



IDAHO CROP WEATHER



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Potato Harvest Progressing Normally

Agricultural Summary

Potato harvest is progressing normally throughout the state. Nineteen percent of the states potatoes have been harvested, which is equal to last year and the five year average. Growers across the state received welcomed rains once again. Most weather stations reported some measurable precipitation this past week. For the week ending September 22, major agricultural activities included killing potato vines, preparing for fall grain seeding, harvesting oats, hay, dry beans, onions, corn for silage, apples, peaches, prunes and plums.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Topsoil moisture was reported to be 25% very short, 43% short, and 32% adequate. Statewide, Idaho farmers had an average of 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork last week.

Crop Progress Table

Percentages	2002	2001	Avg.
Potatoes Vines Dying/Killed	86	91	81
Field Corn Harvested for Silage	26	36	39
Oats Harvested for Grain	83	74	89
Dry Beans Harvested	75	65	66
Onions Harvested	60	45	46
Apples Harvested	20	30	20
Peaches Harvested	87	87	90
Prunes and Plums	70	78	75

Field Crop Report

Statewide, dry bean harvest has progressed ahead of last year and the five year average, as well as the states 3rd and 4th cuttings of alfalfa hay. Some parts of Franklin County have experienced some damage to alfalfa hay from a second generation of armyworms. However, it is too early to see what kind of economic damage will result.

Fruit, Vegetable, and Specialty Crops Report

Fruit harvest continued throughout the state, with reports showing apple harvest behind last year but equal to the five year average. Peach harvest is equal to last year but behind the five year average. Prune and plum harvest lagged behind last year and the five year average.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Ranchers continued to be move livestock down from high range. Conditions decreased slightly for range and pasture from last week. Most range and pasture however is benefitting from recent rains.

Condition Table

Percentages	Very				
	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Potatoes	1	3	20	63	13
Irr. Water Supply	11	26	34	29	0
Range and Pasture	6	33	50	11	0

Crop Progress District Table

Crop	North			Southwest			South-Central			East			State		
	2002	2001	Avg	2002	2001	Avg	2002	2001	Avg	2002	2001	Avg	2002	2001	Avg
Potatoes															
Harvested	NA	NA	NA	72	39	42	37	33	27	5	11	13	19	19	19
Sugarbeets															
Harvested	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	13	7	0	7	10	0	10	6
Winter Wheat															
Planted	9	3	8	29	2	7	75	49	29	36	32	40	30	20	22
Emerged	1	0	1	6	0	1	19	12	5	10	12	14	7	5	6
Alfalfa Hay															
3 rd Cutting Harvested	NA	NA	NA	100	100	95	100	85	93	57	75	64	80	78	79
4 th Cutting Harvested	NA	NA	NA	62	41	38	36	44	35	12	12	4	43	41	28

Avg (1997-2001); NA = Very Small Percentage of Acreage in District.

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Weather Data For The Week Ending Sunday, September 22, 2002 ^{1/}

Station	Temperature ^{2/}				Growing Degree Days ^{4/}			Precipitation (Inches)					
	High	Low	Ave.	Dept. ^{3/}	40° Base	50° Base To Date Normal		Total	Dept ^{3/}	Month of September	March 1 To Date Normal		
North													
Coeur D'Alene	82	30	56	-1	3412	1853	1780	0.72	0.42	0.73	6.87	13.07	
Grangeville	90	34	60	5	3463	1914	1428	0.68	0.24	0.92	11.00	14.94	
Lewiston	82	39	61	-1	4397	2640	2617	0.23	0.04	0.29	6.04	6.77	
Sand Point	75	30	54	0	3181	1635	1435	0.23	-0.22	0.26	11.16	13.86	
Southwest													
Boise	78	39	60	0	4692	2920	2475	0.17	-0.01	0.39	2.63	5.76	
Caldwell	91	37	63	1	4536	2754	2768	0.11	-0.06	0.18	1.15	4.85	
Emmett	93	40	61	0	4387	2632	2464	0.10	-0.10	0.18	3.20	5.65	
Mountain Home	79	37	61	1	4583	2871	2444	0.06	-0.10	0.09	2.27	4.80	
Parma 5/	90	44	--	--	4548	2758	2334	0.11	-0.09	0.11	1.99	5.36	
Weiser	91	39	63	4	4857	3039	2373	0.14	0.00	0.26	2.67	4.79	
Southcentral													
Buhl 5/	--	--	--	--	4002	2274	2027	0.00	-0.11	0.00	2.96	4.92	
Burley	75	33	57	0	3717	2052	1923	0.13	-0.01	0.43	3.10	5.16	
Hill City	86	25	56	3	3002	1593	1303	0.01	-0.15	0.22	3.01	5.64	
Hagerman	97	32	62	3	4433	2661	2565	0.00	-0.08	0.28	2.07	4.46	
Malta	90	28	57	2	3843	2144	1775	0.22	0.07	0.24	3.76	5.85	
Twin Falls	89	33	58	1	3749	2098	1823	0.18	0.02	0.60	4.37	5.26	
East													
Aberdeen	84	25	54	0	3462	1892	1584	0.06	-0.11	0.69	3.74	5.46	
Grace	84	34	56	2	3385	1858	1392	0.49	0.17	1.64	9.08	9.34	
Idaho Falls	76	28	53	-2	3266	1730	1684	0.18	-0.00	1.13	4.19	6.36	
Malad City	87	33	57	1	3788	2193	1829	0.36	0.12	0.93	4.46	8.47	
Pocatello	76	28	56	-1	3710	2090	1922	0.03	-0.16	0.81	4.41	6.77	
Rexburg	85	29	55	1	3202	1705	1557	0.33	0.09	1.37	3.52	8.02	
Salmon	88	28	56	1	3355	1790	1681	0.05	-0.20	0.27	1.94	6.80	

1/ Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data is quality controlled by the National Climate Center the accumulated growing degree days and precipitation values are updated. 2/-- indicate missing or incomplete data. 3/ Departure from normal. 4/ Totals from March 1. Growing degree days are estimated from neighboring sites for stations with missing or incomplete data. 5/ Precipitation totals are only for days reports were received, no estimates were made for missing data.

Daily High/Low Four Inch Soil Temperatures

Station	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday		Sunday		Average ^{1/}	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Buhl	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Emmett	84	75	--	--	--	--	74	66	74	65	75	66	75	64	76	67
Parma	66	64	66	65	66	65	64	63	--	--	--	--	--	--	66	64
Sandpoint	67	61	63	59	60	57	62	54	64	54	64	52	62	51	63	55
Twin Falls	79	60	67	59	65	53	67	50	67	50	62	51	63	50	67	53

1/ Averages are only for days reports were received. -- Missing or Incomplete Data.