



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

December 2010

## REVIEW OF THE 2010 CROP YEAR

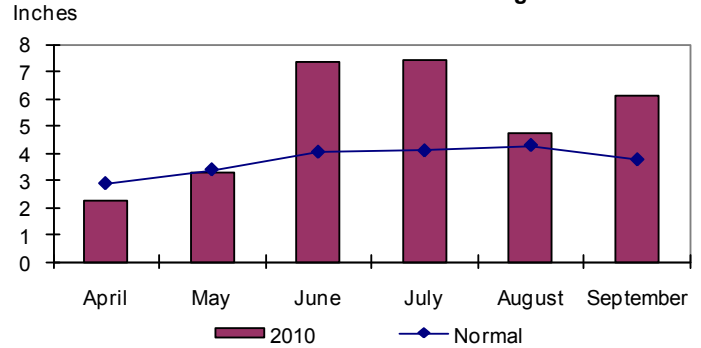
### 2010 – An Early Start and Ideal Harvest Conditions

The 2010 growing season started early with above average temperatures in April. The warm start aided spring planting and other fieldwork. The month of May began slightly colder than normal and brought frost and snow to the northern and west central parts of the state over Mother’s Day weekend. Although planting and fieldwork continued, the cold temperatures hampered crop emergence and was detrimental to much of the fruit crop. June and July brought average temperatures and heavy rainfall which left many farmers with flooded fields. Crops growing on lighter, higher soils looked excellent, while crops growing on heavier, lower soils were lodged and uneven due to the stress of excess moisture. August brought above average temperatures and rainfall leaving the soil highly saturated across the state. Soil moisture conditions were rated at 99 percent adequate to surplus by August 15. Storms in mid-August brought flooding to the northeast part of the state and wind damage to various parts of the state. Colder temperatures and rainfall in September slowed harvest, but October brought multiple weeks of dry, sunny weather which allowed much of the state to wrap up harvest by the end of the month.

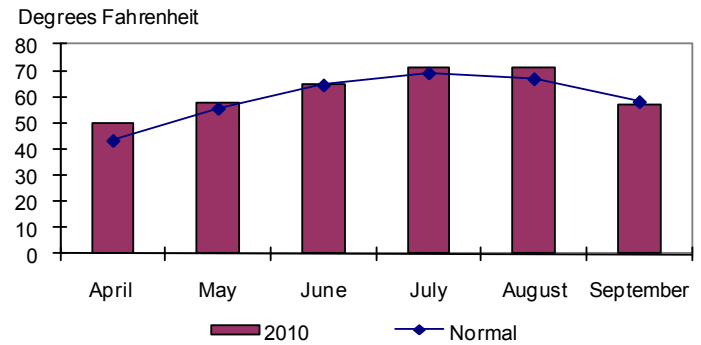
Statewide temperatures from June to September were 1.6 degrees above normal in 2010, reversing the trend from 2009. April through August had above normal temperatures with April averaging 6.6 degrees above normal. September averaged 1.0 degree below normal.

Precipitation and soil moisture varied greatly across the state with total precipitation for April through September at 31.05 inches. This was 13.93 inches above the total for 2009 and 8.72 inches above normal. Total precipitation in the northern third of the state was 7.22 inches above normal for April through September, the central third of the state was 9.62 inches above normal, and the southern third of the state was 9.05 inches above normal precipitation. Statewide, April and May were slightly below normal for total precipitation, but June through September were above normal.

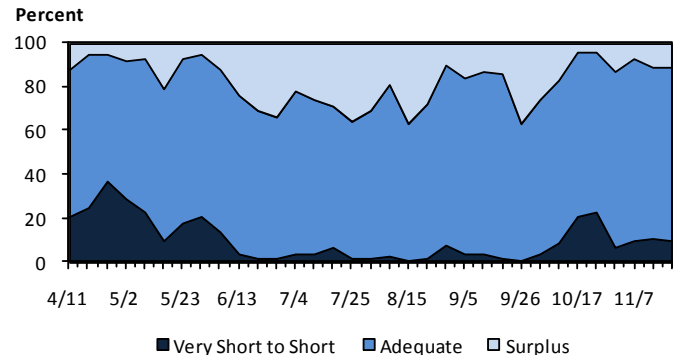
Monthly Rainfall  
2010 Wisconsin State Average



