United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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Issued November 2, 2015 *Media Contact: Greg Bussler*

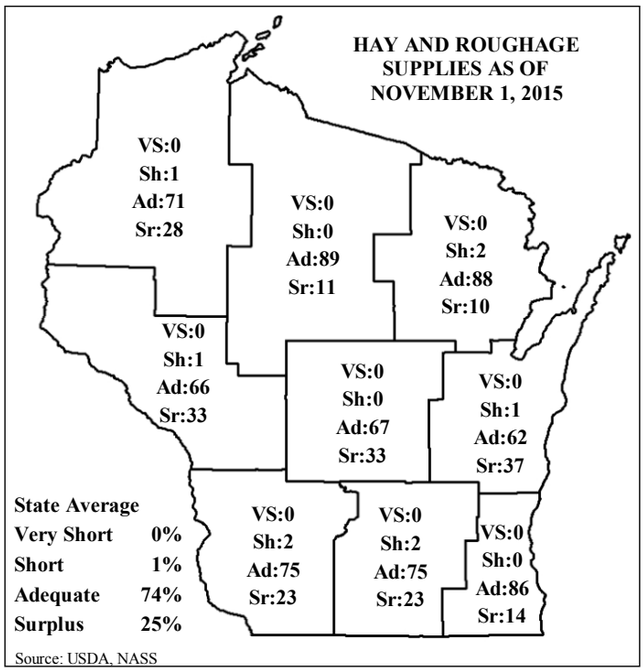
Rain Forces Break in Harvest Activity

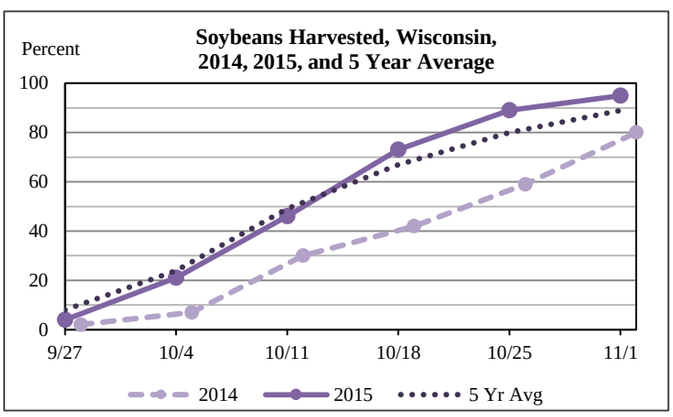
There were 4.1 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending November 1, 2015, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Rain and muddy conditions halted fieldwork this week, forcing farmers to take a break from the hard work of harvest. North-central Wisconsin received from a dusting to a few inches of snow on Wednesday; however, above-freezing temperatures and continued rain melted it quickly. Precipitation was welcome in the southern portion of the state, where soil conditions have been dry. Despite this week's delays, the soybean harvest was nearing completion in many areas. Corn combining, fall tillage and manure hauling continued where conditions allowed. Reporters noted that yields have ranged from average to well above average for this fall's crops.

Topsoil moisture levels rose sharply over the previous week, with 12 percent surplus, 79 percent adequate and 9 percent short to very short. **Subsoil moisture** levels were up as well, with 5 percent surplus, 81 percent adequate and 14 percent short to very short.

As of November 1, **corn** harvested for grain had reached 61 percent complete, 2 weeks ahead of last year and 1 day ahead of the five-year average. Corn moisture of grain at harvest was 19 percent, one percentage point drier than the previous week. Ninety-five percent of the **soybean** crop had been harvested, 3 weeks ahead of last year and nearly a week ahead of the five-year average. Eighty-one percent of the **winter wheat** crop had emerged, 11 days ahead of last year. Winter wheat condition was rated 0 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 20 percent excellent. **Fall tillage** was at 53 percent complete, 9 days ahead of last year and 6 days ahead of the five-year average.

Hay and Roughage supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 74 percent adequate and 25 percent surplus**.**





Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of November 1, 2015

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Winter Wheat.....	0	1	16	63	20

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of November 1, 2015

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent									Percent			
Corn harvested for grain.....	56	49	51	53	52	45	73	74	59	61	47	31	60
Fall Tillage.....	42	58	58	45	59	57	64	46	47	53	46	40	37
Soybeans harvested.....	96	95	93	95	94	90	93	99	95	95	89	77	89
Winter wheat planted.....	93	99	100	87	98	95	99	98	96	97	93	88	n.a.
Winter wheat emerged.....	82	93	79	76	82	83	87	80	69	81	71	68	n.a.

