



Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



Upper Midwest Region - Wisconsin Field Office · 2811 Agriculture Drive · Madison WI 53718-6777 · (608) 224-4848
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov

Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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For the week ending November 24, 2019
Media Contact: Greg Bussler

Wisconsin had 4.2 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending November 24, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Temperatures were slightly above normal this week, with daytime highs in the 30s and 40s and overnight lows below freezing. Frozen soils softened in many areas, while rain on Wednesday contributed to muddy, slippery field conditions. Fieldwork progress was slow but moving along in areas where the soil was firm enough. Grain moistures remained unusually high for this late in the year. Corn moisture content at harvest was 23 percent on average, down only one percentage point from the previous week and well above 18 percent moisture last year. Some farmers were opting to store corn at high moisture rather than pay for drying. Corn stalks were being shredded for bedding. Some reporters commented that the wettest spots may not be harvested or tilled this year.

Topsoil moisture condition was rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 69 percent adequate and 31 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 72 percent adequate and 28 percent surplus.

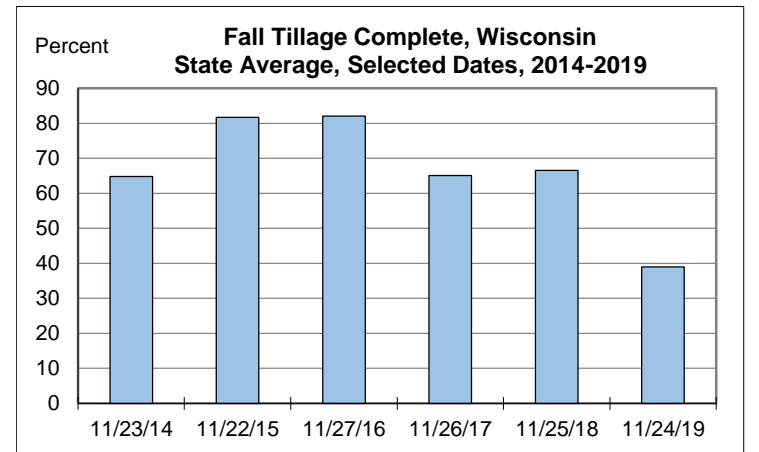
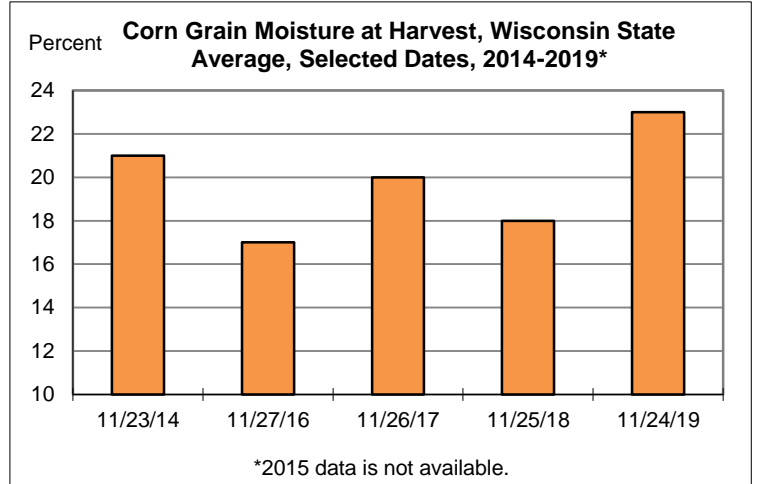
Harvest of **corn** for grain was 57 percent complete, 22 days behind last year and 18 days behind the 5-year average. Corn condition was 66 percent good to excellent, 1 percentage point above last week. Corn for silage harvest was 97 percent complete.

Soybean harvest was 82 percent complete, 18 days behind last year and 25 days behind the average.

Sixty-nine percent of **winter wheat** had emerged, 24 days behind last year and 27 days behind the average. Winter wheat condition was 50 percent good to excellent, 3 percentage points below last week.

The fourth cutting of **alfalfa hay** was 93 percent complete.

Fall tillage was reported as 39 percent complete, 18 days behind last year and 25 days behind the average.



Crop Condition as of November 24, 2019

	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn	4	8	22	46	20
Winter wheat.....	3	9	38	35	15

Crop Progress as of November 24, 2019

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay, fourth cutting	86	89	98	96	88	86	96	99	93	93	92	100	100
Corn harvested for grain	56	39	43	49	50	51	76	66	45	57	44	87	85
Fall tillage	48	22	26	29	46	47	43	39	47	39	36	67	72
Soybeans harvested	91	77	74	93	86	65	82	82	80	82	77	94	97
Winter wheat emerged.....	87	94	43	60	69	64	64	68	95	69	60	92	95

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of November 24, 2019

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)
Days suitable	4.3	5.5	3.9	4.2	3.7	4.1	4.7	3.6	3.8	4.2	4.2	5.1
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Adequate	75	75	40	74	75	48	91	66	68	69	68	79
Surplus	25	25	60	26	25	52	9	34	32	31	32	20
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Adequate	74	76	34	76	77	49	98	71	73	72	69	78
Surplus	26	22	66	23	23	51	2	29	27	28	30	21

Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

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

NW—BARRON-T.B.: More seasonal temperatures have the frost coming out of some fields and its making for some muddy conditions. Grain harvest continues but it's being hauled to the dryers as moisture continues to be stubborn and fall slowly. A few soybean fields are left to harvest but good progress has been made.

