



# WISCONSIN CROP PROGRESS

September 23, 2013

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## Rain Improves Soil Moistures

A string of chilly, rainy days lead up to this week's fall equinox. Temperatures were close to normal statewide, ending a four week run of above average temperatures. There were widespread reports of light frost; frost damage was reported to crops in some areas, ranging from superficial to killing depending on location and the maturity of the crop. Much-needed precipitation was received across the state, though reporters noted it was too late to help the corn crop in some areas. Topsoil moistures improved, with 55 percent short to very short this week compared to 75 percent last week. Rain reportedly slowed silage chopping but pastures, hay and new plantings perked up in response to the moisture. **Apple** picking was in full swing across the state with a good crop reported. There were 4.8 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 1 degree below to 1 degree above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 69 to 72 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 48 to 55 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.79 inches in Green Bay to 2.76 inches in Madison. 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/>

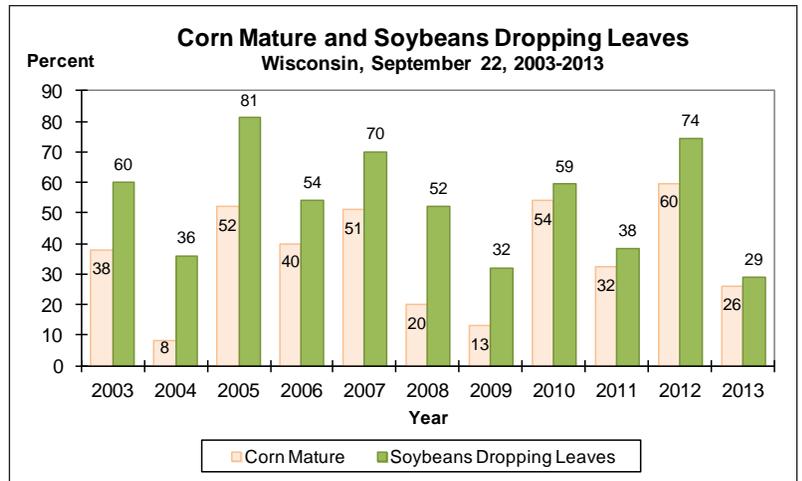
**Corn** was 91 percent in dough stage, 72 percent in dent stage and 24 percent mature. Corn silage was 36 percent harvested. Corn silage yields were reportedly below normal due to both late plantings and dry conditions.

**Soybeans** had 70 percent with leaves turning color and 29 percent were dropping leaves. There were scattered reports of soybean plants that will not produce beans being chopped for forage.

**Third cutting alfalfa** was 95 percent harvested and the **fourth cutting** was 46 percent harvested. Reporters in some areas commented that there will be no fourth crop this year due to dry conditions and a late start to haying.

**Fall tillage** was 5 percent complete.

An Oneida County reporter noted that early **cranberry** varieties are ripe enough to harvest, but late varieties are not yet ready.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 22, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	25	33	28	13	1
Corn	9	20	30	30	11
Soybeans	10	19	31	29	11

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office

## Wisconsin Crop Progress, September 22, 2013

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
	Percent									Percent			
Corn in dough	88	89	79	88	84	87	97	99	91	91	86	100	97
Corn in dent	65	62	61	69	70	66	77	83	74	72	58	93	82
Corn mature	22	5	4	19	25	21	17	50	17	24	14	60	35
Corn silage harvested	47	15	10	54	23	18	60	64	29	36	22	81	51
Soybeans leaves turned	86	54	40	66	63	58	74	86	62	70	48	95	85
Soybeans dropping leaves	42	15	6	24	21	15	33	45	25	29	11	74	51
Third cutting hay	89	79	98	96	92	100	99	100	91	95	93	100	98
Fourth cutting hay	30	14	64	26	42	52	59	80	30	46	35	91	62
Fall tillage completed	3	10	1	2	14	3	2	5	13	5	n.a.	7	4

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions, September 22, 2013

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	5.5	4.9	4.4	5.1	5.2	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.9	4.8	6.1	5.8
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	26	38	0	33	1	6	16	22	11	19	33	32
Short	42	37	17	47	27	35	37	32	27	36	42	46
Adequate	32	24	75	20	72	57	46	46	59	44	25	22
Surplus	0	1	8	0	0	2	1	0	3	1	0	0
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	25	30	4	48	33	8	24	18	17	26	32	n.a.
Short	47	45	21	44	48	37	53	40	39	43	47	n.a.
Adequate	28	24	70	8	19	54	23	42	42	30	21	n.a.
Surplus	0	1	5	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	0	n.a.

