



LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

State of Wisconsin crop report. 1901

Wisconsin. State Board of Agriculture

Madison, Wisconsin: Wisconsin State Board of Agriculture, 1901

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/7BHLOTOTGFHMWV8V>

Based on date of publication, this material is presumed to be in the public domain.

For information on re-use, see

<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright>

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

1901/mc
STATE OF WISCONSIN,

CROP REPORT,

MAY, 1901.

STEENBOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

ISSUED BY
STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

OFFICE OF
Wisconsin State Board of Agriculture,
MADISON, WISCONSIN.

State Crop Report,

May 10, 1901.

Under the provisions of an act of our present legislature, I am pleased to submit the first of a system of crop reports, to be issued from this office the first of each month, during the season of growing, harvesting, and marketing our farm crops.

We have been exceedingly fortunate in securing the assistance of a practical and efficient corps of correspondents, and in future issues hope to represent every county in the state.

These public-spirited gentlemen who render this service without compensation are certainly entitled to the grateful consideration of all persons interested in the agricultural prosperity of the state.

The information sought in the letter of inquiry, upon which this report was based, was:

First. The acreage of our principal farm crops compared with that of last year.

Second. The condition of those crops subject to injury from winter-killing and unfavorable spring weather.

Third. The conditions of soil, relative to planting, and the germination of seeds.

Fourth. The condition, healthfulness and prices of farm stock.

Reports were received from sixty of the seventy counties of

the state, and the following estimate of acreage of crop of 1901, with that of 1900 is given:

Winter wheat, 98 per cent.	Corn, 103½ per cent.
Winter rye, 99½ per cent.	Potatoes, 100 per cent.
Spring wheat, 98 per cent.	Tobacco, 107½ per cent.
Oats, 102 per cent.	Pasture, 101½ per cent.
Barley, 99½ per cent.	Meadow, 102½ per cent.

In most parts of the state the conditions of soil and weather were favorable for the sowing of small grains, and the degree of dryness developed later was not sufficient to interfere to any great extent with their germination.

Reports of interference by drouth with the proper growth of spring grains were frequent and becoming serious up to within a few days, but recent general rains have largely relieved anxiety upon this point, and conditions now seem favorable to rapid growth.

This report is issued before much of the corn, potatoes, or tobacco acreage is planted, but the conditions of soil, and weather prospects are favorable to the performance of this work satisfactorily.

While winter grain and grasses are reported as being in better than usual conditions, six of the southern-middle counties report the condition of clover as "Poor," and twenty-two other counties report but "Fair," the remaining thirty-two counties as "Good" and "Very Good."

It is hoped that recent and coming rains may render the next report more favorable.

There was this spring a very general shortage of hay and other coarse fodders among farmers, and as a result much of the live stock is in thin condition, and the natural tendency to turn these animals early upon pasture is detrimental alike to condition of stock and pasture. Inquiries as to degree of healthfulness of farm animals develops the fact that there is a sprinkling of bovine tuberculosis in many counties, as well as

occasional cases of glanders among horses. Very little hog cholera is reported.

Prices of farm animals are very satisfactory to owners.

Average figures from the several counties, as to prices of animals of good quality and in good condition, are:

Horses, weighing 1,400 lbs. or over.....	\$146
Horses, weighing less than 1,400 lbs.....	110
Milch cows.....	35
Sheep.....	4

We shall issue another report from this office about June 10th, in which we shall aim to give a very full and accurate report of crop conditions at that time.

John M. Ince.

Secretary State Board of Agriculture.

RDW
AG8

SIEENBOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Wisconsin
Farm Crop Report.

JUNE 1st, 1901.

OFFICE OF
State Board of Agriculture,
MADISON, WISCONSIN.

Reports from correspondents throughout the state, June 1st, show the season, in development of crops, to be two weeks later than usual.

Prevailing winds have been easterly, and in most sections of the state more or less damage was done by frost the last week in May.

While at date of this issue most localities report sufficient moisture in soil, the drouth had generally become quite sharp at time of rains, about May 20th, and grass and grain had already been checked in growth.

The southern-southwestern portions of the state, including the counties of Grant, La Fayette, Green, Iowa, and parts of Dane and Rock, seem to have had a greater rainfall during the month of May than any other general portion of the state.

Warm weather is greatly needed for all crops.

Winter grains, shown in our last report to be less in acreage than last year, are at present date reported as from "fair" to "good," in condition, though wheat is not yet headed.

Spring wheat, being one of our earliest sown spring grains, is in fair form and gives promise of an average crop.

Early sowed oats are in good condition and growing well, while late sowed are reported as "fair" and "poor," some fields not having come up until since the late May rain; while others, on account of drouth, have a very uneven stand.

