



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Field Office of  
USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service

September 25, 2006

Vol. 06, No. 25

## Light Frost and Rain

Several counties in northern and central Wisconsin reported light frost last week; however, minimal damage was done to crops. Many areas of the state experienced significant rain, delaying the start or continuation of harvest. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.30 inches in Madison to 2.03 inches in Eau Claire. Temperatures ranged from 0 to 6 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures were in the 60s across the state. Lows averaged in the mid-40s to low 50s for the week. Soil moisture conditions were reported at 3 percent very short, 7 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus. Last week there was an average of 4.7 days suitable for fieldwork.

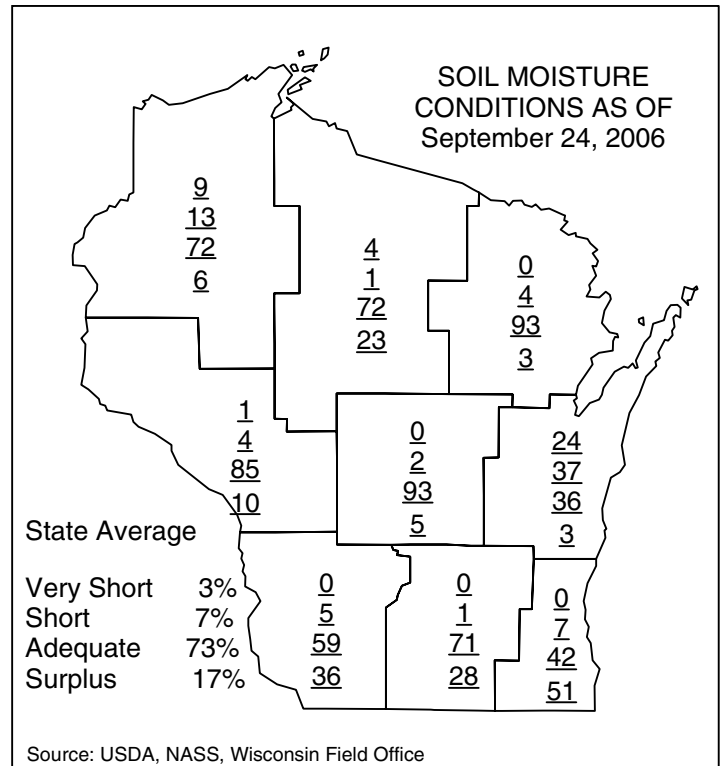
**Corn** in the dent stage was at 92 percent, behind last year's 94 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 78 percent, according to the Wisconsin Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn mature was at 47 percent, compared to last year's 55 percent and the 5-year average of 33 percent. Corn harvested for grain was at 2 percent, lower than last year's 5 percent, but even with the 5-year average. Corn silage harvested was at 67 percent, behind last year's 79 percent, but ahead of the 5-year average of 50 percent. Corn conditions were rated as 6 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 19 percent excellent. Some southern farmers reported difficulty harvesting due to wet conditions.

**Soybean** leaves turning color was at 90 percent, lower than last year's 96 percent, but higher than the 5-year average of 86 percent. Soybeans dropping leaves was at 63 percent, significantly below last year's 83 percent, but higher than the 5-year average of 58 percent. Soybeans harvested was at 2 percent, lower than both last year's 10 percent and the 5-year average of 3 percent. Soybean conditions were rated as 2 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 38 percent good, and 25 percent excellent. The frost seemed to have little effect on soybeans with most leaves already turned.

Fourth cutting **alfalfa** was at 51 percent complete, in ahead of last year's 39 percent and the 5-year average of 34 percent. Most farmers continue to report good yields.

**Pasture** conditions were rated as 5 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 13 percent excellent.

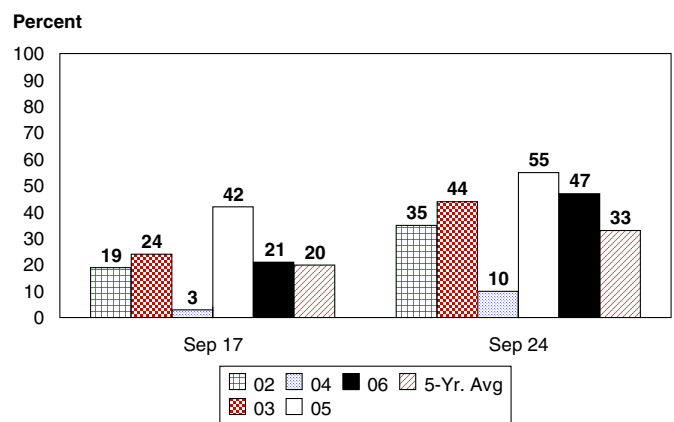
**Pumpkin** harvest is underway, along with **apples, sweet corn, potatoes,** and other vegetables.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 24, 2006					
Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	6	8	27	40	19
Soybeans	2	7	28	38	25
Pasture	5	10	28	44	13

