



United States Department  
of Agriculture

National Agricultural  
Statistics Service

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# Washington Crop Weather

Released: October 15, 2007  
Week Ending: October 14, 2007  
CWP WA-CW4107

## Apple Harvest Continued While Grain Growers Need Rain Field Crops

Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.0. Fall seeding was wrapping up throughout the grain growing counties. Soil conditions continued dry, as some farmers planted into the dust in Garfield and Asotin Counties. Christmas tree growers reported some isolated infestations of silver spotted tiger moths. Some Christmas tree growers began removing stakes from the tops of Noble fir.

### Fruits and Vegetables

In the Yakima Valley, heavy morning dews were reported but no killing frosts reported in the vegetable producing areas. Apple harvest continued with growers focusing on the Red Delicious and Fuji varieties. Grays Harbor County reported the cranberry harvest was in progress. Pumpkin farms were experiencing an increase in business as Halloween draws near.

### Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 17% very poor, 18% poor, 30% fair, 31% good and 4% excellent. Stevens County reported that local producers were marketing calves.

### Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.0
Last Week	5.3

### Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	14	19	62	5
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	11	30	57	2
Subsoil	26	37	37	0
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	12	39	49	0
Irrigation Water	1	3	96	0
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	2	6	92	0
Hay & Roughage	13	26	61	0

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	90	84	91	91
Winter Wheat Emerged	60	55	70	68
Potatoes Harvested	80	74	84	84
Field Corn Dented	100	97	100	100
Field Corn Mature	88	83	97	97
Field Corn Harvested for Grain	50	39	69	38
Corn Harvested for Silage	72	67	88	83
Dry Edible Beans Harvested	97	95	98	93

### Crop Condition\*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Corn	0	0	5	68	27

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

**Grays Harbor:** Sweet corn growers were busy cultivating recently harvested fields in order to plant winter cover crops. Christmas tree growers reported some isolated infestations of silver spotted tiger moths. Livestock producers reported excellent sales of both haylage and conventional baled hay.

**Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific:** Cooler than normal conditions persisted thus far for the month. Cranberry harvest was in full swing while most other crops were in the bin.

**Mason:** The area experienced cool foggy nights and received .7 of an inch of precipitation. Producers were dragging and top-seeding fields on the sunnier days in preparation for winter. No freezing temperatures were recorded.

**Skagit:** High temperatures averaged 60 degrees. There were .3 of an inch of precipitation recorded at the WSU North West Research and Extension Center in West Mount Vernon. With wonderful weekend weather and rain expected many area farmers were getting their crops in or out of the ground. Area bulb and wheat farmers were finishing up planting their 2008 crop. Potato harvest was 50 percent complete. The crop was doing well this year with lower yields in fields that were not irrigated last summer. Apple harvest was going on in the Skagit Valley. Local corn was marketed around the county.

**Skagit/San Juan/Island:** The area had good weather over the weekend; however corn and seed crops were affected by the early cold wet weather earlier in the month. Farmers reported their crops were maturing at least two weeks later than normal. Some potatoes were not harvested due to standing water.

**Snohomish/King:** Pumpkin farms business increased as Halloween draws near. Christmas tree farmers prepared for their busy time coming in November and December. Potato and corn silage harvest was about over. Apple harvest continued for late ripening varieties.

**Thurston:** Agricultural producers took advantage of sunny days with no rain to complete fall chores. U-Pick pumpkin farms reported excellent sales over the weekend due to the warm, sunny weather. Christmas tree growers began removing stakes from the tops of Noble fir. Turfgrass growers reported rapid grass growth due to temperatures in the mid 60's.

## Central

**Benton:** Forage crops were short. Some unusual crops were being put up for livestock feed such as lima bean straw and corn stalks.

**Benton (2<sup>nd</sup> Report):** Western portions of the county needed additional rain to complete fall seeding in a timely manner. Conditions looked very good around the county.

**Yakima:** The average temperatures varied from 6 degrees below normal to 4 degrees above normal, with .07 of an inch of precipitation received. No crop losses due to weather conditions were reported.

**Yakima (2<sup>nd</sup> Report):** The area had heavy morning dews. No killing frosts were reported in the vegetable producing areas of the Yakima Valley. Apple harvest continued with growers focused on the Red Delicious and Fuji varieties.

## Eastern

**Asotin/Garfield:** The weather remained dry through the week. Winter wheat seeding continued with most producers dusting it in, hoping for rain soon for fall emergence.

