



# 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 12, 2014  
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## Cold, Sunny Weather Advances Fieldwork

Clear, dry days with below average temperatures allowed fieldwork to advance rapidly this week. Frosts and freezes were widespread, with overnight lows falling into the 20s in the north and reaching the low 30s across the rest of the state. Several reporters commented that late planted corn was still immature when a killing frost hit their area. Though topsoil moistures fell on average, field conditions were reportedly still muddy in northern parts of the state, hampering fieldwork there. Soybeans harvest, fall tillage, winter wheat planting, and manure spreading were all in full swing. Corn was being chopped for silage and combined for high moisture feed. Some corn was being harvested for grain in the south but reporters noted that corn is weeks away from a dry grain harvest across the north and central portions of the state. Fourth crop hay cutting slowed this week as silage and soybeans took priority. Cranberries, apples, pumpkins, and other fall fruit and vegetable crops were being harvested as well, keeping farm stands busy statewide.

There were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures were 4 to 9 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 56 to 60 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 29 to 41 degrees. The five major reporting stations received no measurable precipitation this week. 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/>

As of October 12, ninety-four percent of **corn** was in or beyond the dent stage and 66 percent was mature. Corn for grain was 7 percent harvested. Corn for silage was 67 percent harvested, up 20 percentage points from the previous week. Corn condition was rated 73 percent good to excellent.

Ninety percent of **soybeans** had leaves dropping. Soybeans harvested reached 30 percent, up 23 percentage points from the previous week. Soybeans condition was rated 72 percent good to excellent.

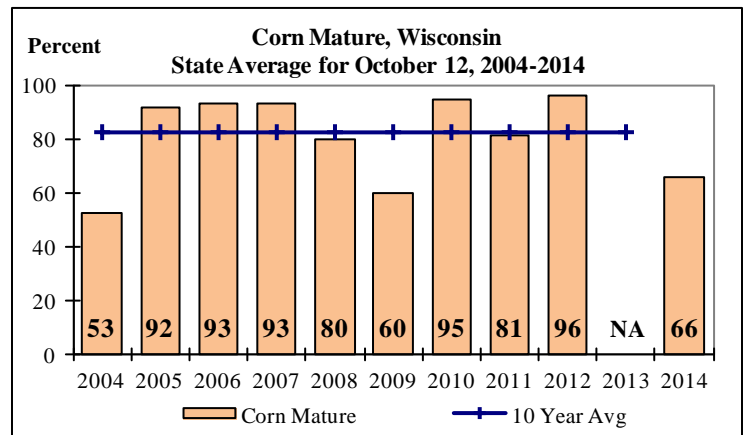
**Winter wheat** was 60 percent planted and 28 percent emerged.

**Potatoes** were 95 percent harvested.

The **fourth cutting of alfalfa** was 86 percent complete.

**Pasture** condition was rated 61 percent good to excellent.

**Fall tillage** was 20 percent complete.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 12, 2014

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range	1	5	33	51	10
Corn	2	5	20	49	24
Soybeans	1	4	23	49	23

## Wisconsin Crop Progress as of October 12, 2014

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
	Percent									Percent			
Fall tillage	15	29	22	18	20	15	20	26	18	20	13	n.a.	16
Corn in or past dent stage	89	87	89	98	90	85	99	100	96	94	88	n.a.	98
Corn mature	66	31	24	76	40	44	76	94	79	66	52	n.a.	80
Corn harvested for grain	3	2	1	5	5	1	9	18	8	7	3	n.a.	24
Corn harvested for silage	51	57	43	85	71	52	93	93	82	67	47	n.a.	86
Soybeans dropping leaves	89	90	83	96	77	85	95	93	87	90	78	n.a.	92
Soybeans harvested	26	21	14	33	23	18	25	45	36	30	7	n.a.	48
Winter Wheat planted	55	73	58	35	77	56	59	72	46	60	38	n.a.	n.a.
Winter Wheat emerged	31	21	25	18	51	26	30	33	18	28	17	n.a.	n.a.
Potatoes harvested	81	99	90	100	98	n.a.	84 <sup>1</sup>	83 <sup>1</sup>	n.a.	95	84	n.a.	n.a.
Alfalfa hay, fourth cutting	77	59	93	87	90	83	94	98	79	86	77	n.a.	84

1) Potato harvested estimates for the Southwest and South Central districts have been revised.

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of October 12, 2014

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
Days Suitable	Days									Days		
	5.4	6.1	6.5	5.7	6.5	6.1	5.8	6.2	5.9	6.0	4.3	n.a.
Topsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent		
Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	n.a.
Short	5	0	0	5	1	3	13	19	5	7	5	n.a.
Adequate	77	68	64	87	87	69	84	78	93	80	80	n.a.
Surplus	18	32	36	8	12	28	3	1	2	13	15	n.a.
Subsoil Moisture	Percent									Percent		
Very Short	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	n.a.
Short	4	5	8	6	2	2	12	16	17	8	8	n.a.
Adequate	84	65	70	88	79	75	86	80	82	81	80	n.a.
Surplus	12	30	22	6	18	23	1	2	1	11	12	n.a.

