

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: It was an extremely hot and dry week, with high temperatures ranging from 66 degrees in Cresnet City up to 109 degrees in Hermiston. Thirty-two stations reported highs of 100 degrees or above. Lows ranged from 40 degrees in Christmas Valley and Redmond up to 58 degrees in Ontario. Moisture was sparse, with only 6 stations reporting precipitation. The most accumulation was 0.12 inches reported by the Burns station.

Field Crops: Recent hot and dry weather conditions have kept farmers busy irrigating their crops. Keeping crops wet this past week was a challenge. Grass seed harvest is in full swing. Alfalfa and grass haying continue in the Willamette Valley. Hot dry conditions ripened grain considerably in North Central counties. The second and third cutting of alfalfa hay continued. Wheat harvest is progressing rapidly in northern Wasco County and reports on yields are encouraging. Dry land crops are not doing as well in many areas of the State due to the high temperatures and lack of moisture.

Vegetables: Vegetable growers spent their week irrigating, weeding, and cultivating their crops. Early sweet corn and summer squash was available at farmer's markets. Carrot seed pollination continued. Tomatoes as well as other hot weather vegetable crops were ripening. Potatoes continued to bloom in Klamath County.

Fruits and Nuts: Blueberry and raspberry harvest continued in record heat throughout the Willamette Valley. Orchard and caneberry crops may see heat damage. Strawberry harvest was winding down, while blackberries continued to ripen. There were

still some cherries picked throughout the Willamette Valley. Walnut husk fly emergence began in Yamhill County. In the southern Willamette Valley, early apples should be ready soon. Codling moth emergence continued. Moderate temperatures early in the week in Hood River County gave way to extremely hot conditions. Cherry harvest continued in the lower and middle Hood River Valley and got underway in Parkdale. Summer orchard operations continued throughout the valley. A few late cherry varieties were still being picked in higher elevation orchards in Wasco County, but for the most part cherry harvest is complete. Apricot and peach harvest was active. Hazelnuts, apples, pears, and grapes look good in Douglas County; stone fruits appear light. Growers in southern Oregon irrigated their orchards to combat the heat. Raspberries and blueberries were available, and wild blackberries were coming on.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries were irrigating heavily trying to prevent damage to container stock due to heat, moving potted plants, and caring for new plantings. Greenhouses working on fall plants and summer clean up.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Very warm temperatures continued to dry down pastures and rangeland. In many areas dry land pastures were nearly used up and livestock were being rotating into irrigated pastures, where available. Rangeland, in eastern Oregon, continued to dry quickly, but was reported in normal condition for this time of year. Producers were carefully monitoring herds in the extreme heat and livestock remained in good condition throughout the State.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 07/23/06

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	17	46	37	0
Subsoil	12	44	44	0

Crop Condition-Week Ending 07/23/06

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Spring wheat	0	4	15	59	22
Barley	0	1	18	71	10
Corn	0	0	24	36	40
Range and pasture	5	24	35	29	7

Crop Progress-Week Ending 07/23/06

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	85	81	-	-
Winter wheat harvested	24	7	28	29
Days suitable for fieldwork	7.0	6.8	-	-

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Grass seed harvest in full swing. Looks like pretty good yields according to growers. Though many non-irrigated grass seed yields are down 10% or so. Possible more sun burn from 100 degree weather the next four days. Blueberries being picked, nice fruit. Strawberries are nearing the end of June bearers, good crop and good yields. Blackberries are very good crop and good yield. Raspberries are nearing the end. Grapes are a mediocre crop, sizing nicely. Cherries finishing crop. Early peaches being picked. Pears are a nice crop, moderate to small crop. Asian pears are a light crop. Early apples in one week. Codling moth emergence continues. Farmers markets are open, sales good. All tomato varieties are ripening. First local corn on the market now. Most vegetable crops now in the market place.

CLACKAMAS: Dangerously hot late last week. Mercury in high 90's and above. Not really good for anything. Grass seed swathing all but done. Combining cranking up. Heat damage reports coming in for Marion berries and late Raspberries. Pastures stopped growing. Probable death loss at poultry operations. Nurseries being stretched to keep stock wet. Anything out of the ground is vulnerable to loss in this weather. Cooler temperatures will be welcome.

COLUMBIA: Extremely hot week. Corn with water thriving. Nursery stock in containers watered intensely. Damage to container stock will start to show soon if present. Some Christmas trees damaged by heat.

COOS/CURRY: Almost no summer fog has left fields drier than normal for this time of year. Temperatures near normal for the week, with the exception of High temp in Southern Curry of 93.7 degrees - nearly 20 degrees above average. No significant rainfall in the area. Producers are still reporting a light grass hay crop, down as much as 50% in some areas due to poor spring growth and early maturing with an early 2-weeks of hot weather. Brookings (South Curry): Low temp for the period was 50.26 degrees, 1.80 degrees below the 5-year average. High temp for the period was 93.70 degrees, 19.92 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.00 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2001-2004) average of 0.02 inches. Precipitation for Weather year stands at 106.84 inches, 40.89 inches above the 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004). Historical average (through July) is 70.49 inches precipitation. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temp for the period was 50.89 degrees, 1.02 degrees above the 5-year average. High temp for the period was 68.65 degrees, 0.07 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.00 inches compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004) of 0.01 inches. Weather year precipitation stands at 69.12 inches, 21.14 inches above the 5-year average (including 4 drought years, 2001 – 2004). The historical average is 57.92 inches through July.

