



Michigan Crop Weather

Mild Temperatures

Four days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 10, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.18 inches in the northeastern Lower Peninsula to 0.60 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 2 degrees above normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula and the east central, south central, and southeastern Lower Peninsula to 3 degrees above normal in the western Upper Peninsula and the northwestern, northeastern, west central, central, and southwestern Lower Peninsula. Farmers were able to perform fieldwork this past week where conditions allowed. A grower in the Southeast region reported, "A great first half of the week allowed planting to progress in some fields for most farmers. Some fields were still too wet, even before the rains came Thursday." Cool temperatures and showers at the end of the week slowed field work. "More wet cold weather delayed planting and field work again. The rain was spotty in some areas. This will be favorable for farmers to get back into the fields this week," a reporter in the Thumb region stated.

Field Crops

A short break in the rain allowed for planting to occur in much of the state. **Alfalfa** was growing well and some fields were a foot tall. There were reports of weevil larvae feeding. Planting of **corn** and **soybeans** finally got underway in fields that had dried out. **Wheat** was progressing, but showed signs of powdery mildew and damage from ponding and winter ice. The majority of the crop was in Feekes growing stages 5, with some in Feekes 4, 6 and 7. **Oats** and **barley** benefitted from the cool, wet temperatures and were progressing well. **Rye**, in the southeast, was nearly two feet tall. Rye that was planted as a cover crop was being burned down to allow for planting of other crops. The **sugarbeet** crop showed signs of harm from the abundance of rain received. **Potato** planting was underway.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/10/09

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	1	2	54	43
Subsoil	0	3	61	36

Crop condition for week ending 05/10/09

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Oats	1	2	34	52	11
Pasture	3	5	32	41	19
Winter Wheat	1	6	25	51	17

Fruit

Fruit development remained slightly ahead of normal in most regions. Growers applied fungicides, as soils dried from heavy rains in April. No widespread frost damage has been reported. **Apples** ranged from tight cluster in the northwest to near full bloom in the southwest. Spotted tentiform leafminer adults were flying and laying eggs. **Peaches** were at calyx red in the west central; a heavy bloom ended in the southwest. Stanley **plums** were in open cluster in the west central. **Strawberry** flower trusses were fully emerged in the southeast, and bloom began in the southwest. **Raspberry** leaves were unfurling in the southeast and shoots were elongating. **Sweet cherries** ranged from late bud burst to early white bud in the northwest. **Tart cherries** were at early bud burst in the northwest; they were in full bloom in the southwest. **Pears** were in full bloom in the southwest and in cluster bud to open cluster in the west central. **Blueberries** were at early pink in Ottawa-Allegan County region and at pink bud in the southwest. Wet fields have made use of ground equipment difficult, causing an increase in aerial spraying. Some winter damage to wine **grapes** was detected in the southwest, but the juice crop looked good.

Vegetables

Vegetable growers across the State continued to prepare sites and lay plastic this week, but most felt they are one-week behind due to recent rains. **Asparagus** growers began to harvest some of the young fields. Production has been slow due to cool temperatures. **Carrot** growers were mostly caught up on planting, and early planted carrots started to emerge. **Celery** planting was also nearly back on schedule; growers reported that plants in the field were in good condition. **Onion** planting was nearly complete, with most fields showing emergence. **Tomatoes** were being placed under low tunnels, as were **cucumber** transplants and seed. **Peas** were approximately six inches tall with no flowers evident at this time. **Red beets**, **radish**, and **lettuce** seeding were underway and close to being on-schedule. A significant amount of **cabbage** and **sweet corn** was established on muck soils. Some early sweet corn was also planted where soils have been warmer and drier, and cabbage transplanting on upland soils continued.

