



WISCONSIN CROP PROGRESS

October 21, 2013

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Due to lapse in federal funding, the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Crop Progress reports scheduled for October 7th and 15th were cancelled. Therefore, data for the weeks ending October 6th and 13th are not available.

Fall Freeze Ends Late Season Heat

Temperatures plunged this week, with overcast skies and drizzly rains. The western half of the state experienced a freeze this weekend and much of the east received frost as well. A few reporters in the far north noted snow showers on Sunday. This is in chilly contrast to the first two weeks of the month, when temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees above normal. That unusual late-season heat helped late planted crops to mature. Reporters noted that the lack of a killing frost has kept plants from drying down. Rains have also kept plant moistures high and fields muddy. Corn silage, high moisture corn, and soybeans were being harvested where conditions allowed, with variable yields reported. There were 4.0 days suitable for fieldwork statewide.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 3 degrees below normal to normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 54 to 58 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 35 to 43 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.29 inches in Milwaukee to 0.90 inches in Eau Claire. 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/>

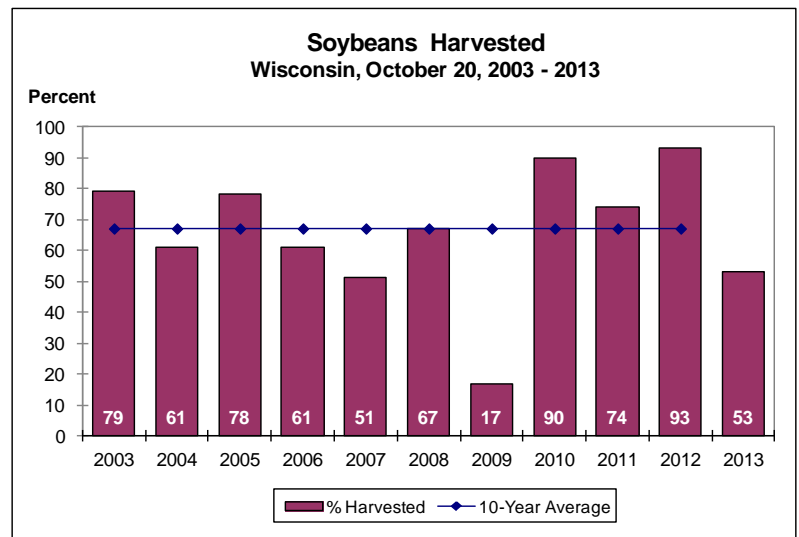
Corn was 97 percent in dent stage and 79 percent mature. Corn for grain was 27 percent harvested and corn silage was 83 percent harvested.

Soybeans had 99 percent with leaves turning, 92 percent dropping leaves, and 53 percent harvested.

Fourth cutting alfalfa was 84 percent harvested. Reporters commented that the rain and warm start to the month helped pastures and hay stands prepare for winter.

Fall tillage was 23 percent complete. Soil moistures were reportedly much better for fall planting than at the beginning of the month. However, the late harvest prompted some concern for prevented fall plantings.

Apples and **pears** were reportedly abundant and of good quality. **Cranberries** were being harvested with average to good yields reported. **Potato** harvest was reportedly wrapping up in Portage County.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 20, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	15	27	32	22	4
Corn	8	19	29	33	11
Soybeans	10	18	29	34	9

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office

Wisconsin Crop Progress, October 20, 2013

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
	Percent									Percent			
Corn in dent	95	93	96	95	96	98	97	100	97	97	n.a.	100	100
Corn mature	77	65	55	78	83	59	88	95	83	79	n.a.	100	91
Corn harvested for grain	20	14	5	15	21	19	39	46	19	27	n.a.	64	35
Corn silage harvested	87	66	89	85	84	73	95	97	73	83	n.a.	100	95
Soybeans leaves turned	99	98	96	99	95	99	99	100	99	99	n.a.	100	100
Soybeans dropping leaves	85	86	88	93	82	91	93	98	93	92	n.a.	100	100
Soybeans harvested	45	22	16	63	35	38	67	71	50	53	n.a.	93	68
Fourth cutting hay	57	58	94	90	82	86	96	96	81	84	n.a.	100	90
Fall tillage completed	17	40	17	12	38	24	20	23	17	23	n.a.	36	27

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions, October 20, 2013

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	Days									Days		
Days Suitable	3.5	3.7	4.8	3.9	4.4	4.6	4.1	4.0	2.8	4.0	n.a.	4.1
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	9	0	0	17	0	2	8	14	0	7	n.a.	24
Short	15	21	12	32	8	10	29	29	7	20	n.a.	35
Adequate	63	78	63	48	86	82	63	55	84	67	n.a.	38
Surplus	13	1	25	3	6	6	0	2	9	6	n.a.	4
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	13	0	0	33	33	2	16	18	1	15	n.a.	n.a.
Short	31	25	14	35	28	18	41	40	14	30	n.a.	n.a.
Adequate	49	74	83	31	39	80	43	41	78	53	n.a.	n.a.
Surplus	7	1	3	1	0	0	0	1	7	2	n.a.	n.a.

