



# Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Vol. 16, No.25

Issued September 19, 2016

For the week ending September 18, 2016

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## Wet Conditions Slow Corn Silage Harvest

There were 4.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending September 18, 2016, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Farmers across Wisconsin were chopping corn silage this week but intermittent rains and wet fields continued to hamper progress in some areas. This week's mild temperatures and cloudy skies were less than ideal for drying out muddy fields. Reporters commented that corn and soybeans were maturing rapidly but grain moistures remained too high for combining. Some fall tillage, planting and manure hauling was beginning in fields that have been harvested. Apple picking was in full swing, cranberry harvest is close to beginning and processing vegetables were nearing the end of their harvest season.

**Topsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 78 percent adequate and 21 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 3 percent short, 80 percent adequate and 17 percent surplus.

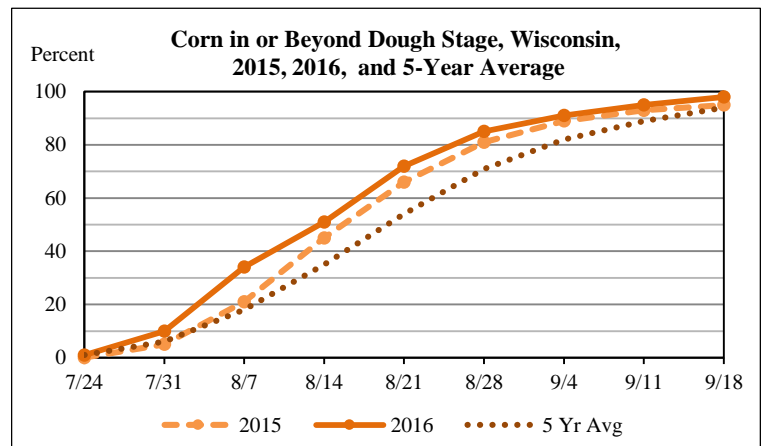
As of September 18, 90 percent of **corn** was dented, 8 days ahead of last year, and 11 days ahead of the average. Forty-nine percent of corn was reported mature, 11 days ahead of last year, and 10 days ahead of the average. Corn for grain harvest was just beginning. Corn for silage was 48 percent harvested, 6 days ahead of last year, and 5 days ahead of the average. Corn condition was 88 percent good to excellent.

**Soybeans** were turning color on 89 percent of the state's acreage, 5 days ahead of last year, and 8 days ahead of the average. Fifty percent of soybeans were dropping leaves, 5 days ahead of last year. Soybean condition was rated 85 percent good to excellent.

Forty-nine percent of **potatoes** were harvested statewide. Potato condition was rated 89 percent good to excellent.

Eighteen percent of **winter wheat** was planted, 3 days ahead of last year. Four percent of winter wheat was emerged. The fourth cutting of **alfalfa** was 80 percent complete, 8 days ahead of last year, and 12 days ahead of the average.

**Fall tillage** was at 4 percent complete. **Pasture** condition was rated 78 percent good to excellent.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 18, 2016

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn.....	1	2	9	44	44
Pasture & Range	1	4	17	52	26
Potatoes.....	1	2	8	55	34
Soybeans.....	1	2	12	46	39

## Wisconsin Crop Progress as of September 18, 2016

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.....	83	69	81	84	75	88	76	83	77	80	67	70	62
Corn Dented.....	94	83	78	83	96	87	92	98	89	90	81	81	76
Corn Mature.....	31	52	29	41	68	36	40	72	62	49	29	23	25
Corn Harvested for Silage.....	46	24	39	36	50	46	60	69	61	48	23	28	36
Potatoes Harvested.....	40	96	93	54	36	n.a.	44	44	n.a.	49	26	56	n.a.
Soybeans Coloring.....	98	87	60	89	89	94	87	90	90	89	67	79	71
Soybeans Dropping Leaves.....	58	39	20	43	75	46	50	47	65	50	25	29	30
Winter Wheat Planted.....	48	25	41	22	21	16	20	16	9	18	11	13	n.a.

n.a.=not available

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of September 18, 2016

Item	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year	
	Days									Days			
Days Suitable	5.4	4.6	4.3	5.0	4.3	4.7	4.7	4.2	4.8	4.7	3.6	4.7	
	Percent									Percent			
	Topsoil Moisture												
	Very Short.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Short.....	0	0	6	0	0	1	0	4	1	1	2	6
	Adequate.....	80	75	84	82	78	73	78	74	87	78	77	78
Surplus.....	20	25	9	18	22	26	22	22	12	21	21	16	
Subsoil Moisture													
Very Short.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	1	1	
Short.....	4	0	5	0	2	2	1	7	15	3	4	12	
Adequate.....	85	72	81	84	78	81	87	69	73	80	79	80	
Surplus.....	11	28	13	16	20	17	12	24	6	17	16	7	

**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.:** Corn silage continues with good quality and quantity. Some wheat going in and a lot of rye for forage next spring. Corn is still a bit wet for high moisture, but will be starting soon. Saw a combine in beans last night, but looked like just to get a sample and test out the machine.

