

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: Conditions were warm and dry throughout the State last week, with temperatures exceeding 100 degrees in some areas over the weekend. High temperatures ranged from 102 degrees in Medford, down to 68 degrees in Crescent City. Low temperatures ranged from 55 degrees in Roseburg, down to 31 degrees in Christmas Valley. The Crescent City and Corvallis weather stations were the only two stations that received measurable precipitation with 0.01 total inches each. All stations reported below normal precipitation levels last week.

Field Crops: Hot and dry weather conditions prevailed this past week across the State and much field work was accomplished. Growers took advantage of the mostly perfect conditions for cutting hay, grass seed, grass hay, and some wheat in north central areas. Some dry land crops showed stress in north eastern areas. Watering of course has increased now that the summer weather is back to normal. Wheat harvest will be picking up the pace within the next couple of weeks.

Vegetables: Farmer's markets and roadside stands were selling vast varieties of produce in abundance this past week throughout the Willamette Valley. Growers kept busy weeding, cultivating, and irrigating during some very warm summer daytime temperatures. Bolting was reported to be a problem with cool weather crops in southwestern Oregon. Sweet corn was reported as starting to tassel out and ears starting to set in the southwest part of the State, to only being around a foot tall in many parts of the Willamette Valley. Carrots, onions, and parsley for seed were all flowering in central Oregon, attracting many bees for pollination. The planting of the 2009 onion seed crop was just beginning in this area.

Fruits and Nuts: This year's strawberry harvest was mainly complete, but some late varieties were still available. Raspberries continued to be picked; blueberries and Marionberries were available in many areas. Sweet cherry harvest continued in Polk County and in the higher elevations of Yamhill County. Some hazelnut growers applied filbert worm sprays. Grapes continued to develop and were about 10 days behind normal development in Douglas County. Hot temperatures last week made irrigation a priority. Summer orchard operations continued throughout the Hood River Valley. Pear growers continued cutting fire blight in many locations. There have been some reports with fire blight in southern Oregon pear trees as well. Rainier and Bing cherries were harvested in the lower Hood River valley. Early cherry harvest was nearly complete in Wasco County with low yields.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Greenhouses continued with clean-up stages and preparing for fall plants. Nurseries continued watering, fertilizing, and potting plants. The hot weather may have caused some heat related issues with nursery container stock.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Dryland pasture and range conditions across the State have declined with this long stretch of hot, dry weather. Higher elevations and irrigated pastureland were still in good shape. A fire on rangeland southwest of Rome in Malheur County burned approximately 38,000 acres of BLM land. No private lands were affected. Livestock were holding up despite the dry conditions.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 07/13/08

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	19	45	36	0
Subsoil	11	51	38	0

Crop Progress-Week Ending 07/13/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	37	-	69	26
Winter wheat harvested	6	1	17	9
Spring wheat headed	96	91	100	93
Days suitable for fieldwork	7.0	6.7	6.9	6.7

Crop Condition-Week Ending 07/13/08

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	9	20	51	15	5
Spring wheat	4	31	37	21	7
Barley	1	20	35	38	6
Corn	0	0	31	58	11
Range and pasture	6	18	38	34	4

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: The grass seed harvest was progressing nicely. It's all swathed except later turf varieties. Combines were busy thrashing. Early reports are that it's a good crop. Most annual grass crops have been cut, harvested and baled. The perennial crops were coming on slow and 50 percent of them were still not cut yet. The weather was holding with hot daytime temperatures. It was perfect weather for harvesting. Row crops were coming on strong with the warmer weather and there was plenty of fresh produce to be found at markets around the Willamette Valley.

CLACKAMAS: We had real summer weather all week. Grass seed swathing was going at full speed. Most of the grass hay has been baled. Winter wheat was drying down. Crimson clover seed was at the cleaner's. The strawberry harvest was done. Red raspberries were ripe. Grass pastures were probably about done growing until some fall rains start. It's about time to spray Canadian thistles. Check your Tansy plants for Cinnabar caterpillars before spraying. Spare any plants with these little striped guys as Cinnabars aren't real efficient at dispersion.

COLUMBIA: It was very hot over the weekend. There may be potential issues with nursery container stock. However, it was good haying weather.

COOS/CURRY: Temperatures were slightly below the 5-year average for the week in Coos and northern Curry, mostly due to the breezy conditions. High temperatures in southern Curry County were well above the 5-year average for the week, with the warmest temperatures on Monday with a low temperature recorded at 78 and a high of 107. Temperatures moderated by the end of the week in southern Curry, but warmed in Coos. Hay production was active with the good weather and the breezy conditions sped up the drying process. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 46.93 degrees, 1.48 degrees below the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 68.82 degrees, 0.08 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.00 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2003-2004) average of 0.04 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/07) stands at 50.59 inches, 4.67 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through June is 57.48 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 52.3 degrees, 2.62 degrees above the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 107.2 degrees, 30.21 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.02 inches compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2003-2004) average of .08 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/07) stands at 64.15 inches, 16.42 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation for Brookings area through June is 69.98 inches. Pasture quality was declining in all but a few sub-irrigated or irrigated fields due to the hot, dry, and windy conditions.

