



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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

November 5, 2007

Vol. 07, No. 31

Weather Cooperates, Harvest Progress Made

Significant progress was made with corn and soybean harvest for the second week in a row. Temperatures were 3 to 7 degrees above normal, and no rainfall was reported. High temperatures were in the high 60s, and low temperatures were as low as 24 degrees. Soil moisture conditions were reported at 2 percent very short, 4 percent short, 87 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus. There was an average of 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork.

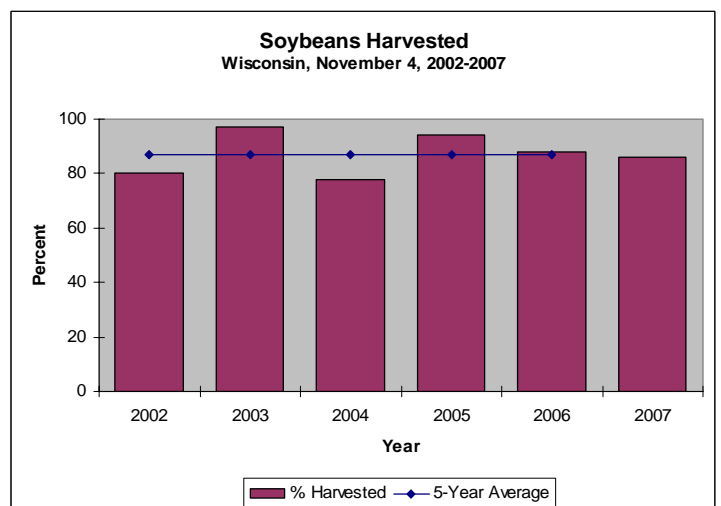
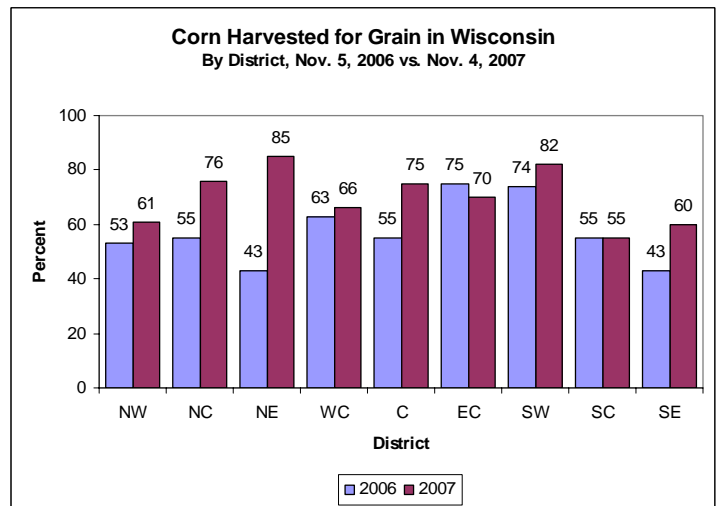
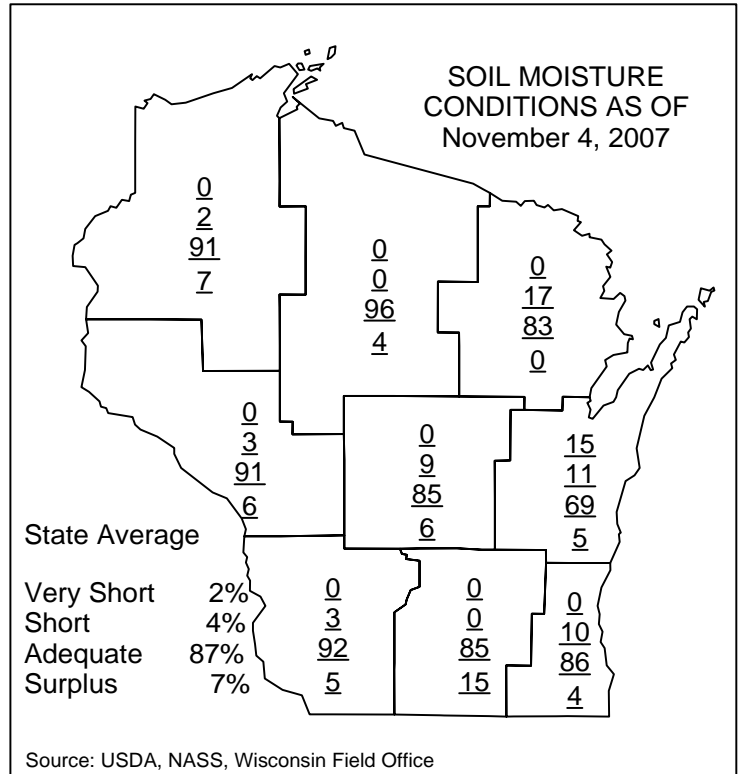
Although many farmers were focusing on soybean harvest, **corn** harvested for grain was reported at 67 percent complete, up 12 percentage points from last week. This is significantly above both last year's 56 percent and the 5-year average of 59 percent complete. Although most reporters indicated that yields were highly variable, dry conditions in the north led to lower yields for many farmers.

