



Wisconsin Crop Progress

August 30, 2010

Vol. 10, No. 21

Dry Week Allows Many to Catch Up On Field Work

The past week saw multiple days of sunshine and dry weather. With the dry weather, harvest was in full gear and many growers were able to catch up on field work. Corn for silage was reported as being harvested and growers wrapped up small grain harvest. Crops were reported as looking excellent, however, weeds continued to be a problem in many fields.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week ranged from 1 to 2 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 79 to 83 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 57 to 62 degrees. Eau Claire had 0.02 inches of rainfall, while all other stations reported no precipitation for the week. There were 6.6 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 continued to be well ahead of normal with corn in the dough stage reported at 85 percent complete, 15 percentage points above the five-year average. Corn in the dent stage was reported at 60 percent complete and corn mature was reported at 7 percent complete. Some growers harvested corn for silage over the past week, with 7 percent reported complete across the state. Corn silage harvest was reported as being slowed by wet fields in Ashland County. Incidents of corn tipping at the base were reported in Calumet County, and corn is showing leaf diseases in Chippewa County.

Soybeans setting pods was reported at 96 percent complete, and 10 percent of soybean leaves were turning color. Around the state, soybeans were just starting to drop leaves, as 1 percent of soybean leaves were reported having dropped. A few reports indicated white mold and sudden death syndrome were problems in soybean fields, but overall, soybeans were reported as looking good to excellent. Some reports indicated soybean plants showing stress from the excess moisture received earlier this season.

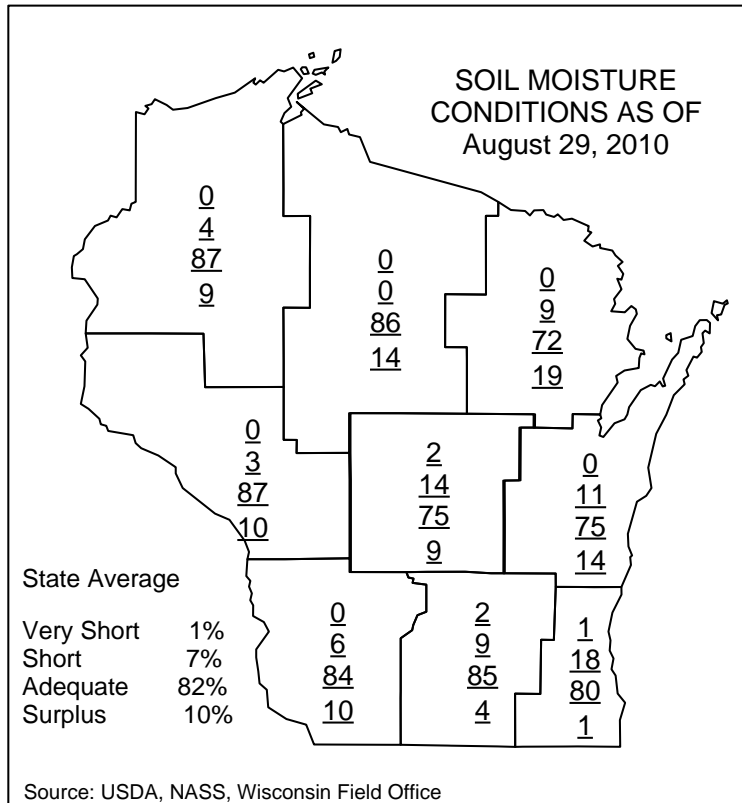
Oats harvested for grain continued this past week, with 94 percent reported complete. It was reported that previous lodging of oats slowed harvest in Marathon County.

The dry conditions over the past week allowed many to make dry hay. Third cutting **hay** was reported at 80 percent complete, an increase of 18 percentage points from the previous week. Fourth cutting hay also continued, with 19 percent reported complete across the state. Excellent quality hay was reported in Chippewa County.

Apple crop was reported as ready for harvest in Washburn County, but the crop will be short due to frosts earlier in the season.

Grape yields were reported as low in Washburn County due to many cold nights earlier in the season.

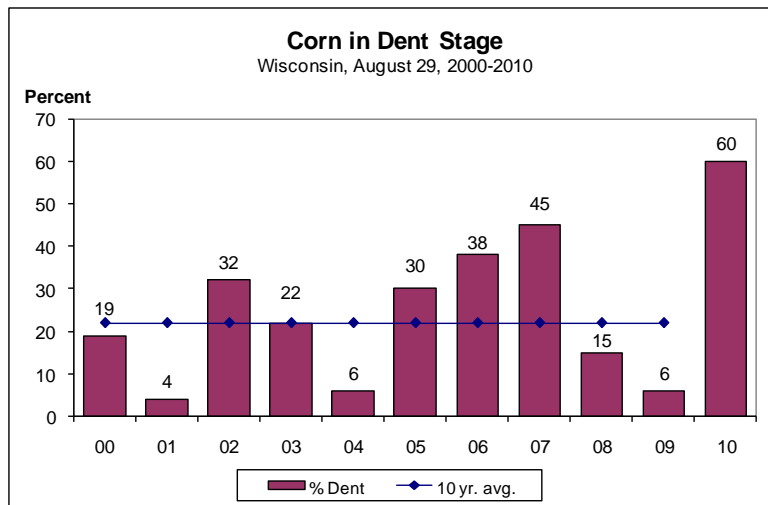
Onion harvest was beginning in Oconto County.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of August 29, 2010

