



United States Department  
of Agriculture

National Agricultural  
Statistics Service

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# Washington Crop Weather

Released: July 2, 2007  
Week Ending: July 1, 2007  
CWP WA-CW2707

## Cool And Wet Conditions On The West Side While Hot And Dry Persist On The East Side Grain Harvest Expected To Begin Soon

### Field Crops

Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.6 . Grain crops coming along with Franklin County reporting that dryland winter wheat was not looking as good as was originally expected. Adams County reported that grain harvest is expected to begin soon. Franklin County reported that nearly all of the second cutting of alfalfa was done and in the last stages of windrow or bale. Bluegrass harvest was underway and potatoes looked good and doing well with the cooler temperatures. Christmas tree growers were in preparation for top work slated to begin later this month.

### Fruits and Vegetables

Cool mornings and no rain were conducive for cherry harvest in Yakima County. The harvest was short, but quality was superb and apricot harvest continued. Snohomish and Whatcom Counties reported some damage to apples and blueberries due to a fast-moving hailstorm. The sweet corn crop continues to look chlorotic in some areas due to the cool temperatures.

### Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 1% very poor, 7% poor, 21% fair and 71% good. On the east side, cattle seemed to have adequate to good range conditions thus far. On the west side, due to the cool, wet spring conditions, livestock owners expressed frustration that forage grasses were already over-mature and losing nutritional quality.

### Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.6
Last Week	6.3

### Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	10	27	58	5
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	6	33	61	0
Subsoil	8	30	62	0
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	4	32	64	0
Irrigation Water	0	0	96	4
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	2	4	94	0
Hay & Roughage	0	10	88	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	81	66	68	87
Winter Wheat Headed	100	98	99	100
Barley Headed	90	76	63	82
Field Corn Emerged	98	97	100	100
Corn Silked	9	5	3	3
Proc. Green Peas Harvested	37	17	37	28
Dry Peas Harvested	1	NA	3	NA
Alfalfa Hay 1st Cutting	99	91	96	98
Alfalfa Hay 2nd Cutting	38	21	38	33

### Crop Condition\*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	2	9	25	57	7
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	2	66	32
Spring Wheat Dryland	5	20	42	33	0
Spring Wheat Irrigated	0	2	3	79	16
Barley Dryland	4	8	34	54	0
Barley Irrigated	0	6	10	84	0
Potatoes	0	0	17	83	0
Corn	0	0	14	69	17
Dry Edible Beans	0	3	44	35	18

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

**Grays Harbor:** Another week of unseasonably cool temperatures with heavy rain showers proved to be a mixed blessing for many agricultural producers. The rain was welcome, but the cool temperatures continued to delay crop development. U-Pick strawberry growers reported smaller than usual berry size due to the cool temperatures. Greenhouse tomato growers harvested their first fruit of the season. The cannery pea crop looked very good, the sweet corn crop continued to look chlorotic due to the cool temperatures. Christmas tree growers were making stakes in preparation for top work slated to begin later this month.

**Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific:** Showers and the threat of showers limited the forage harvest to green chop and haylage. Pea growers appreciated the rain. If the forecast is correct, farmers wishing to make hay will have a week of hot, dry weather around the 4th of July.

**Pierce/S. King:** Crop conditions remained good. No report of crop damage due to weather. No unusual situations to report.

**Snohomish/King:** Hail damage from last week's storm showed up on many plants. Apples and blueberries were badly bruised in areas that were hit. The area experienced showers and rain late in the week. Raspberry harvest was underway. Pasture and crop growth looked good.

**Thurston:** Agricultural producers continued to express frustration over the lack of heat units which continued to delay crop development. Heavy rain showers at the end of the week kept soil moisture levels adequate. U-Pick strawberry growers continued to express frustration over the rainy conditions which slowed sales. Turfgrass growers continued mowing, fertilizing and harvesting fields. Dairy producers took advantage of the heavy rainfall to apply liquid manure to forage fields. The cool, wet weather continued to delay hay harvest for yet another week. Livestock owners expressed frustration that forage grasses were already over-mature and losing nutritional quality.

**Thurston (2<sup>nd</sup> Report):** Cattle looked good. Cattle were eating haylage since pasture conditions were poor due to a cold, wet spring. Grapes looked great.

**Whatcom:** The week started off with thunder, lightning, rain and hail. An apple producer reported approximately 30 percent damage from the hail. The hail had left the immature apples pitted. It was unclear how this damage will affect their marketability at time of maturity. Irrigation started on crops such as potatoes, raspberries, and blueberries. Corn and grass fields were not in need of irrigation due to timely rains.

## Central

**Douglas/Chelan:** Spotty precipitation was received. This will help the wheat crop. No producers reported damage to their cherries which were still being harvested. Some growers started their second cutting of hay.

**Franklin:** The area had slightly cooler than normal temperatures with little to no precipitation. Nearly all second cutting hay was put up or in last stages of windrow or bale. The last of the cherries were being harvested throughout the week. Potatoes looked good and were doing well with the cooler temperatures. All grain crops were coming along nicely with some reports that dryland winter wheat was not looking as good now as was originally thought.

**Kittitas:** Most of the first cutting timothy hay was in the barn, but many farmers suffered some rain damage while hay was down. Range pastures were very dry, and it has been a good year for annual grasses. Many natural water sources were dry.

**Okanogan:** A good rain came to many parts of the county on Friday. There was still some first cutting hay down when the moisture came. It looks like some dry, hot weather is coming so that should allow it to dry. First cutting of hay was just about done. Cherry harvest picked up quickly. Cattle seemed to have adequate to good range so far. June brought some needed moisture which helped since the early part of spring was dry.

