



Wisconsin Crop Progress

November 1, 2010

Vol. 10, No. 30

Rain and High Winds Slow Fieldwork

The past week saw rain and high winds, which stalled fieldwork for many growers. Combines were back in the fields by the end of the week, but growers were still cautious as there were many wet areas where the combine could get stuck. Overall, elevators continued to be the biggest obstacle for growers harvesting corn as bins were full. A few reports indicated temporary storage bins were being used to make room for more corn to be delivered. Hard frosts were reported in Polk and Grant Counties and snowflakes were reported in St. Croix and Rusk Counties.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week ranged from 2 to 5 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 54 to 60 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 37 to 45 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.53 inches in Eau Claire to 1.70 inches in Madison. There were 4.1 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/>

Despite rain last week, a few growers were able to get into fields and harvest **corn**. Corn for grain was reported at 76 percent harvested across the state, 10 percentage points above the previous week. Reports indicated that growers have saved in costs at the dryers as corn came off fields with low moisture levels. In Dunn County, a report stated some growers were having problems with corn shelling as soon as it hit the combine. For some, the high winds last week caused corn stalks to lodge, making harvest more challenging.

Soybean harvest was complete for many growers, with 98 percent of soybeans reported harvested.

Many reports indicated that the planting of **winter wheat** wrapped up the past week. The recent rain helped newly planted wheat to germinate and emerged winter wheat to green up.

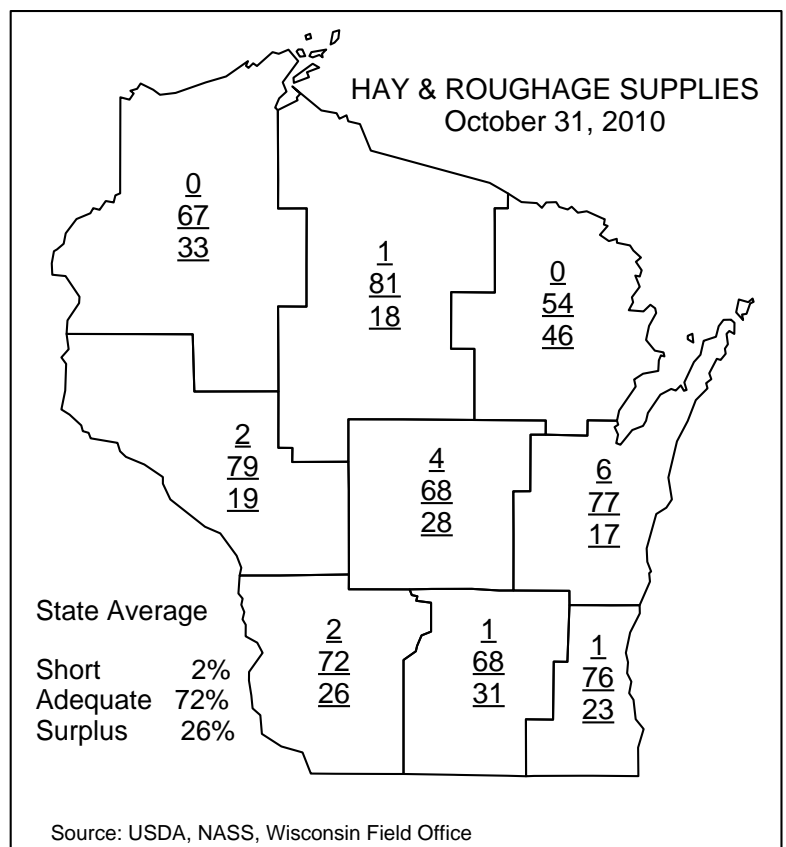
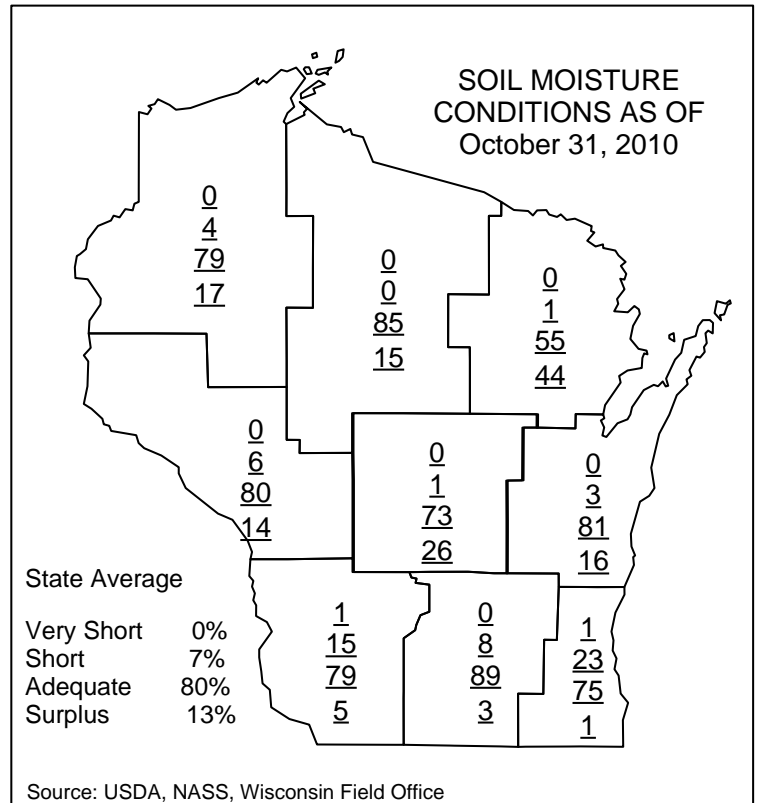
Fall tillage was reported at 46 percent complete, 7 percentage points above the previous week. Reports indicated that the rain slowed fall tillage for some due to wet field conditions, while it aided others by softening the soil.

