

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

**USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office**

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**Weather:** Temperatures decreased throughout most of the State and conditions in many areas became drier as the week progressed. High temperatures ranged from 96 degrees in Rome and Medford, down to 69 degrees in Crescent City. Low temperatures ranged from 58 degrees at the Bandon weather station, down to 36 degrees in Worden and Baker City. Precipitation was minimal in many areas and nine out of the forty-three stations received no precipitation at all. Detroit Lake received the most with 0.88 total inches followed by Florence which received 0.69 inches. North central Oregon had enough rain to slow some remaining harvest and increase fall planting prospects. Rain was variable there and in northeast Oregon. Most areas in the south central and eastern portions of the State recorded only a few hundredths-of-an-inch. Baker, Harney, Malheur, Union, and Wallow counties have requested federal and state drought relief.

**Field Crops:** Some moisture increased prospects for fall planting of dry land small grains. The same moisture and cool mornings somewhat delayed the harvest of remaining spring planted grains. Most Willamette Valley grass seed harvest was complete. Red clover was being swathed and preparation work for fall planting was underway. Hay harvest varied across the State from still some second cutting grass to be done, to third and fourth cutting and even consideration of a fifth cutting of alfalfa in some central Oregon fields. Mint harvest was mostly complete and fields were being burned. Hop harvest was well under way. Malheur County dry bean harvest began, potato and wheat harvest was about complete, and sugarbeet fields were starting to show signs of stress. So far it has been a fair crop year there.

**Vegetables:** Plenty of good fresh vegetables were available at U-picks, road side stands, farmer's markets, and regular fresh market vegetable outlets throughout the State. Truck gardens had melons, tomatoes, corn, squash, green beans, and cucumbers for sale. Snap bean harvest in

Marion County was winding down and sweet corn harvest had just started. Onion harvest was just beginning in Malheur and Umatilla counties.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Summer apple and pear harvest continued throughout the Willamette Valley. Berry harvest was nearly finished. Grapes continued to size nicely despite powdery mildew. Walnuts and hazelnuts were looking good. Summer pear harvest continued in mid-Hood River Valley orchards and began in the upper Valley. Harvest operations were temporarily disrupted by rain early in the week. Fruit growers in the lower Valley prepared for winter pear harvest. Apples and pears were picked in The Dalles area. Grapes continued to show color. Southern Oregon packinghouses were busy with Bartlett pears and Gravenstein apples. Peaches, plums, and berries could still be found at local markets. Early grape harvest began in Josephine County.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Nurseries remained busy this past week with feeding, watering, and weeding newly planted stock. There were also still some sales of potted and balled stock, and large trees continued to be shipped from local nurseries. Greenhouses were getting ready for fall plants.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Pastures and rangeland in eastern Oregon remained very dry. Although precipitation was received in some areas it did little to improve conditions. Rangeland grasses remained dormant providing little or no forage value. Producers in these areas continued supplemental feeding. The drought has also dried up ponds and springs forcing producers to find alternative watering sources. Livestock remained in good condition despite dwindling pasture conditions.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 08/26/07**

	<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	40	48	12	0
Subsoil	41	44	15	0

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 08/26/07**

<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>
Alfalfa hay, third cutting	46	29	-	-
Winter wheat harvested	97	94	95	97
Barley harvested	90	87	71	82
Spring wheat harvested	88	79	76	87
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.2	6.6	7.0	6.6

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 08/26/07**

<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>
Range and pasture	23	34	35	8	0

## WESTERN OREGON

**BENTON/LINN/LANE:** Most grass seed and grain crop harvesting has been completed. Fields are being plowed and burned for next year. With the exception of a few clover and mint fields in Linn County, most mint harvest is completed and fields are being burned. The plum crop is getting off to an early start this year and peaches continue to develop nicely with a moderate crop. Apple harvesting continues while cherries are completely done. The average pear crop is still showing a lot of scab and is being harvested. Blueberries are nearing completion. Blackberries are being harvested and it appears to be a short season. Despite the buildup of powdery mildew, grapes are sizing nicely. The bean crops were harvested early and the second planting is now blooming. Vegetables are in full production and are now available. Pumpkins are turning color early this year. Some peppers are delayed in ripening. Weather conditions are more similar to September weather with warm days and cool to cold nights. Above average rain (1.5 inches) for August and temperatures dropped to 47 degrees last week. Conditions are good for tree fruits, but bad for warm season tomatoes, cucumbers, and melons.

