



Wisconsin Crop Progress

November 5, 2012

Vol. 12, No. 31

Fieldwork Winds Down

Wisconsin received very little precipitation this week, with below average temperatures. The dry weather provided good conditions for wrapping up corn harvest, fall tillage and manure hauling. Soil moistures fell from 45 percent short to very short statewide last week to 50 percent this week. Many reporters noted that the rains received in October improved field conditions, allowing easier tillage. However, that moisture was reportedly no longer evident in the soil in some areas. Reports on the emergence and condition of fall seedings were mixed due to both dry soils and unusually cold temperatures. **Hay and roughage supplies** were 50 percent short, 44 percent adequate and 6 percent surplus statewide. There were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork.

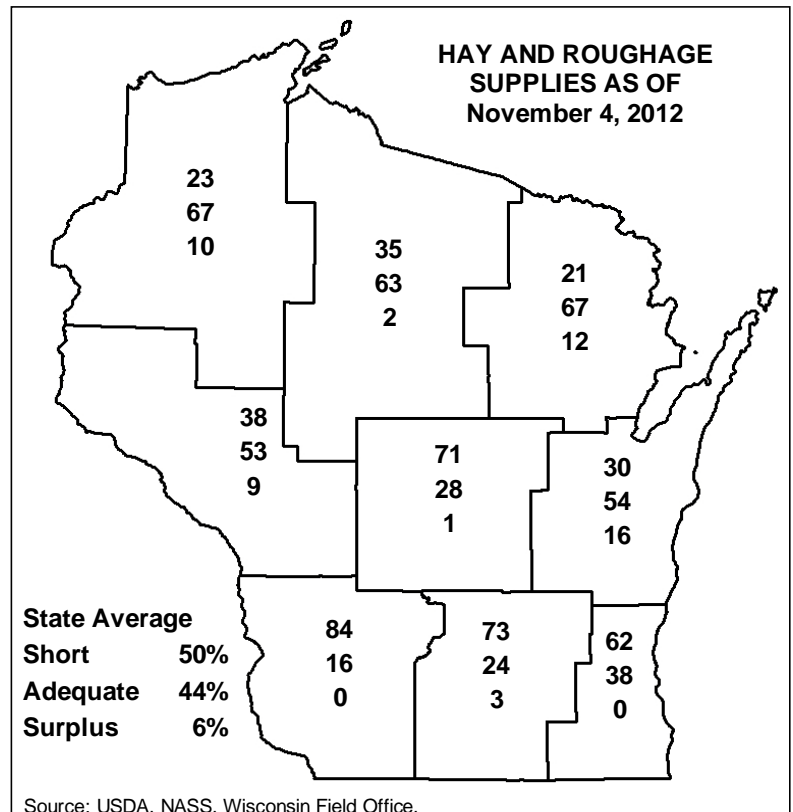
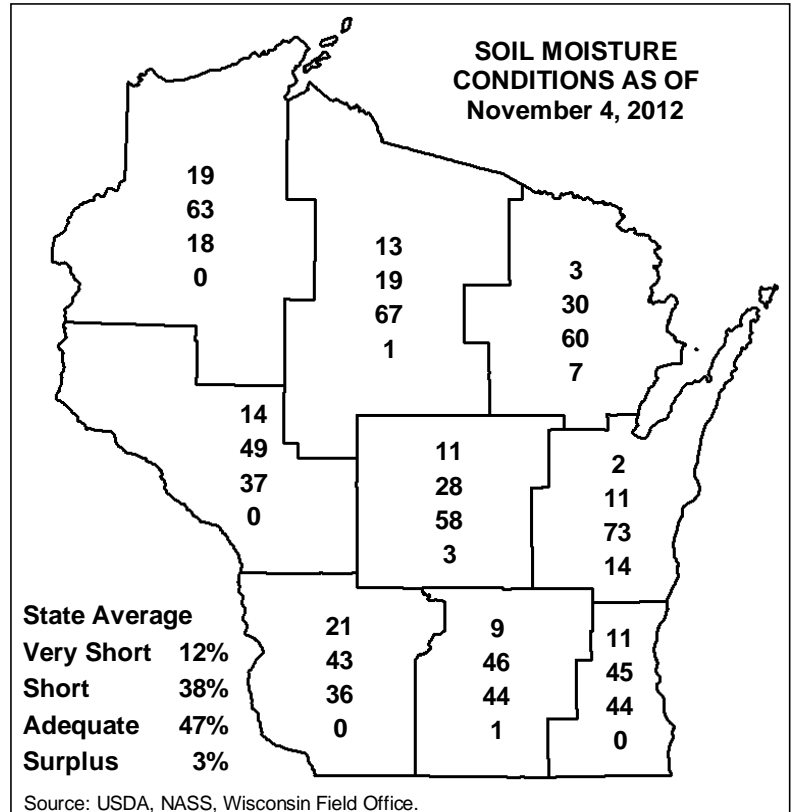
Across the reporting stations, average temperatures this week were 4 to 6 degrees below normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 46 to 49 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 23 to 34 degrees. No precipitation was received at any of the five major reporting stations. If you are interested 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 87 percent harvested for grain statewide. Reporters in northern Wisconsin reported average to above average yields, and many noted that storage facilities were full. Some noted corn being hauled into drought-affected areas where storage remains available. Yield reports from southern and central Wisconsin were below normal, with wide variations depending on local conditions. Many reporters noted corn stalks being baled or shredded to supplement feed supplies.

