



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

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

September 26, 2005

Vol. 05, No. 26

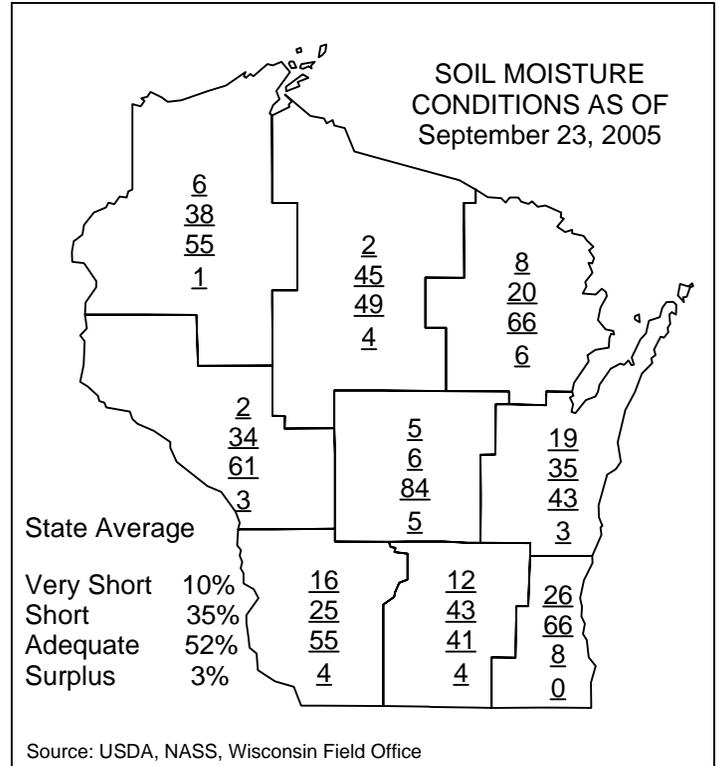
## Light Frost and Rain

Light frost was reported in several northern counties last week. However, there were no reports of damage to field crops. Most of the state experienced rain showers during the week. Rainfall last week ranged from 0.47 in Green Bay to 1.69 inches in Madison. Average temperatures were 6 to 8 degrees above normal. Low temperatures ranged from the 30s to 50s, while highs rose to the 80s. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 10 percent very short, 35 percent short, 52 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. There was an average of 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

**Corn** conditions were reported as 5 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Corn dent was reported at 95 percent, higher than last year's 56 percent and the 5-year average of 79 percent. Corn mature was at 57 percent, above last year's 11 percent and the 5-year average of 34 percent. Corn harvested for silage was at 81 percent, higher than last year's 27 percent and the 5-year average of 46 percent. Corn harvested for grain was at 5 percent, above the 5-year average of 1 percent. Corn silage harvest continued its rapid progress during the week. Silage harvest is moving closer to completion for farmers in southern areas of the state. Some areas are reporting more corn silage being harvested than planned due to the lack of other forage crops. Rainy weather slowed corn for grain harvest. Yield reports have varied depending upon soil type and planting date.

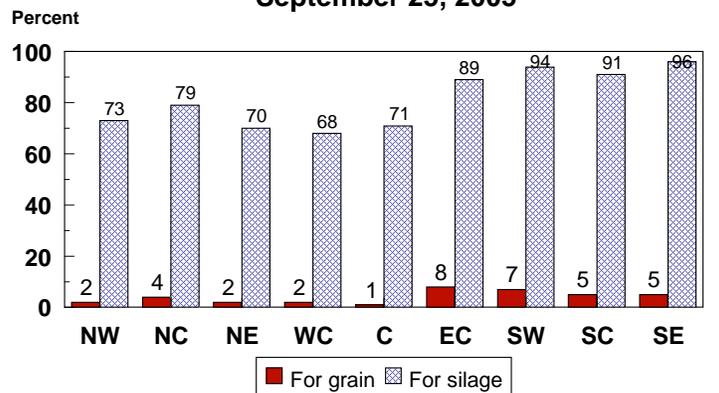
**Soybean** conditions were rated as 4 percent very poor, 14 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Soybean leaves turning color was reported at 96 percent, ahead of last year's 74 percent and the 5-year average of 86 percent. Soybeans dropping leaves was at 85 percent, compared to last year's 43 percent and the 5-year average of 56 percent. Soybean harvest was reported at 11 percent, higher than the 5-year average of 3 percent. The wet weather also slowed soybean harvest. Reports on yields varied, and there are still concerns about the weather's impact on seed size.