NW—RUSK-G.P.: Not much change this week. High moisture corn continues with a very small amount of dry corn coming in. Moistures are still high and it's hard to justify bringing such high moistures in for storage. A bit of snow with more predicted for next week, but temps have moderated back into the 30s and 40s.

NW/WC—CHIPPEWA/EAU CLAIRE-J.C.: Corn harvest continues with moisture levels higher than normal. Many fields still have moisture content around 30 to 40 percent. Manure application continues where conditions allow.

NC—ASHLAND/IRON-K.R.: Soybean harvest is wrapping up and many farmers are trying to bale the straw but finding it difficult with snowfall. Corn harvest is progressing well as the fields have firmed up due to cold temperatures. Yields are average for the area.

NE—SHAWANO-B.R.: Snow early in the week followed by around an inch of rain on Thursday. Still with these conditions, many were in the soybean and corn fields chipping away at acres for harvest. The frozen ground allowed for combines to travel across the fields without making deep ruts. Moisture of the grains actually increased this week due to the precipitation that fell throughout the week and cloudy weather. Very little tillage done this week with an average of about four inches of frost in the ground.

WC—LA CROSSE-LH.: Still plenty of corn in the fields. Good hiding places for deer. Some fields have wet spots that will never be harvested.

WC—ST CROIX-D.K.: Corn harvest continues. Drying is the main holdup. Ground is frozen so no tillage can be done. Lots of corn stalks for bedding being done.

C/EC—OUTAGAMIE/WAUPACA-D.L.H.: Rain (0.7 inch) fell this week to make fields slippery and slowed corn harvest.

EC—CALUMET/MANITOWOC-K.P.: Manure continues to be spread onto fields with the warmer weather thawing out the ground. Many farmers are still waiting for their fields to dry out to finish combining their corn and soybeans, but were able to get some off over the weekend.

EC—KEWAUNEE-T.S.: Not much has been happening in this area, other than corn being combined. Most everything else is done, but some manure is still being applied. Considering the calendar is nearly at the end of November, a lot of corn is still standing in this area, waiting to be harvested. The moisture is the biggest obstacle to getting it off the field; most corn moisture here is right around 30 percent. It will take a lot of heat to dry the corn to the right level, so driers are taking longer to process the crop. A few fields of soybeans are still standing, but most of that has long been off the fields. Trying to get the fall tillage done has been more of a challenge this fall than it has been in a long, long time. This is because of the very wet soils. The tillage went somewhat better when the ground was frozen a bit. Now that the frost has completely left the ground, the tillage is a mess, especially in the lower spots. There is water standing in a few areas, and spinning is a common problem. And with more rain and snow predicted this coming week, the situation won't get any better. Many producers are just ready to put this year to bed, and some may be content to let a few fields go into winter not being tilled at all.

EC/SE—FOND DU LAC/WASHINGTON-B.B.: An inch of rain this week. The combines were able to pass over some frozen ground Tuesday and Thursday allowing the shell corn harvest to proceed a little bit. Some producers may be leaving the soybeans that remain in the field.

SW—VERNON-K.L.: Farmers continued to get little field work done due to the rain, snow, and slippery field conditions.

SC—DANE-F.P.: Most of the corn has been harvested and the grain dryers are being utilized. Tillage is being completed and there is water standing in lower fields.

SC—DODGE-R.H.: Need nice weather to make bedding.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 24, 2019

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. 23	Mar. 1 to Nov. 23 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire.....	39	28	45	21	34	+3	2604	2599	0.81	12.01	+4.51	42.57	+11.95
Green Bay	39	30	45	26	34	+1	2623	2456	0.77	15.50	+8.46	45.20	+17.98
La Crosse	41	31	48	24	36	+2	3277	2953	0.94	12.35	+5.17	42.80	+12.23
Madison.....	41	30	52	23	35	+1	2945	2926	0.68	14.56	+7.53	46.05	+15.35
Milwaukee.....	43	32	55	25	38	+1	2918	NA	0.39	14.59	+6.79	43.53	+11.53

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

For more weather data, please reference the following sites:
<https://www.noaa.gov/> <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/> <https://www.cocorahs.org/> <https://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.