

Southwest Michigan Field Crops Updates November 2021

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.

Herbicide Shortage - How To Plan For The 2022 Growing Season

As you are likely already aware, chemical dealers are bracing for the real possibility that certain key herbicides—namely glyphosate and glufosinate—may be in short supply for at least the first part of the 2022 growing season. In a recent article written by Purdue’s weed scientists, they address this issue and give some action steps farmers can take to prepare for such a situation. Below is the introduction to that article, but many more details and “what-if” scenarios are included [in the full article](#). They also posted a Part II to that article the following week [which is available here](#).

There is a lot of speculation about a herbicide shortage for the 2022 growing season, which will impact weed management decisions starting with fall applications. The two main active ingredients that we’re hearing about right now are glyphosate (Roundup, others) and glufosinate (Liberty, others), both associated with an increase in cost. There will likely be limited supplies of other pesticide active ingredients as well, but in the short term, a shortage of these two active ingredients poses some major challenges for corn and soybean production. The purpose of this article is to discuss ways to minimize the impact of herbicide shortage on corn and soybean production in the Midwest. As you search for alternatives to these two herbicides you may have already determined that weed control guides produced by University Extension and Industry will become your most important tool for planning your herbicide purchases for many years to come. To access the Weed Control Guide for Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, [follow this link](#).

First, what is causing the shortage? There are several different factors which are impacting this issue. In no particular order, the reasons for the herbicide shortage include a decline in number of laborers to unload tanker ships at gulf ports, lack of truck transportation from the ports to get the ingredients to U.S. formulation plants or formulated products to the retailers, reduced supplies of some of the inert ingredients of the formulation, shortages of materials to make containers and packaging, and Hurricane Ida that [damaged a glyphosate production plant in Luling, LA](#).

Regardless of the cause, it is also important to consider herbicide costs. We are hearing that glyphosate prices will be in excess of \$80/gallon. So, even if there is not a shortage, you should plan your weed control strategies for the next growing season to accommodate a limited availability because of supply or price of these two active ingredients.

Getting Acreage Reporting Right

You have a lot at stake in making sure your crop insurance acreage reporting is accurate and on time. If you fail to report on time, you may not be protected. If you report too much acreage, you may pay too much premium. If you report too little acreage, you may recover less when you file a claim.

Crop insurance agents often say that mistakes in acreage reporting are the easiest way for producers to have an unsatisfactory experience with crop insurance. Don’t depend on your agent to do this important job for you. Your

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signature on the bottom of the acreage reporting form makes it, legally, your responsibility. Double-check it for yourself.

Remember - acreage reporting is your responsibility. Doing it right will save you money. Always get a copy of your report immediately after signing and filing it with your agent and keep it with your records. Remember, it is your responsibility to report crop damage to your agent within 72 hours of discovery. Never put damaged acreage to another use without prior written consent of the insurance adjuster. You don't want to destroy any evidence of a possible claim. [Learn more by visiting RMA's website.](#)

MDARD Proposed Exterior Firewood Quarantine

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) is proposing an Exterior Firewood Quarantine to prevent the introduction of unwanted plant pests and diseases into Michigan. Public comments on the proposal are due by **Friday, November 19, 2021.**

Over 140 pests and diseases can be moved by firewood, including Asian long-horned beetle, mountain pine beetle and spotted lanternfly. These pests are not known to exist in Michigan but could be accidentally brought into the state by travelers transporting firewood.

Under the proposed exterior firewood quarantine:

- All firewood shipped into Michigan would have to be certified as heat treated at a temperature of 140 degrees F. (60 degrees C.) for at least 60 minutes.
- Kiln-dried lumber and wood chips smaller than one inch would be exempt.
- Logs or wood shipped from out of state sources directly to mills and other facilities for immediate processing would also be exempt.
- Mills that sell or distribute slab wood as a byproduct of the operation where the wood came from out of state sources could do so under a compliance agreement with MDARD.

Members of the public interested in providing feedback on this proposed quarantine can submit their comments to Mike Bryan, MDARD Export and Compliance Specialist by emailing BryanM@Michigan.gov. Additional information is available at Michigan.gov/Invasives and on [MDARD's plant pest quarantine webpage](#).

