



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 21, 2018
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Wet Soil Limits Harvest Pace

There were 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending October 21, 2018, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Temperatures were below normal this week, with below-freezing nights, blustery winds and a mix of clear and cloudy skies. Light rain and snow showers were widespread toward the end of the week. Soils were still highly saturated across much of Wisconsin, though conditions improved enough for fieldwork to proceed. Some reporters noted standing water on low ground, and many said that farmers were harvesting around wet spots. Farmers were working to complete their corn silage harvest, fourth crop hay cuttings, high moisture corn combining and winter wheat planting. Soybeans and corn for grain were also being combined where field conditions and grain moistures were favorable.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 76 percent adequate and 24 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 74 percent adequate and 26 percent surplus.

Ninety-six percent of **corn** was mature, 18 days ahead of last year and 13 days ahead of the 5-year average. Corn harvested for grain was 31 percent complete, 11 days ahead of last year and 3 days ahead of the average. The moisture content of corn harvested for grain was reported at 21 percent. Corn for silage was 96 percent harvested, 10 days ahead of average. Corn condition was 70 percent good to excellent.

Soybeans harvest was 36 percent complete, 10 days behind last year and 9 days behind the average. Soybean condition was 71 percent good to excellent.

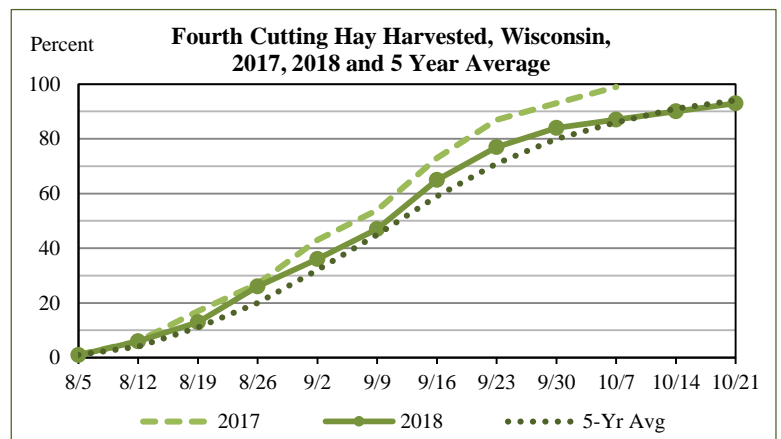
Potato harvest was reported as 91 percent complete, 8 days behind last year.

Seventy-five percent of **winter wheat** was planted, 7 days behind last year. Fifty-five percent of the winter wheat crop has emerged, 5 days behind last year. Winter wheat condition was 85 percent good to excellent.

The fourth cutting of **alfalfa** was 93 percent complete, 21 days behind last year and 1 day behind the average

Pasture condition was rated 60 percent in good to excellent condition, compared with 59 percent in good to excellent condition last week.

Fall tillage was reported at 20 percent complete, 6 days behind last year, and 10 days behind the average.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 21, 2018

Item	Very Poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn.....	4	9	17	43	27
Pasture & Range .	4	8	28	42	18
Soybeans.....	4	9	16	46	25
Winter Wheat.....	0	2	13	61	24

Wisconsin Fieldwork and Crop Progress as of October 21, 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	97	85	94	92	95	92	94	97	93	93	90	100	94
Corn Mature.....	92	96	96	96	94	92	99	100	96	96	93	80	86
Corn Harvested for Grain...	25	32	23	26	26	21	32	42	36	31	19	14	25
Corn Harvested for Silage..	96	96	95	97	95	95	97	98	98	96	92	86	89
Fall Tillage.....	24	17	21	13	22	32	23	13	21	20	16	26	29
Potatoes Harvested.....	92	77	96	89	91	n.a.	88	87	n.a.	91	84	93	n.a.
Soybeans Harvested	40	34	22	35	29	23	23	48	57	36	21	61	61
Winter Wheat Planted	89	79	87	77	77	83	71	60	64	75	63	85	n.a.
Winter Wheat Emerged.....	76	75	75	63	60	64	49	38	34	55	45	64	n.a.

