



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

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Week Ending: October 7, 2007
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Potato and Corn Grain Harvest Continue Field Crops

Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.3. In Whitman County, winter wheat seeding continued. Several surrounding counties reported they were nearly finished as well. A good rain was needed for germination and sprouting. In Grant and Walla Walla Counties, the baling for fourth crop hay stalled due to intermittent light showers, morning fog and heavy dew. The potato and dry corn harvest continued in Grant County. Christmas tree growers reported wholesale buyers were filling purchase orders.

Fruits and Vegetables

Cool nights in the Yakima Valley stymied but not stopped vegetable production while winter squash harvest appeared to be peaking. Apple harvest continued with the lower Yakima Valley focused on Red Delicious and Fuji apples and the later areas bringing in their Golden Delicious, Granny Smith, Braeburn and other varieties. In Pacific County, cranberry harvest continued with average yields, but good market conditions. Skagit County reported area seed crops had all been harvested. Seed yields were hurt by harvest rains.

Livestock and Shellfish

Range and pasture conditions were 16% very poor, 19% poor, 29% fair, 31% good and 5% excellent. In Asotin County, rangeland remained in poor condition with minimal regrowth due to very dry conditions. In Pacific County, shellfish growers transplanted oysters, and began harvest operations for the fall season.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	5.3
Last Week	5.8

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	13	18	63	6
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	15	35	49	1
Subsoil	27	34	38	1
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	12	39	49	0
Irrigation Water	1	3	96	0
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	3	7	90	0
Hay & Roughage	12	25	62	1

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

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2006	5 Yr. Avg.
Winter Wheat Planted	84	69	83	82
Winter Wheat Emerged	55	43	56	54
Potatoes Harvested	74	70	75	74
Field Corn Dough	100	98	100	100
Field Corn Dented	97	92	97	99
Field Corn Mature	83	70	84	86
Field Corn Harvested for Grain	39	30	50	25
Corn Silage Harvested	67	50	65	64
Dry Edible Beans Harvested	95	90	95	83
Alfalfa Hay 4th Cutting	90	69	0	0

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Corn	0	0	6	66	28

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: It was a wet weekend for fall activities.

Grays Harbor: The sweet corn harvest was just days from being completed. Potato and flower bulb harvests were complete. Christmas tree growers reported wholesale buyers were filling purchase orders.

Mason: It has been the typical autumn with 1.9 inches of precipitation received during the week. There were intervals of stormy weather peppered with a little sunshine. Cattle were moved upland. All of the row crops, with the exception of a few potatoes, were harvested. Fields were cover crop ready for winter. The winterizing tasks need to be completed to be ready for cold weather.

Pacific: Cooler, rainy fall weather allowed only limited fieldwork for growers. Cranberry harvest operations continued with average yields and good market conditions, and raspberry growers completed late season weed control and final pruning. Christmas tree producers continued harvest preparations. Shellfish growers transplanted oysters and began harvest operations for the fall season.

Pierce/S. King: There were no reports of any crop damage due to a weather event. The rain left some fields with standing water, but harvest was ongoing. There were no unusual conditions to report.

Skagit: High temperatures for the week averaged 54 degrees. There was 3.0 inches of precipitation recorded at the

WSU Northwest Research and Extension Center in west Mount Vernon. Area seed crops have all been harvested in the Valley. The crops were above average this year until rains decreased yields for 2007. Area flower bulb and wheat farmers were planting the 2008 crop. Last week's rain slowed down planting. Potato harvest was 30 percent complete. Potato farmers were in the process of switching over to the mud chains, dualing up their tractors, and getting ready to dig potatoes in the mud. Local corn was marketed around the county.

Snohomish/King: Heavy rains during the week cut into fieldwork. Most of the corn and potatoes have been harvested. U-Pick pumpkin farms were open for business. Apple harvest continued.

Thurston: Unseasonably cool temperatures along with frequent rain showers brought field cultivation to a screeching halt. U-Pick pumpkin farms reported very slow sales over the weekend due to the inclement weather. Turfgrass growers were pleased the weather has been nearly ideal for the germination of recently seeded fields.

Whatcom: Fall is here! It was a wet weekend with temperatures in the high 50s and lows in the 40s, with a couple of mornings in the high 30s. Producers chopped corn silage, harvested potatoes, and prepared fields for cover crops in between rain showers. A few of the cover crops sprouted.

Central

Benton: Producers baled corn stalks for feed since feed was in short supply.

Douglas/Chelan: Light precipitation that was received during the week affected the fruit harvest because of safety issues for pickers. Pear harvest wound down. Apple harvest continued.

Grant: The fourth cutting of alfalfa hay stalled because of intermittent sprinkles, morning fog, and heavy dew.

Grant (2nd Report): Apple harvest continued. Potato and dry corn harvest was underway.

Kittitas: Weather conditions were cold, wet and there was light frost. Newly seeded timothy hay looked good,

averaging about 3-6 inches tall. Calves were still on pasture while many livestock producers were waiting to sell them.

Yakima: There were a couple of very cool nights that stymied but did not stop vegetable production. The winter squash harvest appeared to be peaking. Apple harvest continued, with the lower Yakima Valley focused on Red Delicious and Fuji apples. The later areas were bringing in Gold Delicious, Granny Smith, Braeburn and other varieties of apples.