Michigan Community Mediation Association Launches Michigan Agricultural Mediation Program

The Michigan Community Mediation Association (MCMA) has been awarded the Michigan Agricultural Mediation Program (MAMP) by the USDA. This program offers free mediation services to Michigan farmers to resolve their disputes outside of court. Farmers' disputes covered by this grant can range from contract issues, estate and probate complications, adverse determinations by the USDA, bankruptcy, and any other conflict they may face concerning their farm.

MCMA is an advocacy, not-for-profit association for the 17 Community Dispute Resolution Program (CDRP) mediation centers across the state of Michigan that are partially funded by the Michigan Supreme Court State Court Administrative Office (SCAO). MCMA's mission is to help advocate for the 17 CDRP and educate Michigan residents on the importance of mediation and restorative practices. Mediation is a confidential process where disputing parties will discuss their issues with a neutral third party, the mediator, who will help them come to a resolution.

Farmers that wish to request a mediation may contact MCMA at www.micommunitymediation.org, via email micommunitymediationassoc@gmail.com, or by calling 800-616-7863.



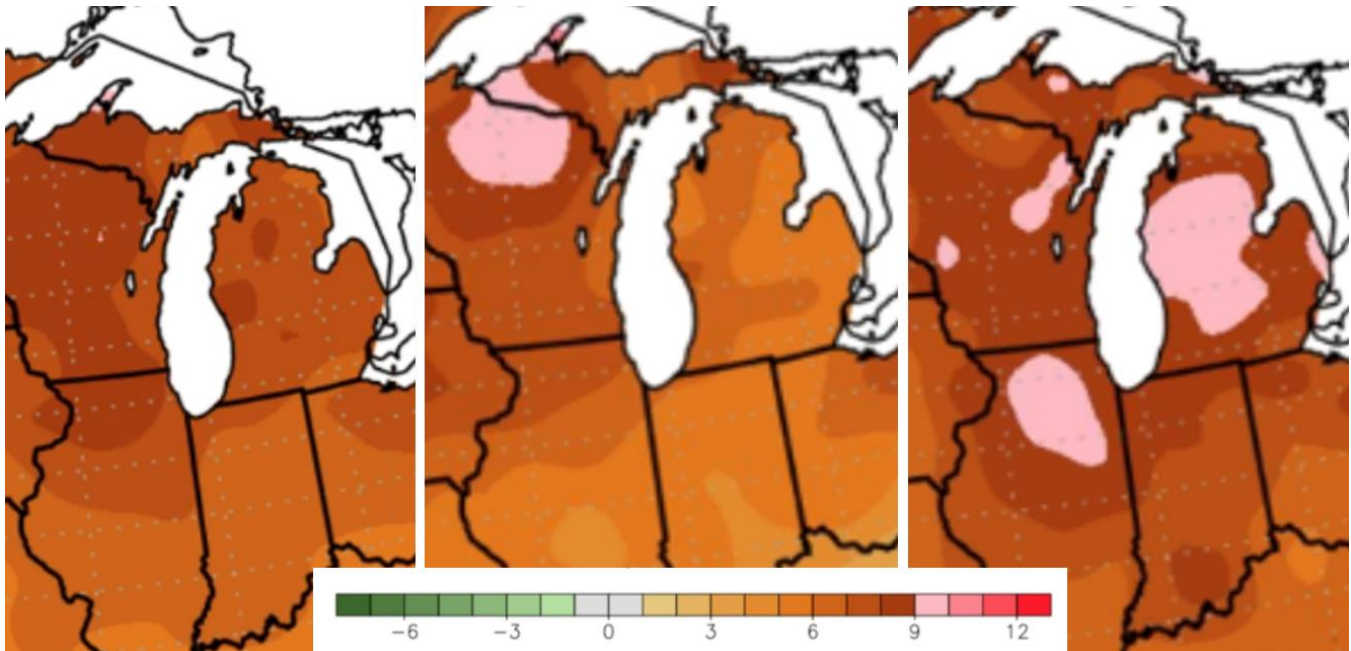
If you hit a pipeline and nothing happens, notify the utility company. A small dent, scrape, gouge, or scratch could cause a major problem in the future.

