



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

Compiled by the Wisconsin Field Office of  
USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

September 24, 2007

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## Summer Temperatures Return

Temperatures warmed up last week, ranging from 4 to 6 degrees above normal for the state. High temperatures reached into the mid 80s and 90s. Low temperatures, however, dipped down to the 40s and mid 30s, bringing varied degrees of frost to most areas. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.05 inches in Milwaukee to 0.99 inches in Eau Claire. All five stations were at below average rainfall since September 1. Soil moisture conditions were rated as 5 percent very short, 9 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. There was an average of 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

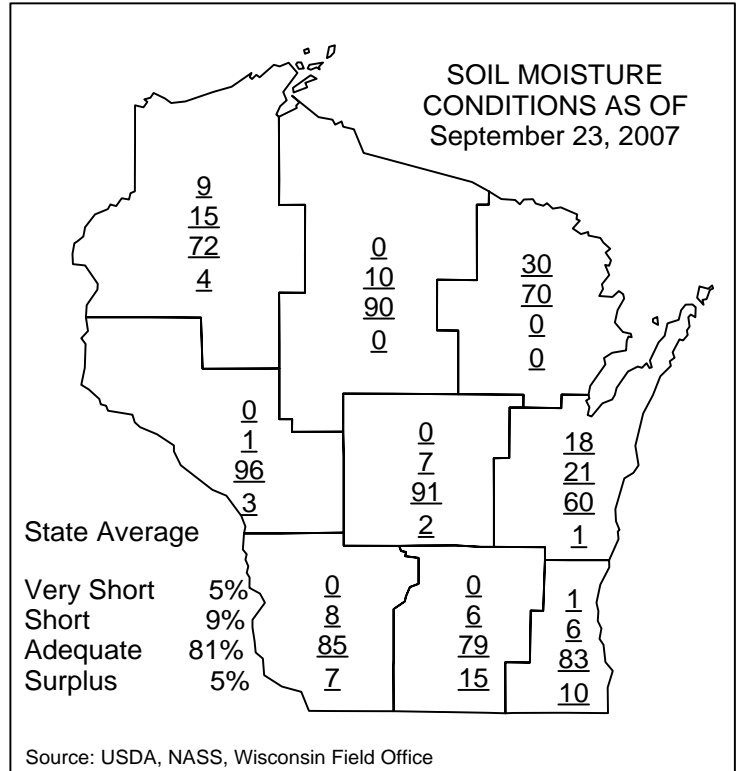
**Corn** in the dent stage was 95 percent complete, above both last year's 91 percent and the 5-year average of 83 percent complete. Fifty-four percent of the crop was mature, above both last year's 43 percent and the 5-year average of 36 percent. Combining continued, and corn harvested for grain reached 6 percent complete, above both last year's and the 5-year average of 2 percent complete. Corn harvested for silage jumped to 78 percent complete, increasing 26 percentage points from last week. This is significantly above both last year's 63 percent and the 5-year average of 56 percent complete. Corn yields are reported as extremely variable. Lodging may be a concern as harvest continues.

**Soybeans** turning color increased to 96 percent complete, above both last year's and the 5-year average of 88 percent complete. Soybeans dropping leaves increased 33 percentage points to 74 percent complete, significantly above both last year's 59 percent and the 5-year average of 60 percent complete. Soybean harvest began and was rated at 2 percent complete, above last year's 1 percent, but below the 5-year average of 3 percent complete. Reports indicate that some fields were not ready for the frost they endured last week.

Fourth cutting **alfalfa** continued this week and was rated at 48 percent complete, slightly below last year's 49 percent, but above the 5-year average of 37 percent complete. Rainfall throughout the week continued to help **pasture** conditions, which improved slightly to 56 percent good to excellent.

**Winter wheat** planting continued, as well as other fall field work. Fall spraying has also started.

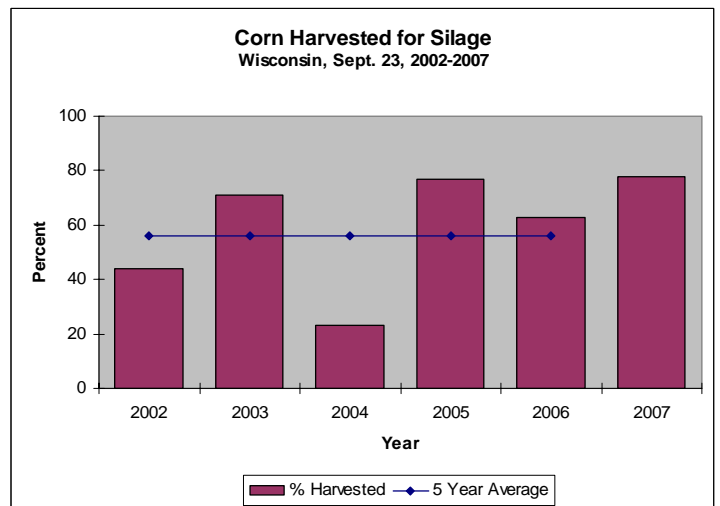
**Potato** harvest continues across all districts. Some **cranberry** harvest is occurring. Reports on **apple** yields indicate a good crop.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 23, 2007

