



Wisconsin Crop Weather

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

September 6, 2005

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Corn Progress Changing Quickly

Warm, dry weather contributed to the rapid change in corn maturity during the week. Last week's weather gave many producers the chance to start silage harvest. Minimal rainfall was reported last week, with Eau Claire receiving 0.21 inches and La Crosse receiving 0.11. The average temperature ranged from normal to 3 degrees above normal. Low temperatures were in the mid-40s, while highs climbed to 84 degrees. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 21 percent very short, 40 percent short, 38 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. There was an average of 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

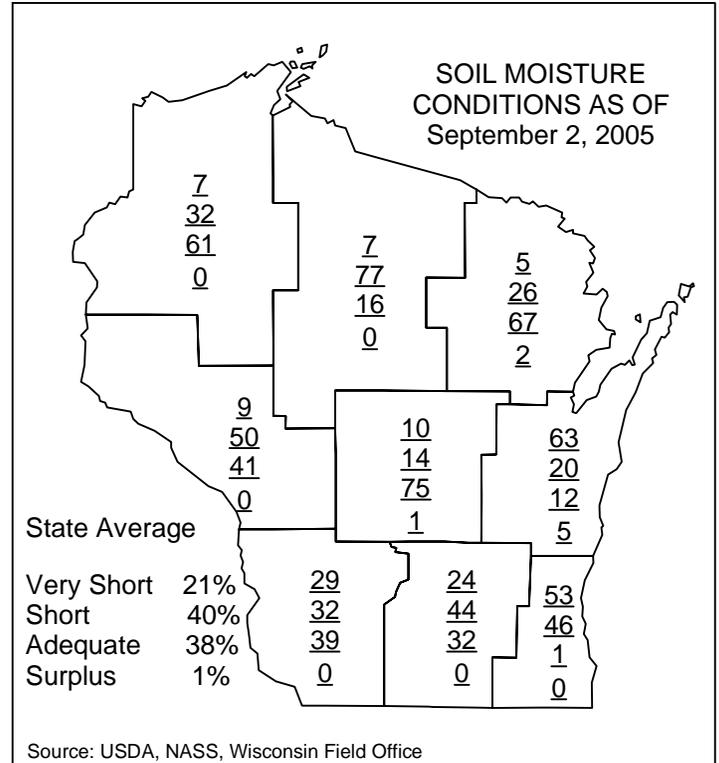
Corn conditions were rated as 10 percent very poor, 16 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 9 percent excellent. Corn progress remains ahead of schedule with the dough stage at 89 percent, higher than last year's 55 percent, and the 5-year average of 72 percent. Corn dent was reported at 33 percent, compared to last year's 14 percent, and the 5-year average of 30 percent. Corn mature is at 2 percent, higher than the 5-year average of 1 percent. Corn harvested for silage is at 7 percent, above both last year and the 5-year average of 2 percent. Corn progressed rapidly across the state during the week. Producers are just beginning to open up fields for silage chopping in northern counties, while growers in southern areas are well ahead of previous year's progress.

Soybean conditions were reported as 8 percent very poor, 15 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. The progress of soybeans is still well ahead of recent years. Soybean leaves turning color was reported at 50 percent, compared to last year's 13 percent, and the 5-year average of 25 percent. Soybeans dropping leaves was at 13 percent, ahead of last year's 2 percent, and the 5-year average of 3 percent. Weed pressures are becoming a problem for some growers. Several reports were received from producers concerned about the seed size of soybeans. The hot, dry weather may cause seeds to end up smaller than normal.

Third cutting **hay** harvest was reported at 83 percent complete, ahead of last year's 62 percent, and the 5-year average of 74 percent. Fourth cutting hay was at 9 percent complete, compared to last year's 6 percent and the 5-year average of 8 percent. Third crop hay has had good quality, but with below average yields. Farmers that did catch August rains are expecting a good fourth crop. Areas that had little to no rain are expecting a low-yielding cutting, or no fourth crop.

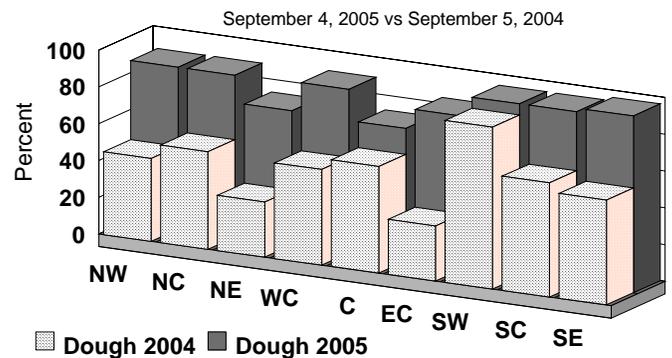
Pasture conditions were similar to last week with 10 percent very poor, 32 percent poor, 35 percent fair, 20 percent good, and 3 percent excellent.

