

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

**USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office**

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**Weather:** It remained very hot and dry this past week across the State with many high temperatures over 100 degrees. The high temperatures ranged from 105 degrees in Ontario down to 69 degrees in Crescent City. Twenty-two out of the forty-three stations recorded temperatures in the triple digits. Low temperatures ranged from 62 degrees in Ontario down to 33 degrees in Baker City. Precipitation was again very minimal throughout the State. Grants Pass recorded 0.31 inches of precipitation, while twenty-four out of the forty-three stations received no precipitation at all.

**Field Crops:** Active grass seed harvest throughout Oregon. Harvest conditions great, yields were mixed. The yields were generally average or slightly below. Maturity is early with little rust. Red clover was in full bloom. Also active haying. High prices mean mostly any grass that can be cut is cut. However, some areas report various challenges such as the hot and dry weather, and some damage on down hay due to thundershowers. Wheat harvest reported from starting to getting into full swing. Yields looked to be near average. With high temperatures, irrigators were struggling to keep up with field crop needs.

**Vegetables:** Sweet corn has put on substantial growth, and was even reported to have started to tassel in Jackson County and was just about ready to tassel in Washington County. Early varieties of potatoes were blooming in Klamath County. It was reported that carrot seed pollination is going very well in Jefferson County,

even though the temperatures have been a bit high for optimal pollination. Vegetable farmers were keeping busy with plenty of irrigation and a lot of weeding.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Plums and peaches were ripening in Benton, Linn, and Lane counties. Blackberries and blueberries were looking nice and big. Pears were also showing a lot of scab. Tart cherry harvest started this past week in Yamhill County. Cherry harvest was ongoing in the lower and middle Hood River Valley and got underway in Parkdale. Sweet cherry harvest is winding down in The Dalles area and orchard cleanup was underway. Filberts were sizing and filling, and walnuts were developing in Washington County. Some hazelnut growers applied filbert worm control sprays this past week in Yamhill County.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Nurseries kept busy with watering and stock up-keep. There were also still some ongoing sales of balled and burlaped trees and shrubs. Nurseries were hauling potted shrubs to new fields and were busy with irrigation.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Rangeland and pastures continued to dry out across the State. Isolated thunderstorms brought some rain to a few regions but most areas remained very dry. The potential for fire remained high in most rangeland areas. Producers, in some of the driest areas, were already starting to plan for supplemental feeding. Livestock remained in good condition throughout the State.

## Soil Moisture-Week Ending 07/15/07

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	38	43	19	0
Subsoil	32	43	25	0

## Crop Condition-Week Ending 07/15/07

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Winter wheat	0	19	36	39	6
Spring wheat	1	6	43	48	2
Barley	3	8	34	53	2
Corn	0	2	8	56	34
Range and pasture	13	27	40	19	1

## Crop Progress-Week Ending 07/15/07

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	74	55	75	15
Winter wheat harvested	22	4	6	13
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.8

## WESTERN OREGON

**BENTON/LINN/LANE:** Native plums and early peaches are ripening. Pears are showing a lot of scab and June pears are nearly done. Blueberries are producing very nice berries and there have been two more mummyberry fields located. Early picking of raspberries has started. Blackberries are nice and big, but the plants are looking stressed. Currant and goose berries are nearly done. The hot weather continues to affect some plants. Grass seed harvest is in full swing. Yields are generally normal or slightly less, depending on the variety. Freeze/thaw last winter and two months of little spring rain in the valley have hurt the crops. Very little rust this year. Grass seed prices are good, but inputs are also high. Growers seem to be upbeat. Hot and dry weather conditions over the last month have brought crops on to maturity nearly two weeks early. Grass seed harvest is nearing 50 percent complete. Other crops such as oil crops and row crops appear to be approximately two weeks ahead of schedule for expected harvest also. Marcola valley grass hay was better than last year's due to late rains and additional growing time.

**CLACKAMAS:** It is getting even drier due to the very hot weather. It was over 100 degrees on Tuesday. Thunder and lightning on Thursday with some scattered rain showers. Grass seed harvest is speeding up.

**CLATSOP:** It continues to be very warm and dry and we definitely need some rain.

**COOS/CURRY:** Pasture drying continues with clear, warm, and windy days. Only a slight amount of unseasonable rain this week was too little too late for most pastures. Some traces of precipitation mid week and on Sunday. Haying continued throughout the week. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 51.07 degrees, 1.74 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 72.2 degrees, 2.06 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.09 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2002-2004) average of 0.02 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation stands at 54.44 inches, 0.19 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through July is 57.92 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry) Low temperature for the period was 45.15 degrees, 0.51 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 69.34 degrees, 4.05 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.07 inches compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2002-2004) of 0.07 inches. Current weather year precipitation stands at 77.57 inches, 1.34 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through July is 70.49 inches.

