United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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Issued October 10, 2017 *Media Contact: Greg Bussler*

Rains Slow Fieldwork, Boost Emergence

There were 4.7 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending October 8, 2017, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Widespread rains slowed fieldwork this week, but aided in replenishing soil moisture levels. Reporters commented that recent dry weather has pushed grain moisture levels down, even though the state has not yet experienced a killing frost. The corn silage harvest was racing toward completion, and soybeans were coming off fields in many areas. Winter wheat seeding and spreading manure were going strong as fields were cleared. Wheat continued to emerge, boosted by a needed shot of rain.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 3 percent very short, 18 percent short, 74 percent adequate and 5 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 4 percent very short, 16 percent short, 75 percent adequate and 5 percent surplus.

Ninety-four percent of Wisconsin's **corn** has reached the dented stage or beyond, 4 days behind the 5-year average. Fifty-eight percent was reported mature, 8 days behind the average. Corn harvested for grain was 5 percent complete, 12 days behind the average. The moisture content of corn harvested for grain was reported at 29 percent. Corn acres harvested for silage was reported at 72 percent complete, 5 days behind the average. Corn condition was 69 percent good to excellent, 3 percentage points above last week.

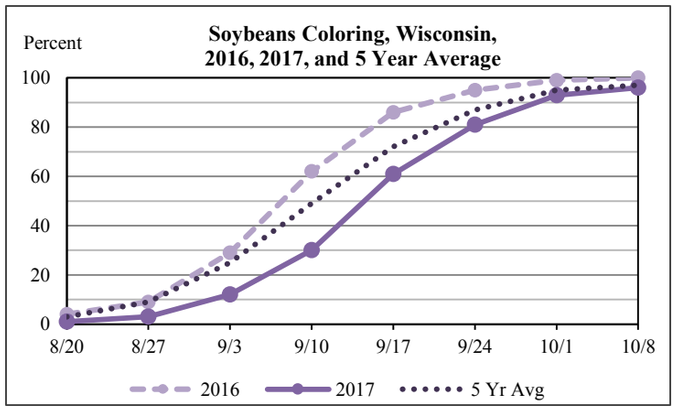
Leaves were turning color on 96 percent of the state's **soybean** acreage. Eighty-six percent of the soybeans were reported dropping leaves, 7 days behind last year, and 1 day behind the average. Soybean harvest was reported at 32 percent complete, 4 days ahead of last year, but 1 day behind the average. Soybean condition was rated 72 percent good to excellent, 1 percentage point below last week.

Sixty-four percent of Wisconsin's **winter wheat** acres were planted, 6 days ahead of last year. Winter wheat emerged was reported at 37 percent complete, 5 days ahead of last year.

Potato harvest was reported at 89 percent complete.

Pasture condition was 54 percent good to excellent, 3 percentage points below last week.

Fall tillage was reported at 15 percent complete, even with last year, but 4 days behind the average.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 8, 2017

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	3	9	19	47	22
Pasture & Range	5	15	26	37	17
Soybeans	2	6	20	48	24

Wisconsin Crop Progress as of October 8, 2017

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			
Corn Dented	89	81	94	94	93	94	98	95	97	94	88	100	95
Corn Mature	39	25	51	54	68	68	50	72	64	58	41	89	74
Corn Harvested for Grain	1	0	1	7	5	6	5	8	5	5	2	12	16
Corn Harvested for Silage	49	47	61	78	70	73	80	91	86	72	56	89	80
Fall Tillage	14	24	15	12	25	17	13	10	13	15	11	15	19
Potatoes Harvested	73	100	97	98	87	n.a.	86	77	n.a.	89	73	81	n.a.
Soybeans Coloring	90	91	95	97	99	96	96	99	95	96	93	100	97
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	74	86	76	85	92	82	83	93	86	86	71	95	88
Soybeans Harvested	5	8	12	11	31	35	35	56	54	32	16	21	35
Winter Wheat Planted	76	92	63	34	56	74	67	49	62	64	53	49	n.a.
Winter Wheat Emerged	59	82	42	24	36	51	33	15	16	37	27	26	n.a.

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions as of October 8, 2017

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	3.3	5.6	5.1	4.0	5.5	4.9	4.3	4.9	5.9	4.7	6.2	4.5
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	8	6	3	8	0
Short	3	15	5	8	18	19	24	29	42	18	25	1
Adequate	86	83	75	88	75	75	68	60	52	74	65	71
Surplus	11	2	20	4	7	5	0	3	0	5	2	28
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	0	0	0	1	0	1	20	2	3	4	4	0
Short	5	9	0	9	11	15	22	31	36	16	22	1
Adequate	86	89	81	87	78	78	58	64	61	75	72	71
Surplus	9	2	19	3	11	6	0	3	0	5	2	28

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

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

BURNETT/WASHBURN-P.H.: Heavy rains limited silage harvest and manure hauling. Waiting for good weather to start soybean harvest.

