



GARDEN ALMANAC

**IHM Community
Garden Newsletter**

August 2023

2023 August

More than one gardener has mentioned to me that this year is the best garden they've grown.

Some of that is due to the favorable growing conditions. Other than a short dry period at the beginning of the season, we've had timely rains. Contributing to the success is most gardeners have controlled insect and disease problems early before they advanced. As a result, less work is needed to maintain the gardens.

Weeds have taken advantage of the good growing weather too. Those gardeners who knocked back their weeds early when the weeds were small were rewarded with more prolific garden plants.

Earlier this month I took a walk around the garden counting all of the different kinds of crops our gardeners are growing. It is wonderful to see all of the variety of crops growing in one place.

Now that the garden plants are expending most of their energy producing their fruit, the bright green of the garden will begin to fade soon.

If you or someone you know would like to join us in the garden next year, contact me for information on renting a garden plot. Please email me at rdluzen@ihmsisters.org.

Good gardening,

Bob



Approaching St. Mary Organic Farm Community Garden from the Motherhouse.



Our Concord grapes will soon be turning purple as they begin to ripen.

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



August 2023 IHM Bee Log

Beautiful rains in early June turned browning grass to green fields, colorful flowers and abundant wildflowers. This is good for the bees. They have been busy with thousands of trips in and out of the hive bringing back nectar and pollen.

One strange twist to this season has been the Canadian forest fire smoke, creating haze and air quality issues for several days in July and August. It is still too early to understand the impact this will have on bee life. Some Michigan beekeepers have suggested that the smoke may disrupt hive communication and slow or inhibit the construction of queen cells. Typically, a beekeeper uses a smoker to temporarily disrupt bee communication when going into a hive. Prolonged smoke is an unusual event, and we will look at the overall production and survival rates this year to see if there are abnormal numbers.

Dan Pederson, Beekeeper



Wildflowers such as these growing near the IHM cemetery provide abundant nectar for bees.

The Monarch Butterfly Waystation Flower Garden



Bright yellow flowers of prairie dock on six foot tall stems gently wave over the flower garden. Prairie dock is a native perennial plant that attracts all kinds of pollinating insects such as honeybees, wild bees and butterflies. Hummingbirds love to sip on prairie dock nectar. Gold finches and other birds feed on the seeds.



Dahlias and brilliant red cannas form the border on two sides of the flower garden. Everyday a number of hummingbirds can be seen visiting these flowers.

Survey of Crops Grown in the Community Garden

In early August, I walked around the garden with my clip board making a note of which crops each gardener was growing. If a garden had at least one plant of a crop, it is counted in the totals.

Thirty-six different crops are growing in the gardens this year.

It is no surprise to learn that tomatoes are the most popular crop grown in the St. Mary Organic Farm Community Garden. Anyone walking by could tell that by just looking at the garden. Nearly every plot has at least one tomato plant, most have several plants.

The pepper category included all types of peppers. Zucchini or Courgette, as it is called by British and French English speakers, is counted with summer squash. Hard shelled squash varieties are counted separately from summer squash.

All flowers are grouped together with marigolds being the most popular. There are a number of different herbs growing with more basil by far, than any other herb.

The results of this year's survey is representative of the typical crops grown in the Community Garden.



Georgia K. grew a fine row of broccoli several with heads measuring at least ten inches across.

Crop	Number of Gardens
Tomato	28
Peppers	22
Flowers	20
Herbs	18
Summer Squash	18
Beans	18
Cucumber	17
Cabbage	17
Squash	14
Onion	12
Lettuce	11
Broccoli	10
Carrots	9
Beets	9
Eggplant	8
Peas	5
Radishes	5
Pumpkins	4
Kale	3
Melons	3
Ground Cherry	3
Sweet Corn	3
Potatoes	2
Cauliflower	2
Okra	2
Sweet Potatoes	2
Celery	2
Swiss Chard	2
Malabar Spinach	2
Leeks	1
Fennel	1
Horseradish	1
Taro	1
Rhubarb	1
Brussels Sprouts	1
Pop Corn	1

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'*

When we can see God reflected in all that exists, our hearts are moved to praise the Lord for all his creatures and to worship him in union with them. This sentiment finds magnificent expression in the hymn of Saint Francis of Assisi:

Praised be you, my Lord, with all your creatures, especially Sir Brother Sun, who is the day and through whom you give us light.
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor; and bears a likeness of you, Most High.
Praised be you, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars, in heaven you formed them clear and precious and beautiful.
Praised be you, my Lord, through Brother Wind, and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather through whom you give sustenance to your creatures.
Praised be you, my Lord, through Sister Water, who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.
Praised be you, my Lord, through Brother Fire, through whom you light the night, and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong".⁶⁴ [87]

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.