Barley, which is usually sowed early, is reported as fair in the barley-growing districts of the state.

The present outlook for corn is anything but propitious. Planting was later than usual, and fields that were planted early have suffered from the cold weather and frosts, the plants look-

ing yellow and sickly, and having little, if any, advantage over that planted later.

However, little complaint is made of ravages of the cut worm, and with a good stand secured, favorable weather in July and August may yet give Wisconsin a good corn crop.

Tobacco plants are said to be in good condition, though very little planting has yet been done, on account of the continued cold weather.

While most of the clover sowed last season lived through the winter, the general acreage is not large, and the stand in many parts of the state is thin, nevertheless its condition is even better than that of old, mixed meadows, which, from lack of rain in May, are thin, short and unsatisfactory.

Timothy meadows of recent seeding are fair, though short in growth. It is feared that our hay crop will be less than an average one, and farmers will do well to arrange for supplementary forage crops.

Stock was generally turned upon pasture before grass had made any strong growth, and subsequent conditions have not allowed the grass to make much gain upon heavily stocked pastures, and they are almost universally reported as "poor" or "fair," where in June they should be "good" and "very good."

The live stock and dairy interests of the state are menaced by the unpromising condition of its grass crops.

The prices of butchers' stock in local markets, already high, will doubtless be sustained.

This is to be an "off-year" with apples in Wisconsin. Trees did not blossom heavily, and the crop will be light, though doubtless of good quality, as trees seem to be in healthful condition.

Plums and cherries promise a full crop.

Grapes and small fruits have been somewhat injured by frosts, but their show is fairly good.

Strawberries blossomed very heavily, and though they were somewhat injured by frost, will still be an average crop.

The month of June will have much to do with settling ques-

tions of present doubt, relative to our leading farm crops, and it is hoped that warmer weather, accompanied by copious rains, may not much longer be withheld.

John M. Iml-

Secretary Wisconsin State Board of Agriculture.

WISCONSIN STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION
MADISON, WISCONSIN

STEENBOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Wisconsin Farm Crop Report,

JULY 1, 1901.

OFFICE OF
Wisconsin State Board of Agriculture,
 MADISON, WISCONSIN.

The report of July 1st is based upon percentages of an average condition of the several crops noted at that date, letting 100 represent the fair average condition, at this season, in an ordinary year.

With a due allowance for the extent of cultivation of the various crops reported, in the several counties of the state, we make the following estimates:

	<i>Per cent.</i>
Winter wheat.....	96
Spring wheat.....	96½
Rye.....	96
Oats.....	92½
Barley.....	93½
Corn.....	90
Potatoes.....	91
Tobacco, (twelve counties).....	90
Hay.....	85
Pasture.....	86
Buckwheat.....	95
Beans, (twenty counties).....	97
Peas.....	90

The crops of winter wheat, rye, and hay, may be based upon the figures here given, as they are already harvested, or so nearly ready to harvest, as to make any changes in condition improbable.

Chinch bugs are doing considerable damage in barley, spring wheat and even in oats, in some parts, the hot, dry weather being favorable for their work.

The hay crop has been badly damaged, in the middle and northern portion of the state, by rain.

In the potato growing counties, complaint comes of the rotting of seed after planting, making the stand of plants thin and

irregular. The weather has, however, been favorable to their growth.

In Dane and Columbia counties much of the land set aside for tobacco has not yet been set, and there has been heavy loss of plants from the dry hot weather, after setting.

Vernon and Crawford counties report better conditions for the crop.

Forty-five counties report soil conditions as favorable, four as too wet, and eighteen as too dry.

The dryer section of the state is that south of and including parts of Crawford, Richland, Sauk, Columbia, Dodge, and Washington counties.

Severe electrical and wind storms are reported from the middle section of the state; in many instances causing considerable damage to crops and farm buildings.

These storms were notably severe in Vernon, La Crosse and Portage counties. As a whole, the outlook for farm crops is much more favorable than it was June 1st.

Much of the state received timely rains, and except upon the lightest soils, where oats suffered severely, a good showing will be made.

The weather has been ideal for the growth of corn, and the gain during the last half of June was phenomenal, though a large acreage needs cultivation at once.

The extreme heat, just now prevailing, makes farm work oppressive, and even dangerous.

JOHN M. TRUE,

Secretary Wisconsin State Board of Agriculture.

STEENBOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CROP REPORT,

AUGUST 1, 1901.

ISSUED BY

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

OFFICE OF
Wisconsin State Board of Agriculture.

State Crop Report,

AUGUST 1, 1901.

The month of July furnishes an unusual and withal interesting chapter in the history of Wisconsin agriculture.