**Pend Oreille/Spokane:** The area had a very nice fall week. No real rain was received, but a number of acres were seeded to winter wheat. The growers were on the downhill side of seeding winter wheat. Fall plowing and normal fall tillage were the main projects for most producers. Cheatgrass started to green up with the little bit of moisture received, though too late for most cattlemen. No serious killing frost experienced in most areas. Apple harvest continued and the fall leaves have tremendous color this year.

**Stevens:** Rain showers fell and lowered the fire danger which gave a start to winter wheat seeding. Fall tillage continued. Most haying was completed for the year. Several local producers marketed calves over the weekend.

**Walla Walla:** Crops looked good to date. Cooler temperatures helped producers. The expected rain will help.

**Whitman:** Fall seeding was wrapping up. Rainfall was needed to help bring along newly seeded winter wheat. Many operations finished up fall tillage work. Some producers were reseeding, but the majority of the acreage seeded emerged without much difficulty.

# Weekly Weather Statistics

October 15, 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	34	66	52	+1	17	+2	0	+0	0.10	-0.58	2	2.93	-0.30	91	19	
Everett	43	68	53	+2	28	+9	0	+0	0.16	-0.46	2	3.73	+0.40	112	18	
Hoquiam	42	67	56	+0	42	+5	0	+0	0.51	-0.71	2	4.89	-0.64	88	20	
Kelso	42	65	54	+0	32	+3	0	+0	0.38	-0.36	2	3.74	-0.03	99	11	
Olympia	37	68	52	+2	18	+4	0	+0	0.16	-0.65	3	4.15	+0.39	110	20	
Seattle-Tacoma	42	65	54	-1	27	-1	0	+0	0.08	-0.53	4	4.71	+1.67	155	18	
Shelton	33	65	52	-2	17	-7	0	+0	0.24	-0.79	2	4.91	+0.33	107	18	
Tacoma WA AP	37	65	52	-2	15	-8	0	+0	0.28	-0.33	3	3.79	+0.70	123	14	
Vancouver WA	44	67	55	+2	37	+12	0	+0	0.25	-0.35	4	3.15	-0.02	99	15	
<b>CENTRAL</b>																
Ellensburg	35	72	53	+4	25	+15	0	+0	0.06	-0.05	2	0.51	-0.17	75	5	
Omak AP	30	68	51	+4	15	+6	0	+0	0.04	-0.16	2	1.07	-0.06	95	6	
Stampede Pass	34	55	44	+2	0	+0	0	+0	0.82	-0.40	4	7.21	+1.51	126	22	
Wenatchee	39	67	54	+1	28	+4	0	-2	0.06	-0.01	1	0.30	-0.24	56	5	
Yakima AP	30	70	52	+1	22	+4	0	+0	0.07	+0.00	2	0.26	-0.28	48	5	
<b>NORTHEAST</b>																
Colville	32	78	53	+6	24	+17	0	+0	0.18	-0.04	4	1.32	-0.24	85	12	
Deer Park	28	76	51	+2	17	+7	2	+2	0.09	-0.12	2	1.19	-0.06	95	11	
Republic	27	65	48	+4	7	+4	0	+0	0.04	-0.13	2	1.33	+0.10	108	10	
Spokane AP	36	75	53	+4	24	+13	2	+2	0.04	-0.15	1	0.99	-0.07	93	9	
<b>EAST CENTRAL</b>																
Ephrata	34	74	54	+1	34	+8	2	-1	0.00	-0.07	0	0.53	+0.03	106	5	
Moses Lake	34	72	53	-2	24	-2	0	-3	0.01	-0.06	1	0.56	+0.06	112	6	
Quincy	35	69	53	+2	27	+7	0	+0	0.09	+0.02	2	0.74	+0.17	130	7	
Ritzville	40	74	55	+5	36	+20	1	+1	0.00	-0.14	0	0.59	-0.25	70	5	
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>																
Hanford	39	72	57	-2	48	+1	3	-4	0.08	+0.01	2	0.44	-0.05	90	6	
Pasco	36	73	55	+0	37	+3	0	-3	0.04	-0.05	1	0.60	+0.08	115	6	
Pullman	31	81	54	+4	34	+18	7	+7	0.09	-0.19	2	1.18	-0.33	78	8	
Walla Walla Rgn	43	72	57	+2	53	+13	2	-2	0.20	-0.08	2	0.98	-0.53	65	8	
Whitman Mission	32	74	53	+2	26	+5	1	+1	0.11	-0.10	1	0.70	-0.37	65	8	
<b>WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE</b>																
Lewiston ID	43	87	59	+5	64	+31	12	+9	0.09	-0.12	2	0.53	-0.64	45	9	

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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