



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

Released: June 29, 2009
Week Ending: June 28, 2009
CWP WA-CW2309

Harvest of Early Season Cherry Varieties Continued While Rain Helped Grain Growers in Some Areas Field Crops

Days suitable for fieldwork were 7.0. Whitman County reported additional rainfall continued to improve crop conditions for grain growers. Walla Walla County reported cool conditions have benefited winter wheat which looked very good and spring wheat which looked average. Green Pea harvest was on its way while yield and quality looked average. Grant County reported first cutting of Timothy hay was underway while dry edible bean planting was winding down. Bluegrass seed was being swathed with reports of reduced crop due to dry weather. In Grays Harbor, Christmas tree growers encountered problems with birds breaking newly formed leaders in Noble and Grand fir but continued shearing Norway and Blue spruce.

Fruits and Vegetables

In the Yakima Valley, cherry producers continued harvesting early maturing varieties with some harvest of Bing cherries. Due to the great weather conditions, all crops continued to do well while blueberry, raspberry, and apricot producers began harvest. Snohomish County reported strawberry harvest continued while raspberries were ripening and corn was knee high despite the late planting. All crops continued to grow well. Whatcom County reported strawberry harvest continued with reports of good quality and excellent yields.

Livestock and Shellfish

Range and pasture conditions were 2 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 43 percent fair and 45 percent good. On the east side, Pend Oreille County reported pasture grasses were starting to dry. Klickitat County reported delays in producers moving herds to mountain range due to late snowpack and slow grass growth in the Simcoes. On the west side, shellfish producers continued seeding of clams and oysters.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	7.0
Last Week	6.1

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	7	37	55	1
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	5	27	66	2
Subsoil	10	37	52	1
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	6	30	64	0
Irrigation Water	0	2	96	2
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	2	5	92	1
Hay & Roughage	1	8	83	8

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

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2008	5 Yr. Avg.
Spring Wheat Headed	70	47	62	77
Winter Wheat Headed	99	95	96	99
Barley Headed	67	45	59	77
Potatoes Emerged	100	98	93	98
Field Corn Emerged	99	97	96	98
Field Corn Silked	1	NA	3	4
Proc. Green Peas Harvested	30	12	30	28
Dry Peas Harvested	1	NA	1	1
Alfalfa Hay 1st Cutting	90	83	84	94
Alfalfa Hay 2nd Cutting	20	4	12	25

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	8	14	28	44	6
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	3	53	26	18
Spring Wheat Dryland	1	11	37	48	3
Spring Wheat Irrigated	0	2	41	44	13
Barley Dryland	2	9	35	52	2
Barley Irrigated	0	4	52	18	26
Potatoes	0	1	61	27	11
Corn	0	3	48	48	1
Dry Edible Beans	0	2	37	60	1

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.

Washington State University
Cooperative Extension Service
Linda Fox
Dean/Director, WSU Extension

USDA
Farm Service Agency
Melissa J. Cummins
Acting State Executive Director

USDA/NASS--Washington Field Office
David Knopf - Director
Alan Funk- Ag Statistician
Bianca Garza - Student Intern

COUNTY COMMENTS

Western

Clark: The area experienced excellent weather. Berry crops were doing fine in spite of lack of rain and mild temperatures.

Grays Harbor: Vegetable growers continued irrigating fields as another week with no rain continued to decrease soil moisture. Christmas tree growers complained about birds breaking newly formed leaders in Noble and Grand fir. Dairy producers continued pumping lagoons and applying liquid manure to forage fields.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: Producers reported unusually dry conditions. Many took advantage of the weather and good harvest conditions.

Jefferson: The area went over 30 days without rain. Farmers began watering four weeks earlier than normal this year. The first cutting of hay was all in. Producers complained of dryness.

Pacific: Dry weather continued for producers. Final haying operations were completed and raspberry harvest operations initiated. Shellfish producers continued seeding of clams and oysters. Cranberry growers continued irrigation of bogs.

Pierce/South King: Crop conditions in the South Puget Sound remained good. No unusual situations were reported. There were no reports of any crop damage due to weather.

Pierce/South King (2nd Report): Soil moisture levels were getting low and rainfall was needed. Silage corn planting operations were nearing their end.

San Juan: Cool and very dry conditions prevailed. First cutting of hay continued but was slow due to a few days with precipitation.

Snohomish/North King: Light rain was received on Monday, followed by dry weather for the rest of the week. Some farmers successfully cut and baled hay. Pasture growth slowed as soils dried out. Strawberry harvest continued and some raspberries were ripe. Even with the late planting, some corn was already knee-high. Other crops were growing well. There were no reported problems.

