



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 20, 2019
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Wisconsin had 4.3 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending October 20, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Temperatures were below normal early in the week, then warmed up toward the weekend. Drizzly, overcast conditions and intermittent showers alternated with clear, sunny skies. With October flying by and frustrations rising, farmers took advantage of every break in the weather they could get this week. Progress was made harvesting corn silage, soybeans, hay, and corn for high moisture grain. Though soil moistures fell slightly, fields remained a muddy mess and reporters once again noted widespread rutting and stuck machinery. Some reporters commented that winter wheat planting may be prevented by the late harvest.

Topsoil moisture condition was rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 65 percent adequate and 35 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 62 percent adequate and 38 percent surplus.

Ninety-six percent of **corn** has reached the dough stage. Ninety percent of corn was dented. Sixty-one percent of corn was reported mature, 25 days behind last year and 17 days behind the 5-year average. Harvest of corn for grain was 7 percent complete, 23 days behind last year and 15 days behind the average. Corn condition was 63 percent good to excellent, up 1 percentage point from last week. Corn for silage harvest was 69 percent complete, 24 days behind last year and 17 days behind the average.

Leaves were coloring on 95 percent of the state's **soybeans**. Plants were dropping leaves on 89 percent of soybeans, 13 days behind last year and 12 days behind the average. Soybean harvest was 32 percent complete, 1 day behind last year and 9 days behind the average. Soybean condition was 66 percent good to excellent, down 2 percentage points from last week.

Winter wheat was 57 percent planted, 11 days behind the last year and 12 days behind the average. Thirty-four percent of winter wheat had emerged, 10 days behind the average.

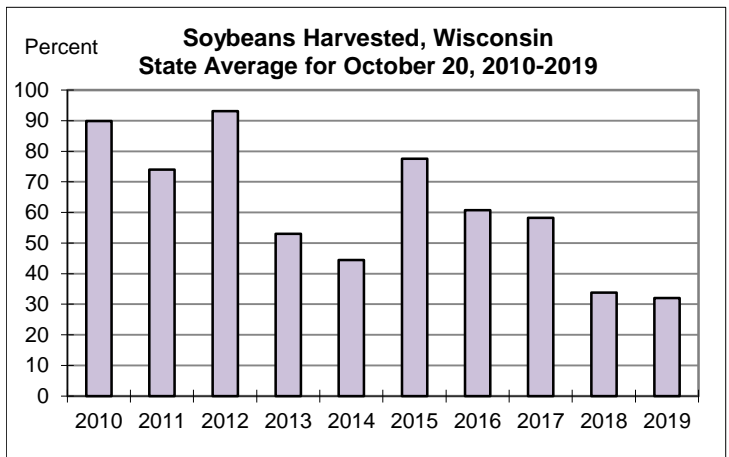
Oats were 94 percent harvested.

Potatoes were reported 85 percent harvested, 5 days behind last year and 12 days behind the average.

The fourth cutting of **alfalfa hay** was 80 percent complete, 24 days behind the average.

Fall tillage was reported as 16 percent complete, 6 days behind last year and 13 days behind the average.

Pasture condition was rated 52 percent in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week.



Crop Condition as of October 20, 2019

	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn	4	9	24	45	18
Pasture & range...	6	10	32	38	14
Soybeans	2	8	24	44	22

Crop Progress as of October 20, 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, fourth cutting	68	58	60	90	76	80	84	92	87	80	71	93	95
Corn dough	94	91	89	96	79	99	100	99	99	96	94	100	100
Corn dented	90	86	75	87	72	92	98	94	92	90	84	100	99
Corn mature	57	58	36	58	54	60	67	73	54	61	49	96	88
Corn harvested for grain	1	3	4	5	4	8	10	9	6	7	3	29	24
Corn harvested for silage	74	56	58	67	63	65	82	83	86	69	48	95	91
Fall tillage	21	11	4	10	21	15	21	19	23	16	12	19	28
Oats harvested	99	96	78	96	99	94	98	97	100	94	93	100	100
Soybeans coloring	95	92	80	95	89	95	99	98	99	95	91	100	100
Soybeans dropping leaves	90	89	72	87	79	87	94	92	92	89	78	98	97
Soybeans harvested	37	21	10	31	20	30	33	36	46	32	15	34	55
Winter wheat planted	78	54	35	51	54	59	54	50	78	57	37	73	79
Winter wheat emerged	60	31	30	33	34	38	32	21	45	34	23	54	54

