



# Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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For the week ending September 29, 2019

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Wisconsin had 3.5 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending September 29, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Another week of above normal temperatures, frequent, scattered rains, and overcast skies helped corn and soybeans mature but slowed fieldwork. Some reporters indicated wet field conditions had improved by midweek, however, much of the state ended the week with an overall increase in surplus soil moisture. Soil moistures were highest on the eastern side of the state, keeping farmers there out of fields. Corn silage chopping was taking off wherever field conditions allowed, with a few reports of farmers chopping in the rain. Haying and fall plantings slowed while the focus shifted to other crops. Sustained dry weather was needed in all parts of the state to dry up mud and dry down grain for harvest.

**Topsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 63 percent adequate and 36 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 64 percent adequate and 35 percent surplus.

**Corn** silking was reported at 97 percent complete. Eighty-eight percent of corn has reached the dough stage or beyond, 3 weeks behind the 5-year average. Sixty-seven percent of corn was dented or beyond, 22 days behind last year and 17 days behind the average. Sixteen percent of corn was reported mature, 23 days behind last year and 18 days behind the average. Corn condition was 69 percent good to excellent, up 6 percentage points from last week. Corn for silage harvest was 25 percent complete, almost 2 weeks behind the average.

**Soybeans** blooming was nearly complete, with setting pods close behind at 94 percent. Leaves were coloring or beyond on 78 percent of the state's soybeans, 13 days behind last year and 10 days behind the average. Plants were dropping leaves on 42 percent of soybeans, 12 days behind last year and 9 days behind the average. Harvesting was reported as underway, with 1 percent harvested. Soybean condition was 71 percent good to excellent, 3 percentage points above last week.

**Winter wheat** was 24 percent planted, 12 days behind last year and 1 week behind the average. Thirteen percent of winter wheat had emerged, 9 days behind last year, and 2 days behind the average.

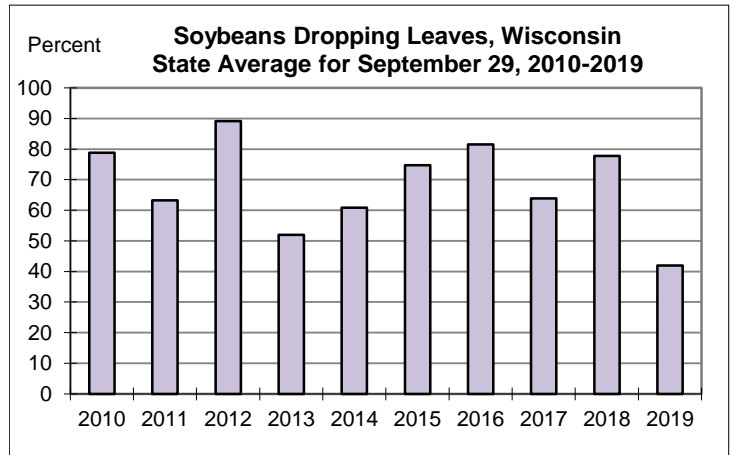
**Oats** were 89 percent harvested, over 3 weeks behind both last year and the average.

**Potatoes** were reported 57 percent harvested, 2 days behind last year and 1 week behind the average.

The third cutting of **alfalfa hay** was 95 percent complete, over 2 weeks behind the average. The fourth cutting was 58 percent complete, also over 2 weeks behind the average.

**Fall tillage** was reported as 7 percent complete, 2 days behind last year and 4 days behind the average.

**Pasture** condition was rated 60 percent in good to excellent condition, down 2 percentage points from last week.



### Crop Condition as of September 29, 2019

	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn .....	2	7	22	49	20
Pasture & range...	2	7	31	44	16
Soybeans .....	1	6	22	48	23

### Crop Progress as of September 29, 2019

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Alfalfa hay, third cutting.....	96	94	97	96	86	96	93	98	97	95	94	100	99
Alfalfa hay, fourth cutting .....	52	24	48	61	63	52	66	74	72	58	48	83	83
Corn dough.....	76	75	78	88	70	90	97	95	96	88	84	100	98
Corn dented.....	60	60	44	64	58	67	82	68	76	67	59	95	91
Corn mature.....	23	19	4	23	17	6	15	8	34	16	8	70	54
Corn harvested for silage.....	24	31	7	33	21	16	47	38	14	25	15	76	60
Fall tillage .....	8	5	1	5	10	4	12	6	9	7	5	9	10
Oats harvested .....	95	79	77	94	99	91	93	96	100	89	88	100	99
Soybeans setting pods.....	89	90	86	90	90	93	99	97	100	94	92	100	100
Soybeans coloring .....	83	49	52	79	76	76	86	87	80	78	59	94	94
Soybeans dropping leaves.....	48	33	31	36	35	34	53	56	28	42	24	78	72
Winter wheat planted .....	57	15	28	22	29	25	19	16	30	24	20	44	36
Winter wheat emerged.....	23	7	9	11	20	14	14	8	18	13	8	22	15

### Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of September 29, 2019

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
Days suitable.....	3.9	4.7	2.3	4.3	3.3	2.5	3.4	3.6	3.0	3.5	3.4	4.4
Topsoil moisture												
Very short .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short.....	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	2	2
Adequate .....	68	84	22	83	51	34	78	72	47	63	65	79
Surplus .....	31	13	78	17	49	66	22	27	49	36	33	19
Subsoil moisture												
Very short .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short.....	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	2	3
Adequate .....	74	79	18	85	48	40	78	71	50	64	66	80
Surplus .....	25	17	82	15	52	60	22	28	46	35	32	17

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

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

**NW—RUSK-G.P.:** A decent week with a fair amount of progress on corn silage. Beans are turning and have one report of a grower trying to combine, but made a couple rounds and quit, still too tough. Some final harvest on hay and still some seeding going on, but pushing into October now.

**NW—SAWYER-K.S.:** Warmer temperatures and more rain have been helpful in allowing corn and soybean crops to continue to mature. While there was one night in the 30s no reports of a killing frost. We are now past our average killing frost date. The coming weeks will determine grain quality. More rain fell over the weekend and the coming week’s rain forecast will keep farmers out of fields. Corn silage harvest will be delayed and wet fields will be a challenge. Wet weather will also impact forage harvest.

**NW/WC—CHIPPEWA/EAU CLAIRE-J.C.:** More rain and extreme wind caused lodging in some corn and soybean fields. Soybean harvest started in a few early planted fields. Corn silage yields are good with good quality. Moisture tends to be drier than what is estimated.

**NC—ASHLAND/IRON-K.R.:** Corn silage is progressing. Corn tonnage per acre is around 18 ton.

**NE—SHAWANO-B.R.:** Rain every other day again this week. Still we feel lucky because we received much less than some of the counties around us. Very little fieldwork done this week with every field being extremely wet now. Corn silage should be starting now but it would be very difficult to maneuver in the fields. There is standing water in even the better tiled fields. Soybeans are beginning to lose leaves in a few fields.

**WC—ST CROIX-D.K.:** Beautiful weather really helped crops ripen. Corn silage is in full swing. No immediate signs of frost.

**C/EC—OUTAGAMIE/WAUPACA-D.L.H:** Weather improved during the past week. Warmer temperatures pushed crop maturity. Minimal field work was completed due to extremely wet soil conditions. There is concern about the fall harvest due to continued wet weather. Hay harvest is abandoned due to equipment rutting wet fields. Cabbage is beginning to rot in low spots that are flooded. More heavy rain is forecast for the upcoming week.

**EC—DOOR/KEWAUNEE-A.B.:** More rain this week and fields are saturated. Corn dry down results this week averaged 73 percent moisture. Some have started chopping silage on lighter soils, but even those fields are saturated and dump carts are necessary to get the crop off. Fourth crop alfalfa looks really good, but the fields are too wet to harvest. Most will try to get corn off first at this point, but there will be plenty of fourth crop taken in October.

**EC/SE—FOND DU LAC/WASHINGTON-B.B.:** Most fields were dry enough by midweek for all types of fall field work. Corn maturation still lags but the beans are moving along, finally. The rain in the forecast for the coming week is most unwelcome.

**SW—VERNON-K.L.:** We had another week of rain which is putting the producers farther behind with fieldwork. There were a few producers able to make some corn silage. The soybeans are turning.

**SC—COLUMBIA-K.W.:** Some soybean harvest has started. Corn silage harvest is also starting.

**SC—DODGE-R.J.:** It was another very wet week, slowing forage and silage harvesting.

**SE—WALWORTH-N.W.:** A few producers have started corn silage but field conditions are not good with all of the rain.

**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 29, 2019**

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 Sep. 28	Mar. 1 to Sep. 28 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire.....	72	50	81	46	61	+4	2461	2417	0.86	5.92	+2.29	36.49	+9.66
Green Bay .....	70	54	79	49	62	+6	2484	2282	1.53	9.20	+6.23	38.90	+15.75
La Crosse .....	75	56	85	52	65	+5	3096	2722	1.49	6.04	+2.76	36.50	+9.67
Madison.....	72	56	81	52	64	+6	2779	2676	2.20	5.89	+2.89	37.38	+10.68
Milwaukee.....	73	60	81	55	66	+6	2738	NA	0.62	5.90	+2.75	34.83	+7.62

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

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