DOUGLAS: The current heat has everyone focusing on irrigation where possible. Spraying has stopped during the heat. Crops in general are doing well. Good potential for hazelnuts, apples, pears, grapes. Stone fruit light crops.

JACKSON: Not much has changed in terms of the weather. It has been extremely hot and dry. Irrigated crops are still thriving but non-irrigated crops are almost nonexistent. Some grain harvest has started. Still lots of haying, both grass and alfalfa. Good hot weather for both activities. Apples and pears are looking good, lots of irrigation being done. Some peach harvest of early fruits, vineyard looking good, but the weather has been a bit too hot for all fruit. Lots of irrigation, weeding, and cultivation on vegetable crops. Some early corn at farmers markets. Also some tomatoes starting to ripen. Greenhouses still on clean-up and maintenance getting ready for fall plants. Nurseries doing lots of stock watering and feeding. The very hot conditions mean lots of care and monitoring of stock. Dry ground pasture mostly used up, and cattle being moved to irrigated ground. This week was the Jackson County Fair, so lots of farmers, ranchers, and their children participated in the regular showing activities. From reports, it was a very successful fair, even though the day time temperatures were in the 100's of degrees. Even with the fair, work still had to continue, so most were doubly busy. Haying, some grain harvest and crop care were the main activities. Lots of irrigating.

JOSEPHINE: Very hot and dry. Keeping things wet is a challenge. Yellow jackets are a problem in irrigated areas. Hay is growing quickly where there is water. Truck gardens have summer squashes, corn, raspberries and blueberries. Wild local blackberries are coming on and have seen some picking. Tomatoes are ripening, as well as other hot weather crops. Too hot to work outside the last two days.

MARION: Very hot and humid. Grass seed harvest continues. Cannery bean harvest has started. The high temperatures are increasing the volume of irrigation. There is increased heat damage to orchard and caneberry crops. Warm weather turned to hot and made for long days of combining. Straw balers are working hard to keep up with grass seed combining. Field burning was restricted due to atmospheric conditions.

MULTNOMAH: Grass seed harvest in full swing.

POLK: Record high temperatures the past few days. Vegetable crops are doing great. Wheat looks good. Soil drying. Heat causing non-irrigated pasture to dry fairly early. Grass seed harvest underway. Too early to tell, but yields likely to be down.

WASHINGTON: Sugar beets for seed irrigation continues. Grass for seed swathed and some combined, red clover for seed doing well. Field corn shooting up. Blueberries plentiful, raspberries doing well, cherries ongoing, blackberries ripening, and walnuts look good. Sweet corn tasseling on early planting. Irrigating, rotation, and maintenance continue. Pastures are dry.

YAMHILL: Walnut husk fly began emerging this week. The upcoming hot weather runs a risk for sun burning apples and peaches.

EASTERN OREGON

CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON: Bluegrass swathing is complete. Weather forecast is favorable for bluegrass threshing, very hot and dry. The weather the last two weeks has been good for carrot seed pollination.

GILLIAM: Gilliam County has had hot dry conditions this week, which has cured the grain considerably. The range ground is still in good condition due to the amount of spring rain. Even at higher elevations, temperatures have exceeded 100 degrees for three consecutive days. Spring crop quality will likely be negatively impacted by the heat.

GRANT: Very hot weather. Haying progressing smoothly.

HARNEY: Meadow hay and second crop alfalfa coming in with no rain. Hot and dry. Range areas going to an Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) 3.

HOOD RIVER: Moderate temperatures early in the week gave way to extremely hot conditions. Cherry harvest continued in the lower and middle Hood River Valley and got underway in Parkdale. Summer orchard operations continued throughout the Valley.

KLAMATH: Hot weather during the week. Scattered rain showers at the end of the week. Second cutting hay harvest well underway. Some grain crops are turning. Potatoes still blooming.

MALHEUR: Near record high temperatures. Hot, dry weather is putting pressure on irrigation schedule and speeding up maturity rates.

MORROW: Wheat harvest is now in "full swing." Reported yields are average for the area (35 to 40 bu/acre). Blistering heat has everyone worried about the possibility of field fires.

SHERMAN: High heat quickening ripening. Harvest should be in swing this coming week. Hot weather also should advance some of the wheat set back by the May hail.

UMATILLA: Wheat harvest on west side about average, below earlier expectations. Saw temperatures as high as 110 degrees.

WALLOWA: Very warm temperatures forecasted for this weekend with no moisture except possible thunderstorms. Dryland crops still looking okay but continued heat might start causing some problems. Irrigation water is still plentiful in most places. Range conditions normal for this time of year.