More resources at
PipelineAgSafetyAlliance.com



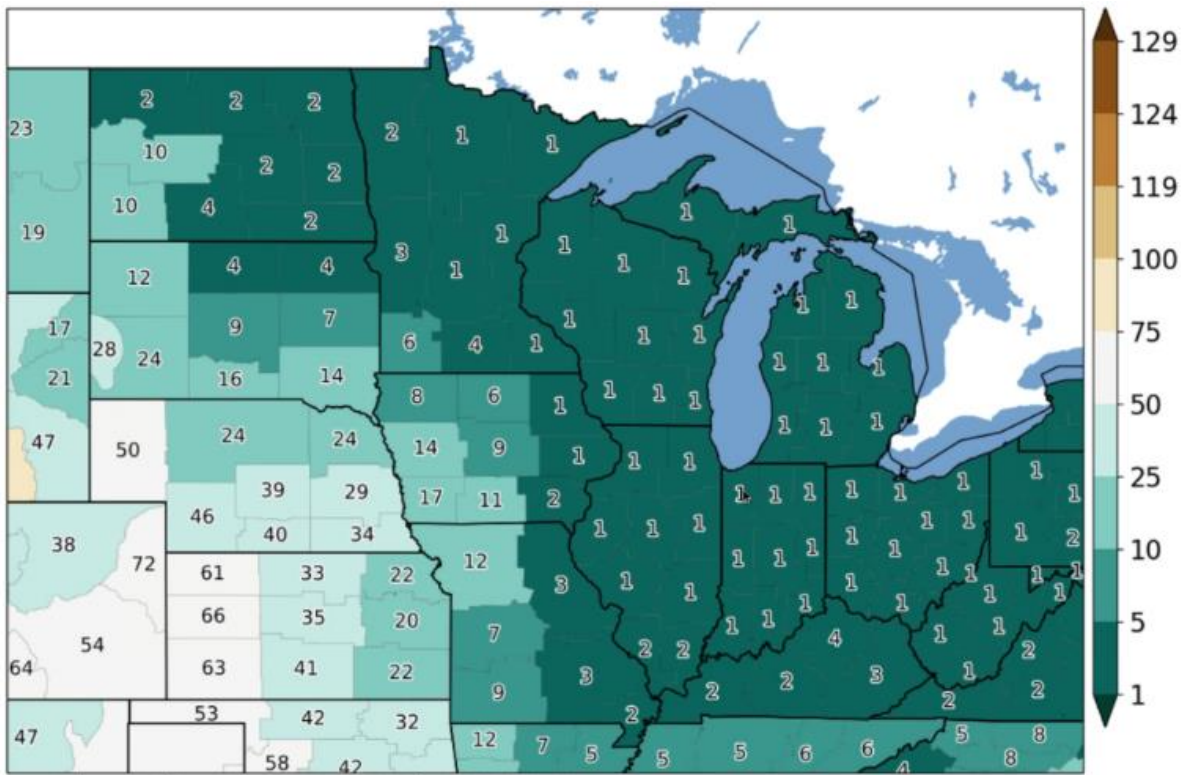
Weather and Crop/Pest Update

Both maximum and minimum daily temperatures were 5-9 degrees above normal over the past 30 days. Nighttime lows have been particularly warm so far this fall, and we have yet to see a killing freeze (≤ 28 °F) and only a few nights below 32 °F. These warmer temperatures are helping with grain dry-down, if only we could get into fields. This relatively warm trend will continue over the next week with no killing frost predicted, although the medium-range outlook calls for below-normal temperatures during the first 10 days of November.

