



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

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Washington Crop Weather

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Month Ending: February 2009
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Crop Progress and Condition for the Month of February 2009

Western

Clallam/Jefferson: The temperatures were a little warmer in February, with daytime temperatures in the 40s and nighttime temperatures in the 30s. There was also lots of cloudy weather with very little rain.

Grays Harbor: Ag producers complained of a long winter, as snow once again blanketed the rural landscape during the second week of the month. Livestock producers reported strong demand for hay once the cold weather returned and snow blanketed pastures. Christmas tree growers took advantage of a week of sunny days during the middle of the month to clean and begin planting hearted fields. Ag producers along the Chehalis, Satsop, Wynoochee, and Wishkah rivers continued removing debris from fields and fences deposited by the January 8 flood.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: February was relatively dry and somewhat cool. There were no unusual situations to report.

Mason: During the month of February, three inches of rain was received. The county remains generally dry for this time of year. Temperatures have been mild for the past several weeks. Cows were expected to be put out in the fields by March 10.

Pierce/ South King: Crop conditions remained normal for February. There were no unusual situations or crop losses to report.

Snohomish/North King: The temperatures for February warmed up a little. The early part of the month was cool with daytime temperatures in the 30s and nighttime temperatures in the 20s. By the end of the month, temperatures were in the 40s during the day and 30s at night. Not much rainfall was received during the month.

Thurston: Unseasonably cold temperatures during the second week of the month resulted in snow accumulations up to four inches. Snow arrived again at the end of the month with an accumulation of 1-2 inches, which transformed the rural landscape into a winter wonderland. Ag producers took advantage of an entire week of dry weather during the middle of the month to do outside chores. Christmas tree growers were busy cleaning and planting harvested fields. Although the days were getting longer, cool daytime temperatures kept most producers doing inside chores. Livestock producers continued to report excellent hay sales, especially during the days of snow accumulation.

Central

Benton: Recent rain and snow enhanced the soil moisture outlook. The dryland areas could use more rainfall.

Kittitas: Very little precipitation was received during the month of February.

Klickitat: No significant moisture was received during the first week of February. Snow fell over Valentine's weekend and rain showers followed with a short period of warmer weather. By late February, early signs of spring were everywhere, but the ground remained cold and fields were too wet to be worked. There was some damage to winter seedings from migratory birds in fields. Pruning was underway in vineyards and orchards. Lambing and kidding progressed during the month. Fall calves looked good despite extended periods of cold and snow received over the winter.

Klickitat (2nd Report): Not much precipitation was received during February, but rain was received during this past week. Temperatures have been in the 30s in the morning and in the 40s during the afternoons.

Yakima: Total precipitation for the county for February ranged from 0.4 to 0.7 inches. Monthly low nighttime temperatures were 15 to 20 degrees. From mid to late February, daytime high temperatures were 55 to 60 degrees. Fruit trees remained dormant during this period, and orchard pruning activities continued.

Yakima (2nd Report): Average temperatures were generally warmer than normal, varying from eight inches below normal to seven degrees above normal, with 0.67 inches of precipitation. There was no crop damage due to a weather condition reported.

Eastern

Adams: February was another abnormally dry month through President's Day. During the last week, precipitation of 0.5 to 0.8 inches fell mostly as rain. Much more is needed to replenish the soil profile.

Asotin/Garfield: The first half of February was very dry with only traces of precipitation. Rain and snow the last week made up for the shortfall in most areas, but some areas were still recovering from last year's drought. Most of the winter wheat has now emerged.

Garfield: It has been a nice wet spring so far.

Lincoln: The winter wheat looked tough coming out of winter. Last week rain on frozen ground flooded the winter wheat fields and washed over the gravel roads.

Stevens: Snowfall tapered off during February. Towards the end of the month, overnight temperatures above freezing melted away some of the accumulated snow. Cattle producers continued calving operations.

Walla Walla: February was mostly dry until this past week. The soil moisture looked good, but could become deficient quickly if spring precipitation is not received. Fall seeded grains looked well. Some hay was still available. Early spring grass was beginning to grow.

Whitman: Most of February was dry with moderate temperatures. Sunny days with temperatures in the 40s and 50s were common during the month; however, the month ended with some rainfall and a snowstorm. Precipitation was below normal for the month. Additional precipitation will be needed heading into spring to bring the soil moisture conditions up.

For the Period: Sunday February 1, 2009
 To: Saturday February 28, 2009

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION			HDD	HDD	DAYS	DAYS
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOT	DFN	32	28
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WEST											
Bellingham Intl	56	20	39	-3	1.57	-2.07	10	734	+66	19	11
Hoquiam	58	28	42	-3	3.09	-5.15	12	643	+63	6	2
Kelso	59	25	40	-3	1.48	-3.46	8	681	+48	19	11
Olympia	60	22	39	-3	1.60	-4.17	11	723	+54	21	16
Seattle-Tacoma	63	26	42	-2	1.52	-2.47	12	642	+39	8	1
Shelton	64	24	39	-4	2.89	-5.16	11	711	+77	19	15
Tacoma WA AP	60	22	39	-5	1.27	-3.19	11	718	+91	22	17
Vancouver WA	60	23	42	+0	1.54	-2.99	13	651	-1	16	10
CENTRAL											
Ellensburg	56	19	35	+3	0.51	-0.38	5	830	-74	26	18
Omak AP	46	9	28	-2	0.49	-0.91	10	1021	+23	27	22
Stampede Pass	51	20	33	+7	3.43	-5.76	11	891	-174	28	19
Wenatchee AP	53	21	33	-2	0.13	-0.63	4	886	+19	27	18
Yakima AP	59	17	35	-2	0.67	-0.07	7	832	+31	26	15
NORTHEAST											
Colville	47	12	31	+1	0.82	-1.04	10	938	-20	25	20
Deer Park	41	3	28	-4	1.10	-0.57	7	1014	+68	25	22
Republic	45	13	30	+2	0.56	-0.66	6	972	-46	27	22
Spokane AP	45	18	31	-3	1.22	-0.27	11	948	+59	25	20
EAST CENTRAL											
Ephrata	54	15	32	-3	0.51	-0.19	6	911	+51	25	18
Moses Lake	56	17	33	-2	0.62	-0.08	7	876	+16	25	20
Quincy	54	19	34	-2	0.57	-0.12	6	871	+11	24	19
Ritzville	52	21	33	-2	1.15	+0.06	5	881	+14	27	21
SOUTHEAST											
Hanford	59	18	35	-5	0.59	-0.01	6	825	+101	25	16
Pasco	60	19	37	-3	0.64	-0.06	7	786	+65	22	15
Pullman	52	20	36	+3	1.36	-0.79	7	803	-65	19	12
Walla Walla Rgn	55	25	37	-4	1.08	-0.76	7	779	+75	19	7
Whitman Mission	59	22	35	-4	0.98	-0.23	7	821	+83	26	16
IDAHO											
WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE											
Lewiston ID	61	25	41	+2	0.53	-0.36	6	679	-48	15	4

Summary based on Preliminary NWS data.
 DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
 Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.
 Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
 HDD = Heating Degree Days (Base 65).

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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](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Washington)
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