

Winnebago County Crops Quick Update

Assembled by Nick Schneider, Winnebago County Agriculture Agent

September 28, 2009

Wisconsin Crop Progress: September 27 2009. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office

Full report at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/>

| Soil Moisture | | |
|---------------|------------------------|---------------|
| | East Central Wisconsin | State Average |
| Very Short | 18 | 12 |
| Short | 36 | 37 |
| Adequate | 46 | 46 |
| Surplus | 0 | 5 |

| Wisconsin Weekly Weather | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|---|--------------|
| City | Temperature | | GDD (50 base) | | Last Week | Since Sept 1 | Precipitation Sept 1 dep. from normal | Year to date |
| | Avg. | Avg. dep. from normal | March 1 to Sept. 26 | Normal | | | | |
| Green Bay | 62 | 5 | 2197 | 2266 | 0.92 | 0.92 | -1.86 | -4.35 |
| Madison | 65 | 6 | 2487 | 2656 | 4.00 | 4.00 | 1.17 | 2.91 |

| Wisconsin Crop Progress | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------------|---------------|-----------|--------|
| Crop and percent of acreage | Central | | State Average | | |
| | Central | East Central | This Year | Last Year | 5-Year |
| Corn in dent | 75 | 82 | 84 | 81 | 87 |
| Corn silage harvested | 47 | 21 | 28 | 55 | 67 |
| Soybean dropping leaves | 42 | 52 | 52 | 74 | 73 |
| Fourth cut hay | 54 | 46 | 58 | 50 | 49 |

Crop Conditions: Corn: Very Poor=3%, Poor=9%, Fair=26%, Good=46%, Excellent=16%

Soybeans: Very Poor=2%, Poor=6%, Fair=26%, Good=52%, Excellent=14%

Observations of the week: Corn Silage Dry-down Summary:

State wide dry-down data is summarized at the following website:

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/ag/silagedrydown/index.cfm>

During the dry spell in early to mid-September, corn silage dried-down a bit faster than normal. However, with the rainfall that started coming at the beginning of last week and still continuing, dry-down collection data indicated the corn silage has rehydrated a few percent. Looking at the corn silage moisture graphs for Region 2 (including Outagamie County) and Region 4 (including Winnebago, Calumet, and Fond du Lac Counties) corn silage moisture was lowest from September 14th through 17th, with the majority of samples in the mid to upper 60% percent moisture range. Samples collected on the 22nd and 23rd were in the upper 60's to low 70's percent moisture range. During the County Agents

Friday teleconference, there was much discussion about the erratic silage moisture, noting that the old rules of thumb about milk line did not work very well this year. I do not have any other corn silage dry-down days scheduled, but would be glad to bring my equipment out to a farm if they need moisture checked. Call 920-232-1971.

Corn Development: To my surprise, when checking corn this morning, I found the kernels on ears in one field near the office black layered from the base to the tip. I don't know the relative maturity but the field was planted on May 18th. Kernel moisture was quite high yet at 36%. This is obviously a good sign because of all the concern about the cold growing season. Hopefully we can get past the next three days without frost. For Winnebago County, a first frost is to be expected between the last few days in September and first week in October.

The Soy Report: UW Soybean Specialist, Shawn Connelly, and Plant Pathologist, Paul Esker
Two new tip sheets were created and can be found as attachments or at: <http://soybean.uwex.edu/>
One tip sheet is a review of techniques to improve wheat stand establishment and the other is a summary of research on nitrogen use rates in wheat.