



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

September 4, 2001

Vol. 01, No. 23

Waiting Game

How will this growing season yield? Corn is drying down. Soybeans are turning color. All Wisconsin farmers can do is wait and hope. Activity on Wisconsin farms turned to machinery maintenance last week, with fall harvest around the corner. Soil moisture was reported 4% very short, 23% short, 72% adequate, and 1% surplus. There were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

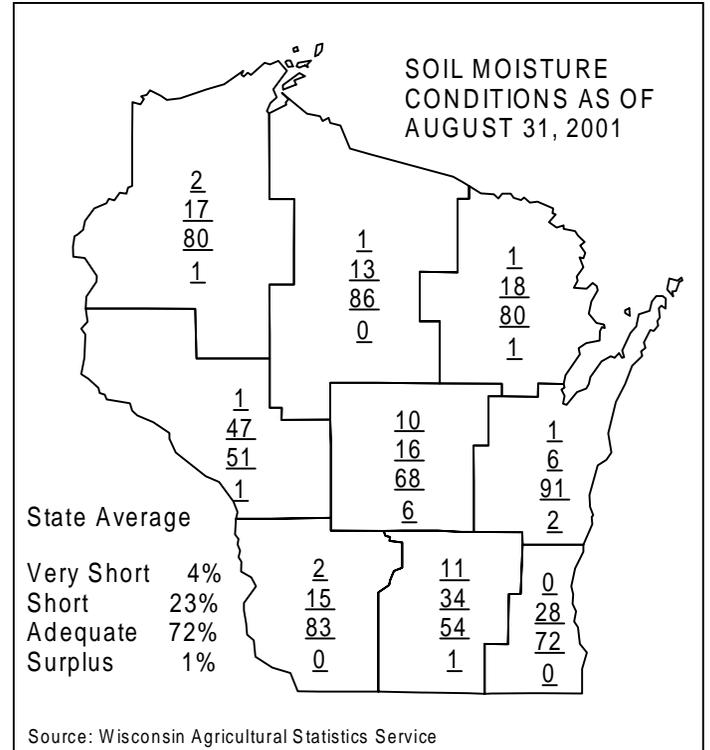
Corn in dough stage reached 61% last week, compared to 75% last year, and 76% for the 5-year average. Corn in dent stage reached 10% last week, compared to 32% last year, and 35% for the 5-year average. Washington County reported corn in various stages from milk stage to mature. East central and southern Wisconsin reported silage harvest started last week; yields were reported down compared to past years.

Soybeans setting pods reached 92% complete this week, compared to 100% last year, and 92% for the 5-year average. Reports around the state noted soybeans need sun and time to see good pod fill.

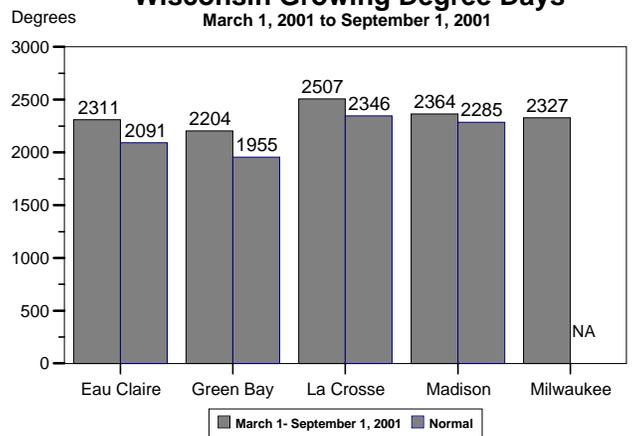
Oat harvest reached 95% complete last week, compared to 100% last year, and the 5-year average of 98%. Small grain harvest was almost complete for the state.

Third cutting **alfalfa** harvest reached 70% complete, statewide, compared to 78% last year, and 63% for the 5-year average. Locations in northern Wisconsin reported finishing second cutting alfalfa last week, while locations in southern Wisconsin reported starting fourth cutting.

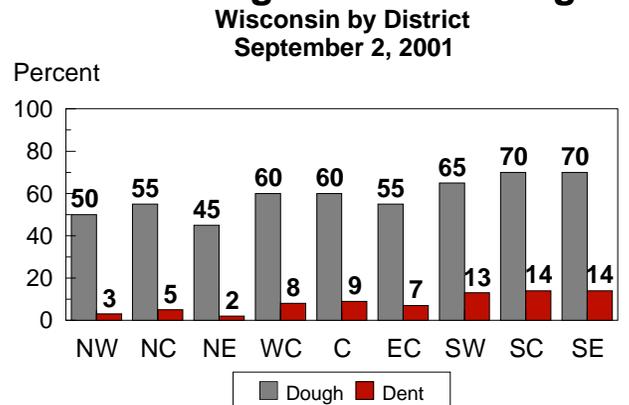
Tobacco harvest was well under way last week throughout the state. Vilas County reported **potato** vine kill started last week. Manure was spread on harvested fields.



