



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

USDA/NASS
Washington Field Office
P.O. Box 609, Olympia, WA 98507
(360) 902-1940 Fax (360) 902-2091

Washington Crop Weather

Released: July 17, 2006
Week Ending: July 16, 2006
CWP WA-CW2906

Winter Wheat Harvest has Begun

Field Crops

Winter wheat harvest has begun. A light rain helped improve dry conditions across the state. Harvesting of green peas, potatoes and dry peas continued. Bluegrass harvest is underway and quality hay supply continued to increase. Christmas tree growers began to shear Grand and Noble fir.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 1% poor, 16% fair and 83% good. Livestock were still on green pastures and doing well.

Fruit and Vegetables

The raspberry, cherry, blueberry and onion harvest continued. Cauliflower was maturing on schedule and the blueberry quality was excellent. Crop damage was still being reported in some parts of the state from the storm that took place last week.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.6
Last Week	6.8

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	3	37	60	0
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	12	37	51	0
Subsoil	0	19	81	0
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	9	38	53	0
Irrigation Water	0	0	100	0
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	2	8	90	0
Hay & Roughage	0	10	90	0

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	97	87	100	100
Winter Wheat Harvested	3	0	7	5
Barley Headed	96	88	99	100
Potatoes Harvested	5	2	8	10
Corn, Silked	30	15	49	24
Corn, Doughed	9	0	0	0
Proc. Green Peas Harvested	85	62	92	90
Dry Peas Harvested	30	18	37	10
Alfalfa Hay 1st Cutting	100	99	99	100
Alfalfa Hay 2nd Cutting	57	54	74	76

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	2	6	23	55	14
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	15	65	20
Spring Wheat Dryland	0	15	29	46	10
Spring Wheat Irrigated	0	0	21	76	3
Barley Dryland	0	14	32	45	9
Barley Irrigated	0	0	11	74	15
Potatoes	0	3	27	60	10
Corn	0	0	19	81	0
Dry Edible Beans	0	3	30	44	23

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.

Washington State University
Cooperative Extension Service
Linda Fox
Dean/Director, WSU Extension

USDA
Farm Service Agency
James F. Fitzgerald
State Director

USDA/NASS--Washington Field Office
Chris Messer - Director
Mark Gutierrez - Ag Statistician
Laurel Garrison - Ag Statistician

COUNTY COMMENTS

Western

Grays Harbor: Rainfall and cooler temperatures early in the week helped to alleviate drought conditions. Unfortunately, the moisture had almost no impact on increasingly low soil moisture. Sweet corn growers reported rapid growth due to nearly ideal growing conditions. Christmas tree growers started shearing Grand fir and topworking Noble fir. Strawberry growers completed the harvest for this year. Blueberry growers opened U-Pick operations. Livestock producers continued the hay harvest.

Grays/Lewis/Pacific: Showers mid-week provided needed precipitation for dry land pastures. Cooler weather also slowed crop growth in general. Sweet corn development was behind schedule in most areas.

Mason: The county received 0.2 inches of rain mid-week, and cool weather kept fields in decent shape. Due to the heat, irrigation will continue.

Pierce/S. King: Crop conditions remained good. The corn was starting to grow and the little rain that was received was helpful. There were no unusual situations to report and no reports of any crop damage due to a weather event.

Skagit: Tuesday and Wednesday 0.5 inches of rain was received in the Skagit Valley. The majority of farmers were thankful for the rain because the crops were drying out. Some hay was ruined by the rain. The rain also encouraged late blight in potatoes. The smell of green peas has hit the Skagit Valley. Twin City began pea harvest with yields being quite good this year. A few fields that were hit with heavy rain looked absolutely perfect in May. This stunted the peas slightly, but producers said there were areas that were thicker than normal, so it all averages out. The Valley's grass seed was being swathed. Harvest will take place in ten days if the weather stays hot and dry as predicted. The International Spinach Conference took place in La Conner, and people from all over the

world marveled at the beautiful seed crops that dot the Valley. The rains proved vital to these crops and will hopefully get them through to harvest next month. Blueberry harvest was underway! The berries were not as large or sweet as last year, but that will hopefully change as the weather continues to be hot and dry.

Skagit/Island/San Juan: The weather has been warm and dry. Crops were in need of rain. Mid-week the area received much needed rain. There was no crop damage reported.

Snohomish/N. King: The weather continued to be warm with temperatures in the 60's and 70's. Some light showers were received, but nothing that resulted in damage to crops. The Clallam and Jefferson Counties had normal weather for July. Cauliflower seed crops were maturing, and the quality of hay was good to exceptional from the last cutting.

Thurston: Several days of light rain helped to temporarily alleviate dry conditions. Temperatures in the 80's later in the week added to existing drought conditions. Turfgrass growers complained about difficulty keeping up with irrigation requirements. Blueberry harvest was in full swing with excellent fruit quality reported. Livestock producers continued harvesting hay. Christmas tree growers were shearing Grand fir and began to topwork Noble fir. Home gardeners were harvesting lettuce, beets, onions and carrots from the garden.

Whatcom: Combinations of spotty showers, cool temperatures, and overcast skies mid-week resulted in slight mold damage to fresh market raspberries. Grass growers continued to make haylage under ideal haying conditions. Blueberry and currant harvest began.

