



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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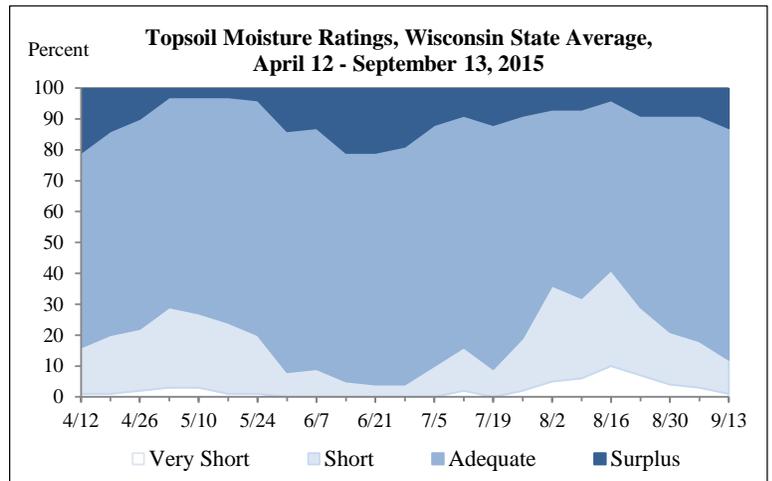
Heavy Rains and Localized Flooding Slow Fieldwork

There were 4.6 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending September 13, 2015, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. This week began hot and wet, with multiple storms dousing the state and stalling fieldwork. Heavy rains caused flash flooding in parts of central Wisconsin; some reporters noted erosion damage to fields, roads and drainage structures. Sunny, cooler weather arrived by the weekend, with overnight lows falling into the 40s. Reporters noted that corn and soybeans were maturing rapidly, allowing corn silage chopping to take off statewide. Haying was also back underway in many areas, with good growth in hay stands reported.

This week's storms left some areas contending with too much moisture but alleviated dry conditions in others. **Topsoil moistures** ended the week with 12 percent short to very short on average compared to 18 percent the previous week. **Subsoil moistures** were 20 percent short to very short compared to 22 percent last week.

As of September 13, 75 percent of the **corn** crop was in or beyond dent stage, 10 days ahead of last year and 3 days ahead of the five-year average. The corn crop was rated 78 percent good to excellent, 1 percentage point above last week. Corn harvested for silage was 16 percent complete, 6 days ahead of last year but 6 days behind the five year average. Sixty-three percent of the **soybean** crop had begun turning color, 6 days ahead of last year and 3 days ahead of the five-year average. Eighty percent of the soybean crop was rated good to excellent, unchanged from the previous week. Fifty-two percent of **potatoes** had been harvested statewide, a week ahead of last year. Potato condition was rated 92 percent good to excellent, 1 percentage point above last week. Seven percent of **winter wheat** planting was complete, a week ahead of last year. **Fall tillage** had begun statewide.

Pasture condition was rated 60 percent good to excellent, down 1 percentage point from last week. The **fourth cutting of alfalfa** was 62 percent harvested, the second fastest pace in more than 35 years, trailing only 2012. **All hay condition** was 78 percent in good to excellent condition, the same as last week. A reporter in Kewaunee County reported that **apple** season is now in full swing.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 13, 2015

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn.....	1	4	17	52	26
Hay, All.....	1	5	16	55	23
Pasture & Range..	3	11	26	44	16
Potatoes.....	0	2	6	72	20
Soybeans.....	1	5	14	53	27

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of September 13, 2015

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			
Alfalfa hay, fourth cutting.....	68	34	54	69	73	61	61	71	32	62	49	37	50
Corn in or beyond dough stage	90	81	93	94	99	91	95	99	93	94	91	86	92
Corn in or beyond dent stage....	72	41	58	77	85	73	70	87	79	75	56	56	70
Corn mature.....	13	4	4	12	18	14	17	12	25	14	5	7	19
Corn harvested for silage.....	7	3	7	14	16	11	37	38	29	16	6	9	30
Potatoes harvested.....	38	65	79	92	43	n.a.	39	37	n.a.	52	44	36	n.a.
Soybeans coloring.....	67	42	63	62	77	61	65	61	67	63	35	42	56
Soybeans dropping leaves.....	12	11	10	11	18	17	14	10	12	13	3	10	19
Winter wheat planted.....	10	11	8	9	11	5	10	7	3	7	2	n.a.	n.a.

