



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

USDA/NASS
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Washington Crop Weather

Released: June 18, 2007
Week Ending: June 17, 2007
CWP WA-CW2507

Cool Weather Returns Harvesting of Processing Green Peas and Bing Cherries Begins Field Crops

Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.3. The weather turned cool, easing some of the stress for moisture-deprived small grains but rain was desired. Counties have reported that most of first cutting of alfalfa was done but hay producers reported damage to fresh-cut alfalfa from rain two weeks ago and cool weather in some areas caused weevil damage. Walla Walla County reported harvesting of processing green peas had begun. Christmas tree growers were battling aphids on Noble fir with insecticidal sprays.

Fruits and Vegetables

Weather conditions have been very conducive to Bing cherry harvest in Yakima County and expectations are high for good fruit size and quality produce. Apple size was progressing nicely with Red Delicious fruit measuring 40 to 55 mm diameter in the mid to lower valley. On the west side, sweet corn continued to look chlorotic due to unseasonably cool temperatures. Local fresh strawberry harvest has begun and raspberry growers were preparing for harvest at the end of the month.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 2% very poor, 10% poor, 24% fair, 59% good and 5% excellent. In some areas, the spring moisture has been very short and rangeland conditions were affected by it. On the east side, shallow rooted grasses and forbs ceased growing due to unseasonably hot temperatures two weeks ago but mountain pasture continued to look good.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.3
Last Week	5.1

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	4	26	69	1
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	2	20	75	3
Subsoil	9	25	66	0
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	2	24	73	1
Irrigation Water	0	1	97	2
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	1	5	94	0
Hay & Roughage	4	10	84	2

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

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2006	5 Yr. Avg.
Spring Wheat Headed	44	37	38	51
Winter Wheat Headed	87	85	88	89
Barley Headed	53	38	34	44
Potatoes Emerged	99	98	98	99
Corn Planted	100	99	99	99
Corn Emerged	96	95	96	93
Dry Edible Beans Planted	100	99	100	98
Proc. Green Peas Planted	99	97	100	100
Proc. Green Peas Harvested	8	NA	9	5
Alfalfa Hay 1st Cutting	87	75	89	88
Alfalfa Hay 2nd Cutting	3	NA	4	4

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	2	9	31	51	7
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	3	68	29
Spring Wheat Dryland	3	19	46	30	2
Spring Wheat Irrigated	0	3	6	88	3
Barley Dryland	2	8	45	45	0
Barley Irrigated	0	9	15	76	0
Potatoes	0	0	34	66	0
Corn	0	2	22	68	8
Dry Edible Beans	0	2	12	54	32

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

Clark: The weekend was cool and cloudy but still a good one for most farms.

Grays Harbor: Sweet corn continued to look chlorotic due to unseasonably cool temperatures. Cannery peas on the other hand, were thriving under nearly ideal growing conditions. Christmas tree growers were battling aphids on Noble fir with insecticidal sprays. Commercial potato growers were irrigating Yellow Finns. U-Pick strawberry growers reported slow sales due to the cool, wet weather. Home gardeners complained that warm season vegetables were struggling due to the lack of heat units.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: Cooler than normal weather combined with showery periods kept forage harvest at a standstill. Spring seeded crops benefited from the moisture. Everyone is ready for some sunshine.

Mason: A trace of precipitation during the week, along with moderate temperatures and breezy conditions, lead to fairly dry fields and irrigation. While it has not been hot, the drying winds have had their effect and rain was needed.

Pacific: Showery, cool spring weather kept producers guessing if conditions were appropriate for many field activities. Hay growers delayed operations until more favorable weather. Pasture conditions were excellent, although some soil drying slowed forage growth. Raspberry growers were preparing for the beginning of harvest by the end of the month. Cranberry producers continued insect and weed control and initiated irrigation. Shellfish harvest operations slowed.

Pierce/S. King: Crop conditions remained good with the help of the recent rain. There were no unusual situations to report and no reports of any crop damage due to a weather event.

