



# Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



Upper Midwest Region - Wisconsin Field Office · 2811 Agriculture Drive · Madison WI 53718-6777 · (608) 224-4848  
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov

Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Vol. 18, No.28  
Issued October 9, 2018

For the week ending October 7, 2018  
Media Contact: Greg Bussler

## Wetter and Wetter

There were 2.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending October 7, 2018, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Wisconsin received rain nearly every day this week, and cloudy, drizzly conditions persisted between showers. Temperatures swung widely; highs were in the mid 80s on Friday but barely made it into the 50s on some other days. Wet soil conditions continued to prevent fieldwork in most of the state. Farmers were struggling to bring in the last of their corn silage as whole plant moistures were becoming unfavorable for forage production. Grain moistures were high in many soybean fields, delaying the soybean harvest as well. Reporters in many areas noted increasing pressure from mold and diseases caused by damp conditions. An extended period of dry weather is needed to dry up mud and dry down crops.

**Topsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 64 percent adequate and 36 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 68 percent adequate and 31 percent surplus.

Eighty-four percent of **corn** was mature, 17 days ahead of last year and 12 days ahead of the 5-year average. Corn harvested for grain was 14 percent complete, 14 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of the average. The moisture content of corn harvested for grain was reported at 23 percent. Corn for silage was 87 percent harvested, 11 days ahead of average. Corn condition was 71 percent good to excellent.

**Soybeans** dropping leaves was reported at 89 percent complete, 4 days ahead of both last year and the average. Soybean harvest was 17 percent complete, 5 days behind last year and 2 days behind the average. Soybean condition was 71 percent good to excellent.

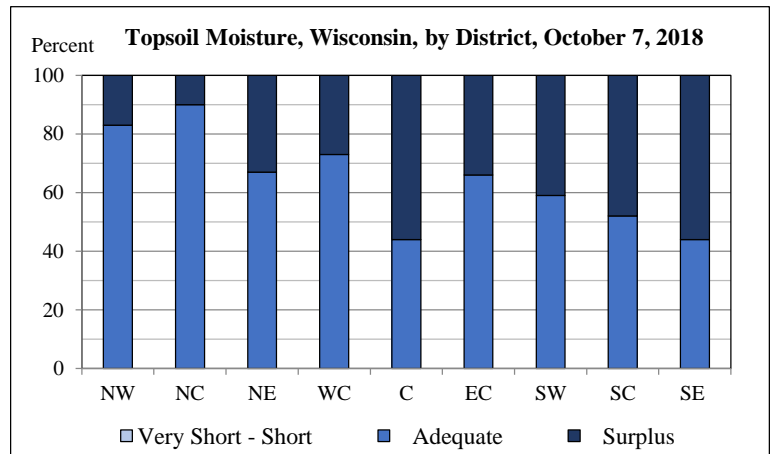
**Potato** harvest was reported as 73 percent complete, 6 days behind last year.

Fifty-four percent of **winter wheat** was planted, 5 days behind last year. Thirty-three percent of the winter wheat crop has emerged, 2 days behind last year.

The fourth cutting of **alfalfa** was 87 percent complete, 14 days behind last year, but 1 day ahead of the average

**Pasture** condition was rated 61 percent in good to excellent condition, compared with 65 percent in good to excellent condition last week.

**Fall tillage** was reported at 14 percent complete, even with last year, but 2 days behind the average.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 7, 2018

Item	Very Poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn.....	4	8	17	42	29
Pasture & Range .	4	8	27	42	19
Soybeans.....	4	9	16	44	27

## Wisconsin Fieldwork and Crop Progress as of October 7, 2018

Item	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Alfalfa Hay, Fourth Cutting	95	75	89	82	87	90	87	90	77	87	84	99	86
Corn Mature.....	82	79	75	83	79	75	81	98	92	84	73	56	65
Corn Harvested for Grain...	15	21	12	8	10	7	10	22	20	14	10	5	9
Corn Harvested for Silage..	90	81	90	90	83	83	89	91	94	87	79	70	73
Fall Tillage.....	18	14	14	10	18	17	17	8	11	14	10	14	16
Potatoes Harvested.....	81	57	79	68	73	n.a.	68	67	n.a.	73	63	87	n.a.
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	90	86	78	94	87	81	87	92	93	89	80	84	84
Soybeans Harvested .....	24	25	13	15	15	7	10	22	27	17	13	30	23
Winter Wheat Planted .....	74	72	66	55	62	61	58	39	31	54	46	62	n.a.
Winter Wheat Emerged.....	46	53	31	45	45	36	33	24	19	33	23	36	n.a.

