



Wisconsin Crop Weather

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

October 2, 2006

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Harvest Underway

The rain let up enough to allow farmers to begin harvest of corn and soybeans in most areas of the state last week. Rainfall totals ranged from 0.04 inches in Milwaukee to 0.61 inches in Eau Claire. Temperatures ranged from 1 to 3 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures were in the high 60s to low 70s across the state. Lows averaged in the high 40s to mid-50s for the week. Soil moisture conditions were reported at 1 percent very short, 7 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 15 percent surplus. Last week there was an average of 4.7 days suitable for fieldwork.

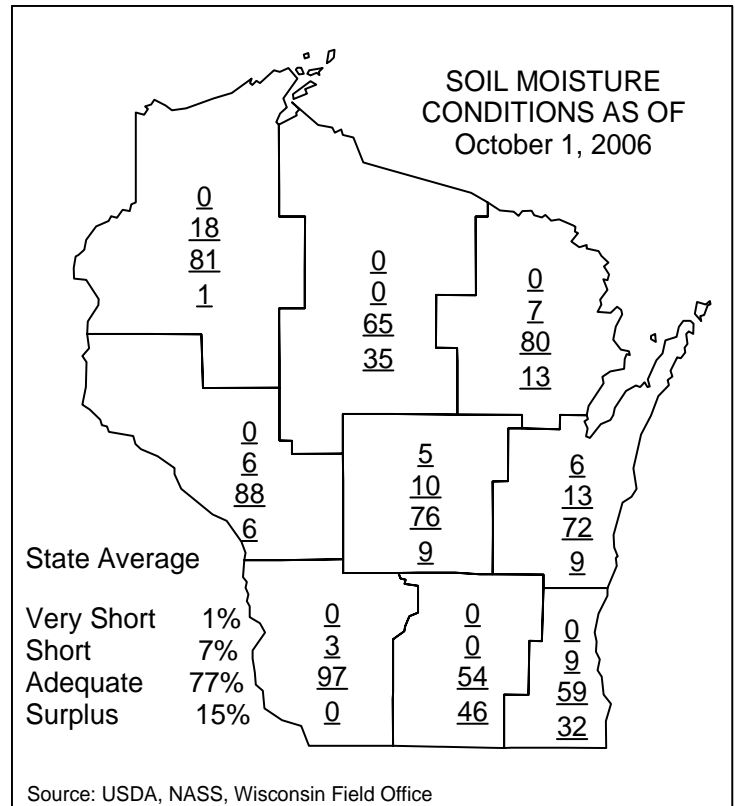
Corn mature was at 69 percent, below last year's 77 percent, but above the 5-year average of 54 percent, according to the Wisconsin Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn harvested for grain was at 6 percent, lower than last year's 10 percent, but higher than the 5-year average of 5 percent. Corn silage harvested was at 87 percent, just behind last year's 88 percent, but well ahead of the 5-year average of 64 percent. Farmers were trying to harvest corn for silage before more rain arrived. Corn conditions were rated as 7 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 20 percent excellent.

Soybean leaves turning color was at 97 percent, lower than last year's 100 percent, but higher than the 5-year average of 95 percent. Soybeans dropping leaves was at 81 percent, compared to last year's 92 percent and the 5-year average of 76 percent. Soybeans harvested was at 9 percent, lower than both last year's 21 percent and the 5-year average of 12 percent. Soybean conditions were rated as 2 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 37 percent good, and 26 percent excellent.

Fourth cutting **alfalfa** was at 64 percent complete, ahead of both last year's 52 percent and the 5-year average of 44 percent.

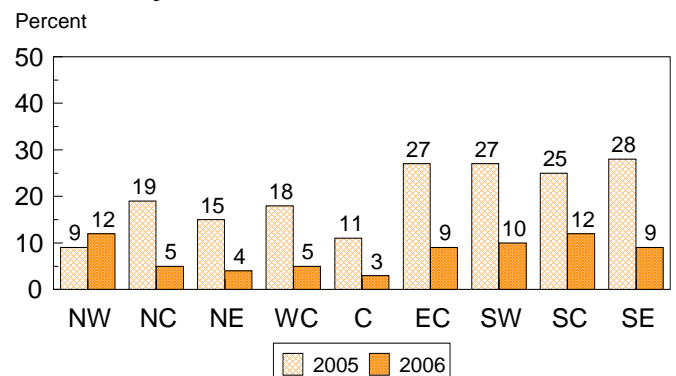
Pasture conditions were rated as 3 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 14 percent excellent.

