

## Dry and Mild as Harvests Take Off

The state saw an overall dry and mild week with widespread light rain over the weekend. Reporters commented that the warm dry days pushed crops toward maturity. A few reporters in the north noted patchy overnight frost. Precipitation received was not enough to combat lingering dry and dusty soil conditions in some areas. Topsoil moisture was 59 percent short to very short this week compared to 55 percent last week. Corn silage harvest chugged along and late haying continued, taking advantage of the sunny weather. The corn for grain and soybean harvests were gearing up with fall seedings going in as fields were cleared. There were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 1 degree below to 4 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 68 to 77 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 42 to 51 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.09 inches in Milwaukee to 0.39 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/>

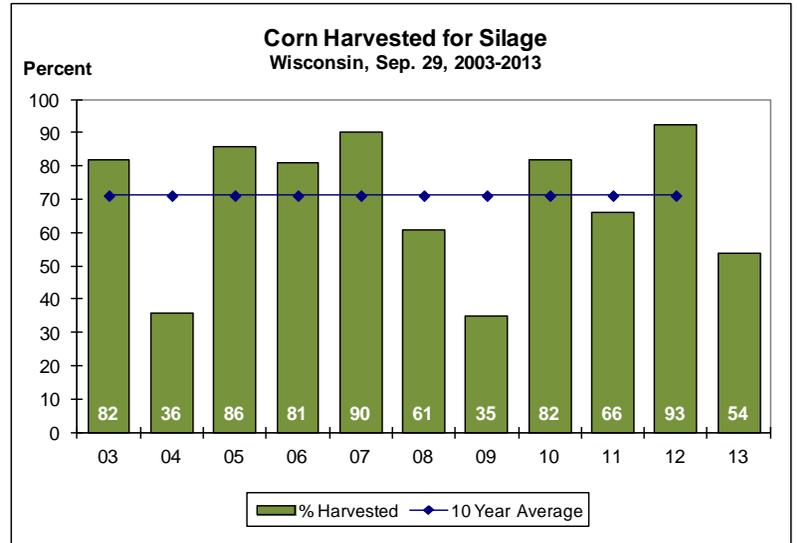
**Corn** was 84 percent in dent stage and 43 percent mature. Corn for grain was 3 percent harvested compared to 21 percent last year and a five year average of 8 percent. Corn silage was 54 percent harvested. Corn silage yields reports varied from below average to good.

**Soybeans** had 85 percent with leaves turning color and 52 percent were dropping leaves. Soybean harvest was getting underway with 3 percent harvested compared to 38 percent last year and a five year average of 12 percent.

**Fourth cutting alfalfa** was 64 percent harvested. The quality and availability of the fourth crop varied due to dry conditions.

**Fall tillage** was 9 percent complete.

**Winter wheat** and **rye** were being seeded in some areas as other crops come in. **Potatoes** were being harvested in Vilas, Langlade, Dunn, Marquette and Portage Counties. **Apples** and **pears** continue to be picked state wide. Reporters commented that the crop is significantly better than last year.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 29, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	23	31	32	12	2
Corn	8	17	31	32	12
Soybeans	8	18	32	30	12

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office

## Wisconsin Crop Progress, September 29, 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 dent	76	74	67	80	81	80	91	90	89	84	72	97	92
Corn mature	29	23	15	32	40	35	52	73	33	43	24	78	52
Corn silage harvested	53	40	26	63	46	39	74	79	53	54	36	93	67
Soybeans leaves turned	92	88	65	83	78	81	89	88	82	85	70	99	95
Soybeans dropping leaves	59	53	16	51	38	39	66	68	37	52	29	89	74
Fourth cutting hay	32	25	71	58	63	67	75	85	58	64	46	95	71
Fall tillage completed	7	22	8	5	16	9	5	6	8	9	5	12	8

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions, September 29, 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	6.2	6.3	6.6	6.3	6.5	6.0	5.6	6.2	6.5	6.2	4.8	6.7
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	24	40	0	36	2	5	10	19	16	18	19	41
Short	56	50	19	52	26	33	40	40	29	41	36	41
Adequate	20	10	75	12	72	61	49	41	53	40	44	18
Surplus	0	0	6	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	0
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	20	28	3	49	33	10	20	20	24	25	26	n.a.
Short	59	62	21	43	49	39	54	45	46	48	43	n.a.
Adequate	21	10	73	8	18	51	26	35	28	27	30	n.a.
Surplus	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	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-D.B.:** Received 0.4 inch of rain Saturday morning. Corn silage continues and soybean harvest has just begun.

