

Southwest Michigan Field Crops Update June 13, 2024

Here are updates from the MSU Extension Field Crops team in Southwest Michigan. If you have any items you would like me to include in future email updates - whether events you want others to know about or topics you would like to have addressed - please send me an [email](#) or [call](#) the office.

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MSU Weed Tour - Wednesday, June 26

Come see the corn and soybean research plots and learn about the latest in corn and soybean weed control research. The fee is \$30 for pre-registrants or \$40 for on-site registrants. It is on Wednesday, June 26 from 9:30 am- 1 pm for corn and soybeans and 1 pm to 3 pm for non-GMO soybeans. Lunch will be provided. This event will be held at the MSU Plant Pathology Farm, [3735 College Road, Lansing, MI 48910](#).

Free SW MI No-Till Field Day & Soil Pit - Friday, July 19

There will be a soil pit! There will be free lunch! But wait, there's more! Join us for an interactive field day about no-till systems and their challenges and successes. This event is offered free of charge thanks to the Michigan Corn Growers Association and the Farmers for Soil Health program. It will be held at 93599 County Road 652, Marcellus, MI 49067, on Friday, July 19. For more information, click [here](#).

USDA Now Accepting Applications for Available Funds to Help Cover Organic Certification Costs

Through the [Organic Certification Cost Share Program](#) (OCCSP), USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will cover up to 75% of organic certification costs at a maximum of \$750 per certification category. FSA is now accepting applications, and organic producers and handlers should apply for OCCSP by the Oct. 31, 2024, deadline for eligible expenses incurred from Oct. 1, 2023, to Sept. 30, 2024. FSA will issue payments as applications are received and approved.

Contact FSA at your local [USDA Service Center](#) to apply, and be prepared to provide documentation of organic certification and eligible expenses. OCCSP applications can also be submitted through participating state departments of agriculture. For more information, visit the [OCCSP](#) webpage.

Emergency Conservation Program for St. Joseph & Kalamazoo Counties

DID YOU INCUR DAMAGE BY
TORNADO AND HEAVY WINDS
ON MAY 7, 2024?

ST JOSEPH & KALAMAZOO COUNTIES

Emergency Funding & Technical Assistance

Up to 75% cost share on eligible
emergency conservation practices like:

- Debris Removal
- Site Prep
- Restoration
- Fencing
- Conservation Structure restoration
- ...and more.

USDA Farm Service Agency
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM

SIGNUP JUNE 3 – AUG 1, 2024

Interested producers should call the
St Joseph & Kalamazoo County Farm Service Agency Office in
Centreville at 269-467-6336 to determine eligibility.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender

MAEAP Growing Green Field Day - Tuesday, July 30

The Branch County and St. Joseph County Conservation Districts will present a MAEAP field day at Little Hands Garden (442 Gilead Lake Rd., Bronson, MI 49028) on July 30. RSVP to the Branch County Conservation District at <https://www.branchcd.org/> or 517-278-2725 ext. 5.

JOIN US FOR
GROWING GREEN

BRANCH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MAEAP

Featured speakers:

- Christine Charles - Water Simulator
- Nicolle Ritchie - Nitrogen Use Efficiency
- Dairy Doo
- Patrick Gordon - Produce Safety
- Chelsy and Harlie - MAEAP Update

July 30, 2024
At Little Hands Garden
8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
442 Gilead Lake Road
Bronson MI 49028

RSVP @ [BRANCHCD.ORG](https://www.branchcd.org/)
OR CALL 517-278-2725 EXT 5

Free lunch is provided!

Satisfies MAEAP Phase 1 Credit

Field Crops Update

Soybean and corn planting is just about wrapped up. Some fields are just emerging while others are well into their vegetative stages. Despite the high variability in planting dates, the weather has been conducive to quick emergence in late planted fields, and all crops are progressing rapidly. Weeds are also progressing rapidly, leading to post-emergent herbicide applications on some fields this week. In corn, nitrogen sidedress continued. Asiatic garden beetle is pupating right now in Southern Michigan.