Crop progress for week ending 05/10/09

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley, planted	54	33	30	61
Barley, emerged	27	15	7	34
Corn, planted	18	5	66	62
Corn, emerged	0	0	10	11
Oats, planted	77	63	81	87
Oats, emerged	40	24	46	61
Potatoes, planted	28	11	45	44
Soybeans, planted	5	1	29	28
Sugarbeets, planted	91	88	98	98

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/10/09 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			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	72	30		131	102		0.59	0.87	3.26	3.34		
Marquette	70	30		105	86		0.59	0.87	3.27	3.35		
Stephenson	76	31		171	139		1.05	1.16	3.31	3.39		
Western UP	76	27	3	130	101	128	0.60	0.88	3.26	3.33	3.32	3.37
Cornell	70	32		145	118		0.46	0.63	3.00	3.00		
Sault St Marie	68	33		94	112		0.15	0.31	1.10	1.31		
Eastern UP	72	29	2	101	105	72	0.54	0.70	2.93	3.01	3.50	3.01
Beulah	72	37		186	233		0.37	0.68	3.02	3.26		
Lake City	74	30		187	218		0.07	0.85	2.93	3.40		
Old Mission	75	34		147	198		0.09	0.14	1.49	1.70		
Pellston	74	26		146	194		0.37	0.50	1.26	1.50		
Northwest	75	26	3	159	204	159	0.21	0.47	2.03	2.29	3.60	2.61
Alpena	76	29		154	201		0.29	0.53	2.29	3.23		
Houghton Lake	75	32		177	228		0.05	0.90	3.26	4.30		
Rogers City	74	31		160	179		0.17	0.62	2.50	3.61		
Northeast	76	29	3	166	214	146	0.18	0.71	2.67	3.71	3.58	2.76
Fremont	72	37		205	256		0.46	1.85	4.51	4.94		
Hart	72	36		186	234		0.75	1.62	4.27	4.43		
Muskegon	73	37		209	240		0.19	1.72	4.84	4.93		
West Central	76	30	3	203	248	191	0.52	1.59	3.98	4.19	3.97	2.67
Alma	76	39		206	262		0.46	1.87	6.39	7.41		
Big Rapids	76	34		224	285		0.60	1.84	3.83	4.82		
Central	76	34	3	211	269	212	0.50	1.71	4.79	5.60	4.07	2.79
Bad Axe	76	37		186	267		0.74	2.09	4.81	5.83		
Pigeon	76	37		179	257		0.86	2.11	4.30	5.34		
Saginaw	76	38		204	274		0.47	1.90	4.95	6.36		
Standish	77	34		192	238		0.39	1.35	3.72	4.67		
East Central	77	34	2	182	265	201	0.58	1.97	4.57	5.78	3.45	2.63
Fennville	74	38		226	267		0.31	1.74	4.71	5.45		
Grand Rapids	73	41		249	304		0.42	2.18	5.19	5.91		
Holland	75	41		253	310		0.31	2.01	6.16	7.15		
South Bend, IN	77	39		283	327		0.30	1.51	2.64	3.94		
Watervliet	74	40		242	291		0.14	1.60	4.06	5.14		
Southwest	77	35	3	249	304	237	0.21	1.62	4.63	5.64	4.29	3.01
Belding	74	40		208	268		0.50	1.90	5.21	5.85		
Coldwater	75	40		267	283		0.22	0.47	2.42	4.41		
Lansing	73	42		228	304		0.57	2.77	5.45	7.04		
South Central	77	39	2	241	292	239	0.57	1.95	4.74	6.01	4.07	2.92
Detroit	74	46		286	329		0.25	1.52	3.81	5.26		
Flint	74	40		240	333		0.42	1.72	4.91	5.76		
Romeo	75	42		229	264		0.20	0.53	2.18	2.31		
Tipton	74	40		267	297		0.19	1.01	2.87	4.64		
Toledo, OH	73	44		288	320		0.52	1.53	3.65	5.29		
Southeast	76	36	2	254	305	223	0.29	1.28	3.64	4.83	4.10	2.85

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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