



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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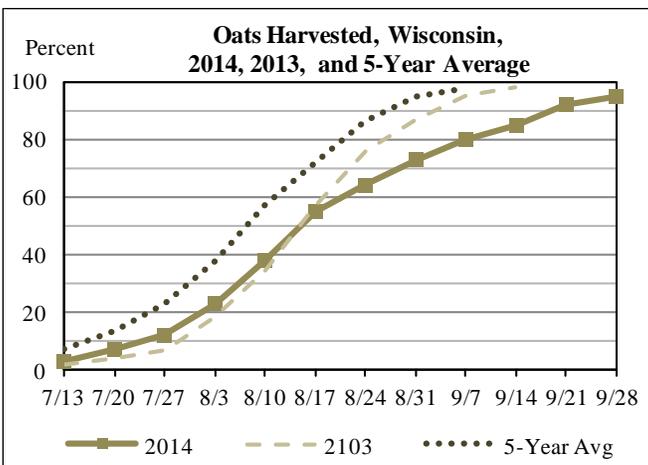
For the week ending September 28, 2014

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Warm Weather Promotes Crop Maturity

Warm and sunny days and minimal precipitation boosted crop maturity and allowed farmers to make good progress on fall fieldwork this week. After a chilly Monday, daytime highs crept steadily upward, reaching the upper 70s and low 80s by the weekend. The southern part of the state saw clear skies, while the north received scattered showers midweek. Topsoil moistures fell slightly with 12 percent surplus statewide compared to 15 percent surplus last week. Field conditions remained soggy in areas of north and central Wisconsin, where excessive moisture has significantly delayed the end of the small grain harvest. With the oat harvest not yet completed, this is the slowest harvest pace in over 30 years. Corn silage chopping and hay baling raced ahead as sunny days provided good drying conditions. Apple, cranberry, and potato producers also took advantage of the fine weather to bring in crops. These warm temperatures were much needed by late planted corn and soybeans, with reporters statewide commenting that crops were maturing well and beginning to dry down.

There were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.



Across the reporting stations, average temperatures this week were normal to 5 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 70 to 76 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 45 to 54 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.00 inches in Milwaukee and Madison to 0.26 inches in Green Bay. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

- <http://www.noaa.gov/>
- <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
- <http://www.cocorahs.org/>
- <http://www.weather.gov/>

As of September 28, eighty-two percent of **corn** was in or beyond the dent stage. Thirty-six percent of corn was mature, up 17 percentage points from the previous week. Corn cut for silage was 31 percent harvested. Corn condition was rated 72 percent good to excellent.

Eighty-nine percent of **soybeans** had leaves turning color and 58 percent had leaves dropping, up 19 and 31 percentage points respectively. Soybeans condition was rated 73 percent good to excellent.

Ninety-five percent of **oats** for grain had been harvested.

Winter wheat was 20 percent planted.

Potatoes were 67 percent harvested.

The **third cutting of alfalfa** was 97 percent complete and the **fourth cutting** was 67 percent complete.

Pasture condition was rated 67 percent good to excellent.

Fall tillage was 9 percent complete.

Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 28, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture & Range	1	5	27	55	12
Corn	2	6	20	49	23
Soybeans	1	4	22	49	24

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of September 28, 2014

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent									Percent			
Fall tillage	10	13	8	6	9	6	8	15	10	9	4	8	7
Corn in or past dough stage	91	97	87	98	92	95	100	100	98	96	93	99	99
Corn in or past dent stage	73	73	59	89	71	67	94	95	85	82	72	82	91
Corn mature	25	12	10	25	24	18	48	69	50	36	19	40	51
Corn harvested for silage	20	10	10	42	27	17	68	66	49	31	18	51	64
Soybeans turning color	87	86	60	98	87	79	96	96	83	89	70	83	92
Soybeans dropping leaves	53	55	27	70	46	40	71	68	54	58	27	49	65
Oats harvested for grain	98	84	93	100	99	91	100	100	100	95	92	100	100
Winter Wheat planted	33	34	25	13	37	18	13	20	21	20	8	n.a.	n.a.
Potatoes harvested	55	74	68	95	64	n.a.	100	100	n.a.	67	54	n.a.	n.a.
Alfalfa hay, third cutting	96	96	99	95	95	99	99	99	98	97	94	99	100
Alfalfa hay, fourth cutting	56	32	68	63	72	71	77	89	53	67	53	61	72

