



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

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

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## Harvest Helped by Warm Weather

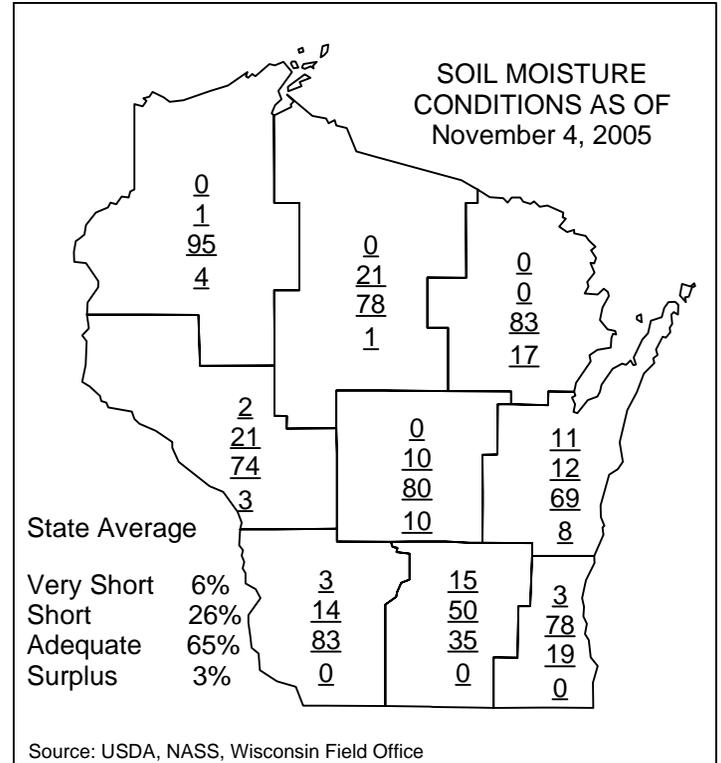
Above average temperatures and little rainfall until the weekend helped harvest progress remain above 5-year averages. Average temperatures were 6 to 8 degrees above normal. Low temperatures were in the 30s, while highs were in the 60s in most locations. Rainfall totals last week ranged from 0.30 in Eau Claire to 1.26 inches in Madison. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 6 percent very short, 26 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. There was an average of 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

**Corn** harvested for grain was at 72 percent, above last year's 50 percent and the 5-year average of 63 percent. Weather conditions helped corn harvest advance rapidly. Reports on yields have varied across the state, but most have said they have been better than expected. Yields have been reported as average to below average in eastern areas of the state. Growers in the southwest reported yields above average. Several reporters have stated concerns over storage space for the crop.

**Soybean** harvest was reported at 96 percent, higher than last year's 79 percent and the 5-year average of 90 percent. Harvest is getting closer to completion in most locations. Soybean yields have also been reported as variable. However, many reporters have said that yields are better than expected.

**Pasture** conditions were rated at 6 percent very poor, 20 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 32 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. **Fall tillage** was reported at 45 percent complete, above last year's 41 percent and the 5-year average of 39 percent. The warmer temperatures and dry soil conditions helped tillage progress during the week. Dry soils have also helped reduce compaction.

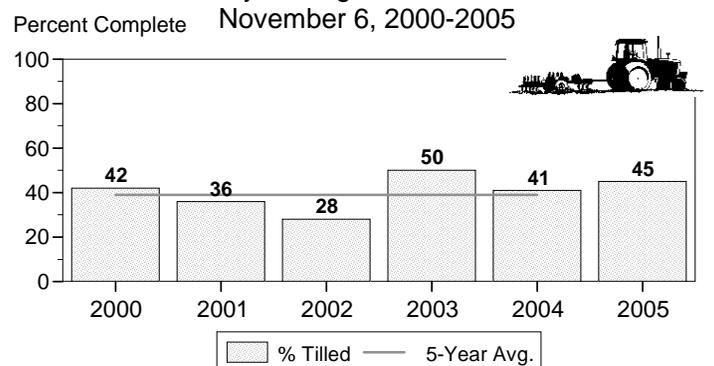
**Winter wheat** is in good shape with the recent rains. **Cranberry** harvest is finishing up in most areas. **Apple** harvest is almost complete with a report of an average crop. Farmers were busy applying manure and baling corn stalks for bedding.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of November 4, 2005					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	6	20	36	32	6