Fall tillage was 58 percent complete. Liquid manure hauling and application was reportedly a major field activity this week.

Reporters noted that **winter wheat** emergence had improved, though it was still poor in some areas where soils were too dry. A Washington County reporter commented that producers were chopping **oatlage** planted after winter wheat.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of November 4, 2012

Item	V.-poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	34	35	24	6	1

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 harvested for grain	90	93	80	89	83	69	90	93	85	87	77	67	56
Fall tillage completed	55	68	39	49	70	53	69	63	58	58	47	48	40

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.

BURNETT-J.D.: We are still dry.

RUSK-G.P.: Corn harvest is almost done, local elevators are full. Rain a week or so ago has improved field conditions and some fall tillage going on, but still quite dry. Hay and haylage are done except for dormant cuttings. Cold temps have limited emergence of winter crops. Not sure how they will fare through the winter - time will tell.

ONEIDA-P.L.: We have night temps that have been in the teens for two weeks now with day temps just above freezing so things are starting to freeze solid. There is ice starting to skim the lakes with back bays frozen over. People are still completing some fall tillage, spreading manure and buttoning up for the winter. They are harvesting Christmas trees and boughs, but that is about all. Some have turned livestock into the frozen hay fields to pasture. There is not much left to report for this year anymore.

TAYLOR-D.E.: Winter small grains look good going into winter. Some reports on lack of hay for the winter, but most in this area are doing good on forage and grains. Fall tillage is progressing well.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Corn combining is finishing up, dry enough to do tillage again. Nice to see ground with moisture.

BUFFALO-R.S.: Overall, corn and soybean yields were better than expected and dry hay is in short supply. Subsoil moisture is very dry - topsoil has some moisture. Dairy farms that buy grain are seeing grain prices too high to justify the fixed price of milk. White tail deer are in rut and hunter excitement is building.

MONROE-M.Y.: Some corn is better than anticipated.

ST CROIX-D.K.: It has been wonderful weather for harvesting and digging corn stalks.

JUNEAU-J.W.: Great weather for harvesting and field work.

PORTAGE-J.B.: Combining corn on the tail end. Yields on what wasn't chopped off or just left in the field as a zero, range from 20-85 bushels per acre. In the far northwest where they caught a little rain there is some 180 bushel corn! Soybeans were 10-30 bushels per acre whereas once again in the far northwest I heard 65 bushels per acre. More irrigation pivots going in this Fall. The drought of this year has made many more invest in water! Some fields of potatoes are not being harvested and are going to stay there as storage is full all over and no price at this time. Cost more to dig than they are worth!

DOOR-R.S.: The October rain was appreciated.

SHEBOYGAN-M.B.: Excellent rains the past several weeks has allowed for very good winter wheat germination.

WINNEBAGO-S.E.: Harvest progressing well. Moisture has made tillage easier. Winter wheat growing well.

GRANT-E.B.: We dug post holes and it was dry down 3.5 feet. Not good. The moisture from the 3.5 inches of rain two weeks ago is pretty much gone.

VERNON-K.L.: Corn and soybean moisture levels have gone up due to the badly needed rain. Harvesting has slowed because of this. Producers have been pleased with the corn and bean yields considering the drought conditions. Lots of round baling of corn stalks. Most of the vegetable harvesting is nearing completion.

COLUMBIA-S.H.: Dry conditions this past week throughout the county afforded producers the opportunity to get their crops off the field. Approximately 95 percent of corn and soybeans have been harvested. Top soil moisture is very dry and rain is needed.

DANE- F.P.: Most of the corn has been harvested and manure is being hauled to the fields. Fall tillage is almost complete.

DODGE-S.B.: The need for rain continues. Forage harvest is done. The winter wheat looks good.

OZAUKEE-K.A.: Winter wheat and rye emerged very well after the rain and warm weather. Corn harvest is just about done and soybeans are all off. It has been just perfect for tillage since it is dry on top with good moisture down below.

WALWORTH-N.W.: With harvest finishing up attention has turned to fall tillage. Winter wheat is off to a good start.



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Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 4, 2012

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 Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	47	23	51	19	35	-6	3256	2581	0.00	2.57	-3.54	21.72	-7.63
Green Bay	46	28	49	25	37	-5	3127	2440	0.00	6.02	+0.50	27.94	+2.31
La Crosse	49	28	52	24	38	-6	3592	2930	0.00	4.47	-1.26	23.46	-5.86
Madison	49	28	54	23	39	-4	3525	2893	0.00	5.89	+0.39	22.86	-6.44
Milwaukee	47	34	53	31	41	-5	3369	n.a.	0.00	5.22	-0.84	25.07	-5.13

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.