



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

October 31, 2011

Vol. 11, No. 30

## Hints of Winter as Harvest Continues

October closed with seasonable temperatures and light precipitation, allowing fieldwork to continue at speed. Progress on the corn and soybean harvests as well as fall tillage were well above the 5-year average. Portions of northern Wisconsin received a dusting of snow or sleet, which melted quickly on the warm ground. Other areas had scattered showers and thunder storms. Small hail was reported in Kenosha and Waukesha Counties. There were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork this week.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures this week were normal to 2 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 53 to 59 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 29 to 40 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.02 inches in La Crosse to 0.35 inches in Milwaukee. Growing degree days for corn remain above normal for all reporting stations. 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/>

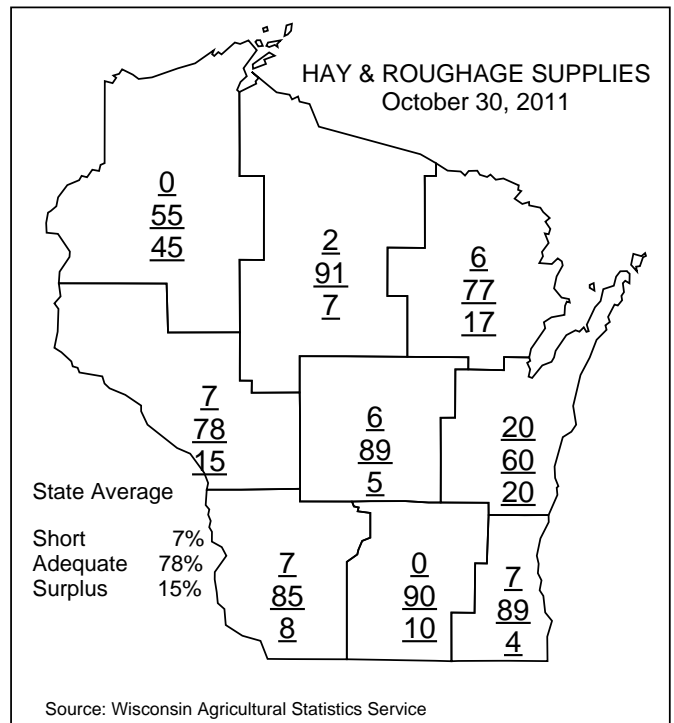
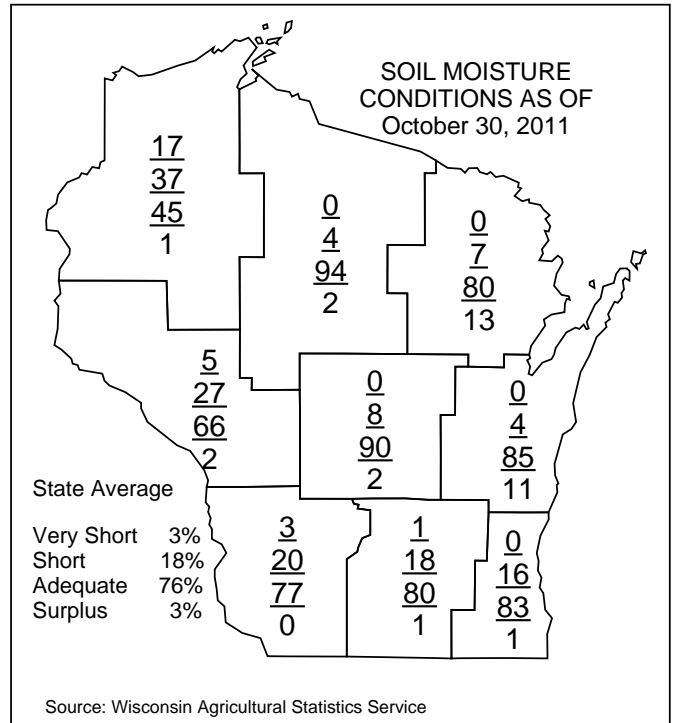
**Corn** was 97 percent mature and 55 percent harvested for grain. Moistures were measuring in the low twenties to high teens in many areas, though rain late in the week interrupted combining for some. Most yield reports continue in the 150-200 bushels per acre range, though yields in some parts of the state vary widely by soil type.

The **soybean** crop was 92 percent harvested this week, with rain slowing harvest in some areas. Many reporters noted yields around 50 bushels per acre.

With the dry, mild fall, Wisconsin's **hay and roughage supplies** were 7 percent short, 78 percent adequate and 15 percent surplus statewide.