**ASHLAND/IRON-C.B.:** Very little silage harvest progress due to wet fields from all the rains received earlier. Some corn fields are very uneven, excellent corn and poor corn can be found in the same field.

**CLARK-R.H.:** Sad news in the county this week as there was a farm fatality. Please be safe this harvest season. Corn silage harvest has become job one this week. Corn silage going into bunkers and bags is the coming off first with uptight silos beginning to be filled. Some fields of corn are showing top die back, which may be the result of disease or the corn is becoming fully mature and in dry down mode. Soybeans are early maturing. Early planted soybeans are in dry down stage, while later plated are completely green at this time. Apple and pumpkin roadside stands are full and have product available. Tis the fall season with the first day of fall on the 22nd next week.

**MARINETTE/OCONTO-N.S.:** Many areas received a couple of good rainfalls this week. Corn silage harvest is well underway. Many soybean fields turned color over the past week.

**LA CROSSE-I.H.:** Weather has continued to affect crops, as it always does. 6.5 inches of rain since the first of the month in this area has definitely put a damper on harvesting anything. A few fields of corn have been chopped for silage, and hay baling has continued sporadically. Clouds to start the day turn to sun late in the day. Sun early in the day turns to rain overnight. Either way, people are apprehensive about the weather and that makes it difficult to plan the day. But this too shall pass.

**WAUPACA-D.L.H.:** Fall work picked up with the more favorable weather of the past week. Corn silage is being harvested on fields that are not too wet to bear the harvest equipment. Early planted corn is mature on lighter and higher soils. Soybeans are dropping leaves. Earlier planted winter wheat has already emerged.

**KEWAUNEE-T.S.:** The late summer is getting wet in this area. About an inch of rain fell this week, with some locations measuring quite a bit more than that. This could be an issue going forward, especially for the harvest of the corn silage and the soybeans. At this time of year, the ground dries out much more slowly than it does in the middle of summer. The excess rain that has come down will also affect the planting of the winter wheat. Not much has been planted so far, and if conditions remain as wet as they are, some may not get planted due to the soil being too wet. A period of dry weather would be welcome now. Haulers of manure would also welcome a period of no rain. As corn silage taken off, manure will be applied to those fields. The corn and soybeans are really maturing now. The corn stalks are drying up and the leaves of a lot of the soybean plants have fallen off. It will still be a few weeks before any corn is harvested for high moisture or grain, and about that same time before the beans are ready to come off. There have been a few producers taking the fourth cutting of alfalfa, but many are not taking that crop. Some fall tillage is starting, but that job will be waiting for more of the crops to leave the fields and for more of the manure to be applied. The apple season is in full swing as well, with many varieties available and in good quantities.

**DOOR-A.B.:** Corn silage is coming off very quickly. Corn was drying down fast, but a rain ranging between 0.5 and 1 inch early in the week slowed the dry down enough for farmers to continue getting corn off at the right moisture.

**VERNON-K.L.:** Corn silage harvest underway, but producers are having difficulty due to poor field conditions. Cloudy with cooler temps this week did not dry out the fields much. Hay harvest delayed also due to wet field conditions. Much of the soybeans have now turned color and are dropping leaves. Pastures still green, but growth has slowed. More rain predicted in the upcoming week unfortunately.

**DANE-F.P.:** A lot of corn silage was harvested in the past week. Alfalfa looks good and soybeans look good. The nights are cooling off and it is starting to feel like fall in the evening.

**WALWORTH-N.W.:** Some parts of the county are getting close to harvesting soybeans depending on maturity of the bean.

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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 18, 2016**

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. 17	Mar. 1 to Sep. 17 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	74	53	81	46	63	+3	2701	2331	0.04	1.79	-0.59	28.85	+3.32
Green Bay	76	54	79	46	65	+5	2562	2194	0.60	2.41	+0.47	24.03	+1.78
La Crosse	77	58	82	53	67	+3	3143	2622	1.00	5.62	+3.49	36.46	+10.79
Madison	75	56	78	49	66	+5	2854	2564	1.33	3.16	+1.16	35.53	+9.79
Milwaukee	78	61	85	54	69	+5	2910	n.a.	0.11	1.78	-0.28	22.43	-3.65

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.