



Wisconsin Crop Weather

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

October 30, 2006

Vol. 06, No. 30

Harvest Remains Slow

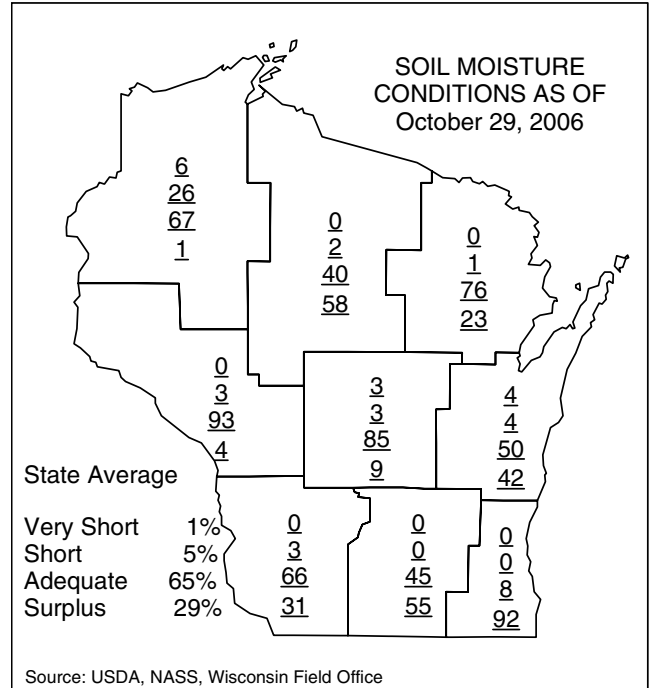
Not much precipitation fell last week, but cooler temperatures and cloudy, damp weather kept harvest progress slow. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.00 inches in La Crosse to 0.32 inches in Milwaukee. Temperatures ranged from 5 to 8 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures were in the mid to high 40s across the state. Lows averaged in the high 20s to low 30s for the week. Many areas experienced multiple frosts last week. Soil moisture conditions were reported at 1 percent very short, 5 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 29 percent surplus. Last week there was an average of 4.9 days suitable for fieldwork.

Corn harvested for grain was at 40 percent complete, behind last year's 55 percent and the 5-year average of 46 percent, according to the Wisconsin Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn conditions were rated as 7 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 27 percent excellent. Some farmers are still waiting for corn to dry before continuing to harvest. Yields are looking better in the southern parts of the state than the northern parts.

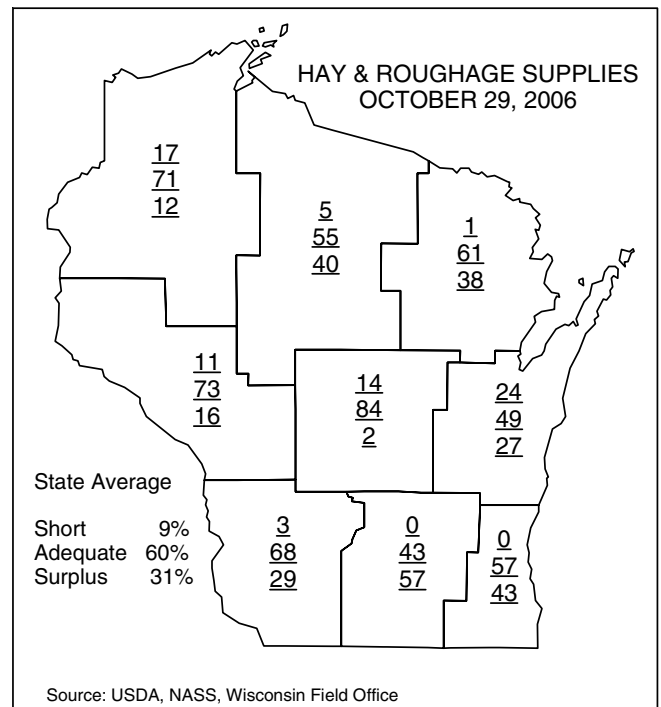
Soybeans harvested was at 77 percent, lower than last year's 89 percent, as well as the 5-year average of 81 percent. A few fields remain too wet to harvest. Yields continue to vary, even in the same counties.

Pasture conditions were rated as 4 percent very poor, 21 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 43 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. **Hay and roughage supplies** were rated as 9 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 31 percent surplus. **Fall tillage** was reported at 26 percent complete, less than last year's 32 percent and the 5-year average of 30 percent.

