

WISCONSIN CROP PROGRESS

November 4, 2013

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Wet Conditions Delay Harvest

Temperatures were close to average this week, with rain, fog, and drizzle holding up fieldwork. All of Wisconsin received some precipitation, but the eastern portion of the state had several solid days of wet, grey weather, leaving fields sodden. Reporters noted that muddy field conditions and high grain moistures continued to slow the corn and soybean harvests. Hay and roughage supplies were reportedly 26 percent short, 70 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus as of November 3rd. Spring freeze damage and dry conditions during July and August reportedly contributed to hay shortages in some areas. Reporters commented that farmers were chopping extra corn silage to make up for short hay supplies. There were 4.0 days suitable for fieldwork this week.

Across the reporting stations, average temperatures last week were 2 degrees below normal to normal. Average high temperatures ranged from 49 to 53 degrees, while average low temperatures ranged from 31 to 40 degrees. Precipitation totals ranged from 0.12 inches in La Crosse to 1.43 inches in Green Bay. If you are interested in further weather data, please reference the following sites:

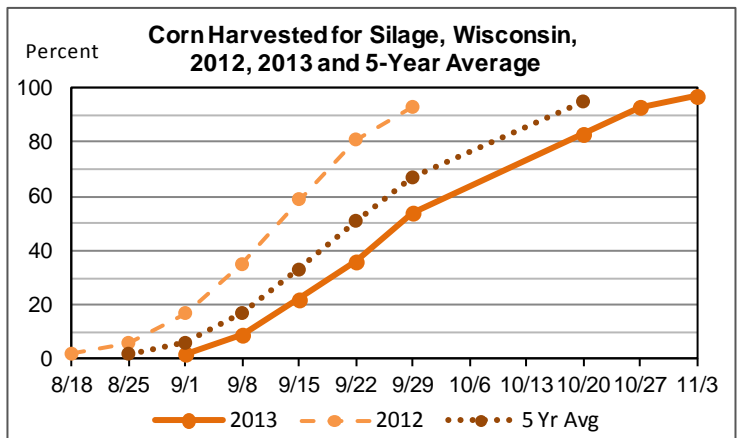
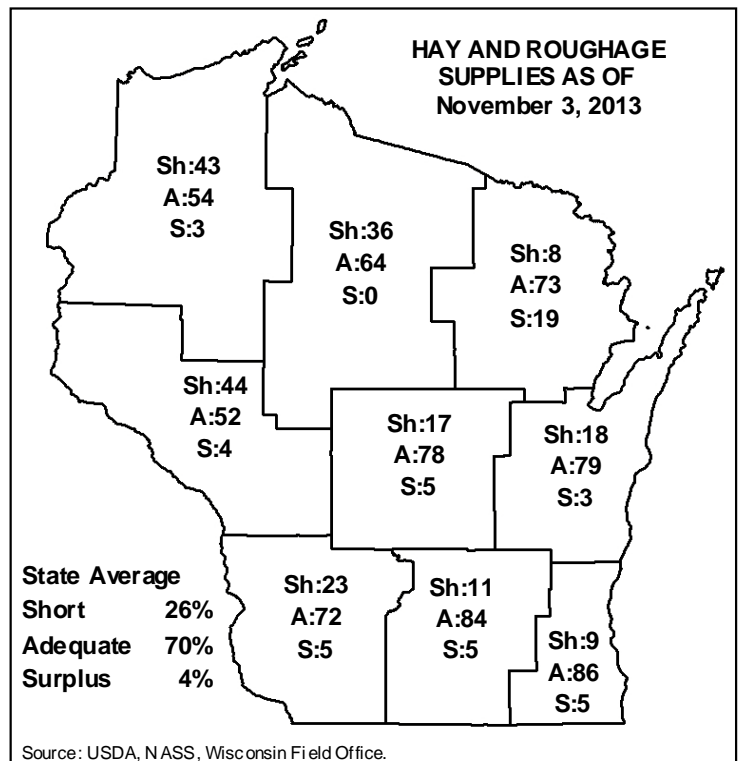
- <http://www.noaa.gov/>
- <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/>
- <http://www.cocorahs.org/>
- <http://www.weather.gov/>

Corn for grain was 95 percent mature, with 50 percent harvested. Corn for silage was 97 percent harvested. Many farmers were reportedly delaying grain harvest to allow their standing corn to dry down further.

Soybeans were 82 percent harvested. Yields were reportedly average to below average. Some reporters commented that beans are short with pods low to the ground, making combining difficult.

Fourth cutting alfalfa was 92 percent harvested and winding down.

