



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

USDA/NASS
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Washington Crop Weather

Released: July 31, 2006
Week Ending: July 30, 2006
CWP WA-CW3106

Temperatures Cooled Off Across the State

Field Crops

The temperatures cooled off across the state, especially on the westside where light rains took place over the weekend. The wheat harvest and potato harvest were in full swing, while the green pea harvest ended. Yields from harvested winter wheat have been mostly average. Christmas tree growers were busy shearing Grand fir and top working Noble fir.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions continued to decline to 4% very poor, 5% poor, 38% fair and 53% good. Cooler temperatures improved livestock conditions and allowed them to graze longer. Hogs were gaining weight at rapid levels and hens were laying at normal rates. Shellfish growers were busy with early assessments on burrowing shrimp control plots.

Fruit and Vegetables

Greenhouse tomato harvest was in full swing. Raspberry and cherry harvest was winding down while the blueberry harvest continued.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.8
Last Week	6.9

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	16	43	41	0
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	19	42	39	0
Subsoil	1	26	73	0
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	13	41	46	0
Irrigation Water	0	1	99	0
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	3	11	86	0
Hay & Roughage	0	22	77	1

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 Harvested	9	NA	20	14
Winter Wheat Harvested	30	19	37	28
Barley Harvested	6	NA	20	12
Potatoes Harvested	20	14	27	19
Corn Silked	76	55	69	66
Corn Doughed	12	10	9	13
Corn Dented	6	NA	9	12
Proc. Green Peas Harvested	100	97	99	99
Dry Peas Harvested	37	35	55	24
Alfalfa Hay 2nd Cutting	91	79	88	90
Alfalfa Hay 3rd Cutting	8	NA	15	18

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	1	4	22	63	10
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	8	64	28
Spring Wheat Dryland	0	18	41	37	4
Spring Wheat Irrigated	0	0	15	70	15
Barley Dryland	0	14	42	41	3
Barley Irrigated	0	0	8	62	30
Potatoes	0	1	21	73	5
Corn	0	0	15	85	0
Dry Edible Beans	0	1	24	74	1

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

Clallam/Jefferson: Hay harvest was in full swing. Corn was growing well. The area experienced high temperatures during the day with cooling at night.

Grays Harbor: Greenhouse tomato harvest was now in full swing with excellent fruit quality reported. Some sweet corn fields were showing signs of moisture stress. Livestock producers continued making haylage. Christmas tree growers were top working Noble fir and shearing Grand fir.

Mason: Dry conditions persisted and operators were irrigating regularly. The temperatures were cooler, in the mid 70's, with cloudy mornings. The area received strong breezes in the afternoons, strong enough to blow over some of the taller sweet corn in the fields.

Mason (2nd Report): Cooler weather was a welcome relief from the previous week's heat wave. Livestock and poultry, as well as vegetable and fruit crops transitioned out of survival mode and returned to normal production conditions. Berries were still producing well, and seemed to have enjoyed the warm weather. Local hayfields were looking close to ready for a second cutting. Mason County Fair took place over the weekend - giving local folks an opportunity to show off their blue-ribbon winning fruit, vegetables, and livestock entries. Forecasted rain for the upcoming week will be a welcome sight to hay producers, pastured livestock producers, and crop producers.

Pacific: Hot, dry conditions early in the week gave way to milder temperatures, easing producer's concerns about soil moisture and irrigation. Shellfish growers completed early assessments on burrowing shrimp control plots, and continued substrate modification with gravel for clam culture. Pasture conditions were mostly dry, but several producers with irrigation were able to cut additional hay. Cranberry farmers continued irrigation, weed control, and fireworm management programs.

Pierce/King: Weather will be cooling and stabilizing for the next couple of weeks. Producers should check soil moisture regularly and irrigate when needed

Pierce/S. King: The rain over the weekend was welcomed. Crop conditions remained good for the South Puget Sound area. No unusual situations to report. No report of any crop damage due to a weather event.