It's difficult to think anything but pleasant thoughts while eating a homegrown tomato.

Lewis Grizzard

August 2023 Sunrise and Sunset Eastern Daylight Time

Date	Sunrise	Sunset
1	6:27 AM	8:52 PM
2	6:28 AM	8:50 PM
3	6:29 AM	8:49 PM
4	6:30 AM	8:48 PM
5	6:31 AM	8:47 PM
6	6:32 AM	8:46 PM
7	6:33 AM	8:44 PM
8	6:34 AM	8:43 PM
9	6:35 AM	8:42 PM
10	6:36 AM	8:40 PM
11	6:37 AM	8:39 PM
12	6:38 AM	8:38 PM
13	6:39 AM	8:36 PM
14	6:40 AM	8:35 PM
15	6:41 AM	8:33 PM
16	6:42 AM	8:32 PM
17	6:43 AM	8:31 PM
18	6:44 AM	8:29 PM
19	6:45 AM	8:28 PM
20	6:46 AM	8:26 PM
21	6:47 AM	8:25 PM
22	6:48 AM	8:23 PM
23	6:49 AM	8:21 PM
24	6:50 AM	8:20 PM
25	6:51 AM	8:18 PM
26	6:52 AM	8:17 PM
27	6:53 AM	8:15 PM
28	6:54 AM	8:13 PM
29	6:55 AM	8:12 PM
30	6:57 AM	8:10 PM
31	6:58 AM	8:08 PM

August 2023 Twilight hours Eastern Daylight Time

Date	Morning Begins	Evening Ends
1	5:55 AM	9:23 PM
2	5:56 AM	9:22 PM
3	5:57 AM	9:20 PM
4	5:58 AM	9:19 PM
5	6:00 AM	9:18 PM
6	6:01 AM	9:16 PM
7	6:02 AM	9:15 PM
8	6:03 AM	9:14 PM
9	6:04 AM	9:12 PM
10	6:05 AM	9:11 PM
11	6:06 AM	9:09 PM
12	6:07 AM	9:08 PM
13	6:09 AM	9:06 PM
14	6:10 AM	9:05 PM
15	6:11 AM	9:03 PM
16	6:12 AM	9:02 PM
17	6:13 AM	9:00 PM
18	6:14 AM	8:59 PM
19	6:15 AM	8:57 PM
20	6:17 AM	8:56 PM
21	6:18 AM	8:54 PM
22	6:19 AM	8:52 PM
23	6:20 AM	8:51 PM
24	6:21 AM	8:49 PM
25	6:22 AM	8:47 PM
26	6:23 AM	8:46 PM
27	6:24 AM	8:44 PM
28	6:25 AM	8:42 PM
29	6:27 AM	8:41 PM
30	6:28 AM	8:39 PM
31	6:29 AM	8:37 PM

**August Normal
Temperatures
1991- present**

Date	Normal High	Normal Low
1	83°F	64°F
2	83°F	64°F
3	83°F	64°F
4	83°F	64°F
5	83°F	64°F
6	83°F	64°F
7	83°F	64°F
8	82°F	64°F
9	82°F	64°F
10	82°F	64°F
11	82°F	64°F
12	82°F	64°F
13	82°F	64°F
14	82°F	64°F
15	82°F	64°F
16	82°F	64°F
17	81°F	63°F
18	81°F	63°F
19	81°F	63°F
20	81°F	63°F
21	81°F	63°F
22	81°F	63°F
23	81°F	63°F
24	80°F	62°F
25	80°F	62°F
26	80°F	62°F
27	80°F	62°F
28	80°F	62°F
29	80°F	61°F
30	79°F	61°F
31	79°F	61°F