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of September 28, 2014

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	6.1	5.7	6.2	6.2	6.6	6.2	5.9	6.4	6.5	6.2	4.8	6.0
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	18
Short	10	0	0	6	1	3	13	16	30	8	5	40
Adequate	80	63	72	86	83	77	83	79	69	80	80	41
Surplus	10	37	28	8	16	20	3	4	1	12	15	1
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	25
Short	6	5	8	8	4	2	21	15	25	10	9	48
Adequate	85	63	77	86	76	78	77	80	74	80	79	27
Surplus	9	32	15	6	19	20	1	4	1	10	12	0

Wisconsin Crop Progress

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

BARRON-T.J.: Corn silage harvest is beginning. Great weather this past week gave much of the corn just what it needed to finish.

BAYFIELD-C.B.: Nice fall weather this week. Progress made on small grain harvest. Fall tillage activity throughout the area.

CLARK-A.K.: Oats have been too wet, harvest is not good. Last week was very good for beans. Need good drying weather, fields are still too wet.

MARATHON-S.N.: Fair, sunny skies dominated this week with a good rain shower midweek. Small grain harvest slow with lodging and wet fields. Corn looks good, however is two weeks or more behind in maturity. Corn silage harvest just beginning.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Corn silage chopping has started but most of it is a little high in moisture. Fields are also quite wet in many cases. A few of the soybeans have started to drop their leaves. Once again though, we have a number of fields that are very green in color yet. Some area farmers are finally getting their third cutting of alfalfa cut while a few are now taking fourth cutting. We have pretty much escaped the frost so far and are very thankful for that.

EAU CLAIRE-A.B.: Silage harvest is in full swing with tonnage yields normal on heavy soils and above normal on the sandy soils. A few acres of high-moisture corn has been harvested, the producers were/are trying to stretch the feed until the corn gets ready. The first soybeans were harvested this weekend with yields ranging from a low 17 to a high of 53 bushels per acre and the moisture at 12.5 percent.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Intermittent showers kept farmers out of the fields a few days this week. But on other days you could see farmers racing to get crops harvested as best they could. The last two days were very warm and sunny and made haying and silo filling a popular choice. It was surprising to see corn cobs hanging down shortly after being exposed to the warm air when harvesting a previous row of corn.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: The warm weather has significantly increased corn and soybean maturity in this area. Hay harvest is in full swing, catching up from cool wet conditions earlier in September. Corn silage harvest is beginning. Autumn fall color is approaching peak - probably by next weekend.

WOOD-M.L.: Dry hay making weather has been very limited this year, quite a bit of mowing for dry hay being done this week. The lack of extensive frost continues to buy corn and soybean crops some much needed time.

DOOR-R.S.: Beautiful weather last week. Good for harvesting conditions.

MANITOWOC-M.R.: There is really not any silage harvest going on in the county yet. In talking with a few farms across the county, most are 1-2 weeks out yet on silage harvest. There was some manure being hauled on wheat and alfalfa ground this past week. It is going to be a busy fall to say the least.

GRANT-R.R.: For the last week, the temperature has been much above normal with no rain, allowing for much field work to be done. We could use a good rain again now.

DODGE-S.B.: The weather this past week was beautiful. Temperatures were above normal which will help crops mature.

GREEN-M.M.: A warm and sunny week has all but assured our corn will reach maturity before frost. Dry weather resulted in a lot of 4th and 5th crop hay being cut this week. Corn silage harvest is in full swing with yields much above average. Majority of bean fields have dropped their leaves.

WALWORTH-N.W.: Corn silage harvest is wrapping up. Soybeans are getting close to harvest.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 28, 2014

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 Sep. 27	Mar. 1 to Sep. 27 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	73	49	82	42	61	+4	2532	2409	0.13	5.46	+1.92	38.13	+11.47
Green Bay	73	45	80	37	59	+2	2313	2274	0.26	4.57	+1.68	25.29	+2.09
La Crosse	76	54	84	47	65	+5	2945	2713	0.04	2.63	-0.57	32.11	+5.36
Madison	75	47	82	38	61	+3	2724	2666	0.00	1.79	-1.14	29.60	+2.94
Milwaukee	70	51	73	42	61	+0	2394	n.a.	0.00	1.07	-1.98	26.36	-0.81

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