

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: Conditions cooled down drastically last week with many areas receiving much needed precipitation. High temperatures ranged from 95 degrees in Medford and Grants Pass to 60 degrees at the Crescent City weather station. Low temperatures ranged from 49 degrees in Portland to 24 degrees in Redmond. The Detroit Lake weather station received the most precipitation with 2.74 inches followed by Portland with 1.68 inches. All but 1 of the 43 stations received measurable precipitation with several reporting over 0.50 inches. Many stations reported above average precipitation for the week, while temperatures were mixed when compared to normal.

Field Crops: Rainfall received last week was welcomed by most farmers across the State as it helped some crops to recover from the extreme heat experienced the previous week. Some haying in south western areas was delayed due to the rain. Cereal leaf beetles were reported in many wheat fields in Marion County. Flooding damaged some field crops in Baker and Union counties. Significant acres of wheat in Gilliam County have been damaged by drought conditions. However, it is still too early to tell how much recent rains in other north central areas will improve wheat and barley yields.

Vegetables: The weather this past week changed back to cool and rainy conditions, especially west of the Cascades. A lack of significant rain allowed farmers to continue some late planting which has been behind schedule all season. Early sweet corn was reported to now be up about eight inches, and green onions were just about ready in Jackson County. Tomatoes and pepper plants were also being set. Truck gardens continued to get in their frost tender plants, such as corn, tomatoes, cucumbers, and melons in Josephine County.

Fruits and Nuts: Weather conditions have not been favorable for fruits and nuts this season, with alternate cold and hot spells. In the southern Willamette Valley, the plum crop appeared to be down at least 80 percent and the peach crop looked down over 80 percent. Apples were blooming. There is a possible chance of delayed infection period for Eastern Filbert Blight with recent wet weather on filberts. Blueberries were starting to bloom and showed signs of cold damaged leaves. There were findings of mummyberry and possible scorch virus in the blueberry crop. The strawberry bloom looks like a large crop, but blooms were in various stages. The soil was still so cold that new raspberry leaves appear purple. It looked like a 70 percent cherry crop reduction with some decent cherries around the area. Cherries in Wasco County were developing well. Orchardists in southern Oregon were still applying some sprays. Vineyards showed good growth; some grapes were in bloom with others expected to follow shortly.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nursery and greenhouse sales were very active in some areas. Nurseries were busy with potted plant and tree sales. Growers throughout the region were busy caring for newly planted crops. Activities included weed control, irrigation, and digging and preparing trees for sale.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: The cooler, wetter conditions allowed pastureland in many areas of the State to recover after the previous hot, dry week. Sherman County reports that some of its early rangeland grasses were too far gone for the recent rains to help. Livestock are generally doing well across the State. There are still some spring calves and foals being born.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 05/25/08

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	6	32	60	2
Subsoil	12	22	65	1

Crop Progress-Week Ending 05/25/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, first cutting	12	-	34	8
Winter wheat headed	27	4	45	41
Barley emerged	93	90	95	82
Spring wheat emerged	98	95	99	92
Days suitable for fieldwork	5.6	6.9	6.7	5.5

Crop Condition-Week Ending 05/25/08

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	10	38	29	18	5
Spring wheat	6	39	26	24	5
Barley	2	22	45	26	5
Range and pasture	3	13	28	44	12

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Recent rain and cooler temperatures have helped grass seed crops recover from the prior week's hot, dry weather. Winter wheat was looking good and was beginning to head out. The plum crop is down at least 80 percent so far and the peach crop looked like it was down over 80 percent. It looked like a 70 percent cherry crop reduction with some decent cherries around the area. Apples were blooming. There is a possible chance of delayed infection period for Eastern Filbert Blight with this wet weather on filberts. Blueberries were starting to bloom, seeing cold damage to leaves. There were a lot of findings of mummyberry and possible blueberry scorch virus. The strawberry bloom looks huge but blooms were at various stages. The soil was still so cold that new raspberry leaves appear purple. The vegetable crops in most areas were slow at going in and farmers markets were doing mediocre. Most greenhouses were growing crops and sales have been brisk.

CLACKAMAS: It was rainy and cold last week.

CLATSOP: More moisture last week and pastures were looking good. Silage harvest on some farms was delayed a day or so due to wet conditions. Some cut silage was damaged due to the rain.

COLUMBIA: The weather was very cool with rain showers. Pastures were finally catching up with the season. A small amount of very good hay was cut a week ago when it was still hot.

COOS/CURRY: Cooler cloudy days and 0.24 inches of rain last week extended the grazing season slightly, but pastures on well-drained soils were drying up and becoming less productive anyway. Overall, pastures were in good shape still.

