

Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

November 15, 2004

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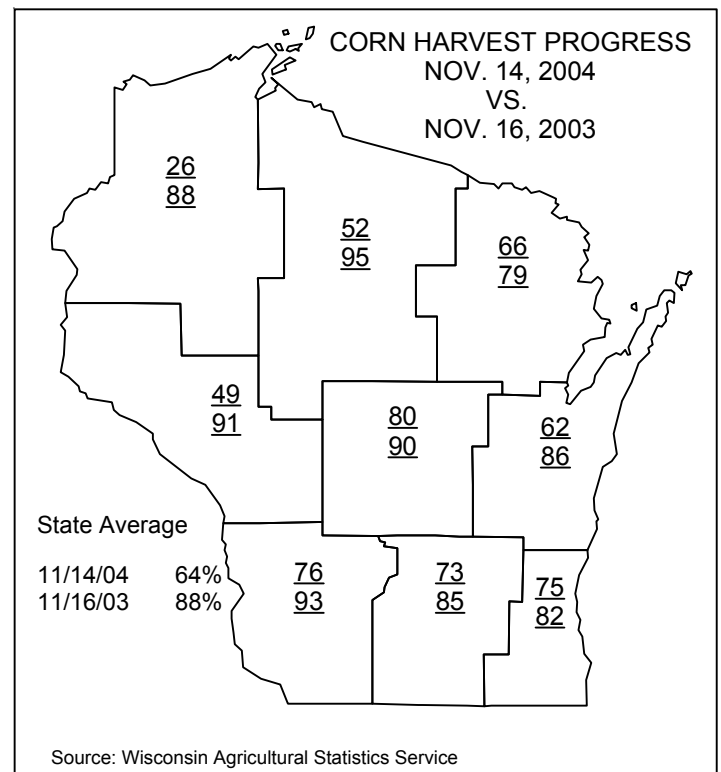
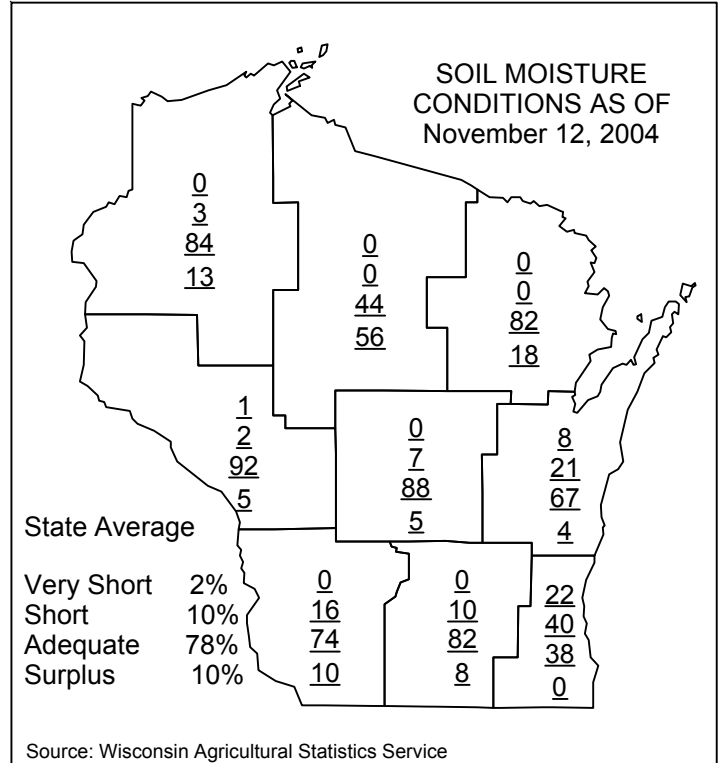
Dry Week for Harvest

Dry conditions across the state helped fall harvest progress. Trace amounts of rain were reported in most areas, with Green Bay and Milwaukee receiving more than 0.10 of an inch. Frost was also reported in many areas. Temperatures were about normal for this time of year. Low temperatures were reported in the 10's and 20's, while high temperatures reached the 50's and low 60's during the week. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 2% very short, 10% short, 78% adequate, and 10% surplus. Most of the state has adequate supplies of soil moisture; however, the southeastern part of the state is experiencing very short to short soil moisture supplies. There was an average of 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Dry weather provided a good week for **corn** harvest. High moisture corn is still being harvested in the northern third of the state, with most yields reported as average. Many producers are reporting that the recent frost may help the corn dry down enough for storage. Yield reports from the southwestern part of the state continue to indicate above average corn yields. Dry conditions in late summer have caused corn yields in the east central and southeastern areas to be below average. Harvest in central areas continued throughout the week, with average yields. **Soybean** harvest progressed nicely during the week. Northern producers received much-needed dry weather to get soybeans out of the field. Many farmers in the central and southern areas used the dry week to finish soybean harvest, with some reports of white mold in fields. Yields have been running average to above average in most central and southern areas. However, yields in the southeastern corner are below average due to the dry summer conditions. **Fall tillage** progress moved slowly during the week. Many northern areas are still too wet for much tillage, while others used the dry weather to harvest.