**JACKSON:** There is still a good bit of haying consisting of mostly grass hay but also some alfalfa. With fears of high prices

on hay, mostly any grass that can be cut and bailed is being done. Pears are starting to size up. The warm weather is pushing almost all crops with a lot of good growth. Blueberries, strawberries, cherries, and now some early fresh vegetables are being harvested. Early squash, onions (summer), and lots of corn is starting to tassel-out, so fresh corn won't be far away now. Greenhouses are still in summer maintenance time. Nurseries are very busy with watering and stock up-keep. There are still some sales of balled and burlaped trees and shrubs. Most livestock are now on irrigated land and are looking quite good. There seems to be a lot of young foals this year. Haying and keeping up with the irrigation seems to be most of the ranch work this week. Fruit and vegetable farmers are doing a lot of irrigation and a lot of weeding. We had three days of late afternoon thunderstorms. Some areas got almost an inch of rain, but we also had some very strong winds, and some areas got some small hail. The winds did do some damage, mostly to trees.

**JOSEPHINE:** The weather has been very hot and dry. Extreme thunderstorms have moved through our area the first of the week, with over 3,000 lightning strikes in our area. Very few fires though, as they were quickly contained. Irrigation is going strong. The storm dumped a lot of rain in our direct area, and that helped to ease our fears somewhat, but it was spotty and not every area got the same amount of precipitation.

**MARION:** Hotter weather stressed and hastened grass seed as it matured, but provided good conditions for harvest. Combining of grass seed is well under way. Red clover is in full bloom.

**WASHINGTON:** Winter wheat is looking really good and hopefully 103 degrees and two 100 degree days will not hurt it too much. Field corn is almost pick-up cab high and bees are in hives in red clover for seed. Filberts are sizing and filling, and walnuts are developing. Blueberries and blackberries are plentiful at markets and are headed to processors. Sweet corn in selected fields is just about ready to tassel. There has been good growth in late planted fields. Irrigation is ongoing and beans are developing rapidly. Nurseries are hauling potted shrubs to new fields and irrigation is ongoing. Pastures are drying out and livestock will need supplemental feeding soon. High temperature of 103 degrees with a low of 52 degrees. High humidity of 60 percent with a low of 38 percent.

**YAMHILL:** Combines got into grass seed fields this week. Tart cherry harvest also started this week. The crop size will be greatly reduced from the normal size due to spring freezing weather and poor weather during the pollination period. Some hazelnut growers applied filbert worm control sprays this week.

## EASTERN OREGON

**BAKER:** Grass seed combining is in full swing. Yields and quality are mixed. Second cutting of alfalfa is well under way. Some dryland fields will not produce a second crop. It has been extremely hot and dry. Crops are showing signs of stress. A few thunder showers were seen throughout the County. Some areas received some much needed rain. Other areas received lightning that caused a sizable fire in the southern part of the County. Some hay was affected by the rain that fell over the weekend. Wheat fields are beginning to be harvested.

**CROOK:** Second cutting of alfalfa is beginning across the County. Spring wheat is starting to turn color. It was another hot week in the low to high 90's every day. It was hard for some to keep up irrigation needs. The hot weather is holding irrigated grass growth back, whether for pasture or for hay. If the irrigated alfalfa had enough water, it grew very rapidly this cutting.

**HOOD RIVER:** A thunderstorm early on Friday brought rain to the Hood River Valley. Otherwise, dry and warm to hot weather prevailed during the week. Cherry harvest was ongoing in the lower and middle valley and got underway in Parkdale. Calm conditions provided opportunities for applying summer orchard cover sprays. Summer orchard operations continued throughout the Valley.

**JEFFERSON:** None of the thunderstorms predicted in the weather forecast have developed here. As a result, Kentucky bluegrass seed harvest is going very well. Carrot seed pollination is also going very well, although temperatures have been a bit high for optimal pollination.

**KLAMATH:** Temperatures were in the low 90's during the early part of the week. Thunderstorms on Tuesday evening brought more rain. Damage from last week's storm brought reports of mold in stored hay. There have also been reports of expected quality loss to second cutting hay that was down during the storms. Lower yields for first and second cutting hay are still being reported. Early varieties of potatoes are blooming. Early varieties of grain crops have full heads.

**LAKE:** Dry conditions along with lightening have sparked several fires in the area. Pasture and range conditions are

worsening due to dry weather. Grass hay is being harvested and some producers are reporting yields at 50-65% of normal.

**MALHEUR:** Hot weather continues with high temperatures around 100 degrees. Winter wheat harvest has started on early fields. Range conditions continue to deteriorate with no relief in sight. All irrigated crops are looking good. Some decrease in corn growth is apparent, because irrigation water cannot keep up with the heat.

**MORROW:** Dryland wheat harvest is in full swing now. Yields are at or slightly below average with test weights off a pound or two due to hot spells earlier in the year.

**SHERMAN:** Wheat harvest has started in the north end of the County. Barley test weights are reported to be light, but wheat yields look to be above average.

**UNION:** Continued to be very hot and dry. Grass seed harvest is underway. Surface water supplies are limited and restricted in some areas. Dryland and irrigated crops have been negatively impacted by lack of spring rains and untimely frost and heat events. Early indications are that grass seed and first cutting alfalfa yields are down.

