



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

September 17, 2001

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Jack Frost Stay Away

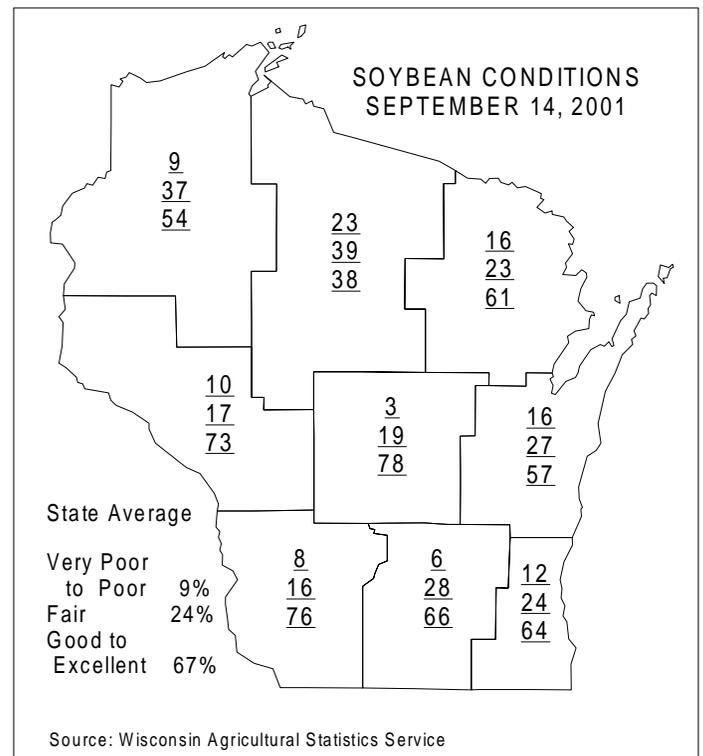
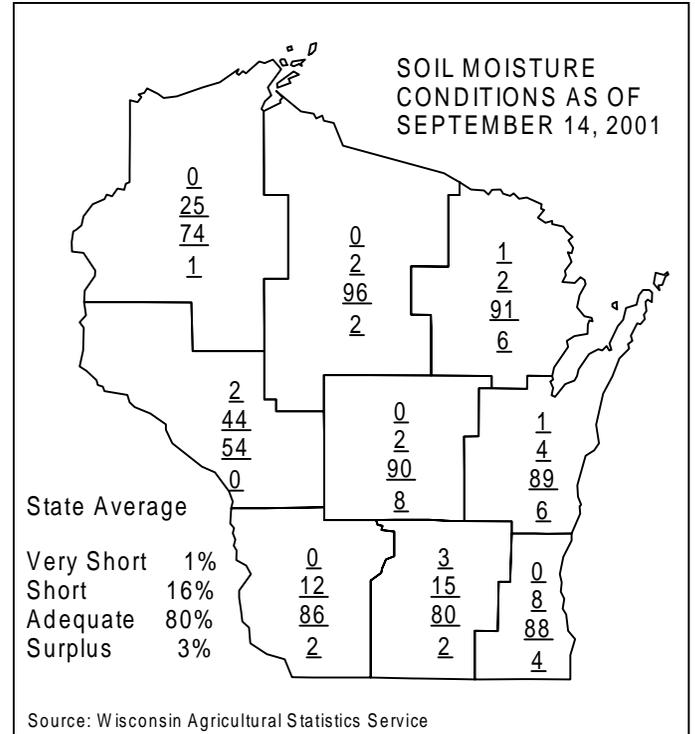
Northern Wisconsin farmers reported concerns about frost last week, with temperatures reported in Portage County reaching high 30s. Corn silage harvest started to open up fields last week; many reported plant moisture, maturity, and quality varied within fields. Rainfall last week left some fields too wet for any activity in central Wisconsin. Soil moisture was reported 1% very short, 16% short, 80% adequate, and 3% surplus. There were 4.7 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn in dough stage reached 81% last week, compared to 99% last year, and 95% for the 5-year average. Corn in dent stage reached 48% last week, compared to 80% last year, and 74% for the 5-year average. Corn maturity reached 10% complete last week, compared to 16% last year, and 24% for the 5-year average. Corn harvest for silage started last week with the state reaching 15% complete, compared to 16% last year, and 27% for the 5-year average. Southern Wisconsin silage harvest was in full swing last week, with moisture levels reported 70% in Shawano County, high 60's to low 70's in Brown County, and 65-74% for Dane County. A Brown County reporter noted late-planted corn fields showed signs of corn borer damage.

Soybeans leaves turned reached 42% complete last week, compared to 81% last year, and 77% for the 5-year average. Soybeans dropping leaves reached 14% complete last week, compared to 35% last year, and 31% for the 5-year average. A Dunn County farmer reported plans to harvest a field of soybeans next week. A Washington County farmer reported 1/8 inch beans.

Third cutting **alfalfa** harvest reached 84% complete, statewide, compared to 100% last year, and 84% for the 5-year average. Fourth cutting alfalfa harvest reached 21% complete this year, slightly ahead of last year's 20%. A Shawano County reporter noted very little hay being cut so the crowns can store energy instead of spending energy.

