



Wisconsin Crop Progress

September 7, 2010

Vol. 10, No. 22

Weekend Rain and Cooler Temperatures Slow Fieldwork

The past week began with warm, dry days but ended with much cooler, wetter weather. Many growers reported getting into the fields and harvesting hay and corn silage, but the weekend moisture slowed all fieldwork. Some local areas of hail were reported in Trempealeau County.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week ranged from 3 to 5 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 77 to 81 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 58 to 64 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.52 inches in Green Bay to 2.50 inches in Eau Claire. There were 4.6 days suitable for fieldwork. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

- <http://www.noaa.gov/>
- <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
- <http://www.cocorahs.org/>
- <http://www.weather.gov/>

Corn in the dough stage was 93 percent complete, corn dented was reported at 76 percent complete, and corn mature was reported at 15 percent complete. Corn harvested for silage was reported at 20 percent complete across the state, 13 percentage points above last week and 10 percentage points above the five-year average. Corn silage yields were reported as good to excellent. Corn continues to be ahead of schedule as ears were reported as hanging down in some fields in Trempealeau County. Late season diseases were beginning to show up in Rock County, and bird damage on corn was reported in Clark County.

Soybean leaves were turning color the past week, with 36 percent of leaves reported as turned across the state. This is 26 percentage points above last week and 5 percentage points above the five-year average. Soybean leaves were reported at 8 percent dropped. Sudden death syndrome was reported to be a problem in Racine County, and white mold was reported in Portage County.

Oats harvested for grain was wrapping up last week, with 96 percent reported complete. The wet and humid weather was reported as aiding growth of weeds, which hindered harvest in Florence County.

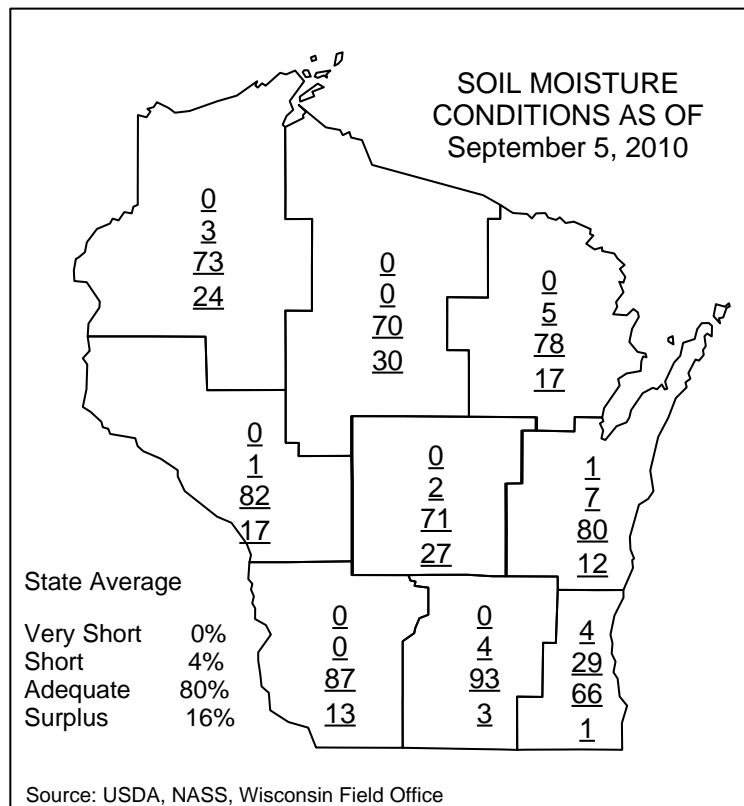
Third cutting **hay** was reported at 88 percent complete, while fourth cutting hay was reported at 33 percent complete across the state. The recent moisture slowed hay harvest.

Planting of **winter wheat** was reported in Kenosha County, and some **winter rye** planting began in Trempealeau and Rusk Counties.

Digging **potatoes** was reported as difficult in Oneida County due to the recent rain.

Grapes were reported as rotting on the vine in Vernon County due to the high humidity throughout the season.

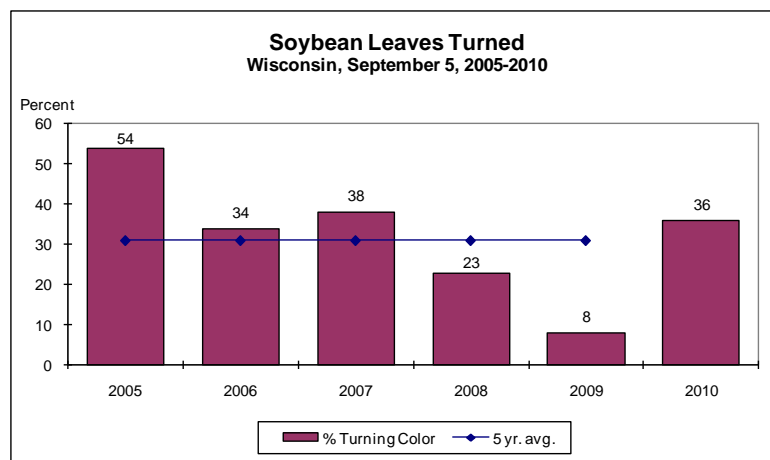
Pumpkins were reported as ahead of normal in Sauk County, but **squash** and **pumpkin** yields were reported as poor due to rot and mildew in Waupaca County.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 5, 2010