The unusual high temperature, continually maintained, for a long period, when accompanied by sufficient moisture, advanced crops rapidly, and generally without great injury; but in those parts of the state where little rain fell, earlier maturing crops were prematurely ripened, with considerable loss both in quantity and quality of product; while corn, late potatoes and tobacco were either blasted or held at a standstill for weeks.

While rains have relieved the condition of these crops, the extent of damage done is yet considerably a matter of conjecture, no one seeming to have before witnessed conditions identical with those now existing.

The severe drouth seems to have been mainly confined to the following counties: Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Kenosha, La Fayette, Milwaukee, Racine, Richland, Rock, Sauk, Walworth, and Waukesha, and to give a better idea of the extent of threatened loss, I have considered these seventeen counties in a group with reference to the two important crops—corn and oats.

The percentage of a full crop of corn from this stricken district is, by correspondents, reported at 58.

In 1899, the last obtainable statement of crops produced, we find that these seventeen counties produced 29,508,548 bushels of corn or approximately two-thirds of the entire crop of the state.

The acreage of corn the present season is found to be slightly increased over that of 1899, and we find the apparent loss of corn crop in the counties enumerated some 12,400,000 bushels.

These same counties in 1899 produced 29,647,239 bushels of oats, this being about one-third of the oat crop of the state.

The percentage of the crop reported is 65; showing a loss of oats, in comparison with 1899, of 10,375,000 bushels.

In a further consideration of the present condition of the corn crop I have divided the remainder of the state into two groups of counties, making the production of upwards of 100,000 bushels in 1899, the point of division. In the second group of counties, numbering 33, and comprising most of the remainder of the state, that is well adapted to corn raising, the percentage of crop shown is 94.

The third group of twenty counties, all either new and largely unsettled, or so located as not to be largely corn-producing, reports 95 per cent.

Much interest is centered in the prospective potato crop, both on account of extensive losses in other states and from the conceded importance of Wisconsin in potato production.

In 1899, eight counties—Adams, Columbia, Milwaukee, Portage, Sauk, Waukesha, Waupaca, and Waushara—produced each over 500,000 bushels of potatoes, or combined, more than one-third of the crop of the state.

These counties now report the percentage of a full crop at 72.

The three banner potato counties of the state—Portage, Waupaca and Waushara—in 1899 produced 3,100,000 bushels, or approximately one-fourth the entire state's crop.

The percentage now reported from these counties is 86.

From the seventeen counties enumerated as drouth stricken, farm live stock has been sold, in large numbers, whenever the condition would warrant a market, and cattle held are being fed much as in winter.

More rain is needed to make any marked improvement in pastures. In the central and northern parts of the state, pasturage is generally reported as abundant.

In southern Wisconsin the necessity of summer feeding of stock and the consequent shrinkage of winter feed has led to the

cutting of an unusual amount of wild or marsh hay, which is this year of good quality, and is being secured in excellent condition.

Special interest, from this time, will be taken in the development of the crops of corn, late potatoes and tobacco.

The corn crop in southern Wisconsin is late, having been held in check by drouth. If, as is generally hoped, it may go on and develop ears, it will need a warm, favorable August and early September to mature its fraction of a crop. The same requirements apply to tobacco.

The apple crop will be exceedingly light and quality poor.

Following is the summary of reports received upon the several crops from correspondents throughout the whole state, showing estimate of percentage of a full crop:

Spring wheat	92
Barley	90
Oats	80
Corn	70
Tobacco	52
Potatoes	78
Wild hay	90
Apples	20

Soil conditions, August 1st, are generally reported as favorable, but following rains are needed in southern part of state.

On account of pressure of state fair work, no bulletin will be issued September 1st.

John M. True-

Secretary.

STEENBOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

STATE OF WISCONSIN

CROP REPORT,

OCTOBER 1, 1901.

ISSUED BY

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

STATE CROP REPORT.

OCTOBER 1, 1901.

The reports from correspondents, for Oct. 1st, are of special interest as giving the estimates of the principal farm crops of the state, either from results of threshed grain, or from a point of development of unharvested crops, that enables a very close estimate to be made.

The weather since August 1st has been well calculated to insure the growth and development of unripened crops, the amount of rainfall having in most localities been ample for the needs of vegetation, and the absence of killing frosts being exceptional.

In that part of the state where, at the time of issue of our last report, the ravages of the drouth made crop prospects most discouraging, under favorable conditions since existing, much higher estimates are now reported.

In the seventeen counties, in the southern part of the state, classified in our last report as the "drouth-stricken section," corn has advanced from 58 per cent. to 62 per cent.,—a gain of four points; and tobacco from 52 per cent. to 72 per cent., while the reports of threshed grain show better yields than were anticipated. The only crop that shows a loss, during the past two months, is potatoes. This crop is not to be a full one in any general part of the state. Even in those sections where rain has been sufficient, during the entire season, the yield is not up to early indications.