Thurston: A week of sunny weather with highs in the mid 70s provided ideal conditions for strawberry harvest. Livestock producers continued harvesting hay. Christmas tree growers were shearing Norway and Blue spruce.

Thurston (2nd Report): Weather conditions were conducive for cutting and baling hay.

Whatcom: The area received up to .5 inch of rain with some cooler temperatures. It was only enough rain to postpone irrigation for a few days. Corn, grass, blueberries and raspberries were being irrigated on a daily basis. Raspberries were ripening rapidly due to extended periods of heat, with early July harvest back on schedule. Strawberries continued to be harvested and producers reported good quality and excellent yields.

Central

Grant: Fresh pea harvest continued. First cutting of timothy hay was underway. Cherry harvest was also underway. Bean planting wound down. Second cutting of alfalfa was expected to begin soon.

Kittitas: Quite a bit of first cutting hay was rained on. Probably 75 percent of first cutting timothy was swathed and much of that was baled. Some farmers waited out the rains and planned to cut at a more traditional time closer to July 1. Continued cool temperatures were good to pastures; with excellent yields compared to hotter Junes in the past. Corn made good progress, much of it 18"-24" tall.

Klickitat: In the Goldendale/Centerville valley agricultural production area, temperature highs ranged from 65-85 and overnight lows were 40s-50s. There was one very surprisingly chilly night that dropped to 35 degrees on June 23 with a predominant directional shift to the northeast from the usual southwesterly summertime flow. It was a dry week with an average wind speed mostly in the single digits. Weather was good for haying. Wheat and barley slowly continued to ripen with the cool nights and warm days. Irrigated crops were thriving. Moving herds to mountain range-land was delayed due to late snow pack and slow grass growth in the Simcoes. Fruit stands opened for the season and local cherries were huge and juicy. Gardeners saw raspberries and early blueberries beginning to ripen. Onions were bulbing up, tops were beginning to die back in the garlic crop and there was significant grasshopper damage in tender plants.

Okanogan: Temperatures were a little cooler than normal, but the weather was dry and sunny. Cherry harvest had begun and first cutting of hay was completed for most of the county.

Yakima: Average temperatures were generally cooler than normal, varying from six degrees below normal to five degrees above normal. There was .06 inch of precipitation received during the week. No crop losses due to weather conditions were reported.

Yakima (2nd Report): The coolest temperatures of the week were encountered on Monday, June 22, when daytime highs reached into the upper 60s. Scattered showers dropped around .05 inch of precipitation in a few locations. Cool temperatures and a brisk breeze minimized any cherry cracking problems. The rest of the week daytime temperatures fluctuated from mid 70s to upper 80s. Cherry producers continued harvesting early maturing cherry varieties with some harvest of Bing cherries. Blueberries, raspberries and early varieties of apricots were harvested. Most hop vines were three-quarters of the way up and in some yards nearly reached the top of the trellis. Dry conditions persisted with a number of small brush fires reported.

Eastern

Adams: Winter wheat was headed out and maturing.

Adams (2nd Report): The area experienced another dry week. Crop conditions were not helped by warm winds through midweek which quickly turned wheat already under moisture stress.

Asotin: Dry, seasonal temperatures prevailed. Hay and bluegrass seed were being cut in the higher elevations. Additional moisture would benefit crops and pastures.

Asotin/Garfield: Hot weather continued with no rain. Crops were stressed, but held on well in most areas. Cool weather and rain was needed for proper filling of the grain.

Lincoln: Good growing weather for crops was experienced during the week. Wheat was ripening quickly in the drier areas. Haying continued at a steady pace.

Pend Oreille: The high temperature was 82 degrees. The low temperature was 32 degrees with .10 inch of precipitation received. Irrigated hay fields were doing well with some producers already cutting. Dry hay farmers had little growth in fields and the lack of rain and freezing nights were taking a toll. Irrigated farmers started to cut alfalfa and non-irrigated alfalfa was still short. Pasture grasses were starting to dry.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: A week of dry weather made for a lot of hay being cut and baled. Most of the

rained on hay had been baled and the remaining hay was being swathed. Windy conditions made for fast drying of a small hay crop. Winter wheat still held on but did not look well due to the period without rain. Bluegrass seed was being swathed with reports of a reduced crop due to the stretch of weather without rain. Cherries started to color so picking was not that far away. U-pick strawberries were being picked with a pretty good crop.

