

Southwest Michigan Field Crops Updates August 30, 2019

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.

Ag-Citing Volunteers Needed

For those of you in or near St. Joseph County who are interested in helping with an outreach to 3rd grade students, we are looking for a few more volunteers for the Ag-Citing Experience program that is held during the county fair. The program runs on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday this year during two time blocks: morning (9:30-11:30 each day) and afternoon (12:00-2:00 Tuesday and Friday, 11:30-1:30 Wednesday). Here is a summary of our current needs.

- Tour Guide – 2 each day, both morning and afternoon
- Poultry Resource – 1 each day, both morning and afternoon
- Sheep/Goat Resource – 1 each day, both morning and afternoon
- Beef/Dairy Cattle Resource – 1 each day, both morning and afternoon

If you can volunteer during any of these time slots, please call the Extension office (269-467-5511). Thank you!

Virtual Breakfast Impact

As I have described previously in these newsletters, the MSU Extension Field Crops Team hosts a free, weekly online presentation for growers and agribusiness professionals called the Virtual Breakfast series. It runs on Thursday mornings from 7:00 to 7:30 during the cropping season. The final one will be next Thursday, Sept. 5th. Participants can join from a computer, mobile device, or telephone and hear Extension specialists and educators addressing timely topics followed by a brief weather forecast by Jeff Andresen and an opportunity for Q&A.

One of our team members did a quick check of the metrics on the series earlier this week to see what kind of reach into the community it has.

	Zoom participants	YouTube video views	# reached through Facebook posts w/ embedded video	# of views of embedded video on Facebook posts	Likes/ comments/ shares
Totals as of 8/28	862	1248	6108	2321	91
Average/session	50.7	73.4	359.3	136.5	5.4

To sign up for a weekly email reminder for the free weekly Field Crops Virtual Breakfast series, get a participant computer link or phone number, or to see the schedule for the season, visit the [Field Crop Team's webpage](#) on the MSU Extension website and click on the virtual breakfast tab at the top. If you can't make it Thursday mornings, you can view all past recordings with closed-captioning on the Virtual Breakfast webpage. We will plan to run this again in 2020.



Harvesting Weed Seeds

August 29 | Erin Hill

Herbicide resistance is becoming more prevalent across Michigan. Consider collecting seeds from your troublesome weed species if you suspect they are resistant to the herbicides you use. Erin Hill, MSU Plant & Pest Diagnostic weed science diagnostician, discusses where and when to find mature seeds on weedy species as well as the submission process to the clinic during today's Virtual Breakfast.



Virtual Breakfast Weather Report for August 29, 2019

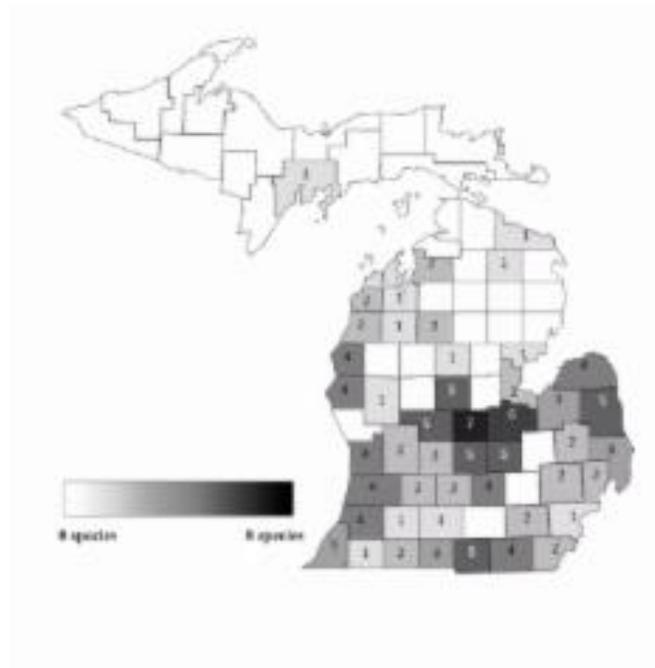
August 29 | Jeff Andresen

The MSU Extension Field Crops Virtual Breakfast weather report for August 29, 2019, presented by Jeff Andresen, MSU Extension agricultural meteorologist.

