



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

USDA/NASS
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Washington Crop Weather

Released: June 26, 2006
Week Ending: June 25, 2006
CWP WA-CW2606

Temperatures Heated Up and Producers Took Advantage with 6.9 Days Suitable for Field Work

Field Crops

Hay producers were busy cutting and baling hay. Winter wheat, spring wheat and barley conditions were mostly good to excellent. Potatoes were in good condition. The first reported incident of potato blight this season was reported in Franklin County. Dry peas and lentils were progressing well, and green pea harvest continued.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 2% very poor, 3% poor, 23% fair, 71% good, and 1% excellent. Pastures were in great condition. Livestock continued to do well with the warm weather. The summer harvest of oysters and clams produced good yields.

Fruit and Vegetables

With the excellent weather strawberry and raspberry harvest continued. Cherry harvest continued while damages continued to be reported. Hand thinning labor for apple and pear orchards was in short supply.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

| Week | Days |
|-----------|------|
| This Week | 6.9 |
| Last Week | 5.5 |

Moisture and Supply

| Item | Percent | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|----|----|---|
| | VS | SH | AD | S |
| Topsoil | 2 | 18 | 76 | 4 |
| Topsoil 5 Yr Avg | 6 | 29 | 64 | 1 |
| Subsoil | 1 | 10 | 88 | 1 |
| Subsoil 5 Yr Avg | 6 | 35 | 59 | 0 |
| Irrigation Water | 0 | 0 | 99 | 1 |
| Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg | 2 | 7 | 91 | 0 |
| Hay & Roughage | 0 | 26 | 68 | 6 |

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

Crop Progress

| Crop/Activity | Percent Completed | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------|------|------------|
| | This Week | Last Week | 2005 | 5 Yr. Avg. |
| Spring Wheat Headed | 59 | 38 | 92 | 77 |
| Winter Wheat Headed | 98 | 89 | 99 | 98 |
| Barley Headed | 52 | 35 | 93 | 73 |
| Potatoes Emerged | 99 | 98 | 100 | 100 |
| Corn Planted | 100 | 99 | 100 | 100 |
| Corn Emerged | 99 | 97 | 100 | 98 |
| Corn Silked | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Proc. Green Peas Harvested | 35 | 10 | 29 | 7 |
| Alfalfa Hay 1st Cutting | 92 | 90 | 95 | 95 |
| Alfalfa Hay 2nd Cutting | 27 | 5 | 20 | 17 |

Crop Condition*

| Crop | % Acreage | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|---|----|----|----|
| | VP | P | F | G | EX |
| Winter Wheat Dryland | 1 | 4 | 21 | 61 | 13 |
| Winter Wheat Irrigated | 0 | 0 | 9 | 75 | 16 |
| Spring Wheat Dryland | 0 | 9 | 28 | 57 | 6 |
| Spring Wheat Irrigated | 0 | 0 | 18 | 78 | 4 |
| Barley Dryland | 0 | 5 | 35 | 54 | 6 |
| Barley Irrigated | 0 | 0 | 17 | 71 | 12 |
| Potatoes | 0 | 2 | 19 | 72 | 7 |
| Corn | 0 | 2 | 16 | 82 | 0 |
| Dry Edible Beans | 0 | 0 | 29 | 41 | 30 |

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.

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COUNTY COMMENTS

Western

Clark: Very warm weekend! Berry harvest continued.

Grays Harbor: A week of sunny weather with no rain created nearly ideal conditions for hay harvest. Very warm temperatures reaching the high 80's over the weekend had sweet corn growers racing to meet irrigation requirements. Christmas tree growers were finishing fungicide and insecticide applications on Noble fir. Greenhouse tomato growers were harvesting early fruit. Strawberry growers reported a crop of premium fruit due to the dry, warm temperatures which increased both size and flavor quality of the fruit.

