



Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

September 7, 2004

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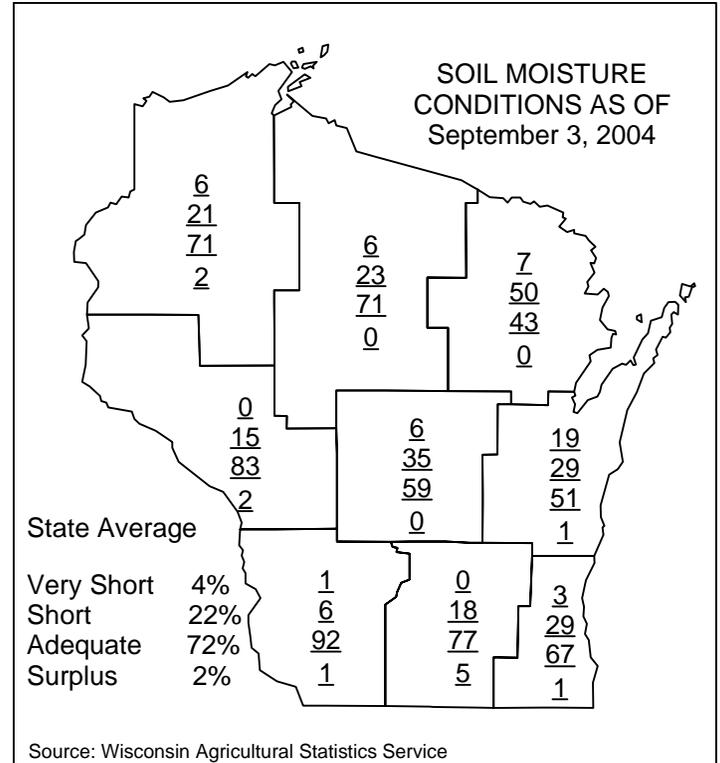
Warmer Temperatures Help Crops

Last week's warmer temperatures across the state were helpful to the crops, but more rain is needed. Temperatures were 2 to 5 degrees above normal for this time of year, ranging from the high 40's to the high 80's. In the west central and south central parts of the state, trace amounts of precipitation was reported. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 4% very short, 22% short, 72% adequate, and 2% surplus. There was an average of 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn and **soybeans** continue to lag in development due to the cool nights and lack of heat during the days. In many parts of the state, both corn and soybeans are two to three weeks behind in development. A killing frost before the first of October would certainly curtail yields. In some areas, farmers are reporting that soybeans are showing very few pods and some have little bean development. Due to the lack of canopy cover, late season weeds are becoming a problem in some areas. Third crop **hay** harvesting continues with good quality and quantity. The dry weather has helped some farmers finish up combining **oats** and **wheat**.

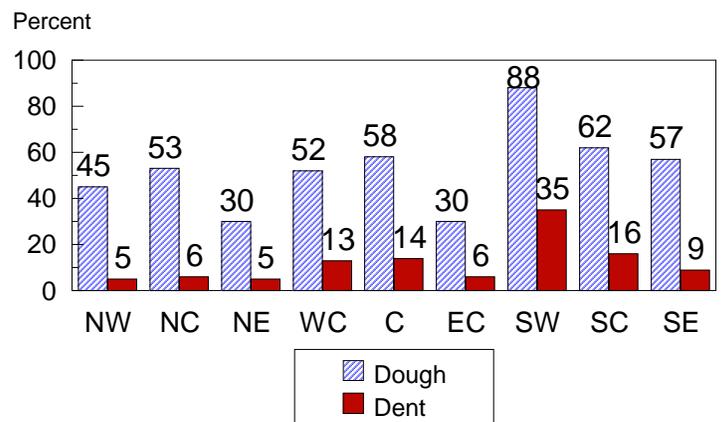
Corn in dough stage was reported at 56%, behind both last year's 83%, and the 5-year average of 81%. Corn in dent stage was reported at 14%, well behind both last years and the 5-year average of 44%. **Soybeans** turning color were reported at 13%, behind both last year's 39%, and the 5-year average of 31%. Third cutting **hay** was reported at 64% complete, behind both last year's and the 5-year average of 78%.

Potato harvest has started, with about 25% of the red potatoes completed. Vine killing is well underway. So far, potato yields look good. In the central part of the state, **snapbean** harvest is complete with good yields. The **cranberry** crop is looking good at this point. In the central part of the state, **sweet corn** harvest is about 30% complete with good yields. **Cucumbers** have slowed down due to the cool weather, but look good. In the southwestern part of the state, **plums**, **pears**, **carrots** and **onions** look good, but **apples** are hurting. **Tobacco** is showing signs of blue mold. Some of the crop may be lost.



| Item | V.-poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|----------|---------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | Percent | | | | |
| Pasture | 4 | 12 | 30 | 46 | 8 |
| Soybeans | 3 | 10 | 28 | 39 | 20 |
| Corn | 6 | 16 | 29 | 38 | 11 |

Corn Dough and Dent Stages Wisconsin by District September 5, 2004



| 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 | 45 | 53 | 30 | 52 | 58 | 30 | 88 | 62 | 57 | 56 | 83 | 81 |
| Corn in dent stage | 5 | 6 | 5 | 13 | 14 | 6 | 35 | 16 | 9 | 14 | 44 | 44 |
| Soybeans turning color | 3 | 9 | 3 | 16 | 15 | 10 | 32 | 16 | 31 | 13 | 39 | 31 |
| Third cutting hay | 55 | 50 | 68 | 64 | 62 | 53 | 70 | 78 | 67 | 64 | 78 | 78 |

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BAYFIELD-S.S.: Corn is short with no cobs. Certainly have had no weather for maturing crops.

