



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

October 29, 2001

Vol. 01, No. 31

Waiting to Harvest

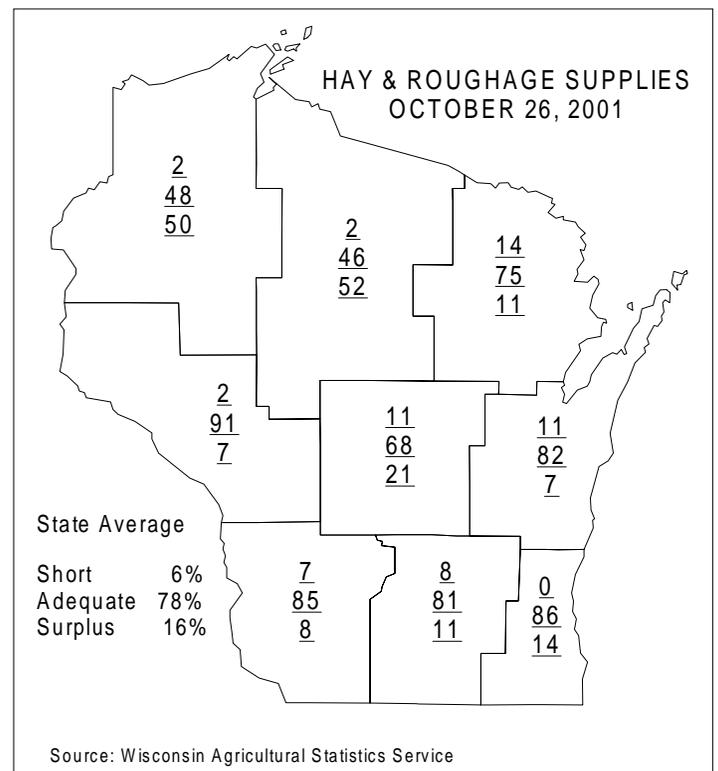
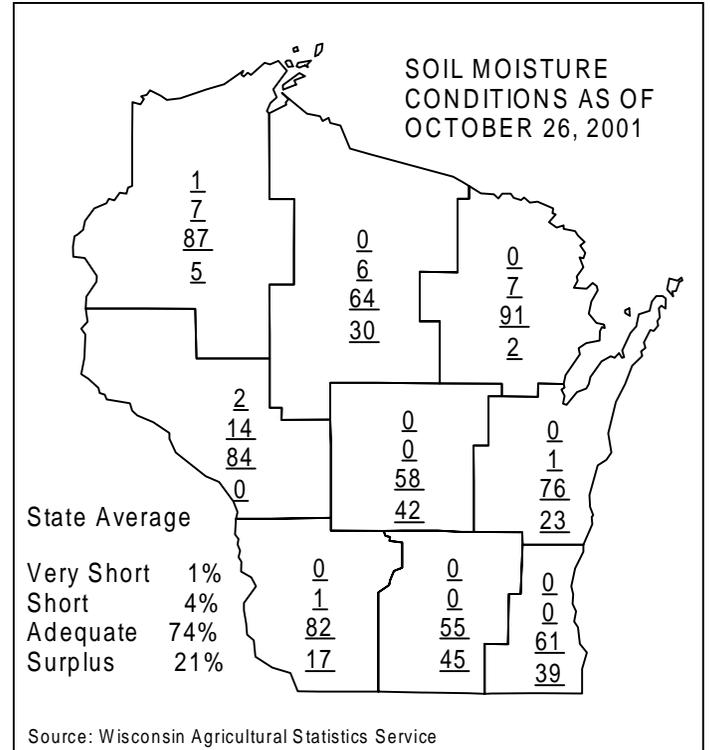
Last week a brief period of snow accumulation reminded northern Wisconsin farmers that winter is around the corner. High winds received a mixed greeting; the wind helped dry the soil so harvest could continue, but it also blew over corn stalks, making harvest more difficult in some areas. The soil moisture was reported 1% very short, 4% short, 74% adequate, and 21% surplus. There were 3.9 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn maturity reached 93% complete, compared to 100% last year, and 96% for the 5-year average. Corn harvested for grain was 36% complete, compared to 62% last year, and 52% for the 5-year average. A Dane County farmer reported that corn and soybean yields are as variable as the weather. Most reporters noted high moisture corn harvest is under way in Wisconsin, with moisture levels in the 20-30% range. Producers in scattered locations, reported they are drying corn instead of waiting for it to dry down in the field.

Soybean harvest reached 73% complete, compared to 93% last year, and 90% for the 5-year average. A Dunn County reporter noted small bean size and only 2 beans per pod was a common sight. A Columbia County farmer reported soybean yields varied from a poor 10 bushels per acre to an acceptable 50 bushels per acre.

This season's **hay and roughage supplies** were rated 6% short, 78% adequate, and 16% surplus. A Waushara County farmer reported hay supplies as plentiful, but a shortage of quality hay. A farmer in Grant County reported pastures were still green.