White cranberry harvest neared completion last week, with reports of yields below expectations. A Wood County reporter noted mildew showing up in some **pumpkin** fields. **Winter wheat** was being sown in Barron County last week.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 14, 2001					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	1	13	39	39	8
Corn	3	9	30	46	12
Soybean	2	7	24	52	15

Wisconsin Crop Progress, September 16, 2001

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 in dough stage	70	75	60	82	79	73	86	90	94	81	99	95
Corn in dent stage	35	37	30	37	47	41	53	62	63	48	80	74
Corn mature	3	5	1	9	7	6	12	15	19	10	16	24
Corn hvstd. for silage	10	6	7	20	16	16	24	17	18	15	16	27
Soybean leaves turning	40	45	30	45	38	42	42	38	50	42	81	77
Soybean dropping leaves	12	13	10	17	10	12	18	10	20	14	35	31
3rd crop hay harvested	77	83	80	85	80	84	90	87	89	84	100	84
4th crop hay harvested	20	22	13	18	22	28	25	20	15	21	20	n.a.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BAYFIELD-S.S.: Everything is at a standstill this week due to cold, cloudy weather. Corn has small cobs. Fall fieldwork continues.

BURNETT-R.B.: Corn that was just setting ears when it was so dry, set small ears after rain. Can't ever amount to anything. Grass grazing real good. Forecasting frost in low areas tonight.

CLARK-G.S.: Corn is still quite immature, some denting has started, but we still need two to three weeks to get mature corn. A little early corn silage has been made.

LINCOLN- F.O.: Three inches of rain in the last week. Should provide enough moisture to finish all crops. Most corn is in the dent stage and maturing fast. Corn silage is yielding well. Weeds continue to infest corn fields. Hay harvest is just about finished. Yields have been below average. Apples are being harvested. Yields are high. Potato harvest has started.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Corn 70 percent moisture, greener than it appears. Silage yields normal or below. Third crop hay done, fourth crop hay regrowth nice, no harvest though.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Corn plant moisture is nearing 70 percent for early-planted corn. Some starting to open corn fields, and yields are down considerably. Very little hay being cut so that reserves can be built up in plant.

BUFFALO-D.W.: Not making third crop hay. Sold 200 round bales of hay for \$10 each. Need markets for hay.

ST CROIX-L.M.: Corn maturity extremely variable. Reports of some corn in the 28-29 percent moisture range. A few early soybeans being harvested. Moisture about 13 percent. Beans look small. Corn silage harvest delayed to be able to harvest the late-planted corn this spring. Winter wheat being planted.

JUNEAU-R.C.: Corn is at 65 percent moisture. Most hay is finished for the year. Quality is good, except where dry weather took its toll. We need a late fall to get all the corn mature. Beans look real good.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: Third and fourth hay crop being made when weather conditions permit. Some corn still needs time to mature. Lots of sweet corn to be picked yet.

DOOR-M.F.: Did a county-wide corn silage dry-down on Wednesday. Average moisture was 71.2 percent based on 152 samples brought in. Just finishing up the snap bean harvest. Yields improving from what was being harvested a month ago.

SHEBOYGAN-M.B.: Corn silage harvest should swing into high gear next week. Fields are very wet, and growers are waiting for them to dry so they can plant winter wheat. Wet fields may delay corn silage harvest in some areas.

GRANT-L.F.: Corn is green, with some ears and husks drying down. A small amount of silage being made; most stalks and ears are small, so it's going to take more acreage than usual. We have third crop hay cutting winding down. Fourth crop hay cutting just starting. We have some good moisture which we needed badly. Tomatoes, potatoes, apples, pickles, peppers, and onions all being harvested. Pastures have greened-up, also hayfields. More silage being made.

VERNON-K.A.: Silage at 60-70 percent moisture. Bunkers and bags being filled. Third crop hay delayed because of wet weather.

DANE-D.R.: Corn yields down, grain percent likely low. Bean yields low, as are hay yields. Lawns beginning to catch up.

DODGE-J.F.: Corn silage moistures are variable depending on planting date. Silage harvest is in full swing; silage yields are better than average.

GREEN-M.M.: Corn silage harvest is in full swing. Majority of soybeans have turned, and some fields are dropping their leaves.

WALWORTH-A.A.: Most corn silage is harvested. Lima beans starting to mature. Late sweet corn looks very good.

WASHINGTON-R.B.: Milk line is one-third to one-half inch in kernel. Silage is testing 68 to 73 percent moisture. Choppers are going all over. Quantity seems good. Ear filling has come on strong here at the end. Looks better than average. Hay is growing some, fourth cutting is a foot tall. I am seeing one soybean plant in a 15-foot radius dead and soybeans in pods are 1/8 inch in size and very green in pods.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 16, 2001

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. 15	Mar. 1 to Sept. 15 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	70	47	82	41	58	-2	2,524	2,299	0.09	1.24	-0.86	29.23
Green Bay	67	47	73	40	57	-3	2,402	2,161	0.43	1.61	-0.21	22.27
La Crosse	70	51	80	45	61	-2	2,727	2,585	0.06	4.38	2.37	26.83
Madison	69	50	79	41	59	-2	2,573	2,524	0.69	2.58	0.76	30.20
Milwaukee	69	54	81	49	61	-2	2,557	n.a.	1.20	2.29	0.52	27.85

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 1961-90 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. N.a. = not available. T = trace.