## PERCENTAGE OF CORN MATURE

September 17 & 24, 2002-06 and 5-year Average WISCONSIN



## Wisconsin Crop Progress, September 24, 2006

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 dent	95	93	94	89	94	87	98	91	95	92	94	78
Corn mature	43	33	40	36	42	39	64	54	59	47	55	33
Corn harvested for silage	62	43	52	65	65	80	82	74	64	67	79	50
Corn harvested for grain	0	0	0	2	1	6	2	1	4	2	5	2
Soybeans turning color	99	95	82	91	94	70	97	93	93	90	96	86
Soybeans dropping leaves	77	69	53	54	71	54	82	60	60	63	83	58
Soybeans harvested	5	1	0	1	1	5	0	1	4	2	10	3
Fourth cutting hay	45	50	66	51	55	46	56	56	21	51	39	34

**Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents**

**CHIPPEWA-T.P.:** Frequent rainfall, but two and a half months late. It is impeding soybean harvest and making roads muddy from corn silage harvesting equipment.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Frost on Wednesday and Thursday mornings has put an end to this year's growing season. Corn was not as far along as it could have been, but should still be OK, as stalks probably were not killed. Soybeans had all pretty much started to turn, so yields should not be hurt much. Hay should be done for the season. Third and fourth crop hay have been great. Fall crops are now at the Farmers Market. Lots of late season weeds in the corn and soybeans. Good year for a residue.

**ASHLAND-G.M.:** Corn is very short, but does have some cobs, there will be very little second crop.

**MARATHON-M.K.:** Corn is not drying down very fast; too wet to chop. Lots of hay here. Some of the corn fields are half weeds and half corn. Lots of weeds in the soybeans also.

**OCONTO-K.H.:** Some soybeans have dropped leaves, while a few fields are still green. No combining yet. Most corn silage harvest is completed. Have not seen any combining of corn yet either. Good yield of fourth crop hay. Most farms will have adequate forage supplies this year.

**LACROSSE-S.H.:** Corn silage is continuing to come off, along with some alfalfa. Corn and soybeans continue to dry down, with very little grain harvest yet.

**PIERCE-J.K.:** Some soybeans have been harvested. Have not heard of any yields though. Walked through a corn field this week, and some ears are falling off the stalk when it is bumped. Will probably have to harvest fields like that pretty early. Good tonnage on fourth crop hay.

**WAUSHARA-L.K.:** Corn silage is about all made. A lot of poor corn was chopped. There are no soybeans harvested as of yet. No fourth crop hay this year; the rain came too late.

**WOOD-M.L.:** Now that most corn silage is off, poor weed control from the drought conditions is evident in some fields. Even though recent rain has been plentiful, field conditions are good.

**WINNEBAGO-R.H.:** Corn and soybeans are looking very good. Alfalfa hay is looking very good since the rains. Sweet corn

harvest is about over. A few late-planted fields of sweet corn have not been picked, but look very good, as the rains came quick enough to ripen the corn.

**GRANT-E.B.:** The cool weather has slowed crop maturity. No big hay can be made-all haylage or wrapped bales. Manure being hauled into silage ground.

**LAFAYETTE-M.R.:** Expectations will meet up with reality this week for both corn and soybeans.

**GREEN-M.M.:** Good quality and quantity of fourth crop hay that has been harvested. Corn silage harvest is pretty much complete, and harvest of high moisture corn has already started.

**JEFFERSON-B.K.:** Lots of rain-soils very saturated. Pastures are really green. Corn silage harvest wrapping up. Early soybeans will be ready by October 1. Corn for grain will be high in moisture if we do not see some dry, warm weather soon. Farmers expecting good to excellent yields. Anthracnose very prevalent in a lot of corn fields. Soybeans are lodged, some severely.

**ROCK-C.O.:** Rain has slowed harvest this week, but silage is almost done. Early soybean yields have been excellent. Winter wheat going in after soybeans.

**WASHINGTON-R.B.:** Chopping is going fast for corn silage. Good yields and a lot of grain in silage. Corn is drying down fast. Soybeans are dropping leaves fast; still have a lot of aphids in last-planted fields. Last-planted soybeans did not get treated. Too wet for making dry hay, but made good fourth cutting for haylage. Sweet corn is yielding very good; 7-8 tons.

**WAUKESHA-D.W.:** Soybeans are in a hurry to drop leaves. Corn is dropping moisture. Soybeans will be ready to harvest the first week in October.



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**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 24, 2006**

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 Sept. 23	Mar. 1 to Sept. 23 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	61	44	75	33	52	-6	2872	2375	2.03	2.50	-0.51	21.77
Green Bay	67	47	85	34	57	0	2506	2240	0.54	2.74	0.25	22.83
La Crosse	64	45	76	36	55	-6	3004	2674	0.58	3.26	0.55	25.05
Madison	65	47	82	36	56	-3	2698	2624	0.30	3.37	0.88	30.30
Milwaukee	67	52	83	41	59	-3	2724	n.a.	1.01	3.53	0.92	28.97

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.