



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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For the week ending September 23, 2018

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Yet More Rain Slows Harvest

There were 3.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending September 23, 2018, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Wisconsin saw a last glimpse of summer early in the week before cooler air moved into the state. Though still above normal, temperatures were more seasonal during the rest of the week, with isolated reports of light frost in low spots. Rainstorms midweek brought more heavy precipitation to the state, with up to 5 inches of rain received in some areas. Muddy field conditions slowed harvest activities, and standing water was reported in some fields where the ground was already saturated. Some southern Wisconsin reporters noted that disease and flood damage issues continued to impact corn fields in particular. Despite these setbacks, fall fieldwork was in full swing, and crops were drying down rapidly. Corn was being harvested for silage and high moisture grain. Soybean combining was beginning, and the fourth cutting of hay was ongoing. Winter wheat planting and manure hauling were underway on cleared fields.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 3 percent short, 78 percent adequate and 19 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 3 percent short, 82 percent adequate and 15 percent surplus.

Ninety-one percent of **corn** was dented, 11 days ahead of last year and 10 days ahead of the 5-year average. Fifty-five percent was mature, 14 days ahead of last year and 9 days ahead of the average. Corn harvested for grain was 4 percent complete. Corn harvested for silage was 60 percent harvested, 10 days ahead of last year and 8 days ahead of average. Corn condition was 73 percent good to excellent.

Leaves were turning color on 90 percent of **soybeans**, 6 days ahead of last year and 4 days ahead of the average. Sixty-four percent were reported dropping leaves, 6 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of the average. Soybean harvest was 5 percent complete, 5 days ahead of the average. Soybean condition was 76 percent good to excellent.

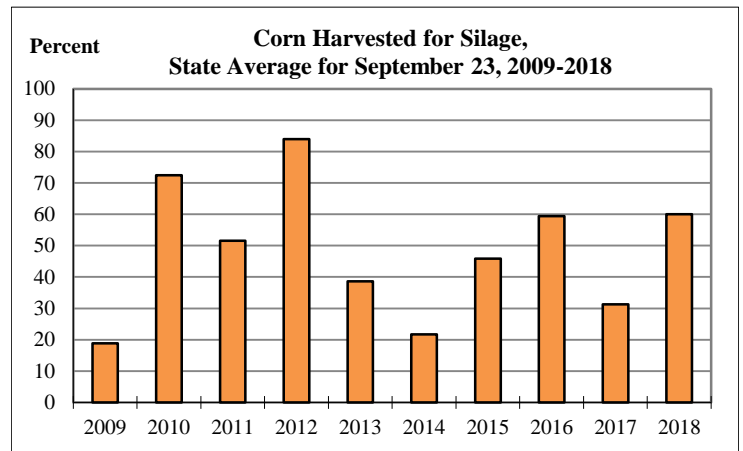
Potato harvest was reported as 50 percent complete, 4 days behind last year. Potato condition was 78 percent good to excellent.

Thirty-one percent of **winter wheat** was planted, 2 days behind last year. Sixteen percent of the winter wheat crop has emerged, even with last year.

The fourth cutting of **alfalfa** was 77 percent complete, 5 days behind last year, but 4 days ahead of the average.

Pasture condition was rated 69 percent in good to excellent condition, compared with 64 percent in good to excellent condition last week.

Fall tillage was reported at 3 percent complete, even with last year.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 23, 2018

Item	Very Poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn	3	7	17	45	28
Pasture & Range .	2	7	22	54	15
Potatoes.....	3	3	16	58	20
Soybeans.....	2	6	16	47	29

Wisconsin Fieldwork and Crop Progress as of September 23, 2018

Item	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa Hay, Fourth Cutting	77	57	81	75	77	84	77	80	63	77	65	87	71
Corn Dented.....	87	76	81	94	93	83	98	99	87	91	82	78	81
Corn Mature.....	44	35	31	49	60	50	52	75	67	55	36	21	33
Corn Harvested for Silage..	53	48	61	71	60	50	69	75	71	60	37	31	39
Potatoes Harvested.....	58	32	44	46	52	n.a.	54	43	n.a.	50	42	61	n.a.
Soybeans Coloring.....	93	85	77	94	92	86	90	90	88	90	78	78	82
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	75	53	49	68	69	54	68	65	62	64	37	42	45
Soybeans Harvested.....	4	5	3	6	6	1	3	6	9	5	1	2	1
Winter Wheat Planted.....	46	41	32	35	34	37	36	22	19	31	23	37	n.a.
Winter Wheat Emerged.....	19	25	19	18	21	18	12	13	11	16	8	16	n.a.

