

Michigan Crop-Weather

Rainy and Cool

Three days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 14, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation amounts ranged from 1.76 inches in the northeast Lower Peninsula to 3.27 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 2 degrees below normal in the southwest and south central Lower Peninsula to 3 degrees above normal in the northwest and northeast Lower Peninsula. Rains began the evening of May 10 and continued through the weekend. All fieldwork ended when the rains started. This will benefit crops already in the ground, but farmers may not be able to return to the field for several days. A farmer in the southwest mentioned that, "A strange week. It started with dust storms as one went across the fields and ended with lots of rain and ponding water." A farmer in the central district mentioned that, "Three inches of rain so far. Good thing we were ahead on planting because it looks like we will lose at least the middle week of May."

Field Crops

Across the State, a much needed rain was reported. **Corn** planting was well underway with a few farmers waiting until after the rain to plant. **Soybean** planting was well underway. Early plantings have begun to emerge with the rain. Most **sugarbeets** continued to emerge with few problems. After the rain lets up some fields may need to be replanted due to crusting over of the early dry plantings. Herbicide application has halted. High nitrogen prices this year may result in more soil testing than in previous years. **Hay** was growing quickly with first cuttings expected shortly. Alfalfa weevils were reported in the southwest, though the first cutting will reduce the threat. **Oats** and **barley** continued to emerge and were in good condition. Some **wheat** was laid flat by rains and high winds. Some mildew problems were reported.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/14/06

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	2	8	41	49
Subsoil	1	16	56	27

Crop condition for week ending 05/14/06

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Oats	0	1	21	65	13
Pasture	2	5	31	42	20
Winter Wheat	0	2	18	60	20

Fruit

Rain moved across Michigan last week and contributed to disease development. **Apple** bloom was ending in the southwest. Aphids and leafroller larvae were found. Southeastern apples were at petal fall and west central area apples were blooming. In the northwest, apples were generally in pink. Weather conditions resulted in a high scab infection period. Oriental fruit moth catches were high in the southeast. **Blueberries** were beginning to bloom in central areas, while those in the southwest were in full bloom. Varieties in the southeast reached the late pink bud stage. **Peaches** throughout southwest and southeast areas were in the shuck. West central blooming was nearing its end. **Pears** were at petal fall to pea-size fruit in the in the southwest and southeast. Pear psylla nymphs and blister mite were present. In **tart cherries**, reporters from the southwest indicated that Montmorency cherries were in the shuck. Southeastern tart cherries were in late petal fall to mostly in the shuck. **Sweet cherries** were at shuck split in the southwest and southeast. Bloom was ending in the west central. Cherry leaf spot was reported in some areas. **Plums** were in the shuck. **Grape** shoots that survived the previous week's frost were 4 to 6 inches long in the southwest. Southeastern Concord grape shoots were 1 to 2 inches in length. Grape leaf black rot was reported in some areas. **Strawberries** were blooming in the southwest. In the southeast, 20 to 30 percent of the strawberry crop was in bloom.

Vegetables

Various vegetable crops continued to be planted by growers. However, planting was slowed down by the much needed rainfall throughout the State. **Asparagus** harvest slowed due to the rainfall and the dramatic drop in temperatures. Transplanting continued for **tomatoes**, **summer squash**, **zucchini** and **cucumbers**. Direct seeding of summer squash and cucumbers also continued. **Carrot** planting continued on schedule and the stands looked very good. **Celery** planting was well underway. **Cabbage** looked good at this time. **Onion** planting was completed. **Potato** planting had progressed very well and emergence began in some areas. Early plantings of **sweet corn** began to emerge and looked good.

