



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

October 17, 2011

Vol. 11, No. 28

## Soybean Harvest In Full Swing

Mild temperatures continued last week, allowing Wisconsin farmers to forge ahead with harvest activities. Warm, windy days created good conditions for drying corn and soybeans. The soybean harvest made good progress, surging ahead of the 5-year average. Rain mid-week temporarily suspended fieldwork, but helped to fortify fall seedings and pastures. There were 4.9 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 6 to 9 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 68 to 70 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 47 to 52 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.42 inches in Milwaukee to 1.30 inches in La Crosse. Growing degree days for corn remain above normal for all reporting stations. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

- <http://www.noaa.gov/>
- <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
- <http://www.cocorahs.org/>
- <http://www.weather.gov/>

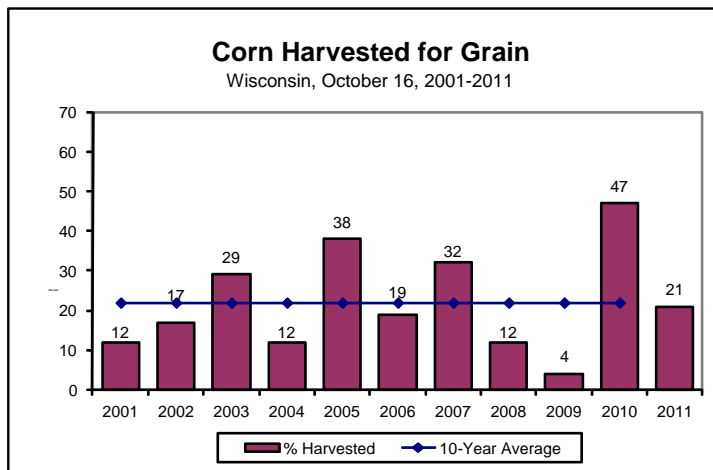
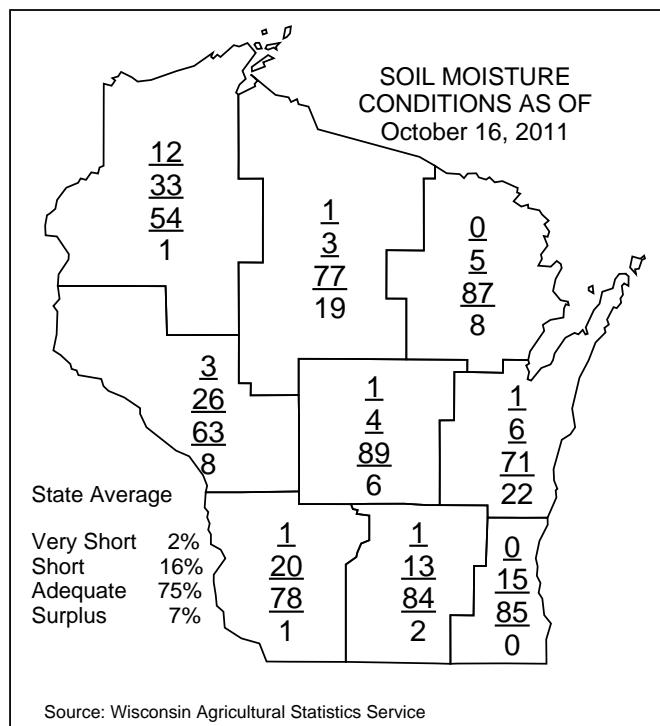
**Corn** was 86 percent mature and 21 percent harvested for grain. Reports on corn moisture varied this week. Some reports indicated dry corn coming off with moistures in the teens. In other areas, high moisture corn harvest continued, with moistures in the high 20s. Corn **silage** harvest reached 94 percent complete.

Statewide, 99 percent of **soybeans** were dropping leaves with 62 percent harvested. Moistures were reported in the low teens across much of the state. Yields were adversely affected in areas which received an early frost, with reporters commenting that bean size was small.

Fourth crop **hay** was 94 percent harvested and wrapping up for winter.

**Fall tillage** reached 23 percent statewide.

Wisconsin's **cranberry** harvest was just about complete, with some reports that yields fell short of forecasts. The **potato** harvest was also nearly complete across the state. **Apple** picking continued, with the crop reported as plentiful. And Waupaca County's fall **raspberry** harvest was still coming in, with good yields reported.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 16, 2011

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	1	6	16	52	25
Soybean	1	5	15	53	26
Pasture	4	19	40	34	3

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

## Wisconsin Crop Progress, October 16, 2011

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Corn silage harvested	95	83	92	97	96	91	99	100	97	94	88	98	94
Corn mature	88	77	67	94	91	67	88	92	95	86	78	99	89
Corn harvested for grain	20	21	12	18	23	18	26	25	17	21	11	47	23
Soybean leaves dropping	99	99	98	99	99	97	99	98	100	99	94	100	99
Soybeans harvested	70	59	46	76	60	51	57	60	64	62	28	83	50
Fourth cutting hay	85	94	99	97	88	90	100	100	96	94	90	90	79
Fall tillage completed	20	47	22	16	28	27	14	21	23	23	16	29	16

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

# 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.

**BARRON-T.J.:** Outstanding drying weather for corn and beans. Corn won't be in the dryer long this year.

**CHIPPEWA-T.P.:** High moisture corn harvest continues. Soybeans harvest is winding down. Yields in the 35 to 40 bushel range.

