

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

Week of August 24 - August 30, 2026

Crop	Growth stage	Crop water use (in/week)			
		Constantine	Berrien Springs	Entrican	Hart
	Reference ET	1.11	1.19	1.07	1.08
Corn	V14	1.22	1.31	1.18	1.19
	VT, Silk, Blister, Dough, Begin Dent	1.22	1.31	1.18	1.19
	Full Dent	1.11	1.19	1.07	1.08
Soybeans	R2 (Full bloom)	1.22	1.31	1.18	1.19
	R3 (Begin pod) - R4 (Full pod)	1.22	1.31	1.18	1.19
	R5 (Begin seed) - R6 (Full seed)	1.22	1.31	1.18	1.19
Potato	Bulk	0.67	0.71	0.64	0.65
	Pre-Senescence	0.33	0.36	0.32	0.32
	Maturity	0.11	0.12	0.11	0.11

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** and **soybeans** remain at peak water use, requiring approximately **1.2 inches of water per week (0.17 inches per day)**. To identify water stress, look for rolled or curled leaves in corn and grayish or turned leaves in soybeans during the evening.
- **Potato** water use continues to decline as the crop approaches maturity.
- **Rainfall is expected to be limited**, with higher temperatures increasing evapotranspiration and crop water demand. When irrigating soybeans, using higher application rates can reduce the frequency of leaf-wetting events, which may help reduce conditions favorable for white mold development.

Constantine	Berrien Springs	Entrican	Hart
0.11	0.02	0.00	0.08

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