Winter wheat kernels continue to accumulate solid matter. The majority are in a soft, doughy stage but have begun to lose the green color in the head. Late last week, low levels of head scab were confirmed in Barry County. The affected glumes and kernels were a pale tan to salmon color within a green head as shown in this picture from Christine Charles, MSU Extension.

Most of the **potato** acres are flowering now and have closed rows. Some later-planted fields are just entering tuber initiation. The warm, sunny days and cool nights from this past week have been favorable potato conditions, and even the later-planted fields are progressing rapidly toward row closure.

Many growers began their second cutting of **alfalfa** and **forage grasses** this week.



Weekly Crop Water Use for Field Crops in Michigan

The new MSU Extension water use efficiency and irrigation educator Angie Gradiz will start including irrigation updates. If you have water use efficiency and/or uniformity questions or just haven't met Angie yet, reach out to her at gradizme@msu.edu.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY		Extension		
Crop	Growth stage	Estimated weekly crop water use for field crops in Michigan (in/week)		
		Week of June 10th - 16th		
		Constantine	Entrican	Hart
Corn	V2	0.29	0.29	0.39
	V4	0.29	0.29	0.39
	V6	0.57	0.57	0.76
Soybeans	VC Cotyledon	0.29	0.29	0.39
	V1 1st node	0.44	0.44	0.58
	V2 2nd node	0.73	0.73	0.97
<p>This table presents projected potential crop evapotranspiration values for field crops in Michigan and does not account for precipitation obtained during the week of calculation. The procedure used for the calculation was based on the FAO-56 single crop coefficient approach: https://www.fao.org/4/X0490E/x0490e0b.htm#TopOfPage. Reference evapotranspiration values were obtained from https://enviroweather.msu.edu/.</p>				
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The table above presents estimated crop water use for various field crops across three locations in Michigan. This data helps irrigation management decisions by showcasing potential crop evapotranspiration, calculated based on reference evapotranspiration and crop coefficients for each crop growth stage. It is crucial to note that crop water use values vary across regions due to differences in weather conditions, growth stages, agronomic practices, and soil properties.

When using these values for irrigation scheduling, be mindful that they assume all applied irrigation water will be utilized by the plants without any loss. Additionally, these values do not account for any precipitation that may occur during the week of calculation. For more tools and information on irrigation scheduling tools, please refer to:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/irrigation/uploads/files/FS03-IrrigationSchedulingTools07.19.pdf>

Reference evapotranspiration data was obtained from Enviro-weather, which also offers a model for determining potential crop evapotranspiration. To access this tool, visit <https://enviroweather.msu.edu/>, click on "Crops," select your crop, and use the potential evapotranspiration tool by choosing your nearest weather station, the latest date of interest, and other crop information.