Collecting Weed Seeds for Herbicide Resistance Screening



The Field Crops team’s Virtual Breakfast session this week featured MSU’s weed diagnostic specialist Erin Hill talking about “Harvesting Weed Seeds”. Erin highlighted the team at MSU’s Plant and Pest Diagnostics on campus that covers insects, diseases, nematodes, and weeds. They identify species from quality photos and samples sent to their lab, and she tracks herbicide resistance in counties throughout the state. She receives 70 seed samples each year for screening for herbicide resistance. When they receive mature seed, they then need to break dormancy which can take up to six weeks before spraying with the herbicides. Mature seed for summer annuals is usually present between late August and October. They will screen for the herbicide issue you suspect but will also include up to seven herbicide families in their testing that have known resistance issues globally. When collecting seed, pool samples from five or more plants in a field suspected to have resistance issues. Samples are due by mid-November; send several hundred to several thousand mature seed to ensure their ability to conduct all screening. Erin went into the specifics of how to identify mature seeds and where to look for them on marestail, common lambsquarters, common and giant ragweed, Palmer amaranth and waterhemp. Hint: you may need to bring a magnifying glass to see the dark color and important details of the seed. Seal samples in paper bags, not plastic, within a cardboard box and include a completed submission form. Screening is free for those with soybean in the rotation courtesy of Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee, otherwise it is \$90 per test. Results may take up to 3-4 months depending on the species and the volume of submissions they have to work through. Erin created a helpful fact sheet—[“Tips for Collecting Weed Seeds”](#)—that can be downloaded from their website.



Confirmed species of herbicide-resistant weeds by county in Michigan.

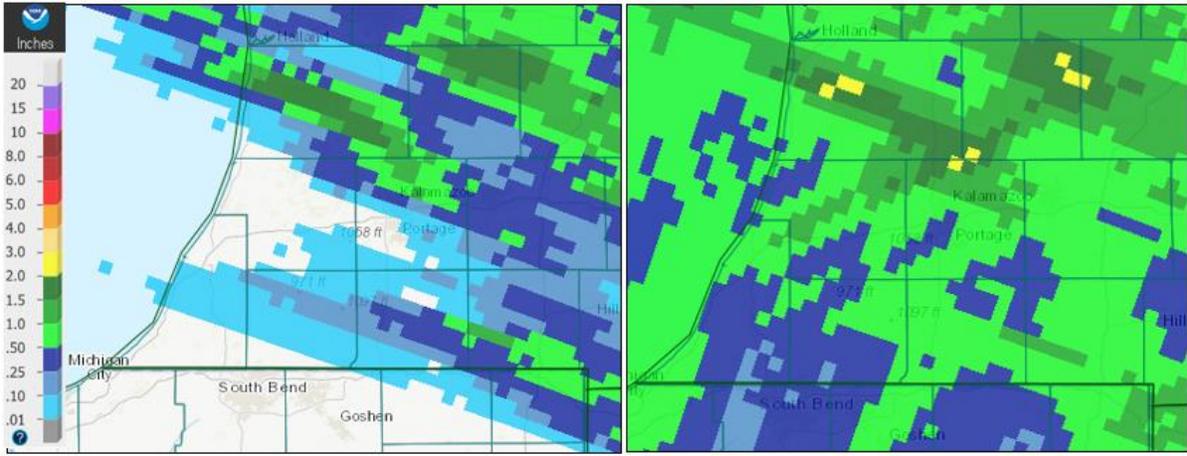
Group #	Site of action	Example products
2	ALS- acetolactate synthase	Harmony SG, FirstRate
4	Auxin receptor	2,4-D amine, dicamba
5	Photosystem II	atrazine, metribuzin
9	EPSPS	Roundup PowerMAX
10	Glutamine synthase	Liberty
14	PPO	Flexstar, Sharpen
27	HPPD	Callisto, Laudis

Herbicide families screened for at MSU's Plant and Pest Diagnostics.

