



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

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

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## Harvest Weather

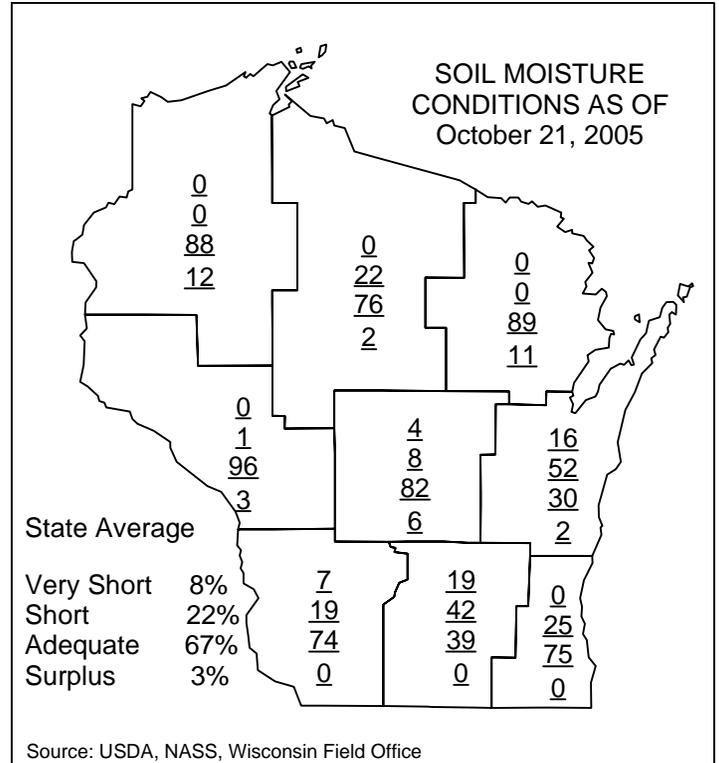
Weather cooperated during most of the week as corn and soybean harvest progress remained above 5-year averages. Average temperatures were 1 to 2 degrees above normal. Low temperatures dipped to 29 in Eau Claire, while highs reached the 70s in many locations. Rainfall totals last week ranged from 0.07 in La Crosse to 0.60 inches in Green Bay. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 8 percent very short, 22 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. There was an average of 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

**Corn** conditions were reported as 4 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. Corn harvested for grain was at 44 percent, above last year's 24 percent and the 5-year average of 34 percent. Combines continued to roll across the state as harvest progress pushed ahead of historic trends. As soybean harvest slows, the pace of corn harvest should intensify. Yields have been higher than expected in many locations, with reporters seeing good test weights. Producers are starting to have concerns about having enough storage for the large crop.

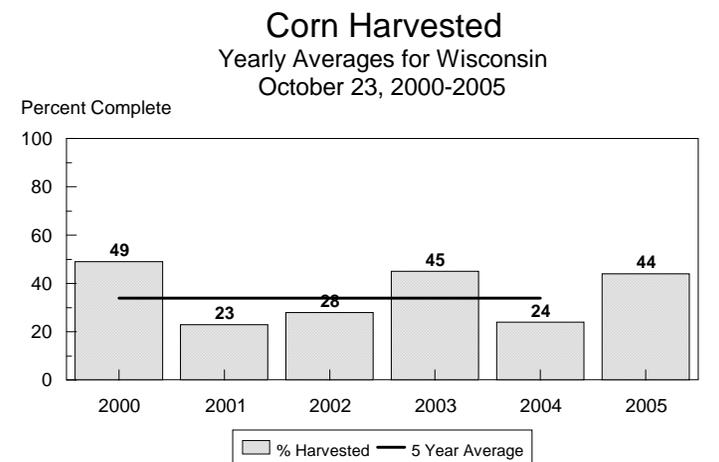
**Soybean** harvest was reported at 81 percent, higher than last year's 65 percent and the 5-year average of 71 percent. Harvest is moving closer to completion in many areas. Light frost during the week should dry any green stems that were slowing harvest for northern growers. Yields have been reported as average for most areas.

Fourth cutting **hay** was at 80 percent complete, compared to last year's 78 percent and the 5-year average of 76 percent. **Pasture** conditions were rated at 8 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 34 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. **Fall tillage** was reported at 25 percent complete, even with last year's 25 percent and slightly above the 5-year average of 24 percent.

Most **winter wheat** has been planted, and many areas are reporting good stands. **Cranberry** harvest continued in central areas of the state. Farmers were busy applying manure and baling corn stalks for bedding.



Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	4	8	21	46	21
Pasture	8	13	39	34	6



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 harvested for grain	22	36	30	24	39	65	56	61	30	44	24	34
Soybeans harvested	69	80	64	72	60	78	92	90	95	81	65	71
Fourth cutting hay	70	73	81	84	70	73	94	84	96	80	78	76
Fall Tillage	25	30	18	16	42	39	20	21	22	25	25	24

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

**POLK-C.S.:** Corn and soybean quality is average. Yields vary in accordance with soil, rainfall patterns, and various other cropping practices. Some fall tillage is taking place. Wheat planting is done. Some alfalfa is yet to be cut. Still need a hard frost.

**WASHBURN-L.C.:** The only corn cut so far was for silage. Winter wheat planted in corn fields came up fast, green, and thick.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** Finally received a good frost on Friday. This should take care of those green stems in the soybeans and help bring the moisture down. Many soybeans still hovering around 14-17 percent. Yields averaging about 50 bushels per acre overall. Many fields are too wet with lots of ruts left in them after harvest. Winter wheat looks very good. Not much corn coming off yet for the dryer.

**DUNN-J.F.:** The rain stopped soybean harvest for two days. Crop yields are a lot better than what growers thought they would be. Soil type is a huge factor in determining yields. Yield monitors show 5-10 bushels per acre on soybeans on the sandy knolls while the heavy soil, low areas will jump up to 50-60 bushels per acre. Corn is the same way. A number of certified yield checks have shown 200 bushels per acre for corn. Grain moisture is running 20-23 percent on corn.

**WAUPACA-D.L.H.:** Corn yields are better than predicted. Soybean yields range from poor to good. Fall tillage is in full swing.

**WAUSHARA-L.K.:** Most of the soybeans are harvested. Corn harvest is in full swing. Combines are going everyday.

**FOND DU LAC-J.M.:** Grain corn is dry and heavy; 16 percent moisture and 58 lbs. test weight, yielding average or above. Soybeans are at 11 percent moisture with less than average yields. Storage for both is getting sticky. Not much hay to harvest here, some stalks and bean stubbles are getting baled. Wheat and rye are off to a great start.

**GRANT-L.F.:** Corn has very good quantity and quality, large kernels and very good yields. Combines running really slow, because very large yields in our area. Still seeing fourth crop hay being made, a very nice crop. We have not had any frost. Pastures and hayfields are green. Lots of corn being picked any

way they can harvest it without spending much money to do so. Soybeans also a larger crop then was expected. A little winter wheat has been planted and emerged, but not a lot has been planted. Storage is going to be a big question mark. Some are putting corn in empty silos, bunkers, and some are grinding it and putting it in large white bags. Some fall tillage being done on land that has been harvested. Top soil is very dry. We need 2-3 inches of rain.

**IOWA-K.V.:** Excellent yields and quality for soybean and corn harvest. Reporting some 60 pound bushel weights on corn. Winter wheat is almost all planted; some has germinated and looks good. Good fall for harvesting corn stalks.

**GREEN-J.T.:** Yields are better than expected on most, but not all farms. Some corn insurance yields were zero, but some are claiming higher than 200 bushels per acre, and 80 bushels per acre on soybeans. It seems to be a give and take process. Yields are slightly below average on well drained uplands, and well above average on poorly drained soils. Harvest is well ahead of pace. Higher corn harvest should account for an above average late October deer season. No hard frost yet.

**ROCK-C.O.:** Harvest is only limited by storage as corn is being dumped on the ground by local elevators, and most will not accept any more soybeans. Great harvest weather!

**WASHINGTON-R.B.:** Yields on corn and soybeans are very good. Most grain elevators are full making harvest slow down or come to a stop. No frost as of yet. Corn is falling down fast.

**WAUKESHA-D.W.:** Soybeans are done around here about 35-40 bushels per acre. Corn harvest is in full swing. The difference between high ground and low ground is from 100 bushels per acre to 175 bushels per acre.



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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 23, 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. 22	Mar. 1 to Oct. 22 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	61	35	76	29	48	2	3115	2560	0.20	4.86	-0.48	23.29
Green Bay	59	37	70	30	48	2	2910	2420	0.60	4.47	-0.13	21.86
La Crosse	64	38	78	32	51	2	3457	2900	0.07	7.02	2.12	27.23
Madison	62	36	73	30	49	1	3258	2857	0.24	2.50	-2.04	20.12
Milwaukee	59	44	70	39	52	2	3188	n.a.	0.22	4.52	-0.50	20.49

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.