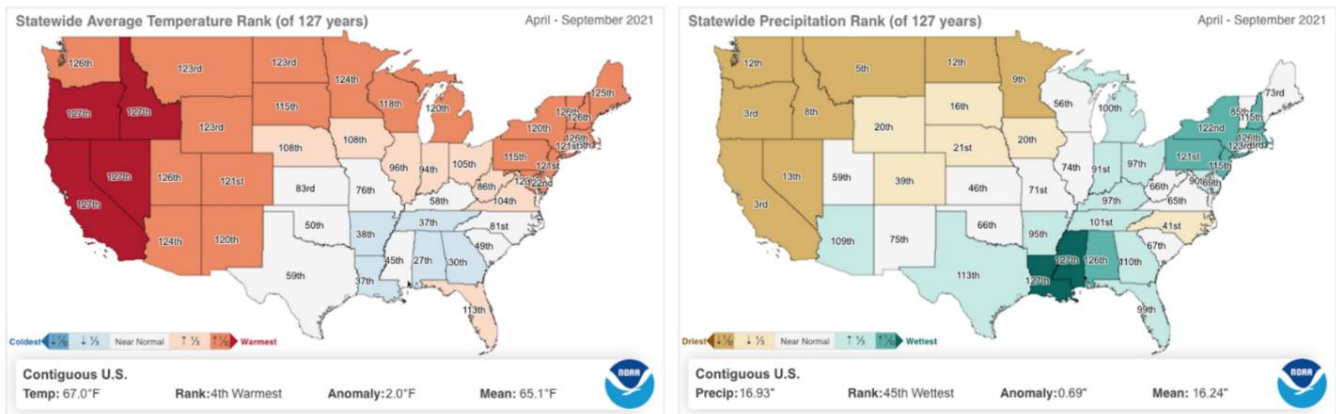


Departure from normal for average temperature (left), average maximum (center) and average minimum (right) from Sept 22 – Oct 19.

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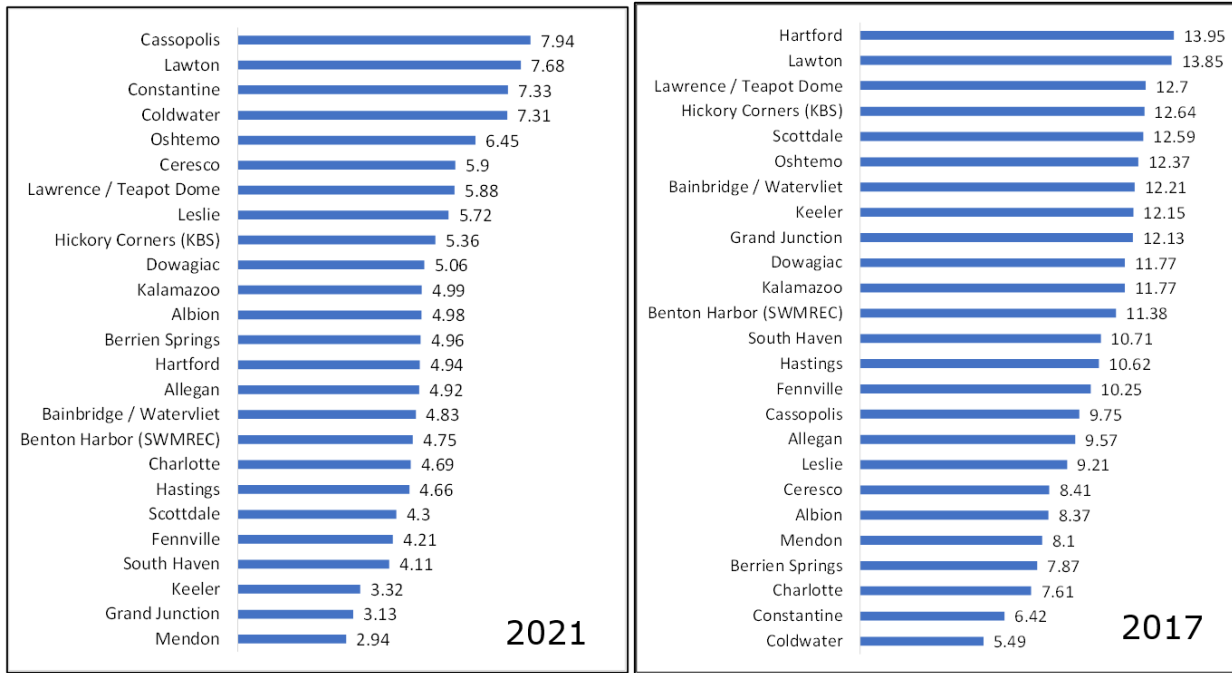
Preliminary minimum temperature rankings for October (Sept 30 – Oct 20). The green is a bit confusing—a ranking of “1” means it has been the warmest on record.



