

# Michigan Crop-Weather

## Rainy Weather Returns

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending July 23, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.25 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula to 1.60 inches in the central Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from normal in the Lower Peninsula to 2 degrees above normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Adequate rains fell across most of the State. According to the U.S. Drought Index, the Upper Peninsula is in an abnormally dry to moderate drought situation. A farmer in the southwest mentioned that, "We received two to three inches of much needed rain and the crops are looking better." A farmer in the south central said that, "One inch of rain this week continued to let the corn, soybeans, and hay do well. The high humidity and rain slowed down the wheat harvest."

## Field Crops

Rainfall was variable across the State. **Corn** continued to grow and most fields have tasseled. Rainfall has helped in most areas. **Soybean** fields were blooming. Some fields had problems with root rots, nematodes, and Japanese beetles. Second cuttings of **hay** continued and third cuttings began in some areas. Potato leafhopper damage was severe in unsprayed alfalfa. **Wheat** harvest was finishing, with some delays due to rain. **Oat** harvest began. **Barley** was in good condition. **Dry beans** were blooming, with some fields damaged by standing water. **Sugarbeet** growth continued, with some damage from excessive rainfall. Some ground conditions were too wet to apply fungicides.

## Fruit

Michigan **apple** producers were anticipating the emergence of second generation codling moth and oriental fruit moth. Japanese beetle and apple maggot populations exploded in southern areas. Southeastern producers harvested Lodi apples. Producers across the State were concerned with dry conditions, especially in the northwest. **Peaches** were coloring in the southwest where harvest of Garnet Beauties and other early varieties began last week. Split pits and a shortage of harvest labor were a problem. Most peaches in the southeast were 1.75 inches. Harvest of Red Havens will begin in approximately 7 days. **Plums** continued to color in the southwest. Southeastern Methley plum harvest began. **Tart cherry** and **sweet cherry** harvest was complete in the southwest and southeast. Storms on July 17 damaged cherry trees in the west central and northwest areas. Wind damage was widespread, while hail damage was more isolated. Sweet cherry harvest yielded a nice crop and was nearing completion in the northwest. The tart cherry crop received a great deal of storm damage in the northwest and west central with cherries blown to the ground or suffering wind whip. **Blueberry** harvest was underway in the southwest. Southeastern producers of Bluejay and other early varieties began harvest. **Grapes** were nearing berry touch in the southeast. Grapes in the southwest were at or past berry touch, and producers found grape berry moth larvae. The northwestern wine crop looks good. **Strawberry** renovation was complete at most farms.

## Vegetables

In most areas throughout the State, the much needed rain helped soil moisture and utilization of nitrogen applications. **Summer squash** harvest was in full swing with continuing reports of Squash vine borer in the west central. **Zucchini** harvest continued with some plants damaged from heavy rains. **Cucumber** harvest continued at a steady pace and fields showed signs of downy mildew in some areas. **Carrots** and **Celery** continued to develop nicely on schedule. **Cabbage** looked good with few insect problems. **Onions** continued to develop in size. **Pumpkin** plants continued to vine heavily with some flowers showing. **Potato** harvest continued with some reports of leafhopper damage. **Sweet corn** harvest was in full swing. **Tomatoes** for processing continued to develop well while harvest began for tunneled fields. **Peppers** continued to size and set fruit.

Soil moisture for week ending 07/23/06

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	5	19	62	14
Subsoil	5	17	71	7

Crop condition for week ending 07/23/06

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All Hay	1	8	27	46	18
Barley	1	17	17	40	25
Corn	1	9	25	52	13
Dry beans	1	10	23	50	16
Oats	1	12	25	49	13
Pasture	7	19	28	37	9
Soybeans	2	7	28	52	11
Winter Wheat	1	2	23	55	19

Crop progress for week ending 07/23/06

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>
Corn, height	62	53	66	55
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All hay, second cutting	64	57	65	53
All hay, third cutting	5	NA	NA	NA
Blueberries, harvested	22	8	30	NA
Corn, silked	64	18	64	34
Dry beans, blooming	47	5	46	26
Oats, turning yellow	79	70	92	66
Oats, harvested	12	NA	5	6
Peaches, harvested	5	NA	7	NA
Soybeans, blooming	75	24	78	56
Soybeans, setting pods	33	7	31	16
Tart cherries, harvested	67	59	75	NA
Winter wheat, harvested	78	22	73	63

**Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/23/06 <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	84	50		1,307	1,340		0.28	1.30	1.88	9.37		
Marquette	82	44		1,198	1,237		0.38	0.73	1.37	10.73		
Stephenson	95	43		1,337	1,383		0.02	0.10	0.41	6.75		
<b>Western UP</b>	95	42	1	1,261	1,290	1,047	0.28	1.41	1.88	9.34	11.81	3.42
Cornell	87	51		1,254	1,255		0.41	1.37	3.04	10.62		
Sault St Marie	87	52		1,189	1,225		0.29	0.74	1.08	5.67		
<b>Eastern UP</b>	87	47	2	1,177	1,180	876	0.25	0.90	1.92	8.94	10.96	3.19
Beulah	89	53		1,374	1,497		0.52	0.53	1.01	9.45		
Lake City	88	51		1,324	1,414		0.10	0.35	2.44	14.41		
Old Mission	93	49		1,336	1,409		0.13	0.17	0.38	6.60		
Pellston	88	46		1,350	1,401		0.82	1.29	1.77	7.93		
<b>Northwest</b>	93	46	0	1,305	1,398	1,197	0.28	0.49	1.33	9.78	10.65	2.99
Alpena	90	51		1,363	1,322		0.64	0.94	3.38	9.65		
Houghton Lake	90	49		1,387	1,435		0.15	0.42	2.97	10.62		
Rogers City	91	50		1,371	1,364		0.41	0.67	2.21	9.33		
<b>Northeast</b>	93	47	0	1,377	1,398	1,153	0.43	0.70	2.61	10.04	10.54	3.18
Fremont	90	54		1,483	1,611		1.69	3.48	3.81	13.44		
Hart	90	55		1,375	1,536		1.42	1.80	2.69	13.78		
Muskegon	88	57		1,466	1,621		1.88	3.09	3.16	12.05		
<b>West Central</b>	93	52	0	1,422	1,566	1,320	1.23	1.98	2.42	11.86	10.64	2.54
Alma	91	54		1,549	1,598		1.79	4.25	5.11	14.60		
Big Rapids	91	54		1,539	1,521		1.75	4.21	4.68	13.18		
<b>Central</b>	91	54	0	1,534	1,553	1,382	1.60	4.30	5.09	14.18	11.54	2.97
Bad Axe	91	56		1,469	1,513		1.63	2.23	4.26	11.24		
Pigeon	91	54		1,467	1,437		0.43	0.97	2.28	9.72		
Saginaw	95	56		1,528	1,546		0.54	1.44	2.65	11.79		
Standish	92	54		1,432	1,426		0.75	1.29	2.91	13.87		
<b>East Central</b>	95	54	0	1,451	1,498	1,367	1.16	2.16	3.63	12.00	10.54	2.92
Fennville	90	55		1,421	1,634		2.06	3.10	3.22	11.66		
Grand Rapids	95	57		1,634	1,702		2.16	3.10	3.16	11.98		
Holland	92	57		1,566	1,694		0.00	1.74	1.84	6.28		
South Bend, IN	91	59		1,662	1,822		2.72	5.84	6.37	16.04		
Watervliet	91	56		1,588	1,733		1.56	3.04	3.44	10.24		
<b>Southwest</b>	95	55	0	1,570	1,705	1,489	1.30	2.65	2.96	9.65	12.34	3.09
Belding	92	52		1,509	1,576		0.62	3.01	3.63	11.43		
Coldwater	91	55		1,563	1,632		0.89	1.89	2.83	10.56		
Lansing	92	55		1,596	1,692		0.60	1.64	1.81	9.96		
<b>South Central</b>	93	52	0	1,568	1,670	1,478	0.87	1.94	2.77	10.57	12.10	3.22
Detroit	93	60		1,767	1,783		0.56	1.72	2.42	12.86		
Flint	90	52		1,520	1,621		1.27	2.29	3.47	13.98		
Romeo	92	51		1,613	1,573		0.74	2.09	3.19	12.36		
Tipton	89	56		1,571	1,677		0.77	1.75	2.79	13.30		
Toledo, OH	86	58		1,747	1,779		0.15	2.04	3.09	15.16		
<b>Southeast</b>	93	51	0	1,616	1,689	1,452	0.82	2.25	3.39	13.27	11.81	3.11

<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.

USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office  
 P.O. Box 26248  
 Lansing, Michigan 48909-0248  
 (517) 324-5300 FAX (517) 324-5299  
 E-mail: nass-mi@nass.usda.gov