



# Michigan Crop Weather

## Continued Cool

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 25, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Through Monday, May 26, precipitation varied from 0.02 inches in the west central and central Lower Peninsula to 0.52 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 6 degrees below normal in the northwestern, west central, and southwestern Lower Peninsula to 4 degrees below normal in the western and eastern Upper Peninsula and the northeastern Lower Peninsula. Cool, dry conditions persisted this week, delaying crop development. A farmer reported, "with cool temperatures still persisting and very light precipitation, crop growth has been very slow." Farmers were able to continue planting operations though. "A solid week of clear weather has allowed much, if not most, corn and soybeans to be in the ground," another farmer stated.

## Field Crops

Conditions this week were not ideal for crop development with warmer weather needed throughout the State. **Corn** planting was very close to being complete. Many fields had emerged, but there were several reports of yellowing due to the cool conditions. **Soybean** planting was moving toward completion and a number of fields were just beginning to emerge. **Winter wheat** generally looked good and was in Feeke's growth stage 7 to 10. Some fields have a little powdery mildew low in the canopy but nothing that would justify spraying to control the disease. **Alfalfa** continued to grow, with just a few farmers beginning harvest. More were expecting to harvest next week after some warmer weather. **Sugarbeets** were growing well in the cool weather and generally looked good. Stands were at the 2 to 4 leaf growth stage. Much **barley** was planted this week, but emergence was slow. **Oats** were planted for the most part, and most have emerged. **Rye** was heading.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/25/08

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	6	32	59	3
Subsoil	1	17	80	2

Crop condition for week ending 05/25/08

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	7	32	48	12
Oats	1	4	19	63	13
Pasture	1	6	36	45	12
Winter Wheat	1	3	27	60	9

## Fruit

Fruit development continued under cool conditions. **Apples** were in full bloom to petal fall in the west central area. Oriental fruit moth trap catches continued. **Pears** were in bloom in the northwest and 6 mm in diameter in the southeast. **Peaches** were out of shuck and fruit were up to 10 mm in diameter in the southwest. **Plums** were in early petal fall to shuck split. **Sweet cherries** ranged from 11 mm to 13 mm in diameter in the southwest and southeast. In the northwest, sweet cherries were at shuck split while **tart cherries** were in full bloom to petal fall. **Strawberries** were in bloom. **Blueberries** were in bloom. **Grape** shoots grew to six inches in the southwest. In the northwest, grapes were at late bud burst.

## Vegetables

The growing season is about two weeks behind schedule from last year given the continued cold and windy conditions. **Asparagus** harvest continued at a slow rate without any unusual problems. **Celery** transplanting continued at its normal, seasonal pace. The same held for **beet**, **radish** and **leek** plantings. **Cabbage** fields have excellent stands and early planted fields have made great growth. **Carrots** have emerged in most fields, and it has not been cold enough to damage any plants. **Tomato** planting continued and suckering of tunnel-grown plants began. In **sweet corn**, cold soil temperatures delayed emergence even though there was enough moisture to germinate seeds. **Onion** development quickly went from newly emerged to the two-leaf stage in the central part of the State.

Crop progress for week ending 05/25/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All hay, first cutting	6	NA	8	6
Asparagus, harvested	48	38	52	49
Barley, planted	86	58	95	93
Barley, emerged	41	21	79	77
Corn, planted	94	84	89	83
Corn, emerged	61	34	61	52
Dry beans, planted	1	NA	1	2
Oats, planted	97	96	99	98
Oats, emerged	86	74	85	90
Potatoes, planted	68	51	69	NA
Potatoes, emerged	32	27	41	NA
Soybeans, planted	80	51	58	55
Soybeans, emerged	19	7	21	22
Winter wheat, headed	1	0	20	16



**Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/26/08 <sup>1</sup>**

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup>			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2008	2007	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	73	30		192	350		0.47	0.77	2.29	6.45		
Marquette	74	34		158	306		0.10	0.33	1.84	7.01		
Stephenson	74	34		273	404		0.90	1.39	3.22	7.55		
<b>Western UP</b>	75	29	-4	205	337	258	0.52	0.82	2.27	6.32	4.91	3.37
Cornell	69	35		174	331		0.38	0.99	2.13	5.34		
Sault St Marie	67	34		177	294		0.44	1.22	2.20	5.82		
<b>Eastern UP</b>	73	29	-4	165	299	174	0.44	1.06	2.22	5.44	4.81	3.01
Beulah	78	38		349	381		0.21	0.98	2.73	6.58		
Lake City	80	31		329	353		0.14	0.46	1.30	4.57		
Old Mission	79	36		298	356		0.25	0.72	2.07	5.45		
Pellston	76	31		302	369		0.95	1.47	2.59	5.26		
<b>Northwest</b>	80	31	-6	306	353	308	0.44	0.98	2.24	5.61	4.78	2.61
Alpena	82	34		308	350		0.11	0.52	1.57	3.61		
Houghton Lake	80	29		341	386		0.01	0.25	1.04	3.31		
Rogers City	80	32		318	343		0.25	0.62	1.61	3.96		
<b>Northeast</b>	84	26	-4	328	370	287	0.16	0.49	1.46	3.80	4.78	2.76
Fremont	80	34		387	441		0.01	0.21	0.89	4.29		
Hart	75	35		360	404		0.01	0.25	0.86	5.66		
Muskegon	76	39		346	423		0.02	0.14	1.12	3.67		
<b>West Central</b>	80	33	-6	369	421	353	0.02	0.31	1.10	4.84	5.36	2.67
Alma	83	38		390	459		0.02	0.24	0.68	3.19		
Big Rapids	74	35		385	416		0.02	0.34	1.41	3.76		
<b>Central</b>	83	35	-5	386	437	387	0.02	0.25	1.06	3.28	5.39	2.79
Bad Axe	82	37		367	356		0.45	0.73	1.92	3.45		
Pigeon	83	34		366	352		0.01	0.36	1.29	2.55		
Saginaw	85	38		416	437		0.49	0.72	1.47	3.02		
Standish	84	32		352	394		0.00	0.36	1.25	3.23		
<b>East Central</b>	85	32	-5	361	388	368	0.16	0.44	1.44	3.16	4.74	2.63
Fennville	77	38		370	437		0.39	0.83	2.52	5.08		
Grand Rapids	79	42		443	494		0.17	0.47	1.63	5.12		
Holland	79	42		433	512		0.41	0.71	2.51	4.24		
South Bend, IN	82	40		460	569		0.00	0.77	2.29	4.87		
Watervliet	79	40		413	493		0.16	0.54	2.31	5.20		
<b>Southwest</b>	82	36	-6	429	494	419	0.19	0.60	2.27	5.21	5.95	3.01
Belding	80	36		401	446		0.06	0.36	1.36	4.29		
Coldwater	81	38		417	468		0.14	0.41	1.52	3.57		
Lansing	80	38		434	461		0.12	0.29	1.28	3.41		
<b>South Central</b>	85	36	-5	419	473	418	0.13	0.43	1.43	3.58	5.67	2.92
Detroit	86	42		470	501		0.01	0.34	1.59	2.42		
Flint	84	33		465	459		0.15	0.28	1.43	2.97		
Romeo	85	36		392	419		0.09	0.27	1.68	2.87		
Tipton	83	42		435	480		0.04	0.53	1.89	2.89		
Toledo, OH	85	39		465	522		0.05	0.54	2.21	3.95		
<b>Southeast</b>	86	28	-5	431	473	396	0.08	0.46	1.77	3.19	5.69	2.85

<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 48909-6248  
 (517) 324-5300 FAX (517) 324-5299  
 E-mail: [nass-mi@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-mi@nass.usda.gov)