



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 November 17, 2019
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Wisconsin had 4.2 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending November 17, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Last week's unseasonable cold continued into the beginning of this week with overnight lows in the single digits and daytime highs below freezing. Snow and sleet midweek marked a transition to milder temperatures and rain for the weekend. Reporters in many parts of the state noted that the ground was now frozen, facilitating access to wet fields. A few reporters in southern and eastern Wisconsin said that the frost depth was insufficient to support machinery, however, and some locations had enough snow on the ground to interfere with harvesting. Grain moistures remained unfavorably high due to the cold, wet conditions. The corn silage and soybean harvests were struggling to wrap up, while corn for grain was picking up pace. Some farmers were taking crops as quickly as possible, while others were delaying work to save on drying costs. Tillage and manure incorporation had largely halted.

Topsoil moisture condition was rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 68 percent adequate and 32 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition was rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 69 percent adequate and 30 percent surplus.

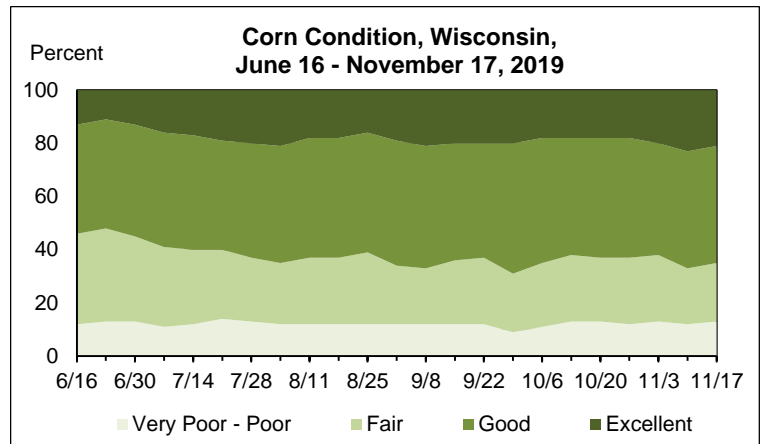
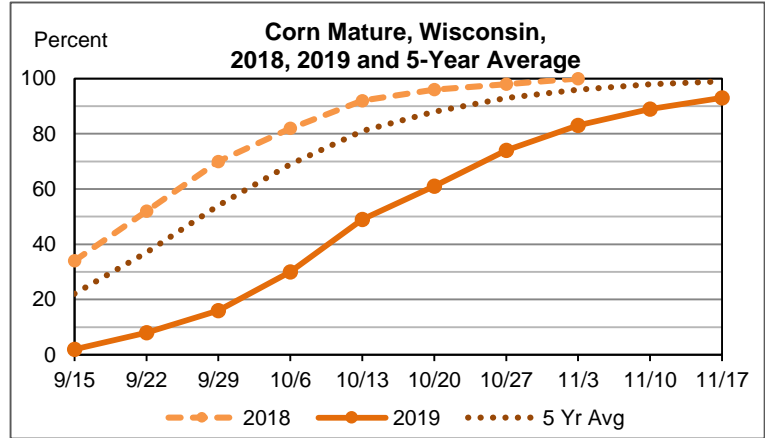
Ninety-three percent of **corn** was reported mature. Harvest of corn for grain was 44 percent complete, 21 days behind last year and 18 days behind the 5-year average. Corn condition was 65 percent good to excellent, 2 percentage points below last week. Corn for silage harvest was 95 percent complete. The moisture content of corn harvested for grain was reported at 24 percent.

Soybean harvest was 77 percent complete, 14 days behind last year and 20 days behind the average.

Winter wheat was 84 percent planted. Sixty percent of winter wheat had emerged, 24 days behind last year and 25 days behind the average.

The fourth cutting of **alfalfa hay** was 92 percent complete.

Fall tillage was reported as 36 percent complete, 14 days behind last year and 21 days behind the average.