**Yakima:** Average temperatures varied from 8 degrees below normal to 8 degrees above normal, with .07 of an inch of precipitation. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported.

**Yakima (2<sup>nd</sup> Report):** Weather consisting of cool mornings with no rain continued to be conducive to cherry harvest. Cherry harvest activities peaked in the mid to lower Yakima Valley last week. Cherry crop was short but quality was superb. Apricot harvest and apple thinning activities continued.

## Eastern

**Adams:** Harvest may begin as early as the end of the week in the southern end of the county.

**Garfield:** The area had continued dry, moderate weather through the end of June. Harvest should begin in low country by end of the week.

**Lincoln:** Grain crops continued to grow and progress at a rate that appears to be earlier than normal compared to previous years. Rain still would be a benefit to spring grain crops and pasture, although in some winter wheat areas where the crop was maturing rapidly, it would be less beneficial. Most first cuttings of hay went well.

**Pend Oreille:** Temperature high was 82 degrees with a low of 34 degrees. Precipitation recovered was .3" of an inch. A thunderstorm came in producing rainfall that evaporated very quickly, which continued to leave topsoil and subsoil very dry within a day. Livestock continued to eat pasture faster than it can recover. Hay was predicted to be short for this coming year.

**Pend Oreille/Spokane:** A thunder storm rolled through the area on Friday night with high winds and a varying amount of rain across the two counties. High winds moved windrows of hay and newly swathed bluegrass as well as shattering seed from grass that was not swathed. Strawberries and some early cherries were being picked up on Green Bluff, and timothy hay will begin being cut shortly after the fourth of July. Winter wheat started to turn a little and grass seed harvest will probably start this coming week if the weather is warm. A good rain would be beneficial for spring crops and complete the filling process of the winter wheat.

**Walla Walla:** One day experienced a short shower. Winter wheat was maturing rapidly. The cool weather was beneficial. Producers were hoping the expected hot weather does not fry it. Haying and green pea harvests were progressing well. Mountain grasses were still looking pretty good.

**Weekly Weather Statistics**  
July 2, 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
<b>WEST</b>															
Bellingham Intl	45	76	60	+0	74	+1	8	-6	0.26	-0.09	4	34.90	+1.41	104	164
Everett	47	73	60	-2	72	-7	7	-11	0.52	+0.12	3	31.69	-2.19	94	161
Hoquiam	49	81	61	+4	81	+18	13	+6	0.70	+0.31	4	68.53	+3.34	105	182
Kelso	43	88	61	-2	77	-6	10	-11	0.23	-0.15	2	39.19	-4.92	89	134
Olympia	42	82	60	-2	68	-7	5	-9	0.54	+0.24	3	54.90	+6.38	113	161
Seattle-Tacoma	47	82	63	-1	89	-3	21	-6	0.48	+0.20	4	43.22	+7.89	122	153
Shelton	39	83	59	-5	61	-28	3	-25	0.43	+0.10	3	74.29	+11.56	118	167
Tacoma WA AP	42	82	60	-4	71	-18	6	-18	0.58	+0.25	4	39.37	+1.25	103	152
Vancouver WA	47	89	63	+1	96	+7	26	-2	0.15	-0.13	2	37.26	-2.04	95	137
<b>CENTRAL</b>															
Ellensburg	39	89	66	+1	113	+5	45	+2	0.03	-0.04	2	8.03	-0.27	97	79
Omak AP	37	84	62	-3	88	-14	23	-17	0.43	+0.20	2	9.71	-3.62	73	60
Stampede Pass	34	68	52	+1	23	-3	0	+0	1.29	+0.77	3	96.94	+19.27	125	175
Wenatchee	49	85	67	-4	121	-20	51	-20	0.00	-0.10	0	8.56	+0.91	112	50
Yakima AP	39	86	65	-4	104	-18	37	-17	0.07	+0.00	1	6.91	-0.51	93	60
<b>NORTHEAST</b>															
Colville	39	87	64	+1	102	+4	35	+0	0.22	-0.06	3	13.96	-5.33	72	100
Deer Park	34	86	61	-5	80	-27	20	-23	0.17	-0.06	2	17.43	+0.48	103	111
Republic	34	83	61	+0	81	+3	23	+2	0.29	+0.01	2	13.43	-0.24	98	74
Spokane AP	42	85	64	-2	100	-8	36	-8	0.14	-0.09	1	14.23	-0.90	94	97
<b>EAST CENTRAL</b>															
Ephrata	45	86	66	-6	117	-35	48	-35	0.35	+0.27	1	7.17	+0.52	108	65
Moses Lake	43	87	65	-7	108	-44	38	-45	0.23	+0.15	1	6.23	-0.42	94	63
Quincy	43	84	64	-5	100	-30	34	-27	0.16	+0.09	1	7.67	+0.46	106	49
Ritzville	43	88	65	-2	107	-3	42	-3	0.08	-0.06	1	10.24	-0.26	98	82
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>															
Hanford	45	93	71	-4	147	-22	77	-24	0.08	+0.01	1	4.63	-1.39	77	48
Pasco	41	91	68	-5	125	-29	55	-30	0.02	-0.05	1	7.28	+0.32	105	70
Pullman	42	83	61	-2	81	-6	18	-10	0.19	-0.09	2	16.22	-3.27	83	103
Walla Walla Rgn	47	89	69	-2	137	-12	67	-13	0.01	-0.17	1	17.34	-0.81	96	89
Whitman Mission	34	89	65	-4	104	-25	39	-21	0.33	+0.19	2	13.00	+0.32	103	97
<b>WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE</b>															
Lewiston ID	47	92	69	-2	137	-7	67	-7	0.21	-0.02	2	8.63	-2.38	78	82

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.

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