



Wisconsin Crop Progress

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

November 30, 2009

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Corn Harvest Progressed Slowly

A lot of corn is still standing for this time of year delaying farmers from wrapping up fall fieldwork. Corn harvest continued slowly the past week as moisture levels were too high for many farmers across the state. However, high moisture corn was still being harvested.

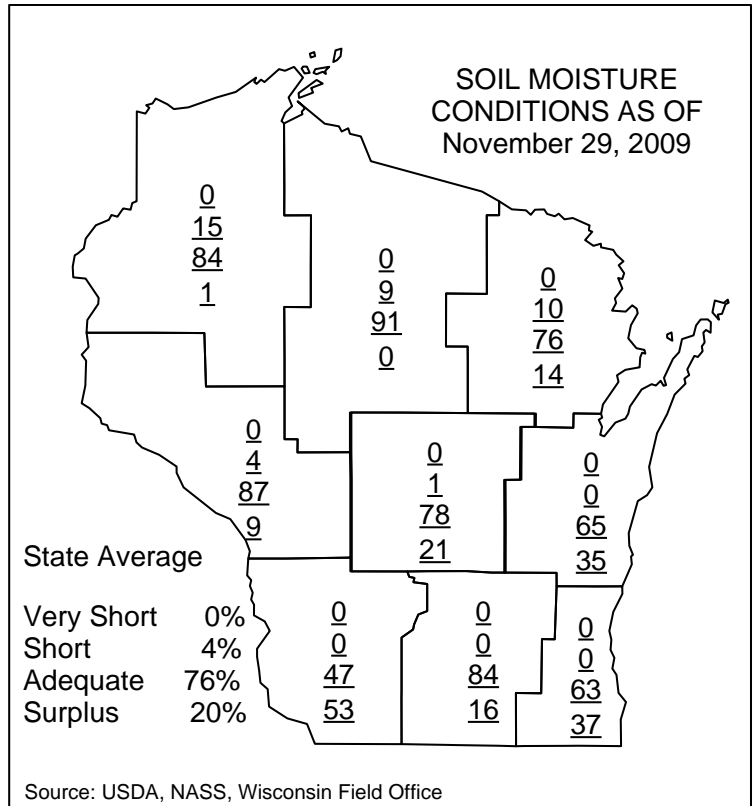
Across the reporting stations, precipitation ranged from 0.42 inches in LaCrosse to 1.36 inches in Milwaukee. Average temperatures were 7 to 11 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 46 to 48 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 32 to 35 degrees. On average, there were 4.1 days suitable for fieldwork. If you are interested in further 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/>

Corn harvested for grain was reported at 67 percent complete, an increase of 8 percentage points from the previous week. Corn harvest progressed slowly as corn did not dry down. Some growers were harvesting the corn despite the high moisture levels and taking it to the dryers. Reported yields varied from poor to excellent throughout the state.

Winter wheat is nearing completion with 89 percent reported emerged. Winter wheat continued to emerge as the warmer soil temps allowed seeds to germinate.

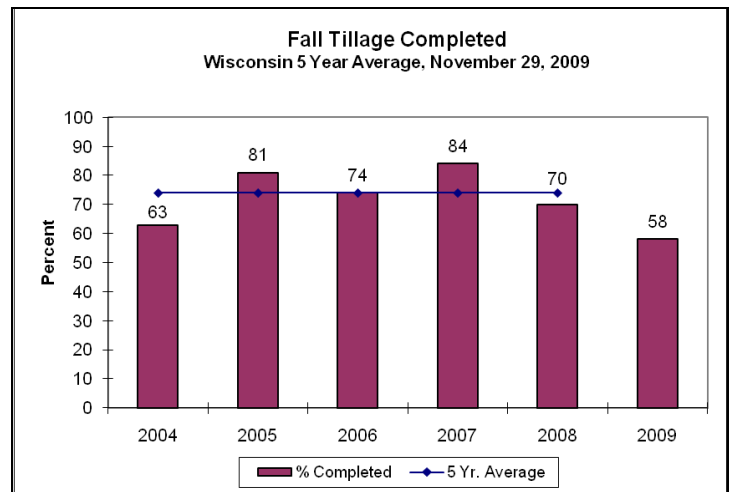
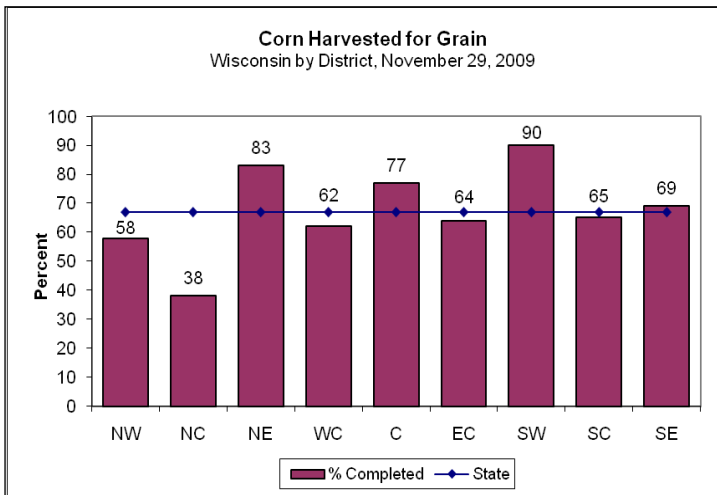
Fall tillage was reported at 58 percent complete, an increase of 12 percentage points from the previous week. Across some parts of the state, reports stated field conditions were good for manure hauling and fall tillage.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of November 29, 2009