Manure hauling is picking up in a few areas. Some **winter wheat** is emerging in northern areas of the state.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 29, 2006					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	7	7	22	37	27
Pasture	4	21	29	43	3



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	33	40	39	36	50	66	38	32	34	40	55	46
Soybeans harvested	83	85	75	88	75	73	89	67	70	77	89	81	
Fall tillage completed	20	33	15	18	59	65	10	11	37	26	32	30	

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

CHIPPEWA-J.M.: Had one report of soybean yield at 53 bushels per acre; others are ranging from 25- 40 bushels per acre. Soybean harvest was delayed due to moisture and slow drying. Reports of corn currently from 19-26 percent moisture. We are having hard frost almost daily, with morning temperatures in the high 20s.

RUSK-G.P.: Soybeans are about done with yields from 30-60 bushels per acre, depending on the rain. High moisture corn is in full swing with yields of 100-140 bushels per acre for most, sandy soils are the worst. Forages all done; corn stalks and soybean stubbles are being baled for bedding. Some tillage is going on.

CLARK-N.S.: A few soybean fields are left to harvest. Farmers are allowing corn fields to dry as much as possible. In some places European Corn Borers have damaged ear shanks, which is causing ear drop at harvest.

FOREST-A.K.: Corn for silage is done. Corn for grain is being harvested. Fall tillage is going on when the weather permits.

OCONTO-K.H.: Soybean harvest is gearing up this week. Had one producer say he harvested a field that yielded 50 bushels per acre. Corn harvest is starting slow. Cash croppers are taking some off, but for those putting up high moisture grain, moisture is just starting to get to the optimum. Have had several hard frosts - low temperatures in the mid 20s. Winter wheat has germinated.

BUFFALO-R.S.: A good week of soybean harvest. Some corn is still at 20 percent moisture. Lots of corn stalk bedding was harvested this week.

DUNN-S.S.: We have had five or six hard frosts so far. Soybean yields are running 25-45 bushels per acre. Some are so weedy-just waiting for them to dry. Corn yields are average, depending on the soil. Some were good, while others were real bad. Weather really has not been the best for either soybeans or corn. Very little corn stalks have been baled as of yet. A little hay is still being made.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Manure hauling, corn and soybean harvest, and tillage are the major activities this week.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: Some frost nearly every morning. It has been poor drying weather until the last few days. It has been slow going.

FOND DU LAC-B.B.: We have had a series of hard frosts. Soybean yields on low, fertile soils better than could be expected, given the drought, up to about 40 bushels per acre. Lesser soils and fields with slopes are much poorer, to 25 bushels per acre. Corn yields are most variable, 100 -160 bushels per acre. The soil profiles are finally reconnected with moisture. They have not been since mid-June, so that is a plus.

GRANT-D.W.: Harvest continues around the rain showers. Corn yields are generally excellent. Soybeans are decent, but not great.

LAFAYETTE-M.R.: Yields about the same as the last few years. Some corn fields had disappointing yields due to low populations.

DODGE-G.R.: Rainy weather has hampered fall harvest. Drizzle early in the week was followed by clear, cold nights. Heavy frost resulted in ground being frozen and ice on puddles. Late week warmed up, and combines had two afternoons to work on corn and soybean fields. Corn moisture ranged from 19-28 percent; yields equal to last year, thus far.

GREEN-M.M.: Harvesting of soybeans and corn has been delayed due to wet weather, but yields are running above average.

RACINE-L.F.: Crops are still in great shape, but Mother Nature is still not cooperating.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Corn yields are 160 bushels per acre. Soybeans are 30-50 bushels per acre. Winter wheat has been planted. We have had three hard frosts.



USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office
P.O. Box 8934
Madison, WI 53708-8934
(608) 224-4848
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/>

Robert J. Battaglia
Director

Max Lord
Statistician

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 October 29, 2006

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. 14	Mar. 1 to Oct. 14 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	48	28	54	23	38	-5	3015	2516	0.06	5.79	0.06	25.06
Green Bay	48	28	52	22	38	-6	2643	2378	0.12	6.72	1.71	26.82
La Crosse	48	29	55	22	39	-7	3180	2846	0.00	4.71	-0.58	26.50
Madison	45	30	50	23	37	-8	2839	2802	0.04	6.49	1.50	33.42
Milwaukee	46	34	51	26	40	-8	2871	n.a.	0.32	7.08	1.60	32.52

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.