WASCO: Hot dry weather prevailed all week. Wheat harvest progressed rapidly in northern Wasco County. However, many wheat growers have not started rolling their combines. Early reports on wheat yields are very encouraging. The spring rains helped irrigate the crop. Still picking late cherry varieties in some of the higher elevation orchards. A small quantity of very late cherries are yet to be harvested, but for the most part cherry harvest is complete. Apricot and peach harvest was active. Harvesting of second and third cutting alfalfa hay continued through week. Cattle and sheep were doing well on ranges and pastures, in normal condition. Fire danger is high in most farming areas, and Wasco County has banned all open fires.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: July 23, 2006 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	50	81	65	+5	106	+36	-	-0.21	-	76.18	11.35	118	181
Bandon ⁸	51	84	62	+5	86	+28	-	-0.07	-	63.92	6.09	111	143
Crescent City	46	66	57	-3	48	-8	-	-0.07	-	79.02	14.87	123	147
Florence	41	78	61	+1	79	+9	-	-0.14	-	81.77	6.84	109	167
Tillamook	41	77	60	+2	69	+10	-	-0.31	-	93.43	6.88	108	183
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	48	104	74	+9	172	+56	-	-0.13	-	49.94	9.99	125	155
Corvallis	49	101	75	+9	173	+61	-	-0.07	-	49.98	8.29	120	159
Detroit Lake ⁸	49	103	75	+12	175	+82	-	-0.15	-	100.91	34.85	153	174
Eugene	44	105	74	+7	167	+41	0.01	-0.06	1	45.70	-2.45	95	146
Hillsboro	46	108	75	+9	178	+66	-	-0.07	-	43.52	7.17	120	148
McMinnville	45	106	74	+9	173	+60	-	-0.07	-	39.87	-2.49	94	150
Portland	54	104	76	+7	181	+48	-	-0.11	-	40.43	5.38	115	159
Salem	50	105	75	+9	179	+60	-	-0.10	-	48.13	9.83	126	148
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	54	107	79	+7	204	+50	-	-0.03	-	46.65	16.20	153	132
Medford	55	106	81	+8	217	+52	-	-0.03	-	26.40	8.14	145	107
Roseburg	52	105	78	+9	197	+64	-	-0.07	-	46.39	14.40	145	145
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	46	98	72	+6	155	+39	-	-0.07	-	16.37	3.14	124	101
Echo ⁸	48	107	78	+5	196	+33	-	-0.02	-	11.22	2.74	132	103
Heppner	48	101	75	+6	179	+39	-	-0.07	-	17.23	4.09	131	118
Hermiston	52	109	79	+6	205	+42	-	-0.02	-	11.29	2.81	133	83
John Day	51	101	76	+8	161	+28	-	-0.06	-	9.86	-2.36	81	117
Madras ⁸	44	103	74	+7	171	+50	-	-0.07	-	12.90	3.11	132	115
Moro	46	103	74	+7	171	+44	-	-0.04	-	18.57	8.00	176	95
Parkdale ⁸	41	103	71	+4	148	+29	-	-0.01	-	45.26	15.11	150	151
Pendleton	50	106	78	+5	196	+30	-	-0.07	-	14.00	2.59	123	103
The Dalles	53	108	79	+12	204	+85	-	-0.04	-	19.02	7.09	159	99
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	48	100	73	+10	165	+67	0.05	-0.02	1	19.22	3.85	125	116
Bend	44	95	70	+6	137	+39	-	-0.07	-	20.98	9.98	191	85
Burns	48	103	77	+10	190	+71	0.12	0.05	1	16.26	7.07	177	106
Christmas Valley ⁸	40	101	72	+3	155	+22	0.04	-0.03	1	8.96	-2.71	77	93
Klamath Falls	49	96	73	+6	165	+37	-	-0.07	-	16.14	3.35	126	103
Klamath Falls ⁸	48	100	74	+7	171	+43	-	-0.07	-	15.55	2.76	122	134
Lakeview	45	97	76	+9	182	+58	-	-0.07	-	8.40	-6.60	56	68
Lorella ⁸	45	100	73	+5	163	+35	-	-0.07	-	17.83	5.04	139	122
Redmond	40	104	73	+7	161	+46	-	-0.07	-	11.79	3.88	149	97
Worden ⁸	44	99	72	+4	152	+24	0.01	-0.06	1	13.72	0.93	107	127
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	41	101	72	+5	154	+35	-	-0.07	-	10.16	0.39	104	105
Joseph	45	92	69	+9	137	+61	-	-0.14	-	19.40	-4.14	82	135
La Grande	43	102	73	+4	166	+26	-	-0.08	-	8.95	-7.41	55	90
Prairie City ⁸	43	101	72	+12	156	+79	-	-0.14	-	15.67	-4.06	79	112
Union	43	101	73	+6	160	+41	-	-0.08	-	12.84	0.15	101	114
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	58	108	84	+7	239	+50	-	0.00	-	13.13	3.95	143	96
Rome	50	105	80	+8	209	+49	0.03	-0.04	1	10.42	2.71	135	92

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2006: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2005.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.