



MICHIGAN

TOP 5 CROPS: MICHIGAN

1. CORN
2. SOYBEANS
3. WHEAT
4. SUGAR BEETS
5. CHERRIES

Crop Protection Leaders

Michigan is home to four leading crop protection companies: BASF Corporation, Bayer CropScience, Exponent, Inc., and the Monsanto Company. These companies provide thousands of jobs, boosting our economy and securing our state food supply.

- In the Wolverine state, an investment of \$1.00 in crop protection products yields up to 22 times that in direct economic returns, which the farming community can then reinvest to make Michigan's agricultural economy even stronger.
- The net benefits Michigan's agricultural economy gains from securing crops with various crop protection technologies ranges from \$253 to \$642 million a year, depending upon the product.

CropLife America: Helping to Feed a Hungry World

America's crop protection industry is helping to feed a hungry world, decrease food costs, drive our economy, and protect our environment.

Crop protection technologies help control the thousands of weed species, harmful insects, and numerous plant diseases that afflict crops and threaten both the abundance and the safety of our food supply.

- The crop protection industry is one of the most highly-regulated in the U.S. today, ensuring the safety of users and consumers, and reducing environmental impacts. As the nation and the world confront the threat of climate change, the industry stands at the forefront of sustainable agriculture, helping farmers do more with less through innovation, while protecting the soil and natural habitats of the land they farm.
- Crop protection products help American farmers improve agricultural productivity, generating robust crop yields that drive local economies and create jobs from the farm, to the distribution system, to the grocery stores and restaurants who sell these plentiful foods. The strong crop yields made possible by crop protection also help keep food costs down so American families can afford meals for their table.

In Michigan, the crop protection industry brings these same commitments, values, and technologies to the state's **\$7.7 billion food and agricultural economy**, safeguarding the state's food supply and protecting its environment.

Agriculture in Michigan: Driving the State Economy

Agriculture generates a significant amount of Michigan's economy, employs 732,172 people, and ranks 22nd in the nation for total agricultural cash receipts.

**56,014
FARMS**

56,014 farms cover over 10 million acres across our state, powering a diverse agricultural economy.

**\$5.6
BILLION**

Michigan's agricultural products have an annual market value of nearly \$5.6 billion, including 58% from crop production valued at \$5.3 billion.

RANKS 11TH

Michigan's top crop – corn – accounts for over 10% of the state's agricultural output, providing a total of almost \$460 million to the U.S. economy. Michigan is ranked 11th in corn production in the U.S.

**ONE THIRD
BLUEBERRIES**

Almost one third of the nation's blueberries are produced in Michigan.

Without crop protection, the vital economic impact of Michigan's agricultural industry would be virtually devastated.

CROP PROTECTION IN THE WOLVERINE STATE

Ensuring Michigan's Robust and Healthy Food Supply

The food supply nourishing Michigan families—and exported around the globe—is fundamentally reliant upon crop protection technologies.

Every spring and summer, plant diseases reproduce in countless numbers, infecting – and ultimately killing – Michigan crops. Each year, **2.5 million weeds** prepare to emerge on every acre of Michigan's cropland, competing with crops for water, nutrients, space, and sunlight. And across Michigan, crop feeding insects reproduce in countless numbers, feeding on crops, reducing yields, making crops unmarketable, and in some cases killing the plant entirely.

These infestations threaten Michigan's food supply, economy, environment, and health of our citizens. Crop protection products stem those threats, preventing crop loss and protecting the agricultural base.

Safeguarding Michigan's Environment and its Citizens

Few industries play a greater role in driving sustainable agriculture than crop protection.

Crop protection technologies enable Michigan farmers to manage weeds without plowing or tilling the soil, reducing erosion and avoiding runoff into rivers and streams, while also reducing fuel consumption. Nationwide, this practice saves **337 million gallons of tractor fuel annually**, and prevents **356 billion pounds of disturbed soil** from eroding into rivers and streams.

In Michigan, crop protection technologies enable no-till production on 1,388,000 acres, preventing 4.2 billion pounds of soil erosion annually.

Planting more acres of arable farmland decreases animal habitats, impacting biodiversity. Crop protection technologies enable Michigan farmers to do more with less, reducing the need to convert additional acreage for crops.

Many invasive weeds and nuisance plants grow back when mowed or pulled. Far from being a simple annoyance, weeds kill native plants, suffocate lakes, and plug reservoir intakes, destroying the natural habitats of fish, birds, and mammals. Crop protection products are indispensable weapons, enabling Michigan growers to successfully preserve several endangered species populations that had nearly vanished.

Crop protection also guards the health of the food supply that sustains Michigan families and the world.

The ever-increasing reach of the global economy has allowed infectious agents like salmonella and E. coli to enter our food supply. The U.S. commitment to crop protection technologies serves as a first line of defense, attacking these threats and generating a safe, healthy, and robust food supply for Michigan and the nation.

What would the Wolverine state's food supply look like **WITHOUT** crop protection?

NO CHERRIES

From a children's juice box to a healthy office snack, the tangy sweetness of cherries would be virtually wiped out without the use of crop protection technologies, as the ruinous impact of plant diseases would virtually devastate Michigan's entire cherry crop.

NO SOYBEANS

It seems like every day a new study demonstrates the extraordinary health benefits of soybeans, and in fact, because of their variety of uses (oil, tofu, etc.) they are actually the second most valuable U.S. agricultural export. Without crop protection, imagine what a 35% reduction in Michigan's soybean crop would do to our agricultural export strength (not to mention the millions of vegetarians who rely on it for protein).

NO CARROTS

Long regarded as a healthy way to improve eyesight and stem hunger cravings between meals, carrots are a staple of many American diets. So imagine how, without crop protection technologies, crop-attacking insects would take out half of Michigan's carrot crop for a loss of \$9 million.