

## Wisconsin Crop Weather

### Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

**BARRON-A.B.:** Corn maturity is being pushed by very hot temperatures the last couple of days; this may hurt test weights in the long run. White mold is common in the soybeans. Once again it is difficult to make even haylage, let alone dry hay, with the frequent rains.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Soybeans are starting to turn, and some corn being taken as green chop to help reduce the feed bill. Not much hay or haylage put up this week. Anticipated fall seedings were not done because of the weather.

**MARATHON-K.B.:** Good quantity and quality for third crop hay. Soybean leaves are yellowing. Corn is in the late dough to early dent stage. Project corn silage harvest to start next week.

**ONEIDA-P.L.:** Third crop hay quality is excellent. Drying has been a problem with all the rain and heavy dew and high humidity all day. Corn looks great and some will make maturity with no problem. Pastures are in good condition with all the rain. Sweet corn is pretty much done.

**OCONTO-K.H.:** Some soybean fields starting to turn color.

Finishing up hay harvest and some late straw harvest.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** Farmers are starting to chop around the edges of a few corn fields, but most of it is too green yet. We need about two good weeks before corn will be right for silage.

**DUNN-S.S.:** Most all of our local crops look pretty good. Look for hay to be in short supply by early spring.

**TREMPEALEAU-D.D.:** Corn is maturing rapidly, with heat units still high. Prime corn silage maturity will pass by in a hurry.

**PORTAGE-J.W.:** Corn chopping is starting.

**WAUPACA-D.H.:** Excellent third and fourth crop hay. Some are beginning the fourth crop hay with the favorable weather. Warm weather and adequate moisture is maturing corn and soybean crops. Soybeans are the best looking crop in years.

**BROWN-D.S.:** Still looking for another rain, but recent heat unit accumulation has helped mature some late-planted acres.

**FOND DU LAC-R.P.:** Lots of insects in the crops. Soybeans are maturing rapidly. Some seedings of alfalfa going on, now that we have had rain. Some corn silage is harvested. Corn grain yields will be lower than expected.

**GRANT-L.F.:** Rain perked up almost everything especially pastures and hayfields. Some nice third and fourth hay crop made; yields just slightly down. Some soybean fields were over four feet high. Counted 45 pods on one stalk of soybeans and is all filled and starting to turn bottom leaves. Corn looks good and is starting to turn color on ears. Dug some potatoes, pretty good yields. Quite a few people chopping corn for silage. Hay seems green for this time of year.

**LAFAYETTE-L.W.:** Recent very warm weather is resulting in excellent quantity of fourth crop hay and possibly fifth crop hay for some farmers.

**DANE-D.R.:** Corn is short because of drought, much is turning color. Corn silage moisture is in the 60s and is ready to be harvested. Most soybean fields are turning color. Yield and quality of fourth-cut alfalfa looks fairly good. Sweet corn crop is done.

**GREEN-M.M.:** Corn silage harvest started last week for bags and bunkers. Many will start harvesting for upright silos this week. Corn yield checks have shown projected yields from less than 10 bushels per acre to over 150 bushels per acre due to hot and dry weather during pollination. Majority of soybean fields have leaves turning color.

**RACINE-L.F.:** The last shower has made fourth crop hay look to be in real good condition.

**WASHINGTON-R.B.:** Some farmers are still doing third crop hay. A few farmers are going to cut fourth crop hay next week. A lot of corn is being chopped. Moisture for corn is 60 to 75 percent and quantity is down. Soybeans are all turning color, except the top pods are not. Seeing a lot of corn borers.



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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 September 8, 2002

City	Temperature			Avg. dep. from normal*	Growing degree days (modified base 50°) 1/	Precipitation						
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	Avg. High max.			Low min.	Avg.	Mar. 1 to Sept. 7 normal *	Mar. 1 to Sept. 7	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	85	61	92	52	73	9	2501	2200	4.38	n.a.	n.a.	32.30
Green Bay	80	56	85	51	68	5	2228	2063	0.94	n.a.	n.a.	21.81
La Crosse	86	62	90	55	74	7	2728	2470	1.40	n.a.	n.a.	24.09
Madison	83	56	88	51	70	6	2469	2405	0.79	n.a.	n.a.	20.44
Milwaukee	79	61	85	57	70	3	2501	n.a.	1.36	n.a.	n.a.	21.98

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.

WISCONSIN CROP WEATHER (USPS 398-910) is published weekly April through November, by Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, 2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI 53718-6777. Subscription is \$12 per year to non-reporters. Periodicals postage paid at Madison, WI. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to WISCONSIN CROP WEATHER, PO Box 8934, Madison, WI 53708-8934.

