

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

**USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office**

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**Weather:** It was another hot and dry week across the state, although temperatures did cool off some from the previous week. High temperatures ranged from 66 degrees in Crescent City up to 106 degrees in Grants Pass and Echo. A total of twenty stations reported highs of 100 degrees or above, compared to thirty-two stations the previous week. Lows ranged from only 36 degrees in Redmond, up to 62 degrees in Ontario. Very little moisture was seen across the state, with only six locations reporting precipitation. The Astoria/Clatsop location received the largest accumulation with 0.45 inches.

**Field Crops:** Dry, hot weather conditions continued to ripen crops throughout the state. Wheat harvest and second cut haying continues rapidly across the state. Grass seed harvest is wrapping up in some areas of the Willamette Valley. Producers in Coos and Curry Counties continue to report a small grass hay crop, with 50 percent in some areas due to poor growth and early maturing. Annual Rye grass harvest is done in Yamhill County and Tall Fescue is under way. The hot weather has taken a toll on pastures in Jackson County. Irrigation demands continue to be high throughout the state. Some crops in Malheur County are showing signs of stress due to the 100 degree or higher temperatures. Many producers in Wallowa County are requesting to hay or graze CRP acres due to dry conditions.

**Vegetables:** Harvesting continued for summer vegetables including squash, sweet corn, and green beans. All varieties of tomatoes continued to ripen. Sweet corn looked good in most areas, but varied considerably in development. Some corn was already harvested and being sold at stands whereas other fields were only two feet tall.

Irrigation continued in full swing as the hot, dry conditions forced producers to use a great deal of water to keep things growing. Local farm stands and farmer's markets were busy with good sales reported.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Blueberry harvest continued while raspberry harvest is about done; the record heat throughout the Willamette Valley did not help the raspberry crop. Strawberry harvest was winding down, while blackberries continued to ripen early apples were being picked. Cherry harvest is about done. Summer orchard operations continued throughout the valley. 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 the first part of the week 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. Christmas tree new growth looks excellent.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Pasture conditions continued to deteriorate as hot, dry weather has taken its toll on grassland across the State. Rangeland was drying down rapidly with the fire danger index very high in some areas. Some producers were requesting the release of CRP acres for grazing or to hay. Producers were hopeful for more precipitation during August to promote fall pasture re-growth. Livestock remained in good condition although some areas of the State were getting short on pasture and water.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 07/30/06**

	<b>Very short</b>	<b>Short</b>	<b>Adequate</b>	<b>Surplus</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	24	44	32	0
Subsoil	14	46	40	0

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 07/30/06**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>This week</b>	<b>Last week</b>	<b>Last year</b>	<b>5 year average</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	90	85	-	-
Winter wheat harvested	48	24	51	52
Barley harvested	24	-	48	41
Spring wheat harvested	29	-	40	37
Days suitable for fieldwork	7.0	7.0	-	-

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 07/30/06**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Spring wheat	0	5	21	64	10
Barley	0	2	19	70	9
Corn	0	0	16	42	42
Range and pasture	7	21	35	31	6

## WESTERN OREGON

**BENTON/LINN/LANE:** Grass seed harvest is wrapping up for many. Looks like pretty good yields according to growers. A little sun burn from 100+ degree weather. Heavy irrigation going on. Beans are suffering due to hot weather. Blueberries are being picked, nice fruit. Strawberries are nearing end of June bearers, good crop and good yields. Only ever bearing berries are being picked, still nice size, some sun burn. Blackberries are a very good crop and good yield. Raspberries are nearing end with mediocre yields. Grapes are mediocre crop, sizing nicely. Cherry bloom, finishing crop. Early and middle peaches are being picked. There is a moderate crop this year. Pears are a nice crop, moderate to small crop. Asian pears are a light crop. Early apples are being picked. Codling moth and Filbertworm emergence continues. Currants and gooseberries look good this year. Farmers markets are open and sales are good. All varieties of tomatoes are ripening. Corn looks good. Most vegetable crops are now in the market place.

**CLACKAMAS:** Hot weather early in the week, then moderating. Grass seed harvest at full tilt. Seed yield reports are disappointing. Too hot during flowering and seed maturation. Pastures are drying up. Just finished putting hay in the barn, now time to start feeding and hoping for some late August rain for fall regrowth.

**COOS/CURRY:** Curry very hot (for here) and lack of morning dew has contributed to topsoil moisture loss. Temps near normal for the week for Coos and northern Curry, with the exception of high temperatures in Southern Curry of 99.6 degrees, nearly 20 degrees above average. No significant rainfall in the area. Producers 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): The low temperature for the period was 50.13 degrees, 0.03 degrees above the 5 year average. The high temperature for the period was 99.6 degrees, 18.24 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 0.08 inches. Precipitation for the weather year stands at 106.84 inches, 40.81 inches above the 5 year average (including drought years 2001-2004). The historical average (through July) is 70.49 inches of precipitation. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 46.6 degrees, 3.4 degrees below the 5 year average. The high temperature for the period was 68.73 degrees, 2.75 degrees above the 5 year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.00 inches compared to a 5 year average (including drought years 2001-2004) of 0.06 inches. The weather year precipitation stands at 69.12 inches, 21.68 inches above the 5 year average (including 4 drought years, 2001 – 2004). The historical average is 57.92 inches through July.