**COOS/CURRY:** Almost half-an-inch of rain was received early this week that slightly extended the grazing season. If it weren't for the cool, rainy weather causing a slow start to spring grass growth, this might have been one of the best grazing seasons ever recorded in Curry County. Low temperatures were slightly above the 5-year average this week in Curry County and over 9 degrees above the 5-year average in Coos. Highs were about 5 degrees above the 5-year average in both Coos and Curry. Some traces of precipitation through the week in both Coos and Curry and breezy conditions persisted. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 57.57 degrees, 9.2 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 71.7 degrees, 4.22 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.05 inches, over 2 days, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2002-2004) average of 0.16 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation stands at 57.42 inches, 2.99 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through August is 58.74 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 52.01 degrees, 1.82 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 79.8 degrees, 4.22 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.1 inches, over 4 days, compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2002-2004) of 0.51 inches. Current weather year precipitation stands at 79.31 inches, 0.29 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through August is 71.53 inches.

**DOUGLAS:** Recent warmer weather has helped grapes and orchards to catch up so that now they are only about a week behind normal.

**JACKSON:** There is still some second cutting and baling of grass hay occurring. Some grain is being harvested and fields are being disked in preparation for the fall. Apples and pears are being harvested with most of those being Bartlett pears and Gravenstien apples. There are still a lot

of peaches, plums, and blackberries available. Plenty of good fresh vegetables are also available at U-pick's, road side stands, farmer's markets, and regular fresh market vegetable outlets. Nurseries are busy with feeding, watering, and weeding on newly planted stock. There are still some sales of potted and balled stock and greenhouses are getting ready for the fall plants. Most all irrigated pasture livestock are looking good but animals that are not on green pastures are receiving supplemental feed. This has been a more normal week with high temperatures around 90 degrees and night time temperatures a bit cool in the mid 50's. The cooler nights are helping with slightly more night-time dew. We did have several days with some clouds blocking the sun, so irrigation has a better chance to wet the soil. Haying, irrigating, ground preparation, and vegetable and fruit harvesting were all occurring this week. Fruit packing houses are now very busy and, overall, it was not too bad of a week.

**JOSEPHINE:** Grape harvesting has begun. Cooler night time temperatures brought the sugar up. Truck gardens have melons, tomatoes, corn, squash, green beans, and cucumbers available. Day time temperatures were in the 90's while night time temperatures dropped between 50 and 60 degrees. Conditions were very humid early in the week which made working conditions difficult. The second cutting of lower elevation hay fields has begun and it appears to be a good year for hay in Josephine County as the season is long.

**MARION:** Grass seed harvest has been completed. Snap beans are winding down and sweet corn harvest is beginning. Cooler than normal temperatures have been good for harvest as most grass seed and grain crops are now harvested. Hops harvest is well under way and specialty crops are being harvested as they become ready. Earlier varieties of pears are ripening, as are the early apples. No major problems with crops, harvest, or weather are being reported.

**WASHINGTON:** Winter wheat is done with some excellent yields, but there is still some barley and spring wheat to be harvested. Corn has tasseled and ears are silking. Red clover is ready for swathing. Grass for seed is complete and has been baled off the fields. Peaches, pears, prunes, and some varieties of apples are ripe. Walnuts and filberts are looking good. Potatoes are ready for early digging, and tomatoes and sweet corn are abundant at roadside stands. Squash and cucumbers are doing well. Large trees are being shipped from nurseries. Irrigation continues as soils were being prepared for the fall plantings. Despite scarce pasture, livestock were looking good. The high temperature reached 85 degrees and the low dropped to 40 degrees. Conditions were humid as the humidity ranged from 42 to 72 percent.

