

# Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

November 29, 2004

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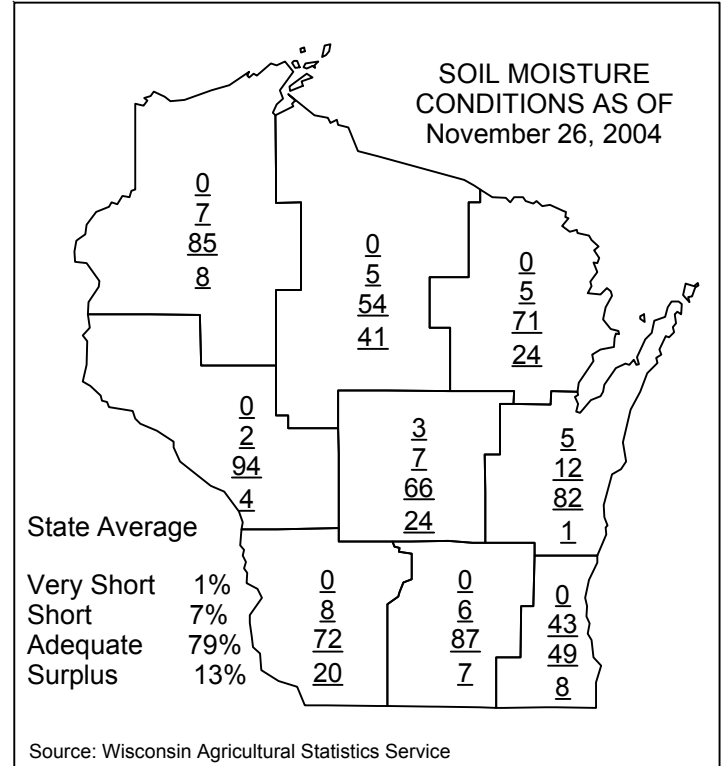
## Harvest Moves Closer to Completion

Most of Wisconsin received rain last week, with many areas receiving around one-half an inch. Northern parts of the state experienced a hard frost and some snow. Temperatures were 3 to 5 degrees higher than normal for this time of year. Low temperatures were reported in the 10's and 20's, while high temperatures reached the 40's during the week. Soil moisture conditions were reported as 1% very short, 7% short, 79% adequate, and 13% surplus. Most of the state has adequate supplies of soil moisture. There was an average of 5.0 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

**Corn** harvest continues to move forward. Conditions in many areas were drier than previous weeks, even with the rain and snow. Most of the remaining corn was late-planted, and has taken a long time to dry down. Harvest and grain drying are at full speed in northern areas of the state. High drying costs caused many producers to wait for the crop to finish drying. However, since it is late in the year, producers have decided to dry some of the remaining grain. While some central and southern areas would like drier conditions, harvest is nearing completion. Most yields in southern areas continue to be reported as average to above average. **Soybean** harvest is finishing slowly, with mainly late-planted beans remaining. The damp weather and pods close to the ground have caused combining difficulties. Yields have been reported to be below average to average in late-planted beans. **Fall tillage** and stalk chopping are progressing in harvested fields. Many producers are trying to finish before the ground freezes.

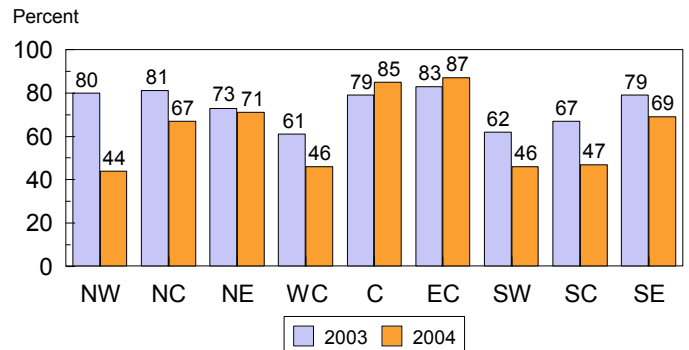
**Corn** harvested for grain was reported at 83% complete, behind last year's 99%, and the 5-year average of 98%. **Soybeans** harvested was reported at 97% complete, behind last year's 100%, and the 5-year average of 100%. **Fall tillage** was reported at 60% complete, behind last year's 76%, and the 5-year average of 77%.

**Winter wheat** has been reported in good condition. The wet, warm weather has caused good growth before winter.



## Fall Tillage Completed in Wisconsin

By District, Nov. 24, 2003 vs. Nov. 28, 2004



This is the last weekly *Wisconsin Crop Weather* for the season. The review of the 2004 growing season will be released in early December. The Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service wishes to thank the many farmers, county agents, and others that make this report possible each week.



