Estimated Weekly Crop Water Use for Field Crops in Michigan (in/week)

Week of July 13 - 19, 2026

Crop	Growth stage	Crop water use (in/week)			
		Constantine	Berrien Springs	Entrican	Hart
	Reference ET	1.50	1.58	1.16	1.54
Corn	V12	1.50	1.58	1.16	1.54
	V14	1.65	1.74	1.28	1.69
	VT and Silk	1.65	1.74	1.28	1.69
Soybeans	V4-V5	1.17	1.23	0.90	1.20
	R1	1.50	1.58	1.16	1.54
	R2 and R3	1.65	1.74	1.28	1.69
Potato	Tuberization	1.50	1.58	1.16	1.54
	Blossom	1.50	1.58	1.16	1.54
	Tuber bulk	1.37	1.44	1.06	1.40

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/.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Corn has reached the VT (tasseling) stage and is now at **peak crop water use**, requiring approximately **1.7 inches of water per week**
- Soybeans are also at peak water use (**1.5 – 1.7 inches/week),** with the greatest yield sensitivity to water stress occurring during the R3–R4.
- Potatoes in the tuber bulking stage continue to have high water demand, requiring approximately **1.3 inches of water per week.**
- Irrigation demand is expected to remain high over the next days as hot weather persists across the region. Watch for **visible signs of water stress**.

This week estimated rainfall (in/week)			
Constantine	Berrien Springs	Entrican	Hart
0.37	0.13	0.02	0.09

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

MICHIGAN STATE Irrigation Lab