

Michigan Crop-Weather

Rain Continues

Four days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending September 17, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.44 in the western Upper Peninsula to 1.56 inches in the west central Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 1 degree above normal in the northeast, west central, central, east central, southwest, south central, and southeast Lower Peninsula to 3 degrees above normal in the Upper Peninsula. Rains were welcomed by farmers but stopped harvest for many crops. A farmer in the southeast region mentioned that, "Weather has been cool and wet, with rains earlier in the week and fog and heavy dew later in the week. Too wet for pulling beans or cutting hay, but good for working the ground for winter wheat planting." A farmer in the southwest said that, "Rain during the first part of the week slowed harvest. The rain was beneficial and was not in excess for this area. Wheat will get a good start."

Field Crops

Precipitation fell throughout the week, slowing harvest for most crops. **Corn** continued to mature, with an early harvest expected in the Thumb. **Silage** harvest slowed due to the rain. Yields were mixed depending on the amount of rain received during the summer. **Soybean** continued to progress. Third and fourth cuttings of **hay** harvest stopped due to rains all week. **Potato** harvest continued. **Dry bean** harvest continued. **Sugarbeet** harvest began on a limited basis. Field preparation was underway for **winter wheat** planting.

Soil moisture for week ending 09/17/06

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	1	7	73	19
Subsoil	2	21	67	10

Crop condition for week ending 09/17/06

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All Hay	2	11	25	45	17
Corn	1	4	20	48	27
Dry beans	6	12	22	46	14
Pasture	2	12	31	48	7
Soybeans	0	4	27	48	21

Fruit

Pest pressure was low last week with little or no codling moth, oriental fruit moth, or apple maggot trap catches. Obliquebanded leafrollers were flying in the northwest. **Apple** harvest continued across the State. In the southeast, Gala harvest was coming to an end. Growers were moving on to pick McIntosh, Honeycrisp, and early strains of Golden Delicious. The MSU Apple Maturity Program has been accepting apple samples for maturity analysis at regional research and extension centers. **Peach** harvest continued in the west central. Growers reported a good crop of high quality peaches was harvested. Southern and west central producers continued to harvest **plums**. In the northwest, growers observed two-spotted spider mite population explosions in many **sweet** and **tart cherry** blocks. **Pear** harvest continued in the southwest. Growers in the southeast anticipate harvest of winter pears in a few weeks. Michigan **grape** producers continued to harvest Niagaras in the southwest. Marquis table grapes were harvested in the northwest.

Vegetables

Vegetable crop harvest continued with cooler temperatures and precipitation across the State; the rainfall slowed harvest activities in some areas. **Carrot** harvest progressed. Harvest continued for **celery** and **onion** crops. Harvest of **pumpkins** and **winter squash** began in some areas. **Watermelon** harvest was underway in the southeast. **Snap bean** and **pepper** harvest neared completion in some areas. **Sweet corn** harvest continued. **Tomato** harvest for processing and fresh market continued.

Crop progress for week ending 09/17/06

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	89	84	80	77
All hay, fourth cutting	24	20	29	17
Apples, harvested	21	16	24	NA
Corn, dent	92	84	94	71
Corn, mature	41	15	49	23
Corn, harvested	1	0	5	2
Corn silage, harvested	67	37	77	46
Dry beans, dropping leaves	95	93	97	72
Dry beans, harvested	33	20	44	23
Peaches, harvested	85	75	94	98
Potatoes, harvested	38	25	36	NA
Soybeans, turning leaves	74	55	95	73
Soybeans, dropping leaves	35	15	74	39
Sugarbeets, harvested	2	NA	1	NA
Winter wheat, planted	1	0	8	8

