfgrass)	Dane	0.97	0.4	0.4	0.37	0.37	0.47	0.46
Peninsular	Door	2.73	0.23	0.26	0.2	0.23	0.26	0.3
Rhinelander	Oneida	0.24	0.16	0.14	0.15	0.13	0.06	0.05
Spooner	Washburn	0.98	0.28	0.25	0.17	0.15	0.17	0.16

https://wisconet.wisc.edu/

Wisconet Soil Moisture

Wisconet 4" Soil Moisture Change

UW Research Farms



Across most Wisconet research farm stations, soil moisture levels in the top 4 inches are **lower than last week** and **lower** than where things were at toward the beginning of the growing season (May 1st).

Adequate Soil Moisture



- **65-66%** of agricultural soils in the state with **adequate** topsoil and subsoil moisture.
- **10%** of fields in the state are reported as having **short to very short** topsoil moisture, **down 2%** from last week.

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

Wisconet Soil Temperature

Maps showing soil temperature conditions on July 8th @ 8am.



Wisconet Stations



- As of July 8, 2025, there are 72 Wisconet stations across the state.
- To find data for the station nearest to you, <u>click this link</u> to go to a webpage with an interactive Wisconet station map.

Stations added since January 1, 2025:

\succ	Taycheedah, Fond du Lac County	(4/23/25)	
\triangleright	Brigham, Iowa County		(5/7/25)
\triangleright	Westboro, Taylor County		(5/13/25)
\triangleright	Shanagolden, Ashland County		(5/28/25)
\triangleright	Darlington, Lafayette County	1 A	(5/29/25)
\triangleright	Grand Marsh, Adams County		(6/12/25)
\triangleright	River Falls, Pierce County		(6/17/25)
\triangleright	Flambeau, Price County	(6/18/25)	
\triangleright	Hunter, Sawyer County	(6/18/25)	
\triangleright	Bayfield, Bayfield County		(6/19/25)
\triangleright	Mindoro, La Crosse County		(7/1/25)
\triangleright	Hay River, Dunn County	(7/2/25)	
\triangleright	Grantsburg, Burnett County		(7/3/25)

US Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor Midwest



July 8, 2025	
(Released Thursday, Jul. 10, 20	25)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT	

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	75.02	24.98	5.31	0.66	0.00	0.00
Last Week 07-01-2025	75.11	24.89	5.60	0.48	0.00	0.00
3 Month s Ago 04-08-2025	57.18	42.82	14.85	1.07	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	<mark>0.6</mark> 6
One Year Ago 07-09-2024	80.70	19.30	4.50	0.00	0.00	0.00



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 Pugh CPC/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

- <u>Midwest</u>: Compared to last week:
 - Slight increase in D0 & D2 coverage.
 - *Slight* **decrease** in D1 coverage.
- <u>Midwest</u>: Some improvement in WI, MN, & IA with **D0-D1 coverage reduction**, but some decline in IL, IN, and MI with **D0-D2 coverage expansion**.
- <u>Wisconsin</u>: D0 remains over the NW & S, and D1 remains over the S, but both have been reduced in coverage since last week.
- **94%** of the Midwest is drought free (6% in D1 or D2).

Note: D0 is not considered drought.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

US Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor



July 8, 2025
(Released Thursday, Jul. 10, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)						
None D0-D4 D1-D4 D2-D4 D3-D4 D							
Current	86.65	13.35	1.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Last Week 07-01-2025	83.61	16.39	2.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3 Month s Ago 04-08-2025	55.24	44.76	13.81	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 07-09-2024	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	



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

<u>Author:</u> Brad Pugh CPC/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Amount of state in:

• D1-D4 - 1.4% 🗸

<u>Note</u>: $\uparrow \downarrow$ indicate change from last week. Red up arrows indicate increase in drought area; vice-versa for green arrows. -- indicates no change from last week.



USDM Time Series



http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

7 Day Temperatures



- Average temp. range of **74-76°F** in the south to **66-68°F** along Lake Superior.
- 2-6°F above normal across most of WI; 6-8°F above normal around Monroe Co. and <2°F above normal around Bayfield and Ashland Cos.

