



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Field Office of
USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

October 17, 2005

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Above Average Temperatures

Drizzle, fog, and above average temperatures were the highlights of last week's weather. Average temperatures were 1 to 4 degrees above normal. Temperatures have been above average every week since the end of August. Rainfall totals last week ranged from 0.02 in Green Bay to 0.14 inches in Madison. Low temperatures dipped to 32 in Eau Claire, while highs reached the 70s in many locations. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 7 percent very short, 22 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus. There was an average of 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

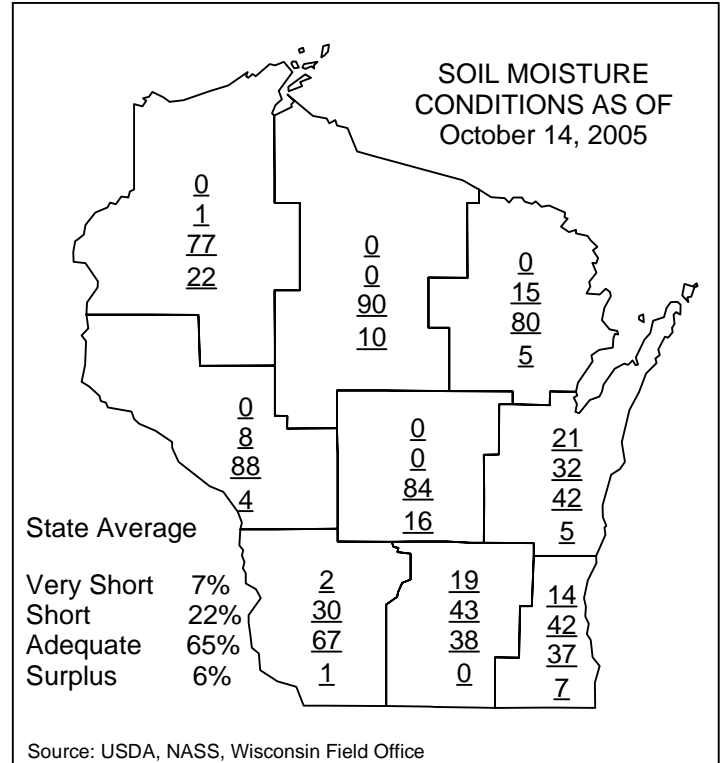
Corn conditions were reported as 3 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 25 percent excellent. Corn mature was at 95 percent, above last year's 70 percent and the 5-year average of 86 percent. Corn harvested for grain was at 38 percent, above last year's 12 percent and the 5-year average of 20 percent. The majority of the high moisture corn has been harvested. Drizzle during the week slowed the harvest progress for farmers. However, the harvest is ahead of last year's slow pace. Yield reports continue to indicate variable corn yields. Reporters' yields have ranged from 100 to 200-plus bushels per acre.

Soybean conditions were rated as 2 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 17 percent excellent. Soybean harvest was reported at 72 percent, higher than last year's 54 percent and the 5-year average of 54 percent. Despite the damp conditions, harvest progressed 24 percentage points during the week. Beans that remain in the field are ready to be harvested. Southern areas of the state reported yields that were better than they had expected.

Fourth cutting **hay** was at 73 percent complete, compared to last year's 70 percent and the 5-year average of 66 percent.

Pasture conditions were rated at 6 percent very poor, 17 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 35 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. **Fall tillage** was reported at 14 percent complete, below last year's 15 percent and the 5-year average of 16 percent. The recent rains have provided good soil moisture for fall tillage.

Winter wheat planting continued during the week and is moving closer to completion. **Cranberry** harvest continued with good yields and some concerns over the color. Producers are also starting their fall manure applications.

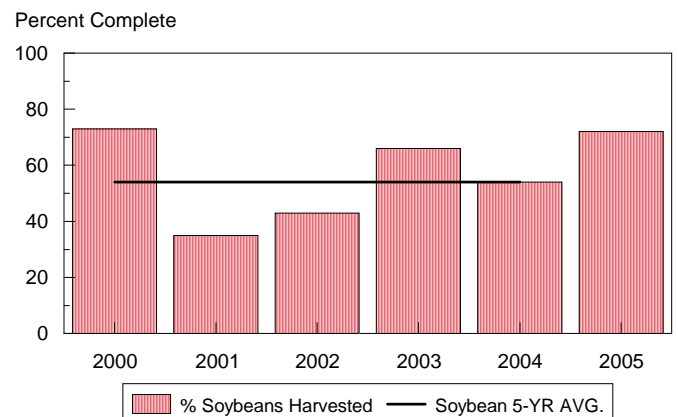


Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 14, 2005					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	3	9	23	40	25
Soybeans	2	5	29	47	17
Pasture	6	17	34	35	8

