Dry & Cool Conditions Continue

There were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending September 10, 2017, according to the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. Dry and cool conditions continued this week, with overnight temperatures in the 40s statewide. Rains were light and scattered, allowing wet fields to dry, while the southwest continues to need rain. Haying continues, and the oat harvest is moving slow in many areas. Late-planting corn and soybeans were still struggling to mature in some areas. There were some reports of white mold in soybean fields.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 9 percent short, 83 percent adequate and 6 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 1 percent very short, 6 percent short, 86 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus.

Eighty-six percent of Wisconsin’s corn has reached the dough stage or beyond, 3 days behind the 5-year average. Forty-eight percent of the corn has reached the dent stage, 7 days behind the average. Corn silage harvest is just getting started. Corn condition was 70 percent good to excellent, 2 percentage points below last week.

Leaves were turning color on 30 percent of the state’s soybean acreage, 5 days behind the average. There were some reports of soybean dropping leaves. Soybean condition was rated 77 percent good to excellent, 2 percentage points above last week.

Harvesting of oats for grain was reported at 93 percent complete, 7 days behind the average.

Eleven percent of winter wheat was planted, 1 day ahead of last year.

Potato harvest remains ahead of last year at 40 percent complete. Potato condition was rated 77 percent good to excellent, 5 percentage points higher than last year.

Pasture condition was 72 percent good to excellent, unchanged from last week.

The third cutting of alfalfa reached 97 percent complete, 6 days ahead of the average. The fourth cutting was reported at 56 percent complete, 3 days ahead of the average. All hay condition was reported 83 percent good to excellent, 1 percentage point above last week.
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All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

BARRON/RUSK/SAWYER-K.S.: A lot of hay was harvested over the weekend. With cool temperatures continuing into this month, some corn continues to be a bit behind. This week's forecast has temperatures reaching 80 degrees.

BURNEWT/WASHBURN-P.H.: Corn starting to dent but ear size and kernel size seem small. Soybean plants have average pod numbers but seem short. Some pockets of white mold causing plants to die prematurely. Fall cover crops are being planted and some have emerged.

LINCOLN/MARATHON-D.E.: Hoping for some warm weather to help mature crops. Many fields of hay are being harvested. Some ginseng is being harvested with losses expected on most crop.

FLORENCE/FOREST-T.B.: Wet most of the week, hampering grain harvest. Frost fairly widespread over the weekend.

J.W.: Weather nice this week but a little cool. Some short bursts of rain but didn't amount to much. Hay was made, lots cut for next week.

K.P.: Some hay made, lots cut for next week.

Cooler temperatures again this week will hit black layer. Hopefully frost is not seen any beans harvested as yet or corn taken for silage. Crops showing stress and fall tillage on continues at a slower pace and we wait for crops to mature due to cool weather. Many fields of hay have emerged.

M.R.: Really started to notice the soybean leaves turning color this past week. Lots of hay was being made. According to local corn silage dry down days, we are about a week out from corn silage harvest starting.

VERNON-K.L.: Cool temperatures and windy conditions this past week. Soybean fields starting to turn color. One report of white mold in a soybean field. Corn is starting to dry down. Corn silage harvesting is going to start in the next few days. Lots of hay harvested this past week. The county could use a good rain. Pasture growth has slowed down.

COLUMBIA-G.K.: Some early corn silage is beginning to be harvested, mostly on sandy, droughtier soils. Soybeans are changing color. Most corn could use a few more days of warm sunshine to mature prior to a frost. No frost is forecast for the near future which should allow most all the corn in Columbia County to mature.

DODGE-M.P.: Cool temperatures, especially at night, have slowed crop development. Corn is still looking good. Silage harvest should begin in the next couple of weeks. Soybeans are starting to turn colors. There are some areas with leaf drop already, could be signs of white mold. Some manure is being hauled but very limited at this point. Canning crops are being harvested. All in all, everything is going well.

KENOSHA-R.R.: Crops showing stress, dry conditions exist. Melon, pumpkin and cucumber leaves showing white mold. Some are picking apples.

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