



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

October 25, 2004

## Harvest in Full Swing

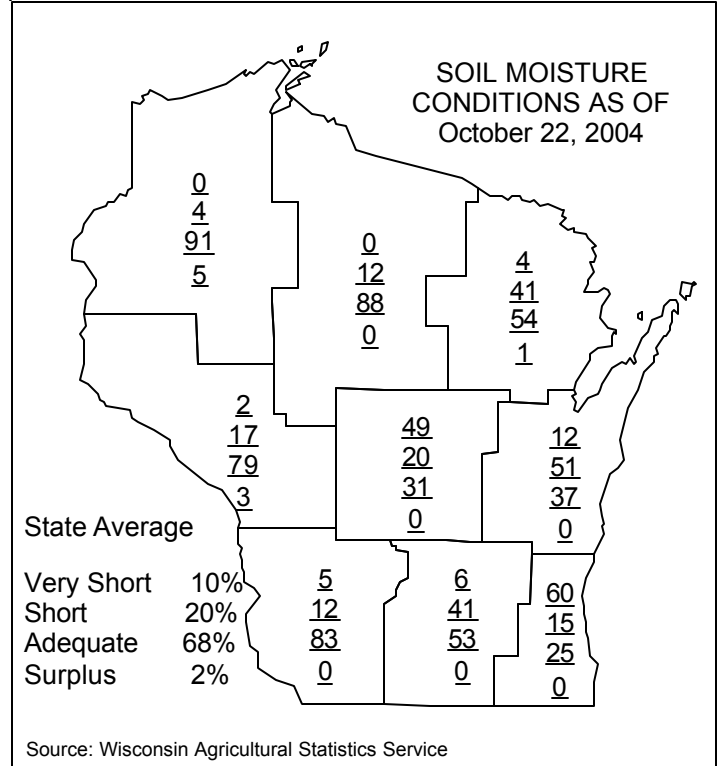
Vol. 04, No. 29

Weather across the state was mixed. In northern parts of the state, cool weather with frost was common. In the southern parts, warmer weather prevailed. The average temperature across the state was 3 to 4 degrees above normal. Average low temperatures were reported in the low to upper 30's, with highs in the upper 60's to low 70's. Most parts of the state received light amounts of rain this past week, except the east central and south central received over an inch of rain. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 10% very short, 20% short, 68% adequate, and 2% surplus. Most of the state has below average rainfall since September 1. The eastern half of the state has the most severe shortage of soil moisture. There was an average of 5.1 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

**Corn** silage harvesting is wrapping up across the state. In the northwestern part of the state, the quantity of corn silage is reported as good, but the quality is fair. In the east central part, quality and quantity are reported low due to the late planting and poor growing conditions. In the southwestern and south central parts, farmers are reporting good quality and quantity. Corn harvested for grain is underway with the southwestern and central parts reporting good quality and quantity. The rest of the state is reporting average yields with high moisture. Late-planted corn needs some time to dry down. **Soybean** harvest continues in most parts of the state, with the southwestern part reporting harvest almost complete. Good quality and yields are reported in the southern part of the state. In other parts of the state, there are reports of small bean size. In the north, harvest has slowed due to the cool, damp weather. In some cases, soybeans are being put in the silo because of low yields. Fourth crop **hay** is also wrapping up, but dry conditions have hurt quality and quantity. **Fall tillage** is about normal for this time of year, but the dry subsoil moisture conditions in some areas are slowing down fall tillage. Some rain is needed to soften surface soil.

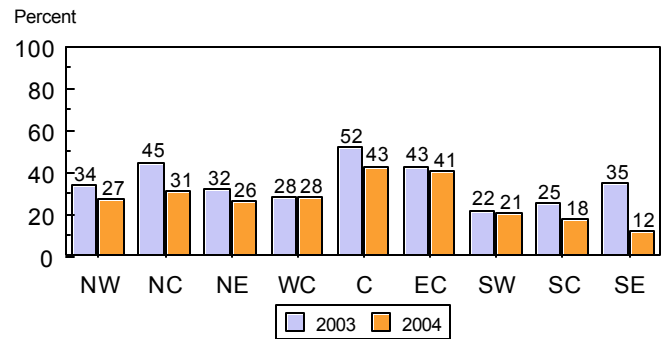
**Corn** in the mature stage was reported at 83%, well below last year's 100%, and the 5-year average of 97%. Corn harvested for silage was reported at 94% complete, behind last year's 100%, and the 5-year average of 99%. Corn harvested for grain was reported at 26% complete, behind last year's 48%, and the 5-year average of 44%. **Soybeans** harvested was reported at 67% complete, behind last year's 87%, and the 5-year average of 78%. Fourth cutting **hay** harvest is 79% complete, ahead of last year's 70%, and the 5-year average of 72%. **Fall tillage** was reported at 26% complete, behind last year's 32%, but equal to the 5-year average.

