



Michigan Crop Weather

Wet and Windy Weather

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending July 6, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.21 inches in the northwestern Lower Peninsula to 2.26 inches in the southeastern Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 5 degrees below normal in the west central, east central, south central and southeastern Lower Peninsula to 1 degree above normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula. The stormy weather experienced on July 2, which caused flooding and crop damage in some fields, mainly affected the southern part of the State. The wind also made for unfavorable field activities. A grower in the southwest said, "Two inches of rain again this week. Everything is growing well that has not gone under water in wet areas of the field." However, a farmer in the northeast exclaimed, "It was finally dry enough for first cutting of hay to proceed, and it looked good."

Field Crops

Corn condition varied throughout the State this week. Most was in good condition while the crop in other locations needed rain. **Soybeans** stands varied in condition. The growth of some were stunted by excess moisture, while others were in good condition. **Winter wheat** was quickly turning color. Many farmers reported that harvest expected to begin this week. The weather still did not cooperate with some **alfalfa** farmers who were trying to get the first cutting baled. Second cuttings are looking very good. **Dry beans** emerged quickly this week. **Oats** were for the most part headed and were just beginning to turn color. The majority of the **barley** crop was in good condition. **Sugarbeets** were also in good condition.

Fruit

Apples continued to size nicely with most being in the range of 2.0 to 2.15-inches in diameter. There have been a small percentage of large apples being dropped in the southeast, but for the most part there was a fair crop of apples across the region. **Apricots** continued to grow. Harvest of early **blueberries** began last week and general harvest of early varieties will be in full swing this week. There were no reports of blueberry maggot catch in the southeast. **Peaches** were 2.0 inches in diameter in the southwest and the southeast; pit hardening is ready to begin. **Pears** continued to progress well, despite the large amounts of recent rainfall. **Plums** continued development and the pits were hard. **Strawberry** harvest was completed in the southeast, but continued in most areas. In the southwest, the strong storms Wednesday caused unharvested fruit to fall and there was some tree loss in **tart cherries**. There was also fruit cracking in **sweet cherries** due to the heavy rain with hail damage as well. **Raspberry** harvest was underway.

Vegetables

The weather varied across most of the State this past week with farmers having mixed reactions. Some believed it was another dry week with much needed rain, while others experienced severe storms. **Celery** planting continued, but slowed due to weather conditions. **Squash** and **zucchini** harvest continued. Some processing zucchini suffered from the extra precipitation, and weed control is questionable in some orchards. **Asparagus** harvest was completed. Growers feel the yields were ahead of last year, but still behind a normal yield. **Tomato** plants were demonstrating "wet feet" in some areas because of the recent heavy rainfall. There were no reports of serious disease or insect pressure in the southwest. **Snap beans** have mostly emerged and are growing well. **Pumpkin** plants were still growing and seem to be unaffected. **Cucumbers** were replanted on heavy soils. Harvest of processing **peas** was completed in most areas. **Cabbage** heads were still developing, and farmers are keeping a watchful eye on the excess water which could cause heads to split.

Soil moisture for week ending 07/06/08

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	2	6	71	21
Subsoil	2	11	76	11

Crop condition for week ending 07/06/08

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	3	22	57	17
Barley	0	1	11	85	3
Corn	1	3	18	51	27
Dry beans	4	6	33	46	11
Oats	0	4	23	55	18
Pasture	1	3	25	54	17
Soybeans	1	9	28	45	17
Winter Wheat	1	6	22	54	17

Crop progress for week ending 07/06/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>
Corn, height	32	21	43	32
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All hay, first cutting	86	78	96	92
All hay, second cutting	17	7	23	20
Blueberries, harvested	6	NA	NA	NA
Dry beans, emerged	89	44	99	95
Oats, headed	89	74	89	85
Oats, turning yellow	10	2	22	16
Soybeans, blooming	21	3	26	9
Strawberries, harvested	80	59	96	89
Tart cherries, harvested	7	¹ 1	35	24
Winter wheat, turning yellow	90	66	99	87
Winter wheat, harvested	0	NA	11	3

¹ Revised.

