



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

USDA/NASS
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Washington Crop Weather

Released: November 20, 2006
Week Ending: November 19, 2006
CWP WA-CW4706

Rainfall Continued Christmas Tree Harvest in Full Swing

There were 2.4 days suitable for fieldwork. Rain and snow continued across the state with high winds reported in western Washington. Winter wheat emerged was in mostly fair to good condition and field corn harvest is almost finished. Christmas tree producers were busy harvesting despite the rain, snow and mud. Producers continued clean activities up from the storms.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 2% very poor, 11% poor, 30% fair and 57% good. Cattle producers were busy marketing calves, and supplemental feeding of hay and grain continued.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	2.4
Last Week	2.6

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	0	11	51	38
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	6	27	60	7
Subsoil	1	26	71	2
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	11	38	49	2
Irrigation Water	0	6	92	2
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	2	6	92	0
Hay & Roughage	5	20	71	4

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

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2005	5 Yr. Avg.
Winter Wheat Emerged	98	97	94	96
Corn Harvested	98	97	100	84

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	1	5	27	64	3
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	6	93	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.

COUNTY COMMENTS

Western

Clallam/Jefferson: The area received strong winds with showers and cold weather. Temperatures were in the 40's. Year to date rainfall for Port Angeles was 23.45 inches, Port Townsend 14.99 inches, and Sequim 8.78 inches.

Clark: Thirty landowners in southwest WA greatly enjoyed a Greenhouse Workshop and tour on Saturday November 18. The speakers were well appreciated and the weather held nicely in the afternoon.

Grays Harbor: Record breaking rainfall has resulted in super-saturated field conditions throughout the county. A major windstorm swept through the county mid-week resulting in fallen trees and copious amounts of debris. Many agricultural producers spent the remainder of the week cleaning up the farmstead. Christmas tree harvest was in full swing with growers challenged by extremely wet field conditions. Rivers remained near flood stage during most of the week due to the heavy rainfall.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: Flood waters had receded as Christmas tree harvest continued at full speed.

Mason: The area received 4.4 inches of rain this week amid high winds. The monthly cumulative to date was 16.1 inches. Any clear days were spent clearing debris from the fields and cutting downed trees. The ground was saturated and with the windy weather, trees were uprooting all over the county.

Mason (2nd Report): Rainfall was down from the previous week, only three inches received versus our previous 11 inches. Most producers were recovering from flooding and high winds - cleanup was a priority. Power outages on Wednesday with freezing temperatures overnight worried some greenhouse growers, but no damages were reported. There were some livestock losses due to the rapidly rising flood waters of last week. Chum salmon runs were about at peak, with fishermen braving the severe weather for sport and commercial catch.

Pierce/S. King: The clearing of the skies during the last few days of the week enabled producers to get to their fields and harvest any remaining crops. After a tour of the flood area in the South Puget Sound little flood damage to crop fields was observed. There was light silt on some fields and a few logs but no major damage. There was little damage to crop fields due to the high winds this past week. No reports of damage or requests for assistance were received from producers in the South Puget Sound area.

Skagit: High temperatures for the week averaged 52 degrees and there was 0.9 of an inch of precipitation recorded at the WSU North West Research and Extension Center in West Mount Vernon. Potato harvest was still underway, however with all the rain we have been having many harvesters have been parked for most of the week. Dairy farmers continue to milk cows 365 days of the year.

Snohomish/King: Lowland farms were still recovering from recent floods. Lots of standing water remained in valley fields with some nursery and perennial crops still under water. Hay and equipment that was stored in flooded areas sustained heavy losses. U-Cut Christmas tree farms continued preparations for their busy season.

Snohomish/N. King: These two counties have suffered with flooding. Most crops have been harvested so it was a matter of cleanup. Heavy rains kept farmers from working the fields. Temperatures were in the 40's with highs in the low 50's.

Thurston: Heavy rain showers and strong winds battered the rural landscape throughout the county this past week leaving agricultural producers with major clean-up operations. A number of producers reported fallen trees, downed fences and leaking roofs due to the high winds. Christmas tree growers battled the elements to bring harvest operations into full swing as they raced to fill retail orders before the Thanksgiving weekend. The record amount of rainfall so far this month has resulted in far less than desirable tree harvest conditions. It was very difficult to move trucks and tree balers across super saturated soils. Livestock producers continued repairing fences destroyed by last week's flood.

Whatcom: Whatcom County was hit by a severe wind storm on Wednesday. Violent winds howled through the county, breaking tree branches and snapping trees. Wind speeds over 80 mph were recorded at Port of Bellingham, and up to 60 mph at Lynden. Trees were down everywhere, many on power lines. While certain areas were not affected with power outages, various locations experienced lengthy power outages. Custer and the Nooksack/Everson area were without electricity for up to 36 hours. No damage to crops or livestock was apparent, however, some structural damage did occur.

Central

Benton: The area had cold temperatures the past couple of days with some strong winds (20-50 mph). We continued to receive some moisture.

Chelan/Douglas: Winter wheat was in good condition. Some winter wheat was snow covered and some had aphids present. Cheat grass was also present. More precipitation was received this past week along with wind. Temperatures were cooling off.

