



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

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

October 29, 2007

Vol. 07, No. 30

## Combines Rolling Again

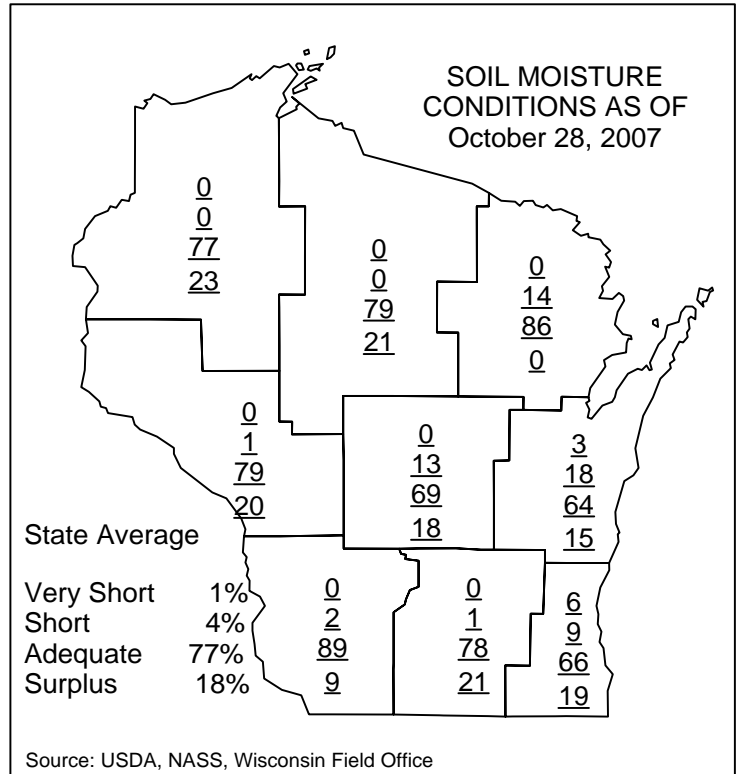
After steady rainfall for two weeks, soils began to dry out this past week and significant progress was made in corn and soybean harvest. Rainfall totals ranged from 0 inches in La Crosse to 0.13 inches in Eau Claire. Soil moisture conditions were reported at 1 percent very short, 4 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus. Temperatures ranged from 0 to 5 degrees above normal. High temperatures reached the low 60s to upper 70s. Low temperatures dipped down to the upper 20s to low 40s. Northern and central areas of the state received a hard frost last week. There was an average of 5.4 days suitable for fieldwork.

**Corn** harvested for grain was reported at 55 percent complete, an increase of 17 percentage points from last week. This is significantly above both last year's 38 percent and the 5-year average of 44 percent complete. Corn condition improved slightly and was rated at 5 percent very poor, 17 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 11 percent excellent. Reports continue to indicate variable yields. However, yields in southern areas seem to be better than expected, considering the dry growing season.

**Soybeans** harvested jumped 18 percentage points to 70 percent complete. This is slightly below last year's 75 percent and 10 percentage points below the 5-year average. Many fields are still drying out from previous rains.

**Pasture** conditions were rated as 2 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. **Hay and roughage supplies** were rated as 14 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus. Conditions were favorable this week for **fall tillage**, which was rated at 30 percent complete. This is slightly above both last year's 25 percent and the 5-year average of 29 percent complete.

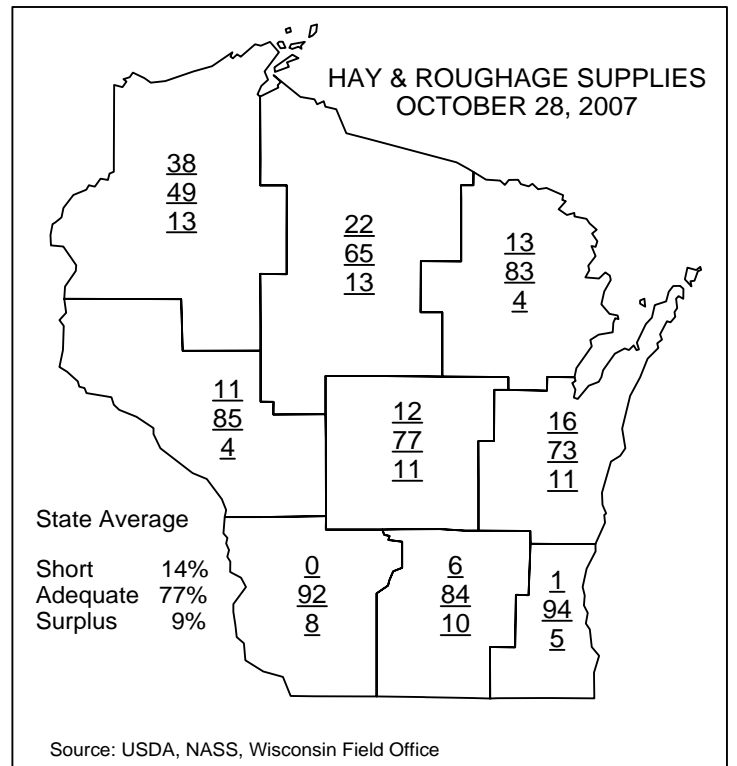
Some **winter wheat** planting continues. **Manure** was applied to fields that were not too wet.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 28, 2007

