



National Agricultural Statistics Service
Michigan Statistical Office
Michigan Department of Agriculture

Michigan Crop-Weather



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Cool and Rainy

Two days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 30, according to the USDA-NASS-Michigan Statistical Office. Scattered rain continued to fall across much of the State, hindering any drying of cropland. Much of the State's farm ground was still too wet for tillage or planting, but a few dry days late in the week allowed some farmers to make limited progress. Many growers reported mudding in crops just to put some seed in the ground as the optimal planting window closed. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.27 inches in the central Lower Peninsula to 1.95 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. Temperatures ranged from 5 degrees below normal in five of the State's districts to 2 degrees below normal in the southeast Lower Peninsula. A farmer in the Thumb commented, "We are facing still wet conditions. It keeps raining and raining. Just when it's dry enough to get some planting done, more rain hits." A reporter in the northeast concurred, "This inclement weather is really putting stress on crops and farmers."

Field Crops

Cold, wet, and windy weather continued across the State. Persistent rains this past week put a halt to fieldwork. Soil moisture across the State was above normal due to the rain. **Corn** was still emerging, but at a slow pace. In some areas, corn has started to turn yellow. Rain and standing water kept corn from being replanted. **Alfalfa** fields were suffering because of too much rain. Overall, hay was looking great with all the moisture; the first cutting of hay will be above average. In some areas around the State, the first cutting of hay was ready to be harvested. Some **soybean** fields are under water. Soybean fields that had been planted had emerged with water damage. Dry weather is needed for farmers to finish planting the rest of their crop. **Wheat** fields were still being watched closely due to powdery mildew being spotted in some fields. Wheat was in a critical heading stage so infections of *Fusarium* head scab can occur. White wheat was sprayed for vomitoxins. Overall, wheat was growing at a rapid pace. **Sugarbeet** seedling diseases showed up in some fields. Sugarbeet cultivation and post spraying for weeds continued.

Fruit

Cooler temperatures across Michigan have slowed growth for many fruit crops. The cooler temperatures are also slowing insect activity. Strong winds have made it difficult to spray, and standing water was a problem for some growers last week, especially along the southern edge of the State.

Apples were approximately 1 inch in diameter. Primary scab season for apples has ended, but the threat of a secondary season is possible. Plum curculio has been a problem for the past week on the western side of the State; there were also reports of potato leaf hopper. In the southeast, it has been reported that European red mites are under control but oriental fruit moth has been causing problems. The window for thinning is about to close. Thinner may not work as effectively in the cooler temperatures. **Peaches** were approximately 16 mm in diameter in the southeast. In the west, peaches were infested with plum curculio. **Sweet cherries** had many broken limbs due to previous severe weather, especially in western areas. **Tart cherries** were infested with bacterial canker in most parts of the State. Due to the large amount of standing water, brown rot was common. Tart cherries also had trouble with cherry leaf spot on the southwestern edge of the State. **Grapes** have shot out up to 8 inches long in western Michigan. There has been little sign of strawberry clipper in the southeast. In western Michigan, bloom has just begun. Much of the area was waterlogged, which in some cases leads to root rot or leather rot. **Blueberry** bloom has ended in southwestern Michigan.

Vegetables

Wet fields continued to adversely affect vegetable crops across the State. Transplanting of a wide variety of produce was limited due to the inclement weather. High winds caused some damage to plastic being laid in the southwest. **Asparagus** harvest continued. Some fields were too wet to operate carts in and growers resorted to walk picking. Quality was inconsistent and yields varied due to the fluctuating temperatures. Some producers will wrap up harvest this week. **Celery** planting was limited to three days or less. Fields already planted were showing some water damage. Growers in the south central tried to squeeze in **potato** and **snap bean** planting as much as the weather allowed. In the northeast, less than 25 percent of the potatoes had been planted. Flooding in **carrot** acreage adversely affected already thin stands in the west central. Emerged plants were at the fourth true leaf. Early planted **sweet corn** was emerged but pale due to the wet weather. In the southwest, transplanting of **peppers** and **eggplants** moved along and **zucchini** transplants in tunnels were flowering. Also in the southwest, transplanted **cucumbers** were runnering and flowering and **tomatoes** in tunnels were in flower. In the southeast, processing tomato planting was way behind schedule. Transplanting of **melons**, peppers and other vegetable crops in the southeast was behind schedule as well, as producers waited for the conditions to improve.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/30/04

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	0	0	31	69
Subsoil	0	2	46	52