Skagit: High temperatures for the week averaged 62 degrees. There was 0.50 inches of precipitation recorded at the Extension Center in west Mount Vernon. With cooler temperatures and rain in the lower delta area, farmers breathed a huge sigh of relief. Many had begun laying out irrigation equipment with thoughts of a long, dry spring. The latest rain will hold farmers off irrigation for a week or two. That's good for the bottom line and good for environmentalists who are concerned about the use of ground water for the irrigation of crops. Local fresh strawberries were headed to a local stand near you.

Skagit/Island/San Juan: The weather conditions for the past week were cool and wet.

Snohomish/South King: Scattered showers throughout the week, totaling over an inch in some areas, interrupted fieldwork. The showers also put a damper on the local "Strawberry Festival." Strawberry harvest continued, and raspberries and blueberries were slowly ripening. Apples were sizing up. Pastures grew well with the help of the continuing rain showers. Crop growth was slow due to the cool weather.

Thurston: Unseasonably cool temperatures continued to delay crop development. Although there have been frequent rain showers, turfgrass growers kept the irrigation sprinklers going. U-Pick strawberry growers reported excellent fruit quality and sales. Dairy producers continued applying liquid manure to forage fields. Christmas tree growers were kept busy applying insecticides and fungicides on Noble fir.

Whatcom: The weather continued to be cool and wet. The average temperature was 54 degrees. Minimal irrigation was required as rain continued throughout the week. Strawberry harvest began. Due to lack of sun, the strawberries were not as red and sweet. Mold concerns may arise if temperatures increase along with the moisture level. The second cutting of grass for silage was also underway.

Central

Benton: The crops looked better after the rain of June 4.

Douglas/Chelan: Windy conditions and cooler than normal temperatures were experienced during the week.

Grant: The first cutting of alfalfa was nearly complete, with the first cutting of timothy hay in full swing. Cherry harvest began. Bean planting continued. Fresh pea harvest was to begin soon.

Kittitas: After another cool week, but with warmer days in the forecast, hay growers were swathing timothy hay. Spring moisture has been very short, and rangelands were also showing the lack of spring moisture. The unseasonably hot temperatures two weeks ago stimulated shut down on many species, particularly shallower rooted grasses and forbs. Springs and streams were low.

Klickitat: Unseasonable rains for the past two weeks damaged quite a bit of the first cutting of hay. The temperature has been unseasonably cold and windy. Bees have been active, though.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from 7 degrees below normal to 2 degrees above normal, with a trace of precipitation. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported.

Yakima (2nd Report): Bing cherry harvest was underway. Weather conditions have been very conducive to the cherry harvest. This year's cherry harvest will be a bit short in areas that experienced late season frosts, but the overall harvest promises to yield high quality and large fruit. The size of the apple crop was progressing nicely with Red Delicious fruit measuring 40 to 55 mm in diameter in the mid to lower Valley.

Eastern

Adams: Cooler temperatures and unsettled weather helped small grains recover from earlier high temperatures.

Asotin/Garfield: The weather remained cool which was beneficial to crops. However, crops were being stressed due to lack of moisture as no rain was received during the week. Even with the cool weather, crops in the lower elevations showed signs of moisture stress and were vulnerable to further damage if the hot weather returns. Springs and small streams have reduced flow due to the dry conditions.

Ferry: Most of the first cutting of alfalfa was up. Scattered showers prevented some growers from baling hay.

Garfield: Continued cool, cloudy weather has helped the wheat. Strong winds every weekend has dried out what little moisture we had and burned the crops.

Pend Oreille: The high temperature for the week was 69 degrees and the low was 34 degrees with no precipitation. Moisture dried out dramatically in the past week due to winds and no rain. Crop growth slowed due to lack of ground moisture. Livestock were on pastures and doing well although grass recovery was slow due to the lack of moisture.

Stevens: The first cutting of hay progressed well. Winter wheat was heading out and spring grain was doing well. The weather was characterized by overcast skies and a little cooler than normal.

Stevens (2nd Report): Damage from alfalfa weevil became apparent during the week. A few showers moved through the area, but for the most part dry conditions continued. Pasture grass was short this year due to frost and dry conditions.

Walla Walla: The weather was cool and windy, and a few light showers were received. Green pea harvest began. The hot spell accelerated ripening too fast for some early fields. Very little hay was rained on. Mountain pastures looked good.