Skagit: Pea harvest in the valley was getting closer to being completed. The harvest has been above average for the Valley and producers hope that Twin City is able to market this year's crop so that the farmers of Skagit Valley can plant more of this important rotation. The raspberry and blueberry harvest was still underway. We received 0.27 of an inch of rain on Sunday. The majority of the grass seed in the Skagit Valley has been harvested. To date the harvest has been average. Spinach seed will be windrowed starting next week. This cash crop will begin being harvested in 10-14 days from now. Potatoes were being mowed and harvest could begin as early as next week. This is good because wet weather usually causes problems with late blight in the Skagit Valley, attacking the foliage.

Skagit/Island/San Juan: Warm temperatures, however cooler than the previous week. The weekend brought much needed rain to the area. No crop damage was reported due to the lack of moisture or heat units to date.

Snohomish/King: Much needed rains hit parts of the county on Sunday. The foothills received nearly 0.75 of an inch; the lowlands had less. Pastures showed drought stress but the rain should help them recover somewhat. Blueberry harvest was slowing down. Corn, potatoes and oilseed crops were doing well but could use some more rain. Farmers who have the option were irrigating.

Snohomish/N. King (2nd Report): All crops were on or ahead of schedule with higher than normal temperatures. Saturday brought 0.25 to 0.50 of an inch of rain and cooler temperatures. Grass seed was in full harvest, and wheat harvest is expected to start in the next 1 - 2 weeks.

Thurston: Agricultural producers welcomed cooler temperatures after last week's sweltering thermal blast. Christmas tree growers reported some heat scorch on younger trees. Mature trees appear to have weathered the intense heat much better. Growers were shearing Grand fir and top working Noble fir. Pastures and hayfields without irrigation were bone dry. Blueberry harvest continued with excellent yields and fruit quality reported. Raspberry harvest was finished.

Whatcom: Temperatures were cooler reaching the mid-70's to low 80's. The weekend temperatures were in the 60's. The area received some rain showers on Saturday and Sunday. Raspberry harvest was winding down. Blueberry harvest was starting. Winter wheat was harvested.

Central

Chelan/Douglas: Above normal temperatures were experienced throughout the week. Winter wheat harvest has begun in some areas of the county. Yields were average to above average. Reports continued to come in for fruit crop damage due to the July hail/rain storm. Many growers indicated they will not pick a crop.

Franklin: Temperatures were cooling down after a very hot week with 100 plus degree days.

Franklin (2nd Report): Warmer than normal temperatures prevailed the entire week. Harvesting and cutting continued for alfalfa hay, early potatoes, timothy hay, what little barley there was in the county and wheat. Last week's report on

wheat harvested was over estimated as the county was a week or so behind based on the wet and cool early spring. Both irrigated and dryland wheat was in full harvest throughout the county.

Grant: Cherry harvest was completed. Apricot harvest began.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from 17 degrees above normal to ten degrees below normal, with a trace of precipitation. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported.

Eastern

Adams: Harvest was in full swing and growers in the southern end of the county will be winding down by the end of the week. Yields have been above average for the most part, and initial quality appears to be good.

Adams (2nd Report): A first hot, then windy week finished ripening of all grains, and moved irrigated crops along quickly. Harvest of winter wheat was well on the way to finished in the south portion of the county, and was progressing nicely through out the rest of the county. Yields were good overall, although some commented on finding frost damage that had not been previously apparent.

Asotin/Garfield: The area had hot, dry conditions for most of the week, but finally gave way to cooler temperatures and windy conditions by the weekend. Grain harvest progressed rapidly and will be in full swing by next week. Yields were disappointing in some areas due to the hot weather the last part of June and first part of July. Grass seed yields were very poor.

Ferry: The extreme hot weather of last two weeks has rapidly dried out topsoil and vegetation.

Garfield: Extreme heat and high winds the past week likely scorched wheat in anthesis above the 2,500 foot elevation. Crops were producing at best average in yields so far. This was 10 years of drought for Garfield County. No seeding will occur until it rains. Temperatures were low enough at night to germinate Downy Brome if there was enough moisture.

Lincoln: Winter wheat harvest began.

Lincoln (2nd Report): Harvest was progressing throughout the County. Early yields were reported as pretty good.

Lincoln (3rd Report): Hot weather ripened grain, and more producers in the county began harvest.

Pend Orielle: The week ended on a cool note, allowing livestock to graze all day long. Hogs were back eating at a more regular rate, and doubling their weight per month. Hens were laying at normal rates. Pastures were still drying at a rate faster than expected but with hay being baled it allows for supplemental feeding.