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

# Wisconsin Crop Progress

## 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-B.D.:** Received much need moisture. May be too late for a lot of corn

**WASHBURN-R.H.:** Got 1.25 inches of rain Saturday morning. Fall is here and supposed to get a warming spell this week. Maple leaves are turning.

**ASHLAND-C.B.:** Not much field activity this week. Light rain on and off most of the week. A lot of the corn that was planted early on the lighter soils has now dented. Very little corn on the heavy clay ground has dented. Majority of the corn in our area will go for silage. Still appears a lot of soybeans will not make mature beans.

**TAYLOR-D.E.:** Much needed rain fell even though it was very scattered. Frost affected much of the area but it was not a hard killing frost. Corn and soybeans are coming off for forage because there is no grain value in many fields. Winter crops that were planted welcomed the rain.

**LANGLADE-A.K.:** Mother nature is still giving us a much needed growing season. Frost last Monday and Tuesday mornings, tops of some corn fields where killed but cob and lower leaves are fine, tops of beans were killed as well. June planted corn just starting to dent, will be silage. Some corn and beans will make maturity which was unexpected, considering how cool and late it has been all season.

**EAU CLAIRE-D.J.:** Got 0.5 inch of rain this past week. Haven't had a frost yet.

**MONROE-M.Y.:** We got about 2.0 inches of rain within the last week.

**TREMPEALEAU-D.D.:** Still lots of corn yet to be fully dented, hay supplies are generally short and corn silage yields are generally down.

**PORTAGE-J.W.:** Only light frosts thus far, little damage to crops. Silage harvest going slow, many waiting for late planted corn to develop ears. Sweet corn harvest complete, and potato harvest continues.

**WOOD-M.L.:** Finally rain, three events in one week. It is too late for most of the crops, but pastures have improved already. Very light frost has nipped the edges of fields and sensitive crops such as pumpkins.

**SHEBOYGAN-E.P.:** Got a total of 1.0 inch of rain this week on Wednesday and Thursday morning. Some plants completely yellow. Crops have a ways to go yet before the frost and freeze!

**WINNEBAGO-S.E.:** Much needed rain helped hay and late crops.

**CRAWFORD-J.B.:** With a couple days of high temperatures during the week a welcome rain was received which will certainly help alfalfa, pastures, some late soybeans and any grass or hay seeding. Corn is being chopped for silage but not much if any has been harvested for grain. Apple harvest is in full swing and the apple crop seems slightly above normal.

**COLUMBIA-S.H.:** Over 2.0 inches of very welcome rain fell in Columbia County this week. It was a little too late for much of the corn and soybeans but very beneficial to pastures, hay fields, trees, shrubs, and lawns. Things are greening up again for the fall. Waiting to see when frost will officially end our growing season.

**DODGE-R.H.:** Got 2.0 inches of rain this past week.

**OZAUKEE-K.A.:** Had some nice showers pass through and we got 0.5 inch one day and two days later another 0.75 inch. Then, another 1.0 inch of rain came through a day after that and it sure helped close the wide cracks in the ground. Third crop hay - not much to talk about. With the moisture now a fourth cutting is looking a lot better. Corn is still too green to chop for silage.

**WASHINGTON-G.S.:** A few producers starting silage and making fourth crop hay.

### Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 22, 2013

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. 21	Mar. 1 To Sep. 21 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	70	48	81	36	59	+0	2511	2360	0.99	1.51	-1.39	29.15	+3.13
Green Bay	69	48	82	37	59	+0	2385	2224	0.79	2.67	+0.31	26.65	+4.07
La Crosse	72	55	86	47	64	+1	2814	2656	0.94	1.22	-1.37	28.36	+2.35
Madison	71	52	87	40	61	+1	2660	2603	2.76	3.02	+0.61	39.50	+13.35
Milwaukee	69	55	81	46	62	-1	2520	n.a.	0.94	1.45	-1.05	31.58	+5.05

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.



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