30 Day Temperatures



- Average temperatures for the past month ranged from **72-74°F** in the S to **62-66°F** in the N.
- 3-5°F above normal in the S and 1-3°F above normal in the N.
- Pockets of 1-2°F below normal along Lake Superior and around Vilas and Taylor Cos.

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







Midwestern Regional Climate Center Purdue University Normals Period, 1991-2020

- Range from **1000-1200 GDD** in the S & W to 800-900 GDD in the far N.
- GDD accumulation is . running right on schedule to 90 GDD ahead of schedule across most of WI.

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/cli mate watch

Corn & Soybean Progress



- Corn silking has begun in Wisconsin (1% complete), which is slightly behind normal for early July.
- Soybean emergence nearing completion in Wisconsin (99% complete), and blooming is taking off (29% complete), which is slightly ahead of normal for early July.

Corn & Soybean Condition





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

Crop Progress Report

Crop progress report for Wisconsin for the week ending on July 7th

- Corn silking is **1% complete** (slightly behind the 5-year average)
 - Condition was rated **77%** good to excellent.
- Soybean emergence is 99% complete, with blooming reported at 29% complete (1 day ahead of the 5-year average).
 - Condition was rated **73%** good to excellent.
- 80% of winter wheat began coloring (2 days ahead of the 5-year average) and is rated 71% good to excellent.
- The second cutting of alfalfa hay was 54% complete (2 days ahead of the 5-year average), with the third cutting beginning in some areas.
- Pasture and range conditions are rated 69% good to excellent (down 5% from last week).
- Oats are 80% headed and 34% coloring (1 day ahead of the 5-year average).

<u>Full report</u>: <u>https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Wisconsin/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2025/WI-Crop-Progress-07-07-25.pdf</u>

7 Day Precip Forecast

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for July 9–16, 2025



- <u>When</u>? → Showers & storms today through Saturday, and Tuesday into Wednesday.
- Where? → Best chances in the northwest quarter of the state & SW counties; lesser totals eastward.
- Statewide Normal (1991-2020) for this upcoming week: 1.01"
- <u>Check your local forecast</u> for details on totals and timing.

Forecast for 7/10/25 thru 7/17/25 (Begins at 7am CDT)

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

8-14 Day Temp & Precip Outlook



8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook for July 17-23, 2025 🛛 🔁 🔊



Mid-to-end of July: Temperatures are leaning towards below normal, with precipitation leaning towards near normal. Statewide normals (1991-2020) for July 17-23 are 70.3°F and 0.97".

Last Updated: 07/09/25

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/ https://www.drought.gov/states/wisconsin

30 Day Temp & Precip Outlook





Month of July: Temperatures leaning towards being <u>above normal</u>, more strongly in the east. There is <u>uncertainty</u> for precip with equal chances for above, near, and below normal. Statewide normals (1991-2020) for July are 69.4°F and 4.04".

https://www.drought.gov/forecasts

90 Day Temp & Precip Outlook





https://www.drought.gov/forecasts

Summer into Early Fall: Temperature chances lean toward <u>above normal</u>, with <u>uncertainty (equal chances</u>) for precipitation except for the NW & far NC (<u>below normal</u> lean). Statewide normals (1991-2020) for July-Sept are 65.1°F and 12.03".

Take-Home Points

Current Conditions

- A rainy start to July, with 0.5-2" of rain for most and pockets of 2-4"+ for some. 30-day totals bringing much of the state to 110%+ of average, except for far northern, eastern, and south-southwestern WI where 30-day totals were less than 5".
- Warmth lingered into early July, with temps 2-6°F above normal for most. Accumulated GDD's since May 1st are running ahead of normal pace.

Impact

- Abnormally wet soil moisture conditions lingered across the west and north. However, Wisconet research farm stations show declines in 4" soil moisture at most sites over the last week.
- Northwest & southern WI have seen slight improvement in abnormal dryness, and similarly in southern WI with moderate drought.
- Corn and soybean development are running at a pace near to the 5-year normal, with silking beginning in corn and blooming well underway in soybeans.
 Condition for corn, soybeans, and wheat showed minimal change from last week (<u>NASS</u>).