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/06/08 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			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	86	43		699	1,014		0.32	1.07	2.22	9.55		
Marquette	85	46		653	944		0.32	1.33	3.27	10.80		
Stephenson	85	45		862	1,069		0.21	0.72	1.10	9.86		
Western UP	86	37	0	724	986	764	0.29	1.07	2.42	9.59	9.78	3.42
Cornell	85	47		756	972		0.26	0.99	2.22	9.54		
Sault St Marie	81	44		641	908		0.44	1.01	2.51	9.03		
Eastern UP	87	43	1	654	906	613	0.32	2.09	3.40	9.79	9.29	3.19
Beulah	84	44		930	1,100		0.50	1.09	4.37	14.36		
Lake City	81	44		914	1,032		0.53	1.03	7.22	16.03		
Old Mission	84	47		869	1,036		0.25	0.51	2.01	9.07		
Pellston	84	39		861	1,033		0.48	1.06	3.37	10.27		
Northwest	84	39	-3	861	1,023	888	0.41	0.86	3.92	11.85	8.79	2.99
Alpena	84	43		893	1,049		0.09	1.65	3.65	8.76		
Houghton Lake	81	42		946	1,077		0.16	0.94	4.02	12.89		
Rogers City	84	43		900	1,061		0.18	1.06	3.31	10.12		
Northeast	84	42	-3	918	1,061	848	0.21	1.29	3.64	10.55	8.73	3.18
Fremont	80	45		1,024	1,202		1.46	1.66	2.35	10.86		
Hart	80	47		962	1,120		1.59	2.04	3.11	11.94		
Muskegon	81	50		981	1,197		1.27	1.59	2.18	9.82		
West Central	81	43	-5	975	1,155	990	1.19	1.56	3.32	12.08	9.25	2.54
Alma	84	46		1,083	1,273		0.24	0.79	2.00	7.61		
Big Rapids	80	46		1,038	1,118		0.50	1.84	2.87	8.81		
Central	84	45	-4	1,054	1,194	1,048	0.54	1.33	2.31	7.82	9.73	2.97
Bad Axe	82	47		1,037	1,114		0.54	2.36	4.07	9.69		
Pigeon	83	46		1,002	1,100		0.34	1.96	3.09	7.41		
Saginaw	82	48		1,134	1,261		0.81	3.58	4.76	9.64		
Standish	83	43		984	1,118		0.38	1.56	2.91	8.77		
East Central	84	43	-5	1,016	1,152	1,028	0.61	2.03	3.54	8.71	8.77	2.92
Fennville	84	49		1,013	1,201		0.01	1.84	2.49	14.49		
Grand Rapids	84	50		1,191	1,354		3.18	4.38	4.52	14.22		
Holland	84	51		1,174	1,337		1.19	3.15	3.56	14.37		
South Bend, IN	88	48		1,253	1,465		0.78	1.29	1.81	8.78		
Watervliet	84	49		1,132	1,323		1.35	2.08	2.81	11.30		
Southwest	88	46	-4	1,217	1,313	1,127	1.53	2.46	3.16	12.63	10.57	3.09
Belding	82	43		1,062	1,205		1.56	1.99	2.41	9.00		
Coldwater	83	47		1,161	1,233		2.45	3.32	5.28	9.93		
Lansing	82	47		1,165	1,265		1.73	3.15	3.65	10.04		
South Central	86	43	-5	1,131	1,265	1,124	1.92	2.74	3.60	10.06	10.38	3.22
Detroit	83	52		1,277	1,373		1.73	2.83	4.66	8.65		
Flint	82	44		1,213	1,248		1.30	2.14	3.52	8.59		
Romeo	83	48		1,118	1,194		0.80	2.02	3.27	8.03		
Tipton	82	49		1,165	1,254		3.96	6.55	8.92	12.86		
Toledo, OH	85	50		1,255	1,376		3.72	5.90	8.30	12.96		
Southeast	85	43	-5	1,167	1,276	1,093	2.26	3.59	5.86	10.83	10.05	3.11

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.

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