**August Record
Temperatures
1874 - present**

Date	Record High	Year	Record Low	Year
1	97°F	2006	48°F	1971
2	99°F	1988	48°F	1976
3	96°F	1988	46°F	1976
4	98°F	1944	47°F	1894
5	96°F	1881	45°F	1972
6	104°F	1918	49°F	1971
7	100°F	1918	47°F	1903
8	99°F	2001	47°F	1989
9	96°F	1891	46°F	1884
10	98°F	1944	45°F	1972
11	99°F	1944	47°F	1967
12	99°F	1881	46°F	1967
13	96°F	1944	47°F	1967
14	99°F	1944	48°F	1964
15	97°F	1965	46°F	1979
16	95°F	1936	43°F	1979
17	100°F	1988	46°F	1981
18	95°F	1947	46°F	1981
19	95°F	1947	44°F	1977
20	96°F	1916	48°F	1977
21	100°F	1955	46°F	1876
22	101°F	1936	45°F	1923
23	96°F	1936	45°F	1875
24	95°F	1948	43°F	1971
25	98°F	1948	48°F	1942
26	96°F	1953	47°F	1984
27	98°F	1948	47°F	1915
28	97°F	1948	43°F	1986
29	96°F	1953	38°F	1982
30	97°F	1953	41°F	1976
31	97°F	1953	46°F	1935

Daily Precipitation Records for August 1874 — Present

Date	Most Rain for the Day	Year
1	1.17 in.	1922
2	1.46 in.	1922
3	1.83 in.	1933
4	3.9 in.	1888
5	2.33 in.	1940
6	2.51 in.	1998
7	1.26 in.	1916
8	2.03 in.	1942
9	1.03 in.	1896
10	1.3 in.	1914
11	4.57 in.	2014
12	2.73 in.	2021
13	2.18 in.	1994
14	1.86 in.	1905
15	1.31 in.	1986
16	2.81 in.	1974
17	4.51 in.	1926
18	1.28 in.	2019
19	1.9 in.	1991
20	1.62 in.	2007
21	2.72 in.	1890
22	1.99 in.	1987
23	2.29 in.	1901
24	1.05 in.	1885
25	1.76 in.	1940
26	2.11 in.	1987
27	1.3 in.	1903
28	2.83 in.	2020
29	1.73 in.	1975
30	2.24 in.	1959
31	2.02 in.	1877

Length of Daylight Hours for August

Date	Hours: Minutes: Seconds	Reduction in Minutes per Day
1	14:24:58	-2:06
2	14:22:49	-2:08
3	14:20:39	-2:10
4	14:18:27	-2:12
5	14:16:13	-2:14
6	14:13:57	-2:15
7	14:11:40	-2:17
8	14:09:21	-2:18
9	14:07:00	-2:20
10	14:04:39	-2:21
11	14:02:15	-2:23
12	13:59:51	-2:24
13	13:57:25	-2:25
14	13:54:58	-2:26
15	13:52:30	-2:28
16	13:50:01	-2:29
17	13:47:31	-2:30
18	13:44:59	-2:31
19	13:42:27	-2:32
20	13:39:54	-2:33
21	13:37:19	-2:34
22	13:34:44	-2:35
23	13:32:08	-2:35
24	13:29:32	-2:36
25	13:26:54	-2:37
26	13:24:16	-2:38
27	13:21:37	-2:38
28	13:18:58	-2:39
29	13:16:18	-2:40
30	13:13:37	-2:40
31	13:10:56	-2:41

Monthly Precipitation Records for August



Normal August Rain.....3.26 inches

Rainiest August.....8.33 inches 1926

Driest August..... 0.16 inches 1894



Primary Phases of the Moon

	New Moon - August 16
	First Quarter - August 24
	Full Moon - August 31
	Last Quarter - September 6

Gardening in 1906



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Wiss dealers will replace free of charge any shears returned defective or unsatisfactory.

All parts are interchangeable. If any part (say the blade) becomes worn, it can be replaced, thus making the shears as good as new at a slight cost.

Made in two sizes—9 inch, \$2.25; 10 inch, \$2.50

Extra blades, 50 cents each. For sale by all dealers.

J. WISS & SONS CO., 15-33 Littleton Ave., Newark, N. J.