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	5	17	28	39	11
Pasture	2	10	31	50	7

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



## Wisconsin Crop Progress, October 28, 2007

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 harvested for grain	55	57	68	41	68	65	61	48	54	55	38	44
Soybeans harvested	44	50	75	70	56	83	68	77	68	70	75	80
Fall tillage complete	21	32	28	24	37	51	23	25	33	30	25	29

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

**BARRON-T.J.:** Many farmers in Barron County have discovered that their soybeans are molding in the pod. The mold is a result of delayed harvest due to recent rainy, wet weather. Soybeans that are moldy are being graded lower, which leads to dockage at the elevator when farmers market their soybeans.

**POLK-C.S.:** Corn and soybean harvest has picked up again. Fields are firming up as heavy rains have ceased. Yields are running 50-75 percent of normal.

**MARATHON-M.K.:** When you pay \$200 for seed corn and get five bushels of corn per acre it is bad. There are a lot of soybeans to be cut, but fields are very wet.

**LANGLADE-A.K.:** It is nice to see the moisture replenished in the fall. There was not much soybean harvest going on in the last two weeks. Some soybean yields were between 5-30 bushels per acre. Standing corn is starting to lodge heavily. Corn yields are between 30-130 bushels per acre. Early planted corn and early maturing varieties really suffered on yield this summer. Corn is in the upper teens for moisture.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** Winter wheat is off to a great start. Soybean harvest is winding down with yields at 20-40 bushels per acre generally. Corn has been mostly in the 17-19 percent moisture range this week with excellent field harvest conditions. Good to adequate moisture in the soil for fall tillage.

**PEPIN-H.R.:** Corn harvest is just getting started in our area. Corn is plenty dry to combine, but the fields in many places are too wet to get into. Soybeans are just getting dried up enough to harvest. Hopefully we get a few days without rain. There are a lot of crops to harvest in our area. Frost is predicted this weekend. No hard frost since September. It is too wet for fall tillage.

**PIERCE-J.K.:** I have not talked to anyone that has done any combining that has not been stuck at least once. Corn yields are not as good as the last couple of years, but are still pretty respectable considering how dry it was. Manure pits are being emptied where they are able to be spread on the wet fields.

**PORTAGE-J.W.:** Corn harvest resumes, tough going on low ground with variable yields.

**WAUPACA-D.H.:** Corn and soybean harvest has resumed with more favorable weather this week. Killing frost occurred on Thursday morning. Corn and soybean yields are variable depending on the soil type. Yields are barely average overall.

**FOND DU LAC-R.P.:** Corn yields were 115-120 bushels per acre and moisture between 14-17 percent. Soybean yields were 35-45 bushels per acre and moisture between 12-16 percent. There was some hay harvested on Thursday. Winter wheat is perhaps too tall. Some farmers just planted wheat this past weekend. Lots of winter wheat is already planted. There would have been more planted if the seed was available.

**GRANT-L.F.:** Yields are very good in our area. Only in the fields that are weedy and down are the yields very bad. Most are in the 160-250 bushel per acre range. Some fall tillage is done where cornstalks are taken off. Most cornstalks are used for bedding, some for beef cattle. Winter wheat is sure growing and green. No frost as of yet. Nights are cool, but days are nice and warm. We have plentiful moisture. When fields dry out, there will be lots of combines working night and day. Moisture content in corn and soybeans is fairly low. Soybeans are smaller bean-wise, but corn has nice kernels.

**GREEN-J.T.:** Harvest has progressed this week, but producers are going around wet pockets. Some fields are too wet to harvest. Corn is going down in many fields.

**WASHINGTON-R.B.:** We lost some soybeans with all the rain. Corn is being combined and some is falling down. The ground is being worked up but it is hard due to a lot of compaction. We have had no hard frost as of yet. Wheat planting is still going on.



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

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 28, 2007

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. 27	Mar. 1 to Oct. 27 normal *	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	56	32	63	27	44	0	3129	2580	0.13	9.44	3.79	28.42	-0.28
Green Bay	59	38	74	30	49	5	2996	2437	0.04	7.85	2.92	25.38	0.26
La Crosse	60	37	74	31	48	1	3554	2922	0.00	6.35	1.15	38.23	9.49
Madison	59	40	75	31	50	4	3291	2882	0.08	5.86	0.94	40.46	11.77
Milwaukee	60	47	77	41	53	5	3209	n.a.	0.12	4.90	-0.48	29.32	-0.29

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. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.