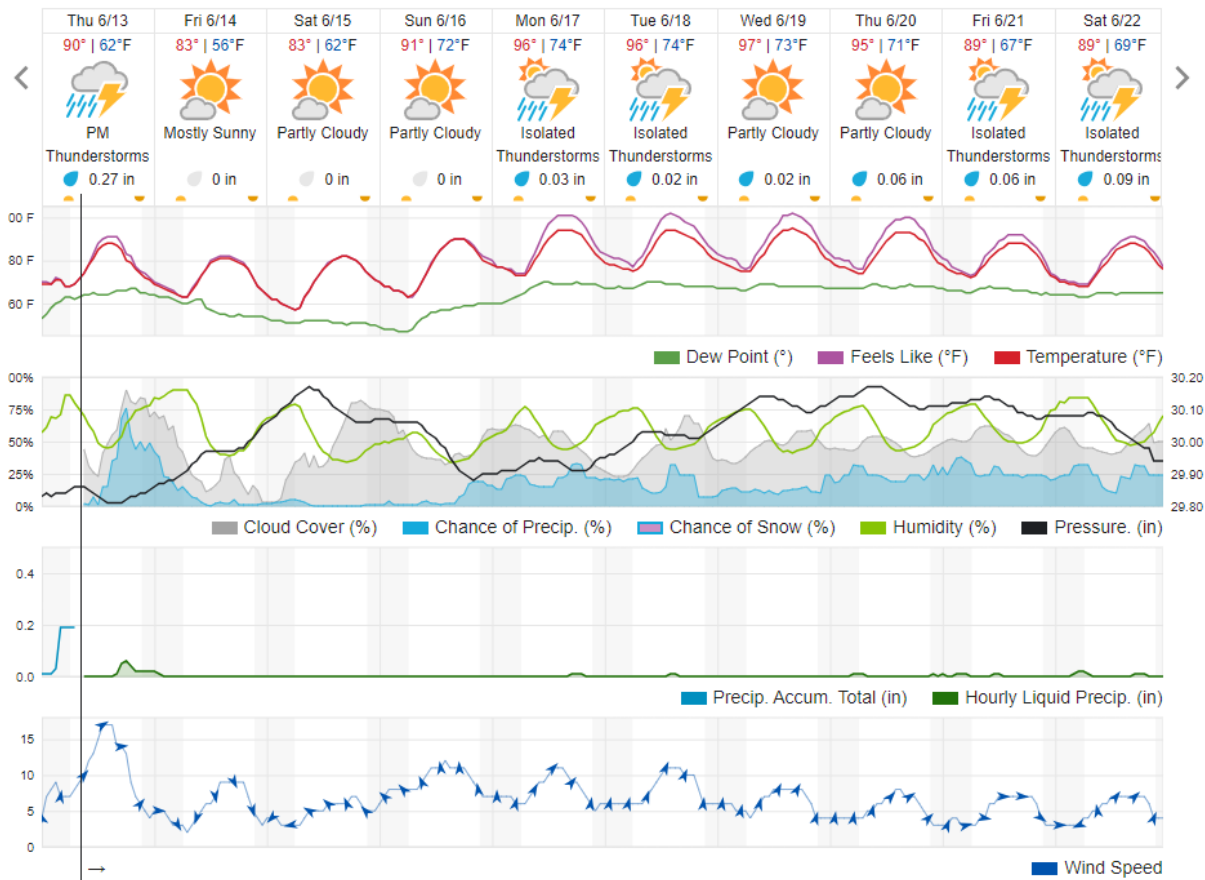
Crop water use values were calculated by Angie Gradiz, MSU Extension Agriculture Water Use Efficiency Educator; Lyndon Kelley, MSU and Purdue Extension Irrigation Educator; and Dr. Younsuk Dong, MSU Irrigation and Extension Specialist.