**YAMHILL:** Red clover is being swathed and preparation work for fall planting is under way.

## EASTERN OREGON

**BAKER:** Extremely dry temperatures continued supporting the drought declaration request from Baker County. The total precipitation received during the past ten months at the Baker City Airport is the least amount on record since the 1944 drought year. The 5.74 total inches of precipitation this year is .2 inches less than the previous low recorded in 1977, and is over three inches less than the 8.89 in. average since 1944.

**CROOK:** The third to fourth cutting of hay is now re-growing. There are a few alfalfa fields where the producer thinks they will get 5 cuttings. Light rains early in the week put a halt to harvesting hay, cereal grain, and grass seed for a few days.

**GILLIAM:** Rain showers at higher elevations last week and cool mornings are slowing harvest of the remaining acres.

**HARNEY:** Cooler temperatures occurred throughout the County during the week with high temperatures in the lower to mid 80's. A record amount of precipitation (0.40") was received in Burns on Sunday. However, subsequent windy conditions and relatively warm temperatures reduced the amount of rainfall infiltrating soils and negated any green-up of cool season range grasses. The moisture temporarily improved palatability of residual range forage, but nutritional quality continued to decline as conditions dried and grasses remained dormant. The rainfall temporarily delayed third cutting haying operations in some areas.

**HOOD RIVER:** The summer pear harvest continued in mid-Hood River Valley orchards and began in the upper valley. Harvest operations were temporarily disrupted by rain early in the week. Fruit growers in the lower valley prepared for winter pear harvest.

**KLAMATH:** Grain harvest continues and the third cutting of hay is still being dropped.

**LAKE:** Temperatures remained cooler during the week and afternoon temperatures were warmer over the weekend.

**MALHEUR:** Cooler night time temperatures have slowed corn maturity some. Wheat harvest is essentially completed. Onion harvest has started.

Dry bean harvest has also begun. In most areas the third cutting of alfalfa is in the windrow. Sugarbeet fields are beginning to show signs of stress. Potato harvest is about completed. Winter wheat harvest is mostly done. Yields are about average. All things considered, it has been a fair crop year to date.

**MORROW:** Scattered rain showers last week slowed some field work including the remaining grain harvest. Winter wheat seeding should begin next week.

**SHERMAN:** Rains during the first part of week put a hold on remaining grain harvest for rest of week. Cooler night time temperatures made it hard to dry out. Rain was welcomed but varied from .25 to .6 inches. Summer fallow moisture is lacking. Three consecutive days of some rain helped planting conditions for winter wheat but slowed harvest of some remaining spring grains.

**UMATILLA:** Spring planted onion harvest just getting started. Potato yields look average to above average. Irrigation water is holding up fine.

**UNION:** Low pressure system brought some much needed precipitation at the beginning of the week but amounts were variable.

**WALLOWA:** There was good moisture on Sunday and Monday and cooler temperatures throughout the week. Grain harvest is proceeding.

