



# Wisconsin Crop Progress

November 21, 2011

Vol. 11, No. 33

## Tillage Progresses and Harvest Nears Completion

Fieldwork progressed steadily this week as farmers raced to get manure, lime and fertilizer incorporated before soils freeze. Hard frosts were reported across the state, with temperatures remaining above average for mid-November. Conditions remained very dry in northwestern Wisconsin, though this weekend's snow fall should bring some moisture back into the soil. Muddy fields in the Eastern districts forced some producers to delay further corn harvesting until the ground firms up. There were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

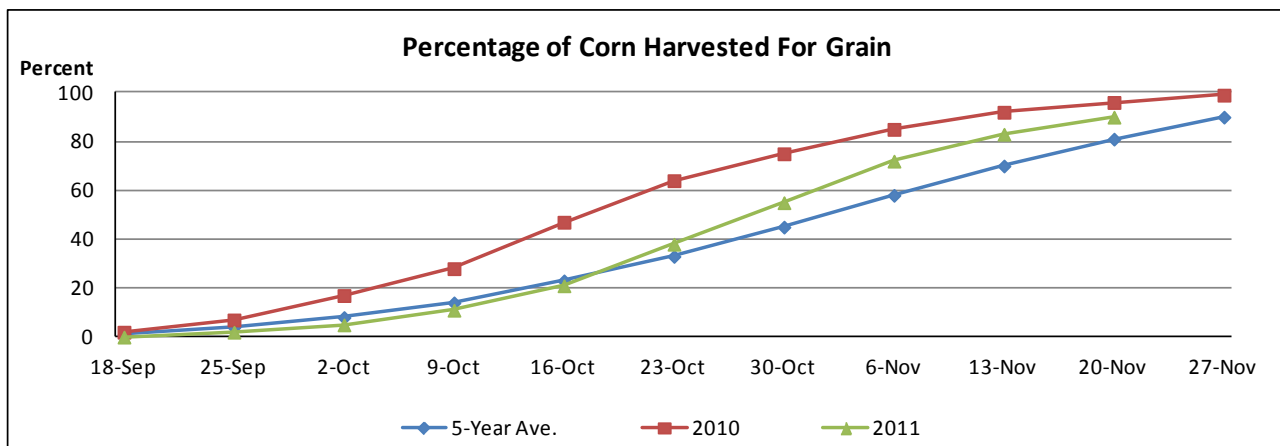
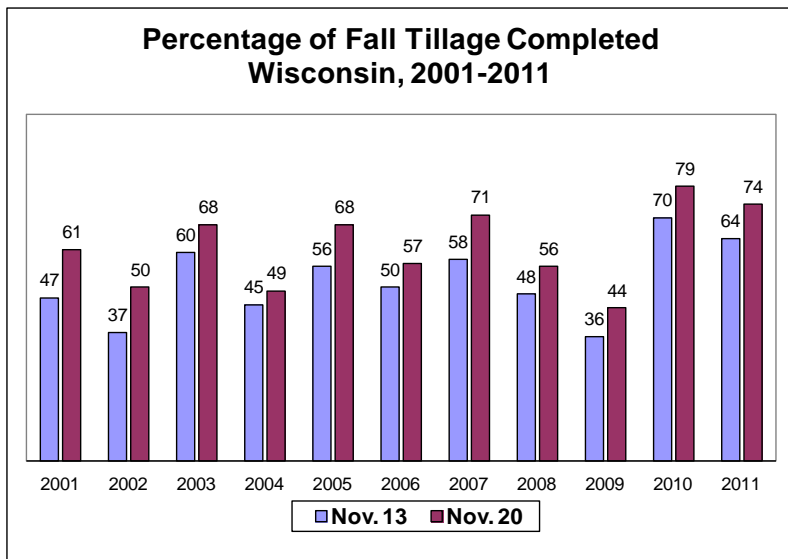
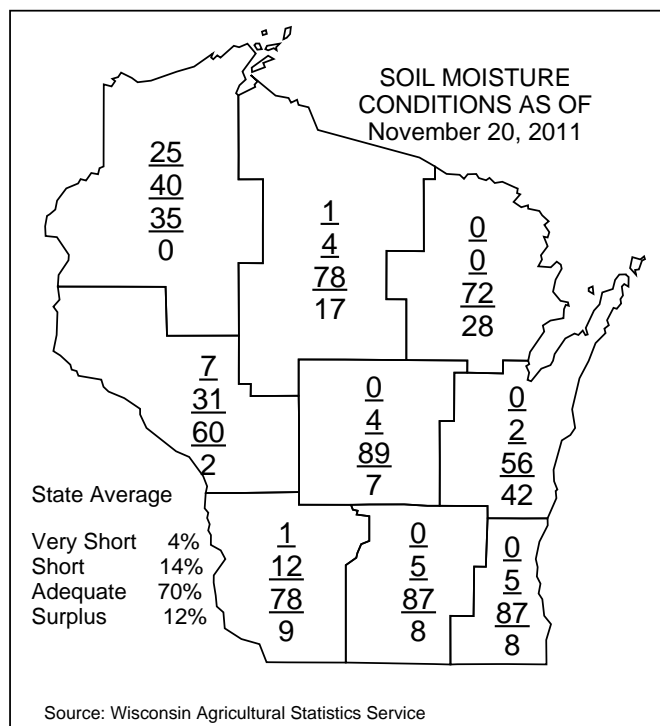
Across the reporting stations, average temperatures this week were 2 to 6 degrees above normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 44 to 52 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 26 to 33 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.00 inches in Milwaukee to 0.16 inches in Green Bay. Growing degree days for corn remain above normal for all reporting stations. 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** was 90 percent harvested statewide. Storage remained a concern in some areas, especially in the northern parts of the state. In wetter areas, some producers were waiting for the ground to freeze and grain moisture to come back down before harvesting their remaining fields. Yields were reportedly average to above average in most areas.