Manure hauling continued over the past week.

Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 31, 2010

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	3	10	30	49	8

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



Wisconsin Crop Progress, October 31, 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 harvested for grain	62	76	71	66	75	70	85	86	78	76	66	12	43
Soybeans harvested	97	98	89	99	98	96	99	98	99	98	95	29	74
Fall tillage	40	30	48	33	59	57	51	47	55	46	39	23	30

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.

POLK-A.M.: Cooler temperatures this week with some rain. First hard frost hit on Thursday. Weather has halted fieldwork.

WASHBURN-P.H.: No progress this week with a wet week. Corn gained 4 points of moisture. Wind blew down quite a bit of the corn left in the fields. Combines started again late in the week but found many places to get stuck.

ASHLAND-C.B.: Very little progress made this week. Extensive rains throughout the area most of the week.

CLARK-R.H.: Corn harvest was at a standstill this week with rain and high winds. Combines were back in the field late Thursday. The strong wind has caused corn stalks to breakdown in the field and will create some challenge for harvest. Fall seeded crops emergence depends on planting date. Fields planted just before the heavy rainfall in September are emerging slower than earlier planted crops and some producers have planted later because of wet September weather. Fall tillage will resume with some dry weather forecast for the weekend.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Corn and soybean yields are very good. As a result, not enough elevator storage. Winter wheat looks good, went in right after the soybeans came off.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Even though fields are very wet after last week's 3.0 plus inches of rain, the corn harvest continues to move ahead fast with about 75 percent done. Yields running from quite low on lower fields that were wet all summer to very high on the higher ground. Corn moisture is running very low at about 15 to 19 percent which is nice on the pocket book for drying cost. Winter wheat is emerging very well. Tillage is a problem with many fields that have standing water in them.

DUNN-J.R.: Corn harvest is going well. Yields are being reported as average to well above average. Lighter soils did very well this year. Corn moisture is being reported in the mid-teens and lower. Some are having problems with harvesting as corn is too dry and is shelling as soon as it hits the combine. Manure hauling continues to be a priority.

ST. CROIX-D.K.: Soybeans are done, maybe a rare field somewhere. Corn is progressing with moisture at 15 to 18 percent coming off the fields. Tuesday and Wednesday were very windy with rain and a few snowflakes Wednesday morning.

JUNEAU-J.W.: Harvest is about done for soybeans. Yields have been very good. The rain last weekend was a good break and good for the soil as well as it was dry. Corn harvest continues to move along although the warehouses

seem to be getting full as well as the ethanol plant so there aren't many options for delivery. Fields seem to have held up fairly well during the high winds so there have not been any reports of significant problems with harvest.

FOND DU LAC-E.A.: Best year for corn in a long time, needed no gas to dry it.

GRANT-E.B.: Wind was hard on standing corn. Only 0.8 of an inch of rain not sure if enough for winter wheat to germinate.

RICHLAND-C.L.: The rain was very welcomed early this week but the wind took down a lot of corn. Some varieties withstood it better than others and hopefully much more will be harvested soon. Moisture is around 15 to 17 percent.

DANE-J.K.: Corn and soybean harvest is just about done. A lot being finished up Sunday and Monday until late at night to try to beat the high winds. Maybe some beans out yet but I do not know where. I think Dane county would be all done except for storage problems and a few other issues. We have been done for two weeks, earliest ever in 53 years. Winter wheat varies in size. Should be able to do fieldwork now after 1.2 inches in two days. Some manure being applied from pits. A lot of bedding made, probably as much as needed for this year.

OZAUKEE-K.A.: 2010 crop year harvesting pretty much winding down. Some corn still standing. Beans are done. Some fourth crop hay was made. Very windy on Tuesday and Wednesday. Winter wheat greening up very fast since the warm rain.

RACINE-K.I.: Harvest is going well. This week allowed time to rest and catch up.

WASHINGTON-G.S.: Now that we had some rain winter wheat is emerging. Corn and soybean harvest was put on hold with the rain and high winds we had this past week but it should pick up again this weekend.



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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 31, 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. 30	Mar. 1 to Oct. 30 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	54	37	65	23	45	2	3144	2587	0.53	8.22	2.31	32.60	3.50
Green Bay	54	42	64	29	48	4	2971	2444	1.12	6.60	1.45	34.90	9.62
La Crosse	57	42	66	27	49	3	3545	2932	1.16	9.11	3.66	38.55	9.57
Madison	59	42	68	27	50	5	3379	2893	1.70	4.95	-0.20	35.28	6.37
Milwaukee	60	45	69	31	53	5	3353	n.a.	0.90	4.24	-1.41	32.62	2.97

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.