



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

October 9, 2007

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Rainfall Slows Progress of Fieldwork

Most areas of the state received over an inch of rainfall last week, as well as humid, summer-like temperatures. The rainfall slowed progress of harvest and fall tillage. Temperatures were 11 to 14 degree above normal. High temperatures soared to the upper 80s, while low temperatures were in the upper 40s to low 50s. Soil moisture conditions were rated as 2 percent very short, 6 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 19 percent surplus. There was an average of 4.2 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

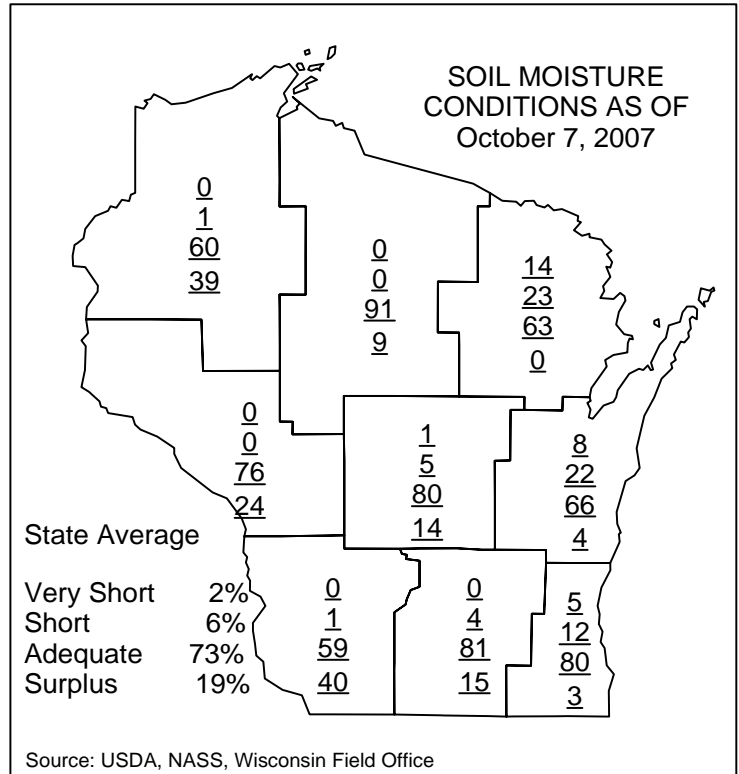
Corn continued to mature, reaching 88 percent complete, slightly above last year's 86 percent and the 5-year average of 76 percent. Corn harvested for grain was 21 percent complete, above both last year's 9 percent and the 5-year average of 11 percent complete. Corn silage harvest was wrapping up and rated at 96 percent complete. This is above both last year's 92 percent and the 5-year average of 82 percent complete. Corn condition declined slightly last week to 46 percent good to excellent. There are some problems with lodging and weakened stems, especially with the additional rain last week.

Soybeans dropping leaves was nearly complete, at 96 percent. This is slightly above last year's 94 percent and the 5-year average of 91 percent complete. Soybean harvest increased to 25 percent complete, above last year's 20 percent, but below the 5-year average of 27 percent complete. Yields and moisture levels appear to be average to good. This week, harvest progress will depend on the weather to help dry out the fields. Soybean condition improved slightly to 61 percent good to excellent.

Fourth cutting **alfalfa** was 68 percent complete, even with last year's average, but above the 5-year average of 56 percent complete. Rains last week made it difficult to make hay. Pasture conditions increased to 65 percent complete, compared to 51 percent last week.

Winter wheat continues to be planted. The warm temperatures and rain accelerated emergence of the crop. Fall tillage was 9 percent complete, above both last year's and the 5-year average of 8 percent. Many farmers were spreading manure on fields that have been harvested.

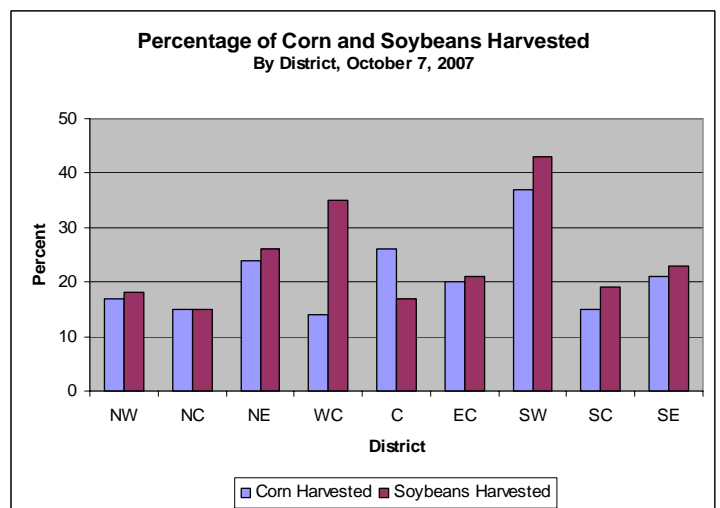
Potato harvest continued between rains and is wrapping up in central and southern areas.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 7, 2007

