



GARDEN ALMANAC

**IHM Community
Garden Newsletter**

October 2021



The 2021 gardening season ends

The 2021 gardening season is quickly coming to a close. Each year is unique in the garden and this year was no exception.

We began the season April 8 by allowing returning gardeners to plant cool weather crops in their plots. That is very early considering the garden was not open for planting until after Memorial Day the last few years due to excessive rainfall.

Growing conditions were ideal until the third week of June, when the first of several heavy rains arrived and flooded much of the garden. It remained rainy through July and most of August, which are usually our driest months.

The weather straighten out in September, but by then the damage had already been done with many plants destroyed or weakened by the flooding.

Some gardeners sowed short season crops and are now reaping the rewards. Because of warm temperatures and light rain, those late planted crops are still producing well into October.

Most of our intrepid gardeners are undaunted by this year's challenges and plan to return next year.

If you or someone you know who like to rent a garden plot next year, please email me at rdluzen@ihmsisters.org

Good gardening,

Bob



***We are here to cultivate the
garden and take care of it.
Genesis 2:15***



St. Mary Organic Farm community garden viewed from the North looking south.



First week in October and pumpkins are turning color.

IHM Bee log Sept. 26, 2021

It was a beautiful and sunny fall day when I headed out to the beehive. When I arrived, there was a flurry of activity at the hive. I was surprised to see such a large amount of honeybees flying into the hive, laden with nectar and pollen. When I peaked inside the hive, it was filled with plenty of healthy looking bees and brood. The bees were very busy preparing for the coming winter. They had started to seal up the cracks and spaces that could let cold air in with sticky brown propolis. I placed a pollen patty inside as a back up protein supply since the hive felt light on the honey stores. However, the bees still have a few weeks of goldenrod and aster bloom in which to collect nectar. With the recent rains, the flowers should have plenty of nectar inside for the honeybees to collect and store for winter.



On a pleasant late September day, our honeybees were enthusiastically flying out to look for flowers and returning home with pollen and nectar.

Annual clearing out garden of the garden plots



The gardening season is not over until plots are cleared by the gardeners. All tall weeds, string, stakes, trellises, mulch and other debris must be out by mid-October.

Several gardeners leave their flowers in place for the bees and butterflies to forage on.



Our compost pile, which is over five feet tall, can easily double in volume as gardeners add garden debris during clean up time.

In our Monarch Waystation perennial garden



During October, wild fall asters are blooming in our perennial flower garden and elsewhere on the IHM property, providing nectar and pollen for honeybees and other pollinators.



Milkweeds that once provided leafy food for monarch caterpillars and flower nectar for butterflies are now releasing seed to be carried by the wind for new plants in new locations.

Last spring



Due to Covid-19 restrictions, flower garden maintenance was minimal. In May, the flower beds needed edging, weeds were beginning to invade and plants needed dividing and replanting.

This fall



Thanks to garden volunteer Sue Wagers, the flower garden is making a comeback. Sue spent many hours this summer weeding, dividing, planting and maintaining the garden.

Gazebo available for your event

The gardens make a wonderful setting for our Gazebo. The primary purpose of our Gazebo is to provide gathering space for the St. Mary Organic Farm activities and events that advance the educational and spiritual goals of the IHM Sisters. Other activities may be scheduled for the Gazebo if they fall within the guidelines described in the Gazebo Usage Policy.

There is no charge if your event or activity advances the educational and spiritual goals of the IHM Sisters. Free-will donations for the use of the Gazebo are welcome. To reserve the Gazebo, email the IHM Events Department at Events@imhsisters.org or call 734-240-9871



From Pope Francis's *Encyclical Laudato Si'*

We were created with a vocation to work. The goal should not be that technological progress increasingly replaces human work, for this would be detrimental to humanity. Work is a necessity, part of the meaning of life on this earth, a path to growth, human development and personal fulfilment. Helping the poor financially must always be a provisional solution in the face of pressing needs. The broader objective should always be to allow them a dignified life through work. Yet the orientation of the economy has favored a kind of technological progress in which the costs of production are reduced by laying off workers and replacing them with machines. This is yet another way in which we can end up working against ourselves. The loss of jobs also has a negative impact on the economy, "through the progressive erosion of social capital: the network of relationships of trust, dependability, and respect for rules, all of which are indispensable for any form of civil coexistence".¹⁰⁴ In other words, "human costs always include economic costs, and economic dysfunctions always involve human costs".¹⁰⁵ To stop investing in people, in order to gain greater short-term financial gain, is bad business for society. [128]



Consider a gift to St. Mary Organic Farm



Donations are always appreciated and tax-deductible. Your contribution will go toward local educational programs on gardening, healthy eating and lifestyle, environmental protection, conservation and other programs

that are part of our mission to do God's work by making our community a better place to live. They may also be used to purchase equipment, tools and to maintain garden facilities.

As a friend of St. Mary Organic Farm, together, we can work to expand and provide gardening space to even more families in our area who otherwise would not have the opportunity to garden.

