



National Agricultural Statistics Service
Michigan Statistical Office
Michigan Department of Agriculture

Michigan Crop-Weather



MI-CW1905

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Cold Temperatures Continue

Four days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 1, according to the USDA-NASS-Michigan Statistical Office. This week saw below normal temperatures throughout most of the State. These low temperatures hindered the emergence of crops in the field and hampered drying out of wet fields. The Upper Peninsula and west central, central, southwest, and south central Lower Peninsula remained abnormally dry according to NOAA's United States Drought Monitor early in the week. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.12 inches in the southwest and south central Lower Peninsula to 0.49 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 5 degree below normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula to 8 degrees below normal in the western Upper Peninsula. A producer in the central Lower Peninsula noted, "cooler temperatures are keeping the soil from drying too rapidly." Another farmer commented, "the fruit trees are starting to blossom, but being cold and windy, the pollinators will not be out."

Field Crops

Below normal temperatures last week slowed down fieldwork but prevented further drying of soils in dry areas of the State. Wet fields did not dry out due to the cooler temperatures. In some areas, farmers were able to continue tillage and planting on the drier soils. **Oat, barley, and corn** planting continued last week and was well ahead of the 5-year average. Emergence continues to be consistent with the 5-year average, but still lags as a percent of the total planted. **Soybean** planting slowed last week due to the cool temperatures and wet fields. **Sugarbeet** planting was almost complete, on pace with last year. **Alfalfa** stands could be stunted in dry areas unless they receive some rains. **Winter wheat** stands remain mostly good and only 5 percent was rated poor or very poor. A report from the northeast Lower Peninsula mentioned that, "some wheat fields have a blueish-red color due to the cold and wet conditions."

Soil moisture for week ending 05/01/05

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	5	22	61	12
Subsoil	3	24	64	9

Crop condition for week ending 05/01/05

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Pasture	0	10	47	32	11
Winter Wheat	3	2	31	55	9

Fruit

Cold temperatures appear to have caused limited damage to Michigan's fruit crops. As a result of the cold temperatures, insect activity was minimal last week. In the southwest, **apple** blooms began to open. Apples were ahead of normal in the southeast, with most in tight cluster to pre-pink, and even a few at pink stage. For the Grand Rapids area, most apple varieties were in open cluster to early pink stage. **Tart cherries** were in full bloom in the southwest and leaves were beginning to unfold. There seemed to be little damage from frost. In the Northwest, freeze damage occurred in cherries. Preliminary evaluations of Montmorency tart cherries showed damage ranging from some to none, depending on the orchard site. In the southeast **sweet cherries** were in full bloom. Growers were hopeful they had enough pollination before the cold temperatures to save the crop. In the Ridge area, sweet cherries were blooming. In the southwest, **peach** bloom ended. Due to the cold snap, the crop was reduced for some varieties and sites, and in some areas there will be no peach crop. In the southeast peaches were at pink bud with a very few early blossoms opening. Peaches were nearing full bloom across the Ridge. In the southwest, **plum** bloom ended and **pear** bloom continued. In the southeast, pears were mostly at bud burst to open cluster. In southwest grown **grapes**, the most advanced Concord shoots were about one inch long. Summer **raspberry** leaves came out in the southwest. Raspberries were at bud break and fall raspberries continued to emerge from the ground in the southeast. In the southeast, **blueberries** were at bud burst. Blueberries were showing a range of development from one-fourth inch green to early pink throughout the Ridge.

Vegetables

Vegetable growers' activities were hindered due to the cold weather and rain across much of the State. The precipitation was much needed but held back fieldwork progress. Many of the emerged **asparagus** spears were killed due to three nights of frost in the west central. **Carrot** planting continued. Growers continued irrigating for germination and to prevent wind erosion.