**Cranberry** harvest is nearing completion, and there are reports of a good crop. **Apple** yields are varied depending on the variety. Most of the **winter wheat** and **winter rye** has been planted, with some areas in the southern part of the state reporting that winter wheat has emerged. **Carrots** and **beets** are being dug and being hauled to the local canning companies, with most of the other vegetables harvested for the year.



Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	8	13	39	37	3
Corn	5	13	24	44	14

## Fall Tillage Completed in Wisconsin By District, Oct. 26, 2003 vs. Oct. 24, 2004



Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This year	Last year	5-year average
Corn in mature stage	85	76	82	79	74	55	97	97	88	83	100	97
Corn hrvt. for silage	86	93	88	97	97	93	99	100	97	94	100	99
Corn hrvt. for grain	9	18	13	31	31	16	35	35	24	26	48	44
Soybeans harvested	54	66	42	68	62	42	93	73	70	67	87	78
Fourth cutting hay	55	50	92	92	78	95	83	93	100	79	70	72
Fall tillage completed	27	31	26	28	43	41	21	18	12	26	32	26

**Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents**

**BAYFIELD-S.S.:** Corn silage is poor; cobs are small and not mature.

**BURNETT-R.B.:** Silage is different from field to field, so food value will be different. There is no corn for grain harvested yet. Some fall tillage is being done.

**CHIPPEWA-J.C.:** Corn silage harvest is still being done, and some corn is still milky. Very few have harvested corn for grain. Yields appear good, but is high in moisture. Soybean yields are around 30 bushels per acre.

**MARATHON-M.K.:** There is very little harvesting for grain; too wet. Most of the soybeans are harvested.

**OCONTO-K.H.:** Corn silage harvest has been a major field activity this past week. Have not seen any local soybeans combined yet or any hay making.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** Over an inch of rain fell this weekend, which will aid winter wheat germination and fall tillage. Very few soybeans came off this week because of cloudy and damp weather. High moisture corn is coming off for the silos. Corn silage and fourth crop haying are done for the year.

**PEPIN-H.R.:** Corn silage is pretty much all done. Lots of good quality made, mostly in bunkers and bags. Very little corn is done for grain; too high in moisture. Soybeans also stopped getting combined because of damp and tough conditions. Lots of crops in the fields yet to harvest.

**TREMPEALEAU-D.D.:** Only a couple good soybean harvest days, so quite a few soybeans are left. Corn is being taken for high moisture storage, but dry corn harvest is moving slowly. Haying is mostly done and very little tillage has started yet. Manure trucks will begin to roll this week.

**PORTAGE-J.W.:** Corn harvest is in full swing. Fall tillage is also moving along.

**WAUSHARA-L.K.:** All of the early soybeans are harvested. High moisture corn has been harvested also. Not much corn for grain has been harvested yet-waiting for it to dry down some more. There is not much winter wheat planted in this area.

**FOND DU LAC-B.B.:** Soil moisture conditions have improved some. Winter wheat and winter rye have improved some.

**SHEBOYGAN-T.B.:** The remaining corn silage quality and yields are dropping at the end of the silage harvest. Corn harvested for high moisture grain has begun and reports are that yields are average. Soybean harvest is slowly being done and yields are average-around 45 bushels per acre. Most soybeans coming in to our elevator are around 16% moisture, but bushel weights are very good averaging 60 pounds per bushel. Those that are still making hay are on the fourth cutting, but the lack of rain this fall has limited the hay crop. Most of the winter wheat is planted. Some late plantings are being done following soybean harvest. Many of our sweet corn growers have planted wheat into the stubble and this may be the last of the winter grain planting.

**RICHLAND-S.K.:** Steady progress has been made on the soybean harvest with excellent yields, in many cases, over 60 bushels per acre. We have seen much of the so-so corn harvested for silage and some of the early corn harvest reports have also indicated better than expected yields. Some producers are starting to work up fields for next spring. Most of the hay harvest is complete and, for the most part, a good harvest.

**COLUMBIA-R.S.:** Corn and soybeans are not drying down. Need sunshine and wind to help. Still very little winter wheat planted.

**DANE-D.F.:** Winter wheat establishments have been going well. Grain yields are turning out surprisingly good.

**WAUKESHA-D.W.:** Corn silage is done. Soybean harvest has been slow due to drizzle and clouds. Late-planted corn needs some time to dry down.



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

**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 24, 2004**

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. 9	Mar. 1 to Oct. 9 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	57	41	70	33	49	4	2534	2488	0.32	5.99	0.65	27.68
Green Bay	56	40	67	31	48	3	2385	2352	1.67	4.12	-0.50	29.17
La Crosse	58	44	69	33	51	3	2890	2814	0.14	4.73	-0.19	37.81
Madison	58	42	73	35	50	3	2681	2766	1.24	3.87	-0.79	36.10
Milwaukee	56	47	73	38	52	3	2571	n.a.	0.42	1.52	-3.54	28.90

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.