



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

October 18, 2010

Vol. 10, No. 28

## Another Week of Excellent Harvest Conditions

Growers were busy in the fields last week as Wisconsin experienced a third week of excellent harvesting weather. With multiple days of dry, warm weather corn and soybeans were coming off the fields quickly. The weather also aided corn and soybeans to dry down. Elevators and co-ops were busy again last week, with long lines at the elevators. A report from Buffalo County stated that elevators were starting to pile corn outside.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week ranged from 4 to 7 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 66 to 74 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 42 to 48 degrees. Green Bay had 0.01 inches of rainfall, while all other stations reported no precipitation for the week. There were 6.9 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/>

Harvest of **corn** for silage wrapped up across the state with 98 percent reported harvested. Corn for grain was reported at 50 percent harvested, up 20 percentage points from last week and 28 percentage points above the five-year average. Corn for grain yields were reported as average to above average, with a report from Eau Claire County stating that corn yields were running well above average on lighter, sandier soil. The dry weather allowed corn to dry down in the field.

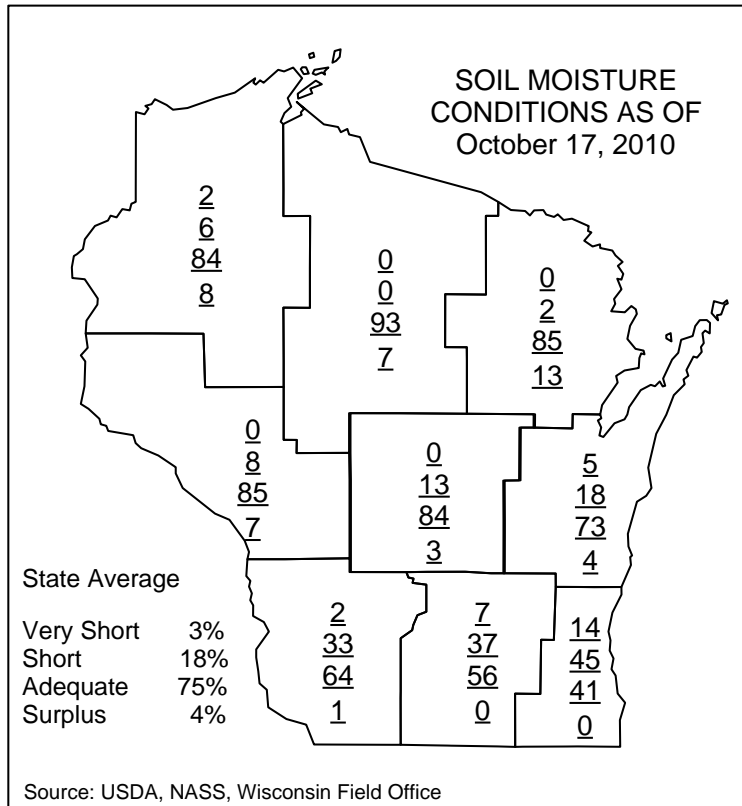
**Soybean** harvest continued the past week, with 86 percent reported harvested, up 23 percentage points from the previous week and 37 percentage points above the five-year average. Yields were reported as good to excellent across much of the state. For soybeans that remain in the field, some were hoping for a little moisture to increase the moisture content of beans.

There were still some growers taking fourth cutting **hay** which was reported at 91 percent complete, 14 percentage points above the five-year average. Across the state, reports stated that a few growers were able to take fifth cutting hay.

**Winter wheat** planting continued last week as fields were cleared. Moisture is needed across the state to aid with germination and emergence.

**Fall tillage** was reported at 31 percent complete, 11 percentage points above last week and 15 percentage points above the five-year average.

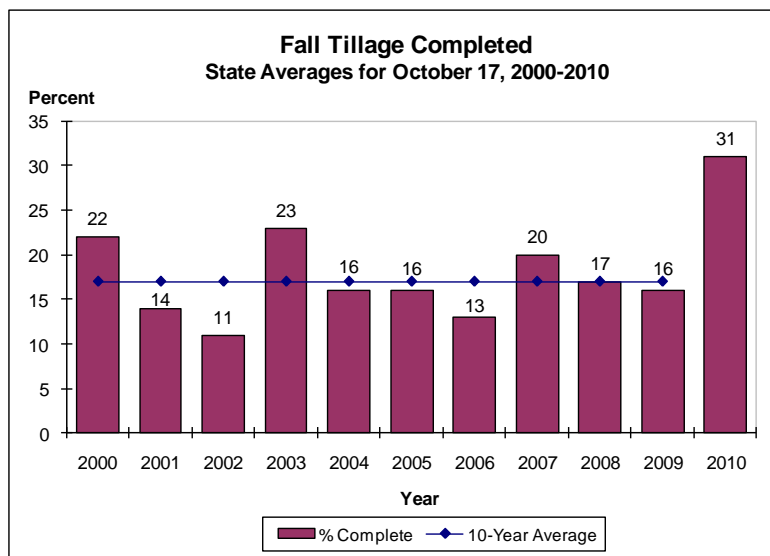
**Manure** applications continued last week.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 17, 2010

