

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: It was another week of warm, dry weather across the State. Weather conditions were very similar to those of last week. High temperatures ranged from 62 degrees in Crescent City, up to 100 degrees in Medford and The Dalles. Lows temperatures ranged from 34 degrees in Christmas Valley up to 53 degrees in Portland. Precipitation was almost non-existent last week. Only three stations reported rainfall; those stations included Astoria/Clatsop, Tillamook, and Worden.

Field Crops: Many areas were looking forward to some rainfall to add some needed moisture to the soil. Third cutting of alfalfa was coming to an end in Washington County, while field corn was beginning to silk and oats for grain were being combined in the county as well. There was still some clover to be harvested in the Willamette Valley. Harvesting of various crops was still ongoing throughout the State. Although it has been hot during the day, field preparation for fall crops was in full swing in Jackson and Polk counties.

Vegetables: Farmer's markets across the State, were selling a wide variety of corn, beans, squash, cucumbers, tomatoes, beets, eggplant, peppers, and melons. Tomatoes were slow to mature in Washington County. Growers began to apply vine killer to potatoes in Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson counties. Cooler weather in central Oregon was favorable for the establishment of new stands of carrots for seed.

Fruits and Nuts: Early apples, peaches, nectarines, and some berries were picked throughout the Willamette Valley. Prunes and

plums were ready in Washington County, but harvest is a month away in Douglas County. Walnuts continued to size and hazelnuts were falling steadily. Bartlett pear harvest began in the Umpqua Valley, where grapes were maturing quickly. Summer pear harvest continued in mid-Hood River Valley orchards and began in the upper valley. Fruit growers in the lower valley prepared for winter pear harvest. Apples and pears were picked in The Dalles area. A few older cherry orchard blocks are being cut down to make way for new varieties to be planted next spring. The irrigation systems will be updated in these orchard blocks. Grapes were starting to show color. Southern Oregon Bartlett pear harvest continued; packinghouses were gearing up.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries were irrigating, fertilizing, and preparing new planting beds. Moving and shipping large burlap wrapped trees also kept some nurseries busy last week. Greenhouses were getting started with fall decorative plants and fall mums are showing up at retail outlets. Last week in Portland was the Farwest Nursery Show which is one of the biggest nursery shows in the USA.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Dryland pastures and rangeland were nearly depleted in many areas of the State. Livestock watering sources were also beginning to dry up in some rangeland areas. Irrigation continued in full swing on pastures with facilities available. Wildfires, in eastern Oregon, were causing producer problems while trying to move livestock. Although grazing conditions continued to deteriorate, livestock remained in good condition throughout the State.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 08/27/06

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	42	36	22	0
Subsoil	30	41	29	0

Crop Progress-Week Ending 08/27/06

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	99	98	-	-
Winter wheat harvested	96	90	97	98
Barley harvested	71	71	93	84
Spring wheat harvested	77	70	90	92
Days suitable for fieldwork	7.0	7.0	-	-

Crop Condition-Week Ending 08/27/06

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range and pasture	16	23	32	24	5

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: There are still some clover and sugar beet fields to be harvested. Lots of ground preparation for 2007 crops has begun.

COOS/CURRY: Dry, warm, windy days. Cooler nights with light to moderate dew.

DOUGLAS: Grape maturity moving quickly. Expect to see harvest in mid September. Prune harvest will be a week later than normal with harvest beginning around September 20. Apple and pear harvest should be pretty typical with Bartlett pear harvest starting now and winter pears beginning in about three weeks. Early apples coming off in about one week with most apples coming in mid-September until mid October.

JACKSON: Grain harvest is about over for this year. Still some shallow tilling of fields in preparation for fall plantings. Second cutting grass hay is starting to be cut. Bartlett pear harvest continues, still some peaches being picked as well as some plums. Lots of wild blackberries being picked. Fruit packing houses are getting started. Vineyards are looking good. Corn, beans, squash, cucumbers, tomatoes, and some bellpeppers being harvested. Lots of good vegetables at farmer markets. Greenhouses getting started with fall decorative plants. Nurseries mostly into plant care and preparing for fall. All livestock on good irrigated ground are looking good. Dry ground does not offer much in pasture now. So lots of irrigation to help pastures green. Fruit harvest, some grain and hay, and lots of fresh vegetable harvest and sales. Lots of irrigation being done and some ground preparation for fall. Some weaning of spring calves and sending to back grounding. A week with temperatures at or above normal both days and nights. Nights are getting longer, but still not much dew. About time for some good rain. Not much change in the weather since last week.