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	7	14	33	33	13
Soybeans	5	9	25	43	18
Pasture	2	7	26	55	10

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



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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 mature	96	76	87	92	94	75	99	85	91	88	86	76
Corn harvested for grain	17	15	24	14	26	20	37	15	21	21	9	11
Corn harvested for silage	97	96	99	99	96	89	99	99	97	96	92	82
Soybeans dropping leaves	99	97	95	99	94	87	97	99	98	96	94	91
Soybeans harvested	18	15	26	35	17	21	43	19	23	25	20	27
Fourth cutting hay	49	52	70	73	70	65	73	88	63	68	68	56
Fall tillage complete	9	3	9	5	20	14	3	6	7	9	8	8

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

CHIPPEWA-J.C.: Corn for grain harvest seems to be ahead of soybean harvest with moist conditions. Over 6.0 inches of rain in the past week has brought harvest to a halt in some fields. Pastures and hayfields look great and another harvest of hay is underway.

WASHBURN-R.H.: If irrigated, fields of corn are good, otherwise they are fair. Fall tillage is going on with the nice weather. All farmers are happy with all the rain, about 10.0 inches or more. Maybe our drought is over.

CLARK-N.S.: Wet soil conditions are delaying harvesting for some of the soybeans and corn. High moisture corn is being harvested.

VILAS-L.K.: Pastures are improving everyday. Heavy soils are nothing but mud; very poor harvesting conditions. Hay supplies will be short.

OCONTO-K.H.: Winter wheat has emerged and looks good at this point. Soybean harvest is picking up. Yields reported to be spotty, some good and others not. Manure pits are being emptied and fall tillage is underway.

EAU CLAIRE-R.S.: Corn stalks are beginning to break down as they are small due to lack of moisture in July. Combines are leaving tracks in the fields as they become wetter.

ST. CROIX-R.K.: Crop yields are low. We are getting the rain now that we needed in July and August.

WAUSHARA-J.J.: Hay harvest is complete with good quality and average yield for fourth cutting. Corn harvest is starting with 18-30 percent moisture. Irrigated corn has very good yields but there are concerns about standability.

WOOD-M.L.: Continued rain has kept us out of the fields for the last week. High moisture corn may be getting too dry.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: This past week saw summer-like temperatures, and that really affected the growing crops, such as alfalfa and winter wheat. Much winter wheat has been planted in this area in the last couple of weeks, with almost all of it emerging and really growing. There has been just enough rain to keep it growing well. The only problem is that with these extremely warm temperatures, the wheat may grow too tall, fall over and cause problems next spring by smothering other plants.

The acreage planted to wheat will cause a definite change in what other crops are planted next year, as acreage for all other crops will go down. Not much harvesting of soybeans or corn was done this past week, mainly due to the humid weather preventing these crops from drying as they should. This area could use a frost right now to finish off the soybeans and the corn. Alfalfa harvesting continues, with approximately 90 percent of third crop done and nearly half of fourth crop. These cuttings are yielding well. Fall tillage continues, but perhaps the most action this week has been the manure hauling that is going on.

LAFAYETTE-M.R.: Corn and soybeans are yielding less than last year. Lots of corn is being harvested at 14-15% moisture. Standability of corn is variable, but generally very poor.

DANE-J.K.: Quality of corn silage was average. Corn for grain test weights varied. Soybeans also varied, probably due to soil types in the dry period. Hay quality is down due to weather and unable to harvest on time. Fruits and vegetables are pretty well done at this time. Almost all of the winter wheat is in except for wheat following soybeans. A lot of wheat was planted early due to corn silage coming off early. Most winter wheat is up and green due to abundant rainfall the last two weeks.

WASHINGTON-R.B.: High moisture corn is running at 22-38 percent moisture with yields at 166 bushels per acre. Soybeans are at 12.5-13.5 moisture and yields between 30-60 bushels per acre. A lot of wheat is planted. Some hay making is going on.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: Soybean harvest has begun. Winter wheat planting is almost done.



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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 October 7, 2007

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. 6	Mar. 1 to Oct. 6 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	75	58	87	47	66	13	3016	2464	2.38	5.85	1.65	24.83	-2.45
Green Bay	77	57	87	48	67	14	2848	2328	1.04	3.85	0.32	21.38	-2.37
La Crosse	78	60	89	50	69	13	3401	2784	2.40	4.60	0.74	36.48	9.26
Madison	78	57	87	50	68	13	3132	2736	2.54	3.93	0.46	38.53	11.40
Milwaukee	77	58	87	52	68	11	3028	n.a.	1.62	3.02	-0.75	27.44	-0.56

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. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.