



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 609, Olympia, WA 98507
(360) 902-1940 Fax (360) 902-2091

Washington Crop Weather

Released: June 20, 2005
Week Ending: June 19, 2005
CWP WA-CW2505

Rain Showers Delayed Crop Progress Strawberry Damage Reported

Field Crop

Off and on rain showers followed by sun breaks were experienced in many areas of the state, causing slow crop development. Christmas tree growers continued spraying for aphids in Noble Fir. Some re-crop wheat and barley fields in Garfield County may not be harvested due to drought.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 1% very poor, 20% poor, 27% fair, 50% good, 2% excellent. Hay baling continued whenever the weather permitted. Livestock producers harvested the second cutting of haylage for the year. Stevens County reported alfalfa weevils caused damage in some fields.

Fruits and Vegetables

Sweet cherry harvest and hand thinning of apples and pears were the main activities in many counties. Green pea harvest was underway in Walla Walla County. Strawberry harvest continued. However, Whatcom County growers reported up to a 30% loss due to last week's rain. Some cherry damage may have occurred, due to the showers over the weekend, in Grant County. Grays Harbor greenhouse tomato growers continued harvesting juicy red ripe fruit.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.2
Last Week	5.7

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	3	23	68	6
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	10	28	60	2
Subsoil	8	39	53	0
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	7	38	54	1
Irrigation Water	7	15	78	0
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	0	1	99	0
Hay & Roughage	4	7	86	3

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

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2004	5 Yr. Avg.
Spring Wheat Headed	77	60	59	58
Winter Wheat Headed	98	95	92	91
Barley Headed	73	44	50	51
Potatoes Emerged	100	99	100	100
Corn Planted	100	99	100	100
Corn Emerged	97	93	92	95
Dry Edible Beans Planted	100	98	99	98
Proc. Green Peas Harvested	20	0	0	0
Alfalfa Hay 1 st Cutting	90	84	89	89
Alfalfa Hay 2 nd Cutting	6	5	6	8

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	0	3	22	58	17
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	1	10	61	28
Spring Wheat Dryland	0	8	28	59	5
Spring Wheat Irrigated	2	2	19	67	10
Barley Dryland	1	1	23	72	3
Barley Irrigated	0	2	9	86	3
Potatoes	0	2	11	65	22
Corn	0	0	12	79	9
Dry Edible Beans	0	1	19	80	0

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

Grays Harbor: Heavy rain showers throughout the week expedited sweet corn germination and growth. The moisture combined with several days of warm temperatures was ideal for plant growth. Christmas tree growers continued spraying for aphids in Noble fir. Livestock producers harvested the second cutting of haylage. U-Pick strawberry growers were disappointed with slow berry sales due to several days of rain. Greenhouse tomato growers continued harvesting juicy red ripe fruit, with heavy demand from consumers. Spring flower bulb growers were disking in cover crops in preparation for fall bulb planting.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: Another week of occasional showers delayed the hay harvest for another week. Planting was finished on most crops. It appeared the wet spots will not get planted this year.

Lewis: The weather was a mix of heavy rain followed by sun breaks. Crops were slow to develop. Peas had just emerged. Corn and tomatoes were at a standstill. Overnight temperatures were lower than average.

Pierce: Continuing lowering of irrigation water amounts created a potential negative effect on irrigated feed producing fields which are dependent upon that water source for production.

Pierce/South King: Crop conditions improved in the South Puget Sound area with the warmer temperatures. Crops may have a chance to catch up to where they should be for this time of year. There were no unusual situations to report and no damaged crops due to a weather event.

Snohomish/King: Crops and pastures were growing well. Strawberry harvest continued. Some raspberries were ready for picking. Blueberries were still green. Local hay was past ready for cutting, but weekly rains have postponed harvest.

Thurston: Unseasonably cool temperatures with heavy rain showers provided less than ideal conditions for most crops. Strawberry growers continued to express concern that the wet weather decreased U-Pick customer numbers. Livestock producers who had hoped to make conventional square bale hay found themselves harvesting another crop of haylage due to wet conditions. Christmas tree growers were placing sticks in trees for the birds to roost on, in hopes of preventing extensive leader damage. Blueberry growers reported early varieties were showing color. Berry harvest was predicted to begin about July 5, which is a week later than last year. So far the crop looked good. Truck farmers reported excellent sales of both vegetables and strawberries at the Olympia's Farmer's Market.