Weather Update

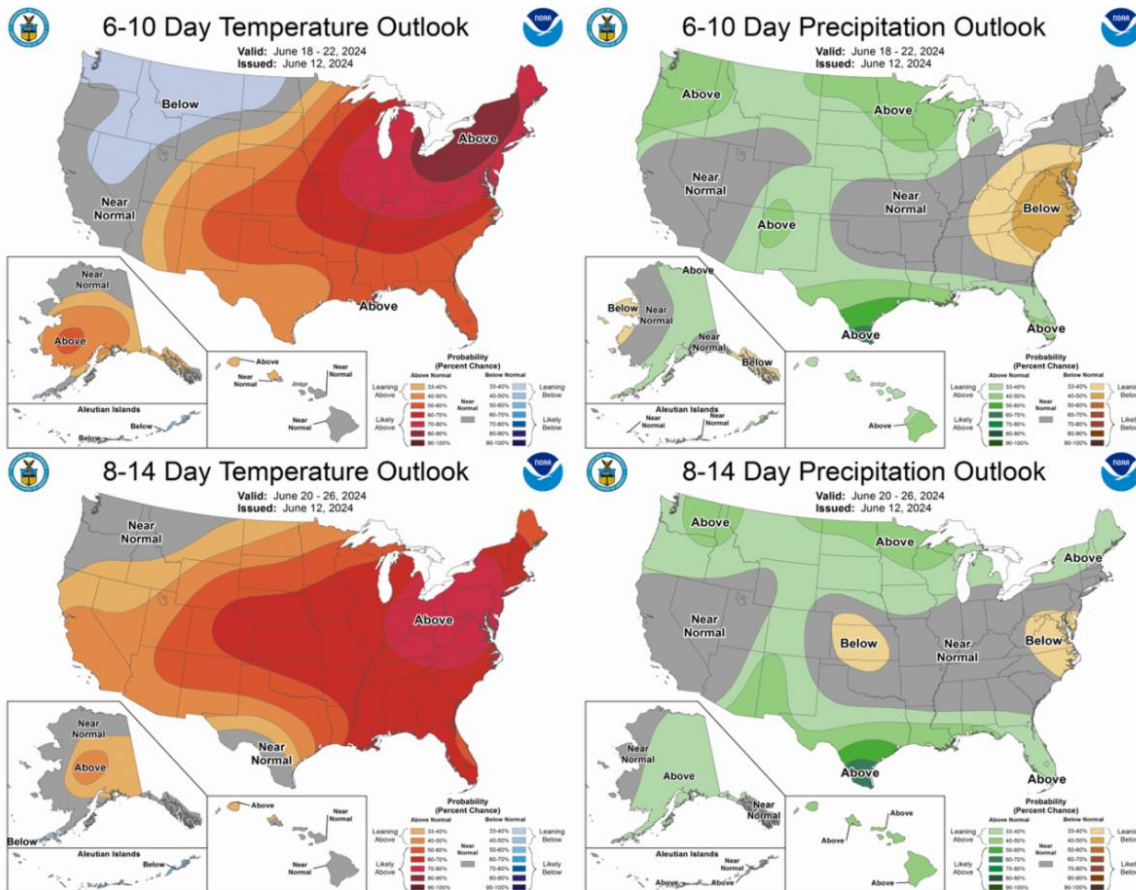
This past weekend saw a drop down to cooler temperatures. High winds slowed down spray applications and led to soil erosion in unplanted fields and fields with small plants. Starting today, June 13, scattered showers will pass through the state. Southern Michigan is at an elevated risk of severe weather compared to the rest of the state, which may result in high winds and some possible hail. This next week is forecast to have high temperatures, high humidity and dew points in the 60's.

For a weekly weather outlook from MSU's Jeff Andresen, join the free [Virtual Breakfast](#) meeting every Thursday through Sept 19. The weather update starts around 7:15 am (after the weekly topic).

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Ten-day weather forecast for Kalamazoo according to www.wunderground.com.



The 6-10 day (June 18-22, top) and 8-10 day (June 20-26, bottom) outlooks for temperature (left) and precipitation (right).

Calendar

[Note: Titles are clickable links to online content when highlighted and underlined.]