JOSEPHINE: Hot days and cool nights are the way we ended up this week. Thank goodness for shorter days. Some wind in evenings. We have smoke in the valley from surrounding fires. Truck gardens are doing well. Lots of tomatoes, corn, squash, green beans, beets, eggplant, peppers, melons. Second cutting of hay done in our area. Native acorns are bountiful but are still small. Rain would be real nice.

MARION: Grains and grass seed harvests are finishing up. Fields being worked for fall planting.

POLK: Soil moisture levels are low, but moderate temperatures and lack of rain are making out for good opportunity for soil preparation and harvest.

WASHINGTON: Combining sugarbeets for seed. Third cutting alfalfa nearly finished. Field corn ears silking. Oats for grain combined and straw baled. Red clover harvest ongoing. Prunes ready, apples being picked, blueberries about finished, wild blackberries abundant. Walnuts sizing, filberts falling steadily. Cherries done, peaches ongoing. Potatoes look good. Tomatoes not maturing as well as expected. Sweet corn growing well too, lots at the farmers markets and roadside stands. Nurseries irrigating, fertilizing, and preparing new beds. Moving and shipping large burlap wrapped trees also kept nurseries busy last week. Feed and water are a must. Calves looking good. High temperature 96 degrees, low 47 degrees, humidity 71 percent high, low 28 percent. State fair showing many commodities and counties have booths but not all counties represented. Cattle, sheep, hogs, and horses are showing well.

YAMHILL: Peach and nectarine harvest continues. Early apple harvest continues.

EASTERN OREGON

CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON: Cool weather has been favorable for establishment of new stands of carrot for seed and Kentucky bluegrass. Vine kill down has begun on Norkotah potato fields.

GILLIAM/WHEELER: Cool nights and hot days have sucked some moisture out of the ground, but there is still moisture 3-4 inches down. We could use a little rain. Harvest is beginning to wind down in the south end of Gilliam County. Russian thistle management is the focus of producers on the north end.

HARNEY: Hay harvest weather has been near perfect, except for a few instances of wind gusts disrupting windrows. Wildfires causing some problems with cattle moves.

HOOD RIVER: Summer pear harvest continued in mid-Hood River Valley orchards and began in the upper valley. Fruit growers in the lower valley prepared for winter pear harvest.

LAKE: No precipitation during the week or weekend. High temperatures remained in the low 90's.

MALHEUR: Harvesting field corn, potatoes, and onions. Still haying. High temperature a little cooler than normal. Generally good harvest weather.

SHERMAN: Wheat harvest is done except for the usual late mover. County fair next week. Numbers of exhibits down in 4H due to decrease in number of kids available in those age groups.

WALLOWA: Still dry and hot, but cooler weather is predicted. Grain producers are harvesting but yields have not been determined yet.

