



Michigan Crop Weather

Unseasonably Warm

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending November 9, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.15 inches in the southeastern Lower Peninsula to 1.08 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 7 degrees above normal in the southeastern Lower Peninsula to 11 degrees above normal in the northwestern Lower Peninsula. Warm weather prevailed through much of the week providing excellent weather for harvest and fieldwork. A grower in the south central reported, "The main activity this week was harvesting corn. Field conditions were excellent this week for harvest and drying corn." Temperatures dropped near the end of the week and light rain and snow flurries fell throughout much of the State, bringing fieldwork to a standstill. "Our nice fall weather came to a sudden halt Friday evening with rain, snow, and much colder temperatures. This continued all day Saturday which stopped fieldwork," a reporter in the west central stated.

Field Crops

Harvest activities and fall tillage continued across the State until rain and snow came. **Corn** harvest continued where conditions allowed as growers monitored the crop's moisture level. A small amount of **soybeans** remain to be harvested. **Alfalfa** harvest has come to an end for most farmers. Some growers continued to get a fourth cutting. **Winter wheat** continued to emerge in the warm weather. Most of the crop has emerged. The warm temperatures were not ideal for **sugarbeet** harvest.

Soil moisture for week ending 11/09/08

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	2	9	73	16
Subsoil	6	11	73	10

Crop condition for week ending 11/09/08

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Pasture	15	18	40	24	3
Winter Wheat	1	1	14	58	26

Vegetables

Unstable weather conditions, ranging from warm weather to freezing temperatures, affected the harvest of the remaining vegetable crops. Processing **carrot** and **onion** harvest continued with few complications. **Winter squash** was still being harvested. Late season **cole crop** harvest continued but was slightly behind schedule due to the dry weather in the summer, which slowed plant growth. Fall tillage and manure hauling activities continued.

Crop progress for week ending 11/09/08

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	84	71	84	91
Corn, harvested	72	52	79	69
Soybeans, harvested	97	94	95	90
Sugarbeets, harvested	86	75	88	89
Winter wheat, emerged	93	71	96	88

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 11/09/08 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	70	24		3,029	2,515		0.76	0.83	1.63	18.98		
Marquette	65	23		2,897	2,394		0.66	0.83	2.16	20.80		
Stephenson	63	24		2,364	2,725		0.76	0.79	1.32	19.31		
Western UP	70	22	10	2,702	2,497	2,047	0.58	0.64	1.33	17.75	23.22	2.54
Cornell	70	25		2,220	2,598		0.78	0.79	1.68	17.51		
Sault St Marie	68	32		2,937	2,346		1.23	1.38	2.37	19.43		
Eastern UP	70	25	10	2,329	2,376	1,790	1.08	1.28	2.25	20.24	22.29	2.65
Beulah	73	34		2,603	2,906		0.41	0.53	1.50	22.82		
Lake City	72	27		2,416	2,695		0.46	0.66	2.34	27.48		
Old Mission	74	29		2,488	2,810		0.23	0.67	1.50	15.46		
Pellston	71	33		3,282	2,688		0.65	0.77	1.88	19.44		
Northwest	74	27	11	2,549	2,719	2,355	0.39	0.69	1.83	20.06	21.58	2.69
Alpena	69	34		3,388	2,735		0.16	0.37	1.15	20.22		
Houghton Lake	69	34		3,448	2,725		0.27	0.38	1.45	22.96		
Rogers City	69	32		3,303	2,734		0.36	0.55	1.54	21.63		
Northeast	69	18	9	3,209	2,711	2,273	0.34	0.51	1.49	22.04	21.02	2.57
Fremont	70	29		2,690	3,029		1.24	1.39	2.85	21.98		
Hart	71	31		2,583	2,901		1.08	1.23	2.20	22.17		
Muskegon	72	35		3,749	3,168		0.70	0.88	2.72	23.68		
West Central	72	29	10	3,038	2,986	2,577	1.00	1.15	2.59	24.34	21.76	2.88
Alma	72	29		2,821	3,165		0.28	0.97	2.17	21.23		
Big Rapids	71	29		2,695	2,823		0.60	0.66	2.16	21.72		
Central	72	29	10	2,979	2,993	2,664	0.46	0.81	2.14	20.67	22.17	2.49
Bad Axe	72	32		2,705	3,023		0.23	1.00	2.36	25.15		
Pigeon	71	32		2,609	2,912		0.25	0.54	1.55	18.64		
Saginaw	72	35		3,888	3,208		0.19	0.53	1.54	21.38		
Standish	70	25		2,555	2,897		0.50	0.68	2.00	23.02		
East Central	72	25	9	2,996	3,013	2,679	0.28	0.80	1.85	22.18	19.84	2.23
Fennville	73	31		2,792	3,125		0.81	1.41	3.06	32.78		
Grand Rapids	72	36		3,133	3,509		0.59	0.72	2.30	29.48		
Holland	72	37		3,167	3,416		1.29	1.52	3.47	31.82		
South Bend, IN	72	32		3,269	3,658		0.27	0.97	2.91	30.34		
Watervliet	72	32		2,992	3,356		0.76	1.31	2.81	28.64		
Southwest	75	31	8	3,022	3,346	2,941	0.76	1.19	3.09	30.46	23.27	2.79
Belding	72	29		2,771	3,058		0.80	1.02	2.35	20.66		
Coldwater	74	30		3,030	3,161		0.00	0.32	1.57	23.11		
Lansing	71	35		3,988	3,265		0.12	0.58	1.81	23.39		
South Central	74	29	9	3,113	3,191	2,885	0.28	0.62	1.93	24.47	22.11	2.32
Detroit	71	38		4,320	3,574		0.15	0.64	1.37	18.41		
Flint	71	35		4,024	3,250		0.12	0.68	1.50	23.11		
Romeo	71	30		2,876	3,208		0.18	0.72	1.39	21.38		
Tipton	72	31		3,028	3,230		0.18	0.69	1.74	24.42		
Toledo, OH	73	35		3,319	3,512		0.13	0.13	1.23	21.58		
Southeast	75	30	7	3,340	3,306	2,880	0.15	0.50	1.36	22.59	21.11	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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