



National Agricultural Statistics Service
Michigan Statistical Office
Michigan Department of Agriculture

Michigan Crop-Weather



MI-CW2005

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Planting Progress Ahead of Normal

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 8, according to the USDA-NASS-Michigan Statistical Office. A majority of the State remained abnormally dry. Below normal temperatures in the Lower Peninsula continued to hinder the emergence of crops in the field. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.02 inches in the central Lower Peninsula to 0.36 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from normal in the Upper Peninsula to 6 degrees below normal in the southwestern Lower Peninsula. Weather conditions remained diverse for farmers in the Lower Peninsula. Producers in the western Lower Peninsula noted, "Things don't look too bad but we desperately need moisture," and "we could use an all day soaker." A farmer in the eastern Lower Peninsula commented, "The air temperature finally warmed up and field conditions dried up for fieldwork to continue."

Field Crops

Cool, dry weather continued across the State. Early week frost did minor damage to field crops. Planting was ahead of normal for most crops with warmer temperatures and additional precipitation needed to improve emergence. **Barley** and **corn** planting continued and was well ahead of previous years. **Soybean** planting also continued to progress nicely but with little or no emergence due to low soil temperatures. **Sugarbeets** began to emerge. There have been reports of minor damage from frost. **Alfalfa** growth was slow under cool conditions and the crop could use some rain. **Winter wheat** stands were highly variable across the State. There have been reports of yellow colored wheat due to poor weather conditions. **Oat** planting was completed and fields looked good.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/08/05

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	14	31	53	2
Subsoil	7	29	58	6

Crop condition for week ending 05/08/05

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Pasture	0	12	38	41	9
Winter Wheat	3	4	24	61	8

Fruit

Tree fruits were typically 3 to 7 days ahead of normal development, depending on location. Most varieties of **apples** were in full bloom last week in the southwest. Growers remained concerned about the possible effects of recent freezing temperatures on the crop's potential. In the Ridge area, bloom was underway on early varieties of apples, which showed varying degrees of freeze damage. In the west central, apples have reached the pink stage. In the northwest, apples were in pre-pink to pink. Cherries seem to have tolerated the recent freezing temperatures better than apples, however pollination is of concern. In the southwest, **tart cherries** continued blooming while **sweet cherries** showed good growth. In the Ridge area, sweet cherries continued blooming and showed some petal fall. In the west central, tart cherries were in the popcorn stage, and sweet cherries were in full bloom. Tart cherries were in popcorn stage in the northwest. In the southeast, tart cherries were in full bloom, and sweet cherries were at petal fall. **Peaches** had reached petal fall in the Ridge area and were entering petal fall in the west central. In the southwest, **blueberries** were at pink stage, and leaves had unfolded. In the southeast, there was some bloom occurring in blueberries.

Vegetables

Vegetable growers' planting activities were progressing steadily for much of the State. However, in some areas the winter-like conditions of low temperatures slowed the planting process and limited crop development. Some growers continued irrigating for germination, because many areas in the region have had little rainfall. Due to the freezing temperatures in some areas, damage was caused to the emerged **asparagus**. In some areas, it appears that asparagus will finally start harvest season after a long delay. Some damage was also caused to emerged **sweet corn**.

Crop progress for week ending 05/08/05

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Asparagus, harvested	12	10	16	18
Barley, planted	72	70	66	65
Barley, emerged	38	23	46	44
Corn, planted	62	36	57	42
Corn, emerged	3	1	9	6
Oats, planted	94	89	87	80
Oats, emerged	69	34	61	52
Potatoes, planted	56	21	30	29
Potatoes, emerged	1	0	3	NA
Soybeans, planted	25	8	21	15

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/08/05 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2005	2004	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	73	27		187	109		0.33	0.41	0.49	1.12		
Marquette	76	26		151	77		0.15	0.77	1.42	2.52		
Stephenson	71	24		172	176		0.23	0.40	0.67	1.50		
Western UP	78	22	0	161	101	119	0.36	0.59	0.86	1.58	3.11	3.37
Cornell	68	26		141	97		0.19	1.11	1.39	1.52		
Sault St Marie	66	27		119	30		0.49	0.76	1.16	1.73		
Eastern UP	73	23	0	130	57	65	0.31	0.80	1.27	1.76	3.33	3.01
Beulah	82	31		237	141		0.02	0.42	1.33	1.33		
Lake City	76	21		199	144		0.15	0.32	1.19	1.20		
Old Mission	81	27		190	105		0.06	0.36	1.25	1.25		
Pellston	78	19		169	114		0.10	0.24	1.32	1.42		
Northwest	82	19	-2	189	118	147	0.09	0.33	1.25	1.27	3.43	2.61
Alpena	68	21		130	118		0.30	0.70	1.94	2.02		
Houghton Lake	76	22		201	157		0.09	0.15	0.71	0.77		
Rogers City	73	21		172	118		0.21	0.46	1.47	1.53		
Northeast	76	18	-3	178	140	134	0.19	0.42	1.42	1.48	3.34	2.76
Fremont	81	24		249	214		0.07	0.16	0.47	0.47		
Hart	79	33		229	175		0.00	0.18	0.67	0.71		
Muskegon	78	29		233	198		0.05	0.26	0.48	0.48		
West Central	81	24	-2	235	188	177	0.04	0.20	0.47	0.48	3.80	2.67
Alma	78	25		239	235		0.03	0.21	0.68	0.68		
Big Rapids	78	25		237	213		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Central	79	24	-4	238	224	196	0.02	0.16	0.52	0.52	3.86	2.79
Bad Axe	74	29		182	172		0.25	0.64	1.99	1.99		
Pigeon	78	29		159	164		0.16	0.53	1.00	1.02		
Saginaw	75	26		183	211		0.28	0.58	1.63	1.65		
Standish	74	25		182	194		0.13	0.44	1.49	1.50		
East Central	78	25	-4	170	190	186	0.20	0.52	1.53	1.54	3.23	2.63
Fennville	82	29		262	207		0.08	0.14	0.68	0.70		
Grand Rapids	81	26		256	271		0.19	0.32	0.99	1.00		
Holland	82	31		256	224		0.08	0.28	0.90	0.90		
South Bend, IN	83	26		296	301		0.00	0.07	0.99	1.03		
Watervliet	83	27		278	254		0.10	0.22	0.87	0.89		
Southwest	85	25	-4	275	265	221	0.09	0.21	0.90	0.92	4.00	3.01
Belding	79	30		248	235		0.07	0.22	1.30	1.30		
Coldwater	79	25		243	247		0.07	0.00	0.80	0.81		
Lansing	77	29		256	252		0.12	0.18	1.17	1.18		
South Central	81	25	-5	256	265	221	0.08	0.19	0.81	0.82	3.81	2.92
Detroit	73	31		242	265		0.04	0.50	1.58	1.81		
Flint	75	23		233	260		0.07	0.23	1.37	1.37		
Romeo	74	27		221	236		0.00	0.82	1.98	2.25		
Tipton	76	25		257	256		0.01	0.43	1.36	1.43		
Toledo, OH	77	25		248	293		0.01	0.59	2.26	2.43		
Southeast	79	21	-6	239	261	206	0.06	0.48	1.97	2.13	3.81	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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