Walla Walla (2nd Report): Cooler weather during the week helped crops. Crops looked good throughout the area with the exception of some spring crops in the northern portions of the county.

Weekly Weather Statistics
June 18, 2007

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS				LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIP				
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	BASE-50F		BASE-60F		TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	PCT			
	---	---	---	---	TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	INCHES	---	---	INCHES	DFN	NORMAL	DAYS	
WEST																
Bellingham Intl	47	63	55	-4	36	-23	0	-7	0.47	+0.05	5	34.37	+1.65	105	158	
Everett	48	63	55	-5	36	-30	0	-14	0.41	-0.08	5	31.02	-2.00	94	156	
Hoquiam	43	68	57	-1	53	+3	0	-7	0.21	-0.29	4	67.34	+2.99	105	174	
Kelso	43	72	58	-2	58	-10	2	-12	0.11	-0.40	3	38.82	-4.45	90	131	
Olympia	37	70	56	-3	46	-13	1	-6	0.07	-0.35	3	54.04	+6.17	113	156	
Seattle-Tacoma	46	70	58	-4	54	-21	0	-16	0.17	-0.18	3	42.44	+7.74	122	148	
Shelton	37	68	55	-6	40	-34	0	-19	0.10	-0.32	1	73.49	+11.48	119	160	
Tacoma WA AP	37	68	56	-5	47	-27	1	-14	0.09	-0.33	4	38.44	+1.06	103	146	
Vancouver WA	45	75	61	+0	75	+2	9	-10	0.09	-0.32	2	36.96	-1.71	96	134	
CENTRAL																
Ellensburg	42	77	61	-2	76	-9	11	-16	0.10	-0.04	1	7.96	-0.13	98	76	
Omak AP	44	77	61	+0	79	-1	12	-13	0.01	-0.32	1	9.28	-3.54	72	58	
Stampede Pass	37	69	49	+2	21	+7	1	+1	0.84	+0.14	3	95.23	+18.71	124	169	
Wenatchee	46	74	62	-5	84	-31	16	-32	0.03	-0.11	1	8.56	+1.15	116	50	
Yakima AP	36	78	60	-5	74	-27	14	-23	0.03	-0.11	1	6.84	-0.38	95	59	
NORTHEAST																
Colville	42	76	59	-3	62	-17	3	-21	0.00	-0.35	0	13.74	-4.95	74	97	
Deer Park	35	72	55	-7	36	-43	0	-24	0.06	-0.22	1	17.26	+0.82	105	109	
Republic	37	72	54	-5	31	-27	0	-14	0.21	-0.14	1	13.14	+0.10	101	72	
Spokane AP	43	72	58	-4	58	-24	4	-21	0.01	-0.27	1	14.09	-0.53	96	96	
EAST CENTRAL																
Ephrata	44	79	63	-6	93	-34	27	-32	0.00	-0.12	0	6.82	+0.32	105	64	
Moses Lake	45	79	63	-6	91	-36	23	-36	0.02	-0.10	1	6.00	-0.50	92	62	
Quincy	43	77	61	-6	77	-32	13	-31	0.00	-0.14	0	7.51	+0.44	106	48	
Ritzville	42	78	60	-3	71	-13	8	-18	0.00	-0.14	0	10.16	-0.06	99	81	
SOUTHEAST																
Hanford	43	80	66	-6	111	-33	41	-34	0.00	-0.07	0	4.55	-1.33	77	47	
Pasco	42	82	65	-5	106	-26	36	-27	0.00	-0.07	0	7.26	+0.44	106	69	
Pullman	39	73	56	-3	46	-19	1	-17	0.00	-0.35	0	16.03	-2.84	85	101	
Walla Walla Rgn	48	81	65	-3	105	-16	35	-18	0.00	-0.25	0	17.33	-0.43	98	88	
Whitman Mission	43	78	62	-3	88	-18	21	-21	0.02	-0.19	1	12.67	+0.32	103	95	
WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE																
Lewiston ID	47	83	64	-4	98	-17	31	-17	0.07	-0.21	2	8.42	-2.08	80	80	

Summary based on NWS data.
 Season CUMulative Precip Starts: Friday September 1, 2006
 DFN = Departure From Normal.
 Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.
 Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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
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