**WASCO:** Grain harvest is completed in all areas. Alfalfa haying and irrigation were active all week. Apples and pears are being picked in The Dalles area. A large new cherry orchard is being planted this summer on wheat acreage, near Dufur. There are a number of orchards starting to show up in the Wamic area. Grapes are coloring in their maturity cycle. Dry land range and pastures are rapidly being depleted. Stock watering is becoming a premium, as ponds and springs continue 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 26, 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	53	71	64	+4	96	+23	0.24	-0.12	4	73.72	7.63	112	203
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	58	72	65	+7	107	+48	0.05	-0.23	2	58.19	-0.50	99	169
Crescent City	46	69	59	-1	62	-1	0.01	-0.26	1	59.06	-5.95	91	128
Florence	44	74	60	-1	73	-4	0.69	0.34	2	87.45	11.29	115	155
North Bend	52	72	62	+3	88	+18	0.02	-0.26	2	62.34	-0.76	99	146
Tillamook	50	73	63	+5	92	+29	0.55	0.09	2	55.71	-32.50	63	178
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	53	86	67	+2	124	+13	0.28	0.02	2	41.88	1.04	103	148
Corvallis	50	86	66	+1	115	+4	0.17	-0.04	1	47.36	4.86	111	147
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	52	89	67	+6	119	+38	0.88	0.53	1	88.66	21.38	132	166
Eugene	48	87	67	+0	123	+4	0.11	-0.17	1	39.28	-9.85	80	129
Hillsboro	49	86	66	+1	111	+4	0.20	-0.08	1	35.41	-1.96	95	145
McMinnville	50	88	67	+2	122	+10	0.29	0.08	2	36.70	-6.31	85	147
Portland	55	83	68	+0	125	-3	0.13	-0.15	1	34.55	-1.51	96	156
Salem	51	85	67	+2	123	+9	0.26	0.05	1	40.62	1.63	104	131
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	53	92	72	+2	153	+9	0.11	-0.03	1	30.30	-0.61	98	102
Medford	54	96	73	+3	165	+14	-	-0.14	-	17.84	-0.92	95	98
Roseburg	54	90	70	+2	141	+10	-	-0.17	-	31.68	-0.90	97	115
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	47	87	63	-2	91	-10	0.28	0.10	2	14.47	0.57	104	102
Echo <sup>8</sup>	50	91	69	-3	133	-11	0.05	-0.06	2	9.07	0.21	102	98
Heppner	47	89	64	-4	102	-24	0.28	0.10	2	14.42	0.66	105	107
Hermiston	49	93	69	-2	136	-8	0.04	-0.07	1	8.46	-0.40	95	87
Madras <sup>8</sup>	46	89	64	-3	98	-10	0.06	-0.08	3	7.45	-2.87	72	87
Moro	50	91	65	-2	106	-9	0.22	0.08	2	11.72	0.70	106	87
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	45	85	62	-5	83	-28	0.40	0.25	1	35.38	4.71	115	109
Pendleton	50	91	67	-4	123	-22	0.08	-0.06	1	10.53	-1.39	88	93
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	46	89	64	-3	98	-10	0.06	-0.08	3	7.45	-2.87	72	87
The Dalles	56	93	70	+5	143	+34	0.26	0.12	1	12.87	0.46	104	79
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	38	91	62	+2	86	+7	-	-0.21	-	15.95	-0.15	99	101
Bend	41	87	61	-2	75	-9	-	-0.14	-	10.82	-0.78	93	71
Burns	41	91	64	+2	96	+6	0.03	-0.15	1	8.99	-0.87	91	83
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	38	87	62	-5	84	-28	-	-0.14	-	6.38	-5.90	52	78
Klamath Falls	44	90	65	-1	107	-2	-	-0.14	-	9.91	-3.49	74	78
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	44	88	65	-1	108	-1	-	-0.14	-	11.33	-1.79	86	108
Lakeview	37	90	66	+3	117	+19	-	-0.14	-	3.75	-11.77	24	49
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	38	87	63	-3	93	-16	0.01	-0.13	1	10.19	-3.21	76	90
Redmond	39	91	62	-2	87	-11	-	-0.14	-	4.71	-3.77	56	53
Worden <sup>8</sup>	36	87	62	-5	84	-25	0.01	-0.13	1	8.18	-5.22	61	99
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	36	88	60	-6	70	-34	0.06	-0.18	1	5.83	-4.89	54	89
Joseph	44	78	59	-1	64	-5	0.33	0.05	2	13.91	-10.74	56	111
La Grande	45	88	64	-5	97	-26	0.21	-0.01	2	8.22	-9.06	48	78
Union	46	87	63	-3	92	-14	0.53	0.30	2	10.51	-3.07	77	94
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	48	94	70	-3	140	-14	0.07	-0.07	2	6.00	-3.58	63	68
Rome	42	96	68	+0	127	+0	0.01	-0.13	1	3.26	-4.92	40	62

<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.