DOUGLAS: Very hot temperatures the past week have pushed along tree fruit and grape crops. However, the orchard and vineyard crops were still about 10 days behind normal development pace. Heat has put irrigation demand at peak rate so watering is the main cultural practice being attended to. Disease and insect pressure has been pretty light so far this summer.

JACKSON: Most days were been in the high 90's and low 100's last week. Lots of irrigating was being done to keep crops growing. The warm dry weather has been very good for haying and other field work. Grain crops were looking good, but were not yet ripe for harvest. Some caneberries were being harvested, and also strawberries. Apples were looking good. Vineyards were also looking good. There have been reports of some problems with fire blight in pear trees, but they are looking good overall. A lot of sweet corn was in tassel so ears were starting to set. Good early vegetables were at farmers markets. Lots of weeding, cultivation, and watering of vegetables crops was being done. Greenhouses were mostly in clean-up stages. Nurseries were busy with plant up-keep, watering, feeding, and potting plants. Dry ground pastures were really drying up. There still seemed to be a lot of cattle on valley

pastures, although some were being moved to higher ranges. All livestock were looking quite good.

JOSEPHINE: Night time temperatures were more in normal range. Days were very hot and dry, nights were 60 degrees plus. It was hard to work outside mid-day. Watering was an issue without proper irrigation techniques and water supply. Plants were showing stress even with water available to them. Grapes were doing well, but may start show stress if we do not have some relief. We have had some fires spring up, some careless while others nature caused. So far, they have been contained quickly. Raspberries and blueberries were available from local growers. Zucchini, onions, and tomatoes were available from some gardens. Bolting has been a problem with cool weather crops this year.

MARION: The grass seed crop harvest was in full swing with a lot of fields getting swathed this week. Warm and hot temperatures this week hastened maturity of grains and grasses. The blueberry harvest started. Most of the strawberry harvest was over. Fall wheat was maturing and looks like it will be ready for harvest within the next couple of weeks. Grapes were growing well. Hops vines have reached the top wires and were filling in with flower cones starting to be noticeable. Many varieties of flowers planted in fields were blooming and are beautiful to behold. The third cutting alfalfa was growing nicely and it won't be long before it is cut. Corn was coming along but most fields were still under a foot tall. Beans were in all stages of growth due to varying planting dates for cannery processing. Summer is catching up after a long and cool spring.

POLK: Conditions were hot and dry and soil was short on moisture. The grass seed harvest was underway, cherries and blueberries were also being harvested. Water flow from coastal mountain streams has dropped.

TILLAMOOK: Warmer weather last week, close to normal conditions but we could use some moisture. Pastures were drying out. The second cutting of grass silage was getting underway in some areas.

WASHINGTON: The high temperature was 92 degrees and the low was 41 degrees with no rain for the week. Humidity got up to 67 percent and as low as 27 percent. There was some smoke haze early in week. Water supply was adequate. Swathing started in tall grass fields. Winter wheat was in the hard dough stage, field corn was growing rapidly, and red clover was maturing. Crimson clover was being combined. Grass hay was being harvested with high quality as drying conditions were excellent. Orchard grass fields were being combined. Late strawberries were still producing, blueberries were ripe and delicious, and apples were ripening. The raspberry harvest began several weeks ago and the marionberry and blackberry harvest was just beginning last week. Filberts were growing well and walnuts were looking good. Vegetables were producing and tomatoes were setting fruit. Farmers markets and stands were selling vast varieties of produce. Irrigating and weed control were on-going. Pastures were holding up well and stock in very good shape.

YAMHILL: Some hazelnut growers have been spraying for filbert worm. Higher elevation sweet cherry harvest continued. Grass seed producers started swathing last week. Raspberries and blueberries were in full swing, and strawberries were done.

EASTERN OREGON

CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON: Except for high winds on Sunday, conditions were favorable for grass seed ripening last week. The Kentucky bluegrass seed crop was 75 percent swathed. Carrots, onions, and parsley were all flowering and conditions have been favorable for bee pollination of those crops. Onion seed planting for the 2009 crop was just beginning.

HARNEY: Hot, dry conditions prevailed last week. Range grasses on lower elevation desert ranges were rapidly curing and declining in quality. Livestock water was also very limited in these pastures. Higher elevation ranges were in good condition. Meadow hay harvest was nearly complete. All reports indicate livestock were still in good condition.

HOOD RIVER: Fair weather prevailed through the week with high temperatures ranging from the high 70's to mid 90's. Summer orchard operations continued throughout the Hood River Valley. Pear growers continued cutting fire blight in many locations throughout the valley. Rainier and Bing cherries were harvested in the lower valley.

LAKE: No precipitation was received during the week. The area experienced high temperatures for the majority of the week with highs in the mid 90's. Some producers have started harvesting grass hay.

MALHEUR: We finally attained our normal weather condition for this time of year; hot and dry. Low temperatures were around 60 degrees, and high temperatures around 100 degrees. Irrigators were busy. A lot of hay was down. A fire on rangeland southwest of Rome burned approximately 38,000 acres of BLM land, but no private lands were affected.