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of October 20, 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	3.3	4.0	4.3	3.8	3.8	4.8	5.3	4.5	4.8	4.3	4.0	4.5
	(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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adequate	56	76	26	73	62	46	90	66	66	65	59	76
Surplus	44	24	74	27	38	54	10	34	34	35	41	24
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adequate	59	80	33	77	57	44	63	64	63	62	59	74
Surplus	41	20	67	22	43	56	37	36	37	38	41	26

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.

NW—BAYFIELD/DOUGLAS-K.R.: Moisture of corn and soybeans is too high in most instances for harvest to begin. Nights have been noticeably cooler with most areas reporting a killing frost. Cattle are beginning to be moved off pasture and are starting to be fed hay.

NC—CLARK-R.H.: Another week where rain has slowed harvest and field work. Soils are wet and farmers are becoming creative trying to harvest corn silage. Very little soybean harvest with wet conditions. Overall yields are below average and most agree weather challenges all season are the reason. Many have decided not to plant winter wheat as we are late in the season to plant at this time.

NE—SHAWANO-B.R.: A lot of silage got chopped this week but very inefficiently. Many large farmers used dump carts and the smaller farmers with wagons only loaded small loads. Mud was seen on many roads coming out of field driveways. Still very little winter wheat planted and with all fields very wet not much more will be put in. We did get a freeze this week so the growing season is over for most of the crops. Still a lot of immature soybeans in the field.

WC—BUFFALO/PEPIN-M.L.: Very cold below normal start to week with snow flecks and then some rain. Warmed up remainder of week with another rain day Saturday.

WC—ST CROIX-D.K.: Lots of soybeans harvested on dry days along with baling the straw. Corn silage is complete. Just need more dry warm days for harvesting

C—WOOD-M.L.: This was a very busy week. Frost dried some of the crops down. People are anxious to get some crops off, mainly corn silage in our area.

C/EC—OUTAGAMIE/WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Growing season ended with a killing frost the morning of October 18. Soybean and corn silage harvest is moving along on fields on lighter soils. A week with NO rain would be most welcome.

EC/SE—FOND DU LAC/WASHINGTON-B.B.: Much progress with the field work this period. Some low fields are still tough going with large machinery. There were two light frosts but no killing freezes.

SW—CRAWFORD/GRANT-M.D.: A lot of activity this past week with the remaining corn silage being taken off, manure hauling, tillage, planting rye, making hay (some even being made as dry hay which is unheard of this year), and combining corn and soybeans is now in full swing. Corn and soybean yields are surprisingly better than expected.

SC—COLUMBIA-G.K.: Farmers are becoming increasingly frustrated by poor harvest weather conditions.

SC—DODGE-R.H.: Lots of progress making corn silage this week. Soybeans were coming off on Saturday and Sunday with yields in the low 60s and moisture 13-14 percent.

SC—ROCK-C.O.: Bean harvest advanced, but many fields have patches that could not be harvested due to wet field conditions.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 20, 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 Oct. 19	Mar. 1 to Oct. 19 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire.....	54	38	66	32	46	-2	2585	2545	0.59	8.87	+3.72	39.44	+11.07
Green Bay	53	37	61	33	45	-3	2606	2405	0.35	12.62	+8.21	42.32	+17.72
La Crosse	56	40	68	35	48	-4	3252	2880	0.09	9.96	+5.22	40.42	+12.16
Madison.....	54	37	62	33	46	-4	2921	2837	0.06	11.25	+6.88	42.74	+14.63
Milwaukee.....	55	40	64	35	48	-4	2891	NA	0.01	10.89	+6.12	39.82	+10.97

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/>

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