Fourth cutting **hay** was at 40 percent complete, compared to last year's 38 percent and the 5-year average of 36 percent. Hay yields have been below average in most areas of the state. Fourth crop harvest has been progressing slowly. **Pasture** conditions were rated at 10 percent very poor, 29 percent poor, 37 percent fair, 22 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. **Potato** harvest continued in the west central area of the state, with reports of an average harvest.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 23, 2005					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	5	13	29	38	15
Soybeans	4	14	30	37	15
Pasture	10	29	37	22	2

## Wisconsin Corn Harvested, by District September 25, 2005



## Wisconsin Crop Progress, September 25, 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 dent	98	91	96	89	96	93	97	98	98	95	56	79
Corn mature	60	40	32	46	68	67	47	69	60	57	11	34
Corn harvested for silage	73	79	70	68	71	89	94	91	96	81	27	46
Corn harvested for grain	2	4	2	2	1	8	7	5	5	5	0	1
Soybeans turning color	99	98	98	87	98	99	99	100	97	96	74	86
Soybeans dropping leaves	89	89	77	64	86	91	94	90	96	85	43	56
Soybeans harvested	5	10	10	3	3	22	19	14	4	11	0	3
Fourth cutting hay	28	18	44	40	45	44	60	56	38	40	38	36

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

**POLK-C.S.:** Corn and soybean grain harvest is just starting to get underway. Accurate yields will be available when more fields have been cut and weighed. More alfalfa will be harvested after a good frost. Some fall spraying of Round-up will be going on.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Dry again this week. We received 0.30 inch of rain which hardly got the ground wet. Corn silage is in full swing. Lots of corn in it, considering how dry it was all summer. Soybeans are running 40-50 bushels per acre, which is very good. Very little hay or haylage is being put up at this point.

**MARATHON-M.K.:** There are 26 tons corn silage per acre. Lots of soybean harvest is going on; 45-50 bushels per acre. Some high moisture corn harvest is at 26-31 percent.

**VILAS-L.K.:** Soil moisture is OK on top, but does not go down very far. Haying is finally done. Pastures show some improvement with some small showers.

**LANGLADE-A.K.:** Soybeans are close to harvest. High moisture corn is not far off. Hayfields are greened-up and look good for the fall and winter. Most of the corn went for silage to offset hay shortage; the remaining will be marginal grain.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** A few soybeans are starting to come off, and a few of the fields are beginning to get wet. Most of the corn silage is off, and soon we will see high moisture corn go into the silos. With all of the rains recently, fourth crop alfalfa is growing very nicely.

**BUFFALO-R.S.:** Had a light frost on Friday. Corn and soybeans are maturing fast. Corn silage and haylage harvest are happening. There is no combining of soybeans or corn yet.

**PEPIN-H.R.:** Corn is getting pretty much done in this area for silage, except some planted late, or on hay ground after taking off first crop hay. Most corn is maturing at a rapid pace. Soybeans getting combined are real nice and dry. Very good yields on the good, heavy soils. Not so good on the lighter soils. Fourth crop hay also getting chopped, mostly for silage.

**WAUPACA-D.L.H.:** Fall weeds are a problem. Hay yields are below normal. Some corn being harvested for silage.

**WAUSHARA-L.K.:** Corn and soybeans are mature. High moisture corn will start in a few days. Soybean harvest will start

soon. A killing frost would help to dry all the green leaves on the corn. Hay is about all made, good quality, but poor yield.

**FOND DU LAC-E.A.:** Corn and soybeans are not running very good. Soybeans are at 25-40 bushels per acre. Fourth crop hay is very short.

**SHEBOYGAN-T.B.:** Corn and soybean crops run from very good to very poor, unfortunately many times in the same field. Quality and quantity of alfalfa is poor, and it looks like the best crop of the season is the one still in the field. The last of the sweet corn in our area was harvested last week. Dandelions and volunteer alfalfa are in the corn, and continue to be the main weeds.

**GRANT-L.F.:** Corn starting to dry down and being harvested for storage. We have a good crop of soybeans and corn in the making. Yields will come when it is harvested, looks good in both crops. Haying is winding down, also a very good crop in our area. Alfalfa is still green.

**LAFAYETTE-L.W.:** Both corn and soybean yields are a little better than was expected.

**DODGE-G.R.:** Corn silage harvest is nearing completion. Yields have been exceptional; tall, well-eared stalks are prevalent throughout each field. Corn is drying down rapidly, will be ready for high moisture harvest soon. Some soybean fields are already combined locally. This is an unusual event to be happening at the same time as corn silage harvest. Fourth crop alfalfa is blossoming.

**WAUKESHA-R.F.:** Corn is very good; 150 bushels per acre. Soybeans need help-many are poor.



USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office  
 P.O. Box 8934  
 Madison, WI 53708-8934  
 (608) 224-4848  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/rlsetoc.htm>

**Robert J. Battaglia**  
 Director

**Jon Hornung**  
 Statistician

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 September 25, 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. 24	Mar. 1 to Sept. 24 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	76	49	88	36	63	6	2856	2384	1.23	2.21	-0.90	20.64
Green Bay	75	53	86	45	64	7	2658	2249	0.47	1.90	-0.66	19.29
La Crosse	78	56	89	42	67	6	3161	2684	0.97	4.48	1.67	24.69
Madison	78	55	88	46	67	8	2980	2634	1.69	1.70	-0.87	19.32
Milwaukee	78	60	88	54	69	8	2915	n.a.	1.14	1.69	-1.03	17.66

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.