- June 19** [Food-Grade Grains Field Day](#). 9:00 am. Kellogg Biological Station. The Food-Grade Grains Field Day will highlight the steps to growing food-grade grains from the field to mug, spoon, and jug! At each stop presenters and attendees will discuss the agronomic, processing, and end user quality needs and considerations for the specific grain. Lunch is included.
- June 20** [Virtual Breakfast: Wild Weather for Hay](#). 7:00 am. The weekly online program provides timely, relevant information to keep field crop farmers and consultants up to date with rapidly changing crop conditions, pests, diseases and environmental conditions during the growing season. Register once for entire series online.
- June 25** [Michigan Wheat Program Summer Field Day](#). 8:15 am. Saginaw Valley Research and Extension Center, Frankenmuth, MI. This year's MI Wheat Programs annual field day in conjunction with MSU Extension will be hosted Tuesday, June 25th at the MSU Saginaw Valley Research and Extension Center. Pre-registration is encouraged for an accurate head count for food.
- June 26** [MSU Weed Tour 2024](#). 9:30 am. 3735 College Road, Lansing, MI 48910. View the latest in corn and soybean weed control research. Pre-registration is \$30 or participants can register on-site for \$40.
- June 27** [Virtual Breakfast: Insect Update Beneficials and Corn Borer](#). 7:00 am. The weekly online program provides timely, relevant information to keep field crop farmers and consultants up to date with rapidly changing crop conditions, pests, diseases and environmental conditions during the growing season. Register once for entire series online.
- June 27** [Rebel Pastures Pasture Walk](#). 6:00 pm. Rebel Pastures is a first generation, regenerative farm in Rockford, MI that focuses on animal and soil health. Realizing farming is one big experiment, they've used several methods to raise animals and grow pasture and are looking forward to sharing them at this pasture walk.
- July 11** [Virtual Breakfast: Cercospora for Sugar Beets](#). 7:00 am. The weekly online program provides timely, relevant information to keep field crop farmers and consultants up to date with rapidly changing crop conditions, pests, diseases and environmental conditions during the growing season. Register once for entire series online.
- July 18** [Virtual Breakfast: White Mold-Tar Spot Spraying](#). 7:00 am. The weekly online program provides timely, relevant information to keep field crop farmers and consultants up to date with rapidly changing crop conditions, pests, diseases and environmental conditions during the growing season. Register once for entire series online.
- July 19** [SW MI No-till Field Day](#). 9:30 am. 93599 County Road 652, Marcellus, MI 49067. Discuss troubleshooting no-till systems, see a soil pit in a long-term no-till field, and learn about soil health indicators. Free event with lunch included.
- July 25** [Virtual Breakfast: Hot Topics](#). 7:00 am. The weekly online program provides timely, relevant information to keep field crop farmers and consultants up to date with rapidly changing crop conditions, pests, diseases and environmental conditions during the growing season. Register once for entire series online.

MSU Extension Digest Briefs

[Helping Farm Families Transition their Farm Business to the Next Generation](#)

Published on June 11, 2024

[Impact report on MSU Extension succession planning educational efforts.](#)

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Budgeting for Prairie Strips

Published on June 10, 2024

This bulletin shows how to calculate where and how prairie strips can be a financial benefit to the farm operation.

Prairie Strip Partial Budget Tool

Published on June 10, 2024

This partial budget tool was created as part of the [Budgeting for Prairie Strips bulletin](#). It is an editable spreadsheet made to determine gains and losses from converting row crop areas to restored prairie.

Wheat watchers week of June 3, 2024

Published on June 06, 2024

See how the wheat crop is progressing across the state this week.

Michigan farms host Soil Health Academies

Published on June 06, 2024

Join MSU Extension and local farmers to learn more about regenerative agriculture.

Southwest Michigan field crops update – June 6, 2024

Published on June 06, 2024

Sidedress nitrogen applications began in earnest. Slugs caused severe damage in some no-till soybean fields, leading to replanting of those fields.

MSU Extension Field Crops Virtual Breakfast Series continues as growing season picks up speed

Published on June 05, 2024

It's not too late to join the live series that provides timely, relevant information to field crops farmers and connects them to MSU specialists weekly.

Providing Timely & Relevant Information to Field Crop Producers & Agronomists

Published on June 04, 2024

Impact report of MSU Extension field crops educational efforts.

Does your insurance cover storm damage to irrigation systems?

Published on June 03, 2024

Is your farm covered if irrigation systems fail or can't be timely replaced?

But can it be profitable? An initial economic summary of an aspirational cropping system - KBS Long-Term Agroecosystem Research

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/but-can-it-be-profitable-an-initial-economic-summary-of-an-aspirational-cropping-system>

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