



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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For the week ending October 11, 2015
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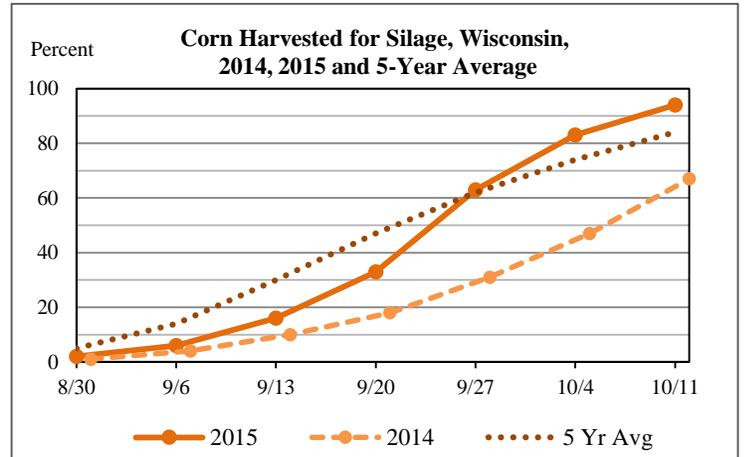
Harvest Proceeds Quickly with Good Conditions

There were 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending October 11, 2015, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. It was a pleasant week for fieldwork, with daytime temperatures averaging in the 60s and a mix of sunny, overcast, and windy conditions. Fieldwork in the north and east of the state was interrupted by rain midweek, but the southwestern corner of the state was mostly dry. The corn silage and fourth crop hay harvests were wrapping up statewide, with good yields reported. Corn harvest for grain was taking off and the soybeans and high moisture corn harvests were going strong. Reporters noted that corn and soybeans were showing a wide range of moisture content though crops were much drier overall than they were at this time last year. Fall tillage, manure hauling and winter wheat planting continued with good emergence reported in wheat fields.

Topsoil moistures were 10 percent surplus, 78 percent adequate and 12 percent short to very short. **Subsoil moistures** were 5 percent surplus, 82 percent adequate and 13 percent short to very short.

As of October 11, **corn** harvested for grain had reached 16 percent complete, 12 days ahead of last year but 5 days behind the five-year average. The corn crop was rated 79 percent good to excellent, 1 percentage point up from the previous week. Corn harvested for silage was 94 percent complete, almost 3 weeks ahead of last year and 6 days ahead of the five-year average. Forty-six percent of the **soybean** crop had been harvested, 10 days ahead of last year but 1 day behind the five-year average. Eighty-one percent of the soybean crop was rated good to excellent. Ninety-three percent of **potatoes** had been harvested statewide, on pace with last year. Thirty-seven percent of the **winter wheat** crop had emerged, 6 days ahead of last year. **Fall tillage** was at 28 percent complete, the fastest pace in 15 years.

Pasture condition was rated 62 percent good to excellent, 1 percentage point down from last week. The **fourth cutting of alfalfa** was 93 percent harvested, the second fastest pace in more than 35 years, trailing only 2012.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 11, 2015

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-------------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | Percent | | | | |
| Corn..... | 1 | 4 | 16 | 53 | 26 |
| Pasture & Range.. | 3 | 11 | 24 | 47 | 15 |
| Soybeans..... | 1 | 4 | 14 | 54 | 27 |

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of October 11, 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..... | 93 | 76 | 96 | 96 | 97 | 89 | 98 | 94 | 85 | 93 | 89 | 85 | 87 |
| Corn mature..... | 85 | 70 | 62 | 77 | 78 | 77 | 88 | 87 | 84 | 81 | 65 | 64 | 79 |
| Corn harvested for grain..... | 13 | 17 | 10 | 13 | 14 | 8 | 21 | 22 | 9 | 16 | 7 | 6 | 23 |
| Corn harvested for silage..... | 95 | 88 | 92 | 94 | 94 | 94 | 98 | 98 | 90 | 94 | 83 | 64 | 84 |
| Fall Tillage..... | 20 | 31 | 30 | 30 | 34 | 33 | 34 | 17 | 21 | 28 | 19 | 19 | 16 |
| Potatoes harvested..... | 66 | 99 | 100 | 100 | 92 | n.a. | 83 | 84 | n.a. | 93 | 88 | 93 | n.a. |
| Soybeans dropping leaves..... | 99 | 95 | 99 | 95 | 95 | 93 | 95 | 96 | 96 | 95 | 89 | 88 | 91 |
| Soybeans harvested..... | 54 | 54 | 44 | 46 | 44 | 49 | 41 | 48 | 39 | 46 | 21 | 27 | 49 |
| Winter wheat planted..... | 58 | 85 | 66 | 56 | 89 | 81 | 81 | 73 | 48 | 74 | 51 | 57 | n.a. |
| Winter wheat emerged..... | 37 | 57 | 29 | 19 | 44 | 49 | 51 | 25 | 13 | 37 | 20 | 26 | n.a. |

