



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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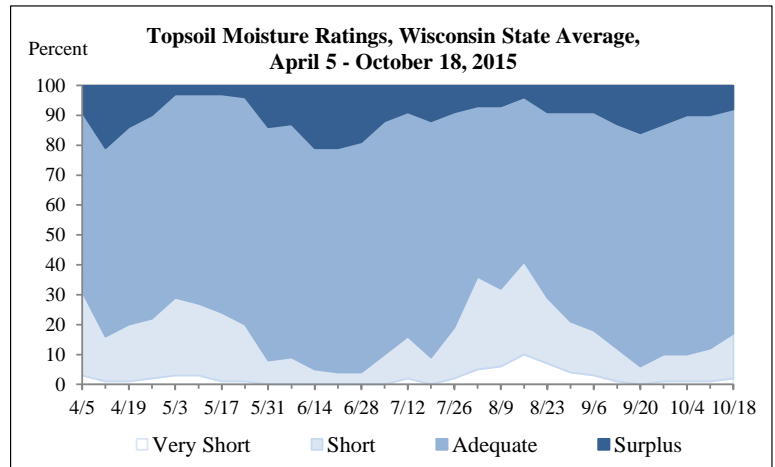
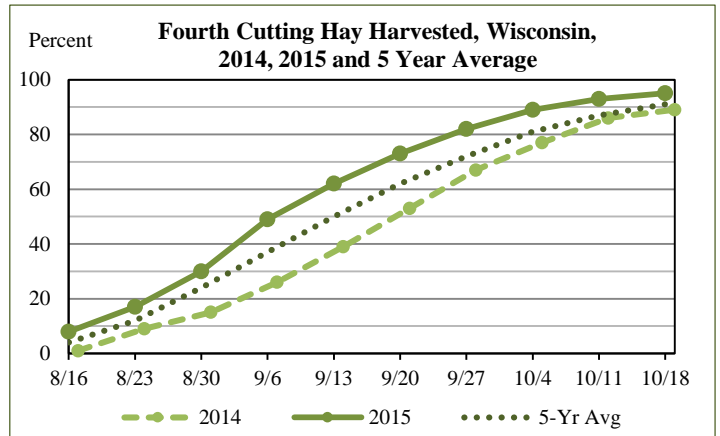
More Dry Weather Speeds Harvest Along

There were 6.4 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending October 18, 2015, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The northern portions of the state received some showers early in the week, but the weather was largely clear, dry and windy. The first killing frost of the season hit the majority of the state this weekend with overnight temperatures dropping into the 20s. The soybeans harvest made rapid progress and corn combining was gathering steam as grain moisture continued to fall. Reporters commented that corn was drying down nicely thanks to the hard freeze and recent dry weather. Corn silage chopping, fourth crop hay and potato digging were wrapping up. Manure spreading and fall tillage were ongoing.

Topsoil moisture levels were down from the previous week, with 8 percent surplus, 75 percent adequate and 17 percent short to very short. **Subsoil moisture** levels also fell, with 3 percent surplus, 80 percent adequate and 17 percent short to very short. Some reporters noted dusty conditions due to the dryness of the topsoil.

As of October 18, **corn** harvested for grain had reached 27 percent, 12 days ahead of last year but 5 days behind the five-year average. Corn moisture of grain at harvest was 22 percent. The corn crop was rated 79 percent good to excellent. Corn harvested for silage was 98 percent complete, about a month ahead of last year and just over 2 weeks ahead of the five-year average. Seventy-three percent of the **soybean** crop had been harvested, almost 2 weeks ahead of last year and 3 days ahead the five-year average. Ninety-seven percent of **potatoes** had been harvested statewide. Fifty-four percent of **winter wheat** crop has emerged, a week ahead of last year. **Fall tillage** was at 37 percent complete, the fastest pace in 15 years.

Pasture condition was rated 58 percent good to excellent, down 4 percentage points down from last week. The **fourth cutting of alfalfa** was 95 percent harvested.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 18, 2015

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn.....	1	4	16	52	27
Pasture & Range..	4	13	25	44	14

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of October 18, 2015

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			
Alfalfa hay, fourth cutting.....	96	82	98	97	98	91	99	97	92	95	93	89	91
Corn mature.....	95	86	77	86	88	86	97	95	95	91	81	74	87
Corn harvested for grain.....	25	29	19	22	24	16	36	37	17	27	16	10	35
Corn harvested for silage.....	98	97	99	97	97	97	99	99	95	98	94	75	90
Fall Tillage.....	29	47	40	37	40	39	44	28	35	37	28	24	22
Potatoes harvested.....	86	99	100	100	96	n.a.	93	94	n.a.	97	93	98	n.a.
Soybeans harvested.....	80	80	63	68	73	70	71	77	70	73	46	40	67
Winter wheat planted.....	73	95	90	75	93	87	89	90	71	86	74	69	n.a.
Winter wheat emerged.....	50	80	48	34	59	65	62	49	24	54	37	39	n.a.

