



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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Harvest Progress Halted

Rainfall over the past two weeks has caused soil moisture levels to increase, slowing the progress of harvest and fall fieldwork. Fields will need to dry out before harvest can be completed. Soil moisture levels were rated as 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 46 percent surplus. Precipitation totals ranged from 1.33 inches in La Crosse to 3.85 inches in Green Bay. Average temperatures were 6 to 9 degree above normal. High temperatures were in the low to mid 70s. Low temperatures reached as low as 32 degrees in Green Bay. There was an average of 2.1 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Corn harvested for grain was at 38 percent complete, above both last year's 25 percent and the 5-year average of 30 percent complete. Harvest was limited to fields that had good drainage. Corn conditions was rated as 8 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 33 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. There were reports of corn sprouting on the cob in northern areas of the state. Reports of lodging and mold were widespread.

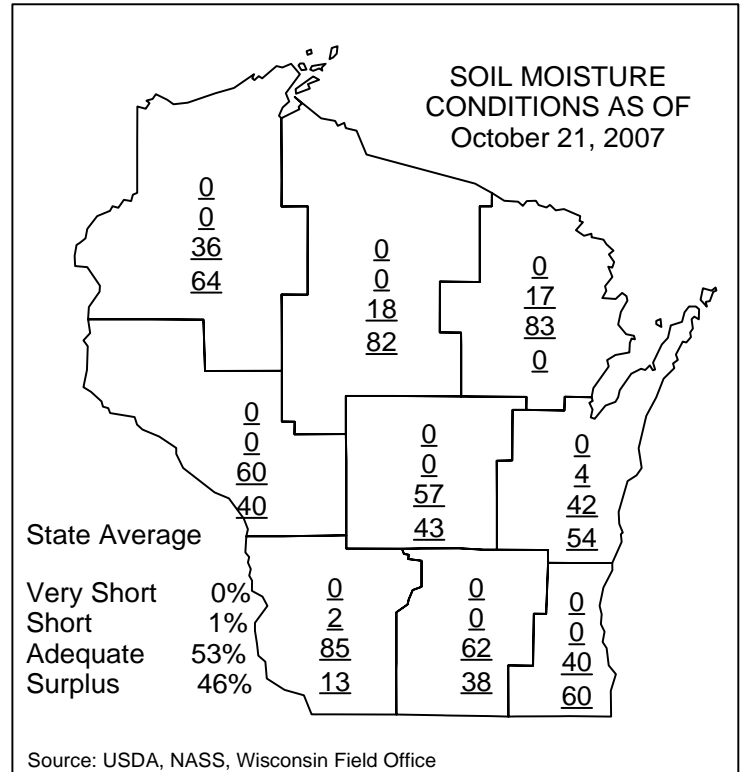
Soybeans harvested was at 52 percent complete, an increase of only 7 percentage points from last week. This is significantly below both last year's 63 percent and the 5-year average of 68 percent complete. There are also several concerns about mold in soybean fields. Soybean conditions were comparable to last week, and reported as 3 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 12 percent excellent.

Fourth cutting **alfalfa** was rated at 82 percent complete, slightly above last year's 81 percent and well above the 5-year average of 74 percent complete. It has been difficult to make hay, even between rains. Many producers are also concentrating on harvesting corn and soybeans instead.

Pastures continue to flourish. Conditions were rated as 3 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 8 percent excellent.

Little progress was made in **fall tillage**, which was rated as 23 percent complete, an increase of only 6 percentage points from last week. Progress, however, is still above last year's 15 percent and the 5-year average of 20 percent complete.

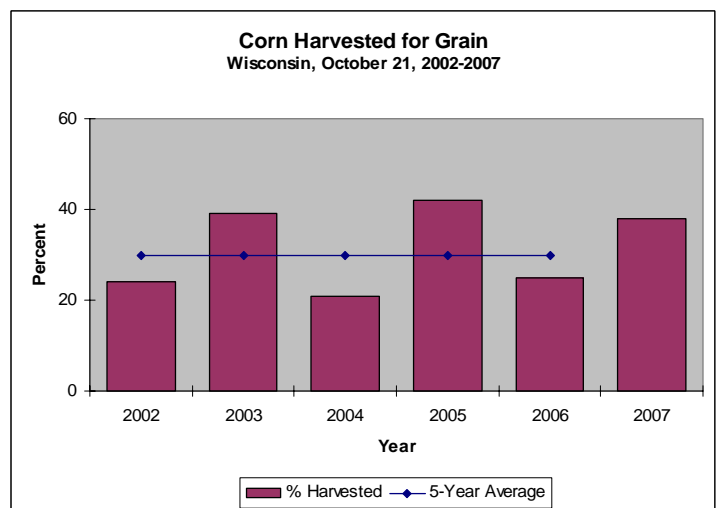
Progress of **winter wheat** planting slowed down due to the moisture levels in the fields. Conditions continue to be reported as good to excellent where the crop has emerged.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 21, 2007