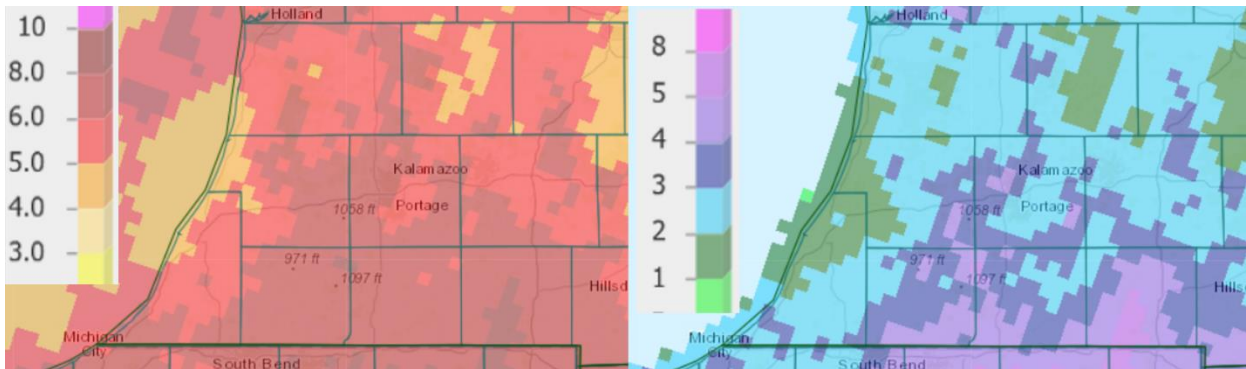
Growing season (April-September) rankings for temperature (left) and precipitation (right).

Precipitation this fall has had many turning from “I think I’ll be a few weeks ahead this year” to “I hope I can get things wrapped up before Thanksgiving”. Some locations have had nearly twice the amount of normal precipitation for October while other areas have been fairly close to normal. The main problem has been the fact that we haven’t had more than a few days in a row without at least nominal rainfall. The good news is that the coming week has no significant chances of rain in the forecast, and both the 6-10 day and 8-14 day outlooks call for below-normal precipitation.

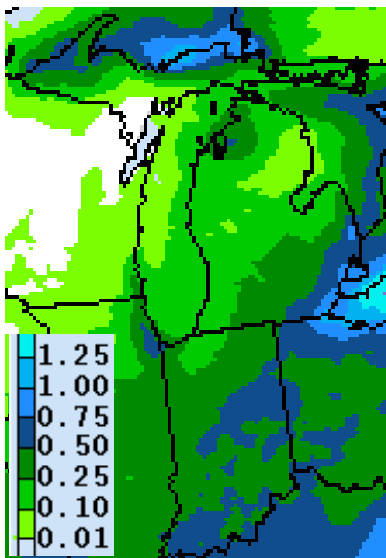
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Rainfall totals for Oct 2021 (left) and 2017 (right) as measured at Enviroweather stations in southwest and south-central Michigan. This has been a wet fall so far, but at least nothing like 2017.