Fall tillage was 38 percent complete.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of November 3, 2013

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	14	26	36	21	3
Corn	6	18	29	35	12

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office

Wisconsin Crop Progress, November 3, 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 mature	96	88	89	94	98	91	97	100	97	95	92	100	97
Corn harvested for grain	39	24	19	42	49	34	67	67	49	50	39	86	58
Corn silage harvested	97	88	95	95	97	99	99	100	98	97	93	100	99
Soybeans harvested	78	40	69	86	82	78	90	91	84	82	69	100	85
Fourth cutting hay	66	72	96	98	96	95	100	100	86	92	89	100	98
Fall tillage completed	30	45	27	27	52	38	33	48	40	38	30	56	43

Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Conditions, November 3, 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	3.0	2.6	3.3	4.0	5.1	3.8	4.9	4.1	3.5	4.0	5.3	5.7
	Percent									Percent		
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short	8	0	0	13	0	0	11	8	0	6	7	12
Short	18	4	6	34	18	5	35	19	5	20	20	38
Adequate	66	94	62	51	80	66	53	70	93	67	70	47
Surplus	8	2	32	2	2	29	1	3	2	7	3	3
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short	14	0	0	26	18	1	20	9	1	13	15	n.a.
Short	28	14	7	44	24	18	46	32	25	30	31	n.a.
Adequate	54	85	66	29	57	58	34	59	72	52	53	n.a.
Surplus	4	1	27	1	1	23	0	0	2	5	1	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.

BARRON-T.J.: Growers reporting corn harvested for grain is well below average yield and much wetter than anticipated.

CHIPPEWA-J.M.: Harvest is at a standstill because of light rain showers every other day and continuous overcast.

MARATHON-G.M.: Hay was short this year, so farmers are chopping corn silage. Lots of alfalfa was frozen out last winter.

SHAWANO-J.N.: We received 1.75 inches of rain this past week, it is starting to get wet in the fields. Soybean harvest was a challenge with the cloudy cool weather, some producers still have a few acres standing. Yield averages were a little higher than expected, considering the dry summer we had. Corn for high moisture is coming off as is corn for dry grain with the moisture ranging from 40 percent to the low 20's. Manure is being hauled and fall tillage is following.

DUNN-S.S.: Damp weather this week has slowed down harvesting. Still a few beans out there. Some yields in corn and beans not good, but in other cases better than expected. Hay is the biggest shortage item here in Dunn county hurting just about anybody feeding livestock.

EAU CLAIRE-A.B.: Mild weather has allowed fall harvest to progress well. The corn silage harvest is yielding a wide range from poor without grain to very good yield. It all depends upon the soil type and precipitation. Hay harvest for all practical purposes has finalized. The 2013 forage level/production is very concerning for many livestock producers. The apple crop is doing very well especially compared to 2012.

MONROE-W.H.: Overcast damp conditions have slowed harvest and field operations.

WAUSHARA-K.W.: Unirrigated corn yielding from 50-75 bushels per acre.

KEWAUNEE-T.S.: Anywhere from 1.5 to over 3.0 inches of rain came down last week, and this virtually stopped all field activity. And with the water standing in many fields, it will be a few more days until anything is done again. However, more

rain is in the forecast for this week, and it could be in excess of another inch. If this happens, getting the remaining corn and soybeans off the fields, hauling out manure, and doing the last of the fall tillage will be messy jobs. It may take until the ground freezes for some of this work to be done. Before the rain came last week, some corn and beans were taken off, and some tillage was done. Yields of both of these crops are good. A lot of corn still has to be taken off, and unless a stretch of good weather appears, the harvest could go into December. This is obviously taking a chance since snow could come anytime this month into next. A few fields of soybeans remain as well, and getting these off will be even trickier since dry weather is a must for harvesting with an acceptable level of moisture. As for the supplies of roughage going into winter, the only crop that may be tight will be alfalfa. Some yields were cut down due to the winterkill last year, but overall, it should be okay. Yields of corn silage were very good this year and there will be quite a good supply heading into next year. And the apple harvest in this area was very good this year. An ample supply enabled local stores to be kept up with fresh stocks.

WINNEBAGO-S.E.: Slow progress in corn harvest. Corn wet.

CRAWFORD-V.H.: Corn yield better than expected, 160 bushels per acre average, getting yields above that. Average yield on soybeans - 40 to 50 bushels per acre. Apple orchards very good yield, good quality.

COLUMBIA-S.H.: Good harvest weather early in the week. Received 0.75 inch rain on Wednesday and Thursday slowed corn combining for a couple of days. Corn harvest is slightly behind schedule for the year. Waiting for some late planted fields to dry down after the frosts killed the corn.

DANE-D.R.: Fall activities have continued due to lack of precipitation. Rain welcome for winter protection.

WAUKESHA-R.F.: Tough year. Yields not turning out well.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 3, 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 Nov. 2	Mar. 1 to Nov. 2 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire	49	31	60	25	40	-2	2777	2577	0.30	5.34	-0.79	32.98	+3.80
Green Bay	50	34	58	24	42	-1	2648	2436	1.43	6.08	+0.66	30.07	+4.37
La Crosse	53	38	61	31	45	0	3138	2926	0.12	5.46	-0.22	32.60	+3.50
Madison	51	36	62	27	44	0	2954	2887	0.62	5.13	-0.27	41.61	+12.52
Milwaukee	53	40	64	35	46	-1	2801	n.a.	1.03	5.19	-0.77	35.32	+5.14

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.



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