In the whole state, with a careful consideration of the importance of the crop in the various sections, we are compelled to report a falling off of six points since August 1st; our estimate then being 78 per cent. against 72 per cent. now.

It may be of interest to state, in this connection, that from the statements of crops raised, given in reports of the secretary

of state for several years past, the average yield of potatoes in the state is given as some 80 bushels per acre; it is doubted whether the present crop will fall below these figures.

Our previous estimates of small grain crops are amply sustained by reports of bushels threshed, and show these crops to be well up among yields of former years.

Our reports show an inclination to sow less winter wheat than in past years, spring wheat now yielding nearly as heavily as winter wheat and being less subject to chances of loss.

Pastures are now better than they have been since early in the season, and the continued warm wet weather gives promise of their lasting well into the late fall.

The corn crop has been more generally secured with reference to the feeding value of the roughage than usual, and the absence of frost has allowed it to be cut while in good form.

The prospects for winter feed are not so gloomy as they were at time of last report; and while large numbers of young cattle have been sold at low figures, we are of the opinion that there is ample feed in the state, to winter the farm stock now in the hands of farmers.

As a whole, the farmers of Wisconsin have little reason for discouragement at the results of their work in 1901, and lessons may be learned from peculiar conditions existing this year, suggestive of better culture and management, that may largely compensate for losses sustained.

Below we give the aggregates of estimates received from our correspondents, respecting the various crops:

YIELD PER ACRE.

Spring wheat	16 bush.
Winter wheat	18½ bush.
Rye	15 bush.
Barley	30 bush.
Oats	34 bush.
Clover hay	1½ tons.
Timothy hay	1 ton.

ESTIMATED PERCENTAGE OF FULL CROP.

Corn	70
Potatoes	72
Tobacco	75
Buckwheat	70
Beans	60
Apples	20

Our next report will be issued Dec. 1st.

John M. Lue.
Secretary.

STEENBOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

STATE OF WISCONSIN

CROP REPORT,

DECEMBER 1, 1901.

ISSUED BY

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

STATE CROP REPORT

DECEMBER 1, 1901.

The months of October and November have been favorable ones for the accomplishment of farm work.

The later crops of the season have been secured in good condition; fall grains were seasonably sown, and have made good growth, and more land has been plowed than for many past falls.

Late pastures have been fair, and stock has remained upon grass later than in the average season.

Fall wheat and rye, though perhaps not as extensively sown as in past years, are reported in good condition to go into winter; while but few locations report even fair stands of young clover from last spring's seeding. This will seriously affect the hay crop of 1902.

In the central and northern parts of the state the crop of clover seed has been good, in some cases the yield being almost phenomenal.

It will be noted that the prices of farm crops are much above the average of the past five years, and farmers having a surplus of almost any crop find a market for it, at a remunerative price.

LIVE STOCK DISEASES.

While hog cholera exists in many parts of the state, it is by no means general, nor in any instance spread over any considerable district.

Cases of glanders, traceable to contagion from western range horses, shipped into the state for sale, have been reported from various parts of the state, and it is to be feared that there is more of tuberculosis among our cattle than is generally supposed.

Farmers should familiarize themselves with the symptoms of

this dreaded disease, and in case of suspected animals, resort to tests by competent veterinarians, as vigilant work is required in dealing with it.

SUMMARY OF CROP OF 1901.

The letter of inquiry upon which the December report is based, had for its special object the completion of estimates of yield per acre of farm crops, and also the prices of crops at the various markets of the state.

From this and the preceding report we are able to give estimates of average yield per acre and price per bushel of all our leading farm crops.

In estimating these averages we have endeavored to give due consideration to the extent and importance of each crop in the counties reported, and its relation to the full crop of the state; also the importance of respective markets in determining average prices.

We are confident therefore that we are able to present figures that are essentially correct when applied to the entire state.

As a summary of this and preceding reports, we give the following table of yields for 1901, and prices prevailing December 1st:

	Yield per acre.	Price per bushel.
Wheat,	17 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushels.....	65 cts.
Rye,	15 bushels.....	51 cts.
Barley,	30 bushels.....	50 cts.
Oats,	34 bushels.....	38 cts.
Buckwheat,	14 bushels.....	57 cts.
Corn,	30 bushels.....	52 cts.
Beans,	.. bushels.....	\$1.75
Potatoes,	85 bushels.....	65 cts.
Hay—tame	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons.....	\$11.25 per ton.
Hay—wild	6.50 per ton.

No further reports will be issued until March, 1902.

JOHN M. TRUE,

Secretary.