



Michigan Crop Weather

Cool and Dry

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending November 2, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.07 inches in the western Upper Peninsula to 0.50 inches in the east central Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below normal in the northeastern, central, east central, south central, and southeastern Lower Peninsula to 2 degrees below normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Temperatures were very cold at the beginning of the week, with some locations experiencing sleet or snow. The weather became clear and mild later in the week, drying fields and creating better conditions for fieldwork. A grower in the west central reported, "What a beautiful fall week. We had our first touch of snow Monday night which didn't last and the rest of the week was clear and cool." Farmers in some areas were waiting for crops and fields to dry. "Pastures have quit growing with the cool temperatures, and the steers are thinning it down. The fields are still wet enough to keep the trucks out, but no rain for a week helps," a reporter in the south central stated.

Field Crops

The weather was excellent for harvesting this week. **Corn** harvest continued slightly behind the normal pace. Growers continued to monitor the crop's moisture level. **Soybean** harvest neared completion. **Alfalfa** cutting neared completion with some growers getting a fourth cutting. The haying season has come to an end for most farmers. **Dry bean** harvest has been completed. **Winter wheat** planting was all but complete. The crop continued to emerge at a pace slightly slower than normal. **Sugarbeet** harvest continued rapidly.

Soil moisture for week ending 11/02/08

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	2	11	78	9
Subsoil	5	11	80	4

Crop condition for week ending 11/02/08

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	5	11	30	42	12
Pasture	14	19	35	29	3
Winter Wheat	0	4	26	54	16

Fruit

Fruit harvest was completed. Fall clean-up activities continued in orchards and vineyards across the State.

Vegetables

Seasonal temperatures and little rain allowed for a productive week, with most farmers taking advantage of the calm weather to complete the harvest of late planted crops around the State. **Carrot** and **onion** harvest continued on schedule. **Winter squash** was still being harvested with no major problems reported. Heavy frost on Thursday damaged some of the remaining **tomato** fields but the extent has not yet been determined. **Celery** harvest was completed. Growers began cleaning equipment and getting ready for the winter.

Crop progress for week ending 11/02/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All hay, fourth cutting	71	62	81	85
Apples, harvested	96	91	99	NA
Corn, harvested	52	35	64	57
Potatoes, harvested	98	92	99	NA
Soybeans, harvested	94	88	87	83
Sugarbeets, harvested	75	41	64	72
Winter wheat, planted	99	92	98	95
Winter wheat, emerged	71	59	90	78

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 11/02/08 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	66	19		2,008	2,515		0.07	0.75	1.35	18.22		
Marquette	64	25		1,878	2,394		0.17	1.41	2.21	20.14		
Stephenson	67	22		2,345	2,721		0.03	0.46	1.12	18.55		
Western UP	68	13	-3	2,017	2,496	2,039	0.07	0.65	1.22	17.17	22.74	2.54
Cornell	61	26		2,190	2,598		0.08	0.66	1.34	16.80		
Sault St Marie	57	29		1,918	2,346		0.15	0.60	1.46	18.20		
Eastern UP	61	26	-2	1,903	2,376	1,787	0.22	0.84	1.57	19.18	21.79	2.65
Beulah	60	30		2,555	2,906		0.12	0.90	1.48	22.41		
Lake City	65	23		2,373	2,694		0.20	1.60	2.34	27.02		
Old Mission	60	26		2,441	2,809		0.44	1.07	1.55	15.23		
Pellston	59	19		2,251	2,687		0.12	1.03	1.70	18.79		
Northwest	65	19	-3	2,339	2,718	2,344	0.30	1.23	1.73	19.67	21.05	2.69
Alpena	65	20		2,361	2,733		0.21	0.76	1.31	20.06		
Houghton Lake	64	21		2,419	2,725		0.11	0.98	1.39	22.69		
Rogers City	64	22		2,272	2,733		0.19	0.92	1.45	21.27		
Northeast	67	20	-4	2,344	2,710	2,263	0.18	0.92	1.48	21.71	20.54	2.57
Fremont	64	25		2,651	3,024		0.15	1.29	2.80	20.74		
Hart	61	26		2,542	2,896		0.15	0.81	1.64	21.09		
Muskegon	59	28		2,717	3,163		0.18	1.64	3.17	22.98		
West Central	64	21	-3	2,601	2,980	2,565	0.15	1.27	2.54	23.34	21.26	2.88
Alma	66	26		2,775	3,158		0.28	1.09	2.02	20.54		
Big Rapids	67	25		2,642	2,819		0.06	1.34	2.14	21.12		
Central	67	24	-4	2,683	2,988	2,652	0.25	1.32	2.24	20.11	21.73	2.49
Bad Axe	65	26		2,660	3,018		0.60	1.37	2.41	24.75		
Pigeon	66	24		2,565	2,906		0.29	1.03	1.80	18.39		
Saginaw	68	26		2,850	3,202		0.34	1.00	1.96	21.19		
Standish	68	23		2,510	2,891		0.18	1.37	2.36	22.52		
East Central	68	22	-4	2,621	3,004	2,667	0.50	1.25	2.12	21.88	19.38	2.23
Fennville	61	27		2,744	3,119		0.60	1.82	3.20	31.97		
Grand Rapids	65	27		3,082	3,502		0.13	1.43	2.56	28.89		
Holland	63	29		3,118	3,406		0.16	1.81	3.55	30.46		
South Bend, IN	67	27		3,216	3,653		0.70	1.96	3.02	30.07		
Watervliet	67	27		2,944	3,350		0.55	1.62	2.63	27.88		
Southwest	69	25	-3	2,973	3,338	2,924	0.43	1.90	2.99	29.70	22.72	2.79
Belding	65	24		2,723	3,052		0.22	1.30	2.56	19.86		
Coldwater	70	23		2,976	3,157		0.32	1.11	1.86	23.11		
Lansing	68	25		2,948	3,260		0.46	1.30	2.26	23.27		
South Central	71	23	-4	2,864	3,185	2,868	0.33	1.28	2.16	24.18	21.62	2.32
Detroit	70	26		3,287	3,566		0.49	0.80	1.49	18.26		
Flint	68	22		2,987	3,244		0.56	0.97	1.66	22.99		
Romeo	72	25		2,839	3,200		0.28	0.50	1.32	20.94		
Tipton	71	25		2,977	3,220		0.51	1.26	1.69	24.24		
Toledo, OH	70	24		3,272	3,505		0.00	0.39	1.29	21.45		
Southeast	72	21	-4	2,982	3,297	2,865	0.30	0.76	1.44	22.40	20.63	2.44

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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