Corn harvested for grain was reported at 64% complete, behind last year's 86%, and the 5-year average of 84%. **Soybeans** harvested was reported at 89% complete, behind last year's 100%, and the 5-year average of 98%. **Fall tillage** was reported at 45% complete, behind last year's 61%, and the 5-year average of 55%.

Winter wheat has been reported in good condition with most emerged. Recent rains have encouraged good fall growth before winter arrives.



Wisconsin Crop Progress, November 14, 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 hrvt. for grain	26	52	66	49	80	62	76	73	75	64	86	84
Soybeans harvested	82	75	65	89	90	80	98	96	93	89	100	98
Fall tillage completed	38	45	55	37	81	78	39	40	34	45	61	55

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-R.C.: Test weights on corn are very low, with most weights being 47 pounds and under. Some fall tillage is getting done; however, most farmers are finishing soybeans and getting started on corn. Moisture levels are also high in corn, and with high gas prices, many more acres than normal will be left to stand over the winter.

BURNETT-R.B.: Had hard frost the last few days, but some fields can only be harvested if it dries or freezes. Things are not going very fast.

POLK-C.S.: Soybeans are finishing up. Yields are average to below average. Corn harvest for grain is progressing slowly. Most farmers are waiting for lower field moisture. Some fall tillage is getting done.

OCONTO-K.H.: Corn moisture level is still in the high 20's to low 30's. While yields are down, a number of farmers are reporting they expect to have adequate feed supplies for this winter. Fall tillage continues as corn and soybeans come off. Still some slow down due to spotty wet field conditions.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Late-planted soybeans were finally combined this past week with yields coming in at 8-15 bushels per acre. Corn that is in the field yet is running above 20% moisture. Tillage conditions are excellent with the 4.0 inches of rain that came in the past month.

ST. CROIX-R.K.: Soybean harvest is complete. Corn harvest slow because of high moisture. Very little fall tillage done.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Lots of catch up work happened this week, with one more good week, many more will be able to get the shed doors closed. Corn finally began drying down noticeably.

PORTAGE-D.Z.: Several growers finished soybeans today, just ahead of the rain. Corn harvest continues; much still in 21-22 percent moisture range, some higher.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: Most of the corn for grain has been harvested in this area. Quality is good, but some is a little bit lighter test weight. Soybeans have all been harvested. Winter wheat has all been planted and is nice and green.

FOND DU LAC-R.P.: Winter wheat looks good. Still reports of corn and soybeans with very high moisture readings. Some hay was made in the last few days. Some farmers are all done with harvest and fall tillage, and some only really getting started.

MANITOWOC-H.W.: There is no corn for grain being done yet-waiting for high moisture to dry it down. Soybeans are going off, but some still left to harvest. Heavy frost this morning. Fall tillage about 80 percent done. Chisel plowing and regular plowing is being done. Winter wheat looks good.

LAFAYETTE-M.R.: Frost every morning lately. Spent the past eight days making corn stalks into bedding. Almost all of the soybeans should be done by now. Corn yields were very good; 185-250 bushels per acre.

RICHLAND-S.K.: We saw our first hard frost with temperatures dipping into the high teens. There is still quite a bit of corn in the field, with farmers waiting for it to dry down. At this point, we have seen very good corn yields. Most of the soybeans have been harvested, just a few fields left here and there. The soybean yield was also very good over all, with some yields over 60 bushels to the acre. Winter wheat is up in the few places we have it planted and appears to be doing very well.

DODGE-GR.: Corn for grain harvest is progressing. Moisture levels are running in the teens to mid-twenties. Yields are ranging even more dramatically, from well below 100 bushels per acre to 150 bushels per acre. Late-planted soybeans were harvested this week. Fall tillage just beginning.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: Winter wheat planting is done. Corn yields are low for this area, average 110-120 bushels per acre. Soybean yields has been very good; 40-50 bushels per acre.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 14, 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	48	25	58	14	36	2	2534	2488	0.01	7.60	0.76	29.29
Green Bay	46	27	57	20	37	1	2385	2352	0.14	5.18	-1.13	30.23
La Crosse	48	25	58	16	37	-1	2890	2814	0.04	5.88	-0.58	38.96
Madison	49	27	62	20	38	1	2681	2766	0.06	4.92	-1.30	37.15
Milwaukee	49	34	61	29	42	2	2571	n.a.	0.13	2.86	-4.11	30.24

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.