



National Agricultural Statistics Service
Michigan Statistical Office
Michigan Department of Agriculture

Michigan Crop-Weather



MI-CW4104

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Good Harvest Conditions

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending October 10, according to the USDA-NASS-Michigan Statistical Office. Most areas reported their first killing frost as overnight temperatures dipped into the twenties. The frost wrapped up the growing season for most farmers. Temperatures ranged from 2 degrees below normal in the southwest Lower Peninsula to 3 degrees above normal in the western Upper Peninsula. Continued dry and sunny conditions helped dry down field crops and aided in harvest progress. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.20 inches in the southeast Lower Peninsula to 0.99 inches in the northeast Lower Peninsula. A farmer in the south central commented, "With the good weather, we are gaining ground on the harvest fast." An operator in the northwest agreed, "The warm, dry weather helped to mature and dry down late planted crops. The conditions are ideal for field work, no mud or getting stuck."

Field Crops

The first widespread frost ended the growing season for most field crops. A few districts could have used a bit more time before the frost, but most areas reported crops mature enough that the cold temperatures didn't adversely affect them. **Soybean** harvest continued. Farmers reported beans with single digit moisture levels. The dry weather allowed operators to make good progress. **Corn** harvest moved along. Silage chopping progressed rapidly and combining picked up speed. **Sugarbeet** harvest continued at a moderated pace as growers and processors waited for cooler temperatures to facilitate storage. Producers were also hoping for some moisture to soften the ground for harvest. **Dry bean** combining moved along rapidly, with harvest nearly complete in some areas. **Wheat** planting progressed, although some growers were holding off in hope of some rain. **Hay** harvest continued, with third crop nearly wrapped up and fourth cutting over half complete.

Soil moisture for week ending 10/10/04

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	31	46	23	0
Subsoil	20	46	34	0

Crop condition for week ending 10/10/04

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All Hay	3	18	41	27	11
Corn	3	10	32	42	13
Pasture	10	27	37	20	6
Soybeans	3	10	33	41	13

Fruit

Apple harvest progressed rapidly last week, as cold evening temperatures throughout the region accelerated ripening. Growers in the Ridge area were picking Red Delicious, Spy, Ida Reds, and Jonathan varieties. In the Southeast, Ida Red, Rome, Fuji, Red Delicious, Crispin, and Northern Spy harvest was ongoing. Concord **grape** harvest concluded last week. Harvest of wine varieties neared completion.

Vegetables

Statewide, most vegetable growing areas were hit with their first killing frost this week. The low temperatures brought a halt to the vegetable growing season. Operators continued to pick late season crops and worked to wrap up the harvest of summer vegetables. **Pumpkin** and **squash** picking moved along as farmers geared up for the busy fall holiday season. Growers continued to harvest **potatoes**. **Celery** harvest was over 90 percent completed. **Zucchini** harvest was almost finished. In the southeast, **tomato** and **cabbage** harvest neared completion. **Carrot** digging moved along.

Crop progress for week ending 10/10/04

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All hay, third cutting	94	82	92	95
All hay, fourth cutting	50	31	32	51
Apples, harvested	67	48	NA	NA
Corn, dent	96	89	99	99
Corn, mature	66	45	80	84
Corn, harvested	13	5	7	15
Corn silage, harvested	88	73	91	91
Dry beans, harvested	93	86	93	80
Potatoes, harvested	74	51	NA	NA
Soybeans, turning leaves	97	89	100	99
Soybeans, dropping leaves	91	61	97	92
Soybeans, harvested	40	16	35	32
Sugarbeets, harvested	5	2	6	30
Winter wheat, planted	63	41	52	56
Winter wheat, emerged	12	9	14	19