Due to a lapse in federal funding in October 2013, the Crop Progress reports for the weeks ending October 6, 2013 and October 13, 2013 were cancelled. Therefore, previous year estimates for the corresponding weeks will not be available. Five-year average estimates will reflect the years 2009-2013 using published estimates for 2009-2012 and imputed estimates for 2013.

## 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.

**CHIPPEWA-T.P.:** Corn silage is progressing. A lot of soybeans could be harvested this coming week if the rain stays away.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Corn silage harvest continues - good yields and quality. High moisture is just starting, still pretty wet. Soybeans are coming off, some good, some not so good. Wrapping up hay harvest for the year. Total inventory is good, but there was a lot of poor first crop and a lot got rained on at least once. Peak fall color is past, but now getting a nice flush of yellow from the poplars.

**CLARK-R.H.:** A hard freeze overnight has probably ended the growing season. Corn silage is full go this week as plant moisture is declining. Soybean harvest is beginning with early planted soybeans going into the bin. Hay may be on hold with corn silage harvest, but there is some to be harvested. Fall pumpkin patches and apple orchards are busy. With harvest, emptying of manure pits is also in full swing with fall tillage following the application of nutrients.

**ONEIDA-B.E.:** No measurable precipitation this past week. Average highs and lows a bit below normal.

**LANGLADE-A.K.:** Growing season done with frost last week. Corn and beans drying down nicely with sun and light winds. Bean yields are fair at best, corn looks fair to good.

**BUFFALO-R.S.:** Light rain stopped soybean harvest which is 50% done this week. No dry corn harvested yet. Some haylage made, some bean stalks baled, a little tillage and rye seeded. A good week for maturing crops.

**EAU CLAIRE-D.S.:** Beans still have green stems, causes "staining" on the food grade beans.

**WAUPACA-D.L.H.:** Killing frost occurred October 10, ending a growing season of 148 days. Corn silage, planting winter wheat, fourth crop hay have been going full tilt with the week of favorable weather. Soybeans now shedding leaves, mature corn showing dry husks. Fall harvest is still a couple weeks off as crops need to dry down.

**KEWAUNEE-T.S.:** The past week was dry and mainly sunny. These conditions were needed to get fieldwork done, with the main task chopping corn silage. Depending on the storage structure used, either a lot of corn came off or not very much. For those producers putting the silage on piles or in silos, a lot of corn was chopped. However, since the corn in many instances is still quite green, trying to put the corn into bags has been less successful. A couple of light frosts did help to begin to dry down the corn, but time is the biggest commodity needed to mature not only the corn silage, but also corn intended for grain. Virtually no corn has been combined and it will not be for a few weeks yet, as it is much too wet and immature. Soybeans are starting to get ready for harvesting and some of them have been taken off. Early yield reports show values ranging from 30 to around 55 bushels per acre. The beans in some instances are small. Moisture content has been from around 11% to 15%. A few fields are somewhat green yet and those soybeans will not be ready for a couple of weeks. Fall tillage has begun to be done, and manure hauling is also going on. Some fourth crop alfalfa has been cut and chopped, though most producers are focusing on harvesting the corn silage at this time.

**OUTAGAMIE-J.B.:** Harvest on beans is iffy. Spots are dry and spots are still wet.

**GRANT-E.B.:** Never planted any winter wheat - too late.

**COLUMBIA-G.K.:** Soil moisture conditions are beginning to get pretty dry in the topsoil zone. We need a little rain to germinate and speed up the growth of winter wheat that has been planted. Corn and soybeans continue to dry down. Some soybeans are actually too dry, coming out of the field at 10% moisture.

**ROCK-C.O.:** Harvest progressing at a fast pace.

**OZAUKEE-K.A.:** Corn silage harvesting, bean combining, some fall tillage, some cutting hay for silage - that is all of the activity for this week.

### Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 12, 2014

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. 11	Mar. 1 to Oct. 11 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	56	29	61	24	43	-9	2596	2495	0.00	6.46	+1.85	39.13	+11.38
Green Bay	57	37	63	31	47	-4	2390	2359	0.00	5.56	+1.68	26.28	+2.17
La Crosse	60	37	66	32	49	-6	3044	2822	0.00	4.07	-0.16	33.55	+5.83
Madison	60	39	65	30	49	-4	2825	2776	0.00	2.64	-1.18	30.45	+2.77
Milwaukee	59	41	65	35	50	-5	2495	n.a.	0.00	1.92	-2.25	27.21	-1.13

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

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