



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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

October 6, 2008

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Frosty Weekend

Frost hit parts of Wisconsin this past weekend, although for many of the state's farmers it was not a killing frost. Some area temperatures dipped into the low 20's overnight while others were in the upper 20's to low 30's. Average high temperatures ranged from 58 to 64 degrees, with average low temperatures ranging from 40 to 47 degrees. Precipitation totals last week ranged from 0.06 inches in Madison to 0.75 inches in La Crosse. Soil moisture conditions were reported at 13 percent very short, 37 percent short, 50 percent adequate, and 0 percent surplus. There was an average of 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn in dent was at 93 percent complete with maturity at 51 percent. Corn conditions improved with reports at 5 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Corn harvested for **grain** was reported as 5 percent complete, with farmers beginning to harvest high moisture corn. Corn **silage** harvest was reported as 82 percent complete with yields varying in both tonnage and moisture. Corn is rapidly reaching black layer.

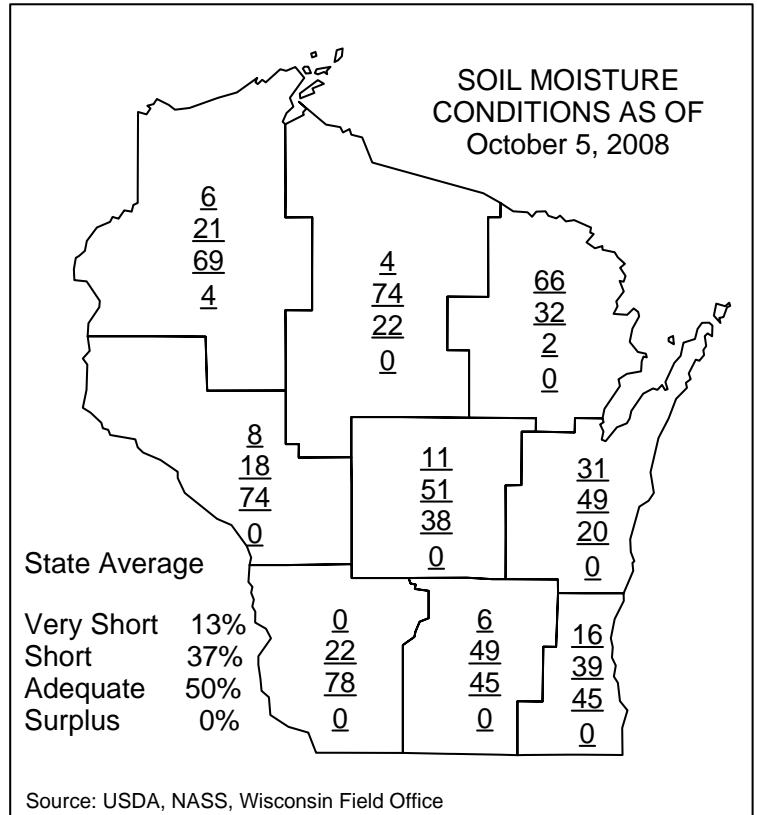
Soybeans dropping leaves was at 93 percent complete. Reports show that 18 percent of Wisconsin's soybeans have been harvested with crop conditions at 4 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 9 percent excellent.

Fourth crop **hay** harvest was at 61 percent complete. Some fields are being rolled over for next year or are being left for dormant harvest.

Winter wheat planting is finished in some areas, while others report planting still in progress. Some earlier planted wheat was coming up, but more moisture is needed for germination.

Rains from the past couple weeks have brought **pastures** and **alfalfa** fields back to life. Pasture condition was reported at 10 percent very poor, 21 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 32 percent good, and 3 percent excellent.

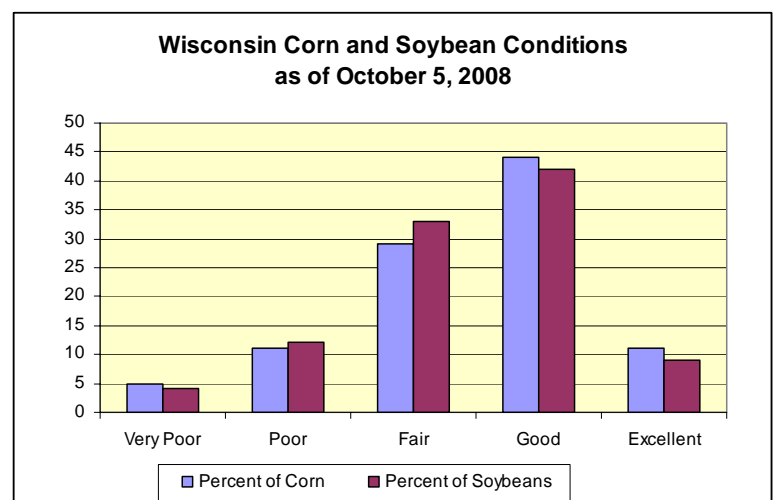
Some **manure** was being hauled. **Fall tillage** has begun. In some areas, **rye** has been planted. **Cranberry** and **Potato** harvest continued.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 5, 2008