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of September 13, 2015

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	4.9	3.0	3.7	4.2	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.1	4.3	4.6	5.3	3.9
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	4	1	1	3	0
Short.....	2	7	4	7	14	4	12	24	21	11	15	6
Adequate.....	85	92	69	83	75	75	60	65	72	75	73	75
Surplus.....	13	1	27	9	11	21	26	7	6	13	9	19
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	5	4	1	2	2	0
Short.....	3	8	11	8	16	17	28	36	20	18	20	9
Adequate.....	87	92	74	82	78	70	67	57	76	74	74	79
Surplus.....	10	0	15	9	6	13	0	3	3	6	4	12

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.

RUSK-G.P.: Soybeans made the biggest change this week, with lots of color showing up. Earliest beans are starting to drop leaves. Some corn is reaching black layer and will start the dry down process. Corn silage is starting big time, with a lot more to come off next week. Moistures on the corn silage are running in the upper 60s and lower 70s. Piles are fine, bags maybe, but too wet yet for silos. Crop is drier than it looks, lots of leaf diseases. Last of the hay and haylage coming off here in the middle of September. Good supply of forages for the upcoming winter.

CLARK-R.H.: Some farmers have opened up corn fields; corn moisture is a touch high. I think in the next week bunkers will be getting filled. Late season corn disease is being observed in a number of fields. Foggy conditions the past couple of weeks probably contributed. Some areas of the county have had heavy rainfall amounts over Labor Day with culvert washouts on some county roads. Soybeans are showing their fall colors and dropping leaves and if weather cooperates will be ready to harvest by end of the month.

LANGLADE-A.K.: This coming week's forecast looks good.

SHAWANO-J.N.: Fifth crop hay is being harvested. Corn silage chopping has begun.

EAU CLAIRE-M.H.: Storms last weekend damaged some crops in the area (straight line winds and rain). A majority of the remaining crops look good. Once it dries out, chopping will commence.

TREMPEALEAU-L.N.: Heavy rains this past week have saturated the ground. Reports of up to 9 inches in the northern part of the county and 2 inches in the southern part so everyone has gotten their share and then some.

ADAMS-D.B.: Corn for silage and hybrid seed corn are being harvested.

WOOD-M.L.: Heavy rains early in the week ended a dry spell. Fields recovered quickly and fieldwork began after only a couple of days break. Corn for silage progressed quickly during the week, harvesting is just beginning.

DOOR-A.B.: Significant rains this week slowed down the corn drying process. Snap bean harvest came off in some places in very wet fields and caused significant field damage. Standing water can be seen even on light soils. Some have begun corn silage harvest on their driest corn because they are running low on inventory. Fourth crop is coming off nicely with decent yields. The majority of silage harvest will begin next week if the fields are dry enough to harvest.

SHEBOYGAN-M.B.: Rainfall abundant this past week. Corn silage harvest should shift into high gear next week. Fourth crop alfalfa crop yields look very good.

VERNON-K.L.: Rainfall for week varied from sprinkles to almost 3.5 inches in areas. Corn silage off to a good start late in the week for bunkers and bags. Some reports of corn blight and aphids in soybeans. Overall the crops all look really good.

GREEN-M.M.: Corn silage harvest is in full swing, but was slowed by heavy rains received last week. Corn is dented and most soybeans are turning color.

ROCK-C.O.: White mold is evident in the soybeans even in varieties touted as being resistant. What effect, if any, it will have on yields is yet to be seen.

WALWORTH-N.W.: A lot of corn silage came off this last week.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 13, 2015

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. 12	Mar. 1 to Sep. 12 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	74	53	83	40	63	+1	2456	2268	1.72	3.13	+1.36	30.69	+5.74
Green Bay	74	58	88	44	66	+4	2419	2130	3.98	4.12	+2.69	20.33	-1.29
La Crosse	78	59	92	45	69	+3	2937	2548	1.58	1.64	+0.07	24.36	-0.75
Madison	76	60	90	46	68	+5	2677	2484	1.28	1.28	-0.22	24.27	-1.01
Milwaukee	75	61	90	48	68	+2	2374	n.a.	1.20	1.48	-0.04	19.24	-6.41

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. n.a.=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more 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/>

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.