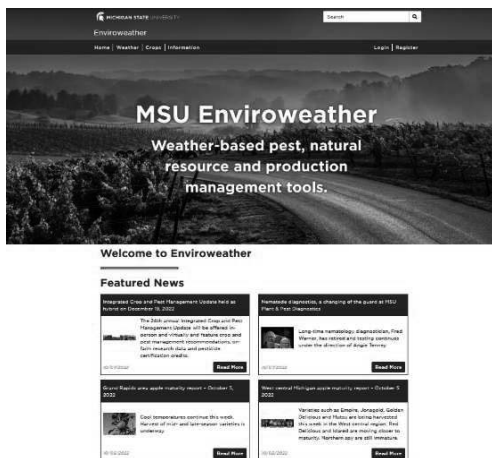


Enviroweather: Tools for Pest, Disease and Production Management



Enviroweather is a free online resource that provides Michigan growers, farm managers, crop scouts, consultants and MSU Extension educators with local weather information and a suite of weather-based tools available to help manage a variety of crops. This includes summaries of weather conditions, models that predict insect, disease and crop development and water-use tools. All of this is freely accessible at enviroweather.msu.edu (or use your browser to search for Enviroweather).

So if you need current weather information for your farm to help schedule management activities for crop development or for managing pests and diseases, **Enviroweather is here to help!**

Enviroweather has released a new website that has a very different layout than our former “legacy” website, but the new site has many more features and is much more powerful than before. The “legacy” version of Enviroweather will be retired, but it will remain running in the background so that users can access this site from links on the new site. This arrangement will also allow users to switch back and forth between website versions as needed.

The new Enviroweather web platform contains multiple changes that were designed to satisfy critical needs and make improvements previously identified from user surveys and industry feedback. The new design was also necessary to update obsolete web software and aging website servers. Although the new site is different, it will be easier to use than the legacy website, and it is geared toward viewing on smartphones and tablets. One major change in the new site is that a user can create an account and save preferences on a dashboard. This will provide faster access to the weather information and crop and pest models that are most important for each user’s production operation. The new site also includes a feature where a user can create “Custom Sites” that can be used to distinguish different sections of a farm that may need different management strategies.

As is true with any new technology, it will take a little time and effort to get used to a new way of doing things on the new Enviroweather website. To help with this, user guides are available through the Information link on the menu bar near the top of the page. In addition, each model or tool on the website has a “Description” tab that contains additional information on running and interpreting the model to help with decision-making.

Enviroweather is and always has been a work in progress, so you should expect to see some subtle changes over time as we continue to develop new features and recode our models to display on the new website. Models and applications that are not yet developed for the new site will link to models on the legacy website. **The legacy website will eventually be retired, so now is the time to transition over to the new version.**

Enviroweather will continue to participate in MSU Extension meetings and webinars to demonstrate how to use the new website including how to set up an account and a dashboard, how to save preferences and how to run and use Enviroweather models. Announcements for these will come through MSU Extension News at canr.msu.edu/outreach. Be sure to sign up for MSU Extension News e-newsletters for the crops and other topics that are most relevant for you.

Additionally to help you get going with the new site, Enviroweather can set up an account and dashboard for you. Contact Keith Mason at masonk@msu.edu or 517 355-3897 for details.

As always, Enviroweather welcomes your feedback, and the new website includes a straight-forward way to share your comments and ask questions about the new platform. The Feedback Form is available under “Information” on the menu bar. In addition you can always contact the Enviroweather Program Coordinator, Keith Mason at masonk@msu.edu or 517-355-3897 for assistance with the tools and features on either website.

Enviroweather is a collaborative project between the Michigan Climatological Resources Program and the MSU Integrated Pest Management Program and is supported by Project GREEN, MSU AgBioResearch, MSU Extension, private donors, and the MSU Departments of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, Plant Soil and Microbial Sciences, Entomology, Forestry and Horticulture, along with our equipment partner Campbell Scientific, Inc.

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