Please make your check payable to: IHM Sisters and write: "St. Mary Organic Farm" on the memo line.

Thank you for your continuing support.

**Tranquil, harmonious
observations nourish and
refresh the mind. This, too, is
part of the naturalist's garden.**

October 2021 Sunrise and Sunset
Eastern Daylight Time

Date	Sunrise	Sunset
1	7:30 AM	7:14 PM
2	7:31 AM	7:12 PM
3	7:32 AM	7:11 PM
4	7:34 AM	7:09 PM
5	7:35 AM	7:07 PM
6	7:36 AM	7:06 PM
7	7:37 AM	7:04 PM
8	7:38 AM	7:02 PM
9	7:39 AM	7:01 PM
10	7:40 AM	6:59 PM
11	7:41 AM	6:57 PM
12	7:42 AM	6:56 PM
13	7:44 AM	6:54 PM
14	7:45 AM	6:53 PM
15	7:46 AM	6:51 PM
16	7:47 AM	6:49 PM
17	7:48 AM	6:48 PM
18	7:49 AM	6:46 PM
19	7:50 AM	6:45 PM
20	7:52 AM	6:43 PM
21	7:53 AM	6:42 PM
22	7:54 AM	6:40 PM
23	7:55 AM	6:39 PM
24	7:56 AM	6:37 PM
25	7:57 AM	6:36 PM
26	7:59 AM	6:35 PM
27	8:00 AM	6:33 PM
28	8:01 AM	6:32 PM
29	8:02 AM	6:31 PM
30	8:03 AM	6:29 PM
31	8:05 AM	6:28 PM

October 2021 Twilight hours
Eastern Daylight Time

Date	Morning Begins	Evening Ends
1	7:02 AM	7:42 PM
2	7:04 AM	7:40 PM
3	7:05 AM	7:39 PM
4	7:06 AM	7:37 PM
5	7:07 AM	7:35 PM
6	7:08 AM	7:33 PM
7	7:09 AM	7:32 PM
8	7:10 AM	7:30 PM
9	7:11 AM	7:29 PM
10	7:12 AM	7:27 PM
11	7:13 AM	7:25 PM
12	7:14 AM	7:24 PM
13	7:15 AM	7:22 PM
14	7:17 AM	7:21 PM
15	7:18 AM	7:19 PM
16	7:19 AM	7:18 PM
17	7:20 AM	7:16 PM
18	7:21 AM	7:15 PM
19	7:22 AM	7:13 PM
20	7:23 AM	7:12 PM
21	7:24 AM	7:10 PM
22	7:25 AM	7:09 PM
23	7:27 AM	7:07 PM
24	7:28 AM	7:06 PM
25	7:29 AM	7:05 PM
26	7:30 AM	7:03 PM
27	7:31 AM	7:02 PM
28	7:32 AM	7:01 PM
29	7:33 AM	6:59 PM
30	7:35 AM	6:58 PM
31	7:36 AM	6:57 PM

**October Normal
Temperatures
1991- present**

Date	Normal High	Normal Low
1	69°F	49°F
2	68°F	49°F
3	68°F	49°F
4	67°F	48°F
5	67°F	48°F
6	66°F	48°F
7	66°F	47°F
8	65°F	47°F
9	65°F	46°F
10	65°F	46°F
11	64°F	46°F
12	64°F	45°F
13	63°F	45°F
14	63°F	45°F
15	62°F	44°F
16	62°F	44°F
17	62°F	44°F
18	61°F	43°F
19	61°F	43°F
20	60°F	43°F
21	60°F	42°F
22	59°F	42°F
23	59°F	42°F
24	59°F	41°F
25	58°F	41°F
26	58°F	41°F
27	57°F	40°F
28	57°F	40°F
29	56°F	40°F
30	56°F	39°F
31	56°F	39°F

**October Record
Temperatures**

Date	Record High	Year	Record Low	Year
1	89°F	2019	31°F	1947
2	86°F	1971	29°F	1974
3	89°F	1953	24°F	1974
4	89°F	1951	32°F	1989
5	88°F	1951	31°F	1965
6	91°F	1963	30°F	1935
7	92°F	1963	29°F	1935
8	90°F	2007	25°F	1889
9	86°F	2018	28°F	1989
10	84°F	1949	29°F	1972
11	86°F	1928	25°F	1906
12	84°F	1995	26°F	1875
13	83°F	1975	26°F	1977
14	83°F	1989	27°F	1937
15	86°F	1897	24°F	1876
16	85°F	1938	26°F	1977
17	85°F	1938	23°F	1977
18	84°F	1963	24°F	1976
19	85°F	1953	22°F	1972
20	80°F	1920	19°F	1972
21	81°F	2007	17°F	1974
22	81°F	1920	25°F	1967
23	83°F	1963	22°F	1969
24	81°F	1963	22°F	1981
25	82°F	1963	24°F	1981
26	83°F	1963	22°F	1887
27	78°F	1927	22°F	1976
28	78°F	1927	21°F	1976
29	77°F	1999	22°F	1980
30	76°F	1999	20°F	1980
31	79°F	1950	21°F	1988

