



Michigan Crop Weather

Cold Temperatures

Four days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending November 23, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.03 inches in the central Lower Peninsula to 1.09 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 13 degrees below normal in the southwestern Lower Peninsula to 10 degrees below normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula and the northwestern and west central Lower Peninsula. Snow fell in the north, and "lake effect" snow accumulated along Lake Michigan. A grower in the west central reported, "We have had about 12 inches of snow this week so farming has been on hold. There is still some corn to harvest when good weather returns. It has been a relatively good season this year despite an early frost, a flood in June and dry weather in August." The ground in some areas was soggy but has become frozen in others. "Light snow on and off hasn't slowed our corn harvesting, cold enough to blow the snow through the combine. We've got enough frozen ground to help float the combine over most fields," a reporter in the south central stated.

Last Issue for 2008

This concludes the 2008 Crop Weather season. Reports will resume in late April 2009. Monthly weather comments for the winter months, plus some weekly statistics for April will be available at www.nass.usda.gov. A special thanks to all of the regular Crop Weather reporters. Your time and effort made this publication possible and ensured an up-to-date and accurate representation of Michigan agriculture. Thanks again.

Field Crops

Snow limited harvest and other fieldwork. **Corn** harvest continued where conditions allowed and was completed in many areas. **Winter wheat** stands were generally in good condition. **Sugarbeet** harvest was completed.

Soil moisture for week ending 11/23/08

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	1	5	79	15
Subsoil	2	9	83	6

Crop progress for week ending 11/23/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, harvested	89	83	95	87

Crop condition for week ending 11/23/08

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	19	58	20

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 11/23/08 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	30	-9		3,029	2,519		0.68	1.19	2.02	20.17		
Marquette	35	12		2,897	2,394		1.74	2.39	3.22	23.19		
Stephenson	40	2		2,364	2,727		0.00	0.51	1.30	19.82		
Western UP	40	-9	-11	2,702	2,500	2,050	0.59	1.07	1.70	18.81	24.46	2.54
Cornell	34	3		2,235	2,601		0.68	1.29	1.80	18.65		
Sault St Marie	34	15		2,937	2,348		0.60	1.48	2.86	20.91		
Eastern UP	34	3	-10	2,333	2,377	1,790	1.09	1.95	3.18	22.17	23.59	2.65
Beulah	37	14		2,603	2,913		0.80	1.63	2.16	24.45		
Lake City	37	7		2,416	2,701		0.75	1.35	2.01	28.83		
Old Mission	37	13		2,488	2,814		0.06	0.54	1.21	16.00		
Pellston	35	6		3,282	2,696		0.09	0.67	1.44	20.11		
Northwest	37	6	-10	2,548	2,725	2,364	0.41	1.11	1.81	21.18	22.86	2.69
Alpena	36	9		3,390	2,743		0.11	0.49	0.86	20.71		
Houghton Lake	35	6		3,448	2,730		0.15	0.47	0.85	23.43		
Rogers City	35	8		3,303	2,741		0.15	0.63	1.18	22.26		
Northeast	36	6	-12	3,209	2,718	2,282	0.15	0.62	1.13	22.66	22.21	2.57
Fremont	36	13		2,691	3,042		0.04	0.99	2.38	22.97		
Hart	40	4		2,584	2,908		0.31	1.48	2.71	23.65		
Muskegon	42	20		3,752	3,177		0.30	1.22	2.10	24.90		
West Central	48	4	-10	3,040	2,997	2,591	0.21	1.29	2.44	25.63	23.16	2.88
Alma	35	13		2,824	3,182		0.07	2.47	3.44	23.70		
Big Rapids	34	5		2,696	2,829		0.02	0.31	0.97	22.03		
Central	36	5	-11	2,980	3,005	2,679	0.03	1.01	1.82	21.67	23.39	2.49
Bad Axe	36	14		2,709	3,032		0.10	0.56	1.56	25.71		
Pigeon	36	16		2,612	2,920		0.02	0.32	0.86	18.96		
Saginaw	38	16		3,891	3,222		0.00	0.25	0.78	21.63		
Standish	38	12		2,558	2,909		0.06	0.60	1.28	23.62		
East Central	41	12	-11	2,999	3,025	2,698	0.06	0.40	1.20	22.58	20.89	2.23
Fennville	39	12		2,795	3,144		0.29	1.11	2.52	33.89		
Grand Rapids	38	17		3,136	3,531		0.01	0.44	1.16	29.92		
Holland	41	17		3,175	3,439		0.21	1.47	3.02	33.32		
South Bend, IN	39	7		3,273	3,691		0.70	1.40	2.37	31.74		
Watervliet	39	14		2,995	3,379		0.23	0.93	2.24	29.57		
Southwest	41	6	-13	3,026	3,368	2,966	0.24	0.99	2.16	31.44	24.51	2.79
Belding	37	15		2,772	3,073		0.01	0.64	1.66	21.30		
Coldwater	39	10		3,034	3,179		0.00	0.06	0.38	23.17		
Lansing	37	16		3,991	3,286		0.04	0.53	1.11	23.92		
South Central	39	10	-12	3,116	3,210	2,908	0.06	0.62	1.26	25.11	23.18	2.32
Detroit	38	15		4,325	3,599		0.01	2.01	2.65	20.42		
Flint	36	15		4,028	3,273		0.04	0.80	1.48	23.91		
Romeo	37	14		2,880	3,228		0.00	0.91	1.60	22.26		
Tipton	37	13		3,032	3,254		0.04	1.52	2.24	25.97		
Toledo, OH	39	11		3,327	3,543		0.06	2.45	2.52	23.97		
Southeast	39	8	-12	3,348	3,331	2,902	0.04	1.51	2.00	24.09	22.31	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.

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