Monthly Temperature  
2010 Wisconsin State Average



Soil Moisture Ratings  
2010 Wisconsin State Average



**MONTHLY TEMPERATURES: 2010 GROWING SEASON AND NORMAL\***

District	April 1/		May 1/		June 1/		July 1/		August 1/		September 1/	
	2010	Normal	2010	Normal	2010	Normal	2010	Normal	2010	Normal	2010	Normal
	Degrees Fahrenheit											
NW	49.4	41.7	56.1	54.4	63.2	63.1	70.6	68.1	70.2	65.9	55.1	56.6
NC	47.3	40.4	55.7	53.2	62.0	61.8	68.9	66.4	68.3	64.2	53.5	55.3
NE	47.3	41.3	56.9	53.6	63.2	62.5	69.6	67.0	69.4	64.8	54.6	56.0
WC	52.0	45.2	58.7	57.4	66.8	66.4	72.9	70.8	73.1	68.3	58.6	59.3
C	51.1	44.5	59.2	56.7	66.7	65.8	72.5	70.2	71.9	67.7	58.2	59.0
EC	48.3	42.8	57.7	54.6	65.4	64.1	71.9	69.5	71.7	67.9	58.5	59.8
SW	52.8	46.1	59.4	57.9	68.2	67.2	73.7	71.4	73.2	69.0	60.8	60.5
SC	52.0	45.8	60.5	57.8	68.7	67.2	74.2	71.3	73.1	68.9	60.9	60.6
SE	50.3	45.0	58.6	56.3	67.6	66.0	73.7	71.2	72.7	69.4	61.0	61.4
STATE	49.8	43.2	57.7	55.5	65.1	64.5	71.5	69.1	71.1	66.9	57.1	58.1

1/Preliminary estimates, 2010. \*Normal is defined as the 30-year average for the years 1971-2000. Source: State Climatologist

**MONTHLY RAINFALL: 2010 GROWING SEASON AND NORMAL\***

District	April 1/		May 1/		June 1/		July 1/		August 1/		September 1/	
	2010	Normal	2010	Normal	2010	Normal	2010	Normal	2010	Normal	2010	Normal
	Inches											
NW	1.26	2.39	3.10	3.29	6.42	4.19	6.00	4.29	6.74	4.44	5.65	3.89
NC	0.97	2.40	2.72	3.31	7.90	4.01	6.63	4.06	5.49	4.36	8.19	4.03
NE	1.23	2.65	2.37	3.29	6.89	3.69	6.94	3.70	2.33	3.81	6.38	3.74
WC	2.10	3.05	3.17	3.69	7.72	4.24	6.58	4.45	6.12	4.54	8.61	3.82
C	2.61	3.02	3.81	3.52	6.69	3.88	9.71	4.13	4.10	4.22	6.16	3.72
EC	3.48	2.81	3.00	2.95	6.41	3.51	7.51	3.38	2.58	3.86	4.72	3.42
SW	3.69	3.55	4.66	3.60	8.69	4.35	8.98	4.33	5.34	4.46	4.77	3.42
SC	4.02	3.47	4.10	3.40	8.26	4.19	8.64	4.07	3.35	4.24	3.20	3.51
SE	3.71	3.48	3.87	3.13	6.99	3.76	8.86	3.82	1.88	4.22	2.62	3.48
STATE	2.22	2.86	3.30	3.37	7.33	4.02	7.43	4.07	4.69	4.27	6.08	3.74

1/Preliminary estimates, 2010. \*Normal is defined as the 30-year average for the years 1971-2000. Source: State Climatologist

**COMPARATIVE TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA**

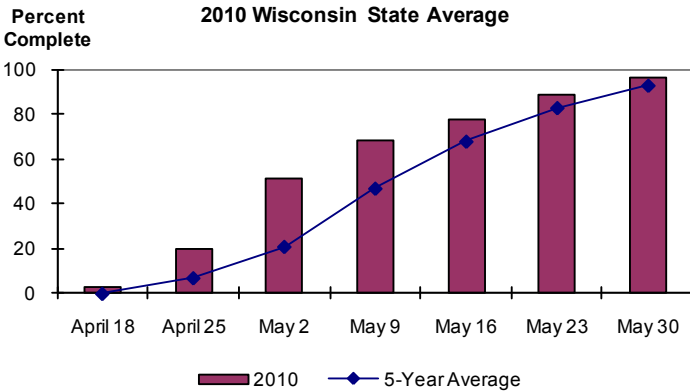
District	Average Temperature						Total Precipitation					
	June - September						April - September					
	Normal*	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 1/	Normal*	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 1/
	Degrees Fahrenheit						Inches					
NW	63.4	64.6	65.0	63.5	63.0	64.8	22.49	15.91	18.55	20.98	12.67	29.17
NC	61.9	63.3	64.1	62.4	60.4	63.2	22.17	18.60	17.17	18.32	15.78	31.90
NE	62.6	63.5	64.9	63.3	61.7	64.2	20.88	20.84	14.58	18.29	15.85	26.14
WC	66.2	66.9	67.8	66.3	64.8	67.9	23.79	21.61	25.48	24.07	19.31	34.30
C	65.7	66.1	67.0	65.7	64.6	67.3	22.49	19.77	21.83	24.80	17.55	33.08
EC	65.3	66.1	66.9	65.8	64.1	66.9	19.93	18.46	16.81	21.68	16.73	27.70
SW	67.0	67.3	68.3	67.1	65.7	69.0	23.71	25.62	33.39	31.41	20.49	36.13
SC	67.0	67.4	68.6	67.5	65.8	69.2	22.88	26.62	28.78	30.47	21.64	31.57
SE	67.0	67.3	68.2	67.1	64.9	68.8	21.89	22.90	24.99	27.52	19.92	27.93
STATE	64.7	65.4	66.3	64.9	63.4	66.2	22.33	20.46	21.58	23.19	17.12	31.05

