



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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For the week ending September 9, 2018
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Fieldwork Resumes as Waters Recede

There were 3.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending September 9, 2018, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The previous week's storms continued into this week, with additional heavy rain falling across the state on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. This worsened flooding in southern Wisconsin and slowed storm cleanup and damage assessments. By the week's end, some rivers were still cresting, and damage to rural roads and infrastructure was still being repaired. Sunny weather marked the second half of the week, helping to firm up wet soils. Previously dry pastures were bouncing back, and corn and soybeans were maturing rapidly with abundant soil moisture and cool nights. Farmers rushed to make hay and corn silage as soon as conditions allowed. Reporters noted that early corn harvest was in response to drought damage in parts of northern Wisconsin and tar spot disease in parts of southern Wisconsin. Manure spreading was starting up as fields were cleared.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 2 percent short, 68 percent adequate and 30 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 4 percent short, 72 percent adequate and 24 percent surplus.

Ninety-two percent of **corn** has reached the dough stage, 7 days ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. Seventy percent of corn was dented, 9 days ahead of last year and 6 days ahead of the average. Twenty-one percent was mature, 8 days ahead of the average. Corn for silage was 12 percent harvested, 1 day ahead of the average. Corn condition was 75 percent good to excellent.

Leaves were turning color on 54 percent of **soybeans**, 6 days ahead of last year and 4 days ahead of the average. Fourteen percent were reported dropping leaves, 6 days ahead of last year and 3 days ahead of the average. Soybean condition was 77 percent good to excellent.

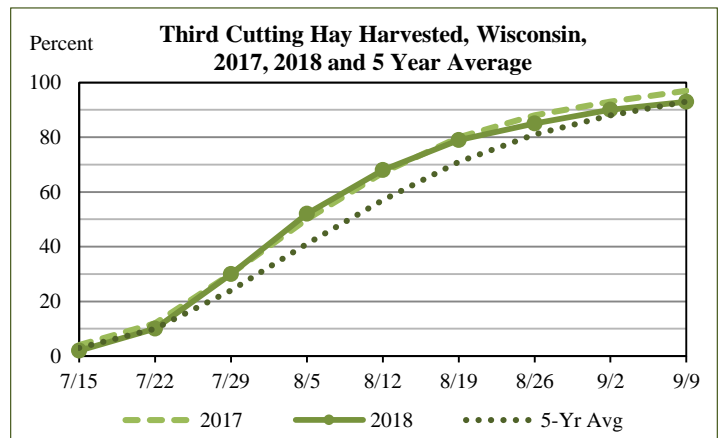
Oats harvested for grain was reported as 92 percent complete, even with last year but 2 days behind the average.

Potato harvest was reported as 28 percent complete, 12 days behind last year. Potato condition was 73 percent good to excellent.

Thirteen percent of **winter wheat** was planted, 2 days ahead of last year. Two percent of the winter wheat crop has emerged.

The third cutting of **alfalfa** was 93 percent complete, 7 days behind last year, but even with the average. The fourth cutting was 47 percent complete, 5 days behind last year, but 1 day ahead of the average. **All hay** condition was reported 76 percent in good to excellent condition.

Pasture condition was rated 66 percent in good to excellent condition, compared with 63 percent in good to excellent condition last week.



Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of September 9, 2018

Item	Very Poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn	3	6	16	43	32
Hay, All	2	5	17	52	24
Pasture & Range ..	2	7	25	45	21
Potatoes.....	5	7	15	49	24
Soybeans.....	2	6	15	46	31

Wisconsin Fieldwork and Crop Progress as of September 9, 2018

Item	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Alfalfa Hay, Third Cutting.	93	78	94	94	89	97	93	94	99	93	90	97	93
Alfalfa Hay, Fourth Cutting	53	27	54	40	47	54	54	43	38	47	36	54	45
Corn Dough	87	67	90	96	94	84	97	97	95	92	86	85	86
Corn Dented.....	61	45	54	80	69	53	84	82	56	70	54	46	55
Corn Mature.....	9	7	9	22	28	15	18	35	17	21	8	4	10
Corn Harvested for Silage..	14	12	5	14	7	5	23	19	16	12	7	4	10
Oats Harvested for Grain ...	91	82	86	95	91	90	100	100	100	92	84	92	93
Potatoes Harvested.....	42	17	24	27	29	n.a.	44	24	n.a.	28	23	39	n.a.
Soybeans Coloring.....	71	42	35	62	50	40	61	57	44	54	26	27	37
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	16	17	9	16	10	9	11	17	12	14	4	3	7
Winter Wheat Planted	15	19	18	15	10	17	16	8	7	13	5	10	n.a.