Crop progress for week ending 05/14/06

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Asparagus, harvested	36	26	22	25
Barley, planted	83	70	81	71
Barley, emerged	66	37	52	49
Corn, planted	79	62	80	59
Corn, emerged	32	6	12	17
Oats, planted	96	87	95	88
Oats, emerged	87	67	77	66
Potatoes, planted	63	41	64	NA
Potatoes, emerged	18	3	8	NA
Soybeans, planted	54	25	53	32
Soybeans, emerged	7	0	4	6
Sugarbeets, planted	100	96	100	99

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/14/06 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			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	63	34		226	210		3.29	3.53	4.44	4.68		
Marquette	72	32		184	178		5.25	5.35	6.22	6.62		
Stephenson	73	37		241	239		2.48	2.87	3.73	3.85		
Western UP	73	32	-1	202	191	154	3.27	3.52	4.43	4.66	3.72	3.37
Cornell	70	36		214	165		2.76	3.15	4.05	4.59		
Sault St Marie	73	39		190	143		1.63	1.64	1.97	2.97		
Eastern UP	74	32	2	198	155	91	2.77	2.90	3.45	4.36	3.85	3.01
Beulah	73	40		280	276		2.88	3.24	3.93	5.34		
Lake City	73	34		261	234		2.59	2.65	3.46	6.33		
Old Mission	78	39		260	223		1.49	1.52	1.95	3.19		
Pellston	77	32		251	207		1.66	1.66	2.55	3.41		
Northwest	78	32	3	250	223	188	2.05	2.13	2.73	4.42	3.92	2.61
Alpena	78	33		235	170		1.57	1.60	1.99	3.33		
Houghton Lake	74	34		275	244		2.02	2.08	2.30	4.10		
Rogers City	76	34		256	187		1.70	1.73	2.06	3.82		
Northeast	78	31	3	263	217	174	1.76	1.79	2.15	3.96	3.87	2.76
Fremont	74	36		288	294		2.80	3.07	3.22	6.74		
Hart	72	36		262	269		2.54	2.91	3.29	5.93		
Muskegon	72	40		260	280		2.94	3.17	3.76	6.37		
West Central	77	25	0	269	276	224	2.56	2.83	3.25	6.05	4.31	2.67
Alma	77	38		319	310		2.68	2.95	3.11	5.23		
Big Rapids	77	38		321	268		2.18	2.45	2.49	4.53		
Central	77	35	0	313	287	248	2.50	2.77	2.90	5.12	4.42	2.79
Bad Axe	75	44		272	212		1.21	1.25	1.46	3.36		
Pigeon	78	41		282	210		2.33	2.33	2.60	4.73		
Saginaw	75	42		292	234		3.50	3.61	4.06	5.99		
Standish	75	37		296	234		4.00	4.03	4.65	7.13		
East Central	78	36	2	273	231	234	2.31	2.36	2.75	4.66	3.82	2.63
Fennville	76	36		277	319		3.65	4.35	4.64	6.40		
Grand Rapids	75	37		309	319		2.80	3.24	3.40	5.45		
Holland	77	37		307	321		2.68	3.46	3.49	5.37		
South Bend, IN	76	37		335	383		2.90	3.47	4.21	5.90		
Watervliet	75	37		314	346		2.43	2.87	3.23	4.65		
Southwest	77	36	-2	310	341	275	2.14	2.57	2.88	4.26	4.77	3.01
Belding	75	35		290	293		2.42	3.08	3.19	5.31		
Coldwater	75	37		316	307		2.12	2.60	2.76	4.04		
Lansing	75	39		313	320		3.23	3.63	3.82	5.53		
South Central	77	34	-2	313	326	274	1.85	2.27	2.47	4.06	4.61	2.92
Detroit	73	42		348	314		2.61	3.40	4.11	6.11		
Flint	74	35		297	295		2.21	2.61	3.20	4.82		
Romeo	73	29		313	275		2.36	2.61	3.35	5.64		
Tipton	76	38		331	328		2.62	3.25	3.56	4.57		
Toledo, OH	74	37		372	321		2.63	3.59	3.75	4.97		
Southeast	77	29	-1	332	310	257	2.60	3.21	3.68	5.34	4.52	2.85

¹ 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.

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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