Stevens: The area experienced a cooling trend over the past week. A few grain producers began harvest. Hay producers continued to put up second cutting and finished with grain hay. Local hay prices have increased an average of \$20 per ton over last year with very little hay advertised for less than \$100 per ton.

Walla Walla: Harvest was progressing well. Weather remained hot and dry.

Walla Walla (2nd Report): Grain harvest was in full swing. Yields were mostly average to slightly above for winter wheat. Producers were grateful temperatures had cooled off some. Cooler nights made for better hay baling conditions.

Whitman: Harvest continued to pick up momentum as more and more operations wade combines into wheat stands. Producers east of Dusty, St John, Endicott, and even some areas around Garfield were cutting. Things were beginning to wrap up in Lacrosse, Hay, and Hooper. Yields and test weights were average from what has been reported. Hot, dry conditions prevailed all week causing rapid ripening across the area. Much of the county will be harvesting next week.

Weekly Weather Statistics

July 31, 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	54	80	64	2	98	7	28	5	0.00	-0.28	0	31.97	-2.76	92	160	
Everett	53	87	65	2	107	11	37	9	0.04	-0.20	1	30.60	-4.43	87	167	
Hoquiam	53	77	63	3	90	13	21	7	0.01	-0.24	1	69.95	3.57	105	188	
Kelso	50	90	66	2	115	12	47	12	0.16	-0.05	1	42.56	-2.48	94	155	
Olympia	50	95	67	4	122	24	52	24	0.06	-0.11	1	52.17	2.90	106	153	
Sea-Tac	53	92	68	3	126	14	56	14	0.00	-0.14	0	36.41	0.39	101	154	
Shelton	50	94	66	1	116	4	46	4	0.04	-0.12	1	68.15	4.54	107	160	
Tacoma	50	93	68	3	125	20	57	22	0.02	-0.16	1	38.57	-0.36	99	143	
Vancouver	54	97	70	6	140	35	70	32	0.02	-0.15	1	41.95	1.90	105	150	
CENTRAL																
Ellensburg	54	97	76	8	186	53	116	53	0.00	-0.07	0	12.04	3.51	141	90	
Stamper Pass	33	83	60	5	80	31	32	25	0.07	-0.21	1	68.77	-10.02	87	175	
Wenatchee	58	102	81	7	215	45	145	46	0.00	-0.07	0	7.21	-0.66	92	67	
Yakima AP	45	102	76	5	181	34	111	34	0.00	-0.04	0	9.70	2.14	128	77	
NORTHEAST																
Colville	50	99	76	9	183	64	113	61	0.00	-0.21	0	20.10	0.36	102	112	
Deer Park	50	100	72	3	153	13	83	13	0.00	-0.14	0	28.06	10.34	158	127	
Spokane AP	52	100	75	6	180	40	110	40	0.00	-0.14	0	19.66	3.91	125	117	
EAST CENTRAL																
Ephrata	49	103	79	4	203	21	133	21	0.00	-0.07	0	9.72	2.77	140	75	
Moses Lake	54	103	78	2	195	13	125	13	0.00	-0.07	0	12.04	5.09	173	91	
Quincy	50	104	81	9	218	64	148	64	0.00	-0.07	0	11.71	4.27	157	89	
Ritzville	48	104	76	6	184	44	114	44	0.00	-0.07	0	15.24	4.37	140	97	
SOUTHEAST																
Hanford	51	107	80	2	210	7	140	7	0.00	-0.07	0	6.12	-0.01	100	49	
Pasco	55	107	79	4	203	21	133	22	0.00	-0.07	0	9.64	2.54	136	77	
Pullman	53	98	72	6	157	41	87	38	0.00	-0.14	0	13.49	-6.67	67	109	
Whitman Miss.	55	108	80	8	208	54	138	54	0.00	-0.11	0	17.14	4.05	131	119	
ID PANHANDLE																
Coeur D'A' AP	57	102	79	9	203	57	133	58	0.00	-0.21	0	10.86	-13.75	44	88	
Lewiston ID	65	109	85	10	246	69	176	70	0.00	-0.14	0	11.72	0.09	101	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.
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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](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Washington)
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