n.a.=not available

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Supplies as of October 7, 2018

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	1.9	3.8	4.0	1.8	2.3	1.7	1.0	1.9	1.5	2.0	4.4	4.7
Topsoil Moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	18
Adequate.....	83	90	67	73	44	66	59	52	44	64	79	74
Surplus .....	17	10	33	27	56	34	41	48	56	36	19	5
Subsoil Moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very Short.....	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Short.....	1	0	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	16
Adequate.....	88	94	69	79	53	67	63	57	40	68	80	75
Surplus .....	11	6	23	19	46	33	37	43	60	31	17	5

# 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.:** Too much rain has halted all field activities. Grain harvest has switched to corn because the soybeans are not drying down. Corn grain moisture reported at 18 to 28 percent, driers are running. Last week's frost has whole corn plant moisture too low for silage and fields will not be harvested for grain. Small grain seeding coming to an end.

**CLARK-R.H.:** Cloudy wet week. Farmers are getting some corn off between showers, but soybeans are at a standstill. Fields that are wet are getting rutted when equipment is in the field. Hopefully weather will change here shortly so farmers can get in the field to harvest and haul manure along with some tillage.

**FLORENCE/MARINETTE-S.R.:** Corn breaking down pretty badly due to poor stalk strength.

**PIERCE/ST CROIX-A.M.:** Wet weather most of the week has delayed any field activity.

**TREMPEALEAU-L.N.:** Continual rain hampering harvest.

**ADAMS/JUNEAU-J.W.:** Another bad week. More rain kept the majority of producers out of the field. Those that tried to harvest corn, corn silage, or soybeans were very creative or were getting stuck. Some corn and soybeans have been standing in water for over a month. Soybeans are turning black in the field and corn is falling over. Very depressing

**PORTAGE-D.Z.:** Rain amounts are holding up all aspects of field work.

**MANITOWOC-M.R.:** On and off rain throughout the week has all but brought fall field work to a standstill due to saturated soil conditions. We really need a good month or two of dry weather to get most of the crops off or we'll have to wait for the ground to freeze in order to harvest crops without mudding things off.

**IOWA-L.M.:** Black tar fungus, molds, and other side effects of too much moisture evident in all the crops. Farmers are unable to harvest due to mud and continuing rain. Some reduced yields evident in harvested acres of all crops.

**LAFAYETTE-B.L.:** Extreme wet conditions in the fields are the cause for down grading the crops and pasture conditions. Some corn and soybeans are being affected more than others, especially in areas where diseases had already had a large impact on the crop.

**COLUMBIA-G.K.:** Fields are all pure mud again. Rain on 6 of 7 days last week. It is going to be awhile before combines begin to roll again. Mold on corn and soybeans in the field and causing soil compaction when harvest begins again are huge concerns for farmers right now. Farmers just sitting and waiting is causing more stress to an already tough situation.

**GREEN-J.T.:** Corn yields are very good as harvest progresses slowly on the high and dry land.

**SHEBOYGAN/OZAUKEE-M.B.:** Excessive rains and wet soil conditions are leaving growers concerned about being able to harvest soybeans and high moisture corn. Increasing concerns about molds and mycotoxin development in the corn crop.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 7, 2018

City	Temperature (degrees F)						Growing degree days (modified base 50) <sup>1</sup>		Precipitation (inches)				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal*	Mar. 1 to Oct. 6	Mar. 1 to Oct. 6 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date	Year dep. from normal*
Eau Claire	54	43	75	35	49	-5	2849	2464	1.55	3.73	-0.50	30.56	+3.03
Green Bay	60	48	82	43	54	+1	2782	2328	1.23	6.19	+2.64	33.27	+9.51
La Crosse	59	47	85	39	53	-4	3373	2784	0.81	n.a.	n.a.	33.56	+6.28
Madison	61	48	84	41	54	-1	2994	2736	3.61	8.47	+4.96	47.45	+20.18
Milwaukee	66	53	86	48	60	+3	3015	n.a.	4.58	10.25	+6.46	41.06	+13.13

<sup>1</sup> 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.