**ASHLAND-C.B.:** Lots of corn silage harvest activity. Reports coming in from some producers of poor quality corn silage. Pasture mostly done in the area.

**TAYLOR-D.E.:** Corn and soybean harvesting came to a screeching halt with over 2.0 inches of rain last week. Very breezy conditions helped dry out the fields and some harvesting was again in progress this weekend. Yield reports on bean vary with average to some above average yields reported. Corn silage harvest is well underway and some high moisture corn has been harvested with yields again reported at average to some above average, however, low wet spots got drowned out and are poor.

**SHAWANO-J.N.:** Quite a few soybean acres came off until the rains came on Tuesday. Yields were better than expected, pushing 60 bushels, very good considering the later than normal plantings. Corn for high moisture has started with moisture in the mid to high 20s.

**DUNN-S.S.:** One inch of much needed rain last night. For the most part soybean harvest has been completed. Harvesting corn for grain just beginning.

**ST CROIX-D.K.:** Soybeans were coming off rapidly.

**TREMPEALEAU-C.S.:** Harvest continued in full swing this week. Field conditions had been dry. A rain later in the week was welcome and needed. Soybean size is reported to be smaller than normal.

**PORTAGE-J.W.:** Cranberry harvest going strong, average yields. Few potato and carrot fields to harvest. Corn and soybean harvest slowed with the 1.25 inches of rain this week.

**WAUPACA-L.B.:** Still picking raspberries, good crop still yielding.

**FOND DU LAC-B.B.:** Total 1.05 inches rain on 10/11 and 10/13 put the stop to the bean harvest. Some high moisture shell corn was also put up during the first part of the week as well. Winter wheat still looks O.K.

**SHEBOYGAN-E.P.:** Dry ground all the way down all summer gave tractors grip for ten days of fall plowing. Now the rain is stopping fieldwork. Some soybeans got combined.

**SAUK-J.P.:** Still getting tomatoes and cucumbers; other garden crops are done growing, waiting to be harvested. Last week saw lots of hay being harvested. This week concentrating on harvesting soybeans and high moisture

corn. Yields are subpar on corn with soybeans average or slightly above average.

**VERNON-K.L.:** Cooler temperatures with high winds this past week. Soybean harvest under way, with moisture levels below 14 percent. Silage corn harvest almost completed. Producers have started harvesting high moisture corn, while others have started harvesting dry shelled corn and ear corn. Moisture levels reported as low as 17% on the corn.

**COLUMBIA-B.K.:** Received some nice rains last week, much needed and will get the planted winter wheat germinated. Slowed harvest a little, fields are able to soak up the rains fast and farmers are able to continue harvest without muddy conditions.

**ROCK-C.H.:** Soybeans are looking very good.

**OZAUKEE-K.A.:** Beans coming off fast. 10-12 percent moisture and yields all over 40-70 bushels per acre. A little corn came off for high moisture at 25-32 percent moisture and yields between 130-210 bushels per acre depending on soil type. A lot of wind damage in corn fields. It took two men to combine 30 acres in 3 days. The corn head always got blocked up.

**WASHINGTON-G.S.:** Harvest is in full swing. Soybeans are yielding better than expected.

**WAUKESHA-A.S.:** Corn crop is considerably better than I thought originally. Soybeans are poorer than I thought a month ago.



USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office  
P.O. Box 8934  
Madison, WI 53708-8934  
(608) 224-4848  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/>

**Robert J. Battaglia**  
Director

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.

## Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 16, 2011

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. 15	Mar. 1 to Oct. 15 normal*	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	68	47	81	42	58	8	2766	2522	0.48	2.15	-2.73	29.64	1.68
Green Bay	69	50	79	45	59	9	2614	2384	0.92	5.46	1.33	32.29	7.83
La Crosse	70	51	81	45	61	8	3077	2854	1.30	4.34	-0.13	32.45	4.48
Madison	70	49	78	45	59	7	2948	2810	1.01	4.32	0.21	24.62	-3.35
Milwaukee	68	52	80	48	60	6	2799	n.a.	0.42	3.33	-1.17	26.62	-2.00

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.