

November 25, 2013

Vol. 13, No. 32

Deep Freeze as Season Wraps Up

Farmers statewide saw a cold and wintery week as they worked to finish up field activities for the season. Snowfall, rain and fog hampered harvest operations midweek. The storm was followed by a weekend cold snap with temperatures in the single digits statewide and falling below zero in the northwest early Sunday morning. Fields were reportedly well frozen in the north, halting tillage but firming the ground for combining. Other areas were still muddy, but reporters noted that farmers were harvesting wherever possible. Several reporters commented that some late planted corn and soybeans remained standing in fields. Grain moistures were reportedly still high, necessitating expensive drying. There were 4.4 days suitable for fieldwork this week.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 3 degree below normal to 2 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 35 to 43 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 20 to 30 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.22 inches in La Crosse to 2.20 inches in Milwaukee. 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/>

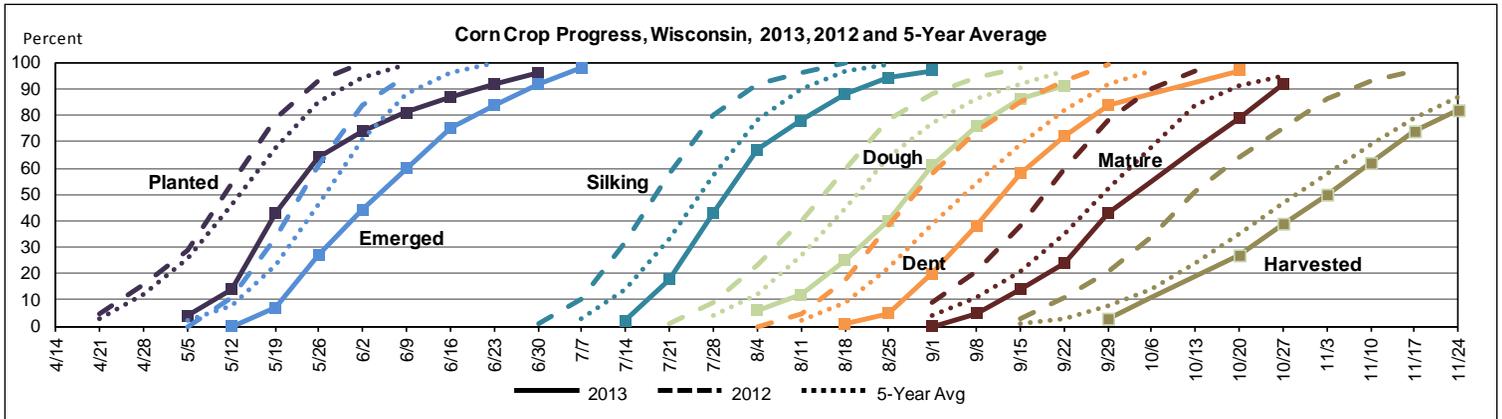
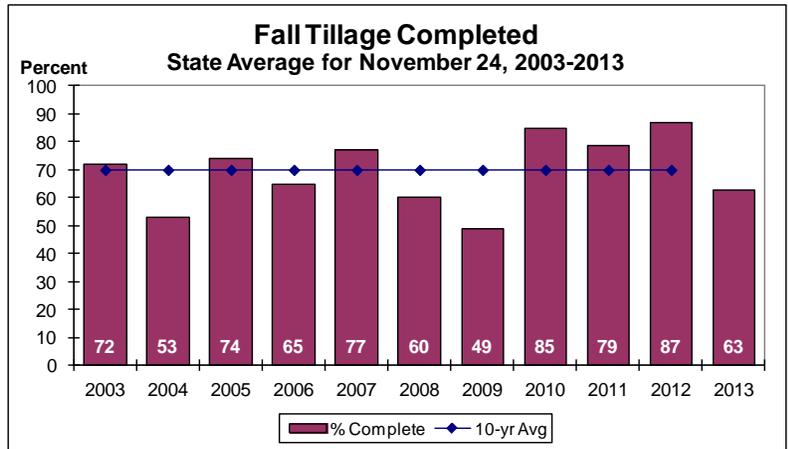
Corn for grain was 82 percent harvested, 5 percentage points behind the five year average.

Soybeans were 97 percent harvested.

Fall tillage was at 63 percent complete, 9 percentage points behind the five year average.

This is the last weekly *Wisconsin Crop Progress* for the season. The review of the 2013 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!



