

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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**Weather:** Temperatures increased throughout the State and, with the exception of a few scattered thunderstorms in some areas, conditions were generally dry. High temperatures ranged from 103 degrees in Medford, down to 73 degrees in North Bend. Low temperatures ranged from 54 degrees in Portland, down to 33 degrees in Christmas Valley and Baker City. Precipitation was minimal in most areas and twenty-one out of the forty-three stations received no precipitation at all. Redmond received the most with 0.69 total inches followed by Christmas Valley, which received 0.36 total inches. South central Oregon had enough concentrated rain to do some damage to vegetable crops and delay the carrot harvest. Rain was variable there as well as in northeast and north central Oregon. Most areas that received precipitation recorded only a few hundredths-of-an-inch. However, small fires sparked by lightening storms were reported in Josephine, Lake, and Malheur counties.

**Field Crops:** Producers were preparing fields for fall planting. Small grain harvest was mostly done in north central Oregon with slightly better than average winter crop yields and slightly lower for spring planted crops. So far moisture conditions for this fall's planting appeared adequate. Willamette Valley grass seed harvest was done and farmers were working fields for next year. Red Clover was swathed. Field corn looking good. Some Willamette Valley wheat quality challenged by harvest time rains. Some down hay damaged by spotty thunderstorms in central Oregon.

**Vegetables:** Plenty of green beans, cucumbers, eggplants, tomatoes, sweet corn, summer squash, and melons were for sale throughout the State. People that like to can or freeze vegetables

were keeping very busy. Rainy weather in Jefferson County interfered with the carrot seed harvest, causing the swathing to be delayed slightly so that things can dry out. The new crop of carrots were reported to be looking good. Sweet corn processors in Washington County were running at full speed as sweet corn harvest was nearing its peak. Thunderstorms reported in Deschutes County damaged some carrot, garlic, and onion crops.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Summer fruit harvest continued throughout the Willamette Valley and southern Oregon. Fruits available include Bartlett pears, early apples, peaches, plums, and a few late berries. Grapes continued to size nicely despite powdery mildew. Final preparations were underway for this year's hazelnut harvest.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Nurseries remained busy with caring for new plantings as well as current stock on hand. They continued to sell some potted and balled trees and shrubs, while also shipping shrubs out of the State. Greenhouses were about done for the summer season and were getting ready for their fall plants.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Spotted thunderstorms brought rain to some areas along with several small grass fires that were quickly contained. The moisture helped improve some pastures. Most areas continued to need a considerable amount of additional precipitation to improve conditions. Livestock remained in good condition as supplemental feeding continued across many areas of the State.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 09/02/07**

	<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	48	33	19	0
Subsoil	44	35	21	0

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 09/02/07**

<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	69	46	39	8
Barley harvested	95	90	87	90
Spring wheat harvested	97	88	87	93
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.5	6.2	7.0	6.6

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 09/02/07**

<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	31	32	27	10	0

## WESTERN OREGON

**BENTON/LINN/LANE:** The hot and cold weather continue to cause minor problems in the fruit industry. Temperatures dropped to 48 degrees last week. The early plum crop is dropping but fruits are not quite ripe. Rain caused about a 30 to 45 percent drop in the peach crop. Reports indicate that the peach and apple crops are about 12 days early now. Apples are being harvested and cherries are done. Many prunes are also falling prematurely. Some pears are also dropping prematurely. It's a short season for blackberries and they are being harvested. Grapes continue to size nicely despite the buildup of powdery mildew. Vegetables are in full production and many greenhouses are done for the season. Grass seed is done and fields are being plowed and burned for 2008. Mint harvest is done and most mint fields have been burned. In Linn County, all but a few clover fields have now been harvested. Farmers are busy working their fields and planting next year's crop. Pastures and the foothills surrounding the valley have been dry for the past month.

**CLACKAMAS:** The recent heavy rains are starting to show some benefit in grass re-growth. Most grass seed harvest has concluded. Red Clover seed is ready for combining. Gravenstein apples are falling, prunes are coloring, and some filberts falling. Green beans, sweet corn and tomatoes are abundant and life is good.

**COOS/CURRY:** Low temperatures were slightly above the 5-year average this week in both Coos and Curry counties. High temperatures were about 4 degrees above the 5-year average in Coos and about 2 degrees below the 5-year average in Curry. There were some traces of precipitation through the week in both Coos and Curry and breezy conditions persisted. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 49.38 degrees, 1.42 degrees above the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 73.8 degrees, 4.33 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.0 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2002-2004) average of 0.01 inches. Precipitation for the 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): The low temperature for the period was 52.24 degrees, 3.46 degrees above the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 82.7 degrees, 2.58 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.3 inches, over 2 days, compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2002-2004) of 0.53 inches. The current weather year precipitation stands at 79.34 inches, 0.28 inches below the 5 year average. The historical average precipitation through August is 71.53 inches. The Warm, sunny, and windy days have contributed to drying pasture last week.

