



IDAHO CROP WEATHER

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October Begins Warm and Dry

Agricultural Summary

The month of October began with warm and dry weather, favorable for harvesting. Limited amounts of precipitation were reported by weather stations this past week. Warm temperatures continued throughout the state, ranging between 5 to 13 degrees above normal. For the week ending October 5, major agricultural activities included irrigating, caring for livestock, harvesting hay, dry beans, apples, potatoes, corn for silage and grain, onions, sugarbeets, and winter wheat seeding.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable for Fieldwork

County Extension Educators reported topsoil moisture to be 38% very short, 42% short, and 20% adequate. Statewide, Idaho farmers had an average of 6.90 days suitable for fieldwork during the past week.

Field Crop Report

Statewide, the harvest of dry beans, onion, corn for silage and alfalfa hay third cutting is nearing completion. Regular sugarbeet digging will begin next week in several Eastern areas. Ideal weather conditions spurred potato harvest last week across most of the state. Winter wheat planting gained momentum throughout the state. Dryland producers hope for rain to promote crop emergence. Apple harvest was 32 percent complete, slightly ahead of last year.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Livestock were reported in very good condition. Ranchers continue to pregnancy check cows, wean calves, vaccinate and market livestock. Range and pasture condition continues to further decline as reports indicate the majority in poor condition.

Crop Progress Table

Percentages	2003	2002	Avg.
Dry Beans Harvested	93	95	92
Onions Harvested	92	92	73
Apples Harvested	32	27	32
Field Corn Harvested for Silage	92	74	75
Field Corn Harvested for Grain	11	1	8
Alfalfa Hay 4 th Cutting Harvested	74	73	61

Condition Table

Percentages	Very				
	Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Potatoes	0	2	21	70	7
Irr. Water Supply	18	19	34	28	1
Range & Pasture	11	48	37	4	0

Crop Progress District Table

Crop	North			Southwest			Southcentral			East			State		
	2003	2002	Avg	2003	2002	Avg	2003	2002	Avg	2003	2002	Avg	2003	2002	Avg
Winter Wheat															
Planted	58	44	44	70	78	35	73	86	71	73	70	68	66	61	54
Emerged	6	8	7	47	38	14	41	38	23	33	26	33	23	21	18
Potatoes															
Harvested	NA	NA	NA	85	92	75	63	63	52	51	38	44	57	49	48
Sugarbeets															
Harvested	NA	NA	NA	8	4	4	12	10	18	17	8	17	12	9	15
Alfalfa Hay															
3 rd Cutting Harvested..	NA	NA	NA	100	100	99	100	100	99	86	90	88	94	96	94

Avg (1998-2002); NA = Very Small Percentage of Acreage in District.

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Weather Data For The Week Ending Sunday, October 5, 2003 ^{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 October	March 1 To Date Normal	
North												
Coeur D'Alene	81	45	64	10	4063	2282	1833	0.00	-0.28	0.00	7.91	13.71
Grangeville	76	44	60	9	3820	2111	1458	0.00	-0.42	0.00	14.24	15.71
Lewiston	85	49	67	8	5151	3190	2738	0.00	-0.17	0.00	8.34	7.10
Sand Point 5/	79	38	--	--	3740	2014	1451	0.00	-0.40	0.00	14.57	14.64
Southwest												
Boise	87	55	71	13	5350	3419	2582	0.00	-0.16	0.00	5.31	6.07
Caldwell	86	46	67	10	5150	3193	2874	0.00	-0.12	0.00	2.27	5.10
Emmett	88	51	68	12	5092	3191	2564	0.00	-0.16	0.00	5.59	5.96
Mountain Home	88	48	69	12	5229	3353	2541	0.00	-0.12	0.00	4.73	5.04
Parma	90	45	69	13	5207	3238	2412	0.00	-0.13	0.00	4.02	5.64
Weiser 5/	87	45	--	--	5372	3376	2449	0.00	-0.14	0.00	5.24	5.03
Southcentral												
Buhl 5/	--	--	--	--	4615	2777	2095	0.00	-0.11	0.00	3.96	5.13
Burley	85	41	63	9	4138	2384	1981	0.01	-0.11	0.01	6.25	5.40
Hill City	83	34	59	9	3382	1836	1312	0.10	-0.06	0.10	4.82	5.93
Hagerman 5/	--	--	--	--	5089	3126	2653	0.00	-0.10	0.00	3.64	4.64
Malta	84	41	--	--	4380	2579	1823	0.00	-0.08	0.00	5.61	6.05
Twin Falls	83	43	63	9	4250	2487	1878	1.26	1.11	0.63	10.15	5.56
East												
Aberdeen 5/	--	--	--	--	3697	2054	1600	0.00	-0.15	0.00	3.28	5.75
Grace 5/	85	35	--	--	3723	2143	1410	0.00	-0.28	0.00	5.19	9.90
Idaho Falls	81	33	59	8	3684	2024	1708	0.00	-0.21	0.00	4.10	6.76
Malad City	89	35	60	7	4111	2398	1873	0.00	-0.25	0.00	4.95	8.95
Pocatello	84	35	60	7	4144	2440	1972	0.00	-0.19	0.00	4.29	7.15
Rexburg	80	35	59	8	3722	2058	1576	0.01	-0.23	0.01	4.23	8.47
Salmon	81	36	57	5	3878	2164	1719	0.00	-0.19	0.00	0.67	7.11

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/ Weekly 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
Emmett	82	70	80	72	81	71	77	70	82	73	80	70	77	68	80	71
Parma	64	63	64	63	64	63	65	64	65	64	--	--	--	--	64	63
Sandpoint	66	56	--	--	63	55	63	54	63	54	--	--	--	--	64	55
Twin Falls	71	54	69	55	69	56	65	57	68	56	69	56	70	55	69	56

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