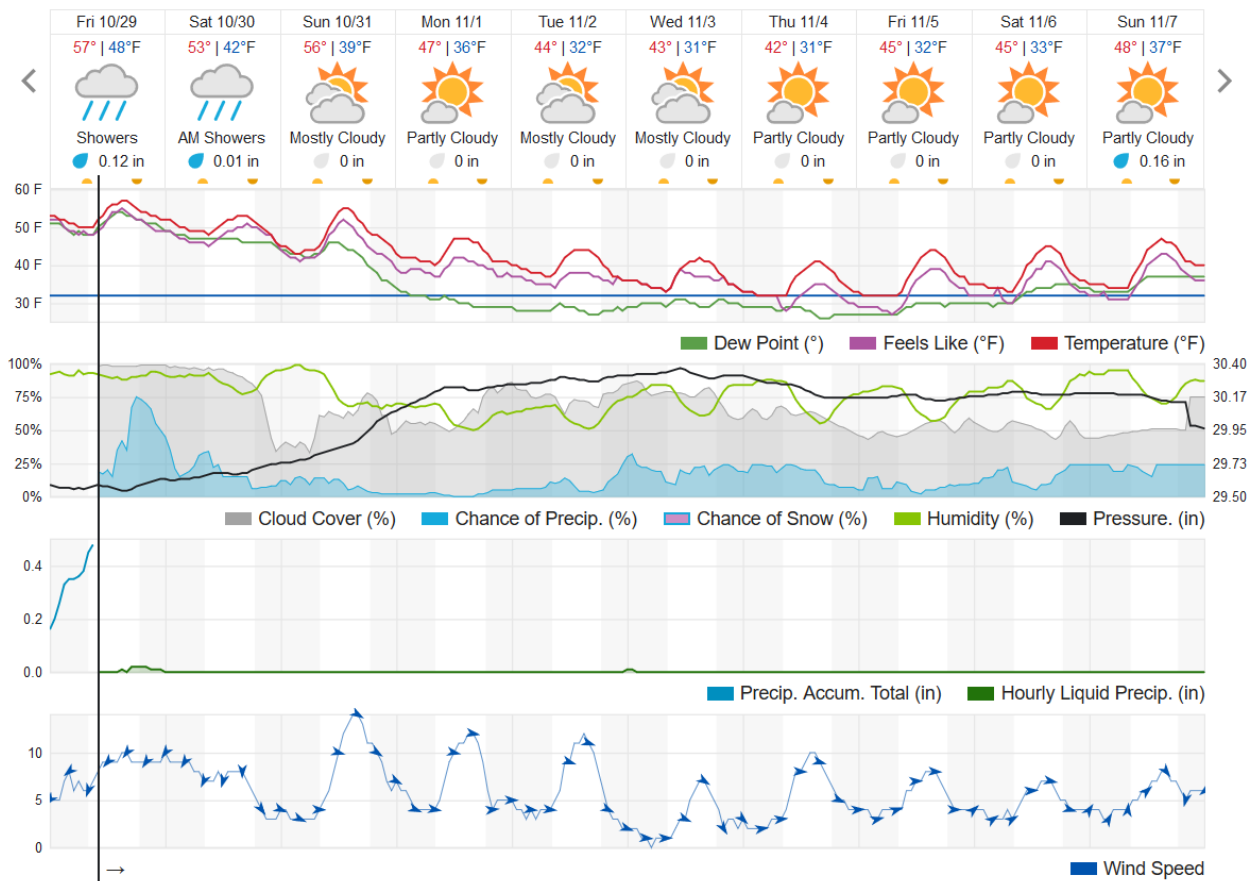


Precipitation totals (left) and departure from normal (right) for the past 30 days as of October 29.

