



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service
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Washington Crop Weather

Released: July 5, 2005
Week Ending: July 3, 2005
CWP WA-CW2705

Russian Wheat Aphid Infected Barley and Spring Wheat Second Hay Cutting in Full Swing

Field Crop

A week of sunny weather was experienced in most areas of the state which helped accelerate crop development. Garfield County reported Russian wheat aphid infestation in a large portion of spring wheat. Barley growers also reported problems with Russian wheat aphid. Franklin County reported grass seed fields were shattered due to strong wind, causing extensive damage in several fields. Some minor damage to wheat was also reported. Winter wheat ripened in some areas. Christmas tree growers mowed weeds in plantations and continued monitoring for aphids. Seed potatoes began to bloom in Whatcom County.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 3% very poor, 22 % poor, 26% fair, 48% good, and 1% excellent. Thurston turfgrass growers began irrigating mature fields scheduled for harvest. Pend Oreille and Spokane Counties reported hay was not as heavy as normal and bluegrass seed crop will not be as good as normal. A fair amount of heads did not make seed due to lodging early in the pollination process. Second hay cutting was in full swing.

Fruits and Vegetables

Early apricot picking was underway in Grant County. Cherry harvest was in full swing. Raspberry and blueberry harvest continued. Growers spot sprayed blackberries with glyphosate. A few orchards in Grant County showed extreme stress due to the drought north of Prosser.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.4
Last Week	6.5

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	5	32	62	1
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	10	33	57	0
Subsoil	10	46	44	0
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	7	43	50	0
Irrigation Water	6	11	83	0
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	0	2	97	1
Hay & Roughage	3	5	89	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	97	95	98	90
Winter Wheat Headed	99	99	100	100
Barley Headed	97	96	97	89
Potatoes Harvested	2	1	0	0
Proc. Green Peas Harvested	50	30	0	0
Dry Peas Harvested	15	0	0	0
Alfalfa Hay 1 st Cutting	99	96	98	98
Alfalfa Hay 2 nd Cutting	44	22	34	43

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	0	4	23	60	13
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	12	64	24
Spring Wheat Dryland	0	7	31	57	5
Spring Wheat Irrigated	1	1	20	66	12
Barley Dryland	7	12	27	50	4
Barley Irrigated	1	1	3	85	10
Potatoes	0	0	5	65	30
Corn	0	0	10	78	12
Dry Edible Beans	0	2	26	70	2

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 early in the week continued to keep soil moisture levels adequate for crop growth. The lack of heat units however, continued to delay crop development. Christmas tree growers were mowing weeds in plantations and spot spraying blackberries and Canada thistle with glyphosate. U-Pick raspberry and blueberry growers were gearing up for harvest slated to begin next week. Livestock producers continued to make haylage.

Mason: If you believed the weather forecast, you didn't cut hay this week. Cool and humid with showers predicted. Farmers didn't and wished now they did, although it had been marginal weather, they could have cut and brought in their fields. As it stands now, they will cut Monday unless it is raining outside. Farmers decided if they cannot harvest this week they might as well flail mow it all and let the cows in to graze it down. Typical Western Washington hay dilemma.

Mason (2nd Report): Local vegetable growers were competing with weed populations that the strange June and July weather had favored. Pastures were producing well, but hay was still posing a challenge as farmers faced the difficulty of finding enough dry days in a row to get the cut hay baled before it rained again.

Pierce: Potentially useful irrigation water continued to be dumped into the various rivers which will create an irrigation short fall in the next few weeks when second cutting hay requires irrigation to make a productive cutting.

Pierce/King: Crop conditions remained good for the South Puget Sound area. No unusual situations to report. No report of crop damage due to a weather event.

San Juan Island/Skagit: Weather was mild and warm. No crop losses were reported.

Thurston: Crop development continued to be delayed due to cooler than normal temperatures. Vegetable and berry growers both complained about the lack of heat units. Although there is still soil moisture available from heavy rainfall early in the week, turfgrass growers began irrigating mature fields scheduled for harvest. Christmas tree growers began top working Nordman Fir and continued monitoring for aphids on Noble and Shasta Fir. Livestock producers continued to wait for weather conducive to making square bale hay. U-Pick raspberry growers were gearing up for harvest while strawberry growers began winding down harvest activities for the year.

Thurston (2nd Report): The drought was back and the ground was getting hard and dry. The grasses were maturing and starting to brown. We can probably get on the low reed canary grass ground now, but the hay cutting man moved on and won't be back until the second cut around the 1st of August. So far it's been a strange summer, from wet to bone-dry overnight.

Whatcom: Seed potatoes had begun to bloom. Raspberry harvest continued as well as haying and green chopping of grass.

Central

Benton: Received a few spotty showers at the beginning of the week with a lot of wind. Cherry harvest was over. A few orchards started to show extreme stress, due to the drought north of Prosser. A few producers were expecting a high production of grapes, with at least one of the wine grape distributors paying the producer to harvest but will be dumping the wine grape harvest, only on a few varieties.

Chelan/Douglas: Warm, windy conditions were present. Wheat crop was beginning to turn. The crop looked to be in good condition, county-wide. Cherry harvest was in full swing. Yields were lower than originally expected.

Franklin: Excellent hay was currently being baled on second cut.

Franklin (2nd Report): All row crops appeared to be in good shape. Some second cutting hay was rained on with some bleaching which reduced the quality. One wind event

in the last two weeks scattered some windrowed grass seed fields and shattered seeds which caused extensive damage in several fields along with some minor wheat damage. A good couple of weeks for crop growth pea and hay harvest.