Fall tillage continued last week with 24% complete, compared to 31% last year, and 34% for the 5-year average. Many are reporting **winter wheat** in good condition due to the mild weather and frequent rains.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 26, 2001					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	2	14	39	39	6

Crop and percent of acreage	Wisconsin Crop Progress, October 28, 2001										State average		
	District average									This year	Last year	5-year average	
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
Corn mature	85	88	78	96	91	85	97	98	99	93	100	96	
Corn hvstd. for grain	25	27	21	36	33	34	39	40	44	36	62	52	
Soybean harvested	72	74	62	72	70	61	80	74	78	73	93	90	
Fall tillage	31	28	19	20	36	34	16	15	21	24	31	34	

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BAYFIELD-J.M.: Growing season ended with snow on Wednesday. Corn harvest continued. Hay supplies are in surplus.

CHIPPEWA-J.J.: Soybean harvest is nearing completion. Yield varies with soil and weather conditions. Dry corn is just starting; percent moisture seems to be slow drying down, but those with many acres to cover have to roll. Several are taking time during the lag to till soybean and high moisture and silage corn fields.

ASHLAND-A.R.: The first snow fall on Thursday. It's been snowing all morning. Everything is covered white. Corn and sunflowers in the area remain to be combined. Up to now the fall has been great. All fall colored leaves are gone.

ONEIDA-P.L.: We got about three inches of snow yesterday and today! I don't think it will stay. So we may still have next week or so to finish the harvesting and fieldwork.

SHAWANO-J.S.: Soybean yields ranging from 20-30 bushels on sands, 40 bushels and up on heavier soils. Corn yields highly variable, but have reached up to 171 bushels on tile-drained land in the southeastern part of Shawano County. Corn moisture dropped fast, catching some producers who wanted to ensile high moisture corn by surprise.

DUNN-S.S.: I'm hearing yields of high 30s to low 40s on beans; however, no corn yields as yet. Soybeans pretty much completed sometime today by noon. Lots of wind yesterday and today. Hay supplies probably in the range of adequate to short. Good growing season but just not enough rain.

MONROE-W.D.: What a week in terms of weather. Corn is drying nicely, and most beans are ready. We need some dry weather to get combining. This cold spell will force many of us to get all the grain done quickly.

WAUPACA-G.K.: Soybeans varying from 10-50 bushels per acre. Corn just starting; yields will be less than normal. Early-planted wheat is looking good. Most crops varied quite a bit, and yields were lower than normal because of water and heat extremes.

WAUSHARA-J.J.: High moisture corn harvest nearly complete. Just starting harvest for dry storage. Dryland yields are not very good; irrigated yields are good but not as good as last year. Not any hay being harvested. Storage is full so don't need the hay.

FOND DU LAC-E.A.: Corn and bean harvest is going well with

yields below the last two years. Winter wheat planting is done and off to a good start due to rain and mild temperatures.

SHEBOYGAN-T.J.: Soybean harvest has been hampered by damp and wet weather. All in all the 2001 crop year was a pretty difficult one with planting and harvesting windows being as small as they were.

GRANT-E.B.: Heavy rains on Tuesday and Wednesday have stopped all fieldwork. The high winds are causing field losses to rise. Seems too early for this weather.

LAFAYETTE-L.W.: Lowered my estimate on percent of soybeans harvested from last week. Noticed quite a few fields still unharvested. Some farmers are reporting the best corn crop they have ever had.

SAUK-D.H.: Corn crop good and dry.

COLUMBIA-J.J.: Little harvesting done this week. Beans and corn slow to dry down. Need dry, sunny days.

GREEN-F.Z.: All the rain has halted everything in farming. There is hay being made, corn and beans being combined. Believe this year won't be too much different from normal in the end.

JEFFERSON-B.K.: Heavy rain 10/23-10/24 shut everything down. Combining will resume by Saturday, but it will take several more dry days for tillage to start up. Yields are better than expected, yet slightly below average.

RACINE-L.F.: Hail received in parts of the county twice this week. Big wind on Thursday did much havoc to standing corn which was already starting to fall over prior to the wind.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: Bean harvest came to a halt this week with the rain. Yields were 50 plus on low ground and 20 bushels per acre on high ground. Corn harvest started in full swing on Friday.



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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 October 28, 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. 29	Mar. 1 to Sept. 29 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	52	34	65	28	43	-1	2,641	2,425	0.03	4.64	-1.46	32.63
Green Bay	52	35	62	27	43	-2	2,519	2,289	0.53	3.89	-1.58	24.55
La Crosse	52	37	62	32	44	-3	2,849	2,731	0.10	6.96	1.21	29.41
Madison	51	37	62	32	44	-2	2,682	2,686	2.10	8.14	2.86	35.76
Milwaukee	53	40	61	30	47	0	2,677	n.a.	2.08	8.92	3.42	34.48

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.