



Michigan Crop Weather

Rain and Snow

Four days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending November 16, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.34 inches in the east central Lower Peninsula to 1.46 inches in the southeastern Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normal in the western Upper Peninsula and the southwestern Lower Peninsula to normal in the northwestern, northeastern, west central, central, and east central Lower Peninsula. Rain and snow showers fell across the State, which caused soggy fields and delayed the progress of fieldwork. A grower in the northwest exclaimed, "We are out of the fields! Still a lot of work to get ready for winter and the weather has not been good." Some farmers may need to wait for the ground to freeze before getting back into the fields. "Precipitation fell on all seven days this week, either as rain or snow. The ground isn't frozen yet, but it has become saturated with moisture. Harvest has continued slowly, at least up until Saturday when a mix of rain and snow fell," a reporter in the southeast stated.

Vegetables

Harvest of most vegetable crops was completed for the year. Growers continued with fall tillage and preparation of farm equipment for winter storage.

Field Crops

Harvest activities progressed where field conditions allowed. Harvest was wrapping up for most farmers. **Corn** harvest continued where conditions allowed and was completed in many areas. **Alfalfa** harvest came to an end in most areas. **Winter wheat** had all but emerged and was generally in good condition. Wet fields complicated **sugarbeet** harvest.

Soil moisture for week ending 11/16/08

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	3	2	68	27
Subsoil	1	6	81	12

Crop progress for week ending 11/16/08

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	86	84	86	95
Corn, harvested	83	72	88	80
Sugarbeets, harvested	99	86	97	97
Winter wheat, emerged	98	93	98	93

Crop condition for week ending 11/16/08

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter Wheat	1	2	25	59	13

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 11/16/08 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	41	24		3,029	2,519		0.51	1.27	2.02	19.49		
Marquette	40	24		2,897	2,394		0.65	1.31	2.72	21.45		
Stephenson	41	6		2,364	2,727		0.51	1.27	1.73	19.82		
Western UP	43	6	-3	2,702	2,500	2,048	0.48	1.05	1.70	18.22	23.81	2.54
Cornell	46	21		2,235	2,601		0.67	1.17	1.69	18.03		
Sault St Marie	48	28		2,937	2,348		0.88	2.11	2.71	20.31		
Eastern UP	48	20	-1	2,333	2,377	1,790	0.76	1.80	2.59	20.98	22.88	2.65
Beulah	50	30		2,603	2,913		0.78	1.19	2.09	23.60		
Lake City	49	27		2,416	2,701		0.60	1.06	2.66	28.08		
Old Mission	50	29		2,488	2,814		0.48	0.71	1.78	15.94		
Pellston	50	28		3,282	2,696		0.58	1.23	2.26	20.02		
Northwest	50	26	0	2,548	2,725	2,361	0.64	1.04	2.27	20.72	22.18	2.69
Alpena	52	29		3,390	2,743		0.38	0.54	1.30	20.60		
Houghton Lake	49	25		3,448	2,730		0.32	0.59	1.57	23.28		
Rogers City	50	27		3,303	2,741		0.48	0.84	1.76	22.11		
Northeast	52	25	0	3,209	2,718	2,278	0.47	0.81	1.73	22.52	21.57	2.57
Fremont	52	30		2,691	3,040		0.95	2.19	3.48	22.93		
Hart	51	29		2,584	2,908		1.17	2.25	3.06	23.34		
Muskegon	53	33		3,752	3,176		0.92	1.62	3.26	24.60		
West Central	53	26	0	3,040	2,996	2,585	1.07	2.08	3.35	25.41	22.44	2.88
Alma	53	31		2,824	3,180		2.37	2.65	4.15	23.60		
Big Rapids	52	29		2,696	2,829		0.29	0.89	2.23	22.01		
Central	53	29	0	2,980	3,004	2,672	0.97	1.43	2.86	21.64	22.77	2.49
Bad Axe	54	31		2,709	3,032		0.46	0.69	2.23	25.61		
Pigeon	53	28		2,612	2,920		0.30	0.55	1.58	18.94		
Saginaw	53	31		3,891	3,222		0.25	0.44	1.44	21.63		
Standish	53	28		2,558	2,909		0.54	1.04	2.41	23.56		
East Central	54	27	0	2,999	3,024	2,689	0.34	0.62	1.88	22.52	20.33	2.23
Fennville	53	31		2,795	3,136		0.82	1.63	3.45	33.60		
Grand Rapids	53	31		3,136	3,526		0.43	1.02	2.45	29.91		
Holland	55	31		3,174	3,430		0.99	2.31	4.19	32.84		
South Bend, IN	53	22		3,273	3,674		0.70	0.97	2.93	31.04		
Watervliet	53	31		2,995	3,370		0.70	1.46	3.08	29.34		
Southwest	56	22	-3	3,026	3,360	2,956	0.73	1.48	3.38	31.18	23.93	2.79
Belding	51	28		2,772	3,071		0.63	1.43	2.73	21.29		
Coldwater	54	23		3,034	3,171		0.06	0.06	1.17	23.17		
Lansing	54	30		3,991	3,278		0.49	0.61	1.91	23.88		
South Central	54	23	-2	3,116	3,204	2,898	0.56	0.86	2.15	25.06	22.64	2.32
Detroit	55	26		4,325	3,589		2.00	2.15	2.95	20.41		
Flint	54	27		4,028	3,265		0.76	0.88	1.85	23.87		
Romeo	53	25		2,880	3,222		0.97	1.12	1.88	22.32		
Tipton	55	31		3,032	3,246		1.47	1.68	2.94	25.92		
Toledo, OH	55	30		3,327	3,532		2.40	2.47	2.86	23.92		
Southeast	70	19	-1	3,348	3,322	2,893	1.46	1.61	2.40	24.04	21.73	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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