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	1	3	11	43	42
Soybean	1	2	10	43	44
Pasture	2	9	24	50	15

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 harvested for grain	30	54	48	35	49	45	63	62	50	50	30	4	22
Corn silage harvested	96	94	98	99	100	98	100	100	100	98	95	81	95
Soybeans harvested	84	91	67	84	83	83	87	90	89	86	63	13	49
Fourth cutting hay	81	92	97	90	88	86	97	94	87	91	81	74	77
Fall tillage	22	20	30	24	44	41	33	28	44	31	20	16	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.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Corn silage mostly done. Corn is just getting too dry. Soybeans really came off this week, yields running as high as 60 bushels per acre. High moisture corn coming off, moisture running in the low to mid 20's. Saw one sample come through at 10 percent moisture. Continued dry conditions should continue to bring moisture levels down. Heard of one grower taking fifth crop of hay.

**WASHBURN-T.F.:** Great conditions for harvesting all crops.

**TAYLOR-D.E.:** Excellent harvesting weather. Soybeans are almost completely harvested and corn harvest is well underway. Soybean yields are reported at average to above average. Corn yields are also at least average to above average.

**SHAWANO-T.B.:** Corn and soybean harvest has been going quickly. Grain moisture levels dropped significantly last week and it will soon be too dry in most fields for high moisture corn. Fourth crop hay yielded well but was the smallest crop of the season. Some fifth crop is being taken now. Winter wheat planting continues and some soybean fields have been no-till planted as soon as the combine pulls out.

**LA CROSSE-I.H.:** The moisture percentage was very low for corn, around 17 percent. For soybeans moisture percentage was around 9 percent. The driers are not running. Test weights appear to be good. Apple harvest is going on.

**PORTAGE-J.W.:** Soybean harvest done, average yields overall. Potato harvest done, good yields. Cranberry harvest ongoing, good yields. Corn harvest picking up speed, variable yields. Fall tillage and manure hauling were major activities this week. Great week to work.

**WAUSHARA-K.W.:** Dry weather starting to take its toll on pastures with hay and grass in sandy areas beginning to wilt during the day from lack of moisture.

**SHEBOYGAN-M.K.:** Soybean yields are generally excellent. Need rainfall for winter wheat germination.

**CRAWFORD-J.B.:** Dry weather has continued in the area which has provided excellent harvest conditions. Corn and soybeans are doing very well. Some winter wheat is being seeded. Overall it has been an excellent fall.

**VERNON-K.L.:** Twenty-two days with no rain. Harvesting crops and mowing of lawns is now a real dirty job. Winter wheat and rye planting near completion. Farmers doing fall tillage. Nothing preventing farmers from harvesting corn or soybeans. Concerns exist over the dryness and the possibility of fires.

**DODGE-S.B.:** Harvesting weather has been outstanding. Producers have reported soybean yields ranging 65 to 70 bushels per acre and corn yields at 220 to 250 bushels per acre. What a year.

**GREEN-J.T.:** The remaining soybeans are below 10 percent moisture although some continue to harvest. Corn moistures are running below 18 percent and harvest is rapidly progressing. Winter grains are planted and are germinating, but could use rain. It is getting extremely dry. Pastures are drying up.

**ROCK-C.O.:** Long lines at the elevator and lack of storage has hindered harvest. Most would be done if they could get rid of it. Some beans as low as 8 percent and corn down in the 12 percent range. What a perfect weather year for planting and harvesting. Unfortunately the light soil was impacted by the dry July and the wet soils by the wet June. This has led to lower yields over all. Too dry for fieldwork as the machinery won't go in the ground. Winter wheat is up and looks great.

**WALWORTH-N.W.:** Soybean harvest is all but complete. Corn harvest is in full swing. Grain elevators are having a hard time keeping up with the bountiful harvest. No rain in the last month is making fall tillage a challenging task. Even with the lack of rain the winter wheat is emerging.

**WAUKESHA-K.T.:** Very good crops. Above normal temperatures.



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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 17, 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 Oct. 16	Mar. 1 to Oct. 16 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	71	42	81	35	56	6	3089	2529	0.00	7.69	2.73	32.07	3.94
Green Bay	66	43	75	36	54	4	2921	2390	0.01	4.76	0.55	33.06	8.58
La Crosse	74	45	83	38	60	7	3462	2861	0.00	7.03	2.47	36.47	8.42
Madison	72	42	82	36	57	6	3293	2818	0.00	2.67	-1.50	33.00	5.04
Milwaukee	68	48	82	42	58	5	3262	n.a.	0.00	2.62	-1.97	31.00	2.30

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.