Wisconsin Growing Degree Days



Corn Dough and Dent Stages



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 31, 2001					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	4	18	37	36	5
Corn	4	11	31	44	10
Soybean	3	7	29	43	18

Wisconsin Crop Progress, September 2, 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	50	55	45	60	60	55	65	70	70	61	75	76
Corn in dent stage	3	5	2	8	9	7	13	14	14	10	32	35
Soybeans setting pods	86	80	88	93	95	90	95	90	99	92	100	92
Oats harvested for grain	90	94	87	94	95	96	99	99	99	95	100	98
3rd crop hay harvested	65	70	68	73	65	70	75	69	72	70	78	63

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BAYFIELD-S.S.: Working on finishing up second crop. It has been very dry.

POLK-C.O.: Early harvest of corn has been disappointing. Early-planted corn has poor pollination, or black stalks and smut. Most are harvesting for silage. Beans look better after recent rain.

ONEIDA-P.L.: I received a report that they are processing some green cranberries for a new clear juice product. This also is a way to utilize some hail-damaged berries. The normal cranberry harvest should be about a month away. The oats seem to be of a pretty good quality and seem pretty heavy yielding. Rain showers have benefitted the hay and pasture.

VILAS-L.K.: Some second crop hay being put up. Starting to kill potato vines. Oats harvest about done. Need a lot of rain real bad. Just had 1.25 inches all month.

FOREST-A.K.: Second crop in. No third crop hay made in this area. Corn growing well.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Those few acres of corn that got planted early are almost ready for silage. Soybeans are dropping leaves, and alfalfa is growing rapidly with moisture plentiful now.

BUFFALO-R.S.: Nice third crop, but hard to get it baled. Next full moon is October 2, maybe frost can hold off for crops to catch up. LP gas will be too costly for drying cheap corn. Some fall seeding of alfalfa.

DUNN-S.S.: Third crop haying just about finished for this year; quantity so-so, quality good. Appears to be lots of hay ground, although not all the best. Recent showers have helped all crops, pastures, etc. Potato harvest about to begin. A late frost will be very beneficial for the corn. Look for yields to really vary from area to area.

ST. CROIX-R.K.: Crops maturing well; yields will vary greatly because of dry spells.

MARQUETTE-K.B.: Corn silage is being put up on some of the sandy parts of the county, with the corn testing 65% moisture. Tonnage is down, but the corn will still yield 90 bushel per acre despite the drought affect on sandy soil. Soybeans are still blooming and need additional time to make pods before we have a frost.

WAUPACA-D.H.: Good rains fell last Saturday. Early corn is denting; a few white husks. A few yellow leaves on some soy-

beans. Third crop hay is short, excellent quality.

BROWN-C.F.: We received another 1-1/2 - 2 inches of rain. No signs of white mold in soybeans. Corn is uneven in places, some farmers chopping corn for silage. Straw baling is about complete, and some people hauling liquid manure. Vegetation is nice and green again now that rains have returned.

FOND DU LAC-R.P.: Field activities are at a standstill with the heavy rains, and topsoil moisture is very adequate.

MANITOWOC-H.W.: Received .05 inches of rain on Saturday. Crops are growing nice after the rains of the last two weeks. Third crop hay very short. Need a nice, long fall before frost.

LAFAYETTE-L.W.: Corn is maturing rapidly; many drying husks, and corn silage is being put up. Also quite a bit of third crop hay is being harvested.

VERNON-A.D.: Tobacco going in shed. Pastures greening again. Busy with third crop hay. Saw first strip of corn silage being made Tuesday.

COLUMBIA-J.J.: Corn maturity very uneven. Early milk to advanced dough in the same field. Small cobs 1/2 to 3/4 filled out. Overall, 10 days to 2 weeks behind normal.

DANE-D.F.: Soybeans are beginning to turn color. Corn silage harvest has begun and should be in full swing within another week. Rain continues to be spotty leading to drastically different soil conditions throughout the county.

WALWORTH-E.P.: Fourth cutting started. Better than second or third. Brown leaves on corn husks. Root worm beetles hit some corn fields hard. Silo filling started.

WASHINGTON-K.R.: Late corn will need sun to reach maturity before frost. Soybeans will also need lots of time for pod fill.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 2, 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. 1	Mar. 1 to Sept. 1 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	80	56	84	48	68	2	2,311	2,091	1.12	14.83	2.25	28.09
Green Bay	79	55	84	47	67	2	2,204	1,955	0.09	9.49	-0.52	20.72
La Crosse	81	58	86	51	69	1	2,507	2,346	1.13	9.51	-2.15	22.52
Madison	79	58	82	51	68	2	2,364	2,285	0.12	16.24	5.13	27.70
Milwaukee	79	63	85	57	71	4	2,327	n.a	0.05	12.26	2.04	25.65

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.