



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service
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Washington Crop Weather

Released: October 17, 2005
Week Ending: October 16, 2005
CWP WA-CW4205

Winter Wheat Seeding Continued Calves Being Shipped

Field Crops

Washington experienced sporadic rain showers throughout the week. Passing showers helped maintain moisture conditions but much additional rain is needed. Potato digging and corn harvest for silage and grain continued. Dry edible beans harvest wound down. Winter wheat seeding progressed as normal with many producers finished. Christmas tree growers continued basal pruning and preparing fields for harvest.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 6% very poor, 21% poor, 25% fair, and 48% good. Alfalfa cutting hay continued. Franklin County reported alfalfa hay was rained on. Calves were being weaned and some were being shipped for delivery.

Fruits and Vegetables

Apple, sweet corn, and fall vegetable harvests continued. Some areas reported harvest of apples and sweet corn was close to being complete. Snohomish and King Counties experienced apple scab and maggot problems. Pumpkin harvest was underway in many areas.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.0
Last Week	5.3

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	9	23	64	4
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	18	41	38	3
Subsoil	33	35	32	0
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	13	48	39	0
Irrigation Water	9	11	80	0
Irrigation Water	0	5	94	0
Hay & Roughage	4	10	78	8

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

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2004	5 Yr. Avg.
Winter Wheat Planted	87	79	94	95
Winter Wheat Emerged	48	44	81	79
Potatoes Harvested	85	75	90	85
Corn Silage Harvested	83	65	80	87
Dry Edible Beans Harvested	99	92	96	95
Alfalfa Hay 3rd Cutting	99	99	100	100

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	3	3	45	35	14
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	0	100	0
Corn	0	0	17	63	20

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: Numerous rain showers and cooler temperatures limited the completion of fall chores for most ag producers. The sweet corn harvest was complete. Growers were busy sowing winter rye in harvested fields. Christmas tree growers continued basal pruning and preparing harvest roads.

Pierce/S. King: Crop conditions remained normal. There were no unusual situations to report or crop damage due to a weather event.

Skagit/Island/San Juan: The weather was wet during the week, with some winds. There were no crop losses reported.

Snohomish/N. King: Strong winds and considerable rain were received at the end of the week. Accumulations of over an inch was received in some areas. There were lots of leaves on the ground for gardeners to rake up.

Thurston: Christmas tree growers began preparing fields for harvest. The cool temperatures and rain showers helped “green up” trees. Turfgrass growers had to stop field cultivation due to muddy conditions. Livestock producers were pleased with rapid pasture growth. U-Pick pumpkin farms continued to do a brisk business despite less than ideal weather conditions. Truck gardeners were harvesting the last of the corn crop.

Thurston (2nd Report): Fields were riddled with holes made by voles. Haylage bales that have been on the ground since mid-June were being fed to livestock. Many bales had been entered by voles, but spoilage was limited. If spoilage continues, hay could be in short supply.

Whatcom: Monday .30 inches of rain was received, followed by three dry days for fieldwork. There was concern about removing the remaining field corn as continual rain has fallen since Friday night. Standing water was visible throughout the county.

Central

Franklin: Thirty to 40 percent of the last cutting of alfalfa was damaged due to rain on harvested alfalfa. Much of that alfalfa will only make feeder grade hay.

Grant: Potato harvest continued. Bean harvest and the fourth cutting of alfalfa was winding down. Apple harvest was coming to an end. Dryland winter wheat planting was finished, with decent stands being reported.

Kittitas: Farmers were plowing fields. The weather was cool with little rain.

Okanogan/Ferry: Apple harvest was close to complete. There were still a couple of producers that have not completed their third cutting of hay. Calves were being weaned, and some producers were starting to ship them for delivery.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from two degrees below normal to nine degrees above normal, with a trace of precipitation. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported.

Eastern

Adams: Winter wheat seeding was complete if no additional precipitation is received within the next couple of weeks.

Asotin/Garfield: Planting of winter wheat progressed as normal with many producers finishing up. Other producers were waiting for more precipitation. Wheat that was seeded earlier has resulted in spotty stands in most areas due to lack of moisture. Rain is needed soon for proper establishment of winter wheat prior to winter setting in. Rangeland continued to be in very poor condition in many areas. Some producers began feeding hay, as there has been little to no new growth in fall pastures.

