



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service
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Washington Crop Weather

Released: July 18, 2005
Week Ending: July 17, 2005
CWP WA-CW2905

Winter Wheat Harvest in Full Swing Onion Seed Harvest Underway

Field Crop

Warm temperatures with some spot rains were experienced in many areas of the state. Harvest gradually moved as fields became golden. Winter wheat harvest was in full swing in many counties with above average yields.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 5% very poor, 22% poor, 27% fair, 45% good, and 1% excellent. Some hay producers struggled to dry hay for bailing due to the rain late in the week. Some hay damage was reported. Turfgrass growers continued cultivating harvested fields for re-seeding. Pacific County shellfish growers continued harvesting along with burrowing shrimp control activities.

Fruits and Vegetables

Fresh pea harvest wended down. Early cherry harvest completed in Ferry, Okanogan, Douglas, and Chelan Counties. Onion seed harvest was underway in Grant and Walla Walla Counties. Blueberry harvest continued. Pacific raspberry growers continued to deal with fungus problems in the final days of harvest.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.7
Last Week	5.7

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	9	28	63	0
Topsoil 5Yr Avg	13	40	47	0
Subsoil	16	47	37	0
Subsoil 5Yr Avg	9	43	48	0
Irrigation Water	10	14	76	0
Irrigation Water 5Yr Avg	0	6	94	0
Hay & Roughage	5	10	81	4

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	100	99	99	100
Winter Wheat Harvested	8	2	6	6
Barley Headed	99	98	99	100
Potatoes Harvested	9	3	10	10
Proc. Green Peas Harvested	95	75	80	90
Dry Peas Harvested	40	17	4	4
Alfalfa Hay 1 st Cutting	99	99	99	100
Alfalfa Hay 2 nd Cutting	75	65	70	79
Alfalfa Hay 3 rd Cutting	2	1	2	4

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	2	6	23	50	19
Winter Wheat Irrigated	1	3	16	62	18
Spring Wheat Dryland	2	9	43	44	2
Spring Wheat Irrigated	6	6	20	58	10
Barley Dryland	2	20	38	37	3
Barley Irrigated	6	10	15	63	6
Potatoes	0	2	11	53	34
Corn	0	0	13	70	17
Dry Edible Beans	2	5	36	55	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: Warm temperatures this past week reaching the low eighties resulted in rapid growth of both sweet corn and silage corn. Livestock producers took advantage of the dry weather to make conventional square bale hay. Christmas tree growers began top working Noble fir trees. U-Pick raspberry and blueberry growers reported excellent sales. Although soils were beginning to dry, there was still sufficient soil moisture for pastures to remain green.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: Above normal rains plagued hay and silage harvest. While quantities were good, quality was another story. As a general statement, most hay was over ripe and some of the early silage was very high moisture. Cool weather was slowing corn growth. In short, summer was over due.

Mason: The area received a trace of rain with humid cloudy weather up until Saturday and Sunday. Now we have switched into summer mode with a week of warm weather predicted ahead. Hay was cut all week and the quality was average. It is time to irrigate.

Pacific: Cooler than normal temperatures continued to influence agricultural operations and harvests. Hay producers struggled to dry hay for baling with cool weather conditions, and raspberry growers continued to deal with fungus problems in the final days of harvest. With heat units below normal, crop development has been slower than normal. For shellfish growers, harvest operations continued along with burrowing shrimp control activities.

Pierce/King: The weather conditions were very good for all the crops in the South Puget Sound area. No unusual situations to report. No crop damage due to a weather event was reported.

San Juan: Most hay was cut and baled. Farmers markets were full of summer produce. Asian Plums were getting ripe and thanks in part to warmer weather, picking will start this week.

Skagit: All berries were being harvested, with most strawberries harvested. First picking of raspberries was complete. Blueberries were just beginning.

Snohomish/King: Showers late in the week slowed field work and damaged hay that had been cut early in the week. A few farmers got their bales in before they were too wet. Blueberry harvest was underway. Pastures were growing well with our continued precipitation. Unfortunately, the moisture was contributing to huge slug populations and fungal disease problems for home gardeners.

Thurston: Summer weather finally arrived with temperatures reaching the mid eighties over the weekend. Agricultural producers spent most of the week getting irrigation systems in place. Turfgrass growers continued cultivating harvested fields for re-seeding. Both blueberry and raspberry growers were pleased that the rain has stopped with warm temperatures hastening fruit ripening. Livestock producers took advantage of the first good week of weather to begin making square bale hay. Christmas tree growers continued top working Noble fir trees and began shearing Grand fir trees. Several growers reported early tree sales.

Thurston (2nd Report): Pasture was holding well. The cattle were looking fat, and the yearling bull was very busy.

Central

Benton: Wheat harvest continued in most of the county. Hot temperatures continued, and this will have an impact on some of the orchards with limited water.

Chelan/Douglas: The counties experienced warm temperatures and wind. Only light rain was received one day. Early cherry harvest was completed. Winter wheat harvest was expected to begin in some areas of the county. Dry conditions continued in range and pastures.

Grant: Fresh pea harvest was winding down. Early sweet corn harvest began in the southern part of the county. Cherry harvest continued, with average yields being obtained. Onion seed harvest was underway. Dryland wheat harvest began, with above average yields expected.