Outlook

- The next 7 days will likely bring more rain, with higher chances for the northwest quarter of the state & SW counties.
- Mid-to-end of July probabilities show a lean towards below-normal temperatures and near-normal precip.
- The outlook for July indicates a lean towards warmer than normal with precip uncertainty (outlook updated on 6/30).

Agronomic Considerations

Field Work and Conditions

- Avoid trafficking fields in moist conditions to prevent compaction.
- Crop growth has rebounded this week with warm temperatures and a gain of GDD. Soybean is flowering and corn is starting to tassel in the southern part of the state. Conditions look favorable entering this reproductive period.
- Corn in northern regions may be at 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 escaped herbicide application.
- As corn and soybean crops grow, <u>note growth stages</u> to time future applications and sampling.
- While slug issues have not been as severe this year, UW recently concluded monitoring populations weekly across the state with <u>SlugNet</u>.
- 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.
- Use the <u>VDIFN model</u> to see risk in your region for several economically important pests.
- Scout for tar spot as it has been reported in Wisconsin. Have a plan in place to deal with tar spot if it becomes an issue.
- Be vigilant for white mold in soybean as plants begin to flower. See risk forecast here. Check out the new White Mold ROI calculator.

Forage Management

- Alfalfa stands are at or nearing second harvest with many complete in Southern WI. Scout for potato leafhopper.
- <u>Consider annual forage options</u> for later season forage supply.
- <u>Recording when silage tassels can help predict harvest date</u>.

Small Grains

• Fusarium Head Blight risk is high with recent weather conditions; however, much of the wheat is past appropriate growth stageto apply a fungicide. Consider <u>spraying fungicide</u>, especially to susceptible varieties if your wheat has yet to reach Feekes 10.5.1. Scab alerts and risk forecast can be found <u>here</u>.

Fruit Considerations

General

- Wisconsin fruit growers can reference the Midwest Fruit Pest Management Guide (MFPMG) for a list of registered products and recommended best practices. View the MFPMG Online or order a hard copy here: MFPMG Hard Copy.
- Make sure newly planted fruit crops are getting enough water in this heat. Without irrigation, growth can stall during establishment. Irrigation frequency depends on soil type—sandy soils
 need water daily or every two days, while heavier soils like silt or clay can be watered less often by applying several days' worth of water at once.
- Japanese beetle has been observed in Southern WI. Review best monitoring and management practices here: <u>Japanese beetle</u>.

Apples

- Apple growers should continue monitoring degree-day (base 50°F) accumulation for <u>Codling moth</u>. Second generation larvae will typically emerge at ~1250 degree-days (base 50°F) from the biofix date. Ensure to refresh traps/lures and continue monitoring weekly.
- <u>Apple maggot</u> was captured in southern WI. Growers can use red sphere traps to monitor populations and establish a biofix date.
- 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: <u>NEWA Weather</u> <u>Station Network (Cornell)</u>.
- Woolly apple aphid has been observed in southern WI. Check for white "cottony" appearing tufts where leaf petioles meet branches.
- Check out the WI DATCP Orchard Insect Pest Bulletin for more information on current insect trap captures across the state.

Grapes

- Overview of grape insect/mite monitoring and management: Grape Insects and Mite Pests, 2024 Field Season (Cornell, 2024).
- Downy mildew foliar symptoms ("oil-stains") have been observed in West Madison. Scout for pale-yellow lesions on the tops of leaves and white downy growth on the underside of leaves.
- 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: <u>NEWA Weather</u> <u>Station Network (Cornell)</u>.

Vegetable considerations can be found on the next slide ightarrow

Vegetable Considerations

Pests

- <u>Squash vine borer</u> moth activity remains high in northern WI. Monitor for these orange and black moths that are active during the day. If you use insecticides, the timing of treatment is key. Treatment must occur when larva are hatching but before they enter stems where they are well protected. More information on organic control here.
- Squash bug eggs are being laid on developing squash and pumpkin plants. Regularly scout stems and the underside of leaves. Depending on your scale either crush egg clusters or if chemical control in necessary, make sure to target the young nymphs that are most susceptible to chemical control. Visit the <u>commercial vegetable production guide</u> for control options. Organic options can be found <u>here</u>.
- Scout for cabbage loopers, diamondback moths, and imported cabbage worms as risk is now high across most of the state.