1/Preliminary estimates, 2010. \*Normal is defined as the 30-year average for the years 1971-2000. Source: State Climatologist

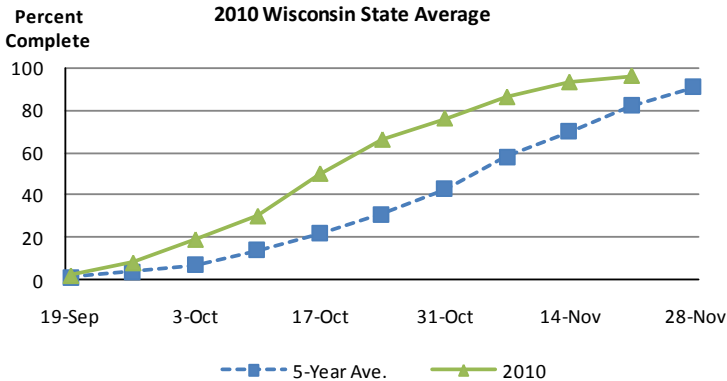
**CORN**

Corn planting was in full swing by the end of April, and by May 30, corn planting was reported at 96 percent complete with emergence at 75 percent. The warmer temperatures throughout the beginning of June aided progress, but moisture was still needed. By the end of June, a high number of growing degree days and abundant rainfall aided corn development. The above normal rainfall throughout June and July leached some of the nitrogen out of the soil and left some fields short and uneven. The harvest of corn for silage began for some growers by the end of August, well ahead of last year and the five-year average. Corn harvested for grain was well underway by the end of September, ahead of the five-year average, and harvest remained ahead for the rest of the season. October brought multiple weeks of dry weather which allowed harvest to progress rapidly. By October 31, corn harvested for grain was 76 percent complete, 64 percentage points above 2009 and 33 percentage points above the five-year average. Corn harvest continued in November, however, storage space at local elevators was an issue. Many elevators built temporary storage facilities to hold the crop. November wrapped up corn harvest for many with reports of average to excellent yields.

**Corn Planted**  
2010 Wisconsin State Average



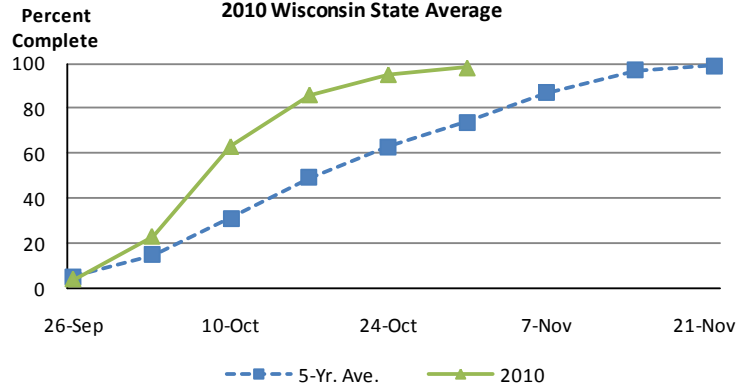
**Corn Harvested For Grain**  
2010 Wisconsin State Average




**SOYBEANS**

Soybean planting got underway early due to above average temperatures in April. By May 2, soybeans planted were 8 percent complete, 5 percentage points above the five-year average. Soybean planting remained above the average throughout May; however, the May frost resulted in some fields being replanted. Overall, emergence progressed well through June, but the abundant moisture also aided the growth of weeds. Soybean fields were reported as extremely weedy throughout July as the heavy rainfall continued to limit growers from making herbicide applications. Low-lying areas were heavily stressed by the end of July from standing water in soybean fields. By the end of August, white mold and some spotty outbreaks of sudden death syndrome appeared in soybean fields around the state. Despite this, overall, soybeans were looking good. Excellent harvesting conditions in October helped growers harvest soybeans at a record pace. By October 24, 95 percent of the crop was reported harvested, 32 percentage points above the five-year average. Good to excellent yields were reported across the state.