MORROW: The wheat harvest started in north end of the County.

UMATILLA: Hot weather over the past week has led farmers to prepare for harvest within the next ten days. Although parts of south and north County are going to have lower yields due to the lack moisture this spring, for the most part, the remainder of the County should see relatively average wheat yields.

UNION: The grass seed harvest got underway last week.

WALLOWA: Dryland crops were starting to show the effects of no rain and high heat.

WASCO: The wheat harvest was in full swing, but still unsure what yields will be like. Early cherry varieties were almost done with harvest and yields not to impressive. Tygh Valley was into the second cutting of alfalfa. Grapes were looking good and catching up in size with this warm weather.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: July 13, 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	43	79	60	+1	70	+2	-	-0.28	-	60.46	-4.10	94	186
Bandon ⁸	47	69	58	-1	53	-3	-	-0.07	-	52.42	-5.33	91	173
Crescent City	46	68	56	-3	42	-14	0.01	-0.06	1	44.20	-19.86	69	115
Florence	38	79	58	-3	55	-15	-	-0.21	-	84.61	9.86	113	159
North Bend	45	73	57	-2	53	-10	-	-0.10	-	57.80	-4.35	93	149
Tillamook	39	84	60	+3	71	+15	-	-0.39	-	56.79	-29.35	66	173
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	50	94	71	+6	152	+41	-	-0.14	-	41.64	1.86	105	167
Corvallis	47	94	72	+7	153	+47	0.01	-0.13	1	42.30	0.70	102	153
Detroit Lake ⁸	46	96	71	+9	151	+62	-	-0.21	-	89.50	23.65	136	179
Eugene	47	97	71	+5	146	+27	-	-0.12	-	34.58	-13.48	72	139
Hillsboro	40	94	68	+4	130	+22	-	-0.13	-	30.56	-5.70	84	140
McMinnville	45	96	70	+5	139	+31	-	-0.14	-	33.84	-8.40	80	148
Portland	51	93	72	+5	155	+30	-	-0.14	-	32.77	-2.13	94	157
Salem	49	96	72	+7	154	+42	-	-0.14	-	35.92	-2.24	94	134
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	53	99	74	+3	169	+20	-	-0.04	-	28.20	-2.22	93	124
Medford	54	102	79	+7	203	+46	-	-0.07	-	16.35	-1.86	90	102
Roseburg	55	99	76	+9	183	+57	-	-0.08	-	31.86	-0.04	100	139
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	46	94	68	+3	126	+17	-	-0.10	-	11.50	-1.64	88	102
Echo ⁸	40	99	71	-2	146	-11	-	-0.05	-	7.79	-0.67	92	98
Heppner	43	95	70	+2	138	+7	-	-0.07	-	13.73	0.68	105	119
Hermiston	42	99	72	-1	153	-4	-	-0.05	-	7.62	-0.84	90	82
Madras ⁸	40	93	67	+2	123	+7	-	-0.12	-	7.83	-1.87	81	96
Moro	41	94	68	+1	127	+6	-	-0.07	-	9.37	-1.14	89	86
Parkdale ⁸	39	92	66	+0	115	+0	-	-0.07	-	21.99	-8.13	73	111
Pendleton	42	95	71	-3	146	-12	-	-0.07	-	10.89	-0.43	96	94
Prairie City ⁸	40	93	67	+2	123	+7	-	-0.12	-	7.83	-1.87	81	96
The Dalles	49	101	75	+9	178	+64	-	-0.07	-	12.94	1.06	109	81
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	47	93	70	+7	140	+45	-	-0.07	-	12.51	-2.78	82	92
Bend	41	92	68	+5	125	+34	-	-0.14	-	11.64	0.73	107	76
Burns	37	94	66	+0	114	+2	-	-0.07	-	8.76	-0.34	96	98
Christmas Valley ⁸	31	94	64	-5	102	-27	-	-0.14	-	7.16	-4.41	62	71
Klamath Falls	49	94	70	+4	142	+20	-	-0.07	-	9.38	-3.32	74	80
Klamath Falls ⁸	50	93	72	+5	156	+34	-	-0.07	-	10.73	-1.97	84	105
Lakeview	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Loirella ⁸	41	91	67	-1	121	-1	-	-0.07	-	9.13	-3.57	72	107
Redmond	34	95	66	+1	110	+2	-	-0.11	-	1.86	-5.96	24	40
Worden ⁸	44	92	68	+0	126	+4	-	-0.07	-	8.07	-4.63	64	99
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	34	89	63	-4	91	-23	-	-0.14	-	9.67	0.00	100	112
Joseph	39	83	64	+5	97	+29	-	-0.20	-	18.51	-4.85	79	127
La Grande	39	91	66	-4	112	-20	-	-0.14	-	14.03	-2.22	86	100
Union	40	90	65	-1	110	-1	-	-0.14	-	11.13	-1.45	88	99
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	50	99	77	+1	188	+3	-	-0.07	-	5.90	-3.28	64	68
Rome	42	98	70	-2	143	-8	-	-0.07	-	7.01	-0.61	92	84

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.