

WASHINGTON CROP WEATHER

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Crop and Weather Information for the Week Ending June 3, 2001

WEEK IN BRIEF:

**Cool temperatures helped alleviate stressed cereal crops of a week ago
Dry bean planting continued**

FIELD CROPS

Cooler temperatures helped to alleviate some of the stress damaged cereal crops from a week ago. Spring wheat and barley emergence was completed. Overall, grain crops continued to look good but could use some timely rainfall. Dry bean planting continued. Christmas tree growers reported substantial seedling losses in newly planted fields from a lack of soil moisture.

LIVESTOCK

The first cutting of alfalfa continued with some producers having problems drying due to cool temperatures and passing rainshowers. High winds also made hay cutting and fieldwork difficult for producers last week. Range and pasture conditions were 3% very poor, 28% poor, 39% fair, and 30% good. Dairymen continued harvesting green chop and planting field corn for feed. Livestock producers sprayed fields to control tansy ragwort weeds.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Cold, late spring conditions caused poor pollination of fruit crops throughout Douglas and Chelan Counties. This was particularly noticeable in the higher elevations where windy conditions have detained pollination efforts. Some minor frost damage was reported in grapes from a freeze in late May. Berry crops were in full bloom with some early strawberries being harvested. Asparagus harvest continued. Sweet corn planting continued.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork	
This Week	Last Week
6.2	6.9

Crop Progress				
Crop/Activity	% Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2000	5 Yr. Avg.
Spring Wheat Emerged	100	99	100	98
Winter Wheat Headed	42	34	58	53
Barley Emerged	100	98	100	97
Potatoes Emerged	94	90	99	93
Corn Planted	98	96	100	99
Dry Beans Planted	62	41	62	58
Alfalfa, 1 st cutting	51	34	73	34

Soil Type	Soil Moisture and Supply			
	% Acreage			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	2	21	77	-
Subsoil	5	40	55	-
Irrigation Water	-	15	85	-
Hay and Roughage	-	10	90	-

VS=Very Short, SH=Short, AD=Adequate, S=Surplus

Crop	Crop Condition *				
	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	-	9	31	45	15
Winter Wheat Irrigated	-	-	-	100	-
Spring Wheat Dryland	3	9	44	37	7
Spring Wheat Irrigated	-	-	-	100	-
Barley Dryland	-	2	47	48	3
Barley Irrigated	-	-	-	100	-
Dry Beans	-	-	-	100	-
Corn	-	-	-	100	-
Potato	-	-	5	95	-

VP=Very Poor, P=Poor, F=Fair, G=Good, EX=Excellent

* Crop conditions are a measure of the growing conditions and are not indicative of the quality of the crop produced.

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COUNTY COMMENTS

WESTERN

Clallum/Jefferson: Both counties were drier than normal. Only about 70 percent of normal precipitation has been received this season. Planting was on schedule and crops looked good. There were no reports of crop damage, or prevented planting reported.

Clallum/Snohomish: A variety of spring weather was experienced during the week. Monday, Snohomish County had hail and thunder and cooler than normal temperatures. Thursday, it was hot and a sunny 85 degrees. Friday and Saturday there was heavy rain and temperatures in the 40's. Corn was emerging all over the county, seed crops were in bloom. Tiny fruit was beginning to show on the fruit trees. There were no reports of damage or prevented planting reported.

Grays Harbor: Local ag producers welcomed rainfall at both the beginning and end of the week, to help alleviate dry soil conditions. Christmas tree growers reported continued infestations of adelgids on Douglas fir trees. U-Pick vegetable farms were busy planting warm season vegetable crops. Dairymen continued pumping lagoons and applying liquid manure to forage fields. Livestock growers were busy spraying pastures to control the noxious weed, tansy ragwort. Home gardeners planted warm season vegetable crops.

Grays Harbor/Lewis: Planting was in the final stages, with the wetter fields being scheduled this week. Cool, wet weather this past week, slowed the final planting effort.

King: Heavy rain on Saturday shut down field activities. Raspberries and blackberries were in full bloom. Rhubarb harvest continued. Vegetable transplanting continued, along with planting of squash, pumpkins, sweet corn, and beans.