Crop progress for week ending 05/01/05

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Asparagus, harvested	10	NA	NA	NA
Barley, planted	70	50	56	40
Barley, emerged	23	10	28	21
Corn, planted	36	25	38	18
Corn, emerged	1	0	2	1
Oats, planted	89	70	81	63
Oats, emerged	34	12	41	33
Potatoes, planted	21	15	19	23
Soybeans, planted	8	6	11	5

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/01/05 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2005	2004	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	52	27		140	79		0.08	0.12	0.77	0.79		
Marquette	49	26		110	56		0.62	1.27	2.37	2.37		
Stephenson	56	27		128	138		0.17	0.42	1.27	1.27		
Western UP	59	22	-8	119	74	81	0.23	0.48	1.22	1.22	2.43	3.37
Cornell	60	29		109	83		0.92	1.13	1.33	1.33		
Sault St Marie	52	27		88	25		0.27	0.65	1.24	1.24		
Eastern UP	60	26	-5	97	46	41	0.49	0.92	1.45	1.45	2.56	3.01
Beulah	57	31		191	115		0.40	1.31	1.31	1.31		
Lake City	56	23		156	119		0.17	1.04	1.05	1.05		
Old Mission	55	29		148	89		0.30	1.19	1.19	1.19		
Pellston	56	23		128	96		0.14	1.22	1.32	1.32		
Northwest	57	23	-6	148	97	102	0.24	1.16	1.18	1.18	2.80	2.61
Alpena	55	23		95	97		0.40	1.64	1.72	1.72		
Houghton Lake	55	22		158	136		0.06	0.62	0.68	0.68		
Rogers City	54	24		131	96		0.25	1.26	1.32	1.32		
Northeast	57	22	-6	137	118	92	0.23	1.23	1.28	1.28	2.65	2.76
Fremont	58	25		201	167		0.09	0.40	0.40	0.40		
Hart	57	26		185	136		0.18	0.67	0.71	0.71		
Muskegon	58	28		190	159		0.21	0.42	0.43	0.43		
West Central	62	25	-7	190	147	125	0.16	0.43	0.44	0.44	3.28	2.67
Alma	58	29		193	191		0.18	0.65	0.65	0.65		
Big Rapids	58	28		191	174		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Central	58	25	-6	192	183	140	0.14	0.50	0.50	0.50	3.23	2.79
Bad Axe	55	28		144	136		0.39	1.70	1.74	1.74		
Pigeon	56	32		117	138		0.37	0.84	0.86	0.86		
Saginaw	58	32		142	177		0.30	1.35	1.37	1.37		
Standish	56	31		141	166		0.31	1.36	1.37	1.37		
East Central	59	28	-6	132	158	133	0.32	1.32	1.34	1.34	2.66	2.63
Fennville	61	31		214	165		0.06	0.58	0.61	0.62		
Grand Rapids	60	31		208	223		0.13	0.80	0.81	0.81		
Holland	61	30		210	184		0.20	0.82	0.82	0.82		
South Bend, IN	64	30		239	236		0.07	0.97	1.00	1.03		
Watervliet	62	31		226	203		0.12	0.77	0.78	0.79		
Southwest	65	27	-7	223	211	158	0.12	0.80	0.82	0.83	3.52	3.01
Belding	58	25		201	188		0.15	1.23	1.23	1.23		
Coldwater				194	192		0.00	0.73	0.74	0.74		
Lansing	60	30		212	209		0.06	1.05	1.06	1.06		
South Central	64	25	-6	207	213	159	0.12	0.74	0.74	0.74	3.24	2.92
Detroit	62	34		200	219		0.46	1.54	1.54	1.77		
Flint	58	30		189	220		0.16	1.30	1.30	1.30		
Romeo	60	32		180	195		0.84	2.00	2.01	2.27		
Tipton	61	30		210	204		0.42	1.35	1.38	1.42		
Toledo, OH	56	35		193	235		0.62	2.29	2.31	2.46		
Southeast	64	29	-6	193	212	147	0.43	1.92	1.94	2.08	3.27	2.85

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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