



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 609, Olympia, WA 98507
(360) 902-1940 Fax (360) 902-2091

Washington Crop Weather

Released: June 7, 2004, 1:00 p.m.
Week Ending: June 6, 2004
CWP WA-CW2304

Local strawberries big sellers at Farmer's Markets Rain continues to delay hay producers

Field Crops

Rains helped benefit cereal grain crops, with crops progressing nicely. Potato plants grew rapidly and growers anticipate an early harvest in Skagit County. However, the cooler temperatures slowed sweet corn growth. Rainfall over the weekend limited field activities. Spring crop spraying was being completed.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 14% very poor, 18% poor, 35% fair, and 33% good. Rain over the weekend have helped range and pasture conditions. Livestock growers cut and baled hay, only to have it rained on over the weekend. Hay growers in many areas reported spoiled first cutting of hay and significant losses on first cutting due to the rains, which has greatly reduced values. Dairymen reported excellent forage yields on greenchop due to adequate soil moisture.

Fruits and Vegetables

Farmer's Markets experienced brisk business with abundant amounts of local strawberries. Most vegetable and berry production was ahead of schedule. Cherry harvest began in early areas, but rain continued to be a problem. Damage due to recent hail storms is still unknown in fruit crops.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.1
Last Week	4.8

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	0	23	71	6
Subsoil	3	24	72	1
Irrigation Water	0	10	89	1
Hay & Roughage	2	5	93	0

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

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2003	5 Yr. Avg.
Spring Wheat Headed	29	13	13	17
Winter Wheat Headed	69	58	58	55
Barley Emerged	100	99	98	100
Barley Headed	15	4	5	15
Potatoes Emerged	98	98	98	96
Corn Planted	99	95	99	98
Corn Emerged	86	74	78	80
Dry Edible Beans Planted	99	99	87	71
Alfalfa Hay 1st Cutting	82	77	77	64

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	2	10	29	49	10
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	12	88	0
Spring Wheat Dryland	0	6	40	46	8
Spring Wheat Irrigated	0	0	8	92	0
Barley Dryland	0	4	38	48	10
Barley Irrigated	0	0	0	95	5
Potatoes	0	0	4	96	0
Corn	0	0	1	99	0
Dry Edible Beans	0	0	3	96	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.

COUNTY COMMENTS

Western

Grays Harbor: Heavy rainfall over the weekend continued to limit fieldwork. Unseasonably cool temperatures slowed sweet corn growth. Greenhouse tomato growers continued to harvest early fruit. Christmas tree growers were spot spraying blackberry and Canada thistle plants in plantations. Dairymen reported excellent forage yields from green chop due to adequate soil moisture.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: Rain over the weekend alleviated drought concerns for the time being. In fact, farmers were beginning to complain that the grass hay crop is going down and the rains are holding up haying. Rains should benefit cereal grain crops.

Kitsap: Conditions were very good with most vegetable and berry production ahead of schedule. Local strawberries were in abundant supply at west Sound Farmer's Markets.

Pierce/S. King: Crop conditions remained good for the area. The weather remained cool and wet. There were no reports of crop damage or unusual situations due to weather.

San Juan: The cool and moist conditions were ideal for market gardeners, but were not conducive for those wanting to cut hay.

Skagit: Growers in the north end of the county were held up by wet soils from the previous week's rainfall, but the relatively dry week allowed full operations to continue. The spinach seed crop was weedy as herbicides

were not active due to dry soils last month. The cabbage seed crop was looking good so far. Potato plants were growing rapidly, and growers were talking about an early harvest. Apple growers were applying their last scab sprays. Peas were not showing any damaging signs from earlier drought conditions. Strawberry harvest was underway.

Skagit/San Juan/Island: The weather was mostly overcast and rainy during the week. There was no apparent damage to crops.

Snohomish/N. King: Above average temperatures and above average rain were both appreciated during the week. The weekend was rather stormy at times, with tornado/funnel cloud activity reported in the Stanwood area. Farmer's Markets were experiencing brisk business with local strawberries a big seller. There were no reports of damage to crops due to weather conditions.

Thurston: Warm, dry weather during the early part of the week provided ideal conditions for strawberry harvest. Heavy rainfall over the weekend severely limited U-Pick sales. Christmas tree growers reported aphid infestations in Noble fir trees. Livestock producers cut and baled hay, only to have it rained on over the weekend.

Whatcom: Strawberry harvest was going strong. Temperatures were warmer during the week. A few rain showers were received. Beans, peas, and potatoes were continuing to be planted. Most of the corn has been planted.

Central

Benton: Early variety cherry harvest began. Asparagus harvest was nearly complete. Rain continued to be a problem for cherry and hay growers. Crops continued to be 5-10 days ahead of normal despite cooler weather.

Benton (2nd Report): Windy conditions, with very few showers, were received throughout the county. Hay and grass growers were able to finish picking up the first cutting after many showers and wind.

Chelan/Douglas: Cherry harvest began for some early varieties. The crop was in good condition. Damage due to recent hail storms was still unknown for fruit crops. Light precipitation was received in some areas of the county.

Grant: Sweet corn planting and green pea harvest continued. Timothy hay harvest began.

Kittitas: May rains improved range and dryland pasture conditions. Non-timothy hay was being cut. Warm temperatures arrived, along with very rapid vegetation growth. Timothy hay growers were preparing for the first cutting to begin in the next several weeks.

Kittitas (2nd Report): The first cutting of alfalfa began. Recent precipitation benefitted range and pasture conditions.

Okanogan/Ferry: Cherry harvest was nearing in the lower elevations. Weather conditions brought cooler temperatures later in the week. Scattered showers were received throughout the county.