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Wisconsin Crop Progress

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.: Small showers of rain - total 2.0 inches last week. Frost Friday night.

RUSK-G.P.: Had frost mid September. Widespread 'killer frost' last week. Corn crop NOT good due to late planting. Beans are averaging only about 30 bushels per acre. A good average would be 45 to 50 bushels per acre.

MARATHON-S.N.: Corn and soybean harvest is progressing. The corn that was planted for silage in May and June has good quality and quantity. Corn planted later is greener with variable forage value. Lots of corn and soybeans out there to harvest.

ONEIDA-B.E.: Our temps were about average for the week. We saw above average precipitation, (about 1.45 inches). There were some very windy days and a couple of "frosty" nights. The cold weather helped to ripen up the cranberries and also helped to push the vines into dormancy. We had an above average cranberry crop this year, with average size and color on most varieties.

LANGLADE-A.K.: Have never seen a killing frost as late as October 18th in Langlade County. Some beans off earlier in the week. Corn silage moistures getting to chopping stage finally, quality and yeilds are good. Fighting snow showers on Sunday.

EAU CLAIRE-D.S.: Got about 1.3 inches of rain last week. Soybeans averaged about 43 bushels per acre. normal would be 55 to 60 bushels per acre.

LACROSSE-I.H.: Rain this week that postponed some field work. First frost this week. Corn and beans are still green or high moisture, making it unable to be harvested.

ST CROIX-D.K.: Had about 2.0 inches of rain in last two weeks. Nice gentle rains. Frost forecast for tonight.

JUNEAU-J.W.: Harvest is underway. Yields vary greatly for corn and soybeans. It was a very good couple weeks for harvest. We did receive some rain to recharge moisture. The cold temperatures should really help the crops finish out.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: Unirrigated corn is starting to lodge as a result of the dry weather this summer.

FOND DU LAC-B.P.: Soybeans are too wet for harvest. Corn yield below average. Best corn in August, after that it dried right up. Test weight average should be 150, came in at 126. Got 3.5 inches rain in last two weeks.

MANITOWOC-M.R.: Spotty rains over the past week slowed harvest. Soybeans are being harvested with yield reports between 42 and 56 bushels per acre. Saw a combine in a cornfield last week harvesting some high moisture corn. Corn silage harvest continues, they are now getting at the corn silage that was planted in late May or early June. I don't think we have had a killing frost in the county yet, but it looks like that may happen this coming week.

SAUK-J.P.: Now that the growing season is over we are getting rain on a regular basis, just like last year. Pastures have greened up, there is more out there than August or September. We had a great stretch of weather where farmers were doing everything from harvesting corn and beans to hauling manure and tilling the soil. We have had a killing frost, though it was later than the last couple of years. The apple crop was bountiful, making up for last year's short crop. Looking back in twenty years it will look like a normal year.

COLUMBIA-S.H.: Above normal temperatures and dry weather last week provided some great soybean and shelled corn harvest conditions. A killing frost on Saturday night ended the growing season for many areas of Columbia county.

DANE-F.P.: Had small rains in last two weeks, 0.6-0.7 inches of rain. Forecast - growing season coming to end.

ROCK-C.O.: Corn harvest well on its way and bean harvest about done. Winter wheat is up and looks great.

WASHINGTON-J.N.: Had 3.0 inches of rain in last two weeks.

WAUKESHA-D.B.: About two weeks late with harvest. Slow start due to very wet spring.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 20, 2013

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 Oct. 19	Mar. 1 To Oct. 19 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	54	35	61	31	45	-3	2767	2545	0.90	4.90	-0.25	32.54	+4.25
Green Bay	56	39	61	33	48	+0	2637	2405	0.57	4.61	+0.22	28.59	+3.95
La Crosse	58	39	64	34	49	-3	3118	2880	0.39	5.25	+0.53	32.39	+4.23
Madison	56	39	63	32	48	-2	2939	2837	0.38	4.41	+0.05	40.89	+12.89
Milwaukee	56	43	62	41	50	-2	2781	n.a.	0.29	4.15	-0.62	34.28	+5.48

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.



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