



# Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

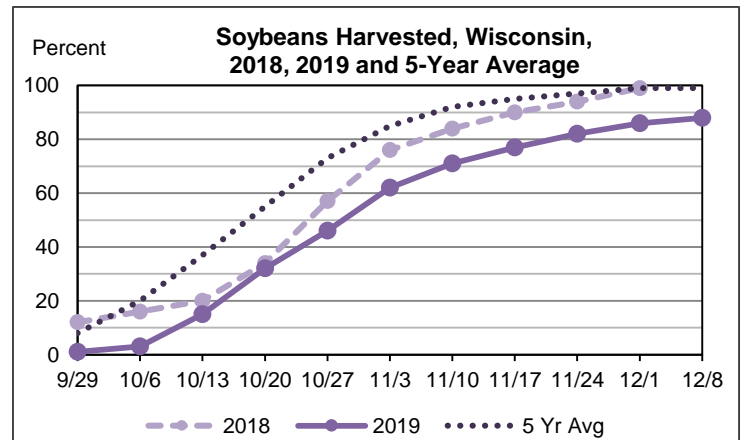
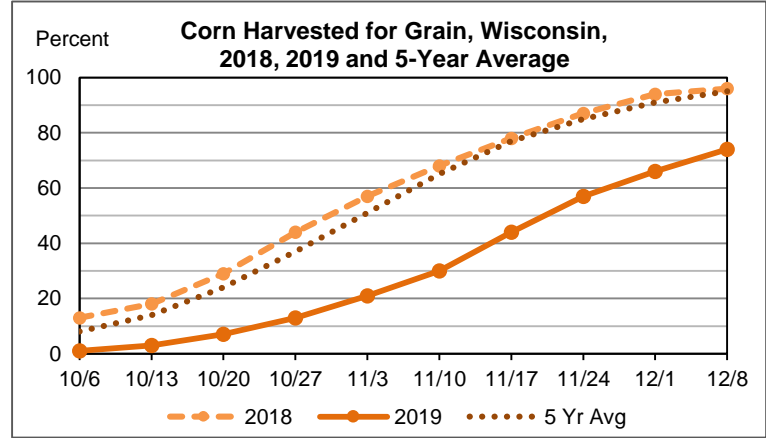
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For the week ending December 8, 2019  
Media Contact: Greg Bussler

Wisconsin had 4.1 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending December 8, 2019, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Dry and sunny weather this week gave some farmers a chance to plug away at the harvest. Poor field conditions and high grain moistures continued to hamper progress, however. Northern Wisconsin remained buried in deep snow cover after last weekend's winter storm. Ground conditions under the snow varied from well frozen to soft mud, allowing fieldwork to progress in some areas and completely preventing work in others. Reporters noted that the remaining snow covered soybeans were unlikely to be harvested. Bare ground in southern and central Wisconsin allowed more access to standing crops, but had a similar range of firm to muddy conditions with standing water reported in some areas. Grain moistures didn't budge from the previous week and reporters noted that some farmers were still delaying harvest activities in hopes the grain will dry down further.

Harvest of **corn** for grain was 74 percent complete, 24 days behind last year and 23 days behind the 5-year average. The moisture content of corn harvested for grain was reported at 23 percent.

**Soybean** harvest was 88 percent complete, 23 days behind last year.



## Crop Progress as of December 8, 2019

Item	Districts										State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average	
Corn harvested for grain .....	(percent) 70	(percent) 46	(percent) 67	(percent) 63	(percent) 68	(percent) 72	(percent) 83	(percent) 85	(percent) 78	(percent) 74	(percent) 66	(percent) 96	(percent) 95	
Soybeans harvested .....	95	88	78	96	92	75	89	88	91	88	86	100	99	

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork as of December 8, 2019

Item	Districts										State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	
Days suitable .....	(days) 3.1	(days) 4.9	(days) 1.5	(days) 2.7	(days) 4.8	(days) 3.4	(days) 4.9	(days) 5.3	(days) 4.6	(days) 4.1	(days) 3.0	(days) NA	

NA= not available

**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—BAYFIELD/DOUGLAS-K.R.:** Harvest is mostly complete. Fields have 2-3 feet of snow cover. There is no frost present and soil is very wet under the snow. Farmers are hopeful snow will prevent winterkill of their hayfields.

**NW—BURNETT/WASHBURN-P.H.:** Snow preventing any tillage or harvest. Still lots of corn in the fields.

**NW—SAWYER-K.S.:** Winter’s early arrival continues to challenge farmers in finishing up corn harvest, fall manure spreading and other pre-winter activities. Over one foot of snow on the ground in northern parts of the county are adding to the challenges. With the snow cover, what little frost was in the ground is now starting to come out. Corn left standing in fields could likely be there for weeks if not until spring.

**NC—CLARK-R.H.:** Received two rounds of heavy, wet snow and it has slowed many corn harvesting operations. Some areas of county have 10-12 inches of snow and some corn fields has snow blown in deeper. Not sure if the snow or corn moisture is the reason there was little to no harvest activity this week. Both do contribute to farmers decisions.

**WC—ST CROIX-J.L.:** Heavy wet snow has prevented producers from being able to finish their harvest. Lots of snow in the corn stalks has turned to ice, which means most machinery is getting clogged up and making it impossible to continue.

**WC—TREMPEALEAU-L.N.:** Too much moisture and unfrozen ground means no progress with harvest. Bills coming due, corn still in field, low and inconsistent yields, high moisture leading to higher drying costs, and low test weights are causing great distress in the farm community.

**C—ADAMS/GREEN LAKE/MARQUETTE-L.A.:** Ground is still wet all over.

**C/EC—OUTAGAMIE/WAUPACA-D.L.H.:** Mild weather followed the snowstorm of Sunday, Dec. 1. Some corn is being combined before Monday's weather comes.

**EC—CALUMET/MANITOWOC-K.P.:** Corn harvest and manure spreading activity this week. No precipitation and relatively normal daytime temperatures.

**SW—VERNON-K.L.:** We have had some rain off and on but also a few days of sunshine and warmer temps. There were some farmers that were able to get out and combine but also there still are fields that are slippery and wet.

**SC—COLUMBIA-G.K.:** Lots of corn harvesting took place this past week. Combines rolled through some pretty muddy conditions which got better as the week progressed. Rain Sunday night into Monday has brought harvest to a standstill again.

**SC—GREEN-J.T.:** Harvest of corn progressed this week, but there is still a considerable percentage of corn standing in the fields. Soil moisture is high making harvest a challenge in the mud. A few acres of soybeans were harvested, but the bean moisture is high. Large fields of soybeans are still standing waiting for better weather. Livestock producers finally had some weather to bale corn stalks, but the bales are steaming due to wetness.

**SE—WALWORTH-N.W.:** Producers are still fighting field conditions to finish harvesting. The soybeans that are being harvested are 18-20 percent moisture. Corn coming off has light test weight.

**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on December 8, 2019**

City	Temperature						Precipitation		
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Last Week	Year to date	Year to date dep. from normal
Eau Claire.....	35	16	39	7	25	+2	0.03	43.73	+12.27
Green Bay .....	34	22	36	13	28	+2	0.31	47.20	+18.94
La Crosse .....	39	25	43	21	32	+5	0.04	44.19	+12.63
Madison.....	39	25	43	20	32	+4	0.04	47.23	+15.54
Milwaukee .....	40	28	44	24	34	+3	0.18	44.74	+11.60

\*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.