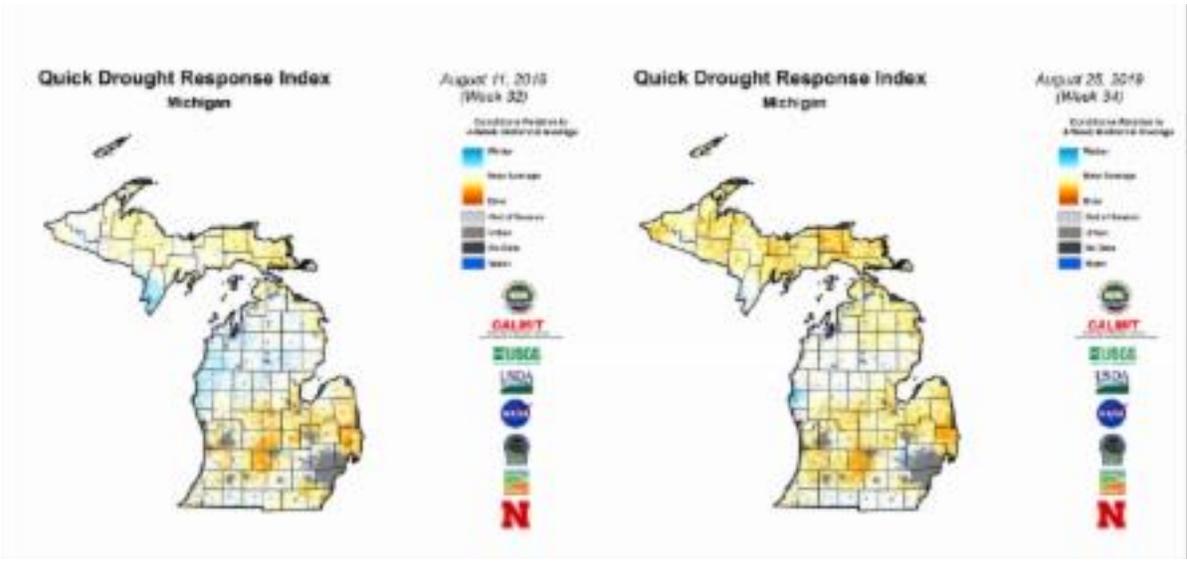
Weather Update

This past week was more like an early fall week than a late summer one with temperatures 2-3 degrees below normal. We can expect another 125 growing degree days this coming week and a total of 600 for all of August. Much of mid-Michigan and the UP are experiencing extreme dryness according to the Quick Drought