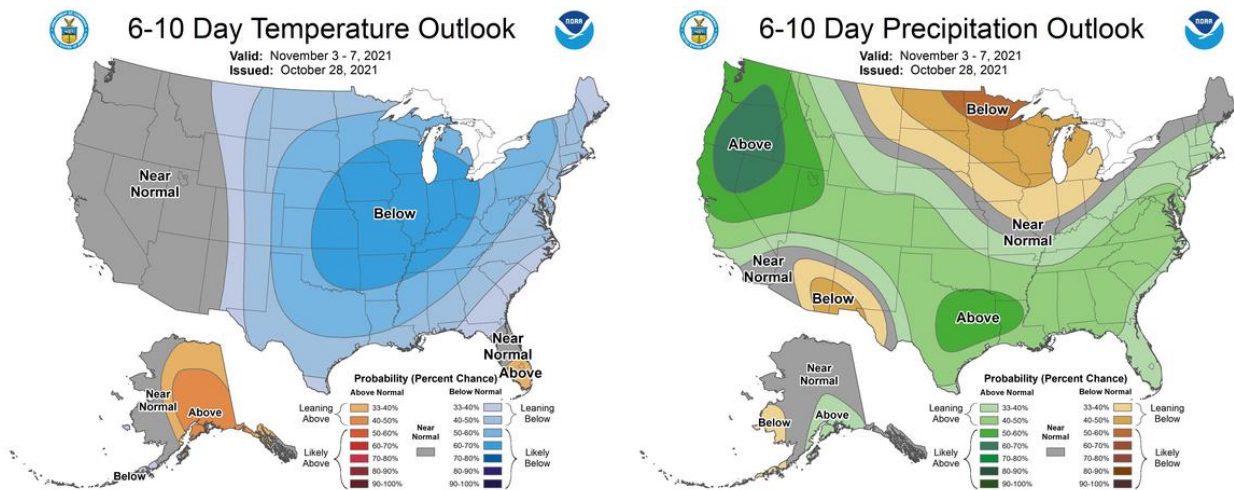


Precipitation forecast for October 29 – November 5. Essentially all of this is predicted to fall by Saturday followed by a dry week next week.

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The 10-day weather forecast for Kalamazoo according to wunderground.com.



The 6-10 day outlook (Nov 3-7) for temperature (left) and precipitation (right) as of Oct 29. The 8-14 day outlook (Nov 5-11) is similar.

Crops and Pests

Corn harvest has progressed well in October and we were 47% harvested by Oct. 24—16% ahead of average. That unfortunately has come at the expense of soybean harvest which was at 49%, or 10% behind average. The humid mornings earlier in the month narrowed the daily potential harvest window, and many have been focused on getting corn out of the fields while it is still standing. Although the weather looks like it will dry up in the coming week, temperatures this time of year will keep fields from drying out quickly, so we may be looking at another spring with many ruts to repair.

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Winter wheat planting is not surprisingly behind with only 68% planted as of Oct. 24 which was 12% below normal. With soybean harvest delayed for many, plans for wheat planting may need to be changed. MSU Extension wheat specialist Dennis Pennington and cropping specialist Manni Singh just published an article, "[Management considerations for late-planted wheat](#)", that will be helpful for those still planning to get wheat planted this fall.

Calendar

Titles are clickable links to online content when highlighted and underlined

- Nov 15** **[Final Date to Report Fall-Seeded Crops](#)**. Contact your local FSA office.
- Dec 7-9** **[Great Lakes Fruit & Veg Expo](#)**. Grand Rapids.
- Dec 10** **[Michiana Irrigation Association Annual Meeting](#)**. Shipshewana, IN.
- Dec 14-15** **[Indiana CCA Conference](#)**.
- Dec 20** **[Integrated Crop and Pest Management Update](#)**. 9am-4pm. MSU Livestock Pavilion. Will be offered in-person and virtually. Cost is \$60 in-person (\$75 at door) or \$30 online, both include 2022 MSU Weed Control Guide. RUP & CCA credits (6 each) available. Register online by Dec. 15.
- Jan 10-12** **[MABA 2022 Winter Conference & Trade Show](#)**. Lansing Center, Lansing, MI.
- Jan 20** **[Michigan Soybean Regional Meeting](#)**. 9am-1pm. GreenMark Equipment, Three Rivers, MI.
- Jan 24** **[MSU Extension Pest and Crop Management SW Regional Update](#)**. 9am-3pm. Dowagiac Conservation Club, Dowagiac, MI. Registration available soon, cost is \$35.
- Jan 26-27** **[Great Lakes Crop Summit](#)**. Soaring Eagle Casino, Mt. Pleasant, MI.
- Feb 2** **[Ag Action Field Crops Replacement Meeting](#)**. Due to COVID-related issues with our normal venue for Ag Action Day, we will not be running this meeting in 2022, but we are planning a separate meeting for field crops growers at the ISD in Lawrence, MI...stay tuned for details.
- Feb 8** **[MSU Extension Pest and Crop Management SE Regional Update](#)**. 9am-3pm. Family Center at Immaculate Conception Parish, 21 Ann St., Milan, MI. Registration available soon, cost is \$35.

MSU Extension Digest Briefs

Published on October 28, 2021

- [MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS FOR LATE-PLANTED WHEAT](#) - Planting wheat in late October or early November? Make sure to follow these tips.
- [DRYING AND STORING WET SOYBEANS](#) - Careful management when drying and storing soybeans is essential to maximizing farm income.
- [RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A LATE SOYBEAN HARVEST](#) - Overcome the challenges associated with a late soybean harvest.