Pierce/Thurston: Crop conditions in the South Puget Sound area have been a mixed bag. The weather was good the first part of the week, and cold and wet the last half of the week. It's too early to tell what affect the cool, wet weather will have on the vegetable crops.

Thurston: Heavy rain on Monday was a godsend to local ag producers who were complaining about very dry soil conditions. Some Christmas tree growers were reporting substantial seedling losses in newly planted fields, resulting from the lack of soil moisture. Unseasonably warm temperatures arrived during mid-week, forcing turfgrass growers to resume irrigating. Dairymen continued harvesting green chop and planting field corn for livestock feed. Blueberry growers continued mowing cover crops between rows.

Whatcom: All corn silage has been planted. Some have begun to emerge. Weather has been nearly ideal for corn this year. Marginal corn ground was planted and appeared good. The soil had adequate moisture and temperatures. Berries continued to bloom. Potatoes were planted. Some were still working on the second cutting of grass silage.

CENTRAL

Benton: Farmers were juggling water supplies. Light frost damage was reported in grapes from a freeze in late May. Windy weather caused some wind marking in tree fruit. Asparagus harvest continued.

Chelan/Douglas: A trace of precipitation was received at the end of the week. It was not enough to help the distressed wheat crop, pastures, and ranges. Weather continued to be cooler, and high winds were prevalent. Low pollination of fruit crops occurred, due to the cold, late spring and abnormally windy conditions. The cherry crop was expected to be several thousand tons less, due to this problem. Red apples were actually falling off the trees because of the poor pollination, followed by low temperatures.

Franklin: The weather was mostly sunny, with warm temperatures and some wind. The first cutting of alfalfa went well. Asparagus harvest continued and began to wind down.

Grant: Alfalfa harvest continued, but some producers

were having difficulty with drying due to cool temperatures and rainshowers. Bean and sweet corn planting was in progress. Dryland grain, especially spring planted, was stressing due to lack of moisture.

Grant (2nd Report): Green pea harvest will begin soon. Sweet corn planting continued. Asparagus harvest also continued.

Kittitas: The first cuttings of alfalfa and mixed grass hays were underway. Extremely high winds made hay cutting and fieldwork difficult. Most of the county's livestock have been turned onto summer ranges. Timothy hay continued to grow well. Irrigated pastures were receiving adequate water.

Yakima: The temperatures were cooler, with scattered showers and trace accumulation of precipitation. Fruit growth was minimal.

EASTERN

Adams: Cooler temperatures prevailed throughout the week, but rainfall was sparse, and served as a nuisance to hay growers. Beans were being planted. Some growers reported that the earlier hot weather was causing significant fruit drop in apples.

Asotin/Garfield: Dry weather continued throughout the week. Temperatures returned to normal, which was a welcomed relief from the above average temperatures a week earlier. Moisture was needed for proper development of winter and spring crops, as well as for growth of grasses in pastures and ranges.

Garfield: Timely rains a week ago sustained cereal crops in Garfield County. Just north in Whitman County, drought damaged winter wheat, spring wheat, and spring dry peas south of Pullman. Continuous wind with hot and cold weather will stress Garfield County cereals and most dryland crops, such as bluegrass if they continue through anthesis. Cattle were mostly in summer pasture right now.

Lincoln: This past week brought a much needed rain, with lots of wind. Cool temperatures, with some frost, was reported. There were reports that the spring crops may not do well, if we don't get more moisture. Seeding should be completed in all areas.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: The counties received varying amounts of rain these past two weeks. All spring grains should be finished seeding. Some first cutting of hay has been knocked down. The warm weather in the previous week, took its toll on some of the winter

wheat in the county. Reports from the southern part of the county, showed some heat stress and maybe a virus in the winter wheat crop. Crop consultants were looking into reports to determine what caused the damage to the wheat. Cool weather helped with the little bit of moisture.

Stevens: Several areas reported frost during the week. Cold temperatures and a lack of moisture continued to inhibit crop development. A few alfalfa fields have been cut and baled. Spring grain crops were in need of rain and warmer temperatures. Some areas received a rainshower Friday night.

Walla Walla: Spring wheat was heading. The weather cooled off once more. Rain was needed earlier in the week. The recent rain had a negative impact on pockets of peas and wheat. Some limited rain returned to the area at the end of the week.