SAWYER-K.S.: More rains over the weekend will delay harvests and field work on some of the heavier textured soils. Most soybeans have dropped all their leaves and the corn leaves are starting to yellow and dry down, despite not having a killing frost. Some soybeans are starting to be harvested as well as high moisture corn. More should come off this coming week. Grazing livestock are enjoying an extended fall grazing season. Crop yields are looking average to slightly above average

CLARK-R.H.: Corn silage is the crop coming off the field this week as moistures are coming in the range for multiple storage types. Granted, depending on planting date there is a wide range of moisture. Some soybeans are being harvested as some are just turning color and dropping leaves. A couple more weeks without a killing freeze will get this year's corn mature for grain. Drier weather has slowed growth of pasture and if farmers don't have stockpiled forage, stored feed may be required. A lot of pumpkins and apples at the roadside stands.

SHAWANO-B.R.: This was the week to make corn silage as choppers were going in every direction. Good quality of silage but yields are lower than the past few years. Soybean harvest also started but cool damp weather from mid to late week stopped the combines. Early beans only yielding 45-50 bushels per acre overall. Later soybeans look to be better. Alfalfa and pasture still growing well.

BUFFALO/PEPIN-S.M.: Significant rainfall last week throughout the county. Some parts received 2.5-3.5 inches. Ground is saturated on moderate to heavier soils.

ST CROIX-D.K.: Very little soybean harvest with a wet week. Corn silage is complete on many farms.

WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Very wet conditions have returned to this area during the past week. A thunderstorm Tuesday evening dumped 1.6 inches of rain and Saturday's storm dumped 1.8 inches. All harvest and fall tillage is on hold until the soil dries enough to allow work to continue.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: 1.3 inches rain on October 7th.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: Quite a bit of corn silage was chopped in the past couple of weeks, pushing the season along faster than originally expected. The very warm and dry conditions near the end of September matured the silage corn to the point where it had to be harvested to retain the moisture needed to properly ferment it. Yields and quality of the corn silage have been very good, with many producers having more than enough of it to last well into next year. And, since the later part of the summer was so dry, there really wasn't much of any kind of mold or fungus that grew on the stalks. This will make for a more stable feed, with much better quality. The soybean harvest is well underway. Many fields were taken off already, and the moisture is low enough that even after a day of some rain, the harvest can go on. The soybeans can pick up a few points of moisture and still be at a level where there is little if any deduction for that. There have been some acres of winter wheat planted in the stubble of the soybean fields. Not much has emerged yet, but with the rain that fell over the weekend, that should happen soon. Manure hauling and injecting has been starting, with the acres of former corn silage being the primary targets. Not much if any dry corn harvesting has been taking place, although quite a few fields look as if they could be combined. There really hasn't been a hard, killing frost to dry down the corn and the soybeans. It's been Mother Nature who has managed to remove the moisture from these two crops very effectively, making for a drier harvest. Ultimately, this will mean lower drying costs for the corn and beans here in 2017.

VERNON-K.L.: Lots of rain last week - 4 days out of 7 days. Received 2.5 inches in one day alone in parts of Vernon County.

DANE-F.P.: Corn field moisture of grain ranges from 19 percent to 32 percent. Most of the corn silage has been harvested. Manure has been applied on a lot of fields and a lot of field tillage is completed.

ROCK-C.O.: Rain this week did not slow harvest as it is very dry. Soybean moisture levels at local elevator range from 8.5 percent to 13 percent with green beans mixed in.

KENOSHA-R.R.: Started to harvest corn. So far, the yields are running 160-173 bushels per acre on early season corn. Bean yields are 18-30 bushels per acre so far.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 8, 2017

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. 7	Mar. 1 to Oct. 7 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	66	48	75	41	57	+4	2627	2470	2.28	4.55	+0.22	32.65	+5.22
Green Bay	70	50	78	41	60	+7	2639	2334	1.44	2.45	-1.20	27.94	+4.06
La Crosse	71	55	81	46	63	+6	3355	2791	3.77	4.72	+0.76	36.46	+9.05
Madison	72	51	80	43	62	+7	2820	2743	1.68	2.23	-1.36	35.99	+8.73
Milwaukee	74	57	82	48	65	+8	2997	n.a.	0.47	1.32	-2.56	30.64	+2.79

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/

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.