Central

Chelan/Douglas: Crop damage continued to be determined and reported due to the July 4-6 hail, rain, wind, and lightning storms. This year's pear production was down considerably from early estimates due to heavy losses in Chelan County. Cherry harvest continued for those producers not affected by the storms. Winter wheat harvest was beginning south of State Highway 2.

Franklin: Early potato varieties were being harvested. Thrips were becoming a problem on onions.

Grant: Reports of crop damage were received, resulting from a heavy rain and hail storm in the Warden area. Sweet corn, beans, and other row crops were reported to be damaged from the storm. Wheat harvest will begin in the next week or so. Fresh pea harvest was winding down. Cherry harvest was also coming to a close, with some hail and rain damage being reported.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from 1 degree below normal to 8 degrees above normal, with a trace of precipitation. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported.



Eastern

Adams: The winter wheat harvest should begin by the middle to the end of the week, as long as the weather conditions hold.

Asotin: Spring and winter crops progressed on schedule. The county received warm, dry weather during the past week.

Asotin/Garfield: Not much change as hot, dry weather continued. Several more producers began to harvest.

Ferry/Okanogan: Some fruit producers were continuing to report russet damage in Golden apple varieties as well as other apple varieties. Estimates of damage from the July 4-6 hailstorm were still being determined. Cherry harvest continued throughout the county.

Lincoln: Winter wheat harvest should begin in the southwest corner of the county by the end of the week, as long as weather conditions hold. Hot, dry conditions have lowered spring cereal conditions.

Pend Orielle: The week ending July 16 had a high temperature of 84 degrees and a low of 34 degrees, with zero precipitation. Crops were growing well in the warm weather. Topsoil was drying out, and haying was still a priority. Oat hay has headed. Livestock were still on green new pastures. Hogs were eating in the morning and evening and sleeping in the shade during the mid-day.

Pend Orielle/Spokane: It was another week of dry weather with warm temperatures. The weather was taking a toll on the crops. Bluegrass harvest began.

Walla Walla: Harvest began in the northern areas of the county. It was still too early for accurate account of the yields. Many producers throughout the county will be starting to harvest this week. The weather remains warm and dry.

Whitman: Harvest began on the earliest ground, but should begin in most western areas of the county this week. Temperatures remained moderate.



Weekly Weather Statistics

July 17, 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	47	74	61	-2	79	-5	11	-10	0.04	-0.24	2	31.97	-2.20	94	160
Everett	51	75	61	-2	80	-9	11	-10	0.09	-0.19	2	30.56	-3.97	89	166
Hoquiam	48	70	60	0	71	-1	6	-2	0.43	0.15	3	69.94	4.09	106	187
Kelso	48	81	64	2	103	8	34	6	0.23	0.02	1	42.40	-2.23	95	154
Olympia	45	82	63	-1	90	1	21	0	0.08	-0.10	1	52.11	3.15	106	152
Sea-Tac	54	80	64	-1	103	-2	33	-2	0.04	-0.12	2	36.41	0.67	102	154
Shelton	43	81	61	-4	82	-21	16	-19	0.19	-0.02	1	68.11	4.87	108	159
Tacoma	46	79	63	-3	90	-10	21	-13	0.09	-0.12	1	38.55	-0.06	100	142
Vancouver	52	84	67	4	124	22	54	19	0.22	0.03	1	41.93	2.19	106	149
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	50	95	71	4	153	27	83	27	0.00	-0.07	0	12.04	3.59	142	90
Stampede Pass	46	75	59	5	63	24	7	0	0.13	-0.18	1	68.70	-9.53	88	174
Wenatchee	57	92	75	2	173	11	103	10	0.00	-0.06	0	7.21	-0.58	93	67
Yakima AP	45	92	70	0	142	3	72	3	0.00	-0.02	0	9.70	2.18	129	77
NORTHEAST															
Colville	49	88	70	4	140	27	70	23	0.11	-0.10	2	20.10	0.71	104	112
Deer Park	40	87	66	-3	115	-17	45	-18	0.03	-0.18	1	28.06	10.66	161	127
Spokane AP	53	88	71	3	146	16	76	15	0.02	-0.12	2	19.66	4.19	127	117
EAST															
CENTRAL															
Ephrata	50	91	73	-3	162	-12	92	-12	0.00	-0.07	0	12.04	5.23	177	91
Moses Lake	53	93	74	4	167	21	97	21	0.00	-0.07	0	11.71	4.35	159	89
Quincy	50	95	70	2	140	8	70	7	0.00	-0.07	0	15.24	4.51	142	97
Ritzville															
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	52	97	75	0	175	3	105	2	0.00	0.00	0	9.64	2.62	137	77
Pasco	42	88	67	3	122	17	52	13	0.00	-0.15	0	13.49	-6.39	68	109
Pullman	49	99	73	3	165	18	95	18	0.04	-0.03	1	17.14	4.23	133	119
Whitman Miss.															
ID															
Lewiston ID	48	90	69	1	139	7	69	5	0.03	-0.18	1	10.86	-13.40	45	88
PANHANDLE															
Coeur D'A' AP	58	99	78	5	196	28	126	27	0.00	-0.14	0	11.72	0.37	103	94

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.

Copyright 2006: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

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

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service website: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Washington

E-mail: nass-wa@nass.usda.gov

Free e-mail subscriptions are available via automated mailing list for National and State reports. You can subscribe to individual reports and they will be sent directly to your e-mail address soon after the official release time. Subscribe at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/sub-form.htm>