

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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**Weather:** Warm and dry weather that started off the week changed to cooler temperatures and rain during this past weekend. High temperatures ranged from 57 degrees in Crescent City, up to 90 degrees in Ontario. Low temperatures ranged from 23 degrees in Christmas Valley, up to 43 degrees in Medford. The precipitation received this past week mainly fell over the weekend, but was still not sufficient for farmer's needs. The largest accumulation was reported at the Astoria/Clatsop station with 0.67 inches, while fifteen out of the forty three stations reported no precipitation at all.

**Field Crops:** Weather conditions this past week were overall favorable for field crop planting, with some precipitation. Fall planted grass seed was headed in Linn and Benton Counties. Red clover seed fields are being cut for hay in Marion County. The effects of a dry fall last year and a dry spring this year have become apparent in grass seed fields in Polk County. Hay growers have started their first cutting of hay throughout various areas of the State. Growers began to cut red clover silage in Yamhill County this past week. Some wheat fields in Gilliam County showed signs of stress. Most grains are looking good, but more moisture is needed. Statewide, winter wheat has progressed to 21 percent headed, ahead of last year but slightly below the five year average.

**Vegetables:** Washington County bush snap beans and sweet corn were up; staggered planting continued. Rhubarb was picked. Producers in Marion County reported that snap beans were up and

growing. Southern Oregon beans, lettuce, radishes, peppers, and early corn were ready.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Yields for Willamette Valley sweet cherries and prunes / plums are expected to be down due to hard frosts and poor pollination weather. Berries continued in bloom. Mid-May Boron applications were applied to hazelnuts. Grapes are slow to develop after a bud burst. Apple thinning was winding up. Cherries in the The Dalles area were small and green. Southern Oregon apples, pears, grapes, and peaches were off to a good start. Fruit sprays were applied to kill weeds, grasses, and some suckers.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Nursery shipping season to the eastern states was starting to slow down somewhat but will continue for at least another month. The weather has been hot enough that irrigation has been started at most nurseries. Retail nurseries and greenhouses were selling lots of plants to home gardeners. Christmas tree growers were spraying for weeds.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Most pastures in western Oregon were in very good condition. Warmer weather and light rain throughout this region of the State have continued to improve forage growth. Rangeland, in eastern Oregon, continued to need rain. Although it is still very early in the season, some areas have already started to turn brown and dry up. Livestock were in good condition throughout the State.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 05/20/07**

	<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	3	22	73	2
Subsoil	6	12	81	1

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 05/20/07**

<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>
Winter wheat headed	21	11	9	25
Barley emerged	89	85	70	74
Spring wheat emerged	97	95	85	90
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.3	6.6	6.6	5.7

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 05/20/07**

<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>
Winter wheat	0	3	16	73	8
Spring wheat	0	0	29	69	2
Barley	0	0	11	86	3
Range and pasture	1	4	31	46	18

## WESTERN OREGON

**CLATSOP:** Grass silage harvest continues.

**COOS/CURRY:** Temperatures were warmer early in the week and cooler by the end of the week, with precipitation on Saturday & Sunday. Precipitation for the week was about 0.15 inches. Pastures are growing and early high moisture haylage in wraps continues to be harvested early this week. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 40.95 degrees, 1.56 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 61.75 degrees, 4.67 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.16 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2002-2004) average of 0.35 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation stands at 53.16 inches, 0.97 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through May is 55.97 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry) Low temperature for the period was 43.11 degrees, 1.11 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 60.82 degrees, 8.36 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.18 inches compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2002-2004) of 0.84 inches. Current weather year precipitation stands at 74.6 inches, 0.22 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through May is 70.81 inches.

**JACKSON:** This was a good week for field crop planting, so most grain crops are now in. Hay crops, both alfalfa and grass, are looking good. Apples, pears, and peaches are off to a good start. Some fruit spraying this week, but mostly to kill weeds and grasses. Some spraying for suckers also. Vineyards are also getting a good start. Vegetable farmers are getting in early corn and other early vegetables such as beans, lettuce, radishes, peppers, and tomato plants. Greenhouses are getting out the garden and vegetable starts, as well as summer flower starts. Nurseries are still quite busy watering potted plants and shipping shrubs to markets. Most all livestock is now on green pastures, and they all look quite good. Pastures are really good now. There seems to be lots of babies of all kinds of livestock with their mothers. A very good week for outside work.