Pend Oreille: Temperature high was 60 degrees and the low was 26 degrees with .3 inches of precipitation. No crops were left in fields. Pastures were being supplemented with hay for livestock.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: Rain from the past several weeks took awhile to dry out. Fall work progressed. A large amount of winter was seeded, with some moisture still available for germination hopefully. Cattle were still grazing on the available pasture and will be moved to winter areas in the next couple of weeks. Apple harvest continued at Green Bluff.

Walla Walla: Winter wheat crops were being seeded. Some areas were complete with the crop already up. The area is still in serious need of more precipitation.

Whitman: Cool mornings were common for this time of year. Fire season for burning wheat stubble has fallen off. Most winter wheat was planted.

Whitman (2nd Report): Weather conditions remained warmer than normal. Passing showers improved moisture conditions, but additional rains are needed. Producers in the central and eastern part of the county were wrapping up seeding.

Weekly Weather Statistics

October 17, 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	40	71	53	3	26	13	0	0	1.28	0.56	6	3.54	0.09	103	18
Everett	49	71	55	4	38	21	2	2	0.57	-0.07	6	2.51	-1.01	71	19
Hoquiam	42	62	54	-1	32	-1	0	0	0.78	-0.49	6	4.88	-1.03	83	20
Kelso	43	70	55	2	38	13	0	0	0.45	-0.32	4	3.20	-0.80	80	16
Olympia	42	72	54	4	26	15	0	0	0.85	0.00	5	4.01	-0.01	100	19
Sea-Tac	48	69	55	3	39	14	1	1	0.45	-0.20	4	1.99	-1.25	61	17
Shelton	44	68	54	2	30	8	0	0	0.71	-0.37	5	4.76	-0.15	97	18
Tacoma	43	73	55	3	39	20	0	0	0.53	-0.12	3	2.42	-0.87	74	14
Vancouver	43	68	56	4	44	21	0	0	0.28	-0.35	5	2.78	-0.58	83	18
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	35	71	55	7	37	29	0	0	0.00	-0.13	0	0.36	-0.36	50	6
Stampede Pass	41	57	47	7	0	0	0	0	0.94	-0.34	6	7.87	1.78	129	19
Wenatchee	39	68	55	4	40	20	0	0	0.00	-0.07	0	0.22	-0.34	39	5
Yakima AP	34	71	54	4	34	18	1	1	0.00	-0.08	0	0.37	-0.20	65	6
NORTHEAST															
Colville	33	68	52	6	20	16	0	0	0.07	-0.17	1	1.08	-0.56	66	9
Deer Park	26	70	50	2	13	5	0	0	0.11	-0.10	1	1.23	-0.08	94	10
Spokane AP	37	68	53	5	20	11	0	0	0.08	-0.13	1	1.25	0.13	112	9
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	39	73	55	3	40	18	0	-1	0.00	-0.07	0	0.95	0.43	183	7
Moses Lake	36	72	55	3	39	17	0	-1	0.03	-0.04	1	0.93	0.41	179	6
Quincy	38	69	55	5	38	21	0	0	0.00	-0.07	0	0.69	0.10	117	6
Ritzville	39	77	54	5	32	20	2	2	0.00	-0.14	0	1.24	0.36	141	7
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	40	71	58	2	58	16	5	1	0.00	-0.07	0	0.15	-0.36	29	2
Pasco	36	73	59	5	62	31	8	7	0.00	-0.11	0	0.96	0.40	171	6
Pullman	39	76	54	5	30	17	2	2	0.02	-0.26	2	0.62	-0.97	39	6
Whitman Miss.	31	73	54	4	31	13	0	0	0.03	-0.18	1	0.92	-0.21	81	11
ID PANHANDLE															
Coeur D'A' AP	34	64	52	0	20	4	0	0	0.00	-0.31	0	1.10	-0.76	59	7
Lewiston ID	41	78	58	5	55	26	9	8	0.07	-0.14	1	0.71	-0.52	58	7

Summary based on NWS data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Wednesday September 1, 2005

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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