Harvest Progress for Soybeans

October 16, 2000-2005

Wisconsin



Crop and percent of acreage	Wisconsin Crop Progress, October 16, 2005										State average		
	District average										This year	Last year	5-year average
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
Corn mature	95	90	91	90	99	92	99	99	96	95	70	86	
Corn harvested for grain	18	25	27	20	36	47	43	48	25	38	12	20	
Soybeans harvested	42	55	47	45	54	76	83	87	80	72	54	54	
Fourth cutting hay	63	60	72	66	68	65	92	82	92	73	70	66	
Fall tillage	10	10	10	7	27	30	10	13	10	14	15	16	

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-D.B.: Corn silage harvest about done. Average to below average yields. Soybeans and high moisture corn being harvested now, with yields quite variable, all in the same field.

RUSK-G.P.: Corn silage is done. High moisture in full swing, moisture running 22-30 percent. Some progress on soybeans this week, but still a little tough. Fields are soft, but mostly able to go. Hay and haylage mostly done. Only working in fields now that will be rolled over next year. Manure being applied and worked in. Local Farmers Market winding down, mostly pumpkins, squash, and apples left. Our growing season was done as of last week.

CLARK-N.S.: High moisture corn harvest is nearly finished. Corn is drying down well in the field. Many corn silage yields were at 14 to 23 wet tons per acre. The soybeans that remain standing in the fields are ready for harvest.

SHAWANO-T.A.: Less winter wheat going in than normal. Final alfalfa cutting had better yields than any in memory. Combines have a lot of work in front of them.

OCONTO-K.H.: A number of producers surprised at the yields and quality of corn and beans as harvest begins. We have not yet had a general frost. Early last week there was scattered frost in the area. Winter wheat has emerged and looks good in many fields.

LA CROSSE-S.H.: Soybean and corn harvest is in full swing. Yields for soybeans in some areas are 50 bushels and up. Corn in the area is all over the board for yields. Some hay/alfalfa is still being harvested, but much of the concentration is on corn and beans.

BUFFALO-R.S.: Unusual late pasture growth for grazing cattle, half-inch rain for the week. Most soybeans dry enough to harvest. Corn moisture too high yet. Saw the first truck load of Christmas trees headed south. Had several frosts.

WOOD-M.L.: Cranberry harvest is steady, some are waiting for more color in the fruit. A big crop, and only limited frosts have made the color hard to come by. Early winter wheat is up and looking good. This week manure hauling, fall tillage, corn harvest, and soybeans kept things very busy.

SHEBOYGAN-T.B.: Corn and soybean yields have been better than expected. Harvest conditions have been excellent and have

progressed much faster than normal. This final alfalfa hay crop is the largest of the year and may save some dairy farmers from buying alternative forages. Yields of canning crops were much better than expected, with the exception of the canning peas. Fall tillage is progressing very well. Plowing is going smoothly, with no weather slow-downs. Winter wheat planting is almost done. Many planted fields have germinated and are looking great.

FOND DU LAC-B.B.: Shell corn running as well as could be hoped for, given the summer's dryness; 120-160 bushels per acre. Fall beets and carrots nearly ready for harvest and are looking excellent. Winter wheat about all planted.

IOWA-K.V.: Corn harvest slowly progressing. Yields are being reported from 120-250 bushels per acre. Soybean yields range from 36-76 bushels per acre. Round-up and fall fertilizer are starting to be applied.

DANE-D.F.: Corn and soybean yields are surprising everyone. Local reports of corn over 200 bushels and beans at 70-plus bushels per acre. Hay stocks are adequate, but there will be no surplus. Winter wheat has been emerging nicely.

COLUMBIA-R.S.: With the fog and drizzle-have only been in field in the afternoons. Some corn harvested for grain. Corn silage is done. Some winter wheat sowed and is showing rows. Soybean yields vary from 30-60 bushels per acre. Corn yields have been from 150-220 bushels; better than expected.

WASHINGTON-R.B.: Bean yields are good. Wheat is growing well, and lots of wheat is planted. Spraying of weeds. Combining corn is fun, it is yielding 100-250 bushels per acre. Moisture 17-25 percent. Some corn is falling down. Some round baling is going on.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 16, 2005

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation			
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg dep. from normal*	Mar. 1 to Oct. 15	Mar. 1 to Oct. 15 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	64	38	74	32	51	2	3074	2522	0.04	4.66	-0.19	23.09
Green Bay	62	43	72	33	53	4	2875	2384	0.02	3.87	-0.24	21.26
La Crosse	66	43	77	35	54	2	3404	2854	0.00	6.95	2.50	27.16
Madison	65	40	73	34	52	1	3214	2810	0.14	2.26	-1.84	19.88
Milwaukee	63	48	73	45	55	2	3154	n.a.	0.13	4.30	-0.17	20.27

1/Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. *Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. N.a. = not available. T = trace.