Corn Harvest Nears Completion

Wisconsin saw light precipitation and a wide range of temperatures this week. Many areas received a dusting of snow early in the week though reporters noted that it did not stick. Saturday saw daytime temperatures in the 60s across much of the state. Cloudy skies and fog slowed fieldwork slightly as farmers worked to wrap up corn combining and stalk bailing. Manure applications and fall tillage continued. Soil moistures held steady at 50 percent short to very short. Though recent precipitation has softened the ground and eased tillage, several reporters noted that subsoil moisture remains below normal in their area. Fall-planted crops have reportedly responded well to recent rains and warm days, filling in spots where emergence was previously poor. There were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork. Across the reporting stations, average temperatures this week were 2 degrees below to 6 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 47 to 51 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 31 to 36 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.08 inches in Green Bay to 0.24 inches in La Crosse.

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 94 percent harvested for grain statewide. Reporters noted that yields were highly variable even within small areas due to this year’s drought. Fall tillage was 72 percent complete, the highest percentage complete for this date in the past 30 years of Crop Progress data. The previous record was 69 percent, set in 1988.

Winter wheat and rye planting was reportedly finished in most areas, with good emergence noted.

This is the last weekly Wisconsin Crop Progress for the season. The review of the 2012 growing season will be released in December. The Wisconsin Field Office of the National Agriculture Statistics Service wishes to thank the many farmers, county agents, and others that provided the information which has allowed you to have an accurate picture of Wisconsin agriculture each week.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!
BARRON-D.B.: We continue to be dry, but looking forward to next year.


CLARK-A.K.: Been quite a year. Been farming for many years and never seen this kind of conditions. Hope to never see it again. We were lucky that the crops did as good as they did. Corn went from 140 bushels to the acre down to 10 bushels to the acre all in the same field.

FLORENCE-T.B.: Not much going on any more. Most tillage is done for this fall. There is still some mill ash being hauled in the area now that the corn is harvested, but most are getting things ready for the winter.

DUNN-S.S.: Most corn and soybean yields better than anticipated. Storage space hard to find. Dry hay is going to be hard for the major problem this winter.

LACROSSE-R.S.: Most producers are pleasantly surprised with grain yields. The heavy ground yields seemed to offset the low yields on the sand. Very little corn standing. Should finish up this week.

PIERCE-G.A.: Adequate topsoil moisture only exists in the top 10-14 inches according to reports by conservation contractors and other excavating sites. Some growers are considering not doing fall tillage as a moisture conserving measure for 2013. A much higher level (more acres) of corn stalk fields were harvested this fall for bedding.

PORTAGE-D.Z.: Winter wheat and rye look good; lots of liquid manure being applied. Fall tillage has improved with recent rains.

WAUPACA-L.B.: Harvest has ended.

CALUMET-B.L.: Fields are wet again and we are seeing a slowdown in fall harvest, tillage and manure applications. Reports of good yields continue to be the norm. Even though many want to finish they know the moisture is needed to replenish the ground water supply and get us off to a better start for 2013.

GREEN-D.M.: Harvested organic corn that seemed to hold up fairly well during the drought. Unfortunately, like many experienced, some areas were good, but most were not. Only received 30 bushels per acre.

ROCK-C.O.: Most of harvest complete and manure being applied. Winter wheat looks great.

KENOSHA-R.R.: The corn yields varied from 115 to 143 bushels per acre, harvest warping up. Fall tillage is going ground is hard and machine pulls hard.

WASHINGTON-G.S.: Harvest and fall tillage is essentially complete. Winter crops are up and we saw our first snow flurries last week.

### Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 11, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Growing degree days (modified base 50)</th>
<th>Precipitation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Avg. max.</td>
<td>Avg. min.</td>
<td>High max.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eau Claire</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Bay</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Formula used: \( \text{GDD} = (\text{daily maximum (86°)} + \text{daily minimum (50°)})/2 - 50 \); 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/NCOA Climate Prediction Center [http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov). n.a. = not available. T = trace.