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Winter Wheat	5	4	31	52	8
Pasture	10	17	52	19	2

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.



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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	58	38	83	62	77	64	90	65	69	67	97	95
Fall tillage completed	46	80	67	48	62	70	62	53	66	58	70	74

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

BURNETT-J.D.: Most good corn fields are harvested but some with poor yields will not be harvested.

CHIPPEWA-R.M.: It rained all day on Wednesday. High moisture corn is in the silo. No drying yet of corn on our farm but others have started.

CLARK-R.H.: Corn harvest is slow. High moisture corn is still being harvested. As we get later many producers are taking corn off even with higher moisture to haul manure and finish fall tillage. Some corn will stand in the field for a while yet as moisture is higher than desired for harvest. Producers are trying to wrap up fall fieldwork.

SHAWANO-T.B.: Corn harvest is progressing very slowly as growers look at the prospects of high drying costs with a crop that does not want to dry down. Field conditions are good for manure hauling, field tillage and corn harvest. Most of the fall tillage is complete.

DUNN-S.S.: Corn harvest is in full swing. The moisture is still a problem. I have seen lots of corn drying going on. Yields in most cases are above what farmers had hoped for. Some tillage and manure hauling is going on. Baling of corn stalks and soybean harvest is in full swing.

PEPIN-H.R.: Corn is coming off but only where there is a lot of acres. Corn still needs lots of drying. Corn may stay in the fields with the rain and sleet. Fields are also getting soft. Most things are at a standstill.

ST. CROIX-L.M.: Corn harvest continues. Dryers are running around the clock with excellent yields.

PORTAGE-J.W.: Corn harvest is going slowly; waiting for corn to dry. Manure hauling and tillage were ongoing. Deer harvest below average by 25%; wolves have been seen quite frequently.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: Weather has been good and most farmers are catching up on harvest and fieldwork

CALUMET-B.L.: Corn harvest is slow. Moistures are staying high and many fields are starting to break down. Producers are deciding to harvest and deal with the moisture as the field losses could mount if we get a big turn in the weather. It was a good year to plant winter wheat late as the soil temperatures stayed very high, and the seeds germinated later this year than in many of the recent past.

SHEBOYGAN-E.P.: Some corn is still standing, but the number of acres has not gone down. Both moldboard and chisel plowing are completed where there was no corn planted.

SAUK J.J.: Soybeans are done. There is still lots of corn to harvest; moisture level still mostly in the 20-30 percent range. Most fields that are left to harvest are too muddy for harvest equipment. Some manure hauling went on before these last rains.

COLUMBIA-J.B.: Corn harvest has been slow and steady. Corn is still plenty wet. Slow drying times have allowed for fall tillage to be completed as soon as the field is harvested.

DANE-J.M.: Corn is going slowly with 22-30 percent moisture and mold. Some is being rejected due to moisture and mold problems at the delivery point; some of it is really bad. A lot of wheat is slow in emerging. I believe spring will be the answer to how it looks when it starts growing again. Corn that was planted after one cutting of hay and rye is the worst. Corn this year will be interesting to see if it can be used for feed.

KENOSHA R.R.: First there was 1.5 inches of rain then there was snow. Trying to combine or plow is just a mission impossible. It does not matter what corn brand or if it is from 90-110 degree days, all corn is high moisture corn. Testing dryers are in many cases breaking down. We are lucky natural gas prices are lower than a couple years ago.



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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 November 29, 2009

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	March 1 to Nov. 28	March 1 to Nov. 28 normal*	Last week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	46	32	56	21	39	11	2505	2599	0.51	5.62	-2.18	22.64	-8.37
Green Bay	46	34	56	26	40	9	2313	2456	0.86	7.56	0.15	25.19	-2.49
La Crosse	47	35	55	24	41	9	2839	2953	0.42	7.27	-0.22	27.03	-4.03
Madison	47	33	58	26	40	8	2643	2926	1.10	9.82	2.44	35.17	4.05
Milwaukee	48	35	56	29	42	7	2656	n.a.	1.36	8.80	0.58	33.06	0.65