Snapbean and **sweet corn** harvest is moving close to completion, with wide-ranging reports on yields. With mild weather, **potato** harvest continued to progress nicely during the week.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 2, 2005					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	10	16	22	43	9
Soybeans	8	15	27	40	10
Pasture	10	32	35	20	3

Corn in Dough Stage Wisconsin by District



Wisconsin Crop Progress, September 4, 2005												
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 dough	88	88	73	89	72	83	94	94	96	89	55	72
Corn dent	40	23	33	56	41	55	78	60	84	57	14	30
Corn mature	5	2	2	4	2	17	5	9	14	7	0	1
Corn harvested for silage	7	6	9	8	11	29	35	21	24	17	2	2
Soybeans turning leaves	30	34	37	40	47	60	70	46	68	50	13	25
Soybeans dropping leaves	5	5	3	7	2	29	34	10	10	13	2	3
Third cutting hay	61	55	87	86	77	80	90	87	94	83	62	74
Fourth cutting hay	3	2	7	10	1	9	19	15	4	9	6	8

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BURNETT-R.B.: Corn which had rain or was on low ground is fair, but other corn is poor. There is no second or third crop hay.

WASHBURN-L.C.: Farmers will be lucky to get second cutting if they hayed late. There is no chance of a third cutting. Too late to help corn.

CLARK-N.S.: A few corn fields have been opened up for silage harvest. There are a number of corn fields with smut. Many more soybeans have turned yellow, and some are beginning to drop leaves-pod fill looks encouraging. A considerable amount of third crop forage was harvested in the past two weeks.

PRICE-M.K.: Corn on heavier soils is finally succumbing to the prolonged dry conditions and shows obvious signs of moisture stress. Corn on many sites has poor ear development. Forage harvest continues unimpeded by weather, but yields are very low. Continued heavy grasshopper pressure in pastures and hayfields.

SHAWANO-B.R.: The corn and soybeans that survived the earlier drought, the 3-5 inches of rain last week has really helped to add yield on the end of the growing phase. Some winter wheat is beginning to be planted. New seedings planted earlier this year are looking fantastic.

DUNN-S.S.: Most of the poorer corn is being harvested for silage at this time. Crops on heavier soil seems to be holding their own, even though we are short on moisture. Third crop alfalfa is short on quantity, but has good quality.

EAU CLAIRE-R.S.: Third crop alfalfa is short, but has good quality-crop looks good. Will be a good corn crop, except for that on sandy soils.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Corn and soybeans are maturing. Third cut alfalfa harvest continues, better yields than second cut. Snapbean harvest is nearly complete. Sweet corn harvest is nearing completion; variable yields, but good. Rust and NCLB is increasing in sweet corn fields

WAUPACA-D.H.: Yields of third crop alfalfa are below normal-quality is good. Corn and soybeans are maturing-yields vary. Weeds are growing profusely.

MANITOWOC-J.H.: There is no fall seeding as of now. Lots of Rootworm Beetles on corn. Corn that's been chopped on light soil is only waist high. Soybeans turning color and dropping leaves very fast.

WINNEBAGO-R.H.: Corn is in need of rain, mainly late-planted corn. Soybeans seem to be doing better than corn. Alfalfa seems to have done well after the small amount of rain we had, less than one inch. Sweet corn harvest is moving along very good. Yields seem to be about average. Late-planted sweet corn looks good, if it has time before a frost hits it.

LAFAYETTE-M.R.: Cut about 70 acres of corn for silage. Ran about 27-30 tons per acre.

SAUK-D.H.: Third crop alfalfa looks good.

COLUMBIA-R.S.: Need rain! That would help finish the corn and soybean crops. Both crops look good, but that would cap it off. Weeds are a problem in all crops. Oat yields and test weights are average.

DANE-C.B.: Fourth crop hay is finishing up. Corn silage harvest should be in full swing now. Corn that was planted in April has been averaging 65 percent whole plant moisture this weekend, ready for bunker storage. Kernels are harder than normal due to dry weather. Second generation corn borer is high, they are drilling into the tip of the ears.

KENOSHA-J.H.: Corn and soybeans are very poor in our area. Hay production is very low for the year. Two production reports in our area were: one farm, 19 1/2 bushels of corn per acre, the other was 45 bushels per acre. Both of these were from early-planted, well-managed farms, where normal yields would be 150-plus bushels per acre.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 4, 2005

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 Sept. 3	Mar. 1 to Sept. 3 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	79	51	80	44	65	0	2489	2141	0.21	0.17	-0.28	18.68
Green Bay	77	54	81	48	66	2	2306	2004	0	0	n.a.	17.39
La Crosse	81	55	84	50	68	0	2754	2402	0.11	0.11	-0.28	20.56
Madison	81	56	83	49	68	2	2575	2340	0	0	n.a.	17.63
Milwaukee	79	62	84	60	71	3	2480	n.a.	0	0	n.a.	16.17

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.