n.a.=not available

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Supplies as of September 9, 2018

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	3.8	4.0	4.9	3.8	2.4	2.8	3.8	2.6	1.8	3.3	2.6	5.6
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Short.....	3	1	2	10	1	2	0	0	0	2	4	9
Adequate.....	88	84	73	77	41	66	74	52	49	68	58	83
Surplus	9	15	25	12	58	31	26	48	51	30	37	6
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	1
Short.....	4	1	2	16	4	4	0	0	0	4	7	6
Adequate.....	92	85	76	72	43	73	86	59	60	72	59	86
Surplus	4	14	22	11	52	22	14	41	40	24	32	7

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.B.: Most of the area got just enough rain, but some were not so lucky and dealt with flooding and saturated soils. The wet weather set harvest operations back, but by the end of the week many hay fields were being cut and corn silage harvest had resumed. Corn and soybean fields that survived the drought are looking very good, but the isolated, permanently wilted fields are going to drag down grain yield averages. Pastures responded nicely to the rain and should provide good forage for the remainder of the growing season.

BURNETT/WASHBURN-P.H.: Corn silage yields are variable but lower than average. Some corn too dry for silage already, other corn too wet. Soybeans turning color with a few fields dropping leaves. Hay fields short.

ASHLAND/IRON-C.B.: Some pasture regrowth after all of the rainfall last week. Some field activity towards the end of the week as fields started to dry out.

SHAWANO-B.R.: Around 7-9 inches of rain fell in the county the last ten days which virtually brought field work to a halt. Farmers started cutting fourth crop again today and, by Monday, some will start chopping corn as water continues to soak in. Corn maturity is ready for silage in a number of fields, and soybeans are just beginning to drop leaves in a few places. The rain was badly needed but just not that much. Alfalfa looking real good right now.

LA CROSSE-I.H.: Found some sunshine this week, but not much. People are starting to get back into the fields although the ground is still very wet. Most days grass is wet until after noon. Haven't talked to dairy farms yet but with many roads south of Hwy 33 washed out, I wonder how many are having problems with getting milk to market.

PIERCE/ST CROIX-A.M.: Rain continued over the past week. Silage harvest has begun. Soybeans continue to turn color and some dropping leaves. Fourth cutting hay continues.

WAUPACA/OUTAGAMIE-D.L.H.: Things are picking up after a week's standstill due to heavy rain. Corn silage harvest is beginning on drier fields. Lots of hay is down with the prediction of favorable drying conditions. Soybeans are turning color and husks on ears of early corn are turning white.

CALUMET-K.P.: Early rain in the week, but finally cooler and much needed drier air came and looks like it will be staying around. This will allow saturated fields to dry up.

LAFAYETTE-B.L.: Tar Spot is a widespread concern throughout the county. We're probably going to see some corn harvested before soybeans this fall and, in many cases, corn and soybeans harvested simultaneously.

SAUK-C.N.: Hopefully the rains are over for now and flood waters will recede.

COLUMBIA-G.K.: Still major flooding along the Baraboo River. Corn, soybeans, and alfalfa are underwater. Some fields only have tassels of corn stalks above the water. Waterhemp is growing in soybean fields and many cornfields are being attacked by tar spot. Farmers will have to be cautious when harvesting flooded crops. Many hayfields were cut this weekend in hopes of completing third and fourth crop harvest.

GREEN-J.T.: Corn harvest for grain is starting where soil moisture levels allow due to black tar spot in corn. Corn silage and hay cutting have also resumed after the heavy rains.

WALWORTH-N.W.: Five to eight inches of rain the last two weeks have stopped any field work. Some corn silage taken off before the rains started.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on September 9, 2018

City	Temperature (degrees F)						Growing degree days (modified base 50) ¹		Precipitation (inches)				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal*	Mar. 1 to Sep. 8	Mar. 1 to Sep. 8 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date	Year dep. from normal*
Eau Claire	74	54	78	44	64	+0	2535	2215	0.99	1.49	+0.28	26.87	+2.45
Green Bay	76	58	88	49	67	+4	2463	2078	3.07	3.07	+2.10	30.16	+8.93
La Crosse	76	61	88	53	69	+2	3022	2487	0.79	0.83	-0.23	25.89	+1.47
Madison	76	62	87	50	69	+4	2660	2421	2.73	2.85	+1.81	38.91	+14.13
Milwaukee	79	64	90	58	71	+4	2621	n.a.	2.77	2.86	+1.84	30.90	+5.78

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. n.a.=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more 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/>

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.