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	6	14	32	33	15
Soybeans	5	12	34	35	14
Pasture	6	11	27	50	6

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



## Wisconsin Crop Progress, September 23, 2007

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This year	Last year	5-year average
Corn dent	91	92	100	99	92	87	97	98	99	95	91	83
Corn mature	58	38	45	75	55	43	66	37	75	54	43	36
Corn harvested for grain	2	2	10	6	3	11	10	3	7	6	2	2
Corn harvested for silage	75	71	95	90	66	74	83	74	83	78	63	56
Soybeans turning color	91	99	100	99	97	90	99	97	97	96	88	88
Soybeans dropping leaves	79	87	85	88	60	61	79	73	63	74	59	60
Soybeans harvested	1	2	5	6	0	2	2	2	1	2	1	3
Fourth cutting hay	26	34	20	50	56	48	57	73	32	48	49	37

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

**BARRON-A.B.:** A lot of stalk rot is starting to be prevalent in the corn. High moisture corn harvest is starting. Corn silage harvest is winding down. Soybean harvest is ready to begin once we dry out. There is an interest in winter wheat as prices are high and harvest is early enough to allow timely planting.

**POLK-C.S.:** We received 3.0 to 7.0 inches of rain during the week which halted all harvesting. It will take a few dry days before growers will be back in the fields. Most of the winter wheat is planted and fields are starting to green-up.

**VILAS-L.K.:** Recent rains have helped pastures slightly. The rain will do nothing for the hay crop which has been gone for two months. This is the poorest hay crop in many years.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** Some corn is being reported at 25-30 percent moisture for the silos. Most of the silage harvest is complete. Soybeans will be coming off this week with a few fields at 12 percent now. Fourth crop hay is growing, but could have used more rain to be real good.

**BUFFALO-R.S.:** Last week's frost did not harm the corn and soybeans because they were mature enough. There is no harvesting of corn and soybeans yet. Grain moistures are above 30 percent. Corn silage is getting too dry. It is difficult to dry hay for baling.

**PIERCE-J.K.:** Combines have started rolling in the soybean fields. I have not heard any yield results yet. The warm weather should dry the corn down quickly. Some farmers who harvest high moisture corn will be starting soon.

**WAUPACA-D.H.:** A lot of marginal corn is being chopped for silage. Third and fourth crop hay harvest is in full swing as well. The frost last Saturday will actually help dry down corn and soybeans.

**WOOD-M.L.:** Some soybeans and corn were not ready for the frost. Corn silage harvest is going steady now. Yields are all over for silage.

**FOND DU LAC-B.B.:** Fourth crop hay has been fair, same for corn silage. Weed and insect pressure has fallen off with the frost on Saturday.

**SHEBOYGAN-T.J.:** Corn and soybeans have matured rapidly in the last week. Warm and dry weather will accelerate it even more. Fourth crop hay that was harvested has good quality and quantity. Some varieties of corn were down in some fields.

**GRANT-L.F.:** Corn and soybeans look good. There is a lot of foliage in the corn for silage, which makes tonnage a lot more. Fewer acres are being used to fill silos, bunkers, and bags. Corn is starting to dry down, but needs sunshine now to finish it for shelling. Soybeans are yellow and dropping their leaves, so now you can see the size of the beans and the pods. I think soybeans will be a smaller crop than a lot of people think. Fourth crop hay is being mowed also. Third crop hay is finishing up; real nice crop. Grass for pasture and lawns are really growing.

**IOWA-S.M.:** Frost ended the growing season for corn and soybeans. Fall Roundup spraying has started.

**COLUMBIA-R.S.:** The frost touched the leaves in corn and soybeans, causing them to dry. Everything is getting ready for harvest. Most soybeans have dropped their leaves due to plenty of wind. Old oat and winter wheat fields have lots of weeds now, especially Lambsquarter.

**ROCK-C.O.:** Harvest has begun with variable yields. Corn yields can be anywhere between 3 and 203 bushels per acre depending on the soil type. East and southern parts of the county looks great while the west is variable.

**WAUKESHA-R.F.:** Crops look very good. Field conditions are good for fieldwork. Escaped weeds could be a problem when harvesting soybean fields and pre-harvest herbicides are already being applied. Stalk and leaf diseases are evident in many corn fields and lodging could be an issue when fields are combined next month.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 23, 2007

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 Sept. 22	Mar. 1 to Sept. 22 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	75	52	85	46	63	5	2812	2368	0.99	2.57	-0.35	21.55	-4.41
Green Bay	77	51	86	36	64	6	2636	2232	0.48	2.33	-0.07	19.85	-2.70
La Crosse	79	55	90	49	67	5	3166	2666	0.68	2.31	-0.31	34.19	8.10
Madison	78	53	85	41	65	6	2906	2614	0.63	1.74	-0.67	36.34	10.20
Milwaukee	76	56	87	43	66	4	2804	n.a.	0.05	0.85	-1.65	25.27	-1.33

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. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. n.a. = not available. T = trace. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.