



# Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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For the week ending September 22, 2019

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Wisconsin had 3.4 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending September 22, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Daytime highs remained in the upper 70s to 80s this week, well above normal for this point in September. Parts of Wisconsin endured more intermittent rains, keeping soils wet and fieldwork slow. These rains were heaviest across a swath from southwestern to northeastern Wisconsin, while conditions were drier in the northwest. Warm temperatures and plenty of available moisture helped corn and soybeans develop but farmers were still concerned that late planted crops may not fully mature before the first frost. Muddy conditions hampered haying and the end of the small grains harvest. Some corn silage was being harvested, but most of the corn was not sufficiently mature or dried down enough to be chopped.

**Topsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 65 percent adequate and 33 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 66 percent adequate and 32 percent surplus.

**Corn silking** was reported at 96 percent complete. Eighty-four percent of corn has reached the dough stage, 22 days behind last year and 19 days behind the 5-year average. Fifty-nine percent of corn was dented, 18 days behind last year and 14 days behind the average. Eight percent of corn was reported mature, 20 days behind last year and 17 days behind the average. Corn condition was 63 percent good to excellent, down 1 percentage point from last week. Corn for silage harvest was 15 percent complete, 13 days behind last year and 11 days behind the average.

**Soybeans** blooming was reported at 96 percent. Ninety-two percent of soybeans were setting pods. Leaves were coloring on 59 percent of the state's soybeans, 12 days behind last year and 9 days behind the average. Plants were dropping leaves on 24 percent of soybeans, 10 days behind last year and 7 days behind the average. Soybean condition was 68 percent good to excellent, 1 percentage point above last week.

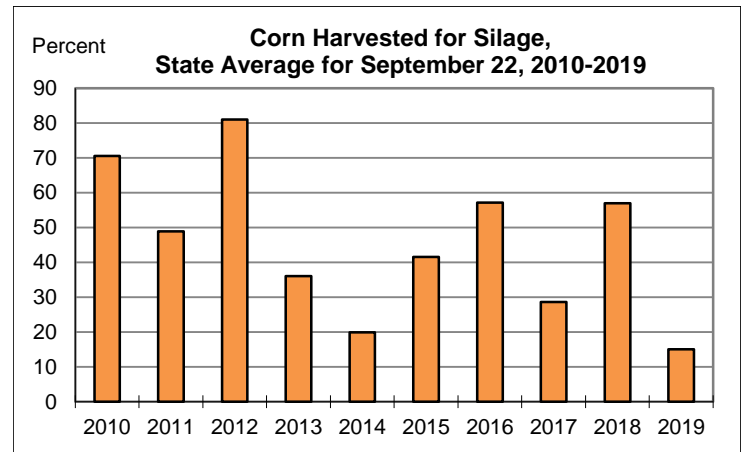
**Winter wheat** planting was reported at 20 percent, 8 days behind last year and 2 days behind the average. Eight percent of winter wheat had emerged, 8 days behind the average. **Oats** were 88 percent harvested, 18 days behind the average.

**Potato** harvest was reported as 45 percent complete, 3 days behind last year and 6 days behind the average. Potato condition was 83 percent good to excellent, up 3 percentage points from last week.

The third cutting of **alfalfa hay** was 94 percent complete, 12 days behind the average. The fourth cutting was 48 percent complete, 14 days behind the average. **All hay** condition was reported 65 percent in good to excellent condition, 2 percentage points above last week.

**Fall tillage** was reported as 5 percent complete, 3 days ahead of last year but even with the average.

**Pasture** condition was rated 62 percent in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week.



## Crop Condition as of September 22, 2019

	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn .....	3	9	25	43	20
Hay (all) .....	3	7	25	45	20
Pasture & range...	2	8	28	46	16
Potatoes .....	2	3	12	62	21
Soybeans .....	1	6	25	45	23

## Crop Progress as of September 22, 2019

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay, third cutting.....	95	92	96	96	80	96	93	96	96	94	90	98	98
Alfalfa hay, fourth cutting .....	41	11	43	51	46	38	62	62	63	48	38	75	75
Corn dough.....	70	74	69	85	66	83	95	94	93	84	78	98	96
Corn dented.....	46	55	36	55	50	56	74	61	74	59	44	90	84
Corn mature.....	14	2	2	9	6	4	7	6	19	8	2	52	37
Corn harvested for silage.....	10	17	4	22	18	9	30	16	7	15	8	57	41
Fall tillage .....	5	4	1	3	7	3	9	3	8	5	3	3	5
Oats harvested .....	90	74	77	93	98	89	92	95	100	88	82	99	98
Soybeans setting pods.....	83	88	85	89	88	92	98	96	98	92	88	100	100
Soybeans coloring .....	64	29	33	73	46	55	70	64	50	59	33	88	83
Soybeans dropping leaves.....	23	19	13	29	18	15	29	34	14	24	6	60	48
Winter wheat planted.....	51	15	27	20	27	20	18	12	26	20	10	30	23
Winter wheat emerged.....	16	5	9	8	16	7	12	7	5	8	3	15	8

