



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

September 13, 2010

Vol. 10, No. 23

## Week of Cooler Temperatures and Scattered Rain

Temperatures fell to below average over the past week, and a few showers were scattered across the state. The recent showers did hinder some growers from getting into fields, but overall, the week was good for fieldwork. Corn continued to be ahead of normal and growers mentioned they hope it continues to dry down ahead of normal to allow for low drying costs. Some growers were also hoping to harvest soybeans early enough to plant winter crops.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week ranged from 2 to 4 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 68 to 72 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 48 to 55 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.19 inches in La Crosse to 0.78 inches in Milwaukee. There were 5.4 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 96 percent complete, corn dent was reported at 87 percent complete, and corn mature was reported at 27 percent complete. Corn harvested for silage was reported at 44 percent complete across the state, 24 percentage points above last week and 20 percentage points above the five-year average. Corn silage yields were reported as above average in Clark and Chippewa Counties. Some harvesting of high moisture corn was reported in Shawano County, and multiple growers mentioned corn beginning to black layer.

**Soybean** maturity continued to stay slightly ahead of the five-year average last week, with 66 percent of leaves reported turned across the state. This is 30 percentage points above last week and 5 percentage points above the five-year average. Soybeans dropping leaves were reported at 25 percent complete across the state. Pods were reported to have filled well, and a report from Clark County mentioned soybean plants having more pods than normal. There were some reports of sudden death syndrome and brown stem rot in soybean fields in Juneau County.

Third cutting **hay** was wrapping up with 92 percent reported complete, and fourth cutting hay was reported at 43 percent complete across the state. Yields across the state varied from below average to excellent. Low yields were reported in Shawano County due to track damage from previous cuttings.

**Manure** was reported as being spread on some fields.

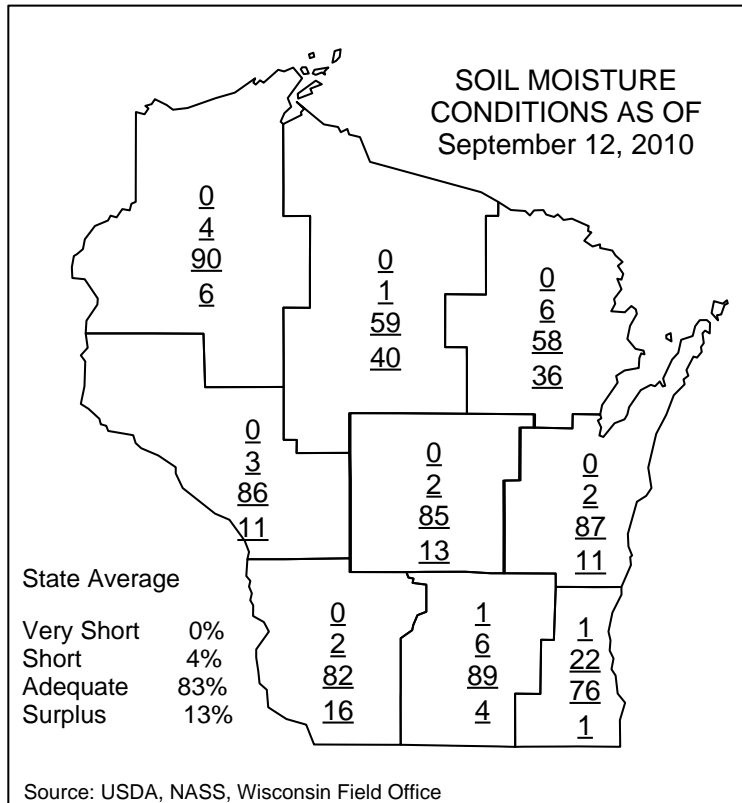
Planting of **winter rye** as a cover crop was reported in Shawano and Rusk Counties.

The cooler temperatures were reported as aiding **potato** harvest.

**Apple** harvest began in many western counties.

Concern of ripe rot in **grapes**, caused by high humidity throughout the season, was reported to move harvest ahead of schedule in Vernon County.

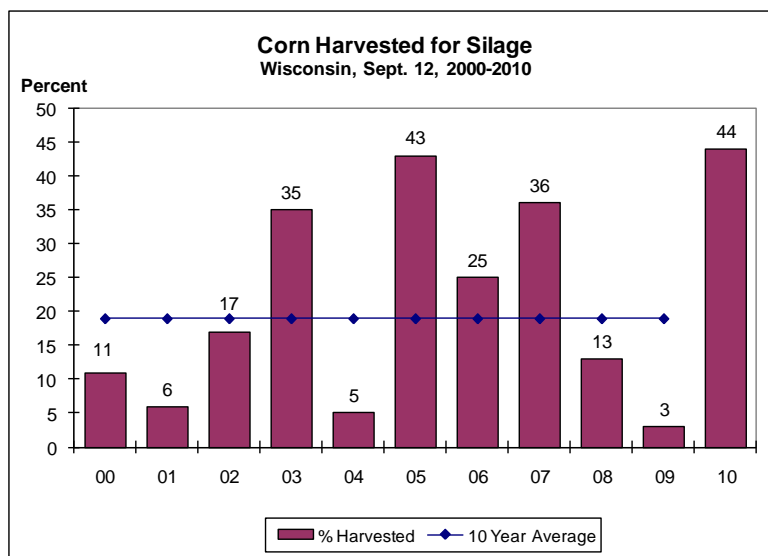
**Pumpkins** were reported as rotting in Dunn County due to high levels of ground moisture.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 12, 2010