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID  
AT MADISON, WISCONSIN

NEWS



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

September 9, 2002

Vol. 02, No. 23

## Rain and Warm Temperatures

Rain was common across the state for the past week. These included some heavy rains in the northern and middle sections of the state. There were reports of 8-10 inches locally in Chippewa County. Most areas of the north received 3-5 inches of rain, which halted most hay operations. Corn silage harvest was in full swing in the south and beginning everywhere in the state. The unseasonably warm temperatures helped the late-planted crops to catch up after the cool spring. Temperatures ranged from 3 to 9 degrees warmer than average.

There were 5.2 days suitable for fieldwork in Wisconsin last week. The soil moisture was estimated at 2 percent very short, 13 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus. Topsoil moisture was raised across the state, with excess now reported in some areas.

The **soybean** crop showed signs of maturing rapidly over the past week. Leaves turned color over all parts of the state. The percentage of soybeans reported with leaves turning color advanced to 54 percent statewide, compared to 15 percent last week. A reporter in Waupaca County reported that soybeans are the best looking crop in years. Soybeans in Columbia County and across southern Wisconsin were beginning to drop leaves and show signs of ripening. Corn has been helped by the unusually warm temperatures. Prime corn silage maturity may pass quickly if the warm weather continues. Corn silage harvest is in full swing where farmers are able to drive in fields. Moisture levels for bunker silos and bagging of silage were good in the south. Upright silos will not be far behind. Corn borer may be a problem across the state, with reports of lodging becoming more common. Corn husks turned brown and samples in Dane County showed short ears and blank kernels where corn was stressed during pollination. Corn in dent stage was reported to be at 56 percent statewide, compared to 39 percent last week and 51 percent for the 5-year average.

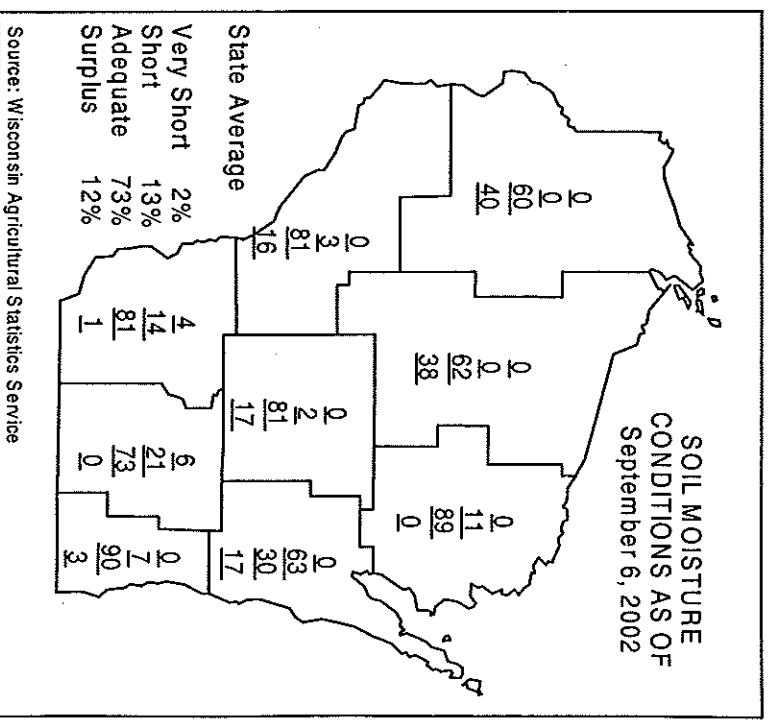
**Hay** harvest was slowed significantly in the northern areas of the state due to heavy rains. Quality and quantity of both third and fourth crops were described as good. The added moisture from last week's storms have allowed for new seeding to be planted in many areas.

**Tobacco** harvest neared completion in Dane County last week. **Apple** harvesting was progressing across the state. Quality in Bayfield County was very good, while Dane County reported a short crop. **Potato** harvest was begun in some areas of the state. **Sweet corn and vegetables** for farmers markets are slowing down, with fall and late produce showing up.



## Wisconsin Crop Progress, September 8, 2002

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	76	80	75	84	85	81	95	90	95	86	71	85	
Corn in dent stage	45	44	40	60	58	55	68	65	70	56	20	51	
Corn hvst'd. for silage	2	1	2	5	5	4	15	10	11	7	1	10	
Soybeans turning color	40	42	35	45	48	51	59	60	65	54	14	41	
Third cutting hay	75	70	80	84	81	89	90	92	93	83	78	77	
Fourth cutting hay	15	18	16	23	20	21	30	36	35	25	13	n.a.	



Source: Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 6, 2002

Item	Percent				
	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	3	10	25	52	10
Corn	5	12	23	42	18
Soybean	4	8	23	46	19

## Corn Dough and Dent Stages Wisconsin by District September 8, 2002