Eastern

Adams: Winter wheat harvest started and will be in full swing this week as most growers throughout the county will be harvesting. Initial yield reports were limited but appeared to be consistent with current winter wheat crop conditions.

Asotin/Garfield: Winter wheat harvest began, with reports of good yields.

Ferry/Okanogan: The area received up to two tenths of precipitation on Friday evening and Saturday morning. Early cherry harvest was completed. Winter wheat crop looked good. Reports from ranchers indicated that the rangeland was still good in most areas.

Lincoln: Winter wheat harvest started in the southwest corner and will be quickly progressing throughout the county this week. Most growers in the southern half of the county should be starting harvest if favorable weather conditions continue.

Pend Oreille: Temperature highs were 82 degrees, lows 38 degrees, with precipitation at two tenths of an inch.

Warm weather allowed harvest of hay, most farms were in full cutting and bailing mode. Slight rain in south county did little damage, but mid county had considerable more rain requiring turning of wind rows, hay left bailed in field could have mold damage if square bailed. Most hay fields were already picked up but some hay was still in the fields. Livestock were in full shedding of winter coats and fattening up nicely with green pastures, which continued to grow due to late rains.

Stevens: Over one inch of rain this week improved pasture but left the area with badly rain-damaged hay.

Walla Walla: Harvest of vegetable crops was in full swing. Onion harvest was going well. Much of the area was cutting wheat, Columbia County was getting started this week. Wine grape production expected to be very abundant this year.

Whitman: Fields continued to ripen under seasonal July heat. Harvest was gradually moving eastward as fields became golden.

Weekly Weather Statistics

July 18, 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	50	76	63	+1	91	+7	22	+1	0.08	-0.20	3	37.32	+3.01	109	154	
Everett	54	75	63	+1	93	+3	24	+3	0.18	-0.10	3	26.32	-8.35	76	151	
Hoquiam	51	81	63	+3	90	+17	20	+11	0.13	-0.15	4	55.63	-10.15	85	182	
Kelso	54	88	67	+4	123	+127	53	+25	0.00	-0.21	0	28.04	-16.32	63	122	
Olympia	50	83	64	+2	100	+10	30	+9	0.11	-0.66	1	39.23	-9.95	80	154	
Seattle-Tacoma	55	82	65	+0	108	+3	38	+2	0.02	-0.13	1	31.21	-4.68	87	134	
Shelton	49	84	63	-3	96	-8	27	-8	0.34	+0.13	2	53.55	-10.00	84	149	
Tacoma	50	81	65	+1	105	+4	35	+0	0.00	-0.20	0	26.74	-11.40	70	121	
Vancouver	57	89	70	+6	142	+39	72	+37	0.00	-0.18	0	29.10	-10.81	73	147	
CENTRAL																
Ellensburg	48	91	69	+2	139	+13	69	+13	0.00	-0.07	0	6.70	-1.79	79	80	
Omak AP	49	89	70	+3	139	+17	69	+14	0.19	+0.05	2	9.34	-4.37	68	78	
Stampede Pass	47	80	59	+4	61	+21	11	+4	0.08	-0.22	2	60.23	-18.60	76	171	
Wenatchee	57	90	74	+1	166	+3	96	+2	0.00	-0.05	0	5.16	-2.65	66	59	
Yakima AP	46	95	69	-1	138	-2	68	-2	0.00	-0.01	0	5.70	-1.84	76	75	
NORTHEAST																
Colville	46	91	67	+2	122	+8	52	+4	0.62	+0.42	1	21.38	+1.67	108	105	
Deer Park	43	87	64	-6	99	-35	29	-35	0.14	-0.07	2	20.76	+3.39	120	118	
Republic	42	83	62	-2	86	-9	16	-14	0.08	-0.13	2	13.48	-0.34	98	91	
Spokane AP	51	90	69	+0	133	+2	63	+1	0.16	+0.02	1	14.31	-1.22	92	97	
EAST CENTRAL																
Ephrata	52	91	73	-3	161	-14	91	-14	0.00	-0.07	0	5.98	-0.86	87	59	
Moses Lake	54	94	72	-3	158	-17	88	-17	0.00	-0.07	0	6.17	-0.67	90	57	
Quincy	52	89	71	+1	152	+5	82	+5	0.00	-0.06	0	5.39	-1.90	74	51	
Ritzville	49	94	69	-1	131	-3	61	-3	0.03	-0.04	1	9.02	-1.76	84	67	
SOUTHEAST																
Hanford	58	101	76	-2	185	-9	115	-9	0.00	+0.00	0	3.37	-2.56	57	44	
Pasco	52	102	75	+1	179	+6	109	+5	0.00	+0.00	0	5.32	-1.71	76	60	
Pullman	41	94	67	+2	118	+12	48	+8	0.00	-0.14	0	5.95	-14.01	30	67	
Walla Walla_Rgn	57	99	76	+1	183	+6	113	+6	0.00	-0.11	0	12.04	-6.44	65	91	
Whitman Mission	47	99	71	+0	152	+5	82	+5	0.00	-0.07	0	10.16	-2.73	79	98	
ID PANHANDLE																
Coeur D' A` AP	48	88	67	-3	117	-17	47	-18	0.14	-0.06	2	11.55	-12.81	47	84	
Lewiston ID	55	101	75	+2	179	+10	109	+9	0.00	-0.14	0	11.47	+0.09	101	92	

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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