**WALLOWA:** Conditions remained pretty much the same as last week with no moisture and hot temperatures. Dryland crops are taking the brunt of these weather conditions. Hay production is down but it's too early to tell about grain production. Range conditions are very dry.

**WASCO:** Hot dry weather continued all week. Wheat harvest picked up this week in the north end of the County. Approximately ten percent of wheat harvest was completed by week's end. Second cutting of alfalfa hay and irrigation were active through the week. Sweet Cherry harvest is winding down in The Dalles area and orchard cleanup was underway. Dufur Valley harvest is under way and irrigation sprinklers were noted in many fruit orchards. Apricots were being picked all week. Grapes are starting to gain size on the vines. Livestock are doing well, but dryland pastures are starting to show signs of stress.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: July 15, 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	52	92	64	+6	102	+0	0.27	0.00	2	70.36	5.77	109	183
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	51	72	62	+4	85	+0	0.09	0.02	2	55.21	-2.54	96	158
Crescent City	50	69	59	+2	63	+0	0.01	-0.06	1	57.92	-6.15	90	121
Florence	47	74	61	+2	76	+0	0.22	0.02	2	84.66	9.89	113	144
North Bend	52	72	60	+2	73	+0	0.04	-0.05	2	59.69	-2.47	96	137
Tillamook	52	100	66	+9	116	+0	0.01	-0.37	1	53.69	-32.50	62	163
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	57	103	76	+10	179	+14	0.01	-0.13	1	40.60	0.80	102	140
Corvallis	54	100	72	+7	158	+14	-	-0.13	-	45.98	4.37	111	138
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	53	102	75	+13	178	+7	-	-0.21	-	86.63	20.75	131	159
Eugene	52	101	71	+5	150	+21	-	-0.11	-	38.21	-9.86	79	123
Hillsboro	56	100	74	+9	170	+14	-	-0.12	-	34.48	-1.79	95	136
McMinnville	54	102	73	+9	165	+14	-	-0.14	-	35.68	-6.59	84	139
Portland	59	102	76	+8	180	+26	0.10	-0.04	1	33.66	-1.26	96	149
Salem	56	103	75	+9	174	+16	-	-0.14	-	39.56	1.38	104	126
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	55	104	78	+7	199	+48	0.31	0.28	2	29.64	-0.78	97	98
Medford	60	104	79	+7	207	+55	0.10	0.03	2	17.09	-1.14	94	95
Roseburg	57	101	75	+7	174	+28	0.06	-0.01	1	30.30	-1.61	95	112
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	47	97	75	+10	175	+19	-	-0.09	-	14.11	0.96	107	99
Echo <sup>8</sup>	55	101	81	+9	218	+55	-	-0.04	-	8.98	0.52	106	95
Heppler	54	99	77	+9	191	+32	-	-0.07	-	14.08	1.02	108	103
Hermiston	57	103	81	+9	217	+55	-	-0.04	-	8.36	-0.10	99	84
Madras <sup>8</sup>	50	97	76	+10	182	+21	0.16	0.05	2	6.81	-2.90	70	81
Moro	49	100	77	+10	188	+25	-	-0.07	-	11.26	0.74	107	83
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	48	97	74	+8	167	+21	-	-0.07	-	33.97	3.84	113	106
Pendleton	58	100	79	+7	207	+55	-	-0.07	-	9.97	-1.36	88	89
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	50	97	76	+10	182	+21	0.16	0.05	2	6.81	-2.90	70	81
The Dalles	57	103	81	+15	216	+21	-	-0.07	-	12.43	0.54	105	76
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	47	94	70	+7	141	+14	0.06	-0.01	1	14.95	-0.34	98	98
Bend	51	94	74	+12	172	+11	-	-0.13	-	10.20	-0.72	93	69
Burns	48	98	75	+10	178	+21	-	-0.07	-	8.53	-0.58	94	79
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	48	95	71	+4	151	+30	-	-0.13	-	5.72	-5.87	49	75
Klamath Falls	46	93	70	+3	141	+28	0.02	-0.05	1	9.52	-3.19	75	75
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	46	93	71	+4	149	+28	0.17	0.10	4	10.69	-1.74	86	100
Lakeview	41	99	72	+6	153	+22	-	-0.07	-	3.70	-11.22	25	48
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	46	96	69	+2	136	+28	-	-0.07	-	9.71	-3.00	76	87
Redmond	45	100	75	+10	173	+21	-	-0.10	-	4.50	-3.33	57	51
Worden <sup>8</sup>	41	92	67	-1	121	+28	0.05	-0.02	2	7.88	-4.83	62	95
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	33	94	70	+4	142	+21	0.01	-0.13	1	5.34	-4.35	55	81
Joseph	55	92	73	+14	162	+0	-	-0.19	-	13.53	-9.85	58	106
La Grande	48	100	77	+8	188	+33	0.06	-0.08	2	7.32	-8.94	45	72
Union	49	100	76	+11	188	+20	-	-0.14	-	9.70	-2.89	77	89
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	62	105	84	+9	242	+81	-	-0.06	-	5.84	-3.34	64	65
Rome	52	102	81	+9	216	+49	-	-0.07	-	3.23	-4.40	42	59

<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.