**Soybeans Harvested**  
2010 Wisconsin State Average





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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.

**SMALL GRAINS**

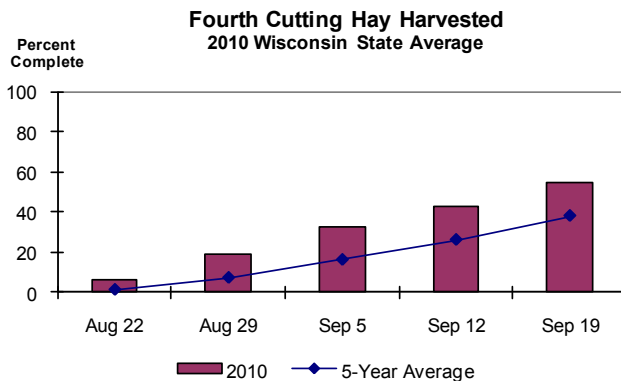
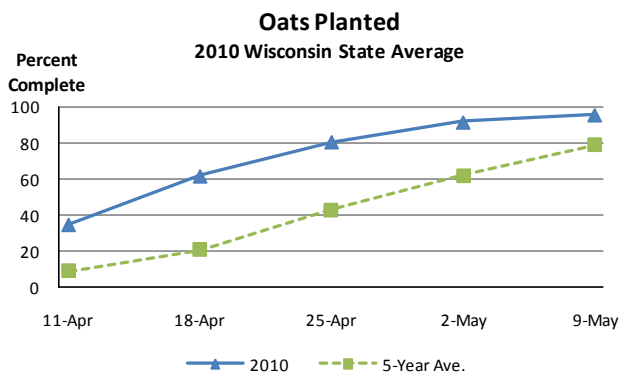
Warmer spring temperatures allowed planting of oats to get underway early, and by April 18, growers reported 62 percent of oats were planted, 26 percentage points above the five-year average. By May 9, planting was 96 percent complete with 72 percent emerged. This was above 2009's average of 87 percent complete and 55 percent emerged. By June 6, oat condition was reported as 87 percent Good to Excellent. The heavy rain in June and July allowed for abundant weed growth and caused lodging in some oat fields. Oat harvest began earlier than normal with 13 percent reported harvested across the state by July 18, 8 percentage points above the five-year average. Wet fields throughout August caused some difficulty for harvest and by August 29 oat harvest fell below the five-year average. Oats harvested for grain wrapped up by the beginning of September.

Winter wheat was reported as having minimal damage coming out of winter, and the warmer temperatures throughout April aided growth. By May, dry soils were slowing the growth of winter wheat, but conditions continued to be reported as good to excellent. The abundant moisture in June caused some lodging in wheat fields, and armyworm was reported to be found in a few areas. Harvest of wheat began in early July, but was slowed due to the rainfall. By August, reports indicated that winter wheat harvest had neared completion statewide, with comments indicating yields ranged from below average to excellent.

**HAY & PASTURES**

Alfalfa stands in Wisconsin came out of winter in excellent shape as winter freeze damage to alfalfa was reported as 97 percent none to light. Warmer spring temperatures came early in 2010, allowing hay harvest to get off to an early start. By the end of May, first cutting hay was 40 percent complete, well above the 5-year average of 17 percent. Wet weather during mid-June slowed down progress of first cutting hay, and by June 20 first cutting hay harvest was equal to the five-year average at 78 percent complete. These rains did benefit re-growth of second crop, and yields of second cutting hay were often reported as good to excellent. However, growers were forced to cut between rainstorms and had trouble making dry hay. Despite the constant rain, completion rates for second and third cuttings were close to their five-year averages. Fourth cutting hay was consistently ahead of the five-year average, and was reported as 94 percent complete as of October 24.

Pastures were productive throughout much of the season. Pasture conditions continually improved each week from 67 percent rated Good to Excellent as of May 30, to 89 percent Good to Excellent as of July 11. Conditions remained above 80 percent Good to Excellent throughout July and August.



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