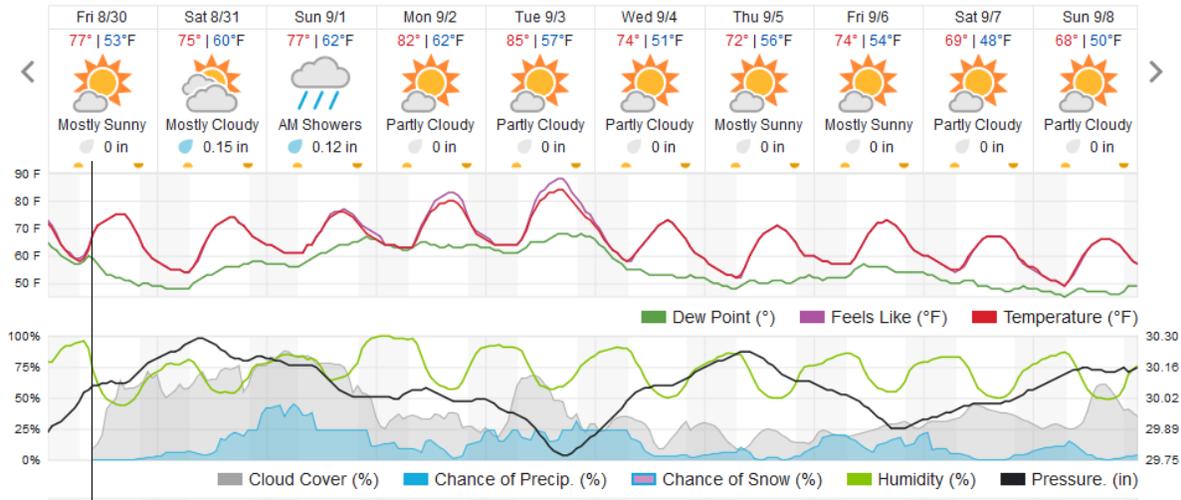
Response Index, although we are faring better in the south central region. This coming week will see 1-2 frontal boundaries bringing potential for precipitation, but not much rainfall is likely. Only 1/4 to 3/4 of an inch are predicted from this Thursday through next Thursday with essentially all of that coming by the end of this weekend. Labor Day is predicted to be warm and fair. Below-normal temperatures are forecasted this weekend but we'll be back up to near-normal by next week before dropping again. The 6-10 day outlook calls for cooler and wetter than normal conditions, but Jeff again predicts closer to normal or even below-normal precipitation for Michigan.



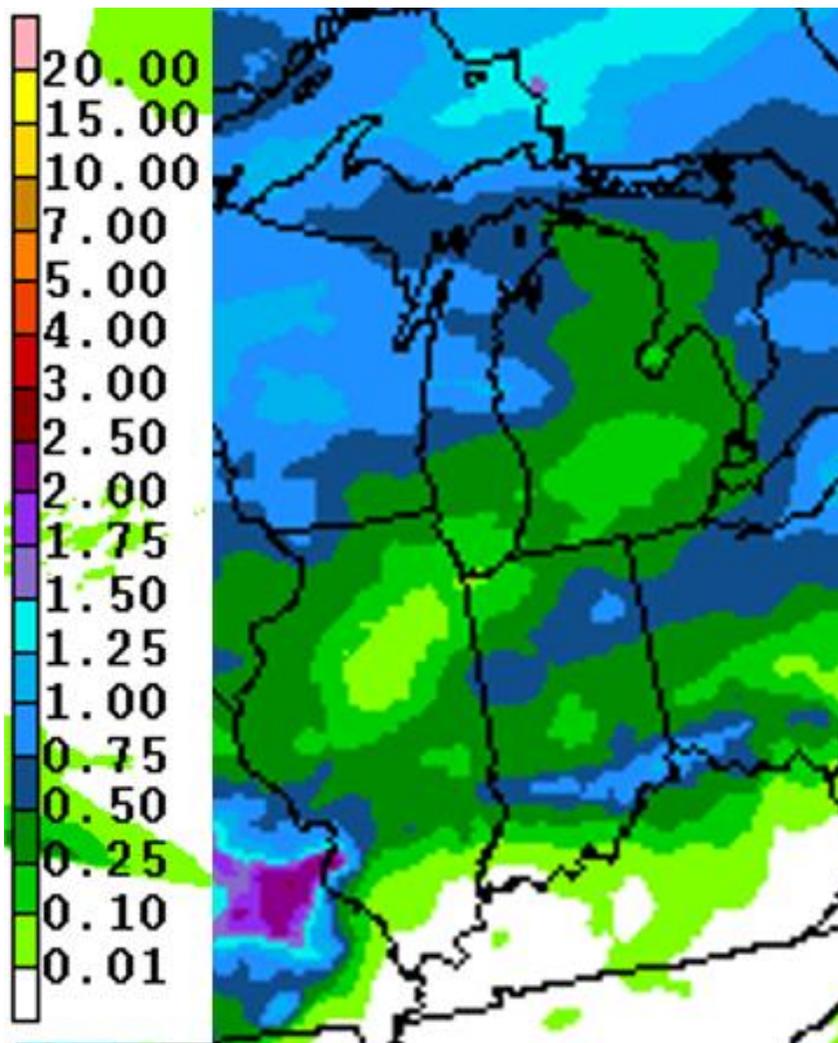
Rainfall totals for the past 24 hours (left) and the past 7 days (right) as of August 30th in southwest Michigan.