**Fall tillage** advanced to 74 percent complete.

**Winter wheat** was looking good across most of the state, though some fields in eastern Wisconsin were showing stress from the excess moisture. **Deer** hunting season continued.



## Wisconsin Crop Progress, November 20, 2011

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 harvested for grain	91	83	83	95	88	82	94	95	87	90	83	96	81
Fall tillage completed	68	87	75	76	80	67	67	73	77	74	64	79	61

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

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## Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

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

**CHIPPEWA-T.P.:** Corn harvest is almost complete. Top 1.0 inch of soil starting to freeze up in many fields without residue cover.

**RUSK-M.K.:** Topsoil is very dry and more fall tillage is occurring than normal. Have been able to work into wetland sites that are normally too wet to till.

**WASHBURN-R.H.:** Good hay and forage supply. Everything is wrapped up. Everybody is getting ready for hunting. Suppose to get 5.0 inches of snow 11/19/2011 - that should help the moisture problem.

**CLARK-J.B.:** A lot of the remaining corn was harvested this last week. Field conditions are good for both harvesting and fall tillage. Winter wheat looks good, has good green color, could use some moisture before freeze up.

**SHAWANO-J.N.:** A little corn is still in the field, with expected good weather this week most should come off. Yields so far are about what was expected, but test weights are mostly low. Winter wheat looks good except for ponding from the previous rain and melted snow. Fall tillage is slow due to the wet conditions.

**LA CROSSE-I.H.:** There are just a few farmers who do not have their corn in the bins. Most harvesting is completed. The late fall has contributed to many farmers getting extra field work done, fertilizer spread and shred bales made for bedding.

**TREMPEALEAU-D.D.:** Corn left standing is really scattered out now, most are ready for winter.

**JUNEAU-J.W.:** There is a surprising amount of corn still to be harvested with the nice weather we've had the last week. Winter wheat was looking pretty good in most areas.

**KEWAUNEE-T.S.:** Even though the past week did not see any major precipitation, not a lot of corn was harvested from area fields. It is amazing when driving through the countryside to see how much corn still is standing. Now in some areas field conditions may be wet, but one look at the calendar will tell producers they do not have much time until the cold and snow arrive. They may have to take the corn off regardless of field conditions or how wet the corn is. Some corn was harvested this week but not a lot. The main job that was done this week was hauling out manure. It seems that this is an endless task sometimes. Many producers are scrambling to take care of the manure so it can be worked in before the soil freezes. Fall tillage is continuing, but not much was done since in many cases the only areas left to till are where the corn is still standing. Field conditions for fall tillage have improved over the past several weeks due to the rain

that has fallen. As long as there is no water standing, plows of all types are digging deep and really getting the ground turned over well so it will be ready for next year. For the most part, winter wheat is looking good. In a few areas that received a lot of rain recently, some fields are showing stress from the excess moisture. Yields may be hurt next year in these fields.

**SHEBOYGAN-M.B.:** Excellent weather for fall tillage. Winter wheat emergence good despite some later planting dates in 2011.

**GRANT-J.R.:** Corn harvest has been almost completed with a few standing fields yet. Tillage conditions this week were good with a lot of liquid manure being applied. Winter wheat is emerging.

**LAFAYETTE-M.Y.:** Corn harvest is progressing well. A few rainy days held things up for a short time, but a lot of progress has been made in the last 7-10 days. Tillage is also progressing well now. Winter crops are emerging timely.

**DANE-J.K.:** Bigger fields of corn out yet. Don't know the reason they are left. It is muddy, but you can go good yet. Field conditions are wet. Some people were in the fields doing fall tillage Tuesday and Wednesday. No frost yet, but freeze Tuesday though Friday. They are chisel plowing. Winter crops are looking good and probably are dormant or will soon; after the 23 degrees at night.

**ROCK-C.H.:** Ear corn picking for cob corn getting under way. A little bit of soybeans in the area still out there.

**WALWORTH-N.W.:** Harvest is almost completed. Hopefully everybody will be done by Thanksgiving so they can enjoy the day with family.

**WAUKESHA-D.W.:** Corn harvest going well. A lot of standing corn still to go.



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## Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 20, 2011

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. 19	Mar. 1 to Nov. 19 normal*	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	44	26	56	19	35	2	2822	2599	0.13	2.81	-4.39	30.30	0.00
Green Bay	45	32	55	24	39	4	2671	2456	0.16	8.21	1.49	35.05	8.09
La Crosse	48	30	59	19	39	3	3174	2952	0.11	5.36	-1.51	33.47	3.05
Madison	50	33	63	22	42	6	3043	2922	0.01	7.70	1.01	28.00	-2.43
Milwaukee	52	33	66	25	43	4	2895	n.a.	0.00	6.50	-0.97	29.79	-1.90

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.