**LINN/BENTON:** The weather continues to be on the mild side for this time of year. We received some light showers, much needed for the spring planted crops. All of the fall planted grass

seed crops have now headed out and pollination is just around the corner.

**MARION:** A few showers this past week, but not enough to stop work in the fields. The weekend brought some needed rain but not enough. Some snap beans are up and growing. Nursery shipping is slowing down a bit but has definitely not stopped. Berries of all kinds are blooming. The soil is drying out so some growers are beginning to irrigate fields where water is available. Tall fescue has headed out and perennial ryegrass is beginning to head. Red clover seed fields are being cut for hay. Meadow foam fields are in bloom.

**POLK:** Small amount of rain last week and crops are still in need of more precipitation. Effects of a dry fall in 2006 and a dry spring are beginning to become apparent in grass seed. Prunes have been significantly impacted by cold weather at the bloom stage.

**WASHINGTON:** First cutting of hay has started. Rhubarb is being picked and corn is being planted. Farmers enjoyed the rain that occurred over the weekend. Red clover hay is in the barn or silo while crimson clover is still in full bloom. Spot spraying in grass for seed. Most varieties of berries are in bloom, and walnuts are finally leafing out. Grapes are slow to develop after a bud burst. Bush beans and sweet corn are up and staggered planting continues for both. Cover is being removed from nursery stock, while digging and balling trees and shrubs continues. Pastures are looking better with the heat and rain. Buffalo calves are looking good. High temperature of 71 degrees with a low of 38 degrees. We received 0.6 inches of rain.

**YAMHILL:** The week started out really warm and ended cool. Overall it was favorable for accumulating degree days for crop maturity. Red clover silage harvest began this week. More grass hay is now down. There have been reports of potential prune and cherry losses, both sweet and tart. Apparently, the late March and early April weather with hard frosts and cool weather during pollination may be the cause. Location seems to be a factor as well. Apple thinning is being finished up. Mid-May Boron applications are being applied on hazelnuts.

## EASTERN OREGON

**GILLIAM:** Wheat in shallow soil areas and at lower elevations is showing signs of stress.

**KLAMATH:** Daytime temperatures continue to be warmer. Night-time temperatures were freezing. Irrigation continues. A couple of hay fields have been dropped.

**LAKE:** We received some precipitation over the weekend in the higher elevations. Planting of spring crops has started in some areas of the county.

**MALHEUR:** Warm weather during the middle of last week brought out the hay swathers. The high temperature was warmer than normal for this time of year. Cooler weather and some rain this last weekend slowed them down. Irrigation season is in full swing. Farming activity is normal for this time of year. The reservoir storage is okay, but usage is above last year because of the dry spring conditions. Those ranches above the irrigation reservoirs are starting to run short on water.

**MORROW:** First cutting of alfalfa is down in the north end of the county.

**SHERMAN:** Early wheat in the north end of the county is heading, especially early varieties of Gene and Supersoft. Weed spraying continues. Wind tower construction is continuing at a rapid pace and is chewing up a lot of healthy crops. Cows are eating grass and drinking water.

**UMATILLA:** Potatoes were largely emerged. First cutting of hay is in the barn. Cereal grains and peas look pretty good with mostly decent stands, but still some spotty areas. As always, we would benefit from more rain. A cool and windy pattern gave way to thunderstorms last night. How widespread was the benefit to crops was still being determined.

**WALLOWA:** Some moisture received over the weekend plus colder temperatures. Most crops are looking good but ponds in some parts of the county are still not full.