**JACKSON:** Some more grains are being harvested. Hay is being done and prices are up from last year even though there appears to be more of it available. The ground is being disked in preparation for the fall. The pear harvest is well under way including Bartlets

and some specialty varieties. Reports indicate a good year for the pear harvest. There are still some peaches, plumbs, and wild blackberries being picked. Plenty of vegetables are now ready with a lot of u-pick signs visible. It is a good time for people who like to can or freeze them. Nurseries are still busy with caring for new plantings, as well as stock on hand. They are still selling some potted as well as balled trees and shrubs. Most livestock are looking good with a lot of irrigating to sustain forage growth. We have had several showers in the past two weeks so that helps too. Jackson County doesn't have a livestock auction anymore, so stock must be transported to Klamath, Roseburg, or California for sale. Day time temperatures are still a bit hot, in the mid 90's, but night time temperatures cool down quite a bit, low 50's, with some dew forming. Overall, there is plenty of work on farms and ranches.

**JOSEPHINE:** Conditions were hot and dry last week. There were drying winds with thunderstorm activity in the mountains to the east. Josephine County had some lightening strikes along with some fires in areas. The harvesting of late summer crops is now in full swing. Product is good including green beans, cucumbers, eggplant, tomatoes, corn, summer squash, and melons of all types. Some table grapes are developing but not enough frost yet to develop sugars, as well as for apples. We have had a phenomenal year for blueberries and still have product available with very good quality. It's becoming a good crop locally with several growers. The second cutting of hay is in and some growers will have a third cutting this year with good yields on all cuttings, which is unusual for this area.

**MULTNOMAH:** Spring wheat continues to be harvested.

**WASHINGTON:** Sweet corn and red table beets are in full harvest. Corn silage is nearing harvest and all fall and spring grain has been harvested. Producers are preparing fields for fall planting. Grains were planted late on low ground and have not yet ripened. Red clovers have been swathed. Winter wheat has been harvested and prices are excellent but quality is compromised by amount of rain received near harvest. Alfalfa is being cut for third time. Field corn is looking good and sweet corn is nearing its peak with processors running full speed. Squash, beans, potatoes, tomatoes, and many other vegetables are available at markets and nurseries. Shrub hauling and planting continues with a lot of irrigation. Livestock are generally looking good with supplemental feeding, but a good rain is still needed. The high temperature was 93 degrees and the low was 46 degrees. Humidity ranged from 30 percent for the low to 79 percent for the high.

**YAMHILL:** The prune harvest has been completed. The final preparations before harvest are being done in hazelnut orchards and early variety apple harvest continues.

## EASTERN OREGON

**BAKER:** Conditions were dry and hot last week.

**DESCHUTES:** Thunderstorms dropped as much as 1" of rain in 15 minutes. Some damage occurred to the carrot, garlic, and onion crops, as well as hay that was down.

**JEFFERSON:** Rainy weather is interfering with the carrot seed harvest. Carrot swathing is being delayed slightly so that things can dry out. The new crop of carrots is up and is looking good.

**LAKE:** Thunder and lightening storms sparked some small fires in the area. Luckily, the storms brought moisture with them which prevented the fires from getting very big. Morning and evening temperatures remained cool.

**MALHEUR:** The onion harvest is progressing slowly mostly due to low prices. Shepody harvest is still underway and preliminary yields look good despite the hot weather. Burbank and Ranger harvest should start around the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month. Weather temperatures were normal for the first part of week but were above normal by the end of the week. Some irrigation water

resources are out of water and no rain was received. Lightening caused forest fires and grass fires in the foothills and the mountains.

**SHERMAN:** Harvest has been completed. Winter small grains yields are a little higher than normal and spring yields are a little lower. The past few weeks have brought some rain, which could mean favorable fall planting prospects. The moisture has also helped the cheat grass.