DOUGLAS: It was a cooler week with some showers but no real significant precipitation. The extreme heat from a week ago burned some ornamentals in nurseries. The heat also accelerated the maturity of hay crops and caused tree fruit and grapevines to start growing vigorously. Most crops were still in good shape.

JACKSON: It was a much cooler week with rainy days. Of course, the rain and cooler days were good for crop growth. The first cutting of hay was still being done. Some hay got wet as it was still in the fields. Grain crops were looking about normal for this time of year. Orchards were still doing some spraying and some weed control. Some irrigation was being done too. Vineyards starting good growth and some will be in blossom soon. There was still more vegetables being planted. Early sweet corn is now up about 8 inches, tomatoes

and pepper plants being set out. Early green onions were about ready. Farmers markets now selling products. There were still lots of flower and vegetable starts being sent out to stores and other outlets. Nurseries were still selling potted plants and balled/burlapped trees. New plantings were being cared for. Lots of cattle, horses, sheep, and goats were out on good green pastures. Still some spring babies, mostly cattle and horses. Pastures were showing good growth.

JOSEPHINE: The weather was much improved over the previous week. Day time temperatures were mild with cooler nights and a trace of precipitation. It was easier to work outside. Hay was delayed in some areas because of the threat of rain. Fields were high with heads. Good yield if cut within the next week. Fields were not showing too much stress even after the previous weeks' extreme heat. Animals were faring well. Pastures were in good shape yet. Truck gardens were getting in all those frost tender plants: corn, tomatoes, cucumbers, melons, etc. Cool weather crops were doing well in most areas. Grapes were blooming heavily. Cherry trees were hit with frost and put on little fruit.

MARION: Cool overcast weather returned again. With the lack of rain this month, soil moisture is rapidly decreasing and many were irrigating where water is available. Field crops seem to be catching up with normal development but are in need of a good rainfall. Cereal Leaf Beetles were active in many wheat fields.

POLK: Most spring crops have been planted. The winter wheat crop looked very good. The condition of fruit crops is still unknown due to late frost this spring. Some producers saying we could use some rain, fields seem a little dry.

WASHINGTON: The high temperature was 79 degrees and the low was 42 degrees with 1.1 inches of rainfall. Wheat is growing well except in wet areas. Some red clover was cut for silage. The first cutting of grass hay was in the shed. Crimson clover was past full bloom. Fruit trees were having a tough time with hot and cold/rain spells. Filberts were beginning to form. Vegetables were being planted. Some sweet corn emerged. Weed control and digging and burlap continued in nurseries as well as irrigating. Grass was catching up with improved conditions.

YAMHILL: This week's cooler weather slowed the development of tree fruits. We are still around one week behind normal developmental stages for this time of year.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER/UNION: Two dikes breached on Catherine Creek last week. Flooding has damaged potatoes, beets, mint, and grain fields. Some flooding has also occurred on Willow Creek and the Grande Ronde River. The most significant damage occurred on the south end of the valley where over 1000 acres of cereal grains, alfalfa, peppermint, pasture, and riparian areas flooded.

GILLIAM: Drought conditions in central and parts of north Gilliam County have damaged significant acreage of wheat. The southern portion of the County received beneficial rains last week that temporarily forestalled additional crop damage.

HARNEY: After a week of warmer than normal conditions, temperatures moderated to near normal to below normal conditions most of last week. Spring rain showers and thunderstorms passed through Harney County late in the week, bringing some much needed precipitation and surface soil moisture to rangeland pastures. The unseasonably cool and dry conditions this spring have delayed the phenology of hay crops by about 2 to 3 weeks.

KLAMATH: Unusual conditions continued. There was snow during portions of the week at higher elevations. Cooler temperatures prevailed. The planting of some crops continued. First cuttings of alfalfa are expected to be delayed because of cool conditions this spring.

LAKE: The area received large amounts of precipitation over the weekend with hail storms in some areas of the County. Cooler

temperatures prevailed for the majority of the week and over the weekend.

MALHEUR: Hot weather at the beginning of the week turned to cold weather by weeks end. One report shows heat units are at the 30 year average. There were some much needed local showers over the weekend. High winds may have caused some plant damage to emerging crops.

SHERMAN: A welcomed rain shower Friday before the long weekend. This will help the spring crops and less mature fall wheat; however, much of the shallow areas were already blue to black and may not be able to take advantage of the rain. The early rangeland grasses were certainly too far gone to revive even with a good drink. But this could be the million dollar rain, if it stays cool a few more weeks.

UMATILLA: Cooler weather has persisted with intermittent showers throughout the area. This improved crop conditions in some areas; however, it is still unclear if recent precipitation has helped the current crop of wheat and barley.