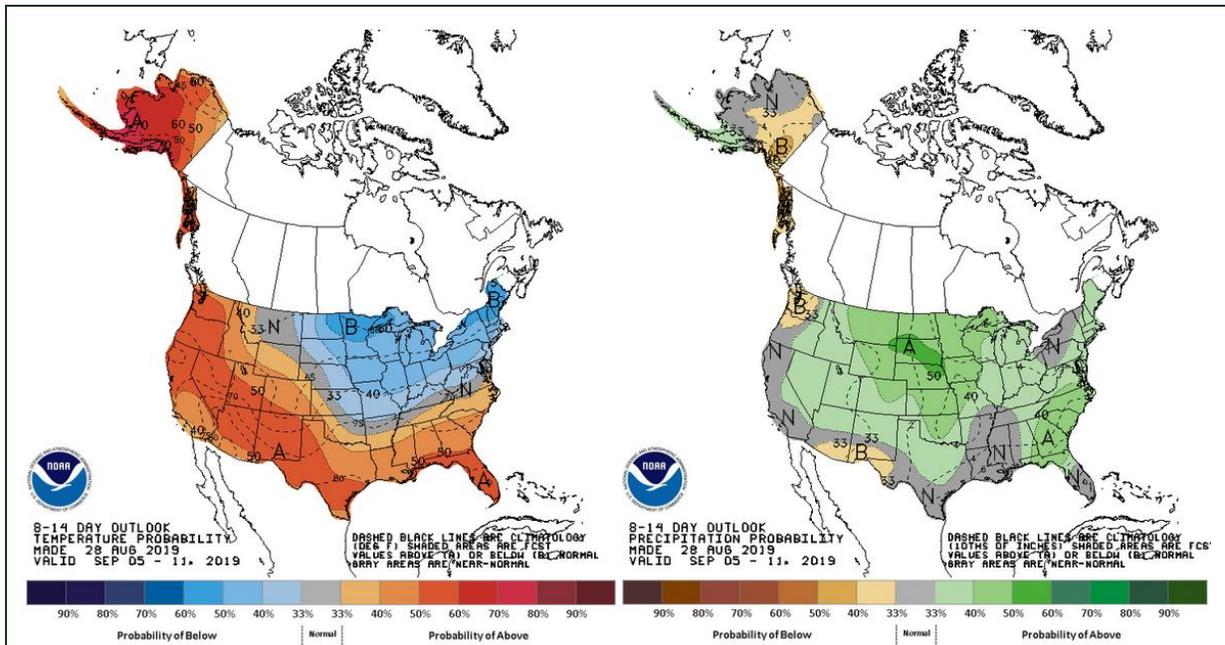
Dry conditions in mid-Michigan and the Upper Peninsula have worsened in August, but some counties in the south central and southwest regions are still in pretty good shape.



The 10-day forecast for Centreville according to wunderground.com. Note their nifty new look with added features.



Forecast for precipitation totals for the week of Aug 30-Sep 6, 2019....less than 1/2 inch by the end of the weekend.



National Weather Service 8-14 day outlook (Sep 5-11) for temperature (left) and precipitation (right)—the 6-10 day outlook is essentially the same. Caveat: MSU’s ag climatologist Jeff Andresen says he would put our chances of precip at normal or even below-normal.