Grays/Lewis/Pacific: A week of dry weather allowed growers to finish spring planting. Much of the sweet corn was planted two weeks later than normal. Forage harvest was under full swing with a week of dry weather predicted. Forage quantities looked above normal.

Mason: Warm conditions at the end of the week prompted producers to concentrate on irrigating pastures and gardens. Farmers were cutting and baling hay. Hay quality looked good. The dry weather and high temperatures with breezy afternoons were perfect for putting up hay.

Pacific: Warm, dry conditions allowed growers to complete a variety of fieldwork. Hay producers completed either an initial cut or a second cutting of their fields, with good yields. Strawberry harvest operations continued, and early raspberry harvest began for local direct markets. Irrigation of cranberry bogs was also underway. Fire worm and weed control programs continued. Summer harvest of oysters and clams produced good yields, with slightly higher prices for producers due to market shortages nationally.

Pierce/S. King: Temperatures rose during the latter part of the week. Irrigation began on many perennial crops along with annuals.

Pierce/S. King (2nd Report): Not much farming was still being done in the area. The crops still being planted were vegetable row crops, berries and a little hay.

Pierce/S. King (3rd Report): Crop conditions remained good for the area. Most fields were drying out, and producers were trying to get all their corn planted before the end of the month. There were no unusual situations to report and no crop damage due to a weather event.

Skagit: Be careful what you wish for! Things heated up in the Skagit Valley. First the weather started out cooler and wetter than average and now there is talk of setting a record high temperature in Mount Vernon. Farmers will be pulling out the irrigators from storage and watering their crops if the high temperatures persist. The crops were looking good. Peas were still a few weeks away from being harvested. Local hay that was being produced was as green as grass. The strawberry harvest was still underway, and the raspberry harvest was expected to begin this week with good yields and poor prices. The seed crops were looking very good including the beet seed, but they are still a long way from harvest. The grass seed market is up this year due to a horrible harvest season in Oregon last year, and the farmers look to fare well this year. Potatoes in the valley were also looking good. Producers seem to have caught up with their cultivating from a late wet spring.

Thurston: Livestock producers took advantage of a week of sunny weather with no rain, to harvest hay. Warm temperatures reaching 90 degrees over the weekend rapidly depleted soil moisture. Christmas tree growers reported some sunburn damage to the new growth of Grand and Noble fir. Turfgrass growers were hard pressed to meet irrigation requirements on established fields. Strawberry growers reported the warm temperatures have resulted in a 'flood' of ripe fruit. Home gardeners reported rapid growth of warm season vegetables.

Whatcom: It was a wonderful week. Strawberry harvest continued, and raspberry harvest was just beginning. Some producers were green chopping or cutting grass and putting up silage into round bales. Some producers began to irrigate their crops. The temperatures have been in the high 60's to mid 70's. It was mostly cloudy during the week and mostly sunny during the weekend.

Central

Benton: Cherry harvest continued with many calls from producers about crop damage on cherries. The grass hay cutting harvest will continue. Wheat producers will probably begin harvest in about two weeks for the dry land producers.

Chelan: Cherry harvest was getting underway and will increase rapidly. The peak harvest will be around July 4 and will continue until early August.

Franklin: Warm weather has arrived and has been forecast for the coming week. The first incidence of potato blight this season was reported.

Franklin (2nd Report): The normal to slightly above normal temperatures were good for growing. The second cutting of hay was in full swing; being put up at the south end of the county and being cut in the north end. The second cutting was all over the board between very light yields to normal based on the rain. Cherries were at the end of harvest with very light production due to rain received the week of the 12th that split a high percentage of

the county's crop. According to some reports, crop adjusters were out to assess the damage as it was so widespread. All other crops generally appeared to be in good condition.

Grant: Warmer weather allowed hay producers to finish up the first cutting of alfalfa and timothy hay. Both had been damaged by untimely rains earlier in the month. There were reports of damage to the cherry crop in the southern portion of the county, again due to untimely rain. Most other crops were doing well.