Wisconsin Crop Progress, November 24, 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
Corn harvested for grain	80	72	55	83	85	73	87	88	78	82	74	100	87
Soybeans harvested	96	93	87	98	95	95	99	99	96	97	93	100	99
Fall tillage completed	48	59	40	61	84	65	58	74	62	63	55	87	72

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions, November 24, 2013

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
Days Suitable	Days									Days		
	4.5	4.9	4.6	4.1	4.0	4.8	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.4	4.3	6.0
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	7	0	0	7	0	0	5	0	0	3	4	17
Short	10	1	0	32	1	2	21	10	0	12	14	39
Adequate	74	98	66	59	86	52	70	80	82	72	65	42
Surplus	9	1	34	2	13	46	4	10	18	13	17	3
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	13	0	0	24	0	0	14	1	2	9	9	n.a.
Short	22	17	6	47	18	5	32	26	16	26	27	n.a.
Adequate	61	83	68	29	79	69	54	67	70	59	53	n.a.
Surplus	4	0	26	0	3	26	0	6	12	6	11	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.: Looking forward to 2014. Corn yet to be harvested, too high moisture.

RUSK-G.P.: Harvest continues, soybeans are mostly done and corn continues. Corn that is still in the field was planted late into June and is too wet to come in from the field yet. Some snow on the ground and we had our first sub-zero night into Sunday morning. Fields are frozen now and lakes, rivers, and streams are freezing over. Just about done for the year.

MARATHON-S.N.: Soybean harvest nearing completion. Corn harvest slower with moist, foggy weather conditions throughout the week. Thursday/Friday (Nov 21 and 22) received 3.0 inches of snow. Manure hauling and some fall tillage ongoing between corn harvesting.

ONEIDA-B.E.: Temperatures continued to be well below average this past week, and we started flooding up some of the cranberry beds to protect them from the cold. This is about 2-3 weeks earlier than usual. We saw about 0.35 inch of rain and 4.0 inches of snow this past week.

MARINETTE-S.R.: Significantly frozen soil will hamper tillage, but allow combining.

DUNN-S.S.: Weather has slowed down harvesting of remainder of corn - not lots of rain just enough to slow things down. Heard corn yields all the way from 218 bushels per acre to 37 bushels per acre. Beans 18 to 64 bushels per acre. Hay supplies remaining very short. Lots of corn stalks are being round baled.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Corn harvest stalled out the past couple weeks. Most moistures remaining are 30 percent and dry down in the field is all but stopped. Ground froze hard this weekend so no more tillage for now.

JUNEAU-J.W.: There were a lot of combines running late into the night this last week hoping to get corn and beans off the field before winter sets in. No significant snow fall yet but the cold has arrived. The moisture remains fairly high in corn making it expensive to dry so there is still a fair amount of late planted corn still standing in the field. The ground will be

frozen after this week so I think fall tillage will be about done.

MARQUETTE-D.B.: Ground is froze. Tillage is done. A little corn here and there yet.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: Winter is now here.

FOND DU LAC-B.P.: Done with tillage. Frost is about 8.0 inches down and about 1.0 inch of snow on the ground. About done with field operations.

SHEBOYGAN-E.P.: Harvest weather not good. A lot of soybeans and corn not harvested yet. Waiting for the ground to freeze and temperatures to drop.

VERNON-K.Y.: Enough frost in ground to stop fall tillage. Deer hiding in standing corn fields. Harvest continues.

COLUMBIA-S.H.: Challenging week for corn harvest in Columbia County. Received 0.75 to 1 inch of rain on the weekend, which brought combining to a halt. Rain on Wednesday night shut things down again and now 0.5 to 0.9 inch of snow on Thursday night will make it challenging to finish up. Corn moisture still running in the upper teens to mid 20s causing dryers to work hard. On a good note, many farmers' harvest is complete or very near complete, and a fair amount of fall tillage has already taken place.

GREEN-D.M.: Except for some corn stalk chopping and fall tillage, all is in for 2013. Thought last year's drought would be as bad as it could get, but this year's cold wet spring, and then flooding two weeks later, brought an almost total loss. Got enough to feed my chickens for 2014, so grateful for that much.

KENOSHA-R.R.: With 2.0 inches of rain fall, tillage and things came to a stop, corn yields ran from 160 to 200 bushels per acre soybeans at 56 bushels per acre. Winter wheat looks good; light snow this morning but melting

OZAUKEE-K.A.: Soybeans all harvested but corn is a different story - some farmers just waiting for kernel moisture, at 30 plus percent, to drop. Corn is still standing pretty good. Good luck deer hunters!

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 24, 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 Nov. 23	Mar. 1 to Nov. 23 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	35	20	45	5	28	-3	2783	2599	0.30	6.56	-0.89	34.20	+3.39
Green Bay	41	28	58	12	35	+2	2661	2456	0.48	9.14	+2.11	33.12	+5.75
La Crosse	40	25	51	9	33	-1	3153	2953	0.22	7.17	+0.00	34.31	+3.68
Madison	40	27	58	11	34	+0	2974	2926	1.03	7.14	+0.14	43.62	+12.91
Milwaukee	43	30	65	14	37	+0	2829	n.a.	2.20	8.08	+0.24	38.21	+6.37

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.



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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.