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Supplies as of September 23, 2018

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	3.7	4.0	5.3	3.5	3.5	4.7	3.2	4.0	3.1	3.8	6.6	6.0
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7
Short.....	2	3	8	7	1	2	0	3	0	3	6	22
Adequate.....	80	92	68	80	60	81	90	70	75	78	81	68
Surplus.....	18	5	23	13	39	17	10	27	25	19	12	3
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Short.....	3	3	15	8	3	1	1	1	0	3	6	20
Adequate.....	88	94	65	83	67	87	94	73	72	82	81	74
Surplus.....	9	3	16	9	29	12	5	26	28	15	12	3

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Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

BAYFIELD/DOUGLAS-C.B.: Wet conditions throughout the area. Field work has slowed down. Corn silage harvest progressing despite wet conditions.

BARRON-P.T.: With 5 inches of rain Thursday field work stopped. Able to chop corn in some fields.

CLARK/PRICE/TAYLOR-D.M.: Warm, dry and windy conditions have prevailed and provided excellent weather for crops. Harvest of corn for silage has begun in earnest, with some soybean harvest as well. The roadside stands are overflowing with pumpkins, squash and mums.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Once again it is very wet in the fields. Many fields harvested for silage later in the week have ruts in them now. Soybean combining will be going as soon as the weather allows it as about a quarter of the beans are ready now. Alfalfa is growing really well with all the moisture.

CHIPPEWA/EAU CLAIRE-J.C.: High moisture corn, soybeans, corn silage, and hay all being harvested. Rain later in the week stopped all activity. Soil moisture levels are high.

ADAMS/JUNEAU-J.W.: Several producers commented on how hard it was to make dry hay. Because it was so humid, the hay wouldn't dry down so it could be baled. Also commented on how short the hay supply is. Additional 3 inches or more of rain this week making field conditions extremely difficult for harvesting equipment to get into the fields. Silage is coming off the fields and soybeans are as well. A lot of soybeans were knocked down from the rain so harvest is difficult in some places making mold and disease a concern.

MARQUETTE/WAUSHARA-D.B.: Area got more rain last week. Back to standing water in low spots. A few beans were harvested before the rains came, then everything has been sitting.

CALUMET-K.P.: This week's rains left standing water in areas. This left some deep ruts in the fields as corn silage harvest is wrapping up. Early soybean harvest should begin this week. A lot of manure hauling happening. Cooler temperatures in the forecast.

SHEBOYGAN/OZAUKEE-G.S.: Another decent week weather-wise. Turned much cooler than we are used to: 60s to highs of lower 70s. Many farmers are making good progress on corn silage.

LAFAYETTE-B.L.: Diseased corn stalks are very weak and are causing harvest problems in the area. Corn is dry where being harvested. Test weights are a little low to normal in most areas, depending on when disease pathogens entered the plant. Soybean harvest is also underway, with good yields being reported.

DANE-F.P.: Corn silage harvest is nearing completion in this area. Corn grain field moisture ranges from 20.0% to 30.0% in fields. Manure is being applied. There is feeling in the air that fall is here some of the days.

DODGE-R.H.: Received 1.3 inches of rain this week but that was still too much after all the previous rain. Corn silage is drying down way too fast.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 23, 2018

City	Temperature (degrees F)						Growing degree days (modified base 50) ¹		Precipitation (inches)				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal*	Mar. 1 to Sep. 22	Mar. 1 to Sep. 22 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date	Year dep. from normal*
Eau Claire	73	54	87	36	64	+5	2782	2368	0.69	2.18	-0.84	29.01	+2.88
Green Bay	74	54	90	41	64	+6	2686	2232	1.71	4.78	+2.32	31.87	+9.11
La Crosse	77	58	93	42	67	+5	3294	2666	2.76	3.59	+0.90	32.74	+6.55
Madison	78	54	89	39	66	+6	2894	2614	1.23	4.08	+1.58	43.06	+16.81
Milwaukee	77	60	91	48	68	+5	2870	n.a.	2.25	5.11	+2.52	35.92	+9.32

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. n.a.=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more weather data, please reference the following sites: <http://www.noaa.gov/> <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/> <http://www.cocorahs.org/> <http://www.weather.gov/>

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.