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of September 22, 2019

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)
Days suitable.....	4.3	3.0	1.0	4.1	3.7	3.6	2.7	3.4	3.7	3.4	2.5	3.8
	(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	0
Short.....	1	3	0	0	0	3	0	1	10	2	2	3
Adequate.....	69	70	27	83	55	48	77	71	55	65	66	78
Surplus .....	30	27	73	17	45	49	23	28	35	33	32	19
Subsoil moisture												
Very short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short.....	2	3	0	0	0	3	1	2	6	2	1	3
Adequate.....	72	70	25	86	49	51	80	70	66	66	69	82
Surplus .....	26	27	75	14	51	46	19	28	28	32	30	15

**Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents**

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

**NW—BAYFIELD/DOUGLAS-K.R.:** Corn silage harvest is under 50 percent but in full swing. Last of the hay harvests is being completed. Fields are not overly wet but farmers are nervous about a possible wet fall during harvesting.

**NW—BURNETT/WASHBURN-P.H.:** Some warm weather last week to help corn and soybeans mature. Corn starting to dent but ears look small. First corn silage harvested in the area but most is still a week or two away as it is too green. Fields are wet so rutting could be an issue in many fields. Soybeans are mostly dropping leaves and look short but with good pod numbers. Won't really know yields until harvest though.

**NC—CLARK-R.H.:** Have some farmers chopping a few loads of corn silage. Moisture is over 70 percent. Some soybean fields are beginning to drop leaves and the warm spell this week has some plants trying to add pods on green plants. Some farmers were concerned about pods filling, but this weather is helping. Some early planted corn fields are dented and some late planted are just beginning to tassel. Many are concerned we may get high moisture at best. Late cuttings of hay are all over the board; some are still wrapping up second cutting on new seeding, others third and some fourth. Others are waiting for a freeze before the last cut. Pumpkins and apples are on the roadside stands. Fall begins on Monday.

**NE—MARINETTE/OCONTO-J.M.:** Another week of inundating rain. Minimal field work was completed. Crops seem to be maturing as expected, however, serious concerns starting to settle in about ability to get in fields to harvest. Silage harvest is on the near horizon, but field conditions will not allow that without some dry days.

**WC—ST CROIX-J.L.:** Beans dropping leaves fast. Combining has begun.

**C—PORTAGE/WOOD-J.W.:** Potato and sweet corn harvest continues. Cranberry harvest started, lower yields and color. Started corn silage harvest, good quality and yields. One field of baleage made this week. Need better weather to finish hay harvests. Fall color nearly 50 percent in low lying areas, leaf drop beginning.

**EC—KEWAUNEE-T.S.:** For yet another week this September, nearly no field work got done in this area. More rain fell onto already saturated ground. Water continues to stand in many fields and it is not soaking away very quickly since the soil is so wet. The time for producers to get their winter wheat in before the end of September is running out. It is possible that there will be fewer acres of winter wheat planted this year simply because the ground will be too wet. Hopefully the weather will turn around so that this crop can be put in. Drier weather will also be needed for when the corn is chopped. Most corn will not be ready to be chopped until October since it was put in later than usual. A local corn dry down day is scheduled this coming week, so it will be interesting to see how the crop is progressing with the crazy weather this area has been experiencing. For those producers who have higher soils with more stones and sand, this year has been a good one. Those producers usually need all the rain they can get in the summer to have good crops, and this year certainly has been friendly that way. Producers are still trying to get third crop and fourth crop alfalfa in. Favorable weather this week will be needed in order for this harvesting to happen.

**EC/SE—OZAUKEE/SHEBOYGAN-M.B.:** Still waiting for corn silage to dry down. Need dryer weather to get winter wheat in the ground.

**SW—CRAWFORD/GRANT-M.D.:** More rain most of this past week has led to very wet conditions. Ground has been wet since September began. Corn silage ready to be harvested, but can't get at it. Several road closures due to rain. Soil very saturated.

**SC—DANE-F.P.:** A few farmers are starting to make corn silage. Soybeans are turning and a few fields are dropping leaves.

**SC—ROCK-C.O.:** Rain has delayed silage harvest and soybeans. Field conditions too wet for harvest. Corn needs sun to mature.

**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 22, 2019**

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. 21	Mar. 1 to Sep. 21 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire.....	82	62	85	53	72	+13	2375	2360	0.07	5.06	+2.16	35.62	+9.43
Green Bay .....	78	61	81	58	70	+11	2396	2224	0.48	7.67	+5.31	37.37	+14.73
La Crosse .....	83	67	87	61	75	+12	2987	2656	0.89	4.55	+1.95	35.01	+8.89
Madison.....	79	62	83	59	70	+10	2681	2603	0.13	3.69	+1.28	35.19	+9.13
Milwaukee.....	77	64	82	60	71	+8	2623	NA	0.23	5.28	+2.78	34.21	+7.70

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. NA=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more weather data, please reference the following sites:  
<https://www.noaa.gov/> <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/> <https://www.cocorahs.org/> <https://www.weather.gov/>