Soybeans harvested jumped 16 percentage points to 86 percent complete. This is slightly below both last year's 88 percent and the 5-year average of 87 percent. Moldy soybeans have been reported as being a major problem in northern areas. As with corn, reports of yields were highly variable.

Fall tillage increased to 37 percent complete, slightly above last year's 36, but slightly below the 5-year average of 38 percent. The weather has been optimal for completing fall tillage, however the first priority has been to complete corn and soybean harvest.

Many farmers were busy getting a last cutting of **alfalfa** off the ground. The warm weather this fall has helped the progress of **winter wheat**. There were reports of winter wheat being planted as late as October 31.

Vegetable harvest is complete. **Fruit** plants have gone into dormancy.



Wisconsin Crop Progress, November 4, 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 | 61 | 76 | 85 | 66 | 75 | 70 | 82 | 55 | 60 | 67 | 56 | 59 |
| Soybeans harvested | 74 | 86 | 97 | 74 | 90 | 87 | 89 | 95 | 90 | 86 | 88 | 87 |
| Fall tillage complete | 28 | 50 | 48 | 29 | 44 | 53 | 28 | 29 | 37 | 37 | 36 | 38 |

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BARRON-R.C.: Fields have dried enough to allow combines to run. Reports of moldy soybeans are common; yields vary from 20-45 bushels per acre. Corn has dried down nicely, 15.5-19 percent moisture with yields from 60-160 bushels per acre being reported. Quality of corn is excellent.

POLK-R.S.: Corn yields have been highly variable. There have been concerns about mold in soybeans, with a few instances of prices being docked at the elevator. Fall tillage has started, most notably livestock operators are applying manure.

SHAWANO-T.A.: Winter wheat progress is strong. Most of the fieldwork has caught up to normal following a week of hard work.

DUNN-H.A.: Much of the soybean crop is moldy. Corn crop is below average.

ST. CROIX-L.M.: Corn and soybean yields are generally poor due to drought and storm damage. Irrigated corn has done well.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Finished soybean harvest. Corn harvest and tillage is going at a slower pace. Some manure hauling is going on.

WAUSHARA-A.S.: My own crops are harvested. Soybeans were better than I once thought possible-30 bushels per acre. Corn ranged from 25-85 bushels per acre with most fields in the 65 bushel per acre range. It has been too dry for so long, but still better than two years ago.

SHEBOYGAN-T.B.: Corn and soybeans yielded very well in our area. Corn yields consistently reported in the 150 bushel per acre range with scattered reports of 200+ bushels. Many soybean growers reported yields around 55 bushels per acre. Winter wheat fields are greening-up and seem to be off to a very good start. Fall tillage is progressing as soon as fields are harvested.

GRANT-L.F.: Corn and soybeans are being harvested at a record clip. Yields are very good. There is still a lot of corn to be harvested. Soybeans were harvested this week with high yields. Soybeans were clean and running between 60-70 bushels per acre. It looked like running gold coming out of the combine. A little fall plowing was done on harvested acres. Winter wheat looks good-nice and green. We got a white frost Saturday and Sunday night but not a real hard frost.

COLUMBIA-J.J.: Soybean harvest is done except for a couple of very low fields where the soybeans will be lost to mold and rotting plants. Lots of corn left to harvest. For many, many years there had been no winter wheat planted in this township. This fall for the first time I can report, the winter wheat looks great as there have been several large acreages of winter wheat planted here.

DODGE-G.R.: Dry, cool weather allowed rapid harvest progress during the week. Soybean fields have all come off and corn harvest is in progress. Most corn fields are now in the teens for moisture. Broken and lodged stalks are the issue this year, forcing many combines to drive slowly. Fourth crop alfalfa is now being cut and chopped. Some small square and big round bales are being made.

WAUKESHA-D.W.: This was a good week for harvesting. We are done with soybeans. Soybean yields were around 50 bushels per acre. Corn on high ground was around 135 bushels per acre and corn on lower ground was around 160 bushels per acre.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Winter wheat looks good. Some corn is good and some is poor.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 5, 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 Nov. 3 | Mar. 1 to Nov. 3 normal * | Last week | Since Sept. 1 | Sept. 1 dep. from normal * | Year to date | Year dep. from normal * |
| Eau Claire | 58 | 34 | 69 | 24 | 46 | 6 | 3160 | 2580 | 0.0 | 9.45 | 3.28 | 28.44 | -0.87 |
| Green Bay | 57 | 35 | 67 | 29 | 46 | 5 | 3021 | 2439 | 0.0 | 7.86 | 2.37 | 25.38 | -0.25 |
| La Crosse | 61 | 38 | 69 | 30 | 50 | 7 | 3597 | 2929 | 0.0 | 6.37 | 0.58 | 38.25 | 9.06 |
| Madison | 58 | 36 | 68 | 29 | 47 | 4 | 3320 | 2891 | 0.0 | 5.86 | 0.39 | 40.46 | 11.36 |
| Milwaukee | 58 | 38 | 67 | 31 | 48 | 3 | 3239 | n.a. | 0.0 | 4.90 | -1.14 | 29.31 | -0.90 |

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.