



# Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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For the week ending October 27, 2019  
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Wisconsin had 4.0 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending October 27, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Soaking rains on Monday started this week off with yet another unwanted bump to soil moistures. However, with winter incoming, farmers had little choice but to harvest corn and soybeans in spite of poor field conditions. Rutting, soil compaction, and stuck machinery were reportedly still widespread as farmers battled the relentless mud. Overnight lows fell into the low 20s early on Friday morning, ending the growing season for most of Wisconsin. The corn silage and alfalfa harvests were wrapping up and soybeans were coming off the fields wherever possible. Corn was being combined for high moisture grain with a few reports of dry grain harvest beginning. Corn grain moisture content at harvest averaged 27 percent this week compared to 20 percent last year. Dairies were racing to empty their manure pits as fields were cleared.

**Topsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 66 percent adequate and 34 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 63 percent adequate and 37 percent surplus.

Ninety-seven percent of **corn** has reached the dough stage. Ninety-three percent of corn was dented. Seventy-four percent of corn was reported mature, 27 days behind last year and 19 days behind the 5-year average. Harvest of corn for grain was 13 percent complete, 21 days behind last year and 15 days behind the average. Corn condition was 63 percent good to excellent, unchanged from last week. Corn for silage harvest was 81 percent complete, 25 days behind last year and 18 days behind the average.

Leaves were coloring on 97 percent of the state's **soybeans**. Plants were dropping leaves on 93 percent of soybeans, 15 days behind the average. Soybean harvest was 46 percent complete, 4 day behind last year and 11 days behind the average. Soybean condition was 64 percent good to excellent, down 2 percentage points from last week.

**Winter wheat** was 69 percent planted, 10 days behind last year and 13 days behind the average. Forty-one percent of winter wheat had emerged, 14 days behind the average.

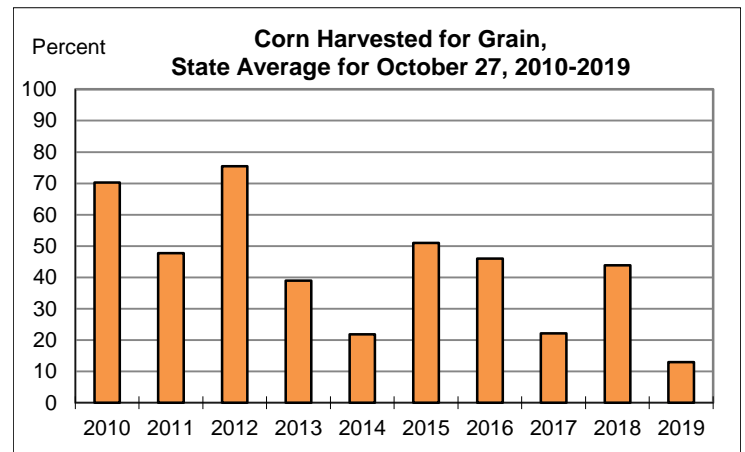
**Oats** were 96 percent harvested.

**Potatoes** were reported 93 percent harvested, 4 days behind last year and 10 days behind the average.

The fourth cutting of **alfalfa hay** was 84 percent complete, 27 days behind the average.

**Fall tillage** was reported as 20 percent complete, 6 days behind last year and 15 days behind the average.

**Pasture** condition was rated 51 percent in good to excellent condition, down 1 percentage point from last week.



### Crop Condition as of October 27, 2019

	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn .....	3	9	25	45	18
Pasture & range...	6	11	32	37	14
Soybeans .....	2	7	27	44	20

### Crop Progress as of October 27, 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 .....	72	70	68	92	80	81	88	94	92	84	80	96	98
Corn dented .....	93	91	88	88	79	95	99	97	95	93	90	100	100
Corn mature .....	65	80	49	68	78	72	76	86	71	74	61	98	93
Corn harvested for grain .....	6	9	8	6	13	10	20	18	9	13	7	44	37
Corn harvested for silage .....	77	70	80	83	79	80	90	90	92	81	69	98	95
Fall tillage .....	24	16	9	11	24	18	27	24	29	20	16	29	36
Oats harvested .....	99	99	86	98	100	95	99	98	100	96	94	100	100
Soybeans dropping leaves .....	92	92	78	94	89	90	97	97	96	93	89	100	99
Soybeans harvested .....	44	38	23	37	41	40	54	53	68	46	32	57	73
Winter wheat planted .....	79	66	49	54	63	74	64	58	82	69	57	84	88
Winter wheat emerged .....	62	50	32	41	49	47	34	23	49	41	34	64	68

### Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of October 27, 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 .....	3.6	4.3	5.2	2.9	4.6	3.6	4.7	3.7	4.5	4.0	4.3	5.4
	(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	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adequate .....	59	81	28	68	63	36	89	75	64	66	65	79
Surplus .....	41	14	72	32	37	64	11	25	36	34	35	21
Subsoil moisture												
Very short .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short .....	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Adequate .....	63	78	30	72	62	36	74	70	56	63	62	77
Surplus .....	37	19	70	27	38	64	26	30	44	37	38	22

**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—BARRON-T.B.:** Week started out frustratingly wet, but by midweek field operations were in full swing. Lots of soybeans coming off under 20 percent moisture. Corn silage chopping wrapping up. Some high moisture corn grain being taken and even some dry corn grain reports. Very little fall tillage and many scrambling to get manure pits down, so lots of manure being spread.

**NW—RUSK/SAWYER-S.V.:** Rusk County received 1 to 3 inches of rain this week depending on where you are located. Most likely no one in fields for any harvesting for another week or two if we don't get any more rain

**NC—ASHLAND/IRON-K.R.:** Heavy rains early in the week slowed harvest. Corn silage harvest is wrapping up. Lots of ruts and mud in the fields. Corn silage is getting dry at around 55 percent for most areas.

**NE—SHAWANO-B.R.:** Corn silage harvest continues with mud and deep ruts all over. Soybeans are coming off the field at 14 to 18 percent moisture. Yields vary greatly from 15 to 70 bushels per acre. White mold has hit some fields very hard. Very little winter wheat emerged yet. Tillage will be a nightmare with all the deep ruts in the fields.

**WC—ST CROIX-J.L.:** Farmers very frustrated that they haven't been able to get in the fields.

**WC—TREMPEAULEAU-L.N.:** Minimal harvesting was able to be done this week--2 to 3 inches of rain from all day soakers early in the week and cloudy weather until Friday. Hard freeze October 24th followed by a sunny day allowing harvest of the soybean crop to once again begin.

**C—PORTAGE/WOOD-J.W.:** Cranberry harvest continues with good yields and color. One field of fourth cut hay made. Soybean harvest continues as fields dry out. Beet harvest nearing completion. Little activity in corn fields

**WC—KEWAUNEE-T.S.:** Heading into the final week of October, field work is progressing at a slower rate than desired. The wet soil continues to cause problems, from machines getting stuck, to contributing to higher moisture for the grain, to making it difficult to get any tillage done. There was some marginally good weather to get some of the soybeans harvested, but the moisture was on the higher side, mainly from 15 to 17 percent. However, many producers are tired of waiting and just want to get the beans off, regardless of the test weight or moisture. Yields are ranging from around 30 to 45 bushels per acre. This is substantially less than last year. Not much corn has been harvested for grain yet, but this will get going in November. The extremely wet conditions have made for messy roads and dirty vehicles. Manure still has to be applied, another job that will be difficult because of the wet soil. Putting manure onto soil that is already saturated could cause the manure to go down into places where it shouldn't. A few producers are cutting fourth crop hay right now, which should be the last cutting for 2019.

**SW—VERNON-K.L.:** We had a cooler week and rain off and on. Soybeans and corn silage harvest have been able to progress between the weather. Farmers are anxious due to the delay in harvest and are hoping for some more dry days.

**SC—DANE-F.P.:** The colder days have slowed corn dry down as well as harvest. There is standing water in a lot of fields. Manure is being applied on some fields.

**SE—OZAUKEE/WASHINGTON-A.S.:** Fall crops aren't going in very quickly or at all because the soil is too wet to get the soybeans off or moisture is too high. Corn's moisture is still too high to take off for grain.

**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 27, 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. 26	Mar. 1 to Oct. 26 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire.....	53	34	66	21	44	-1	2603	2576	1.69	10.57	+4.95	41.13	+12.37
Green Bay .....	52	39	64	30	46	+1	2619	2434	0.70	13.33	+8.47	43.03	+17.87
La Crosse .....	55	37	65	28	46	-2	3273	2918	1.66	10.94	+5.76	41.39	+12.65
Madison.....	54	38	66	26	46	-1	2939	2878	0.79	12.05	+7.20	43.55	+14.90
Milwaukee.....	55	41	65	33	48	-1	2910	NA	1.91	12.80	+7.49	41.74	+12.35

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/>