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	1	4	13	41	41
Soybean	1	2	14	44	39
Pasture	0	2	15	57	26

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 week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Corn in dough stage	96	98	98	96	100	94	97	96	100	96	93	79	89
Corn in dent stage	77	84	87	88	96	76	88	90	93	87	76	37	62
Corn mature	19	17	25	19	25	23	27	40	39	27	15	2	14
Corn silage harvested	29	23	41	44	64	38	50	54	70	44	20	3	24
Soybean leaves turned	56	73	72	55	64	70	54	69	89	66	36	38	61
Soybean leaves dropped	12	37	10	13	16	23	16	40	33	25	8	5	23
Third cutting hay	87	88	90	95	89	95	92	98	95	92	88	93	91
Fourth cutting hay	29	22	41	43	42	57	46	48	45	43	33	28	26

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-J.C.:** Corn silage harvest is progressing with above average yields. Alfalfa harvest is finishing up. Soybeans look good, but no harvest has begun. Apple yields are down.

**RUSK-G.P.:** The first reports of scattered frost came in this week, a couple of nights down in the 30's. Soybeans are turning pretty fast. Corn and trees are still telling us it is summer. Some silage this week, but still pretty slow to start. Third and fourth crop haylage continues but high forage inventories have slowed that down. Winter rye going in.

**CLARK-J.B.:** Corn silage harvest is in full gear, yields are very good. Soybeans look very good, with more pods than normal. Hay quality is very good, quantity is down due to the fact producers couldn't get second cutting off.

**TAYLOR-D.E.:** Corn and soybeans are maturing quickly. Some corn has been harvested for silage and fourth crop hay has been harvested in some areas, however, the fields are wet to extremely wet, thus making any harvesting a challenge. Rain again daunted efforts to harvest hay. The corn and soybean crops look very good for the most part, but some individual fields have suffered from excess moisture.

**OCONTO-B.T.:** Onions are dry but ground too wet to harvest. What a change from too hot to too cool for crops. About 3.0 inches of rain in last 8 days. Fieldwork is slow. No small grain planted for next fall. Some rye planted for plow down 4.0 to 6.0 inches tall. Most corn ears are tipped downwards and brown. Lots of soybeans dropping leaves. Major potato harvest in full swing as weather permits. Pumpkin blossom set was half of last year. The blight and mildew are taking over the vine crops. Melons and rye average set. Slugs are a problem. Apples are large with small crop and lots of rain.

**EAU CLAIRE-A.B.:** Apple orchard producers are harvesting and they are finding a smaller crop with lower quality. Corn is maturing well, all of the fields that I checked are completely dented. I found fields with the "black layer". Third and fourth crop hay cut this last week is very high quality and the acres are yielding well. A few acres have been dug and manure is being spread onto corn stubble and older hayfields.

**MONROE-P.B.:** Corn silage harvest is progressing. The kernels for many need processing as they are drier than the stalks.

**PEPIN-H.R.:** Getting ready to dig potatoes.

**JUNEAU-J.W.:** Corn is drying down, some reports of 22 to 24 percent moisture in the field, test weight is lower than expected in some reports. Soybeans are still green and wet, leaves not dropping very fast. Some reports of sudden death syndrome and brown stem rot. Hope to start harvesting in a week. Still expect good yields in corn and soybeans. We are ready for a frost.

**PORTAGE-D.Z.:** Some high moisture corn being harvested; saw one field yesterday at 22 to 23 percent moisture.

**FOND DU LAC-R.P.:** Every combine in county is being worked to get ready for harvest.

**SHEBOYGAN-E.P.:** Eighty seven day corn is now opening cobs.

**CRAWFORD-J.B.:** Crops seem to be doing very well. Orchards are open for business and the apple crop seem pretty good. Corn is maturing very well, corn is being chopped for silage, and some corn has been shelled. At this point we are experiencing a good fall.

**SAUK-W.J.:** Fourth crop hay is near completion until after frost. Corn silage is in full swing.

**COLUMBIA-B.K.:** Corn silage went well this week. Corn is maturing very nicely, sunny days will help the dry down. Soybeans turning color and dropping leaves. Looks like a nice crop going into harvest season. Some more hay was made. Fields prepped for winter wheat and fall-seeded alfalfa.

**ROCK-C.H.:** Corn silage is wrapping up. Need a little more rain, but over all everything looks good.

**OZAUKEE-K.A.:** Corn looks very good. Silage chopping is moving at a rapid pace. Yields are better than expected, tonnage way above average. Seen a couple of rows picked for corn fuel because they are still very green in some fields. Nice warm weather to work in. Hope it stays that way this 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 12, 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. 11	Mar. 1 to Sep. 11 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	69	50	73	41	59	-4	2744	2256	0.68	1.61	-0.03	25.99	1.24
Green Bay	68	48	74	41	58	-4	2603	2118	0.59	1.06	-0.26	29.36	7.78
La Crosse	71	53	76	48	62	-4	3056	2534	0.19	0.61	-0.84	30.05	5.22
Madison	72	52	77	45	62	-2	2894	2469	0.26	2.11	0.73	32.44	7.30
Milwaukee	71	55	78	51	63	-3	2868	n.a.	0.78	1.66	0.27	30.05	4.59

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.