WASCO: The first half of the week cooled down, while the last half of the week had varying amounts of precipitation each day. This helped relieve stress on all crops. Rye rouging in grain crops will start next week after the rains stop. Alfalfa haying has not started. Livestock on range and pasture grasses were doing quite well in most areas. Cherries were developing well.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: May 25, 2008 (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	45	65	53	+0	23	-1	0.84	0.21	5	57.70	-3.37	94	176
Bandon ⁸	41	70	52	-1	20	-1	0.19	-0.37	3	51.64	-4.03	93	163
Crescent City	45	60	52	-2	17	-11	-	-0.60	-	43.64	-18.51	70	110
Florence	42	74	53	-2	24	-4	0.85	0.05	4	81.34	10.00	114	149
North Bend	43	66	52	-3	18	-11	0.41	-0.17	5	56.51	-3.39	94	140
Tillamook	46	73	54	+2	34	+14	1.04	0.08	4	53.95	-27.47	66	162
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	46	83	57	+1	49	+4	1.13	0.64	6	40.29	2.86	108	153
Corvallis	46	84	56	+0	44	+4	0.26	-0.16	3	41.28	1.48	104	144
Detroit Lake ⁸	41	86	52	+1	30	+10	2.74	2.04	6	83.59	20.90	133	163
Eugene	41	84	56	-2	44	-5	0.45	-0.02	4	33.85	-12.20	74	128
Hillsboro	46	82	57	+2	53	+8	0.73	0.38	4	30.32	-3.99	88	131
McMinnville	44	82	56	-2	45	-2	0.43	0.02	3	32.86	-7.81	81	140
Portland	49	84	59	+0	62	+3	1.68	1.25	5	31.43	-1.37	96	145
Salem	46	83	56	+1	46	+4	0.37	-0.05	3	35.14	-1.06	97	128
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	41	95	59	-2	69	-4	0.34	0.10	5	26.82	-2.81	91	116
Medford	44	95	59	-2	64	-3	0.29	0.08	3	15.37	-1.97	89	96
Roseburg	45	94	58	+0	59	+1	0.65	0.36	5	31.16	0.52	102	129
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	33	89	56	+4	49	+23	0.73	0.45	4	10.46	-1.20	90	91
Echo ⁸	46	89	62	+1	83	+7	0.24	0.10	4	7.10	-0.69	91	92
Heppner	41	90	60	+3	68	+18	1.10	0.80	5	11.66	-0.09	99	104
Hermiston	45	91	63	+2	90	+14	0.31	0.17	3	7.05	-0.74	91	72
Madras ⁸	35	85	52	-4	28	-12	0.32	0.11	2	6.32	-2.19	74	84
Moro	39	83	57	+2	50	+14	0.40	0.21	4	8.78	-0.87	91	77
Parkdale ⁸	42	82	54	-4	39	-10	0.86	0.65	5	20.81	-8.34	71	99
Pendleton	43	88	59	-1	66	+0	0.84	0.63	4	9.35	-1.00	90	84
Prairie City ⁸	35	85	52	-4	28	-12	0.32	0.11	2	6.32	-2.19	74	84
The Dalles	44	88	60	+5	75	+33	0.18	0.00	2	12.45	1.45	113	76
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	35	85	50	-1	25	+7	1.08	0.85	4	11.49	-2.61	81	86
Bend	30	92	54	+3	43	+22	0.01	-0.20	1	11.59	1.97	120	72
Burns	31	84	51	-3	23	+0	0.23	-0.01	5	7.58	-0.32	96	90
Christmas Valley ⁸	29	87	48	-8	14	-23	1.09	0.88	4	5.11	-4.96	51	63
Klamath Falls	30	86	50	-5	20	-13	0.31	0.10	4	7.91	-3.79	68	75
Klamath Falls ⁸	31	86	49	-6	17	-16	0.29	0.08	2	8.57	-3.13	73	97
Lakeview	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lorella ⁸	32	86	49	-6	15	-18	0.22	0.01	4	7.20	-4.50	62	97
Redmond	24	89	51	-3	27	+2	0.02	-0.16	2	1.68	-5.01	25	35
Worden ⁸	27	85	48	-7	14	-19	0.24	0.03	3	7.10	-4.60	61	95
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	37	84	52	-3	26	-5	0.31	0.00	5	6.88	-0.84	89	95
Joseph	33	80	51	+3	33	+24	1.49	1.00	5	15.55	-5.25	75	109
La Grande	41	84	55	-2	39	-2	0.35	0.00	4	9.73	-4.49	68	82
Union	32	86	55	+2	49	+19	0.42	0.03	4	8.26	-2.12	80	85
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	43	90	63	+1	89	+7	0.16	-0.04	2	5.46	-2.71	67	62
Rome	36	90	54	-5	39	-13	0.37	0.16	4	6.46	0.21	103	75

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2008: 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, 2007.

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.