Stevens: The hay crop was somewhat lighter than last year. Some farmers struggled with getting hay up with the previous rain.

Walla Walla: Crops looked good. Crops turned fast but it will be a couple of weeks or so before harvest will begin. Cool conditions benefited the wheat as well as peas. Most farmers in the area remained quite optimistic regarding this year's harvest.

Walla Walla (2nd Report): Temperatures were warm to hot with some cooler temperatures coming in. Winter wheat looked very good while spring wheat looked average. Green pea harvest was underway, with yield and quality about average. First cutting of hay finished up and was in good shape. Some second cutting began.

Whitman: Additional rainfall continued to improve crop conditions.

Weekly Weather Statistics
Week of June 22-28, 2009

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	43	71	59	-2	68	-2	3	-11	0.37	-0.01	2	28.48	-4.96	85	127
Hoquiam	42	67	56	-3	47	-13	0	-7	0.12	-0.30	2	53.63	-11.66	82	146
Kelso	45	81	61	+0	81	+1	16	-5	0.00	-0.41	0	34.59	-9.53	78	121
Olympia	40	79	60	-1	71	-1	8	-6	0.01	-0.32	1	41.65	-6.95	86	139
Seattle-Tacoma	51	77	62	-1	85	-3	16	-8	0.08	-0.23	2	31.57	-3.77	89	135
Shelton	39	79	60	-3	72	-14	6	-20	0.06	-0.29	2	56.14	-6.74	89	137
Tacoma WA AP	41	79	61	-2	78	-8	12	-9	0.06	-0.31	2	32.64	-5.49	86	130
Vancouver WA	47	85	64	+2	101	+15	31	+6	0.00	-0.31	0	27.16	-12.17	69	132
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	39	92	65	+0	104	+2	37	-2	0.02	-0.08	1	6.64	-1.66	80	68
Omak AP	39	88	66	+2	110	+13	43	+6	0.18	-0.08	1	7.61	-5.66	57	80
Stampede Pass	38	73	52	+2	29	+6	3	+3	0.53	-0.04	3	73.69	-4.13	95	153
Wenatchee AP	46	89	67	-3	124	-11	54	-12	0.07	-0.06	1	4.00	-3.64	52	56
Yakima AP	41	89	64	-3	101	-16	33	-18	0.06	-0.03	1	6.45	-0.96	87	61
NORTHEAST															
Colville	42	87	64	+1	97	+3	31	-3	0.19	-0.09	1	14.68	-4.54	76	94
Deer Park	34	86	59	-6	65	-35	15	-23	0.15	-0.11	1	16.58	-0.32	98	103
Republic	40	84	64	+4	96	+22	33	+12	0.29	-0.02	1	9.50	-4.07	70	83
Spokane AP	44	86	63	-2	91	-11	30	-9	0.05	-0.21	1	14.38	-0.70	95	108
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	45	90	69	-3	132	-15	62	-16	0.00	-0.07	0	3.37	-3.26	51	57
Moses Lake	41	90	66	-5	115	-32	48	-30	0.00	-0.07	0	4.72	-1.91	71	61
Quincy	46	87	66	-2	117	-9	48	-10	0.06	-0.01	1	8.55	+1.34	119	63
Ritzville	40	90	60	-6	71	-33	16	-24	0.00	-0.14	0	10.55	+0.07	101	78
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	48	96	71	-3	147	-17	77	-18	0.02	-0.05	1	4.95	-1.05	83	54
Pasco	41	96	68	-4	129	-21	59	-21	0.00	-0.07	0	6.61	-0.33	95	68
Pullman	40	85	60	-2	73	-8	17	-10	0.01	-0.29	1	20.49	+1.06	105	111
Walla Walla Rgn	48	92	68	-3	130	-13	60	-14	0.00	-0.21	0	17.35	-0.78	96	94
Whitman Mission	40	92	64	-5	97	-26	32	-24	0.02	-0.13	1	15.71	+3.06	124	99
WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE															
Lewiston ID	44	94	65	-5	109	-29	50	-18	0.20	-0.06	1	10.23	-0.70	94	80

Summary based on NWS data.
Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Friday September 1, 2008
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.
Copyright 2006: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

National weather summary: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/waobr/weather/2008/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)
E-mail: nass-wa@nass.usda.gov

Free e-mail subscriptions are available via automated mailing list for National and State reports. You can subscribe to individual reports and they will be sent directly to your e-mail address soon after the official release time. Subscribe at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/sub-form.htm>