Yakima: Average temperatures varied from 11 degrees above normal to 6 degrees below normal, with a trace of precipitation. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported.

Eastern

Asotin/Garfield: Two hot days during the week showed how vulnerable the crops were in many areas. Most crops looked good, but crops in the lower elevations and on shallow ground showed signs of stress even with the moisture the last part of May. Additional rain was needed in most areas for continued crop development. Several producers cut hay during the week. Yields looked average.

Adams: Winter wheat remained in mostly fair to good condition and was mostly headed out. Moisture conditions could be better, but were adequate on average.

Adams (2nd Report): Moderate weather conditions allowed hay growers to remove the remains from a mostly spoiled first cutting, which had greatly reduced value. Meanwhile, grain producers continued to enjoy the temperate conditions which allowed crops to progress nicely. Lots of combines made their debut from winter storage and farmers began getting ready for another year of harvest.

Lincoln: The winter wheat crop remained in mostly fair to good condition as it headed out. Moisture conditions remained mostly adequate.

Pend Oreille/Spokane: A little rain was received over the weekend. Amounts varied depending on the cloud you were under. Some growers

began the first cutting of hay--and then it was rained on. Most of the spring crop spraying was completed, although the grain got pretty big and got smashed down. Bluegrass seed varieties were pollenating. The crop's condition was from good to poor looking. Hay was being cut in most areas.

Stevens: Warm and sunny weather during the first part of the week kicked hay and grain crops into high gear. Heavy rain showers over the weekend added to the plentiful moisture received in the past few weeks. A few producers began cutting alfalfa hay.

Walla Walla: Alfalfa hay growers worked diligently to remove the first cutting of hay from fields. Numerous growers experienced a significant loss on the first cutting due to numerous rain events on cut hay. Some growers were able to get the first cutting off the fields before the rain and are now working on the second cutting. The weather was mild and warm during the week. Scattered thunder showers were received on Saturday, June 5. Crops overall appeared to be in very good condition.

Whitman: Passing rain showers continued to improve crop conditions. Green fields of grains and pulses looked outstanding. Despite overall good conditions, some areas received excessive rain causing erosion and washouts.

National weather website: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/pubs/pubs.htm>

Washington Agricultural Statistics Service website: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wa>

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>

Weekly Weather Statistics

June 7, 2004

Station	Air Temperature				Growing Degree Days				Last Week Precipitation			Season Precipitation			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	Base 50F		Base 60F		Total			Total		% Normal	Days
					TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	Inches	DFN	Days	Inches	DFN		
WEST															
Bellingham	45	74	58	2	57	10	4	-3	0.38	-0.08	3	27.20	-4.92	85	133
Everett	48	79	59	2	67	13	10	3	0.33	-0.22	4	26.81	-5.52	83	138
Hoquiam	46	68	56	1	47	5	0	0	0.83	0.26	4	60.55	-3.06	95	165
Kelso	45	81	61	4	79	24	17	8	0.38	-0.18	2	30.47	-12.05	72	116
Olympia	40	82	59	3	62	16	8	2	0.40	-0.02	2	43.44	-3.83	92	148
Sea-Tac	47	78	60	2	73	12	12	4	0.15	-0.24	2	32.17	-2.01	94	124
Shelton	43	80	59	0	62	1	7	-6	0.00	-0.47	0	60.18	-1.23	98	148
Tacoma	43	81	59	1	69	8	11	2	0.12	-0.33	1	30.47	-6.29	83	129
Vancouver	46	84	63	5	91	31	24	12	0.32	-0.14	2	29.19	-8.89	77	140
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	43	92	63	4	95	28	31	14	0.11	-0.03	1	7.02	-0.87	89	82
Omak	40	91	64	6	99	37	34	19	0.01	-0.34	1	9.77	-2.57	79	67
Stampede Pass	35	74	50	5	25	18	2	2	1.19	0.42	5	68.09	-7.42	90	153
Wenatchee	47	88	65	2	108	12	40	8	0.04	-0.10	1	8.30	1.09	115	73
Yakima AP	34	91	62	0	83	1	26	2	0.00	-0.14	0	5.72	-1.29	82	62
NORTHEAST															
Colville	40	84	60	2	72	10	21	6	0.09	-0.33	2	8.16	-9.99	45	68
Deer Park	33	83	56	-4	43	-17	6	-7	0.35	0.00	3	16.81	0.77	105	117
Spokane AP	42	83	60	2	71	9	17	2	0.16	-0.19	2	12.30	-1.89	87	102
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	40	88	64	-2	101	-6	37	-4	0.01	-0.13	1	4.35	-1.96	69	62
Moses Lake	41	90	64	-2	102	-5	36	-5	0.04	-0.10	1	4.52	-1.79	72	60
Quincy	46	87	65	2	106	14	39	8	0.00	-0.14	0	4.93	-1.93	72	57
Ritzville	38	87	59	0	67	2	20	5	0.04	-0.15	1	9.98	-0.04	100	70
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	45	94	66	-3	114	-13	46	-11	0.05	-0.03	2	5.73	-0.05	99	63
Pasco	41	94	66	0	113	0	46	0	0.05	-0.09	1	6.50	-0.21	97	74
Pullman	37	81	58	2	55	7	8	-1	0.00	-0.35	0	14.92	-3.45	81	101
Whitman Miss.	40	91	63	2	95	8	34	8	0.07	-0.14	1	15.16	3.10	126	107
ID PANHANDLE															
Coeur D'Alene AP	37	82	57	-3	53	-16	12	-4	0.58	0.08	2	12.90	-9.36	58	94
Lewiston ID	47	89	65	2	107	13	39	8	0.14	-0.21	2	10.25	0.17	102	86

Summary based on NWS data.
 Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Wednesday September 1, 2003
 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 2004: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.