Klickitat: Untimely rains split sweet cherries. There were many cherry 'doubles' this year. Seagulls were a significant pest for local cherry orchards.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from two degrees below normal to six degrees above normal, with no precipitation. There were no new crop losses due to weather conditions reported.

Eastern

Adams: Winter and spring cereals remained in mostly good condition as growers focused on summer fallow conditions and prepared for harvest. Fall seeding conditions should be good with all the precipitation collected this year.

Asotin/Garfield: Hot, dry weather conditions prevailed during the week. Temperatures reached the upper 90's in some areas later in the week. Crops began to show signs of moisture stress from the lack of rain and the extreme heat.

Garfield: Cereal crops need another thunderstorm as soon as possible. Hail damage on winter wheat (such as broken stems, white heads, and heads missing florets) was becoming very visible as grain fill begins. Producers are expecting an average or below average crop in most of the winter wheat. Rain could turn that around if it came soon. Cereal leaf beetle slowed down as warm, dry weather arrived. Striped rust was appearing on the winter wheat, so spraying began.

Lincoln: Winter and spring wheat remained in mostly good to excellent condition. Soil moisture levels were adequate and seeding conditions should be good this fall.

Lincoln (2nd Report): Hot weather was causing winter wheat to stress during kernel fill. Many white heads were showing up.

Lincoln (3rd Report): Crops generally looked good, and the weather improved for haying. Continued hot weather

could have an adverse effect on spring grain crops.

Stevens: Heavy rain occurred Monday in the Colville area which dampened hay fields cut during the weekend. Warmer temperatures and clear skies allowed hay producers to make headway on their first cutting. Grain crops and pastures continued to look good.

Walla Walla: Hot weather caused some changes in the crops. Grain was turning and filling. Producers were hoping the hot weather doesn't last too long and the soil moisture will keep the grain from pinching. On the other hand, the weather was great for haying. Most of the rained-on hay was removed from the fields and some of the second cutting began. Grass hay has been going down. Green pea harvest continued, but the harvest could be strung out because of the wet spring which caused late seeding. Dry peas and lentils were progressing well.

Walla Walla (2nd Report): The temperature was hot over the past week. Crops were turning. Range ground was drying up. Crops looked good to date.

Whitman: Perfect warm sunny days helped with crop development. Moderate temperatures were just what were needed to bring along the late seeded spring crops. Winter wheat was ripening and looking good. Most of the spring wheat and barley was heading out, and peas were blooming.