Whitman: The first cutting of hay was completed on approximately half of the county's hay acreage. Yields were generally good, but baling was interrupted late Friday evening and over the weekend with scattered showers accompanied by cool, windy conditions. Grain crops continued to look good, but have been stressed by high temperatures and drying conditions. Cooler weather, late in the week, relieved the stress and was very desirable for pulse crops and grains.

WEEKLY WEATHER STATISTICS

June 4, 2001

Station	Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days				Last Week Precipitation			Season Precipitation				
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	Base 50F		Base 60F		Total			Total		% Normal	Days	
					TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	Inches	DFN	Days	Inches	DFN			
WEST																
Bellingham	41	74	53	-4	20	-23	0	-4	0.50	0.01	4	22.82	-9.15	71	128	
Everett	44	76	53	-5	25	-23	3	-3	0.83	0.31	4	21.18	-10.93	66	126	
Hoquiam	42	80	54	-2	29	-9	6	6	0.75	0.14	5	39.87	-23.67	63	145	
Kelso	41	91	56	-2	43	-8	9	2	0.19	-0.37	3	18.06	-24.30	43	113	
Olympia	39	85	54	-2	33	-7	5	3	0.41	-0.01	4	27.59	-19.64	58	124	
Seattle-Tacoma	43	82	55	-4	35	-21	6	-1	0.91	0.55	4	21.57	-12.50	63	113	
Shelton	39	86	54	-5	32	-25	6	-3	0.68	0.21	5	37.70	-23.73	61	132	
Tacoma	43	85	55	-4	39	-17	7	0	0.55	0.13	3	22.84	-13.79	62	121	
Vancouver	37	91	58	0	58	4	12	4	0.52	0.03	4	21.20	-16.78	56	126	
CENTRAL																
Ellensburg	36	85	55	-5	36	-24	3	-9	0.02	-0.12	2	5.93	-1.91	76	64	
Omak	33	87	58	1	60	5	15	4	0.10	-0.25	2	4.95	-7.22	41	55	
Stampede Pass	28	74	42	-3	10	4	0	0	1.64	0.88	6	49.20	-26.23	65	149	
Wenatchee	42	84	61	-3	77	-11	21	-5	0.01	-0.13	1	4.54	-2.61	63	59	
Yakima AP	29	88	57	-5	50	-24	12	-6	0.15	0.01	2	3.83	-3.13	55	54	
NORTHEAST																
Colville	34	86	57	-2	47	-7	9	-2	0.23	-0.19	1	10.54	-7.43	59	67	
Deer Park	29	83	54	-4	42	-11	14	5	0.16	-0.19	2	11.55	-4.33	73	94	
Spokane AP	35	85	56	-3	45	-10	14	4	0.25	-0.10	4	9.12	-4.91	65	85	
EAST CENTRAL																
Ephrata	36	86	61	-5	76	-23	25	-9	0.17	0.03	1	4.41	-1.85	70	58	
Moses Lake	41	86	61	-5	77	-22	19	-15	0.08	-0.06	1	5.77	-0.49	92	55	
Quincy	38	84	60	-3	75	-10	19	-6	0.00	-0.14	0	4.85	-1.97	71	52	
Ritzville	31	85	57	-2	48	-9	10	-1	0.12	-0.07	1	8.68	-1.28	87	70	
SOUTHEAST																
Hanford	37	91	64	-4	100	-20	37	-13	0.11	0.03	2	4.97	-0.78	86	54	
Pasco	37	91	62	-4	87	-19	29	-10	0.05	-0.09	3	7.13	0.49	107	66	
Pullman	34	81	55	-2	43	1	13	6	0.12	-0.24	2	11.27	-6.96	62	94	
Walla Walla AP	41	88	61	-3	76	-15	23	-6	0.39	0.07	4	14.41	-2.86	83	87	
Whitman Mission	34	90	61	-2	77	-2	24	2	0.25	0.04	3	12.26	0.30	103	89	
WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE																
Coeur D'A'AP	34	88	57	-3	56	-6	22	10	0.07	-0.42	1	14.04	-8.01	64	85	
Lewiston ID	40	92	63	2	94	8	36	11	0.09	-0.26	2	10.00	0.11	101	87	

Summary based on NWS data.
 Season CUMulative Precip Starts: Wednesday September 1, 2000
 DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
 NA = Data Unavailable

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.
 Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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