



## BLUEBERRY FACTS:

- ❑ Michigan is #1 in the production of blueberries in the nation.
- ❑ In 2014, growers produced over 99 million pounds.
- ❑ Michigan growers harvest approximately 20,200 acres of blueberries annually.

## ASPARAGUS FACTS:

- ❑ Michigan ranks second in the nation for asparagus production.
- ❑ Michigan growers harvest approximately 9,000 acres annually, and planted 10,300 acres.

## APPLE FACTS:

- ❑ Michigan is the nation's third largest producer of apples.
- ❑ There are more than 37,000 acres of apple trees covering the State of Michigan.
- ❑ Michigan growers harvest more than 1 billion pounds of apples annually.

# HELP WANTED IN MICHIGAN

**Michigan Talent Investment Agency  
STATE MONITOR ADVOCATE OFFICE**

**SMAOFFICE@MICHIGAN.GOV**  
**1-855-633-2373 SE HABLA ESPAÑOL**



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# HOUSING & PAY

- ❑ No cost housing, and free utilities provided through the Agricultural Recruitment System.
- ❑ Housing consists of mobile homes, multi-unit housing, single family houses, and dormitory style units.
- ❑ Skilled workers can earn as much as \$11.00 to \$15.00 per hour or more.
- ❑ Housing for 5 or more is inspected annually, and licensed by the Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development.
- ❑ Common for growers to give end-of-season bonuses.

# SEASON WORKING CONDITIONS:

- ❑ Season lasts 12 weeks (August-October)
- ❑ Must be able to climb up and down 8-15 foot ladders, while carrying a picking bag weighing 45lbs for up to 10 hours per day.
- ❑ Multi-limb coordination, repeated reaching, grasping, and walking required.
- ❑ Field temperatures range from 65-95 degrees.
- ❑ Work environment: wet, dry, humid, hot, cold.

# SEASON WORKING CONDITIONS:

- ❑ Season lasts 8-10 weeks (July-September).
- ❑ Must be able to stand and walk for up to 10 hours per day, while carrying 6lb buckets.
- ❑ Must have very nimble fingers to be able to quickly, and delicately, pick the small berries.
- ❑ Field temperatures range from 70 to 95 degrees.

# SEASON WORKING CONDITIONS:

- ❑ Season lasts 6-7 weeks (April-June).
- ❑ Must be able to sit and bend forward for up to 10 hours per day.
- ❑ Teams of pickers are made up of 5, with one person designated as the driver.
- ❑ Multi-limb coordination and reaching necessary.
- ❑ Field temperatures range from 70-95 degrees.
- ❑ Work environment: dusty, dry, wet, and muddy.

# REGIONS APPLE, BLUEBERRY, & ASPARAGUS