Thurston (2nd Report): Hay was being cut and haylage bales were being wrapped. The crop looked great. Farmers were doing haylage because it hasn't been possible to do square or dry bales.

Whatcom: The final emergence of seed potatoes was up six inches and looked good. Strawberry harvest slowed down in its third week. Growers reported up to 30 percent losses due to 'grey berries' from last week's rain. Raspberry harvest was anticipated to begin by the end of the week. High temperatures for the week averaged slightly cooler than normal at 65 degrees, with lows in the 50's and .41 inches of precipitation fell at Lynden.

Central

Benton: Dry and very windy conditions continued for the county. The cherry harvest was nearly finished. There were no reports of any crop damage.

Chelan/Douglas/Okanogan: Sweet cherry harvest and hand thinning of apples and pears were the main work activities. The labor supply was somewhat short, and growers will require many more workers for the cherry harvest over the next 3-4 weeks—then tapering off in early August. Pear harvest may begin about August 10 and will continue well into September. Apple harvest will start August 15 and will end in early November. The mild winter and cool spring improved the general health of all fruit trees.

Chelan/Douglas (2nd Report): Cherry harvest began. Several producers were reporting high losses, which they attribute to weather related conditions such as poor pollination due to the cool, wet spring. Precipitation was received over the weekend. Growers on Stemilt Hill reported hail and estimate high losses to the apple crop. There were no reports concerning cherry losses due to the rain. Spring pastures were benefitting from the precipitation, as were the winter and spring wheat crops.

Franklin: Concerned about weekend rain, most alfalfa growers waited for the new week to begin the second cutting of alfalfa. Cherry harvest was going strong, while asparagus harvest neared the end.

Grant: Some showers were received over the weekend, which may have caused damage to cherries. Most spring

crops have been planted, with the exception of some double-cropped sweet corn. The corn will be planted after the fresh peas have been harvested. The first cutting of timothy hay was underway and the first cutting of alfalfa was complete, with some reports of rain damage.

Kittitas: A significant percentage of the timothy hay first cutting was cut and baled during the week and weekend. Unsettled, but mostly warm weather allowed those with a higher tolerance for risk to take a chance on the spotty rain. More than 50 percent was harvested. Some sweet corn was knee high already, but most were 6-12 inches by the end of the week. The weather has been excellent for cows and calves and yearlings, which do poorer when the heat arrives. Rangeland generally west of the Valley received a few heavy rains. Much of the rain ran off, so drought conditions continued but not too severe.

Kittitas (2nd Report): Some showers were received Thursday evening and again on Saturday afternoon. Most of the hay had been baled and was off the field.

Klickitat: Unseasonably cold, wet weather was followed by a few days of heat. The lack of rain helped minimize the impact of stripe rust on small grains. The first cutting of hay tonnage was below normal.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from 6 degrees below normal to 2 degrees above normal, with a trace of precipitation. There were no new crop losses due to weather conditions.

Eastern

Asotin/Garfield: Winter wheat planted on summer fallow was in mostly good condition in both counties. Recrop wheat and barley were also in good condition in Asotin County and in the higher elevations of Garfield County. However, recrop wheat and barley in over half of Garfield County was in the poorest condition in many years. There were some fields that may not get harvested. The drought has caused severe yield reductions in areas under 2,500 feet elevation. Rangeland in areas under 2,500 feet were also in poor condition. At least one producer began feeding hay due to the poor pasture conditions in this area. Rangeland in the higher elevations were in very good condition this year.

Adams: Weather conditions were nice overall, with mostly pleasant temperatures that allowed for normal progression of all crops. Unsettled weather passed through on Friday but didn't affect hay or cherry growers. Wheat in the lower and drier elevations began to show some color.

Garfield: Hot weather began. Spring grains were full of aphids.

Lincoln: Cool weather was good for the wheat crop. Wheat was filling nicely but with small heads.

Lincoln (2nd Report): Rain slightly delayed the baling of hay, but the precipitation and moderate temperatures continued to benefit grain crops, although rust was reported. Pastures continued to be helped by the moisture.