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	1	4	13	40	42
Soybean	1	2	13	45	39
Pasture	1	2	14	59	24

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 week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Corn in dough stage	80	79	85	88	95	74	84	89	93	85	76	55	70
Corn in dent stage	40	64	54	65	67	46	64	65	74	60	34	6	27
Corn mature	6	1	9	3	6	3	2	16	11	7	1	n.a.	1
Corn silage harvested	2	3	3	4	16	4	13	7	18	7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Soybeans setting pods	90	95	83	99	100	93	97	98	98	96	91	90	96
Soybean leaves turned	4	5	9	11	14	11	11	10	13	10	3	1	12
Oats harvested	89	79	94	99	97	94	100	100	100	94	86	92	97
Third cutting hay	70	66	76	83	73	84	82	91	88	80	62	71	73
Fourth cutting hay	9	11	14	25	13	22	12	35	21	19	6	6	7

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

BARRON-D.B.: This was the best week of hay harvesting all summer. Corn and beans look excellent. A few farmers are able to make silage.

WASHBURN-R.H.: We are still in a drought. We get some rain showers, but it does not add up. Corn that is growing on lighter soils is the best in years. Third crop hay is good, yields are real good. Apple crop is short due to mother's day frost. Grapes have low yields due to many cold nights.

ASHLAND-C.B.: Some poor looking soybean fields due to excessive moisture. Corn silage harvest impeded by wet field conditions.

TAYLOR-D.E.: Dry weather for a change enabled everyone to get small grains harvested, straw baled and third crop hay to be harvested for dry hay. Corn is starting to dry down in some areas and soybeans are starting to turn. Soybeans have many pods with mostly 3 beans to a pod.

FLORENCE-T.B.: Third crop hay looks excellent but it is getting too late in the season for harvest. Some crop was harvested recently and the yield was good for being this far north and given the fact that first crop harvest started so late this year. Pastures are doing well for this time of season. Getting a lot of moisture with the morning dew and warm nights.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Corn silage is just around the corner. Some soybeans have white mold, but overall the crop is good. Potato vines have been sprayed and killed off and harvest will begin shortly.

DUNN-J.R.: With all the rain from two weeks ago, and all the flooding, crops still look good and people are able to get in hay fields without any rutting. Soybeans look good with many reporting white mold issues. Southern part of the county will be chopping corn silage next week while mid to northern county will probably start in the next two weeks.

JACKSON-J.D.: Seems that there is some corn sprouting on the cob, this summer's excess moisture is definitely impacting quality.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: We have found that corn is falling off the stalk. We chopped probably 8 rows and of the 8 rows that are 300 ft long we found two five gallon pails. They seem to be drying up and falling off. Otherwise the pastures look good, even the hay coming back for fourth cutting is looking good.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: East side of the county with clay soil had surface water surplus that will probably affect yields during harvest. The west side of the county, with sandy soil,

had issues with nitrogen draining out of the field. Farmers may be surprised and not get the yields they are expecting when they get into the field.

BROWN-B.S.: Second and third cut hay quality is actually better than expected with all the rain in our area.

CALUMET-B.L.: Several acres of corn silage for bunkers have come off in the southern portion of the county. We are just starting to dent in our late-planted corn. Soybeans have really turned color the last 4-5 days. Several aggressive managers are starting to cut 4th cutting alfalfa with hopes of a 5th cutting later this fall. At our corn silage dry down event Tuesday there were some producers talking about corn tipping over right at the root or base. We will watch closely to see if more incidences of lodging and tipping do occur. Lot of discussion about ordering your wheat seed early as there is considerable interest in winter wheat this year and with the projected early silage harvest and soybean harvest this may well materialize.

IOWA-K.M.: Many farmers finishing third crop hay while a few are making fourth crop. Some producers have been cutting corn for silage. Crops are looking good.

GREEN-M.M.: A few farmers started corn silage harvest this week. Many are working on fourth cutting hay which has excellent yields. Forage supplies are good this year due to wet and warm summer weather. Some Sudden Death Syndrome showing up in soybeans and a few fields have started turning leaf color.

WAUKESHA-C.W.: Corn silage harvest started this week, earliest on record I can remember. Third crop hay very good. Should be a bumper fall soybean and corn harvest if conditions are right.



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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 August 29, 2010

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 Aug. 28	Mar. 1 to Aug. 28 normal*	Last Week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	83	57	88	46	70	2	2541	2058	0.02	16.22	3.94	22.49	-0.22
Green Bay	80	57	84	48	68	2	2395	1919	0.00	18.03	7.85	25.67	5.93
La Crosse	83	61	89	51	72	2	2826	2304	0.00	19.79	7.73	28.30	5.30
Madison	81	57	84	48	69	1	2666	2240	0.00	19.71	7.91	29.76	6.51
Milwaukee	79	62	86	56	71	2	2622	n.a.	0.00	19.28	8.63	28.29	4.72

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.