

WASHINGTON CROP WEATHER

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Crop and Weather Information for the Week Ending July 22, 2001

WEEK IN BRIEF:

**Cooler Temperatures Slowed Crop Development
Berry Harvest Continued**

FIELD CROPS

Cooler temperatures and scattered showers across the state, slowed crop development. Winter wheat and barley harvest continued in drier areas. The previous week's thunderstorms caused wind shatter damage in Franklin County. Grass seed and potato harvest continued across the state, with most potato fields still in bloom. Trimming of Douglas and Grand fir trees continued. Harvesting of hybrid poplar trees in Grays Harbor County started for paper pulp.

LIVESTOCK

Scattered showers slowed hay harvest, but did little to relieve dry range and pasture conditions. Second and third cutting continued. Range and pasture conditions were 9% very poor, 45% poor, 32% fair, and 14% good. There were reports of livestock watering creeks drying up.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Raspberry, blueberry, cherry, apricot, and peach harvest continued. Strawberry harvest wrapped up. Blackberry harvest and flower bulb harvest was underway. General vegetable harvest continued.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork	
This Week	Last Week
6.7	6.9

Soil Moisture	Soil Moisture and Supply			
	% Acreage			
Soil Type	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	10	53	37	-
Subsoil	18	55	27	-
Irrigation Water	-	10	90	-
Hay and Roughage	-	5	95	-

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

Crop Progress				
Crop/Activity	% Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2000	5 Yr. Avg.
Spring Wheat Harvested	3	0	10	3
Winter Wheat Harvest	6	4	10	8
Barley Harvested	4	2	4	3
Potatoes Harvested	9	7	10	6
Dry Peas Harvested	9	4	2	3
Alfalfa, 2 nd cutting	85	82	90	84
Alfalfa, 3 rd cutting	10	5	6	3

Crop	Crop Condition *				
	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	2	15	47	36	-
Winter Wheat Irrigated	-	-	-	100	-
Spring Wheat Dryland	5	35	42	18	-
Spring Wheat Irrigated	-	-	10	90	-
Barley Dryland	4	34	40	22	-
Barley Irrigated	-	-	-	100	-
Dry Beans	-	-	5	95	-
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.

Washington State University
Cooperative Extension Service
Michael Tate
Dean/Director, Coop Extension

USDA
Farm Service Agency
James F. Fitzgerald
State Director

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service
Doug Hasslen - State Statistician
Jim Johnson - Ag Statistician
Michelle Fox - Ag Statistician

COUNTY COMMENTS

WESTERN

Grays Harbor: Cool weather with a few light rain showers did little to alleviate dry soil conditions. Hybrid poplar growers started harvesting pulpwood from some plantations. Commercial truck gardeners continued to report severe deer damage to blueberry and raspberry plants. Christmas tree growers continued monitoring plantations for aphid infestations. Ornamental container nurseries implemented aggressive irrigation to prevent drought damage. Potato fields were in full bloom.

King/Pierce: Strawberry harvest was complete, raspberry harvest neared its peak, and blueberry and blackberry harvest began. Flowering bulb harvest was underway. General harvest of vegetables continued.

Pierce/Thurston: The weather improved noticeably this past week. Crop conditions

remained good. There were no reports of crop damage.

Snohomish/Clallum: Temperatures have been below normal and precipitation has been above normal. Precipitation was still several inches below normal for this time of the year. Grass silage, hay, and corn crops were doing well. Sunny days are needed for good growth of crops.

Thurston (2nd Report): Cooler weather provided a welcome relief to last week's hot weather. Blueberry harvest was in full swing, with berries ripening slowly due to cool temperatures. Christmas tree growers continued shearing Douglas and Grand fir trees. Dairy producers placed irrigation on forage fields. Turfgrass growers continued cultivating fields for seeding.

CENTRAL

Franklin: Growing conditions were good, and temperatures were lower than normal to normal all week. Wheat harvest was in full swing, with average dryland and irrigated yields. Nearly all of the second cutting of hay, in the county, was put up, with average yields. Approximately 75 percent of the grass seed in the county was cut and laying in the row by the end of the week. Signs of wind shatter showed in a number of fields, from the prior week's wind, rain, hail, and thunderstorm. Smut also showed in a number of mountain brome fields, linked to heavier than normal spring showers. Cherry production appeared to be an average to a better than average crop and was complete by the end of the week—except for a smaller acreage of Rainers.

Franklin (2nd Report): Temperatures were moderate during the week. Winter wheat and early potato harvest continued. Carrots were also being harvested. The second cutting of alfalfa was complete and the third cutting began.

Grant: Seed turnips were 95 percent harvested, seed grass was 80 percent harvested, and seed radish was 25 percent swathed. Late season cherry, apricot, and peach harvest continued.

Kittitas: Irrigation water will be scarce in coming weeks. Rangeland was starting to dry up due to the dry, windy weather.

Okanogan/Ferry: Areas of the county experienced some rainfall. Most of the higher mountain pastures looked good, although there were livestock water problems—spring developments and creeks drying up. Cherry harvest was well underway. Some wheat harvest started, but the majority of harvest will start in a couple of weeks. Poor dryland hay yields were reported.

Yakima: Average temperatures were cooler than normal, ranging from 1 to 12 degrees below normal. A total of .05 inches of rain was received during the week.

EASTERN

Adams: Winter wheat harvest, throughout the county, will be starting this week. Harvest in the southwest end of the county, has been underway for about 10-14 days. Conditions remained short to very short for both top and subsoil moisture.