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of November 1, 2015

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	3.2	4.1	4.1	3.5	4.5	4.3	3.8	4.4	4.9	4.1	5.7	5.5
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	2	0	0	0	0	4	1	1	1	2	0
Short.....	2	9	0	11	10	2	11	10	13	8	17	4
Adequate.....	82	87	82	78	76	87	60	82	83	79	76	83
Surplus.....	16	2	18	11	14	11	25	7	3	12	5	13
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	2	0	1	1	0	8	1	0	2	2	0
Short.....	2	9	7	13	15	11	13	15	15	12	17	6
Adequate.....	88	89	87	80	82	81	78	79	84	81	78	83
Surplus.....	10	0	6	6	2	8	1	5	1	5	3	11

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

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

BARRON-T.J.: Snow and rain fell this week, putting a stop to all harvesting and other field operations. Great to have adequate moisture going into the winter, but we really need an extended window of dry, sunny weather to finish harvesting corn.

RUSK-G.P.: Rain this week has slowed harvest, some corn still coming off. Beans done and fall small grains are all in. A little fall tillage, but really just a quiet week.

PRICE-D.E.: Most crops are harvested with some corn for grain and a few soybeans to get in. Hay yields were above average for the most part, along with soybeans and small grains. Some corn yields are above average, but the wet areas were affected and yields reflected that.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Corn coming off fast with most moisture between 17 and 24 percent. Yields are quite good. Winter wheat emerging very well. Fall tillage being done at a fast rate with very good conditions but we now have some fields that are very wet again as we have received another two inches of rain this week.

EAU CLAIRE-M.H.: Chopping is wrapped up. Small amounts of hay continue to be harvested. The soybean harvest is about complete and once it dries out the remainder of the corn will be picked. The rain this week brought all field activity to a halt.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Rain at the end of the week put a damper on completing harvest. All in all, harvest coming along nicely and crops seem abundant in supply.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: The rainy weather this week has slowed the fall harvest.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: The big story this week was the rain and the wet conditions that have returned. While it is not as wet as it was last year, the rain will slow down any harvesting of corn. Most of the winter wheat has been planted and nearly all of the soybeans have been harvested, so the rain will not affect these two crops too much. This area received over 2 inches of rain in the past week, so the fields are quite wet. For those fields that are not tiled, a four wheel drive combine will be needed to get the corn off. The warmer and drier weather predicted for the first part of this coming week should help in getting the water to drain away and to stiffen the ground. The rain has also slowed the progress of the annual task of hauling manure. Before the rain came, some impressive corn yields had been seen in this area. Many producers are reporting from around 170 to over 200 bushels per acre. These numbers have been rarely seen here, if ever. The winter wheat has emerged nearly all over and is looking good.

VERNON-K.L.: The county received some badly needed rain at the end of the week, approximately 1.5 to 2.0 inches. Cooler and more fall like temperatures. Soybean harvest is nearing an end. Good weather for harvesting crops this fall. There shouldn't be any reason not to get crops harvested timely this year.

DANE-F.P.: Corn and soybean harvest in this area is winding down. Much of the fieldwork is done.

ROCK-C.O.: Rain has slowed harvest and tillage this week, but was welcome.

OZAUKEE-G.S.: Soybean harvest almost complete, corn for grain harvest moving right along. This should be a great week of weather for harvest with warm, dry weather in the forecast for most of next week.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 1, 2015

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. 31	Mar. 1 to Oct. 31 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	52	39	58	33	46	+3	2900	2572	1.85	8.17	+2.21	35.73	+6.45
Green Bay	53	39	59	34	46	+3	2858	2431	1.34	8.49	+3.22	24.70	-0.76
La Crosse	56	41	64	33	48	+2	3485	2920	1.92	4.92	-0.67	27.64	-1.45
Madison	54	37	60	34	46	+1	3137	2880	1.62	8.70	+3.43	31.69	+2.62
Milwaukee	55	41	62	37	48	+1	2854	n.a.	1.40	6.32	+0.53	24.09	-5.65

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.