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	1	3	12	42	42
Soybean	1	2	14	45	38
Pasture	0	2	14	58	26

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



Wisconsin Crop Progress, September 5, 2010

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Corn in dough stage	93	83	96	95	99	86	95	92	99	93	85	69	82
Corn in dent stage	67	66	76	82	89	58	80	81	83	76	60	18	45
Corn mature	14	2	10	13	10	13	12	24	25	15	7	n.a.	6
Corn silage harvested	8	9	15	21	34	16	28	23	43	20	7	n.a.	10
Soybean leaves turned	27	24	34	31	44	34	25	43	51	36	10	8	31
Soybean leaves dropped	4	9	3	7	4	8	5	12	13	8	1	n.a.	7
Oats harvested	94	84	96	100	100	96	100	100	100	96	94	100	100
Third cutting hay	85	76	83	93	86	88	88	94	92	88	80	85	84
Fourth cutting hay	17	13	33	37	36	44	32	45	35	33	19	17	16

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

CHIPPEWA-R.M.: We received good drying weather this past week. Lots and lots of hay harvested. Excellent third crop hay, it is the best I have ever seen, the barn is full.

WASHBURN-P.H.: Corn silage chopping is in full swing. Some is too dry and some will have to wait a week or two. Checking the earliest variety corn in a trial had kernel moisture at 31 percent. Soybean leaves are dropping fast. Two nights into the upper 30's this past weekend.

CLARK-R.H.: Soybeans are beginning to drop leaves and mature. From corn silage burn downs moisture ranged from 53 to 77 percent. Average was 66 percent moisture for the day. Corn silage harvest will begin depending on the type of storage. Stressed corn had lower whole plant moisture and full season varieties had higher moisture. Some producers have finished second and third crop hay and many debating on harvesting the fourth crop.

VILAS-R.K.: Potato vine kill is almost done. Wet weather could cause storage issues with the potato crop.

LANGLADE-A.K.: It continues to be very wet, 3.35 inches this week. Only three days suitable for any field work, cannot get consecutive nice days in a row. Concern is great for harvest of corn silage and potatoes.

SHAWANO-J.N.: Corn chopping for silage started earlier this past week, then we received about an inch of rain and that slowed things a bit. Early soybeans are maturing fast, rapidly turning yellow. Some have started and finished fourth crop harvest.

ST. CROIX-R.F.: Corn silage harvest has begun. Parts of some fields are too wet to harvest due to recent rainfall. Silage yields appear to be excellent. Fourth crop hay continues to be harvested by many dairy farmers. The leaves in many soybean fields are starting to turn yellow.

TREMPEALEAU-C.O.: More rain this week limiting fieldwork. Chopping corn silage will resume when weather cooperates. Soybeans are turning color. Corn is nearing maturity. Fields need to dry out before corn and soybean harvest can begin in earnest.

PORTAGE-D.Z.: White mold is showing in some soybean fields. Fields of corn are good, about two weeks ahead of normal. Sweet corn yields about average for area.

WAUPACA-D.H.: Field crops are in excellent condition. A lot of corn is near maturity by Labor Day. Third and fourth crop alfalfa are excellent in both quantity and quality. A lot of hay has been harvested in last two weeks with the more favorable weather.

OUTAGAMIE-D.F.: Powdery mildew has wiped out 95 percent of the vine crops on the one farm that I have visited. Melons, pickles, squash, pumpkins and tomato plants are dead, along with most of the peppers. Hot and humid conditions in July and August were the cause. A lot of the cabbage fields were flooded and the plants are yellow and rotting. Producers are cutting only the high spots in some fields.

SHEBOYGAN-S.D.: All crops look good. Snap beans are being harvested and sweet corn is being sprayed. Quality and quantity of third and fourth crop alfalfa is good.

RICHLAND-C.L.: Third and fourth crop hay looks great. Many farmers are nearing the completion of chopping corn silage. The combines will be coming out very soon for high moisture corn. Nearly 4.5 inches of rain this week will slow fieldwork down.

DANE-J.K.: All crops look good where weed controlled. Weed and diseases are very bad where not managed. Third crop hay was excellent including yield and quality. Everybody has surplus. Hard to sell. Fourth crop is slightly smaller than average. Quality is good.

ROCK-C.O.: Soybean harvest should begin this week on some early planted fields, and silage harvest is complete on most farms. Corn will be poor with late season diseases hitting the corn hard. Top of the plant died before the normal bottom of plant leaves dying off. It may be a week of little fieldwork as silage is done and soybeans are not ready and so no wheat is in yet either.

RACINE-K.I.: Some sudden death syndrome in soybeans, but overall crops look good.

WASHINGTON-G.S.: All crops look great. Silage is being made, soybeans are turning, and fourth crop hay is being made. Should be a very successful and bountiful fall.



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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 5, 2010

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 Sep. 4	Mar. 1 to Sep. 4 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	78	58	92	46	68	3	2667	2156	2.50	0.93	0.32	25.00	1.20
Green Bay	78	60	89	45	69	5	2532	2019	0.52	0.47	-0.01	26.19	5.41
La Crosse	79	62	92	50	71	3	2968	2419	0.86	0.42	-0.11	29.16	5.07
Madison	77	62	90	47	69	3	2804	2357	2.34	1.85	1.32	32.11	7.79
Milwaukee	81	64	92	51	73	5	2776	n.a.	0.98	0.88	0.36	29.26	4.68

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.