**DOUGLAS:** U-pick gardens are in full swing with summer fruit and vegetables. Local growers head to farmers markets with fresh apples and zucchini. Record heat gives way to more normal temps and cooler nights.

**JACKSON:** Still lots of haying, mostly second cutting hay. Grain harvest is continuing as fields ripen. Pears and apples are looking good. Some early pears will be picked in about two weeks. Peach harvest continued. Wild blackberries are starting to ripen. Vineyards are looking good. Now lots of fresh vegetables at local farmers markets and roadside stands. Still lots of irrigation on crops. It has been so dry and hot. Greenhouses cleaning up, and getting ready for fall plants. Nurseries doing lots of stock up-keep, and lots of watering. Still selling potted shrubs and some ball burlap trees. The hot weather has taken its toll on pastures. It has taken a lot of water to keep grass growing. Most livestock are looking good, some weaning of early spring calves. The week has been mostly in the 100's, but some cooling on this weekend, good haying weather, and good for ripening the grains. Lots of vegetable marketing at roadside stands. A good week, but too hot, and dry afternoon winds have been a bit too harsh on crops. Takes lots of water to keep things growing.

**JOSEPHINE:** Very hot and dry all week. Nighttime lows in the 70's and daytime highs in the 105 to 108 range here. Higher in the cities. Some drying wind with electric storms in the mountains around us. No fires here. Harvesting blueberries, summer squash, corn, green beans, blackberries. Sunday was very nice with nighttime low here at 42 degrees! Day time in the 80's. Perfect weather.

**MARION:** Hot and dry. Hot weather caused stress on many crops maturing. Temperatures cooled some by the weekend. Good weather for combining. Winter wheat is now being harvested.

**WASHINGTON:** Winter wheat nearing harvest, second cutting alfalfa done, combining all grasses for seed, field corn tasseling. Commercial blueberry picking, early peaches ready, grapes doing well with some thinning being done. Sweet corn ranges from two feet high to sales at stands, beans for cannery being harvested. Greenhouses and nursery crops-rotation and irrigation. Pastures dry. High 92 degrees-low 48 degrees. County Fair finished. Great weather for the shows.

**YAMHILL:** Annual Rye grass harvest is done; Tall Fescue is well under way. Perennial Rye should soon be swathed, wheat should be ready within the next week or so, blueberries are still going strong, peaches are still available, and the local farm stands and farmers markets are doing great.

## EASTERN OREGON

**BAKER:** Extreme heat and now precipitation has led to a serious drought on our ranges and wildfire in certain locations.

**GILLIAM:** Hot temperatures and a steady west wind have dried things out considerably. The condition of the grain is good, with few pinched kernels. Overnight temperatures in the upper to mid 40s at Condon may delay harvest startup in the mornings.

**HARNEY:** Hot and dry. Dry lightning started over 20 fires this week.

**HOOD RIVER:** The extreme heat moderated through the week, which ended with light rain Sunday morning. Cherry harvest continued in the middle and upper Hood River Valley. Summer orchard operations continued throughout the valley.

**KLAMATH:** Warm weather continued the first part of the week. Grain and wheat crops continue to ripen. Second cutting well under way. Hot weather is helping cure hay.

**LAKE:** Temperatures remained in the mid to upper 90's for the week. Cooled off some over the weekend. Lightening caused several fires at the beginning of the week. Smoke lingered in the valley for the week and weekend. Most producers in the county are beginning to harvest their grass hay. Second cutting of alfalfa has been completed.

**MALHEUR:** Hot weather continues, high 100 degrees or higher. Some crops showing stress. Wheat harvest and haying continues.

**UMATILLA:** Wheat harvest has been moving rapidly forward under dry and hot conditions. Yields range from about average, to slightly below average in some areas. Areas that experienced late emergence last fall and spring frost damage are the most effected.

**WALLOWA:** After a couple of weeks of hot, dry weather some dryland crops are beginning to show signs of stress. Yields will probably be affected on some farms. Fire danger is very high and range conditions are deteriorating. Many producers are requesting to hay or graze CRP acres.