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Supplies as of October 21, 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	4.8	2.8	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.5	1.5	5.0
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Short.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Adequate.....	81	82	52	82	72	78	78	71	72	76	58	85
Surplus	19	18	48	17	28	22	22	29	28	24	42	6
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Short.....	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	11
Adequate.....	83	94	60	82	64	73	76	70	45	74	62	83
Surplus	17	6	40	15	36	27	24	30	55	26	37	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.

BAYFIELD/DOUGLAS-C.B.: Mostly dry week. Some corn for grain harvested, mostly high moisture corn for oxygen sealed silos. Not much pasture left.

BURNETT/WASHBURN-P.H.: Able to combine corn all week and soybeans finally dry enough to start later in the week. Lots of late hay making going on, too.

CLARK/PRICE/TAYLOR-D.M.: Unseasonably cold & windy weather combined with snow a few days dampened harvest efforts, with some fields unable to be accessed. Pooling in some fields still apparent at the end of the week. Farmers reporting ongoing high moisture problems, which has also slowed down efforts to get grains off the field. Hoping for warmer weather/wind to help dry down. A lot of grain was taken off in the past 3-4 days, but lots to go yet.

SHAWANO-B.R.: More wet weather delayed most of the fieldwork. A little fourth crop alfalfa was made due to the fact that those fields were a bit more solid to carry the equipment. Soybeans were over 15 percent moisture so we wait for them to dry down. Some corn is at 20 percent moisture and could come off but the fields are just too wet yet.

CHIPPEWA/EAU CLAIRE-J.C.: Drier conditions late in the week allowed for soybean harvest to resume. Most high-moisture corn has been harvested. Corn and soybean yields appear to be average. Some late alfalfa harvest underway.

ST CROIX-D.K.: Finally nice harvesting weather. Lots of soybeans were combined and some hay was cut in various places.

OUTAGAMIE/WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Fall harvest is picking up again - farmers are anxious to get corn and soybeans out of the fields as soon as possible on soils dry enough to allow work. Manure is being hauled and applied to harvested corn silage fields.

MANITOWOC-M.R.: Field work finally resumed on Tuesday this week as late corn silage was being chopped and combines were rolling in soybean fields. Some reports of 55-70 bushel per acre soybeans. Soil conditions are still saturated in places and evident by ruts in fields when harvesting. Fair amount of manure being applied and incorporated too.

OZAUKEE/SHEBOYGAN-G.S.: Farmers made good progress with harvesting. Some spots are working at it slowly, with the soil still being too wet. Hoping the area doesn't get too much rain to hold up progress of harvesting and planting.

SAUK-C.N.: Finally some sunshine and blue skies. A couple of days of strong winds. Some harvesting was actually accomplished.

GREEN-T.Z.: Finally getting back to harvest activities, but very slow, wet and muddy. Some more wheat and rye was seeded. Need sunshine and warmth for drying conditions. Corn and soybeans stand-ability is decreasing daily.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 21, 2018

City	Temperature (degrees F)						Growing degree days (modified base 50) ¹		Precipitation (inches)				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal*	Mar. 1 to Oct. 20	Mar. 1 to Oct. 20 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date	Year dep. from normal*
Eau Claire	53	31	65	21	42	-6	2881	2550	0.06	8.52	+3.30	35.35	+6.85
Green Bay	50	34	57	26	42	-6	2833	2410	0.28	9.46	+5.00	36.55	+11.86
La Crosse	56	35	66	29	46	-5	3431	2887	0.39	8.59	+3.80	37.73	+9.37
Madison	52	34	58	27	43	-7	3056	2843	0.09	12.88	+8.44	51.86	+23.68
Milwaukee	54	37	60	31	46	-6	3102	n.a.	0.03	11.93	+7.07	42.74	+13.87

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.