



National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Michigan Field Office  
Michigan Department of Agriculture

# Michigan Crop-Weather



MI-CW1706

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## Dry Planting Season

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending April 30, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.04 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula and central Lower Peninsula to 0.41 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from normal in the east central, southwest, south central, and southeast Lower Peninsula to 2 degrees above normal in the eastern and western Upper Peninsula and northwest Lower Peninsula. This past week, several areas across the State received frost, causing varying levels of damage to the crops. A farmer in the northwest mentioned that, "Cold mornings on April 26 and 28 damaged apricots and sweet cherries. Approximately 20 percent of the open blossoms were damaged but still left plenty for a good crop." A farmer in the southwest mentioned that, "The hay crop continues to grow. A frost laid the hay right over, but it looks like it has come out of it alright."

### Field Crops

Dry conditions were ideal for early spring planting but have caused dust comparable to that of the summer months. Rain was needed to settle dust and activate chemicals. Manure was being spread full force and herbicides were being applied. **Corn** planting was underway. **Soybean** planting was active in some areas. Most **sugarbeets** have been planted and were beginning to emerge. Some frost damage was reported. **Hay** wintered well and was growing quickly, with an early first cutting expected. Most **oats** were in and have begun to emerge. **Wheat** was reported to need rain soon.

Soil moisture for week ending 04/30/06

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	6	22	68	4
Subsoil	1	20	75	4

Crop condition for week ending 04/30/06

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Pasture	2	6	29	48	15
Winter Wheat	0	1	18	58	23

## Fruit

Warm, mild temperatures across Michigan resulted in fruit being about one week ahead of normal development. Tree planting was underway. Tree fruits were blooming and bee activity was heavy. **Apples** in the southwest were at the pink stage. Early varieties were opening. In the Grand Rapids area, most apple varieties were at open cluster. Climbing cutworm damage in apple buds was reported. Early varieties of **blueberries** began blooming in the southeast; leaves were unfolding. Blueberries in the west central were developed in tight cluster to one-quarter inch green. **Peaches** were at petal fall in the southwest; bloom was very heavy. In the southeast, peaches were at first bloom. **Pears** were at open cluster in most areas. **Tart cherries** were in full bloom in the southwest and were starting to show white bud in the west central. **Sweet cherries** were blooming in the west central and were showing first bloom in the northwest. **Plums** in the southeast were at popcorn or white flower. **Grape** buds have burst in the southwest. Cutworms were a concern in the northwest. **Strawberry** bloom began in the southwest. In the southeast, flower buds have emerged from the crown and were susceptible to frost damage.

## Vegetables

Vegetable growers started planting various crops throughout the State. **Asparagus** harvest has begun at a limited level. In the west central, much of the emerged asparagus was damaged due to a frost. Early plantings of **carrots** have emerged. Planting of **celery**, **cabbage**, **sweet corn**, **potatoes**, and **tomatoes** began in many areas across the State and remained on schedule.

Crop progress for week ending 04/30/06

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Asparagus, harvested	9	3	NA	NA
Barley, planted	50	45	67	40
Barley, emerged	10	NA	21	17
Corn, planted	31	8	34	21
Corn, emerged	1	NA	1	1
Oats, planted	79	55	86	62
Oats, emerged	39	12	31	26
Potatoes, planted	31	17	20	NA
Soybeans, planted	8	NA	8	5
Sugarbeets, planted	89	66	99	81

**Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 04/30/06 <sup>1</sup>**

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup>			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2006	2005	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	68	23		157	139		0.41	0.91	1.05	1.15		
Marquette	69	20		124	110		0.06	0.87	1.23	1.27		
Stephenson	63	24		166	156		0.48	0.86	0.98	0.98		
<b>Western UP</b>	72	20	2	138	120	76	0.41	0.91	1.06	1.14	2.28	2.28
Cornell	73	23		149	112		0.07	0.90	1.28	1.44		
Sault St Marie	64	27		98	88		0.03	0.33	1.17	1.33		
<b>Eastern UP</b>	73	15	2	122	97	38	0.04	0.56	1.33	1.47	2.43	2.43
Beulah	71	27		182	191		0.15	0.69	1.28	2.10		
Lake City	70	23		163	156		0.09	0.81	1.80	3.68		
Old Mission	71	25		158	144		0.15	0.43	1.56	1.67		
Pellston	70	20		151	128		0.11	0.89	1.61	1.75		
<b>Northwest</b>	71	20	2	154	146	96	0.12	0.61	1.64	2.29	2.69	2.69
Alpena	70	23		123	94		0.14	0.39	1.22	1.73		
Houghton Lake	69	25		170	158		0.07	0.22	0.94	2.02		
Rogers City	69	25		154	99		0.11	0.33	1.37	2.09		
<b>Northeast</b>	71	19	1	155	133	87	0.11	0.36	1.34	2.17	2.52	2.52
Fremont	67	25		183	196		0.10	0.15	3.34	3.67		
Hart	67	27		169	184		0.23	0.38	2.61	3.02		
Muskegon	67	27		165	190		0.47	0.59	2.03	3.20		
<b>West Central</b>	67	25	1	173	191	118	0.23	0.42	2.64	3.22	3.16	3.16
Alma	71	29		203	212		0.04	0.16	2.20	2.28		
Big Rapids	71	29		212	184		0.04	0.04	2.08	2.08		
<b>Central</b>	71	25	1	202	196	132	0.04	0.12	2.26	2.34	3.07	3.07
Bad Axe	69	27		155	141		0.21	0.21	1.69	2.11		
Pigeon	73	29		152	115		0.21	0.27	2.14	2.40		
Saginaw	69	29		174	140		0.08	0.45	2.01	2.38		
Standish	69	25		182	144		0.17	0.62	2.68	3.10		
<b>East Central</b>	73	25	0	160	141	126	0.15	0.39	2.02	2.30	2.55	2.55
Fennville	68	26		182	208		0.27	0.29	1.99	2.05		
Grand Rapids	67	28		199	207		0.12	0.16	1.89	2.21		
Holland	67	29		196	210		0.41	0.41	1.97	2.29		
South Bend, IN	68	27		226	239		0.71	0.74	2.12	2.43		
Watervliet	67	27		206	225		0.32	0.36	1.61	1.78		
<b>Southwest</b>	69	24	0	203	221	149	0.31	0.33	1.56	1.72	3.41	3.41
Belding	68	27		190	201		0.03	0.11	2.12	2.23		
Coldwater	68	25		208	187		0.09	0.16	1.32	1.44		
Lansing	67	29		199	210		0.08	0.19	1.70	1.90		
<b>South Central</b>	71	25	0	203	212	150	0.09	0.18	1.23	1.37	3.19	3.19
Detroit	72	34		213	197		0.04	0.71	2.47	2.71		
Flint	66	27		178	187		0.01	0.59	2.11	2.21		
Romeo	68	32		182	178		0.02	0.74	2.96	3.03		
Tipton	69	27		218	208		0.20	0.31	1.32	1.32		
Toledo, OH	72	28		248	190		0.10	0.16	0.95	1.38		
<b>Southeast</b>	73	25	0	210	193	139	0.08	0.47	1.92	2.13	3.21	3.21

<sup>1</sup> Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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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