**WASCO:** The windy week ended with some rain on Sunday. Cherries in The Dalles area look like little green marbles. Most winter wheat acreage is looking very good. Winter wheat is just starting to head in a few areas. Grass and alfalfa hay cutting was started early in the week. Cattle and sheep are doing well on ranges and pastures, which are starting to turn brown and dry up.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: May 20, 2007 (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	36	69	51	-2	13	-6	0.67	0.02	3	67.42	6.89	111	156
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	41	62	52	-1	15	-2	0.16	-0.46	3	53.93	-1.25	98	144
Crescent City	40	57	52	-3	14	-14	0.04	-0.63	2	56.47	-5.17	92	110
Florence	32	64	50	-4	5	-17	0.57	-0.27	2	81.61	10.95	115	131
North Bend	41	64	52	-2	19	-6	0.26	-0.38	2	58.64	-0.77	99	123
Tillamook	34	68	52	+1	17	+3	0.33	-0.66	2	51.45	-29.15	64	145
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	39	83	59	+4	61	+23	0.31	-0.18	2	39.80	2.79	108	132
Corvallis	38	73	55	+1	40	+6	0.32	-0.10	2	45.23	5.79	115	128
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	38	86	58	+8	59	+45	0.49	-0.27	2	83.35	21.26	134	147
Eugene	34	71	54	-2	32	-10	0.19	-0.30	2	37.80	-7.85	83	115
Hillsboro	38	84	57	+3	51	+14	0.33	-0.02	2	33.43	-0.58	98	125
McMinnville	37	79	57	+2	50	+9	0.28	-0.14	2	34.50	-5.83	86	127
Portland	42	86	60	+3	69	+18	0.15	-0.34	2	32.25	-0.19	99	134
Salem	38	78	57	+3	53	+20	0.21	-0.21	2	38.75	2.91	108	116
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	42	87	62	+4	86	+21	-	-0.28	-	28.52	-0.91	97	90
Medford	43	87	63	+5	93	+35	0.01	-0.20	1	16.79	-0.38	98	88
Roseburg	40	81	59	+3	67	+17	0.17	-0.18	2	29.88	-0.52	98	104
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	30	79	57	+6	51	+32	0.01	-0.23	1	12.20	0.78	107	89
Echo <sup>8</sup>	35	86	62	+3	85	+19	0.04	-0.10	1	7.90	0.23	103	89
Heppler	37	82	59	+4	67	+27	-	-0.35	-	11.61	0.11	101	95
Hermiston	35	87	63	+4	93	+27	-	-0.14	-	7.26	-0.41	95	79
Madras <sup>8</sup>	31	82	56	+2	43	+10	0.05	-0.13	1	5.48	-2.85	66	75
Moro	33	80	56	+3	46	+19	0.01	-0.20	1	10.48	0.99	110	77
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	30	81	54	-2	32	-9	0.20	-0.01	2	33.59	4.62	116	97
Pendleton	37	83	60	+2	71	+14	-	-0.21	-	9.00	-1.17	88	82
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	31	82	56	+2	43	+10	0.05	-0.13	1	5.48	-2.85	66	75
The Dalles	37	88	62	+8	83	+50	0.01	-0.13	1	12.24	1.40	113	72
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	42	80	57	+9	53	+41	0.02	-0.19	1	14.67	0.78	106	93
Bend	32	81	55	+6	39	+24	-	-0.18	-	9.03	-0.41	96	65
Burns	27	82	56	+6	46	+28	0.03	-0.18	1	7.73	0.04	101	76
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	23	81	54	+0	30	+1	0.03	-0.18	1	4.71	-5.19	48	68
Klamath Falls	36	81	56	+4	45	+19	-	-0.21	-	9.00	-2.52	78	71
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	39	80	57	+4	48	+22	-	-0.21	-	10.06	-1.18	90	89
Lakeview	34	80	55	+5	40	+21	-	-0.35	-	3.15	-9.87	24	44
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	27	82	55	+3	39	+13	-	-0.21	-	8.89	-2.63	77	82
Redmond	25	84	54	+4	32	+14	-	-0.14	-	4.10	-2.43	63	49
Worden <sup>8</sup>	31	80	53	+1	25	-1	-	-0.21	-	7.43	-4.09	64	89
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	31	85	56	+4	44	+21	-	-0.28	-	3.96	-3.49	53	72
Joseph	34	80	55	+8	38	+32	-	-0.46	-	11.59	-8.79	57	96
La Grande	36	82	59	+5	62	+30	0.01	-0.34	1	6.63	-7.28	48	64
Union	34	85	60	+8	75	+53	-	-0.35	-	7.93	-2.10	79	80
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	42	90	68	+8	125	+54	0.02	-0.12	1	5.02	-2.97	63	61
Rome	28	89	63	+8	91	+49	-	-0.21	-	2.55	-3.52	42	55

<sup>1</sup> Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2007: 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, 2006.

<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.