Crop Condition as of November 17, 2019

	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn	4	9	22	44	21
Winter wheat.....	4	9	34	35	18

Crop Progress as of November 17, 2019

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Alfalfa hay, fourth cutting	86	88	98	96	86	85	96	97	93	92	91	100	100
Corn mature.....	94	94	96	88	92	87	93	98	94	93	89	100	99
Corn harvested for grain	44	31	31	36	39	32	58	56	38	44	30	78	77
Corn harvested for silage.....	95	86	99	93	96	95	98	99	98	95	92	100	99
Fall tillage	47	21	18	28	42	39	42	34	46	36	31	56	64
Soybeans harvested.....	90	68	65	90	79	63	78	75	78	77	71	90	95
Winter wheat planted.....	89	94	70	71	76	86	84	78	93	84	80	98	98
Winter wheat emerged.....	86	91	41	58	67	60	54	48	87	60	55	87	91

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of November 17, 2019

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
Days suitable	4.5	5.8	4.0	4.6	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.0	2.4	4.2	4.0	5.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short.....	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Adequate	80	79	38	72	67	53	85	65	51	68	68	75
Surplus	20	18	62	28	33	47	15	35	49	32	32	24
Subsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Short.....	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Adequate	80	79	34	74	67	55	89	67	49	69	69	77
Surplus	20	15	66	26	33	45	11	33	51	30	30	22

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.: Cold but mostly dry conditions helped growers make progress on grain harvest. Yields reported average to good, but moisture levels continue to drop slowly. Fall tillage, soil sampling, and manure injection have become impossible.

NW—RUSK-G.P.: Slow harvest this week. Soybeans and silage are done, high moisture corn harvest is ongoing. Corn for dry grain going very slow; moistures are still quite high and with low commodity prices and high drying costs farmers are not in a hurry to start bringing it in. Test weights are poor this year, too much rain and not enough heat. Some snow on the ground but not really enough to cause problems.

NC—CLARK-R.H.: Ground is frozen at this time and there may not be much fall tillage going forward. Corn silage harvest continues, as some late planted corn is harvested for fodder. There is some hay being cut and harvested also with some snow. Soybeans are still coming in, but should be near the end.

WC—ST CROIX-J.L.: Ground is frozen now. Snow and cold slowed down harvest. Propane shortage negatively affecting farmers as well.

WC—TREMPEALEAU-L.N.: Not much progress being made on corn harvest. Yields disappointing. Within fields finding varying moisture contents and maturity causing issues with drying. Some soybeans left to harvest and most of the corn on heavy ground is too wet to harvest. Test weights in question also.

C—PORTAGE/WOOD-J.W.: Feeding cattle and manure hauling were the major activities this week. Hauling sand and flooding of some cranberry beds for bud protection were the major cranberry marsh activities.

EC—DOOR/KEWAUNEE-A.B.: Some farmers are still trying to make corn silage despite its condition. Moistures are running around 50-55 percent, but most of the moisture is in the stalk. Feed shortages will be a problem, as most did not harvest fourth crop hay and corn silage quality is not great. Most cover crops and winter wheat were not planted either. Snow cover is light and isn't a problem for fieldwork, but a frozen top layer with soggy wet ground below it is making for continued messy fieldwork. There's still quite a bit of manure to haul, so there is still a lot to do before the end of the year.

EC—MANITOWOC-M.R.: Saw a couple farms still chopping corn silage this past week and some hay being chopped. Fair amount of corn and soybeans still in the fields but progress is being made on harvesting.

SW—VERNON-K.L.: We have 4-5 inches of frost now, temps below normal and rain and snow at times. There are still beans around the county that need to be harvested. Corn harvest continues and corn has been running from 17-22 percent moisture.

SC—ROCK-C.O.: Weather has prevented harvest of soybeans, but corn harvest progressing very slowly. Corn harvest hampered by moisture in the crop and in the fields. Very little tillage being done, and very little fall applied fertilizer going on. The other issue is making bedding from corn stalks. Snow cover is not helping.

SE—WALWORTH-N.W.: More wet conditions to contend with. Corn is high in moisture and low in test weight. A lot of soybeans are left to harvest yet. Not very many wheat acres planted due to the soybeans still standing. Hopefully the heavy snow stays away.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on November 17, 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. 16	Mar. 1 to Nov. 16 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal *	Year to date	Year dep. from normal *
Eau Claire.....	30	17	44	2	24	-10	2604	2595	0.04	11.20	+4.16	41.76	+11.50
Green Bay	30	17	39	8	23	-13	2623	2452	0.28	14.73	+8.22	44.43	+17.67
La Crosse	34	20	44	6	27	-11	3277	2948	0.03	11.41	+4.74	41.86	+11.75
Madison.....	30	16	41	4	23	-14	2944	2917	0.20	13.88	+7.40	45.37	+15.13
Milwaukee.....	32	20	42	9	26	-14	2915	NA	0.21	14.20	+7.03	43.14	+11.88

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.