WASCO: High winds prevailed during first half of week. Temperatures were above normal the last half of week. Grain harvest was 99 percent completed by weeks end, mostly spring wheat and spring barley acreage left. Alfalfa haying and watering was active all week. Apple and pears being picked in The Dalles area. A few older cherry orchard blocks being cut down, making way for new varieties to be planted next spring. The irrigation systems will be updated in these orchard blocks. Grapes are starting to color in their maturity cycle. Dry land range and pastures are rapidly being depleted. Stock watering is becoming a premium, as ponds and springs starting to dry up. Livestock, however, continue to be doing well, and no early sales being reported.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: August 27, 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	52	75	61	+0	75	+3	0.05	-0.32	1	76.82	10.67	116	186
Bandon ⁸	50	65	57	-2	52	-6	-	-0.28	-	63.92	5.19	109	143
Crescent City	46	62	55	-5	37	-26	-	-0.28	-	79.08	14.03	122	149
Florence	41	69	56	-5	46	-31	-	-0.35	-	81.78	5.57	107	168
Tillamook	46	83	59	-1	61	-2	0.02	-0.46	1	93.74	5.45	106	186
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	49	95	67	+2	122	+12	-	-0.27	-	49.94	9.06	122	155
Corvallis	46	94	66	+1	116	+6	-	-0.22	-	49.99	7.45	118	160
Detroit Lake ⁸	47	97	69	+8	132	+52	-	-0.35	-	100.93	33.60	150	175
Eugene	46	95	66	-2	115	-4	-	-0.28	-	45.70	-3.47	93	146
Hillsboro	47	97	67	+3	123	+17	-	-0.28	-	43.53	6.12	116	149
McMinnville	47	97	67	+2	120	+9	-	-0.21	-	39.87	-3.17	93	150
Portland	53	94	69	+2	133	+6	-	-0.28	-	40.44	4.34	112	160
Salem	49	91	67	+1	118	+5	-	-0.21	-	48.13	9.11	123	148
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	52	97	73	+3	161	+18	-	-0.14	-	46.69	15.76	151	133
Medford	52	100	75	+4	174	+24	-	-0.14	-	26.40	7.62	141	107
Roseburg	52	98	70	+3	143	+13	-	-0.18	-	46.39	13.78	142	145
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	43	93	67	+4	124	+25	-	-0.19	-	16.45	2.52	118	102
Echo ⁸	47	96	72	+3	157	+14	-	-0.12	-	11.23	2.35	126	104
Heppner	47	94	69	+2	131	+7	-	-0.19	-	17.23	3.44	125	118
Hermiston	46	96	72	+2	154	+11	-	-0.12	-	11.30	2.42	127	84
John Day	46	98	68	+3	127	+13	-	-0.26	-	10.11	-3.09	77	119
Madras ⁸	40	93	66	+1	114	+7	-	-0.14	-	12.94	2.60	125	117
Moro	46	95	68	+3	130	+17	-	-0.14	-	18.59	7.55	168	96
Parkdale ⁸	41	91	64	-2	101	-9	-	-0.16	-	45.26	14.56	147	151
Pendleton	48	95	71	+1	151	+7	-	-0.14	-	14.02	2.08	117	104
The Dalles	51	100	72	+7	155	+47	-	-0.14	-	19.02	6.59	153	99
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	39	89	62	+2	87	+10	-	-0.20	-	19.28	3.16	120	118
Bend	40	91	64	+3	101	+19	-	-0.14	-	20.98	9.36	181	85
Burns	39	92	63	+2	92	+4	-	-0.17	-	16.43	6.55	166	108
Christmas Valley ⁸	34	90	60	-6	73	-37	-	-0.14	-	9.37	-2.93	76	96
Klamath Falls	44	87	64	-3	96	-12	-	-0.14	-	16.46	3.04	123	106
Klamath Falls ⁸	43	88	63	-3	91	-17	-	-0.14	-	15.83	2.41	118	136
Lakeview	36	86	62	-3	83	-13	-	-0.14	-	8.57	-6.97	55	70
Lorella ⁸	35	90	61	-6	75	-33	-	-0.14	-	17.90	4.48	133	124
Redmond	37	94	65	+1	103	+7	-	-0.14	-	12.01	3.51	141	98
Worden ⁸	35	93	60	-6	73	-35	0.01	-0.13	1	13.85	0.43	103	129
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	36	97	64	-2	100	-2	-	-0.24	-	10.58	-0.17	98	111
Joseph	42	88	63	+5	95	+27	-	-0.28	-	20.58	-4.11	83	139
La Grande	41	95	67	-1	121	+0	-	-0.23	-	9.28	-8.04	54	93
Prairie City ⁸	38	94	63	+5	91	+29	-	-0.28	-	15.99	-4.75	77	115
Union	41	97	67	+3	122	+18	-	-0.24	-	13.22	-0.40	97	116
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	50	98	72	+1	157	+5	-	-0.14	-	13.20	3.60	137	97
Rome	40	98	67	-2	117	-8	-	-0.14	-	10.42	2.22	127	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.