The **apple** and **pumpkin** crops generally look good, and **winter wheat** is being planted in some areas.



Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	7	11	23	39	20
Soybeans	2	6	29	37	26
Pasture	3	8	33	42	14

Soybean Harvest in Wisconsin By District, Oct. 2, 2005 vs. Oct 1, 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 mature	77	41	50	66	65	58	90	72	85	69	77	54
Corn harvested for silage	88	84	81	83	84	89	97	90	90	87	88	64
Corn harvested for grain	3	0	0	6	5	12	12	2	8	6	10	5
Soybeans dropping leaves	92	89	76	76	74	78	91	73	88	81	92	76
Soybeans harvested	12	5	4	5	3	9	10	12	9	9	21	12
Fourth cutting hay	73	60	72	61	60	54	80	66	40	64	52	44

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-R.C.: Corn silage is of good quality, however tonnage is half of normal. Winter wheat is being planted as corn silage comes off. Soybean harvest is underway, reported yield ranges from 10-35 bushels per acre.

POLK-C.S.: Corn silage harvest is finishing up. Drier weather is needed to allow for harvest of soybeans and corn. Some fall spraying of Round-up is going on. A few growers applied some fertilizer on hayfields.

CLARK-N.S.: Harvest progress is pretty close to normal. Soybean yields have been satisfactory in general.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Corn harvest for silage is winding down with shorter than normal height but good cobs on the stalk. Some soybeans are ready to come off but showers every other day make it hard to combine them. A lot of wheat went in the ground this week and the first planting is starting to emerge.

BUFFALO-R.S.: Corn silage is about done. Some high moisture corn is being combined. Corn moisture is running 30-35 percent. No killing frost here yet. Fields are muddy from frequent rains. Pastures are very good.

MONROE-W.H.: Corn silage yields have been highly variable due to the soil types and weather conditions of the growing season. Some farmers have their rye seeded in the corn silage stubble and manure applications on corn silage stubble have begun as well.

TREMPEALEAU-D.D.: Soybean harvest has started with moisture reported as low as 11.5 percent. Weather prevented progress as only a couple days were dry enough. Corn silage harvest continues on drier fields and high moisture corn is just beginning and should go in full speed this week

PORTAGE-J.W.: Corn for grain harvest is starting. Fall tillage is going on. Winter grains look good.

WAUPACA-D.H.: Corn silage is mostly harvested. It was mainly the poor corn that suffered from the dry weather. Soybeans look good but slow to mature due to cool wet weather. Fourth crop hay probably is better than third crop.

FOND DU LAC-E.A.: Corn for grain silage is short. Soybeans are yielding fair from 35 to 65 bushels per acre.

SHEBOYGAN-T.B.: Silage quality and quantity has been good but spotty, sometimes in the same field. Many growers are weighing 25 to 30 wet tons per acre. High moisture corn is just beginning to be harvested and early reports are in the 145 bushel per acre range. Third and fourth cuttings of alfalfa hay have been poor, but with the tremendous first and second crops no one is too concerned. The last of the sweet corn is being harvested by the canning company. Lots of winter wheat planted last week. Some growers are hoping to plant wheat into soybean fields if they can harvest them in time. Fall tillage is just starting and I would estimate about 5 percent complete.

DANE-D.F.: Initial reports are very promising from good to excellent in corn and soybean yields. Rain free weather is needed to move soybean harvest and winter wheat planting forward.

ROCK-C.H.: Starting to combine soybeans. Some corn is very nice. Fourth crop hay is good.

RACINE-L.F.: Things are looking good but harvest is still being delayed by wet conditions and crop maturing late.

WASHINGTON-R.B.: Started on soybeans with a yield of 45 bushels per acre. Corn silage is almost done. A lot of no-till wheat is going in.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Corn silage is very good both in quality and quantity.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 1, 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. 30	Mar. 1 to Sept. 30 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	69	47	85	33	58	-1	2919	2417	0.61	3.12	-0.63	22.39
Green Bay	69	47	85	34	58	-1	2554	2284	0.55	3.30	0.19	23.39
La Crosse	70	50	84	36	60	-3	3064	2730	0.35	3.63	0.24	25.41
Madison	68	48	82	36	58	-3	2746	2678	0.15	3.72	0.65	30.65
Milwaukee	69	55	84	40	62	-1	2778	n.a.	0.04	3.57	0.27	29.01

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.