**Daily Precipitation Records
October 1874 — Present**

Date	Most Rain for the Day	Year
1	1.55 in.	1945
2	2.00 in.	1925
3	3.29 in.	1954
4	1.06 in.	2000
5	2.10 in.	1919
6	2.20 in.	1959
7	1.50 in .	1951
8	1.02 in.	1967
9	1.43 in.	1950
10	1.03 in.	1932
11	3.27 in.	1949
12	1.25 in.	1901
13	1.57 in.	1983
14	1.78 in.	2003
15	1.03 in.	1967
16	1.92 in.	2001
17	1.70 in.	1967
18	1.54 in.	1937
19	2.02 in.	1985
20	1.09 in.	1918
21	0.96 in.	1965
22	1.98 in.	1929
23	2.08 in.	1957
24	1.07 in.	2000
25	1.09 in.	1991
26	1.37 in.	2019
27	1.48 in.	1981
28	1.13 in.	2015
29	0.74 in.	1875
30	1.29 in.	1900
31	1.59 in.	2013

**October Daily Snowfall Records
1874 — Present**

Date	Snowfall	Year
1	0.0 in.	2020
2	0.0 in.	2020
3	0.0 in.	2020
4	0.0 in.	2020
5	0.0 in.	2020
6	0.0 in.	2020
7	0.0 in.	2020
8	0.0 in.	2020
9	0.0 in.	2020
10	0.0 in.	2020
11	0.0 in.	2020
12	0.2 in.	2006
13	0.7 in.	1932
14	0.0 in.	2020
15	0.0 in.	2020
16	0.1 in.	1943
17	0.9 in.	1943
18	0.2 in.	1880
19	2.7 in.	1989
20	0.4 in.	1992
21	0.2 in.	1925
22	0.0 in.	2020
23	0.1 in.	1981
24	0.0 in.	2020
25	0.0 in.	2020
26	0.3 in.	1936
27	2.3 in.	1980
28	1.9 in.	1925
29	0.0 in.	2020
30	0.3 in.	1993
31	0.1 in.	1993

Monthly Precipitation Records for October

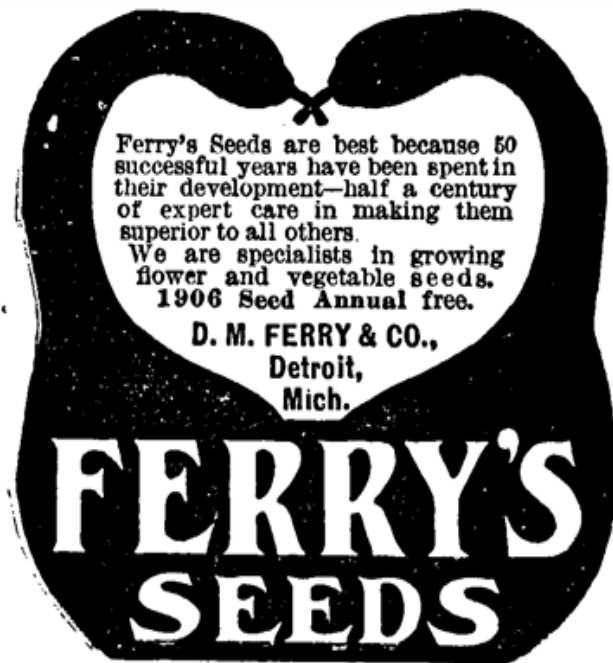
Normal October Rain.....2.53 inches

Rainiest October....7.80 inches 1954

Driest October..... 0.30 inches 1892



Gardening in 1906



Ferry's Seeds advertisement from a 1906 issue of *Garden Magazine*. The company was started in 1856 by D.M. Ferry and two other partners. In 1930, Ferry's Seeds merged with C.C. Morse Company to become the Ferry-Morse Seed Company. Fifty years later, in 1981, Ferry-Morse became part of a French company, presently considered to be one of the largest producers of horticulture seeds in the world. Ferry-Morse seeds are still sold today.

Primary Phases of the Moon

	New Moon - October 6
	First Quarter - October 12
	Full Moon - October 20
	Last Quarter - October 28

Nature Explorers

Not all ants live underground



Ants live in colonies. These are usually underground, but army ants, from the Amazon jungle and Central America, travel in swarms as they hunt and make

nests at night entirely of ants by linking limbs together to protect the queen, larvae and eggs. This traveling "nest" is called a **bivouac**.

Ants don't have lungs, but they take in oxygen through holes in their abdomen called **spiracles**. They can carry 20 times their body weight. Only queen and male ants have wings and a queen ant can live for years and have millions of babies. If the queen dies, the colony will die within a few months because the worker ants cannot reproduce.

OBSERVE an ant's body. It has three main parts; head, thorax and abdomen. Look at its head, its **mandible** is its jaw. Don't get too close - they bite!

RECORD your observations. Carpenter and black ants are common in Michigan, try to identify yours.