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/17/06 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	75	37		2,190	2,259		0.40	0.95	1.75	13.80		
Marquette	80	35		2,005	2,173		0.29	0.76	1.48	14.93		
Stephenson	76	38		2,252	2,356		0.45	1.43	2.60	13.32		
Western UP	83	35	3	2,134	2,229	1,824	0.44	1.04	1.88	14.50	18.44	3.58
Cornell	76	38		2,165	2,259		0.61	1.63	2.48	16.73		
Sault St Marie	77	43		2,051	2,130		0.77	1.03	1.29	10.94		
Eastern UP	77	33	3	2,033	2,103	1,612	0.49	0.99	1.62	14.91	17.29	3.55
Beulah	82	42		2,372	2,574		1.78	2.13	7.06	19.50		
Lake City	78	43		2,216	2,322		1.51	1.90	4.99	22.14		
Old Mission	82	47		2,307	2,429		0.71	0.96	2.76	11.27		
Pellston	82	36		2,257	2,367		0.61	0.68	1.25	12.52		
Northwest	82	34	2	2,236	2,378	2,072	1.07	1.36	3.60	16.12	16.28	3.66
Alpena	80	41		2,290	2,268		0.96	1.25	3.60	16.39		
Houghton Lake	78	40		2,291	2,397		2.31	2.68	4.95	17.40		
Rogers City	80	41		2,232	2,351		1.35	1.76	3.73	12.98		
Northeast	81	29	1	2,281	2,344	2,007	1.39	1.76	3.89	15.94	16.30	3.47
Fremont	79	48		2,545	2,701		1.77	2.13	2.26	17.01		
Hart	79	49		2,394	2,581		1.39	1.62	1.80	18.86		
Muskegon	80	51		2,601	2,784		1.35	2.10	2.47	16.31		
West Central	83	40	1	2,481	2,649	2,263	1.56	1.98	2.45	16.08	16.57	3.19
Alma	78	48		2,579	2,670		1.52	1.70	2.99	18.78		
Big Rapids	76	47		2,451	2,526		1.52	1.65	2.45	19.65		
Central	80	47	1	2,529	2,588	2,335	1.52	1.71	2.80	18.95	17.37	3.09
Bad Axe	80	43		2,461	2,661		1.38	1.53	2.45	15.57		
Pigeon	81	48		2,423	2,472		1.42	1.66	2.86	14.01		
Saginaw	81	48		2,603	2,655		0.79	0.94	3.88	17.10		
Standish	81	47		2,392	2,421		2.06	2.45	3.40	19.40		
East Central	84	43	1	2,443	2,577	2,338	1.36	1.64	3.21	16.95	15.49	2.70
Fennville	82	50		2,508	2,762		1.15	1.18	2.90	15.85		
Grand Rapids	80	50		2,776	2,908		1.57	1.90	2.80	19.06		
Holland	82	52		2,756	2,865		0.92	1.14	1.77	9.26		
South Bend, IN	84	52		2,836	3,066		1.68	2.44	4.60	25.98		
Watervliet	82	52		2,726	2,938		1.09	1.34	3.09	16.36		
Southwest	85	50	1	2,692	2,870	2,545	0.95	1.16	2.55	15.97	17.85	3.26
Belding	80	48		2,540	2,654		1.50	2.24	2.85	15.80		
Coldwater	81	49		2,605	2,778		1.19	1.53	2.94	16.46		
Lansing	80	49		2,678	2,923		1.42	1.80	3.81	17.42		
South Central	84	48	1	2,659	2,841	2,500	0.91	1.23	2.14	16.39	17.67	2.79
Detroit	80	54		2,982	3,094		0.71	0.81	2.18	18.09		
Flint	79	45		2,571	2,784		0.99	1.75	2.50	19.96		
Romeo	82	49		2,714	2,728		1.88	2.29	4.04	18.83		
Tipton	82	51		2,665	2,839		0.98	1.10	2.79	17.84		
Toledo, OH	85	52		2,971	3,031		0.55	0.55	2.39	21.66		
Southeast	85	45	1	2,717	2,894	2,498	1.14	1.54	3.25	19.48	16.95	2.43

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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