Calendar

Titles are clickable links to online content when highlighted and underlined

- Sep 5** **[Field Crops Virtual Breakfast Free Webinar](#)**. 7:00-7:30 AM. **The final week:** MSU’s wheat specialist Dennis Pennington will talk about “Calibrating Yield Monitors”. Join via computer or mobile device (audio and video, <https://msu.zoom.us/j/552324349>) or by phone (audio only, **669-900-6833** and enter meeting ID **552-324-349**). To receive a weekly reminder of the Virtual Breakfast, sign up at <http://eepurl.com/gm-PIv>.
- Sep 5** **[Cass MAEAP Field Day](#)**. 4-7pm. Crane Pond DNR office, 60887 M-40, Jones, MI. Managing for Forestry Health and Profit. Program offers 2 RUP credits. Co-sponsored by SWMLC, DNR, SWxSW CISMA & MAEAP. Dinner provided to registrants. Call Erez Brandvain, the Cass County MAEAP Technician, at 269-228-7084, to register or email Erez.Brandvain@macd.org.
- Sep 12** **[Swine Influenza Symposium](#)**. 8:30am-5:00pm. Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, East Lansing. MSU Extension in partnership with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will be providing a one-day training entitled, *Keys to Success: A Symposium on Educating Youth and Adults about Swine Influenza and Other Zoonotic Diseases*. Registration, parking and lunch are free. Register online. If you cannot attend the event in person but would like to

participate via Zoom, please register and select the box under “cannot attend in person.”

Sep 24 **2019 Soybean Harvest Equipment Field Day**. 10:45am-3:30pm. 1350 12 Mile Road, Burlington, MI, Calhoun County. The following topics and equipment will be demonstrated: Draper heads, auger heads, air-assisted reels, harvest loss measurements, and how ground speed and reel settings affect harvest losses. Cost is free, lunch included, pre-registration is requested (269-673-0370 ext. 2562) before noon on Friday, Sept. 13th.

Sep 25 **Calhoun County Cover Crop Demonstration Plots**. MSU Extension in cooperation with the Homer FFA is planning a short field tour of cover crop demonstration plots in Homer, MI on Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 10am-12pm. The plots are located at 24425 M-60, Homer, MI. Plots will include a replication of statewide strip plots as well as several recommended mixes for a variety of goals. More details to come.

MSU Extension Digest Briefs

2019 Soybean Harvest Equipment Field Day will take place Sept. 24

PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 29, 2019

Learn new information about increasing farm income by reducing soybean harvest losses and the most current regulations and safety procedures for operating farm trucks.

Eaton County farmer forum on Sept. 5 to discuss resources available to farms affected by weather conditions

PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 28, 2019

Farmers can learn what assistance is available and how to mitigate potential financial pitfalls due to delayed or unplanted acreage.

Make sure to calibrate your yield monitor prior to harvest

PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 28, 2019

The last Field Crops Virtual Breakfast for the 2019 season on Sept. 5 will focus on the importance of and methods to calibrate combine yield monitors.

Now is the time to plant fall cover crops for grazing

PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 27, 2019

Cover crops can be a good option for grazing.

Cover crop recipes: Post wheat, use oats and radish mix

PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 26, 2019

The following recipe provides an introductory approach to integrating cover crops into wheat rotation with soybean or corn.

Setting Priorities in Farm Management

PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 29, 2019

The Project Management discipline provides concepts that can help advance your farm management skills

Preparing to Keep Good Farm Accounting Records

PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 29, 2019

Recordkeeping can be overwhelming, but breaking it down into smaller tasks makes it easier

Making Time to Keep Farm Accounting Records

PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 29, 2019

MSU has tools available to help with farm bookkeeping

Eric Anderson

Michigan State University Extension

Field Crops Educator - St. Joseph County

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