**CHIPPEWA-R.M.:** About 0.2 inch of rain on Saturday. June was the last time we've had a good rain. We got about 0.6 inch in August. A couple of weeks ago, we got 0.4 inch of rain. Good crop of apples.

**CLARK-R.H.:** Early planted corn is being harvested for corn silage, later planted corn may be a week or two away or after a killing frost. Early planted corn has been average quality and yield. Of course this depends on the area of the county as some areas received rainfall, while other areas were lacking rainfall. There are oats being harvested for grain from late plantings. Yields are average along with quality. Soybeans are dropping leaves and drying down at this time with harvest to begin in a week or two.

**VILAS-R.K.:** Potato harvest 65 percent completed. Yields are good. Quality is good. No surprises thus far.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** Fourth crop alfalfa is being cut with high yield and very good quality. Corn silage is coming off slowly with good tonnage. Soybean harvest will begin this next week. Apple crop is excellent.

**BUFFALO-R.S.:** A big week for harvesting corn silage - actually it was a cloud of dust - very dry. No frost and warm days have helped corn maturity - maybe we'll get ripe corn yet. Hay yields are low. Some are seeding rye.

**DUNN-S.S.:** Potato harvest in full swing now. Apple yield about average.

**PIERCE-G.A.:** Soybean harvest started. Corn silage harvest almost complete. Some winter rye has been planted as a cover crop on harvested corn silage acres.

**MARQUETTE-D.B.:** Potatoes going into storage now. A bit of corn being harvested for grain.

**KEWAUNEE-T.S.:** The past week saw more fall crops being harvested. The corn for silage continued to be chopped, but for some producers, it is slow going as the corn is still too wet. This is especially the case if the corn is to be stored in a silo bag. The corn will not pack into the bag adequately when

it contains too much moisture. For those putting the corn into upright silos or on piles, the conditions are right. However, even there, any excess moisture will run off. Obviously, the longer maturing corn is experiencing this problem more than the shorter maturity corn. In this area, quite a bit of corn silage has been made already. The yield overall looks good. No corn for high moisture has been taken off yet. The harvest of soybeans is just beginning, with some early maturity beans dry enough to be combined. More will be taken off this week, with the harvest continuing for a couple of weeks beyond that. The planting of winter wheat is going strong. For most producers, Sept. 30 is the final planting date that crop insurance will accept for full policy coverage. Some producers are waiting to harvest their soybeans so that the wheat can be planted in those same fields. With about a half inch of rain falling this past week, the winter wheat already in the ground should get off to a good start. More third crop and fourth crop alfalfa was chopped and baled in the last week. For any hay to be baled this late in the season is amazing, to say the least.

**OUTAGAMIE-D.F.:** Some winter wheat being planted on corn acres that have been chopped off.

**GRANT-G.M.:** Got 0.6 inch of rain last week.

**VERNON-K.Y.:** Corn silage harvest underway with average yields. Sunny and windy conditions have helped dry down the corn and soybeans. Temperatures have been above normal, which will help the late planted crops.

**GREEN-M.M.:** Corn silage harvest is pretty much complete with good yields. High moisture corn is being harvested with yields coming in much better than expected after the lack of rain in July and August. Soybean harvest also started in some fields this week.

**KENOSHA-J.H.:** It is very dry.

**WALWORTH-T.O.:** No rain for at least two weeks.

### Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 29, 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. 28	Mar. 1 To Sep. 28 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	74	47	82	40	61	+4	2601	2417	0.28	1.79	-1.86	29.43	+2.68
Green Bay	71	42	80	36	56	+0	2461	2282	0.22	2.89	-0.08	26.87	+3.71
La Crosse	77	51	84	44	64	+4	2915	2722	0.39	1.61	-1.67	28.75	+1.89
Madison	73	43	81	40	58	+0	2745	2676	0.17	3.19	+0.19	39.67	+12.87
Milwaukee	68	50	78	45	59	-1	2589	n.a.	0.09	1.54	-1.60	31.67	+4.37

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.



USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field office  
P.O. Box 8934  
Madison, WI 53708-8934

(608)224-4848  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/>  
Greg Bussler, State Statistician

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.