



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service
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Washington Crop Weather

Released: June 13, 2005
Week Ending: June 12, 2005
CWP WA-CW2405

Rust Continued To Be a Problem Cool Weather Delayed Crop Development

Field Crop

Unseasonably cool temperatures throughout the state delayed the crop development process. Damp and cool weather caused many growers to treat winter wheat for rust. In Whitman County, growers were also faced with hessian fly, stripe rust, and cereal leaf beetle problems. However, in Asotin, Ferry, and Okanogan Counties, moisture levels were still short. Re-cropped winter wheat and spring grain crops were severely stressed due to dry conditions in Asotin County. Grays Harbor County Christmas tree growers sprayed Noble fir plantations for aphids.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 5% very poor, 21% poor, 26% fair, 46% good, 2% excellent. Cool showery weather kept forage harvest progress at a standstill.

Fruits and Vegetables

Cherry harvest began in some warm areas. Strawberry producers needed breezy conditions to dry out their fields in order to pick ripe berries. Raspberries ripened in Snohomish and King County areas. Ferry and Okanogan County reported some hail damage to fruit crops.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	5.7
Last Week	5.8

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	1	23	72	4
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	7	26	62	5
Subsoil	10	35	55	0
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	5	35	58	2
Irrigation Water	8	15	77	0
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	0	1	98	1
Hay & Roughage	4	6	88	2

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

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This	Last	2004	5 Yr.
	Week	Week		Avg.
Spring Wheat Emerged	0	100	0	0
Spring Wheat Headed	60	40	47	38
Winter Wheat Headed	95	87	88	79
Winter Wheat Harvested	0	0	0	0
Barley Headed	44	17	44	35
Potatoes Emerged	99	96	99	100
Corn Planted	99	99	99	99
Corn Emerged	93	89	90	89
Dry Edible Beans Planted	98	93	99	92
Alfalfa Hay 1 st Cutting	84	75	85	83
Alfalfa Hay 2 nd Cutting	5	1	3	2

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	1	3	22	52	22
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	13	67	20
Spring Wheat Dryland	0	8	28	59	5
Spring Wheat Irrigated	2	1	17	70	10
Barley Dryland	0	2	32	63	3
Barley Irrigated	0	0	4	93	3
Potatoes	0	0	16	59	25
Corn	0	0	12	78	10
Dry Edible Beans	0	2	15	79	4

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

- Crop conditions are a measurement of the growing conditions and are not indicative of the quality of the crop produced.

COUNTY COMMENTS

Western

Clark/Skagit/Cowlitz/Wakiakum: The weather was cloudy and cooler than normal, with showers occurring off and on throughout the week between sun breaks. Local farmers were able to continue chopping grass hay and silage between rain showers. The seeding of corn crops was progressing very slowly due to the excess moisture. Forecasts for the coming week show no change to the current trend of scattered rain showers.

Grays Harbor: Persistent rain showers combined with unseasonably cool temperatures, resulted in very chlorotic looking cornfields throughout the county. The lack of heat units slowed crop development. Sweet corn growers were able to complete planting over the weekend under less than ideal conditions, due to heavy rain showers. Planting this year was delayed by three weeks of poor weather conditions which were not conducive to planting. Christmas tree growers began spraying Noble fir plantations for aphids. Growers reported that excessive moisture the past several weeks resulted in luxuriant new growth. U-Pick strawberry growers complained the persistent rain showers have adversely impacted sales. Greenhouse tomato growers were harvesting the first fruit of the season. Home gardeners continued to report slow growth of warm season vegetable crops due to the lack of heat units. The cool, wet weather of the past several weeks was making up for the unseasonably warm, dry February.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: Cool, showery weather kept forage harvest at a standstill. The cool weather also slowed crop growth.

Kitsap: Crop conditions were very good.

Mason: Intermittent showers prevented hay harvest, which was typical for this time of the year. Pastures were still in good condition. Regrowth was good after the first rotation.

Pierce/South King: Crop growing conditions still remained good for the South Puget Sound area. The weather remained cool, which put crops a couple of weeks behind schedule. There were no reports of any crop damages due to weather events.

Skagit: Early strawberries varieties were in full production.

San Juan: The weather was cool and wet for the week, which delayed haying and decreased the quality. Everyone was ready and waiting to cut hay.

Skagit/SanJuan/Island: The temperatures were cooler with some rain showers, which was normal for this area. There was no apparent damage to crops reported due to weather conditions. Lack of water later in the summer may still be of some concern.