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	5	11	29	44	11
Soybean	4	12	33	42	9
Pasture	10	21	34	32	3

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office



Wisconsin Crop Progress, October 5, 2008

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 dent	95	85	97	93	96	82	99	98	87	93	100	97
Corn mature	60	20	48	57	74	39	28	65	51	51	84	73
Corn harvested for grain	1	0	15	12	9	4	1	3	1	5	18	11
Corn harvested for silage	88	59	91	81	86	84	93	78	79	82	94	83
Soybeans dropping leaves	97	97	98	91	90	86	98	96	93	93	94	88
Soybeans harvested	6	14	29	18	6	25	27	14	8	18	22	22
Fourth cutting hay	52	45	79	69	81	57	85	63	52	61	65	56

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-D.B.: Corn silage harvest is still going strong. Corn and soybean harvest has not really begun.

CHIPPEWA-J.M.: Wide spread frost, but not quite a hard killing frost on Friday. Corn silage harvest is winding down. Soybean harvest should begin in the near future.

POLK-C.S.: Corn and soybean harvest is about to begin. Hay yields are low with very good quality. Winter wheat planting is complete. Custom spraying Glyphosate and 2-4D, burn down for fields next spring.

CLARK-R.H.: Soybean harvest is beginning. Corn silage is in full swing. Yields of most corn silage have been good. Manure will be hauled as soon as corn and soybeans come off. Wheat is being planted.

LANGLADE-A.K.: The growing season ended this morning with a 26 degree temperature. Most of the corn and soybeans made it. Yields will be alarmingly low. Winter wheat seeded does not look good.

OCONTO-K.H.: Corn silage harvest is about done. Corn that was too dry was a problem for some. Area yields reported to vary considerably. Soybean harvest is continuing; yields reported low. Winter wheat is slow to emerge due to dry soil. Liquid manure is being spread and fall tillage is beginning.

BUFFALO-R.S.: There has not been a killing frost as of yet. Some corn is still too immature for upright silos. Soybeans are above 20 percent moisture. There has been no high moisture corn harvested yet. Rye is being planted where corn was taken for silage.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Soybean yields ranging from 19 to 40 bushels per acre have been reported. Corn for grain on dry land was 80 to 160 bushels per acre.

PORTAGE-D.Z.: A couple of dry land soybean fields have been harvested; yields are poor. One yield was at 20 bushels per acre and another was 30 bushels per acre.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: Soybeans are being harvested when the weather permits. There is not much corn harvested as of yet. Hay harvest is just about finished.

CALUMET-B.L.: Lots of wheat being planted following early maturing of soybeans and corn silage. We need moisture to loosen the hard dry soils and help germinate the wheat that is being planted. Corn is maturing and high moisture corn silage for harvest is just getting underway.

SHEBOYGAN-E.P.: Corn and soybeans are drying down but very variable from field to field. All crop yields are down this year due to wet spots and drought. Soil is very dry now. Chunks of red clay ground are so hard that it is stopping the turning of a disc. Temperatures are down with frost expected.

IOWA-S.M.: Soybean yields are very poor, ranging from 18 bushels to 38 bushels per acre. Rains have brought pasture and alfalfa fields back to normal. Very little corn is black layered.

LAFAYETTE-M.R.: Soybeans at 10 year average of 55 bushels per acre were a surprise as we had little to no August rain.

DODGE-G.R.: Cloudy skies and a few sprinkles have hampered fieldwork slightly. Some attempts at soybean harvest have started. Corn silage is progressing slowly as some yields are still a little green. Corn and soybean dry down has a ways to go.

GREEN-M.M.: Soybean harvest is well underway with yields mostly below average. Corn silage harvest is complete with yields again being below average due to wet weather early and lack of moisture late in the growing season. Harvest of high moisture corn has started.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: Just started harvesting soybeans. Corn will start in 10 days.



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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 5, 2008

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. 4	Mar. 1 to Oct. 4 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	60	40	67	31	50	-4	2505	2457	0.48	2.12	-1.95	26.17	-1.09
Green Bay	58	40	61	28	49	-5	2525	2321	0.27	2.03	-1.35	24.73	1.18
La Crosse	64	44	72	33	54	-3	2822	2777	0.75	2.39	-1.34	31.58	4.36
Madison	60	41	66	30	51	-5	2694	2728	0.06	2.93	-0.43	39.20	12.17
Milwaukee	60	47	66	38	54	-4	2641	n.a.	0.14	5.07	1.45	37.27	9.46

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. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.