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of October 18, 2015

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	6.3	6.4	5.8	6.0	6.6	6.4	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.4	5.9	3.8
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	2	0	2	1	0	5	1	1	2	1	0
Short.....	4	9	10	15	23	10	19	21	13	15	11	4
Adequate.....	91	89	82	78	71	85	49	73	83	75	78	79
Surplus.....	5	0	8	5	5	5	27	5	3	8	10	17
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	2	0	1	1	0	8	1	0	2	1	0
Short.....	4	9	9	15	19	11	23	19	14	15	12	6
Adequate.....	91	89	86	79	76	86	69	76	85	80	82	80
Surplus.....	5	0	5	5	4	3	0	4	1	3	5	14

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

RUSK-G.P.: A good week for harvest. Corn silage is almost done and beans continue. High moisture corn is moving along, but growers are holding off on dry corn to save on drying costs. Corn is standing OK but at some point they need to get going. Finally got a widespread hard frost this weekend, low 20s on Sunday morning. Very late for us here in the northland.

SAWYER-K.S.: Another nearly ideal week for fall harvest and field work. Corn and soybeans drying down nicely as harvest continues.

ASHLAND-C.B.: Nice week, sunny most of the week. Starting to wrap up corn silage harvest. Some grain harvest started, but this is mostly for high moisture corn to be stored in a silo.

CLARK-R.H.: October 16 and Clark County hasn't had a hard killing frost. There has been frost, but not a killing one yet. Corn, soybeans, and hay are all being harvested. Soybean and corn yields are above average. Great week of weather to get fall work done.

FLORENCE-T.B.: A couple very cold nights this week and variable rains through the week. Corn drying down rapidly.

ST CROIX-D.K.: Soybean harvest is nearly complete and many are starting on corn. Excellent yield and moisture dry down.

GREEN LAKE-L.A.: First frost on Friday night. Overall, it's been a nice harvest season.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: 22 degrees in the morning of October 18.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: The harvest season is quickly moving along now, with most of the soybeans harvested. High moisture corn is being taken off, and corn for drying is starting to come in too. The soybeans have been much easier to harvest this year compared to last year. Moisture levels have been low and yields have been higher, so many producers are breathing better about this crop this year. Most, if not all, of the corn intended for silage has been harvested. If it hasn't, it will be soon since the frost that happened this past weekend will really start to dry down the corn this week.

This frost will also affect any standing corn and any soybeans still left in the field. Manure hauling and injecting is picking up now, with many producers starting this annual job before the fall tillage takes place. In some cases, the tillage and injecting are happening at the same time, saving time for the producer. The way the fall is moving along, most of the corn could be off by the end of October and a lot of the fall tillage could be done by that time too. More than likely, by the time the fall gun deer season rolls around, all field work should be done for 2015.

SHEBOYGAN-M.B.: Excellent soybean yields reported this year.

VERNON-K.L.: Very cool and windy week. Dust is flying for those harvesting soybeans. Parts of the county had a killing frost for the first time. Farmers pleased with yields on both corn and beans. The county is dry and in need of rain.

DODGE-R.H.: Soybeans have been harvested at a record pace. Soybean harvest is winding down. Yields have been averaging 60 bushels per acre.

ROCK-C.O.: Soybean harvest just about complete and corn harvest advancing very quickly. Fall applications of fertilizer going on now too.

WALWORTH-N.W.: Soybean harvest made great progress this last week with yields coming in at 55-65 bushels per acre. Some producers are jumping right into the corn after completing their soybeans. Some reporting corn moisture down to 20 percent.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 18, 2015

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. 17	Mar. 1 to Oct. 17 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	62	38	82	28	50	+1	2845	2535	0.05	5.89	+0.86	33.45	+5.35
Green Bay	63	39	80	27	51	+2	2801	2396	0.07	6.41	+2.14	22.62	-1.96
La Crosse	65	41	85	29	53	+1	3396	2868	0.00	2.78	-1.85	25.50	-2.52
Madison	62	40	78	27	51	+0	3062	2825	0.00	5.99	+1.75	28.98	+1.12
Milwaukee	64	45	79	33	54	+1	2771	n.a.	0.00	4.59	-0.04	22.35	-6.30

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

For more 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/>