Snohomish/King: Rains through the week slowed fieldwork. Some areas received over four inches of precipitation. Strawberry harvest was underway. Raspberries were ripening.

Thurston: Another week of unseasonably cool, wet weather continued to delay crop development. The wet weather definitely had an impact on U-Pick strawberry harvest, as clientele were reluctant to pick in the wet conditions. The weather was nearly ideal for disease problems which further reduced yields. Christmas tree growers continued to report heat scorch damage to new growth on Noble, Fraser and Grand fir from the 90 plus degree temperatures in late May. The persistent rain showers have been ideal for newly planted seedlings, with reports of the lowest mortality in years. Livestock producers struggled to harvest forage crops with most of the crop going into silage bales. The past several weeks has not provided any weather conducive to making conventional bale hay. Home gardeners complained that warm season vegetable crop development continued to be delayed due to the lack of heat units.

Thurston (2nd Report): The weather continued to be cool and wet. Conditions were too wet to make haylage. This could be a bad year for hay.

Whatcom: Showers that turned into periods of rain brought strawberry picking to a halt and heightened grower concern for the onset of mold in some fields. Strawberry producers were in need of breezy conditions to dry out their fields and allow picking of the ripe berries. Beans were being planted while grass chopping continued. Daytime temperatures remained cool at seven degrees below normal.

Central

Benton: Cherry harvest began with early varieties in warm areas. Asparagus cutting continued. Apple thinning, weed control, and irrigation were other activities.

Benton (2nd Report): The cherry crop harvest continued. There were reports of the crop being light but with very good size and price. Temperatures were in the 70's and 80's for the high.

Chelan/Douglas: Some precipitation was received. There were reports of hail from Orondo to Chelan. Cherry and wheat crops were affected. No specific damage was reported. Several cherry producers were reporting smaller than normal crops. The loss is believed to be due to poor pollination due to the wet, cool spring weather. Livestock water continued to be a problem.

Franklin: The first harvest of alfalfa was complete, which will give an adequate supply of hay for both export and dairies. Cherry harvest began. Some of the wheat acres have had damage from stripe rust. Asparagus harvest neared the end and growers were

letting it go to fern.

Franklin (2nd Report): Overall, it was a good growing degree week. Temperatures were near average. Hay was in the second cutting towards the south end of the county. Cherries were being harvested.

Grant: Bean planting in most areas of the county was completed. Pea harvest was underway in the southern portion of the county. Cherry harvest will be earlier this year, beginning in the next week or so.

Kittitas: The first cutting of timothy hay and alfalfa was in full swing. The weather conditions were windy and dry.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from 9 degrees below normal to 4 degrees above normal with no precipitation. There were no new crop losses due to weather conditions.

Eastern

Asotin: There was no measurable precipitation in most areas of the county during the week. Both fall and spring crops benefitted from favorable growing conditions. The hay season was beginning in the lower elevations.

Asotin/Garfield: Summer fallow winter wheat remained in mostly good condition. Recrop winter wheat and spring grain crops were severely stressed due to the drought. Many spring barley fields under 2,000 feet elevation may not head out. Even though showers were received a week ago and the weather remained cool, windy conditions and the overall lack of moisture began to show. Hay producers began swathing and reported the crop was below normal in the lower elevations. Rangeland in the higher elevations was in good to excellent condition. However, in the lower elevations, the rangeland was in poor condition. Several producers reported the grass production in these areas was the worst in several years.

Adams: Cool seasonal temperatures were beneficial, but additional moisture is needed, especially for spring cereals.

Ferry: There has been quite a bit of rain this month which replenished surface moisture. But subsoil moisture was still short following five years of drought.

Ferry/Okanogan: The counties received seven days of good weather which allowed producers to be out in the fields. Saturday brought some precipitation in some of the higher elevations. There were some reports of hail damage to fruit crops in Loomis and Oroville on Friday and Saturday. Temperatures were cooler than normal for this time of year. The spring and winter wheat crops looked good. All spring grains have been planted. Pastures were holding up well. There were a few reports from cattlemen that some water sources were low or not running. About 60 percent of irrigated hay has been swathed and baled. Dryland hay crops also looked good with the recent rains.

Garfield: The weather was much the same as last week with cold, windy and dry conditions.

Lincoln: Rust continued to be a problem on the spring and winter wheat crops. The cool weather helped the winter wheat in areas that did not get rain during the week.

Lincoln (2nd Report): Cool weather was beneficial to an already good wheat crop that was in the process of heading out. A significant number of pastures were looking better, but rain was still needed to compensate for a dry winter and early spring.