## Wisconsin Crop Progress, November 28, 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 hrvt. for grain	57	84	83	76	88	86	86	89	95	83	99	98
Soybeans harvested	96	97	88	97	96	94	99	99	98	97	100	100
Fall tillage completed	44	67	71	46	85	87	46	47	69	60	76	77

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

**BURNETT-R.B.:** Most corn is still wet, but if farmers can get in the fields, they are taking it off. Some soybeans are not dry enough to combine.

**RUSK-G.P.:** A lot of corn came off this week; last of the high moisture and dry corn, both. Moisture is still pretty high in the corn for drying, but the late date and increasing field loss forced a lot of farmers to push ahead. Any soybeans still in the fields now will not be harvested. Quite a bit of tillage behind the combines to try to finish up before the ground freezes.

**OCONTO-K.H.:** Reported corn yields are respectable, considering this year. One producer estimated around 110 bushels per acre on corn; he just finished combining this past week. Moisture is running around 28-32 percent. He also has some standing corn he hopes to salvage for high moisture corn, but it is too wet to go through the combine at this point. Fall tillage progress continues as crops are harvested.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** Winter wheat is coming along very well. Tillage is about 75 percent done, with some small areas of the county starting to get quite wet in the fields. Corn moisture has gone up in the fields with all the damp weather.

**BUFFALO-R.S.:** Corn harvest and grain drying is at full speed and close to completion. Moistures range from 18-30 percent. Winter wheat is 6-8 inches tall. Manure hauling and stalk chopping is going on. Very few stalks dry enough for livestock bedding.

**PEPIN-H.R.:** Corn has dried down some, but still needs drying at the corn plants. Farmers with air drying in their on-farm storage are going very slowly because of hard and slower drying conditions.

**WAUPACA-D.L.H.:** Corn and soybeans are below normal in yields, but quality is good. Winter wheat looks good.

**WAUSHARA-L.K.:** Corn is all harvested in this area with good quality, and most had good test weights. Yields about average without irrigation. Soybeans are all harvested due to dry weather. Wheat was a little late in being planted, but looks good now.

**CALUMET-M.G.:** The last of the late-planted soybeans are being harvested with very disappointing yields. Corn yields on early-planted, well-drained ground have been surprisingly good.

**OUTAGAMIE-K.J.:** There is still some corn in the 30 percent plus moisture range in the fields. Many took the crop as wet as it was, simply to get it off the field. Test weights have been low. There are still some soybeans out there that need to come off as well. A lot of small seed and low test weights with this late crop as well. Fall tillage has been moving along.

**GRANT-L.F.:** Most corn that's left to harvest is because there is no room, or still high in moisture. Soybeans are mostly all harvested. Corn and soybean yields were quite high and good quality. More fall plowing and chisel plowing is being done. Lots of fodder being baled and round bales being made. Fields are loaded with round bales. Winter wheat looks good and green. Hay looks good going into winter.

**IOWA-S.M.:** Harvest season is almost complete. Corn storage is very tight. Some winter wheat is up and looks good.

**COLUMBIA-J.J.:** With the ups and downs in the weather this year, the crops turned out better than expected. Still some corn to harvest, moisture down between 8-20 percent now.

**DODGE-GR.:** Some late-planted soybeans remain to be harvested. Soybeans coming off late have been at reasonable moisture 14-16 percent, but lower yields than earlier-planted fields. Corn shelling is wrapping up. Some late high moisture corn was still at 25 percent; other corn tested around 20 percent. Tillage and stalk chopping is being done where possible.

**WAUKESHA-D.W.:** Soybeans that were planted early were very good; 56-58 pound test weight and 27-32 bushels per acre. Corn that was planted early did not do much better than late-planted because of breaking and all the lower parts of any field was under water.



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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 28, 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 Oct. 9	Mar. 1 to Oct. 9 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	38	25	44	18	32	5	2534	2488	0.58	9.01	1.31	30.70
Green Bay	41	27	46	16	34	4	2385	2352	0.82	6.74	-0.58	31.79
La Crosse	41	28	45	19	34	3	2890	2814	0.43	7.11	-0.29	40.19
Madison	41	28	47	17	34	3	2681	2766	0.52	5.88	-1.47	38.11
Milwaukee	44	31	49	23	37	3	2571	n.a.	0.44	3.88	-4.37	31.26

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.