**WASCO:** High temperatures prevailed all week. Wheat harvest is moving rapidly from lower to higher elevations, and moving from northern to southern Wasco County. Wheat harvest is estimated to be fifty percent completed by the week's end. Yields still look good. The Dufur Threshing Bee will be held during the August 12th weekend. Alfalfa hay growers were active putting up hay and watering. Apricots, peaches and a few cherries were being picked. Cherry harvest in Dufur area is nearly finished. Most livestock seem to be doing well in the hot weather. Pastures and water getting short in some areas of the county.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: July 30, 2006 (as of 11:00 am) <sup>1</sup>**

Station	Air temperature <sup>2</sup>				Growing degree days <sup>3</sup>		Last week precip. <sup>4</sup>			Season cum. precipitation <sup>5</sup>			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Days <sup>7</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Pct. normal	Days <sup>7</sup>
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria/Clatsop	54	73	61	+1	78	+2	0.45	0.24	3	76.63	11.59	118	184
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	49	73	61	+3	80	+17	-	-0.07	-	63.92	6.02	110	143
Crescent City	46	66	56	-3	44	-17	-	-0.08	-	79.02	14.79	123	147
Florence	41	75	60	-2	70	-4	-	-0.15	-	81.77	6.69	109	167
Tillamook	46	71	60	+2	72	+9	0.23	-0.05	1	93.66	6.83	108	184
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	52	98	70	+3	139	+20	-	-0.13	-	49.94	9.86	125	155
Corvallis	50	100	69	+3	136	+19	-	-0.12	-	49.98	8.17	120	159
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	52	97	72	+9	155	+57	-	-0.17	-	100.91	34.68	152	174
Eugene	47	100	70	+2	138	+12	-	-0.12	-	45.70	-2.57	95	146
Hillsboro	51	100	71	+5	147	+30	0.01	-0.12	1	43.53	7.05	119	149
McMinnville	50	101	72	+6	153	+34	-	-0.07	-	39.87	-2.56	94	150
Portland	58	97	72	+3	152	+19	0.01	-0.13	1	40.44	5.25	115	160
Salem	53	101	71	+5	152	+33	-	-0.08	-	48.13	9.75	125	148
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	48	106	80	+8	208	+50	-	-0.07	-	46.65	16.13	153	132
Medford	54	104	80	+7	210	+42	-	-0.07	-	26.40	8.07	144	107
Roseburg	50	101	74	+6	173	+35	-	-0.07	-	46.39	14.33	145	145
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	45	102	74	+8	168	+49	-	-0.09	-	16.37	3.05	123	101
Echo <sup>8</sup>	51	106	79	+6	202	+34	-	-0.07	-	11.22	2.67	131	103
Heppner	51	105	77	+8	193	+53	-	-0.07	-	17.23	4.02	130	118
Hermiston	55	105	78	+5	200	+32	-	-0.07	-	11.29	2.74	132	83
John Day	52	102	78	+10	200	+64	0.03	-0.10	1	9.89	-2.46	80	118
Madras <sup>8</sup>	47	98	72	+4	153	+27	-	-0.07	-	12.90	3.04	131	115
Moro	52	104	75	+6	174	+41	-	-0.07	-	18.57	7.93	175	95
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	52	93	69	+2	133	+8	-	-0.07	-	45.26	15.04	150	151
Pendleton	52	103	77	+4	189	+21	-	-0.07	-	14.00	2.52	122	103
The Dalles	56	102	76	+9	184	+61	-	-0.07	-	19.02	7.02	159	99
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	48	96	72	+9	157	+59	-	-0.07	-	19.22	3.78	124	116
Bend	48	98	72	+8	155	+57	-	-0.10	-	20.98	9.88	189	85
Burns	51	98	75	+8	175	+56	0.06	-0.03	1	16.32	7.04	176	107
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	43	97	69	-1	134	-3	-	-0.09	-	8.92	-2.84	76	92
Klamath Falls	40	96	71	+3	150	+17	-	-0.07	-	16.14	3.28	126	103
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	49	95	73	+5	163	+30	-	-0.07	-	15.55	2.69	121	134
Lakeview	43	95	72	+4	153	+27	-	-0.07	-	8.40	-6.67	56	68
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	48	96	72	+4	157	+24	-	-0.07	-	17.83	4.97	139	122
Redmond	36	99	69	+3	137	+18	-	-0.09	-	11.79	3.79	147	97
Worden <sup>8</sup>	49	96	71	+3	148	+15	-	-0.07	-	13.72	0.86	107	127
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	43	98	71	+4	150	+24	-	-0.14	-	10.16	0.25	103	105
Joseph	50	94	73	+12	162	+85	-	-0.16	-	19.40	-4.30	82	135
La Grande	50	100	75	+5	180	+35	-	-0.14	-	8.95	-7.55	54	90
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	47	95	71	+10	148	+70	-	-0.14	-	15.67	-4.20	79	112
Union	50	102	75	+8	177	+51	-	-0.13	-	12.84	0.02	100	114
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	62	103	83	+6	231	+41	-	-0.05	-	13.13	3.90	142	96
Rome	58	104	80	+7	209	+48	-	-0.07	-	10.42	2.64	134	92

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

<sup>2</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

<sup>3</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

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

<sup>5</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2005.

<sup>6</sup> DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).

<sup>7</sup> Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

<sup>8</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.