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	8	13	36	33	10
Soybeans	3	8	27	50	12
Pasture	3	13	25	51	8

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



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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 harvested for grain	28	38	48	24	58	45	54	29	33	38	25	30
Soybeans harvested	30	27	47	59	45	62	60	51	55	52	63	68
Fourth cutting hay	62	80	95	84	87	75	86	95	81	82	81	74
Fall tillage complete	17	15	25	18	31	43	15	17	21	23	15	20

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

CHIPPEWA-T.P.: There is not much progress with all of the rain.

POLK-R.S.: The recent rains have made it difficult to get into many fields. Several farmers have reported corn sprouting in the fields and white mold on soybeans.

CLARK-N.S.: Wet conditions throughout the week have caused harvest to nearly come to a halt. Mud pugging by cows has created some messy pastures.

SHAWANO-T.A.: Winter wheat condition looks outstanding. Re-growth on alfalfa and pastures is good. Combines continue to roll on corn and soybean fields when the field conditions are dry.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Weather slowed harvest and fall tillage progress to a near standstill this past week. Corn yields on fields that were drought stressed are highly variable with most being poor. Reports of 80 bushels per acre are not uncommon.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Corn and soybean harvest is at a standstill due to wet fields. Cranberry harvest is nearing completion with excellent yields. Rain and wet fields impede most other activity.

WAUSHARA-L.K.: Corn harvest is progressing, but moisture is rather high. Most of the soybeans have been harvested. I have not heard what the yields were. There is not much fourth crop hay being harvested now.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: The big story this week has been the rain. While the area could not receive a drop at some key points during the growing season, now it seems it will not stop. This area has received 4.0 inches of rain in the past two weeks, with 3.0 inches of those coming this past week alone. This has made for some messy fields.

Even with the rain, though, there was some harvesting of corn done this past weekend. Sunday was a busy day at some local feed mills and elevators. Four wheel drive combines are a must this year. Some producers are being pleasantly surprised by the yield of corn coming off the fields. There is quite a range, from 80 bushels to 160 bushels per acre. Some of this wild swing can be attributed to corn variety, soil type, and how well the crop was planted. If the corn got off to a good start, it seems to have withstood the dry conditions better. Moisture conditions in the corn have been good too, with much of the test moisture at 20 percent or lower. Other than corn

harvesting this week, there really was not much done in the fields due to the rain. Some hay was harvested, but this was done mainly on higher ground where there was little chance of making ruts. Very little soybean harvest was done, if any. Fall tillage will be more of a challenge now with water standing in some of the lower fields. The last few years we have seen good conditions at this time of year to get the field work done, but not this year. It has been quite a few years since we have had to deal with wet conditions as we have this year.

IOWA-S.M.: Harvest progress is slow. Lots of corn is going down with the high winds and rain. We need extended drier weather to start soybean harvest again. Little fieldwork is going on. There is little wheat planting going on due to soggy fields.

DANE-D.R.: The persistent rain has held up fieldwork. Hopefully several warm sunny days will allow farmers in the fields. Pasture production extends the feed production season and it is easier on winter hay and silage.

DODGE-G.R.: Wet, wind and little warmth during the week hampered any significant progress with harvesting. Many soybean fields have started to be harvested but are not finished. Yields reported as average, moisture at 10 to 15 percent. Corn fields have seen moistures come down, but many still in the mid twenties. Yields for corn are 140 to 170 bushel per acre thus far. Alfalfa fields remain un-cut locally as focus has been on corn and soybeans. Winter wheat looks good. Some fall tillage was completed. No hard frost in our area as of yet.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Some soybeans are small. We are half done with corn. Winter wheat and rye look good.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 21, 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 Oct. 20	Mar. 1 to Oct. 20 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	59	48	70	40	53	6	3105	2550	2.66	9.31	4.14	28.29	0.0
Green Bay	63	49	73	32	56	9	2960	2410	3.85	7.81	3.38	25.34	0.74
La Crosse	62	52	73	44	57	7	3518	2887	1.33	6.35	1.58	38.23	9.92
Madison	64	51	71	46	58	9	3253	2843	1.73	5.78	1.34	40.38	12.15
Milwaukee	66	53	75	47	59	8	3167	n.a.	1.61	4.78	-0.04	29.20	0.29

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.