Franklin: The week proved wetter than normal and was good for the whole county (irrigated and dryland). Feed corn was still being harvested, mostly in the north end of the county. Dryland winter wheat looked as good as it ever

does at this time of the year, and top 6 inches has shown dark brown for a couple weeks now due to the consistent showers. For the most part all harvest activities aside from field corn have been completed for several weeks (i.e. apples, buckwheat and potatoes).

Kittitas: Many cattlemen were shipping calves and beginning to feed hay.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from 3 degrees below normal to 8 degrees above normal, with 0.08 of an inch of precipitation. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported.

Eastern

Adams: There was a windy start to the week, and a wet ending bracketed an otherwise uneventful week with warmer than normal growing conditions favorable to annual grass emergence. CRP grass seeders were delaying seedings in hope of applying herbicides to emerged weeds later in the month.

Garfield: Frequent warm rains have brought along fall seeded cereals to full emergence. Some producers were still taking advantage of good market prices for soft white wheat. No frost received as of yet.

Lincoln: Wind and rain storms were received during the week. Most of the precipitation was absorbed by the soil, as no reports were received in the county of significant damage or flooding. Most livestock have been on supplemental feed.

Pend Oreille: Fields were saturated with water. Producers were unable to work due to mud. Livestock were ready for winter and eating new shoots that have emerged due to rain and mild winter weather.

Stevens: There were several days of rain during the week. It was mostly quiet on the area's farms and ranches.

Stevens (2nd Report): Field work was essentially finished for the season. Feeding operations were underway. Moisture was somewhat above average for November; temperatures were near average. Winter grain was progressing nicely.

Walla Walla: The area received rain showers throughout the week. Temperatures were mild, allowing for moisture to soak in well. Fall crops looked good.

Walla Walla (2nd Report): The area received only light rains this last week. Fall seeded wheat looked good. Some livestock were started on winter feeding, while some were still grazing. Hay for sale was in very short supply. Most ranchers had a good supply of hay.

Whitman: The rainfall received has helped with winter wheat conditions.

Weekly Weather Statistics

November 20, 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	33	63	47	4	5	0	0	0	1.45	0.26	6	9.68	1.24	115	36
Everett	38	55	46	3	2	-5	0	0	2.30	1.12	4	10.13	1.91	123	34
Hoquiam	34	56	48	1	5	-2	0	0	2.38	-0.08	7	19.62	3.94	125	35
Kelso	34	57	46	2	2	-5	0	0	1.21	-0.38	5	13.01	2.85	128	31
Olympia	30	54	45	3	0	-7	0	0	1.53	-0.43	5	17.23	5.76	150	32
Sea-Tac	36	56	46	2	0	-7	0	0	1.82	0.41	5	14.81	6.17	171	31
Shelton	30	53	44	-1	0	-7	0	0	4.03	1.55	5	24.79	10.43	173	33
Tacoma	32	57	46	2	0	-7	0	0	1.30	-0.15	5	11.76	2.91	133	26
Vancouver	32	59	47	3	4	-3	0	0	1.27	-0.16	5	12.06	3.38	139	32
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	22	54	39	4	0	-3	0	0	0.47	0.19	3	2.18	0.44	125	18
Stampede Pass	28	40	33	5	0	0	0	0	4.64	1.69	5	34.73	17.48	201	37
Wenatchee	26	51	38	2	0	-4	0	0	0.32	0.04	4	2.09	0.57	138	16
Yakima AP	21	57	39	2	0	-6	0	0	0.31	0.06	3	1.51	0.05	103	13
NORTHEAST															
Colville	24	52	39	5	0	0	0	0	0.75	0.10	4	4.16	0.21	105	23
Deer Park	17	47	36	2	0	0	0	0	0.76	0.13	4	6.15	2.66	176	26
Spokane AP	25	46	37	3	0	0	0	0	0.47	-0.05	4	3.90	0.91	130	21
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	23	51	39	3	0	-1	0	0	0.21	-0.04	2	1.52	0.13	109	16
Moses Lake	20	52	39	2	0	-1	0	0	0.14	-0.11	2	1.20	-0.19	86	21
Quincy	22	53	39	2	0	-7	0	0	0.35	0.07	3	1.78	0.20	113	17
Ritzville	28	52	39	3	0	-7	0	0	0.39	0.00	2	3.23	0.93	140	18
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	25	57	42	0	1	-6	0	0	0.06	-0.17	2	1.41	0.10	108	16
Pasco	23	55	42	0	0	-7	0	0	0.05	-0.22	2	1.54	0.02	101	20
Pullman	29	54	42	5	0	-3	0	0	0.20	-0.43	2	4.45	0.44	111	23
Whitman Miss.	21	63	43	2	3	-4	0	0	0.15	-0.27	4	2.52	-0.28	90	25
ID PANHANDLE															
Coeur D'A' AP	25	50	39	2	0	0	0	0	0.31	-0.50	1	2.63	-2.15	55	16
Lewiston ID	31	56	45	5	2	0	0	0	0.03	-0.25	2	2.45	0.06	103	19

Summary based on NWS data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Friday September 1, 2006

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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