



MI-CW1324

Michigan Crop Weather

April 1, 2024

Field Crops

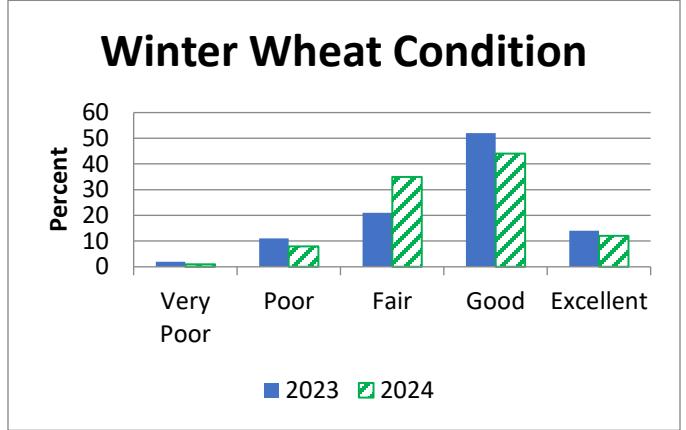
Fieldwork remained slow to start due to cold temperatures and recent rain events, according to Marlo D. Johnson, Director, USDA NASS, Great Lakes Regional Office. There were 1.4 days suitable for fieldwork in Michigan during the week ending March 31, 2024. Producers were waiting for warmer soils to begin planting. **Winter wheat** was beginning to green up. Other activities last week included manure and fertilizer applications and tilling.

Fruit

For much of Michigan, last winter was the warmest on record; there were very few days with temperatures below 15 degrees Fahrenheit and there was little to no sustained snow cover. There was a cold snap in mid-January with temperatures dropping to negative single digits in southern Michigan. Temperatures were much above average in March which pushed fruit development. A cold snap on March 20/21 saw temperatures drop to around 20 degrees. Fruit crop potential was damaged from both the January and March cold events. In Southwest Michigan, stone fruit and grapes were most heavily damaged with some producers anticipating no **peach** crop. **Apples** were also negatively affected, with some growers anticipating a reduced king bloom.

Last week, in the Southwest, **sweet cherries** were at green tip and **tart cherries** were at side green to early green tip. Copper applications were applied to reduce bacterial canker. **Apples** ranged from ¼ inch green to tight cluster in the Southwest. **Blueberries** were at bud swell in the Southwest.

This report is the first Crop Weather report for the 2024 growing season. A series of weekly Crop Progress reports will be published each Monday at 4:00 p.m. EDT throughout the crop season. These reports will cover planting and harvesting activities, crop development, weather data, and timely crop management information provided by farmers, USDA, and Michigan State University experts. For the earliest possible access, look for these reports on the internet shortly after the 4:00 P.M. release time.



Crop Condition: Week Ending 03/31/24

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Winter Wheat	1	8	35	44	12

Crop Progress: Week Ending 03/31/24

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This week	Last week	Last year	5 Year average
Days Suitable for Fieldwork..	1.4	-	-	-

Soil Moisture: Week Ending 03/31/24

Item	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture.....	1	10	77	12
Subsoil moisture.....	3	11	76	10