## Fall Tillage Completed

Yearly Averages for Wisconsin



Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office

Crop and percent of acreage	Wisconsin Crop Progress, November 6, 2005											
	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This year	Last year	5-year average
Corn harvested for grain	55	70	77	64	68	86	75	74	77	72	50	63
Soybeans harvested	87	98	94	97	85	92	98	97	99	96	79	90
Fall tillage	41	63	45	36	56	69	36	33	38	45	41	39

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

**BURNETT-R.B.:** The weather is windy and still lots of fields are too wet to work.

**WASHBURN-L.C.:** Everything is quiet up here; just watching the corn dry.

**VILAS-L.K.:** Fall fieldwork is about wrapped up. Soil conditions are perfect for tillage. We have had no serious frost yet. Fumigating and sub-soiling is complete.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** Still a few soybeans left in the fields, yields were averaging 50 bushels per acre. Corn is coming off at around 18 percent moisture and yielding between 120-160 bushels per acre. Many fields are quite wet, and we just received another inch or more of rain. Winter wheat is off to a good start.

**PIERCE-D.J.:** A field of corn in our area yielded 249 bushels per acre.

**ST. CROIX-R.K.:** Great weather for harvest and fieldwork.

**PORTAGE-D.Z.:** We have had better than expected yields throughout much of our area.

**WAUPACA-D.H.:** Our killing frost occurred last Friday. Most soybeans are combined with average yields.

Combines are going full-tilt in late corn fields. Yields are better than expected. Winter wheat looks great in early-planted fields.

**FOND DU LAC-E.A.:** Corn and soybean yields were at a low average. Corn at 110-190 bushels per acre and soybeans at 20-50 bushels per acre. Fall tillage is going well. Winter wheat is off to a good start.

**SHEBOYGAN-M.B.:** Corn and soybean yields have been average to below average because of the dry growing season. Soybeans yields were at 20-50 bushels per acre and corn at 50-150 bushels per acre. Winter wheat is looking excellent. We had frost, but really no hard frost yet.

**GRANT-L.F.:** Corn yields are very good at 160-210 bushels and up per acre. Soybeans also very high in yields. Moisture is way down in corn and soybeans. Most of the problem is storage for a very good crop of corn. Cribs are full, and the rest has to be shelled. Prices are very low for both corn and soybeans. No real hard frost yet; some white frost. Most alfalfa fields are green, some fourth crop hay was made this week. Not much fall tillage done. There is not much topsoil moisture. A little rain on Sunday, but not much.

**COLUMBIA-R.S.:** Yields vary within the same field for corn and soybeans. Overall, they are above average. Fall tillage moving slow because harvest needs to get done first. Storage is a problem for corn and soybeans. The soil is very dry; we need rain to recharge the groundwater and small ponds.

**DANE-C.B.:** Yields are definitely surprising everyone. Soybeans are averaging 60 bushels per acre and corn is averaging 180 plus bushels per acre. Welcomed rains totaling one inch fell this past weekend, giving winter wheat an extra boost going into dormancy. Small acreages are finishing up fall tillage. Large farms are winding down on corn acres and pushing as much fall tillage as they can before winter.

**WASHINGTON-K.R.:** Trying to make room for last corn. Do not want to sell at these prices.

**WAUKESHA-R.F.:** Corn is good. Soybeans were fair. Winter wheat looks good. No hard frost yet.



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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 6, 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 Oct. 29	Mar. 1 to Oct. 29 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	55	38	66	31	46	7	3134	2584	0.30	5.13	-1.20	23.56
Green Bay	55	40	59	32	48	8	2920	2441	0.76	5.33	-0.34	22.72
La Crosse	57	39	66	34	48	6	3476	2928	0.36	7.49	1.60	27.70
Madison	59	38	65	30	49	7	3272	2889	1.26	3.84	-1.80	21.46
Milwaukee	60	44	65	39	52	8	3198	n.a.	1.05	6.17	-0.06	22.14

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.