Pend Oreille: The temperatures were in the high 70's and the lows were in the 30's with precipitation of 1.05 of an inch. Warm weather with showers brought crops back into a high growth period. Some areas were looking at an early alfalfa cutting. Most were working to get harvest equipment ready. Livestock pastures were still green and growing, even with animals in the pastures.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: Both counties received rain and thunderstorms during the week. A few farmers began cutting hay, but unfortunately it was rained on. Some of the crops have showed signs of rust and were sprayed when the weather permitted.

Stevens: Several heavy rain events occurred during the week. Some hay producers were complaining they had hay down for several weeks. Just about the time it was raked and almost ready to bale, another rain event would occur. Good haying weather is needed soon. Alfalfa weevils were damaging some fields while others were starting to bloom. Pastures and grain crops looked excellent.

Walla Walla: The weather continued to be mild with no extreme temperatures all week. There was a threat of rain showers but nothing developed. Crops continued to turn. Green pea harvest was underway, and hay growers were busy baling.

Weekly Weather Statistics

June 20, 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	46	73	59	0	62	1	4	-3	0.31	-0.11	2	36.08	3.14	110	142
Everett	49	72	60	0	70	2	7	-7	0.58	0.09	3	25.08	-8.18	75	138
Hoquiam	45	75	59	3	67	15	8	1	0.46	-0.03	3	53.64	-10.74	83	168
Kelso	43	81	61	2	80	10	15	-1	0.05	-0.44	1	26.63	-16.48	62	116
Olympia	40	79	60	2	73	12	12	4	0.52	0.12	2	37.96	-10.21	79	146
Sea-Tac	50	76	61	0	79	1	13	-5	0.66	0.31	2	30.17	-4.76	86	126
Shelton	44	79	60	-2	68	-8	8	-13	0.56	0.14	3	51.84	-10.57	83	140
Tacoma	43	77	60	-1	73	-3	10	-7	0.59	0.17	2	26.00	-11.01	70	115
Vancouver	44	80	61	1	81	6	15	-6	0.52	0.13	4	28.17	-10.75	72	139
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	43	83	61	-2	81	-7	14	-16	0.02	-0.12	1	6.68	-1.48	82	78
Stampede Pass	40	71	53	5	23	8	1	1	0.63	-0.06	5	58.35	-18.72	76	160
Wenatchee	46	81	64	-4	98	-20	28	-24	0.00	-0.14	0	5.16	-2.31	69	59
Yakima AP	39	81	61	-4	82	-21	15	-24	0.00	-0.14	0	5.69	-1.59	78	74
NORTHEAST															
Colville	43	83	62	1	86	5	20	-6	1.62	1.27	5	19.30	0.56	103	98
Deer Park	35	75	54	-8	32	-51	0	-26	0.72	0.44	5	17.81	1.35	108	109
Spokane AP	46	76	58	-5	57	-29	3	-24	0.14	-0.14	2	12.58	-2.16	85	91
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	49	80	64	-6	97	-33	27	-36	0.00	-0.10	0	5.42	-1.12	83	56
Moses Lake	46	81	63	-7	94	-36	24	-39	0.00	-0.10	0	5.75	-0.79	88	53
Quincy	48	81	63	-4	93	-20	24	-22	0.04	-0.08	1	5.33	-1.69	76	48
Ritzville	41	80	59	-4	67	-21	7	-22	0.10	-0.04	3	8.29	-2.01	80	61
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	47	81	66	-6	114	-34	44	-35	0.00	-0.07	0	3.31	-2.44	58	41
Pasco	45	86	66	-4	111	-25	41	-25	0.02	-0.05	1	5.07	-1.78	74	59
Pullman	40	75	56	-4	45	-22	1	-19	0.13	-0.22	2	5.70	-13.33	30	65
Whitman Miss.	42	79	62	-4	85	-24	18	-27	0.13	-0.08	3	9.68	-2.70	78	92
ID PANHANDLE															
Coeur D' A' AP	43	81	56	-8	44	-48	7	-23	0.07	-0.42	3	10.60	-12.58	46	76
Lewiston ID	45	84	62	-5	88	-31	23	-29	0.49	0.21	2	10.81	0.22	102	87

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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