Diseases

- The recent hot and wet weather are prime conditions for many diseases to develop:
 - <u>Stemphylium leaf blight</u> is often spread to your crop by infected residue or alternative hosts including purslane, pigweed, and bull thistle. Periods of extended leaf wetness increase the likelihood of this disease developing. Control methods include removing or destroying infected residue, reducing damage from other diseases and insects that make the crop more susceptible to infection, reducing periods of leaf wetness when possible and <u>fungicides</u>.
 - The bacteria that causes <u>black rot</u> of brassicas is easily spread by water and enters the leave either through natural openings along the leaf edge or through injuries caused by insects or equipment.
 - Early detection of <u>alternaria leaf blight of cucurbits</u> will help you control this disease before major damage occurs. Symptoms start as small, water-soaked lesions that can develop concentric rings. The fungus can survive on plant debris for up to two years so be sure to remove and destroy any infected plant tissue.
 - Alternaria leaf blight can sometimes be confused with <u>anthracnose</u> and <u>angular leaf spot</u> which thrive in similar conditions. Angular leaf spot can be distinguished by angular lesions often confined by veins and the whitish liquid that forms on the underside of leaves when wet and forms a crust when dry. The most distinguishing symptom of Anthracnose is the dark, sunken lesions on fruit that have salmon-colored spores under damp conditions.
 - Early blight risk is high across the state. Early blight infects tomatoes, potatoes, eggplants, and peppers. Prevention is key and includes limiting periods of leaf wetness (when possible!) and increasing air flow through pruning. One way to distinguish this from other diseases is the larger lesions will have concentric rings.
 - Another disease of peppers and tomatoes that likes hot and humid conditions is <u>bacterial spot</u>. Both fruits and leaves can be affected. To prevent the spread of disease, only work in these crops when leaves are dry and sanitize pruners often.
 - o **Downy mildew** has now been confirmed on cucumbers in 4 Michigan counties.
 - White mold also known as sclerotinia infects a wide variety of crops including brassicas, cucurbits, carrots, beans, and tomato. When scouting, be sure to check the lower stem as that is where this disease often starts although it can affect both stems and fruit. Prevention measures include increasing air flow through plant spacing and pruning as well as allowing the soil to dry between irrigating. Chemical control options can be found <u>here</u>.

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 <u>jbendorf@wisc.edu</u>.

Thank you!! -The AgWOW Team

Citizen Science Opportunity

CoCoRaHS – <u>Co</u>mmunity <u>Co</u>llaborative <u>Ra</u>in, <u>H</u>ail, & <u>S</u>now Network

The Mission

(From cocorahs.org)

- Provide accurate high-quality precipitation data for endusers;
- 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.



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Contact Info



Josh Bendorf Climate Outreach Specialist Wisconsin State Climatology Office jbendorf@wisc.edu

Anastasia Kurth

Regional Crops & Soils Educator Sauk, Juneau, and Richland Counties UW-Madison Division of Extension anastasia.kurth@wisc.edu Bridgette Mason Assistant State Climatologist Wisconsin State Climatology Office bmmason2@wisc.edu

Rue Genger

Emerging & Specialty Crops Program Manager UW-Madison Division of Extension <u>rkgenger@wisc.edu</u> **Steve Vavrus** State Climatologist Wisconsin State Climatology Office <u>sjvavrus@wisc.edu</u>

Emilee Gaulke Diversified Vegetable Educator Waukesha County UW-Madison Division of Extension emilee.gaulke@wisc.edu

Dennis Todey Director USDA Midwest Climate Hub dennis.todey@usda.gov

Derrick Raspor GLRI Field Coordinator Wisconsin USDA-NRCS derrick.raspor@usda.gov