Crop condition for week ending 05/30/04

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All Hay	1	6	31	45	17
Barley	10	2	23	63	2
Corn	5	10	38	40	7
Oats	3	8	30	47	12
Pasture	1	4	17	47	31
Soybeans	4	16	47	30	3
Winter Wheat	1	4	20	52	23

Crop progress for week ending 05/30/04

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All hay, first cutting	5	2	9	10
Asparagus, harvested	57	48	64	66
Barley, planted	96	90	93	94
Barley, emerged	88	61	76	84
Corn, planted	77	71	83	87
Corn, emerged	65	55	44	61
Oats, emerged	97	90	91	93
Potatoes, planted	69	63	NA	NA
Potatoes, emerged	46	30	NA	NA
Soybeans, planted	45	36	55	64
Soybeans, emerged	33	26	16	35
Winter wheat, headed	56	20	11	35

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/30/04 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2004	2003	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	66	30		255	307		1.91	3.63	4.65	7.17		
Marquette	74	31		217	280		2.23	4.56	5.50	8.41		
Stephenson	68	32		345	400		1.88	3.88	5.41	8.04		
Western UP	74	29	-5	249	305	302	1.95	3.69	4.66	6.93	5.65	3.37
Cornell	66	34		200	289		1.51	3.52	4.31	6.30		
Sault St Marie	66	33		144	268		1.28	3.24	5.03	6.95		
Eastern UP	68	30	-3	177	245	209	1.47	3.16	4.28	5.85	5.44	3.01
Beulah	71	33		336	357		1.17	3.06	6.38	10.06		
Lake City	70	31		358	338		1.02	3.35	7.36	11.66		
Old Mission	71	33		313	313		0.60	3.75	5.98	8.46		
Pellston	73	25		300	330		0.80	4.17	5.43	7.21		
Northwest	73	25	-4	312	317	361	0.89	3.40	6.01	8.78	5.30	2.61
Alpena	70	29		292	279		0.77	2.86	4.47	6.91		
Houghton Lake	71	33		371	372		0.28	2.46	7.26	10.66		
Rogers City	68	31		328	262		0.60	2.59	5.39	8.32		
Northeast	74	29	-5	342	331	336	0.56	2.64	5.71	8.81	5.28	2.76
Fremont	70	37		473	432		1.37	3.80	8.88	10.75		
Hart	69	39		418	363		1.46	3.39	8.92	11.21		
Muskegon	68	39		469	406		2.12	6.32	9.59	11.43		
West Central	70	37	-5	437	393	413	1.60	4.41	8.83	10.91	5.83	2.67
Alma	72	39		516	414		0.25	3.27	6.27	10.03		
Big Rapids	72	35		466	396		0.32	2.91	6.11	8.22		
Central	72	35	-3	495	401	449	0.27	3.18	6.40	9.74	5.86	2.79
Bad Axe	72	34		414	282		0.01	2.33	4.96	9.63		
Pigeon	72	37		390	297		0.34	3.46	6.75	10.78		
Saginaw	73	41		468	369		0.24	2.71	7.48	10.00		
Standish	73	34		415	336		0.32	1.60	6.59	10.26		
East Central	73	34	-5	415	330	430	0.34	2.60	6.53	10.00	5.18	2.63
Fennville	70	41		521	406		1.37	4.68	6.78	8.66		
Grand Rapids	72	42		612	432		0.98	4.49	9.36	12.29		
Holland	71	42		534	409		1.48	2.33	5.20	7.03		
South Bend, IN	78	42		675	479		1.91	3.93	6.02	7.30		
Watervliet	74	41		573	432		1.35	3.74	5.40	7.04		
Southwest	78	38	-5	573	451	485	1.49	4.24	7.15	8.99	6.42	3.01
Belding	71	38		546	415		0.82	4.04	7.35	9.69		
Coldwater	72	40		563	417		0.38	2.67	5.25	6.83		
Lansing	74	39		569	446		0.82	5.04	9.27	11.04		
South Central	80	38	-4	571	455	485	0.95	4.24	8.00	9.79	6.11	2.92
Detroit	78	44		618	472		0.48	4.78	6.90	8.68		
Flint	78	41		605	458		0.80	4.39	6.60	8.55		
Romeo	76	38		545	403		0.24	4.27	7.94	10.44		
Tipton	76	42		576	453		0.91	2.78	5.68	7.14		
Toledo, OH	80	43		687	490		1.11	2.72	3.90	5.64		
Southeast	80	37	-2	585	454	461	0.75	3.59	6.47	8.52	6.06	2.85

¹ Issued by the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service 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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