Grant: First cutting of timothy hay and second cutting of alfalfa hay had started. Fresh pea harvest was underway. Cherry harvest began in the southern portion of the county. Dryland winter wheat looked very good, with harvest to begin in the next ten days.

Grant (2nd Report): Cherry harvest was underway. Early Apricot picking was underway.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from three degrees below normal to nine degrees above normal, with no precipitation. No new crop loss due to weather conditions were reported.

Eastern

Asotin/Garfield: Not much change in crop conditions as weather was hot and dry with windy conditions at times. Harvest will start about a week earlier than normal.

Ferry/Okanogan: The county received seven good days to be in the field. Temperatures were warmer than normal. Higher elevations received scattered showers. The winter wheat crop looked good as a result of earlier rains. Early cherry picking was in full swing. A few alfalfa growers were picking up the last of the crop.

Garfield: Barley had drought damage and was loaded with Russian Wheat Aphids. Some barley will not be cut. Spring wheat has Russian Wheat Aphids with up to 100 percent of tillers infected. Winter crop harvest will likely begin in two weeks with average yields.

Lincoln: Good ripening weather for the winter wheat. The little rains we had laid down wheat in the draws.

Lincoln (2nd Report): Rains early in the week benefitted spring crops and pasture, although it delayed the baling of hay for a significant number of producers with hay on the ground. Winter wheat was steadily ripening and harvest will just be around the corner for the southwestern part of the county.

Pend Oreille: Temperatures for the highs were 78 degrees and the lows were 39 degrees with precipitation .55 inches. Rain early in the week helped to revive young plants and revitalized pastures that showed signs of lack of water. Subsoil was still quite moist. Hay was three feet high and thick. Main cutting was underway in some areas. Livestock was looking good with new growth in pastures due to warmer weather and rain showers.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: A week of fairly good weather. Most of the county received a small amount of rain, ¹/₃ of an inch and some parts received up to an inch of rain. The temperatures also warmed up towards the end of the week. Hay was being cut and baled and blue grass seed was being swathed. Reports from both crops are that the hay was not as heavy as normal and that the bluegrass seed crop will not be as good as originally thought. A fair amount of the heads did not make seed due to lodging too early in the pollination process. Winter wheat was starting to turn slightly and the rain received was helpful to the maturing crops.

Whitman: Nearly half an inch of rain was reported in much of the county over the week. The rains in the last week of June brought precipitation totals for the month to nearly normal levels in most areas. Spraying for rust in wheat and aphids in peas continued. Generally crops looked very good, peas were about done blooming and winter wheat was turning.

Weekly Weather Statistics

July 5, 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	48	70	60	-1	72	-3	8	-6	0.18	-0.17	1	36.66	2.97	109	146
Everett	52	71	60	-2	73	-8	8	-12	0.32	-0.06	3	25.87	-8.21	76	145
Hoquiam	49	67	60	2	71	8	3	-4	0.21	-0.16	3	54.04	-11.14	83	173
Kelso	50	79	63	2	96	12	27	6	0.68	0.33	1	27.43	-16.47	62	119
Olympia	44	78	61	1	82	5	13	-1	0.23	-0.05	1	38.30	-10.50	78	149
Sea-Tac	51	77	62	-2	85	-9	16	-12	0.15	-0.12	1	30.43	-5.10	86	130
Shelton	44	76	61	-3	79	-12	11	-17	0.18	-0.13	1	52.13	-10.96	83	144
Tacoma	48	79	62	-2	85	-6	15	-11	0.15	-0.16	1	26.30	-11.41	70	118
Vancouver	49	81	65	3	103	12	33	5	0.39	0.12	1	28.82	-10.70	73	143
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	50	87	68	3	126	16	56	11	0.01	-0.06	1	6.69	-1.66	80	79
Stampede Pass	44	70	54	3	32	4	2	2	0.48	0.00	4	58.92	-19.23	75	165
Wenatchee	54	90	70	0	143	-1	73	-1	0.00	-0.08	0	5.16	-2.53	67	59
Yakima AP	44	90	68	1	128	4	58	1	0.00	-0.07	0	5.70	-1.76	76	75
NORTHEAST															
Colville	44	85	66	3	116	15	46	9	1.01	0.75	4	20.31	1.01	105	102
Deer Park	40	82	61	-5	78	-33	16	-30	1.63	1.42	5	19.44	2.49	115	114
Spokane AP	48	83	63	-3	94	-17	30	-16	0.64	0.43	3	13.22	-2.01	87	94
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	57	89	70	-3	141	-15	71	-16	0.44	0.35	2	5.86	-0.84	87	58
Moses Lake	53	90	69	-4	134	-22	64	-23	0.17	0.08	3	5.92	-0.78	88	56
Quincy	52	88	70	1	139	7	69	5	0.02	-0.05	2	5.35	-1.81	75	50
Ritzville	42	88	65	-2	106	-8	36	-11	0.40	0.26	3	8.69	-1.89	82	64
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	52	96	71	-5	151	-22	81	-23	0.03	-0.04	1	3.37	-2.52	57	44
Pasco	48	97	71	-2	150	-7	80	-8	0.00	-0.07	0	5.07	-1.92	73	59
Pullman	40	82	62	-2	84	-5	24	-5	0.10	-0.16	1	5.80	-13.81	30	66
Whitman Miss.	46	92	68	-2	125	-6	55	-8	0.31	0.17	3	10.02	-2.67	79	96
ID PANHANDLE															
Coeur D' A' AP	46	82	62	-4	89	-26	24	-23	0.23	-0.09	3	10.85	-13.07	45	80
Lewiston ID	53	91	70	-2	140	-8	70	-8	0.40	0.19	3	11.21	0.13	101	90

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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