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 10/10/04 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2004	2003	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	77	27		1,905	2,121		0.47	1.51	2.21	20.59		
Marquette	77	25		1,812	2,039		0.24	1.16	2.00	20.04		
Stephenson	80	22		2,173	2,326		0.57	1.92	2.48	19.67		
Western UP	80	21	3	1,921	2,110	1,963	0.48	1.54	2.20	18.56	20.81	2.57
Cornell	72	28		1,916	2,227		0.84	1.74	2.32	20.39		
Sault St Marie	73	32		1,653	1,970		1.10	1.76	1.94	19.11		
Eastern UP	78	23	0	1,688	1,964	1,733	0.88	1.78	2.31	18.17	19.78	2.57
Beulah	74	24		2,238	2,311		0.43	1.08	1.20	21.54		
Lake City	75	22		2,171	2,172		0.68	1.13	1.39	18.53		
Old Mission	76	31		2,167	2,285		0.50	1.11	1.16	19.68		
Pellston	76	22		2,055	2,174		0.91	1.97	2.24	17.23		
Northwest	76	22	2	2,104	2,198	2,249	0.63	1.28	1.42	18.55	19.02	2.75
Alpena	80	26		2,147	2,159		0.79	1.06	1.12	16.13		
Houghton Lake	77	21		2,282	2,298		1.73	1.97	2.15	18.20		
Rogers City	79	25		2,154	2,269		0.89	1.21	1.41	18.80		
Northeast	80	21	1	2,172	2,266	2,173	0.99	1.29	1.47	17.48	18.81	2.40
Fremont	74	26		2,511	2,598		1.00	1.37	1.45	18.85		
Hart	72	27		2,360	2,439		0.67	1.49	1.88	20.83		
Muskegon	71	28		2,539	2,701		0.82	1.22	1.30	21.80		
West Central	74	25	0	2,428	2,524	2,461	0.71	1.27	1.50	21.72	19.10	2.94
Alma	76	25		2,639	2,615		0.76	1.10	1.20	22.23		
Big Rapids	74	25		2,460	2,395		1.52	2.00	2.24	22.19		
Central	76	24	0	2,576	2,501	2,540	0.90	1.27	1.38	21.40	19.88	2.59
Bad Axe	79	29		2,453	2,328		0.39	0.63	0.65	18.68		
Pigeon	79	28		2,432	2,312		0.12	0.39	0.42	19.47		
Saginaw	79	26		2,670	2,555		0.32	0.55	0.55	17.73		
Standish	79	23		2,401	2,280		0.48	0.72	0.72	18.64		
East Central	79	23	0	2,451	2,384	2,555	0.37	0.62	0.66	18.95	17.67	2.41
Fennville	76	28		2,591	2,575		0.11	0.19	0.37	14.36		
Grand Rapids	75	29		2,883	2,670		0.90	1.38	1.43	23.19		
Holland	76	30		2,685	2,654		0.61	1.23	1.34	16.84		
South Bend, IN	75	29		3,039	2,855		0.38	0.77	1.13	23.99		
Watervliet	76	28		2,774	2,621		0.27	0.97	1.94	24.49		
Southwest	77	24	-2	2,777	2,680	2,788	0.59	1.13	1.55	22.39	20.54	2.99
Belding	74	24		2,625	2,541		1.36	1.79	1.82	23.97		
Coldwater	76	24		2,710	2,485		0.65	1.80	1.80	23.59		
Lansing	76	28		2,754	2,629		0.30	0.48	0.81	22.37		
South Central	78	24	-1	2,748	2,639	2,737	0.45	0.86	1.07	22.78	19.97	2.41
Detroit	79	35		3,078	2,914		0.10	0.32	0.32	20.19		
Flint	77	25		2,794	2,747		0.39	0.61	0.83	19.13		
Romeo	77	29		2,772	2,571		0.22	0.74	0.76	23.78		
Tipton	77	30		2,766	2,609		0.11	0.92	0.92	18.98		
Toledo, OH	79	33		3,112	2,928		0.02	0.48	0.48	17.85		
Southeast	79	25	0	2,822	2,750	2,736	0.20	0.67	0.69	20.75	18.89	2.33

¹ Issued by the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.

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