

Michigan Crop-Weather

Cool and Wet

Four days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending September 24, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.74 inches in the central Lower Peninsula to 1.71 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below normal in the southwest and south central Lower Peninsula to 1 degree below normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula and northeast Lower Peninsula. Cool, wet weather slowed crop progress. A farmer in the south central region mentioned that, "Nearly all corn has reached 'black layer', but it is too wet for grain harvest or high moisture corn. Most beans have lost their leaves but still need to dry down." A farmer in the southeast said that, "Mostly cool and wet conditions throughout the week. It was dry enough for a couple of days to harvest silage. Some are just getting started on grain harvest on early maturing corn."

Field Crops

Cool, wet conditions limited harvest for most crops. **Corn** continued to mature, but wet conditions limited drying down. **Silage** harvest progressed slowly with the rains. There were reports that **soybean** fields have turned yellow very quickly and leaves were dropping rapidly. Third and fourth cuttings of **hay** were limited due to the rains. Many farmers have opted to chop the third crop instead of baling. **Potato** harvest continued. **Dry bean** harvest continued. **Sugarbeet** harvest was still on a limited basis. **Winter wheat** planting was underway. Recent rains will benefit winter wheat emergence.

Soil moisture for week ending 09/24/06

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	0	8	80	12
Subsoil	2	19	76	3

Crop condition for week ending 09/24/06

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	12	35	40	11
Corn	0	4	20	56	20
Dry beans	0	7	22	59	12
Pasture	1	9	41	42	7
Soybeans	1	4	23	53	19

Fruit

Apple harvest continued. Jonathan and Golden Delicious varieties were harvested for the fresh market in the southwest. Growers in the southeast were waiting for a better flavor and higher starch index numbers before picking Cortland and Macoun apples. **Peach** and **pear** harvest ended in the southeast. **Grape** harvest progressed across the State. In the southeast, harvest was winding down with the exception of some late season wine grape varieties. Growers in the southwest noted trouble with bunch rot in wine grapes due to wet weather conditions. Grape berry moth populations were high in the southeast and northwest. Yellow jackets and paper wasps started to feed in northwestern vineyards, where cool, cloudy, and rainy weather significantly slowed fruit maturation throughout September.

Vegetables

Cooler temperatures and precipitation persisted as harvest of several vegetable crops neared completion across the State. **Carrot** harvest continued. Harvest continued for **celery** and **onion** crops. **Pumpkin** harvest was underway with reports of very good crops in some areas. Harvest of **winter squash** progressed. **Watermelon** harvest continued. **Tomato** harvest for processing continued, while fresh market harvest was completed in the southeast.

Crop progress for week ending 09/24/06

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	93	89	84	84
All hay, fourth cutting	28	24	34	25
Apples, harvested	37	21	34	NA
Corn, dent	95	92	99	86
Corn, mature	64	41	73	44
Corn, harvested	3	1	8	4
Corn silage, harvested	81	67	89	67
Dry beans, harvested	69	33	56	45
Peaches, harvested	89	85	98	99
Potatoes, harvested	44	38	49	NA
Soybeans, turning leaves	91	74	100	87
Soybeans, dropping leaves	55	35	89	61
Soybeans, harvested	5	0	17	7
Sugarbeets, harvested	3	NA	3	NA
Winter wheat, planted	13	1	18	19

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/24/06 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	32		2,213	2,336		1.45	1.85	2.40	15.25		
Marquette	64	35		2,035	2,245		1.45	1.74	2.21	16.38		
Stephenson	75	29		2,312	2,444		1.75	2.20	3.18	15.07		
Western UP	75	29	-3	2,179	2,311	1,873	1.44	1.88	2.48	16.06	19.36	3.58
Cornell	73	34		2,217	2,345		2.01	2.42	3.45	18.54		
Sault St Marie	70	40		2,098	2,214		1.85	2.62	2.88	12.79		
Eastern UP	73	32	-1	2,079	2,185	1,658	1.71	2.12	2.64	16.55	18.32	3.55
Beulah	73	41		2,425	2,673		1.12	2.90	3.25	20.62		
Lake City	72	34		2,260	2,410		0.93	2.44	2.85	23.64		
Old Mission	73	40		2,361	2,533		1.39	2.10	2.35	12.66		
Pellston	75	29		2,315	2,464		1.50	2.11	2.18	14.18		
Northwest	75	29	-2	2,287	2,475	2,139	1.15	2.21	2.51	17.39	17.35	3.66
Alpena	74	38		2,356	2,362		1.28	2.24	2.62	17.67		
Houghton Lake	71	41		2,344	2,493		0.78	3.09	3.46	18.18		
Rogers City	73	38		2,306	2,453		1.28	2.63	3.06	13.12		
Northeast	74	32	-1	2,337	2,438	2,068	1.21	2.60	3.00	16.81	17.27	3.47
Fremont	70	37		2,597	2,801		1.65	3.42	3.81	18.66		
Hart	68	37		2,446	2,691		0.87	2.26	2.51	19.73		
Muskegon	70	41		2,665	2,897		0.88	2.23	3.10	17.19		
West Central	70	32	-2	2,538	2,758	2,336	1.07	2.61	3.08	17.13	17.46	3.19
Alma	71	41		2,635	2,767		0.88	2.40	2.70	19.66		
Big Rapids	71	41		2,503	2,620		0.33	1.85	2.10	19.98		
Central	71	38	-2	2,584	2,685	2,410	0.74	2.26	2.58	19.69	18.24	3.09
Bad Axe	73	41		2,529	2,769		1.29	2.67	2.98	16.86		
Pigeon	72	39		2,485	2,574		0.68	2.10	2.56	14.69		
Saginaw	72	39		2,687	2,766		1.08	1.87	2.13	19.07		
Standish	70	35		2,457	2,520		1.12	3.18	3.61	20.52		
East Central	73	35	-2	2,509	2,681	2,418	1.04	2.40	2.80	18.00	16.29	2.70
Fennville	71	40		2,569	2,875		1.97	3.12	4.15	17.82		
Grand Rapids	72	41		2,840	3,019		2.84	4.41	5.37	21.90		
Holland	73	43		2,834	2,983		1.84	2.44	3.29	10.78		
South Bend, IN	72	38		2,905	3,203		0.61	2.29	5.12	26.59		
Watervliet	71	40		2,788	3,060		1.37	2.46	3.90	17.73		
Southwest	73	38	-4	2,755	2,988	2,634	1.44	2.36	3.59	17.47	18.76	3.26
Belding	72	37		2,595	2,756		1.40	2.90	3.78	17.20		
Coldwater	71	37		2,665	2,895		0.76	1.95	2.93	17.22		
Lansing	73	40		2,744	3,037		1.05	2.47	3.33	18.47		
South Central	73	36	-4	2,718	2,953	2,587	0.79	1.70	2.44	17.18	18.43	2.79
Detroit	73	40		3,062	3,228		0.64	1.35	2.44	18.73		
Flint	73	36		2,643	2,887		1.22	2.21	3.14	21.18		
Romeo	74	41		2,783	2,830		1.48	3.36	4.44	20.10		
Tipton	73	34		2,737	2,954		0.91	1.89	2.75	18.75		
Toledo, OH	72	37		3,036	3,159		0.90	1.84	2.68	22.95		
Southeast	74	32	-3	2,784	3,013	2,587	0.98	2.17	3.28	20.52	17.57	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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