Published on October 27, 2021

- [BIOCHAR: WEBINAR SERIES FROM THE GREAT LAKES BIOCHAR NETWORK](#) - First webinar is Thursday, Oct. 28, 2021.

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Published on October 25, 2021

- [IN THE WEEDS PODCAST GIVES TIPS FOR KEEPING FERTILIZER COSTS LOW](#) - This series includes nutrient management recommendations for when fertilizer costs are high, after incorporating soil health practices and to minimize loss to the environment.
- [ENTERPRISE BUDGETS ARE USEFUL TOOLS ESPECIALLY DURING UNCERTAIN TIMES](#) - Understanding your assumptions about costs and revenues helps you better predict future profitability.

Published on October 20, 2021

- [MICHIGAN PESTICIDE APPLICATOR REVIEW SESSIONS, RECERTIFICATIONS CREDITS AND TESTING OPTIONS FOR FALL 2021](#) - Frequently asked questions about when and where pesticide applicators can earn education credits or take the certification exam.
- [AVOID SIGNIFICANT YIELD LOSS IN SOYBEANS BY SAMPLING FOR SOYBEAN CYST NEMATODE](#) - Fall is the time to collect soil samples for soybean cyst nematodes to plan for 2022.

Published on October 14, 2021

- [PLANNING AND ZONING GUIDE FOR SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL OFFICIALS AND LANDOWNERS](#) - Guide will help Michigan communities meet the challenge of becoming solar-ready by addressing solar energy systems within planning policies and zoning regulations.
- [OVERCOMING 2021 SOYBEAN HARVEST CHALLENGES: SHATTERING, GREEN STEMS AND LODGING](#) - Use this information to reduce soybean harvest losses due to pod shattering, green stems and lodging.

Published on October 13, 2021

- [SOIL HEALTH ASSESSMENT TOOL NOW AVAILABLE FOR MICHIGAN FARMERS](#) - In-field tool tracks soil health improvements.

Published on October 12, 2021

- [MSU EXTENSION INTRODUCES FERTILIZER COST COMPARISON TOOL](#) - New Fertilizer Cost Comparison Tool is designed to help producers weigh the decision of purchasing expensive fertilizer products.
- [NEW MSU PODCAST FOCUSES ON AGRICULTURE AND WILDLIFE INTERACTIONS](#) - The MSU Ag and Wildlife Podcast explores the complex nature of agriculture and wildlife interactions in Michigan.
- [2021 INTEGRATED CROP AND PEST MANAGEMENT UPDATE HELD AS HYBRID ON DEC. 20](#) - The 23rd annual Integrated Crop and Pest Management Update will be offered in-person and virtually and will feature crop and pest management recommendations, on-farm research data and pesticide certification credits.
- [MICHIGAN SOIL HEALTH PROGRESS REPORT](#) - The Michigan Soil Health Progress Report was developed to assist farmers, agribusiness, and agency professionals to assess the health of the soil using biological and physical indicators in the field.

Published on October 11, 2021

- [FERTILIZER COST COMPARISON TOOL \(FIELD CROPS\)](#) - Decision tool for comparing fertilizer product costs used by field crops.
- [SPECIALTY CROP AND MINOR-USE PESTICIDE PRIORITIZATION AT THE 2021 VIRTUAL IR-4 FOOD USE WORKSHOP](#) - Participants at the 2021 IR-4 Food Use Workshop identified the most important research projects for the 2022 IR-4 food-use research program.

Published on October 6, 2021

- [ONLINE TOOL HIGHLIGHTING MICHIGAN BEGINNING FARMER RESOURCES RELEASED](#) - The Map of Michigan Beginning Farmer Resources includes videos, links and program descriptions for over 75 programs to assist beginning and aspiring farmers searching for land, credit, teaching farms, conferences and more.

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- SUSPECT HERBICIDE RESISTANCE? SUBMIT WEED SEEDS FOR SCREENING - Collect weed seeds September-October to submit for herbicide resistance screening.

Published on October 5, 2021

- PLANTING THE 2022 WHEAT CROP - Much of wheat's yield potential is determined at planting. To attain top yields, timely planting coupled with appropriate seeding practices can be critical for ensuring an even and uniform stand.

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