Yakima (2nd Report): Average temperatures varied from eight degrees below normal to two degrees above normal, with a trace of precipitation. There were no crop losses due to weather conditions.

Eastern

Asotin: Dry weather continued for most of the week as fall seeding progressed.

Asotin/Garfield: The weather remained dry for the most part. Cloudy, cool weather brought little in the form of rain in most areas of the counties. Seeding of winter wheat progressed, but rain was needed for proper stand establishment this fall. Very little grain had emerged. Rangeland remained in poor condition with no regrowth this fall due to drought conditions.

Pend Oreille: The high temperature was 52 degrees and the low was 22 degrees with 2.3 inches of precipitation. Fields were greening up with recent rains, and winter coats were showing on livestock. The winter hay was still in short supply.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: Morning temperatures were colder. Fields were drying out, which made fieldwork possible. Winter wheat seeding continued.

Walla Walla: Temperatures were cooler, with a few showers reported. Seeding continued, and most winter wheat was in the ground. Some hay received rain damage. Hay for sale and fall pastures were in short supply.

Whitman: A few rain showers helped alleviate very dry conditions, although more was needed. Seeding operations continued in the central and eastern areas of the county, and the western area was nearly complete.

Weekly Weather Statistics October 9, 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	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS	
					TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	INCHES			INCHES				
WEST																
Bellingham Intl	36	60	51	-3	16	-8	0	+0	1.47	+0.86	6	2.83	+0.28	111	17	
Everett	43	62	52	-3	16	-12	0	+0	1.05	+0.49	6	3.57	+0.86	132	16	
Hoquiam	37	62	54	-4	30	-16	0	-7	1.90	+0.84	6	4.38	+0.07	102	18	
Kelso	43	63	54	-3	30	-10	0	-5	1.77	+1.11	5	3.36	+0.33	111	9	
Olympia	41	63	51	-2	15	-9	0	+0	2.01	+1.32	7	3.99	+1.04	135	17	
Seattle-Tacoma	45	62	52	-5	18	-22	0	-3	1.65	+1.10	7	4.63	+2.20	191	14	
Shelton	31	61	50	-6	15	-21	0	-4	2.03	+1.16	6	4.67	+1.12	132	16	
Tacoma WA AP	43	64	52	-4	16	-18	0	+0	1.73	+1.18	6	3.51	+1.03	142	11	
Vancouver WA	42	67	55	+0	37	-1	1	-3	1.08	+0.52	6	2.90	+0.33	113	11	
CENTRAL																
Ellensburg	33	71	51	-1	20	-2	0	-3	0.14	+0.06	2	0.45	-0.12	79	3	
Omak AP	28	65	51	-2	20	+0	0	-3	0.34	+0.20	1	1.03	+0.10	111	4	
Stampede Pass	32	51	39	-6	0	-7	0	+0	4.51	+3.46	7	6.39	+1.91	143	18	
Wenatchee	38	71	53	-4	24	-17	0	-9	0.17	+0.10	3	0.24	-0.23	51	4	
Yakima AP	28	70	49	-5	8	-25	0	-6	0.00	-0.07	0	0.19	-0.28	40	3	
NORTHEAST																
Colville	30	63	49	-2	8	-9	0	+0	0.49	+0.28	4	1.14	-0.20	85	8	
Deer Park	26	58	45	-7	2	-21	0	-4	0.77	+0.60	3	1.10	+0.06	106	9	
Republic	28	58	46	-2	2	-9	0	+0	0.32	+0.17	2	1.29	+0.23	122	8	
Spokane AP	34	61	47	-6	2	-22	0	-4	0.82	+0.68	4	0.95	+0.08	109	8	
EAST CENTRAL																
Ephrata	36	70	52	-6	20	-25	0	-11	0.21	+0.14	3	0.53	+0.10	123	5	
Moses Lake	37	70	53	-5	22	-23	0	-11	0.19	+0.12	3	0.55	+0.12	128	5	
Quincy	34	69	52	-4	18	-17	0	-7	0.30	+0.23	3	0.65	+0.15	130	5	
Ritzville	38	62	50	-4	7	-21	0	-5	0.48	+0.34	3	0.59	-0.11	84	5	
SOUTHEAST																
Hanford	35	73	54	-7	30	-37	0	-19	0.05	-0.02	1	0.36	-0.06	86	4	
Pasco	35	76	57	-1	53	+4	6	-4	0.34	+0.27	2	0.56	+0.13	130	5	
Pullman	30	59	47	-6	3	-22	0	-3	0.67	+0.44	3	1.09	-0.14	89	6	
Walla Walla Rgn	39	71	55	-5	36	-20	0	-11	0.37	+0.09	4	0.78	-0.45	63	6	
Whitman Mission	35	66	53	-2	23	-12	0	-6	0.31	+0.13	5	0.59	-0.27	69	7	
WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE																
Lewiston ID	39	67	53	-5	26	-23	0	-11	0.29	+0.11	4	0.44	-0.52	46	7	

Summary based on NWS data.
 Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Friday September 1, 2007
 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/2007/summary/weth1606.pdf>
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