

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

Week of September 14 - 20, 2026

Crop	Growth stage	Crop water use (in/week)			
		Constantine	Berrien Springs	Entrican	Hart
	Reference ET	0.68	0.65	0.62	0.69
Corn	VT, Silk, Blister, Dough, Begin Dent	0.75	0.72	0.68	0.76
	Full Dent	0.68	0.65	0.62	0.69
	Black Layer	0.45	0.43	0.41	0.46
Soybeans	R5 (Begin seed) - R6 (Full seed)	0.75	0.72	0.68	0.76
	Begin Mature (R7)	0.54	0.52	0.50	0.55
	Full Maturity (R8)	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.14
Potato	Bulk	0.41	0.39	0.37	0.41
	Pre-Senescence	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.21
	Maturity	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.07

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

- At R5 (dent) stage, **corn** uses approximately 0.75 inch of water per week. At black layer (maturity), water use is about 0.45 inches per week, and additional irrigation may no longer be beneficial. Start planning your last irrigation.
- **Soybean** at R6 uses 0.75 inch per week, and at R7 (begin maturity) uses about 0.50 inch. ~50% yellow leaves is a good irrigation endpoint.
- Cooler temperatures and **significant rainfall** reduced crop water demand this week

This week estimated rainfall (in/week)			
Constantine	Berrien Springs	Entrican	Hart
1.83	1.55	1.91	1.81

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