**Fall tillage** advanced to 41 percent complete. Precipitation helped loosen dry soils for plowing and seeding.

**Winter wheat, tillage radishes** and other fall-planted crops were emerging well with this week's rain. The **apple** season was beginning to wind down with a very good crop reported. With irrigation, Waupaca County's **raspberry** harvest was set to continue into November.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 30, 2011

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	1	5	15	50	29
Pasture	5	22	40	31	2

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 mature	98	94	86	100	100	93	100	100	99	97	94	100	97
Corn harvested for grain	59	57	30	58	50	39	65	57	53	55	38	75	45
Soybeans harvested	96	92	67	99	95	89	88	94	88	92	83	98	74
Fall tillage completed	37	65	40	40	49	42	33	35	43	41	32	45	29

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.

**BARRON-P.T.:** Harvesting is going great because we have had no rain. Can not do much fall tillage because it is so dry.

**CHIPPEWA-R.M.:** Very good year. A little dry this time.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Corn for grain continues, moistures now mostly in the upper teens. Yields are running 130 to 150 bushels per acre. Soybeans mostly done, have heard of 50 bushels per acre beans but mostly in the 30s. Last of the hay coming off, good forage supplies this year. Some fall tillage going on but mostly still concentrating on getting the corn off. Winter grains are looking good. Local farmers market is now done for the season.

**MARATHON-S.N.:** Fields conditions are good to complete the harvest and to finish fall tillage. Winter wheat is up. Most of the high moisture corn is harvested. Light snow fell north of Wausau but did not stop corn combining. Few vendors at the farmer's market.

**ONEIDA-P.L.:** Pretty well done. Harvests are good.

**FLORENCE-T.B.:** Most production is complete in the area. Some tillage practices occurring and the winter crops are doing well at this time.

**DUNN-J.R.:** Soybean harvest has been completed. From the people I talked to yield probably averaged close to 50 bushels per acre for Dunn County. Moisture levels were reported as low as 7 percent. Corn harvest was slowed by rain at the end of the week. Moisture levels vary but the highest I heard prior to the rain was 16 percent. Yields are much better than many anticipated with an average close to 175 bushels per acre.

**EAU CLAIRE-D.J.:** It's been a good year.

**TREMPEALEAU-J.S.:** Corn harvesting slow in some areas due to corn being wind damaged. Farmers have indicated soybean moistures very low during harvest.

**PORTAGE-D.Z.:** Corn moistures getting down into the teens, most still in the low 20s. Still have a few soybeans to harvest, yields falling in the 45-60 bushels range. Will be taking some corn plots off next week.

**WAUPACA-D.H.:** Soybean harvest is winding down as most has been harvested. Combining of corn has been steady with moistures in the low twenties. Conditions are good for fall tillage. Winter wheat has emerged well.

**FOND DU LAC-M.R.:** Corn harvest in full swing last week. Exceptional yields in many cases. Soybean harvest is wrapping-up. A lot of tillage is also being done.

**OUTAGAMIE-D.F.:** Winter wheat looks as good as I've ever seen. Lots of manure being tanked out. Farmers doing a good job of keeping the roads clean of mud and manure. Seen a couple fields of tillage radishes that had 1.5 inch

diameter roots. When I tried to pull one out it broke off at 6 inches and no end in sight.

**GRANT-J.R.:** Much needed rain was received and field work is progressing. Some producers are applying liquid manure where they can.

**VERNON-K.L.:** Soybeans and corn harvesting going full force. Yields are reported more average than above. Weather has been perfect for harvesting crops.

**DANE-J.K.:** Corn and soybean harvest is going good with soybeans all but done. A few fields of soybeans put in late or after wheat yet to be harvested. Field conditions are very good with about the right amount of moisture and holding due to cool weather and light rain. Some winter crops doing good and all emerged. Still liquid manure going on. Some fence line clearing going on and drainage ditch work going on.

**DODGE-R.H.:** Corn is running better than expected 180 to 220 bushels per acre. Unbelievable how good it is running.

**KENOSHA-R.R.:** Winter wheat is looking good. Unusual weather Thursday afternoon: sun, rain, thunder, hail, and graupel.

**WASHINGTON-J.N.:** Corn for silo complete. Now harvesting corn for grain, running 150 to 200 bushels per acre.



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Director

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 30, 2011**

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. 29	Mar. 1 to Oct. 29 normal*	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	54	29	62	23	42	-2	2799	2584	0.13	2.29	-3.58	29.78	0.87
Green Bay	53	34	60	29	44	0	2643	2441	0.33	5.86	0.77	32.69	7.35
La Crosse	59	34	69	26	46	-1	3135	2928	0.02	4.36	-1.02	32.47	3.74
Madison	57	34	65	27	46	0	2997	2889	0.31	4.63	-0.40	24.93	-3.72
Milwaukee	57	40	66	32	48	0	2848	n.a.	0.35	4.30	-1.28	27.59	-2.07

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.