**UMATILLA:** Conditions were dry and hot last week.

**WASCO:** Field cultivation and fertilization continued on summer-fallow. There is no till acreage being prepared for fall winter wheat planting. Grain planting will start first in the Tygh Ridge and Center Ridge areas. Rain would be welcome before seeding is started. Fruit harvest continued in The Dalles and Mosier areas on pears and apples. The final Alfalfa hay cutting is underway. Livestock are holding their own on dwindling pasture conditions. No rain was received last week.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: September 2, 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	45	83	61	+2	81	+11	-	-0.45	-	73.72	7.18	111	203
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	49	74	62	+5	88	+32	-	-0.28	-	58.19	-0.78	99	169
Crescent City	45	75	58	-2	58	-5	-	-0.28	-	59.06	-6.23	90	128
Florence	41	82	61	+0	75	-2	-	-0.41	-	87.45	10.88	114	155
North Bend	46	73	61	+1	75	+5	0.02	-0.27	1	62.36	-1.03	98	147
Tillamook	43	82	61	+3	80	+17	-	-0.59	-	55.71	-33.09	63	178
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	47	95	69	+5	136	+32	-	-0.31	-	41.88	0.73	102	148
Corvallis	46	93	68	+4	128	+23	-	-0.28	-	47.36	4.58	111	147
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	45	100	70	+11	141	+68	-	-0.39	-	88.66	20.99	131	166
Eugene	47	93	68	+2	125	+11	-	-0.34	-	39.28	-10.19	79	129
Hillsboro	44	95	66	+3	116	+16	-	-0.28	-	35.41	-2.24	94	145
McMinnville	46	95	68	+4	127	+22	-	-0.25	-	36.70	-6.56	85	147
Portland	54	93	70	+4	141	+20	-	-0.34	-	34.55	-1.85	95	156
Salem	47	93	69	+4	131	+23	-	-0.25	-	40.62	1.38	104	131
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	50	101	73	+4	158	+24	-	-0.14	-	30.30	-0.75	98	102
Medford	51	103	76	+6	181	+39	-	-0.14	-	17.84	-1.06	94	98
Roseburg	51	100	72	+5	157	+35	-	-0.21	-	31.68	-1.11	97	115
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	40	93	66	+5	115	+27	0.21	0.00	1	14.68	0.57	104	103
Echo <sup>8</sup>	41	100	70	+2	143	+12	-	-0.14	-	9.06	0.06	101	98
Heppler	43	98	69	+3	131	+17	0.17	-0.02	3	14.59	0.64	105	110
Hermiston	43	102	71	+3	147	+16	-	-0.14	-	8.46	-0.54	94	87
Madras <sup>8</sup>	39	97	68	+5	126	+30	0.03	-0.11	1	7.48	-2.98	72	88
Moro	43	94	67	+3	117	+16	0.03	-0.11	2	11.75	0.59	105	89
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	40	90	64	-1	100	-1	-	-0.21	-	35.38	4.50	115	109
Pendleton	45	101	71	+3	146	+14	0.17	0.04	2	10.70	-1.35	89	95
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	39	97	68	+5	126	+30	0.03	-0.11	1	7.48	-2.98	72	88
The Dalles	50	97	72	+9	158	+57	0.08	-0.06	2	12.95	0.40	103	81
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	37	86	63	+4	91	+23	0.09	-0.05	1	16.04	-0.20	99	102
Bend	37	93	64	+5	101	+28	0.09	-0.05	1	10.91	-0.83	93	72
Burns	37	94	66	+7	117	+42	0.13	-0.01	2	9.12	-0.88	91	85
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	33	95	64	-1	98	-1	0.36	0.22	2	6.74	-5.68	54	80
Klamath Falls	44	88	67	+4	119	+22	0.22	0.08	1	10.13	-3.41	75	79
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	45	90	68	+5	127	+30	0.12	-0.02	1	11.45	-1.81	86	109
Lakeview	37	91	67	+5	118	+31	0.03	-0.11	2	3.78	-11.88	24	51
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	39	90	65	+2	106	+9	0.01	-0.13	1	10.20	-3.34	75	91
Redmond	36	97	66	+5	115	+29	0.69	0.56	2	5.40	-3.21	63	55
Worden <sup>8</sup>	36	90	64	+0	97	+0	0.05	-0.09	1	8.23	-5.31	61	100
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	33	94	66	+4	110	+20	-	-0.21	-	5.83	-5.10	53	89
Joseph	39	88	63	+6	90	+30	0.19	-0.09	1	14.10	-10.83	57	112
La Grande	39	97	68	+3	123	+14	0.06	-0.18	2	8.28	-9.24	47	80
Union	40	98	68	+5	125	+32	0.10	-0.18	1	10.61	-3.25	77	95
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	49	99	75	+6	174	+37	-	-0.14	-	6.00	-3.72	62	68
Rome	42	97	71	+7	152	+41	0.04	-0.10	1	3.30	-5.02	40	63

<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, 2007.

<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.