Weekly Weather Statistics

June 26, 2006

| 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 | 43 | 83 | 59 | -1 | 67 | -1 | 9 | -4 | 0.00 | -0.41 | 0 | 31.93 | -1.26 | 96 | 158 |
| Everett | 49 | 81 | 60 | 0 | 75 | 1 | 15 | 1 | 0.00 | -0.45 | 0 | 30.44 | -3.10 | 91 | 162 |
| Hoquiam | 48 | 82 | 60 | 2 | 71 | 14 | 12 | 5 | 0.00 | -0.44 | 0 | 69.51 | 4.65 | 107 | 184 |
| Kelso | 43 | 93 | 62 | 2 | 85 | 9 | 26 | 5 | 0.00 | -0.45 | 0 | 42.17 | -1.62 | 96 | 153 |
| Olympia | 41 | 90 | 60 | 1 | 73 | 4 | 14 | 0 | 0.00 | -0.35 | 0 | 52.03 | 3.76 | 108 | 151 |
| Sea-Tac | 51 | 88 | 64 | 3 | 100 | 15 | 30 | 9 | 0.00 | -0.34 | 0 | 36.35 | 1.26 | 104 | 150 |
| Shelton | 40 | 92 | 61 | -2 | 75 | -8 | 15 | -8 | 0.00 | -0.38 | 0 | 67.91 | 5.46 | 109 | 157 |
| Tacoma | 45 | 86 | 61 | -1 | 80 | -3 | 14 | -7 | 0.00 | -0.40 | 0 | 38.46 | 0.62 | 102 | 141 |
| Vancouver | 49 | 98 | 66 | 5 | 118 | 35 | 48 | 26 | 0.00 | -0.34 | 0 | 41.71 | 2.65 | 107 | 148 |
| CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ellensburg | 48 | 100 | 68 | 4 | 125 | 27 | 55 | 19 | 0.00 | -0.13 | 0 | 11.99 | 3.75 | 146 | 88 |
| Stampede Pass | 40 | 88 | 57 | 8 | 58 | 37 | 24 | 24 | 0.00 | -0.61 | 0 | 68.45 | -8.58 | 89 | 170 |
| Wenatchee | 51 | 97 | 69 | 2 | 137 | 8 | 67 | 6 | 0.00 | -0.14 | 0 | 7.18 | -0.39 | 95 | 65 |
| Yakima AP | 45 | 97 | 68 | 2 | 125 | 12 | 55 | 8 | 0.00 | -0.12 | 0 | 9.64 | 2.28 | 131 | 75 |
| NORTHEAST | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Colville | 40 | 91 | 63 | -1 | 90 | 1 | 25 | -6 | 0.04 | -0.27 | 1 | 19.66 | 0.96 | 105 | 108 |
| Deer Park | 35 | 91 | 59 | -5 | 65 | -29 | 12 | -21 | 0.00 | -0.28 | 0 | 28.03 | 11.27 | 167 | 126 |
| Spokane AP | 43 | 90 | 64 | 0 | 97 | 0 | 30 | -5 | 0.00 | -0.28 | 0 | 19.56 | 4.62 | 131 | 114 |
| EAST | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ephrata | 52 | 99 | 70 | -1 | 140 | -1 | 70 | -3 | 0.00 | -0.07 | 0 | 9.64 | 3.06 | 147 | 74 |
| Moses Lake | 46 | 99 | 67 | -4 | 122 | -19 | 52 | -21 | 0.00 | -0.07 | 0 | 11.95 | 5.37 | 182 | 90 |
| Quincy | 50 | 91 | 67 | 0 | 121 | -1 | 51 | -3 | 0.00 | -0.07 | 0 | 11.69 | 4.54 | 163 | 88 |
| Ritzville | 39 | 87 | 61 | -4 | 76 | -23 | 15 | -22 | 0.00 | -0.14 | 0 | 15.16 | 4.78 | 146 | 96 |
| SOUTHEAST | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hanford | 49 | 100 | 71 | -2 | 149 | -9 | 79 | -11 | 0.00 | -0.07 | 0 | 6.08 | 0.14 | 102 | 48 |
| Pasco | 45 | 98 | 68 | -4 | 125 | -19 | 55 | -20 | 0.00 | -0.07 | 0 | 9.61 | 2.71 | 139 | 75 |
| Pullman | 40 | 88 | 61 | 0 | 76 | -1 | 13 | -11 | 0.00 | -0.33 | 0 | 13.43 | -5.82 | 70 | 106 |
| Whitman Miss. | 45 | 90 | 65 | -3 | 106 | -13 | 36 | -16 | 0.00 | -0.18 | 0 | 17.05 | 4.49 | 136 | 117 |
| ID | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PANHANDLE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coeur D'A' AP | 39 | 84 | 61 | -4 | 79 | -22 | 15 | -22 | 0.00 | -0.43 | 0 | 10.83 | -12.63 | 46 | 87 |
| Lewiston ID | 49 | 90 | 68 | -2 | 126 | -5 | 56 | -6 | 0.00 | -0.28 | 0 | 11.42 | 0.60 | 106 | 91 |

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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National weather summary: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/waobr/weather/2006/summary/weth1606.pdf>

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