



# Michigan Crop Weather

## Wet Weather

Three days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending April 26, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.89 inches in the southeast Lower Peninsula to 2.83 inches in the central Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normal in the western Upper Peninsula to 4 degrees above normal in the southeast Lower Peninsula. Heavy precipitation halted field activities. Although the additional rainfall is expected to benefit crops that have already been planted, farmers may not be able to return to the fields for several days.

## Field Crops

Rainy weather has hindered planting in the majority of the state, but was much needed. **Corn** and **soybeans** have not been planted in most areas of the state, but will begin as weather permits. **Wheat** was progressing despite some damage from the winter and animals. Some **alfalfa** fields had significant amounts of standing water. However, the crop was making progress. **Oat** planting was underway. **Sugarbeet** planting was nearing completion in many areas.

Soil moisture for week ending 04/26/09

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	0	2	46	52
Subsoil	1	3	60	36

Crop condition for week ending 04/26/09

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Pasture	3	8	40	39	10
Winter Wheat	2	3	22	58	15

## Fruit

Overnight temperatures have been low, but not enough to cause damage to swollen fruit buds. Temperatures below 25 degrees Fahrenheit are temperatures that cause freeze injury to buds of most fruit crops. **Apples** ranged from silver tip to half-inch green in the west central. Apples in the northwest were at green tip and at bud swell in the southeast. **Peaches** were at early bud swell to green calyx. European **plums** were at green tip, and oriental plums were at tight cluster in the southwest. In the northwest, plums were at early bud swell. **Apricots** were at first bloom. **Sweet** and **tart cherries** were at side green to green tip. **Raspberries** were at early bud swell. **Blueberries** were at bud swell. **Grapes** were at scale crack in the southeast. Fertilizer applications, pruning, and brush clean-up continued as the weather permitted.

## Vegetables

Growers across the State continued to prepare equipment for the planting season and work the soil as the weather allowed. Precipitation during the week and wind over the weekend hindered field activities and delayed application of pesticides. In the west central area, **asparagus** crown planting was in full swing as was **carrot** planting. Early planted **cabbage** and **potatoes** were just beginning to show new growth and early **sweet corn** began to germinate in the southeast.

Crop progress for week ending 04/26/09

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley, planted	16	13	9	31
Corn, planted	3	2	10	16
Oats, planted	49	30	46	59
Oats, emerged	10	5	4	16
Potatoes, planted	11	2	20	19
Sugarbeets, planted	81	70	78	82

**Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 04/26/09 <sup>1</sup>**

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup>			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2009	2008	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	68	28		57	63		2.05	2.39	2.82	2.47		
Marquette	73	21		43	57		2.05	2.40	2.83	2.48		
Stephenson	81	23		75	96		1.92	2.15	2.57	2.23		
<b>Western UP</b>	81	21	-3	55	66	58	2.05	2.38	2.80	2.45	2.00	2.28
Cornell	68	27		38	72		2.73	2.89	3.34	2.89		
Sault St Marie	67	30		39	82		0.75	0.79	1.21	1.00		
<b>Eastern UP</b>	72	22	-2	34	68	27	2.22	2.33	2.70	2.42	2.13	2.43
Beulah	80	27		82	155		1.87	2.34	2.75	2.58		
Lake City	78	26		82	148		1.76	2.04	2.65	2.51		
Old Mission	80	28		59	141		1.33	1.35	1.70	1.56		
Pellston	79	25		57	137		0.74	0.76	1.08	1.00		
<b>Northwest</b>	80	25	-1	67	142	75	1.32	1.48	1.88	1.74	2.33	2.69
Alpena	77	30		62	144		1.65	1.76	2.76	2.70		
Houghton Lake	76	28		76	154		2.25	2.36	3.45	3.40		
Rogers City	77	28		65	121		1.79	1.88	3.04	2.99		
<b>Northeast</b>	77	28	0	68	145	68	1.86	1.96	3.06	3.00	2.21	2.52
Fremont	79	25		99	167		2.38	2.66	3.30	3.09		
Hart	79	25		84	152		2.52	2.65	3.15	2.81		
Muskegon	78	26		100	158		2.57	3.12	3.46	3.21		
<b>West Central</b>	79	21	-1	94	161	93	2.40	2.70	3.20	2.90	2.66	3.16
Alma	83	29		97	164		3.88	4.53	5.65	5.55		
Big Rapids	83	25		109	188		1.99	1.99	3.06	2.98		
<b>Central</b>	83	25	-1	99	174	105	2.83	3.08	3.98	3.89	2.55	3.07
Bad Axe	80	32		80	181		2.39	2.72	3.83	3.74		
Pigeon	78	34		69	171		2.19	2.19	3.28	3.23		
Saginaw	80	29		90	173		2.77	3.05	4.49	4.46		
Standish	78	29		86	158		2.14	2.37	3.44	3.32		
<b>East Central</b>	80	29	0	79	174	101	2.24	2.60	3.87	3.81	2.14	2.55
Fennville	83	27		107	171		2.22	2.97	3.88	3.71		
Grand Rapids	85	29		119	199		2.09	3.01	3.90	3.73		
Holland	84	30		126	210		2.76	3.84	4.88	4.83		
South Bend, IN	85	30		143	210		0.54	1.13	3.07	2.43		
Watervliet	84	29		115	188		1.69	2.46	3.72	3.54		
<b>Southwest</b>	88	25	1	122	198	121	1.99	2.73	3.95	3.74	2.78	3.41
Belding	83	25		94	180		2.94	3.31	4.04	3.95		
Coldwater	85	28		137	184		0.97	1.95	3.99	3.94		
Lansing	82	29		106	195		1.10	2.68	4.32	4.27		
<b>South Central</b>	87	25	2	113	188	121	1.59	2.67	4.01	3.93	2.68	3.19
Detroit	86	33		145	212		0.64	2.29	3.80	3.74		
Flint	81	29		118	218		1.76	3.19	4.07	4.04		
Romeo	82	32		121	181		1.07	1.69	1.82	1.82		
Tipton	86	29		138	181		0.26	1.86	3.64	3.63		
Toledo, OH	86	33		162	191		0.13	2.12	3.82	3.76		
<b>Southeast</b>	87	28	4	128	193	111	0.89	2.36	3.59	3.56	2.74	3.21

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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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