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of October 11, 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 | 5.7 | 5.8 | 5.3 | 5.6 | 5.9 | 5.7 | 6.7 | 6.1 | 6.5 | 5.9 | 6.0 | 5.7 | |
| | Percent | | | | | | | | | Percent | | | |
| | Topsoil Moisture | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Very Short..... | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| | Short..... | 3 | 9 | 10 | 13 | 19 | 4 | 12 | 16 | 8 | 11 | 9 | 7 |
| | Adequate..... | 89 | 89 | 82 | 80 | 75 | 82 | 57 | 78 | 85 | 78 | 80 | 80 |
| Surplus..... | 8 | 0 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 14 | 27 | 5 | 7 | 10 | 10 | 13 | |
| Subsoil Moisture | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Very Short..... | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | |
| Short..... | 3 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 16 | 8 | 19 | 16 | 9 | 12 | 11 | 8 | |
| Adequate..... | 90 | 89 | 86 | 83 | 80 | 82 | 76 | 79 | 85 | 82 | 83 | 81 | |
| Surplus..... | 7 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 10 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 11 | |

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-T.B.: Soybean stems are green, but grain is dry. Many reports of soybeans at 12 percent moisture and lower causing shatter losses. Corn slower to dry down but high moisture grain being harvested. Final cuttings of hay going for haylage and corn silage harvest wrapping up. Some reports of potato fields being passed over because of very large yields – bins are full.

CHIPPEWA-B.P.: I have finished field work for the year other than picking rocks in the winter wheat. Had a great growing season- plenty of rain and heat units. Not record yields but very good yields. We will see how it shakes out financially.

MARATHON-S.N.: Corn silage is mostly completed with the warm, dry, breezy weather conditions. Soybeans are being combined and yielding well. Farmers will start combining corn soon; cheaper to let it dry in the field than drying at the local co-op.

PRICE-D.E.: Soybean harvest is well under way with above average yields being reported. Corn silage harvest is wrapping up with combines ready to harvest grain. Manure pits are also being emptied. Some hay was cut late but rain yesterday will make it hard to harvest.

SHAWANO-B.R.: No frost in the area yet. It is really unusual to see completely brown corn fields even though we have not had a frost. High moisture corn is coming off at moisture all over the board ranging from 23 to 39 percent and sometimes in the same field. It has been a damp week here-not rainy, but damp. This has halted the soybean harvest and everyone is ready to get at them. Many want to plant winter wheat after the beans come off. Winter wheat that got planted is emerging nicely. It was a very good apple crop year.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: A few farmers have started harvesting corn and beans. There are still some areas of green in soybean fields that were planted later than others or were flooded during some rains early this summer.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: The fall harvest of soybeans and corn silage is beginning to wind down. High moisture corn is about to begin. Most winter wheat has emerged and looks good.

MANITOWOC-M.R.: Corn silage harvest has pretty much wrapped up. Soybean harvest is probably half done with several reports of 50-60 bushels per acre. Winter wheat planting is progressing nicely and emerging well. Some high moisture corn has also begun to be harvested.

VERNON-K.L.: Harvest in full swing! Beautiful week, but the area could use some rain. Above normal temps brought out asian beetles. Some producers starting on corn for grain while soybeans dry down. No killing frost yet in the county.

COLUMBIA-G.K.: Good progress on soybean harvest this past week. Corn harvest is coming along nicely too. Most all winter wheat has been planted.

DANE-F.P.: Corn and soybeans are slowly being harvested and field tillage is being done. Manure is being hauled.

OZAUKEE-G.S.: A lot of silage coming off the fields along with some soybeans. Producers are very busy.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 11, 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 Oct. 10 | Mar. 1 to Oct. 10 normal* | Last Week | Since Sep. 1 | Sep. 1 dep. from normal * | Year to date | Year dep. from normal * |
| Eau Claire | 63 | 40 | 70 | 35 | 52 | +0 | 2797 | 2489 | 0.55 | 5.84 | +1.32 | 33.40 | +5.57 |
| Green Bay | 62 | 43 | 69 | 38 | 53 | +1 | 2753 | 2353 | 0.49 | 6.34 | +2.53 | 22.55 | -1.43 |
| La Crosse | 66 | 45 | 80 | 40 | 55 | +0 | 3337 | 2814 | 0.05 | 2.78 | -1.36 | 25.50 | -2.21 |
| Madison | 65 | 46 | 73 | 40 | 55 | +1 | 3015 | 2767 | 0.00 | 5.99 | +2.23 | 28.98 | +1.38 |
| Milwaukee | 64 | 50 | 76 | 45 | 57 | +1 | 2719 | n.a. | 0.15 | 4.59 | +0.50 | 22.35 | -5.94 |

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/>

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