BURNETT-R.B.: Third crop hay looks real good, but weather has made it hard to get it taken care of. Corn and soybeans are not doing much; still need a lot of time to get ripened.

MARATHON-M.K.: Nice week for making hay and for the corn.

ONEIDA-P.L.: Weather permitting, things will get well underway at the end of this week. Things are still dry. There are still some oats to combine, and some late barley that will make it.

OCONTO-D.T.: Third crop hay is short in quantity, but very good in quality. Weather has warmed up a little, and with some rain last week, helped things along. Some corn just barely making cobs as of yet. I see very little that will make grain. A lot of soybeans have no pods yet, and some that do, only have one or two beans in them.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Some corn is starting to dent, but the percentage is very low. The forecast is for warm temperatures, which we really need.

MONROE-W.D.: A good week for making hay, especially new seeding. Oats have been taken off for hay. Sweet corn has been especially good. Corn and soybeans still need heat and time to mature.

PEPIN-H.R.: Third crop alfalfa is getting harvested with good quality and quantity, but hard to get anything dry; most will get chopped. There is no fourth crop hay ready. Soybeans look very good, with good weed control in most areas. Corn and soybeans on the heavy ground need some good heat units before a frost comes. Late frost should produce very good yields in soybeans and corn. Sandy soils showing some lack of rain.

WAUSHARA-J.J.: Third crop alfalfa is mostly done. Regrowth looks very good. Corn is behind schedule. Most soybeans are filling good. Low areas had some frost; no major damage here. Sweet corn harvest has slowed, but decent yield in most fields.

WOOD-M.L.: Finally some heat and light rain. Corn made excellent progress, but still has a long way to go.

FOND DU LAC-R.P.: Finally some heat-it sure will help with the soybeans and corn. Lots of hay made this past week; quality and quantity is very good. The ground has plenty of moisture. If frost

holds for a month, and we get some heat, we will have very good crops; much better than we expected in late May.

SHEBOYGAN-E.P.: Oats can stand the wet, cool weather and was not too bad in yield. Corn is not good at all. Corn is behind schedule for maturity and will be totally plowed down again like last year, as a loss. A lot of oat fields have been plowed already.

GRANT-L.F.: Third and fourth crop hay has good quality, but hard to get dry. Yields are surprising, it is the finest hay you can make. Checked two fields of soybeans in our area, one stalk had 72 bean pods with mostly 2-3 beans in each pod. Field number two only had 22 bean pods on a stalk with 2-3 beans in a pod. Soybeans are small in size, the color of soybeans is very green. Some corn in the milk stage. Have not seen any dough or dented corn in our area.

LAFAYETTE-L.W.: Quantity of third crop hay was very good. Difficult until this mid-week to get hay dry enough to safely harvest and store as dry hay.

DANE-J.K.: Third and fourth crop hay is good, lots of bugs that had to be sprayed. Seems to be disease on everything due to the continued wet conditions.

JEFFERSON-B.K.: Corn finally denting a little. We are still well behind normal development for both corn and soybeans. Early-planted soybeans look very promising. Spotty reports of white mold and brown stem rot. New seedings of alfalfa are emerging nicely now that it rained. Volunteer oats and wheat are thicker than normal. Pasture growth is slowing down a lot.

WASHINGTON-K.R.: Soybeans have good, dark green color. Did not get rain this week, so yields will be hurt at this stage of development.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Second crop hay cutting was fair. Corn and soybeans are fairly good.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 5, 2004

| 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. 4 | Mar. 1 to Sept. 4 normal * | Last week | Since Sept. 1 | Sept. 1 dep. from normal* | Year to date |
| Eau Claire | 82 | 57 | 88 | 50 | 69 | 5 | 2058 | 2170 | 0.31 | 0.00 | n.a | 22.00 |
| Green Bay | 78 | 54 | 85 | 47 | 66 | 3 | 1899 | 2033 | 0.00 | 0.00 | n.a | 25.06 |
| La Crosse | 83 | 61 | 87 | 55 | 72 | 5 | 2374 | 2436 | 0.23 | 0.00 | n.a. | 33.81 |
| Madison | 79 | 58 | 84 | 51 | 68 | 2 | 2194 | 2373 | 0.57 | 0.27 | n.a. | 32.62 |
| Milwaukee | 76 | 58 | 84 | 51 | 67 | 0 | 2080 | n.a. | 0.00 | 0.00 | n.a. | 27.90 |

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.