Asotin & Garfield: Producers in both counties began harvest in the lower elevations. Cool weather aided in the filling of grain crops in the higher elevations.

Garfield (2nd Report): Harvest was still not moving along. Some winter wheat was in from cutting the drier areas of fields, in the low rain areas of northwest Pomeroy. The crop seemed average. There were lots of green berries in the higher rainfall areas.

Lincoln: Warm, dry weather continued to put stress on spring planted crops and pastures. There were reports of low canola yields being harvested which was attributed to the frost damage earlier in the year.

Lincoln (2nd Report): A few growers, in the southwestern corner of the county, began harvesting winter wheat. Most winter wheat harvest should be starting in the next 5-14 days. Conditions remained dry.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: The southern area of Spokane County received a little bit of rain. Pend Oreille County received some rain also, but it was very scattered. Approximately half of the timothy hay in Pend Oreille County has been cut and baled. The oats for grain were delayed growth wise, and lack of moisture will effect the crop. In Spokane County, bluegrass harvest began, but cooler weather and high humidity slowed the harvest. Cooler weather helped the winter and spring crops develop. Cherry harvest was underway in the Green Bluff area.

Stevens: Hay yields have been 25-50 percent of normal. Most of July has been very dry, with the exception of rainfall this past weekend. The second cutting of alfalfa began.

Walla Walla: Daytime temperatures were on the cooler side during the week. Recent rains hampered wheat harvest.

Whitman: Cooler temperatures throughout the week and scattered showers on Monday, slowed crop maturity rates, but a return to higher temperatures is expected this week. Wheat harvest began in the extreme southwestern section of the county, and grain harvest should begin across additional areas of western Whitman County this week.

WEEKLY WEATHER STATISTICS

July 23, 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	51	74	61	-3	75	-12	9	-12	0.00	-0.28	0	25.52	-8.99	74	140	
Everett	51	70	59	-5	67	-24	4	-18	0.02	-0.25	1	24.29	-10.57	70	138	
Hoquiam	49	66	58	-4	59	-18	1	-13	0.09	-0.19	3	42.37	-23.97	64	159	
Kelso	54	73	62	-3	84	-14	16	-12	0.00	-0.20	0	19.59	-25.37	44	122	
Olympia	44	74	60	-4	70	-21	7	-18	0.01	-0.13	1	30.03	-19.25	61	135	
Seattle-Tacoma	51	73	61	-5	81	-28	13	-28	0.69	0.55	2	24.63	-11.36	68	125	
Shelton	49	73	60	-6	75	-30	9	-27	0.00	-0.21	0	40.68	-23.02	64	140	
Tacoma	50	73	62	-4	83	-22	17	-18	0.07	-0.08	2	26.12	-12.75	67	132	
Vancouver	52	77	63	-3	93	-12	23	-12	0.06	-0.08	2	22.68	-17.33	57	138	
CENTRAL																
Ellensburg	47	84	64	-5	99	-32	31	-30	0.00	-0.02	0	6.98	-1.51	82	72	
Omak	46	88	66	-2	115	-11	45	-11	0.21	0.07	4	5.99	-7.82	43	65	
Stampede Pass	39	62	50	-7	12	-30	0	-7	0.68	0.40	4	53.55	-25.48	68	167	
Wenatchee	51	88	68	-7	124	-44	54	-44	0.01	0.01	1	5.53	-2.28	71	67	
Yakima AP	42	87	64	-7	97	-44	29	-41	0.05	0.05	3	4.75	-2.79	63	63	
NORTHEAST																
Colville	34	88	63	-5	90	-29	24	-25	0.32	0.17	2	12.46	-7.45	63	76	
Deer Park	37	82	61	-10	77	-62	18	-51	0.20	0.01	3	12.96	-4.64	74	111	
Spokane AP	48	81	64	-6	99	-37	31	-35	0.18	0.04	2	10.17	-5.46	65	96	
EAST CENTRAL																
Ephrata	47	87	66	-10	116	-63	46	-62	0.00	-0.07	0	5.24	-1.65	76	67	
Moses Lake	48	87	66	-10	116	-63	46	-62	0.04	-0.03	2	6.51	-0.38	94	65	
Quincy	47	85	66	-6	111	-38	41	-37	0.00	-0.01	0	5.15	-2.24	70	57	
Ritzville	43	82	62	-9	84	-55	20	-49	0.02	-0.05	1	9.19	-1.64	85	75	
SOUTHEAST																
Hanford	54	84	69	-11	131	-66	61	-66	0.02	0.02	2	6.15	0.06	101	63	
Pasco	49	88	69	-7	138	-37	68	-37	0.00	0.00	0	7.54	0.51	107	71	
Pullman	43	81	60	-6	75	-36	12	-30	0.30	0.16	1	13.09	-6.97	65	104	
Walla Walla AP	53	86	68	-9	125	-57	55	-57	0.05	-0.03	1	15.43	-3.11	83	94	
Whitman Mission	44	82	64	-9	98	-52	28	-51	0.10	0.03	2	14.03	1.03	108	99	
WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE																
Coeur D'A'AP	45	82	62	-9	85	-54	20	-50	0.32	0.17	3	24.46	0.00	100	325	
Lewiston ID	53	87	68	-7	130	-44	60	-45	0.48	0.34	3	11.48	0.00	100	325	

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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