Pend Oreille: The temperatures were in the 70's and the lows in the 30's with precipitation of .15 of an inch. Cooler weather slowed the growth of hay and other crops, but temperatures were still average or above average.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: The damp weather without warm temperatures had nearly everyone needing to spray the winter wheat for rust. Different varieties were worse than others, but without warm weather all varieties will need to be sprayed at some time. Very little hay was cut due to the on and off rain showers. Pastures looked good. Spring grains have all been sprayed and looked pretty good.

Stevens: Pastures were growing faster than animals could eat it.

Stevens (2nd Report): Heavy rain most of the week halted haying and field operations. Pastures and grain crops continued to look good.

Whitman: Hessian fly, stripe rust, and cereal leaf beetle were all problems to be on the look out for on wheat crops. These pest problems have been on the increase this year.

Whitman (2nd Report): Cooler, wetter conditions helped development of the grain and pea crops. Peas were blooming and winter wheat was heading out along with much of the spring cereals. Lentils and garbanzo beans would benefit from warmer temperatures. Hay producers could do without the rain on recently swathed alfalfa fields.

Weekly Weather Statistics

June 13, 2005

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	44	67	56	-2	42	-12	0	-7	0.48	0.06	5	35.77	3.25	110	140
Everett	47	67	55	-5	37	-23	0	-9	0.30	-0.20	3	24.50	-8.27	75	135
Hoquiam	43	66	56	-1	45	-2	0	-2	0.44	-0.11	4	53.18	-10.71	83	165
Kelso	42	75	57	-2	52	-9	4	-10	0.08	-0.48	2	26.58	-16.04	62	115
Olympia	45	73	56	-2	47	-6	3	-4	0.26	-0.16	3	37.44	-10.33	78	144
Sea-Tac	48	69	57	-3	53	-15	1	-12	0.41	0.02	3	29.51	-5.07	85	124
Shelton	42	73	57	-4	47	-21	2	-12	0.29	-0.13	3	51.28	-10.71	83	137
Tacoma	45	72	57	-4	49	-19	2	-12	0.40	-0.06	4	25.41	-11.18	69	113
Vancouver	47	77	58	-2	58	-9	4	-10	0.35	-0.07	4	27.65	-10.88	72	135
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	35	76	58	-4	58	-18	5	-17	0.01	-0.13	1	6.66	-1.36	83	77
Stampede Pass	35	59	46	-1	1	-10	0	0	0.53	-0.20	4	57.72	-18.66	76	155
Wenatchee	44	80	61	-5	80	-26	16	-24	0.00	-0.14	0	5.16	-2.17	70	59
Yakima AP	35	80	57	-6	54	-38	7	-24	0.02	-0.12	1	5.69	-1.45	80	74
NORTHEAST															
Colville	40	77	58	-3	54	-17	0	-20	1.21	0.81	6	17.68	-0.71	96	93
Deer Park	33	72	53	-8	21	-48	0	-18	0.09	-0.21	2	17.09	0.91	106	104
Spokane AP	41	72	55	-6	40	-32	2	-18	0.03	-0.30	1	12.44	-2.02	86	89
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	43	80	61	-7	75	-42	14	-36	0.03	-0.11	1	5.42	-1.02	84	56
Moses Lake	42	81	61	-6	80	-37	17	-33	0.00	-0.14	0	5.75	-0.69	89	53
Quincy	42	79	61	-5	77	-24	14	-24	0.00	-0.14	0	5.29	-1.61	77	47
Ritzville	37	76	55	-6	35	-39	1	-19	0.12	-0.02	1	8.19	-1.97	81	58
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	46	85	64	-6	103	-33	33	-33	0.00	-0.07	0	3.31	-2.37	58	41
Pasco	46	84	64	-4	102	-21	32	-23	0.19	0.09	1	5.05	-1.73	74	58
Pullman	36	71	54	-5	27	-30	0	-14	0.00	-0.35	0	5.57	-13.11	30	63
Whitman Miss.	41	81	60	-4	73	-24	14	-20	0.13	-0.08	2	9.55	-2.62	78	89
ID PANHANDLE															
Coeur D' A' AP	36	70	54	-8	35	-43	0	-21	0.08	-0.41	1	10.53	-12.16	46	73
Lewiston ID	45	78	60	-6	70	-35	15	-24	0.40	0.08	2	10.32	0.01	100	85

Summary based on NWS data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Wednesday September 1, 2004

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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