



Crop Progress and Condition



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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Ag Statistics Hotline: 1-800-727-9540 • www.nass.usda.gov

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In Cooperation with...

- University of Idaho Extension
- Idaho State Department of Agriculture
- Oregon State University Extension Service
- Oregon Department of Agriculture
- Washington State University Extension
- USDA, Farm Service Agency

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Idaho

The average temperatures in Idaho for the month of March varied from below normal to normal for most regions of the State. Accumulated precipitation remained slightly below to above normal for the water year. In northern Idaho, the area saw cooler than average temperatures throughout March. Winter cereals were not growing, and alfalfa had yet to break dormancy. In south south-central Idaho, conditions were cold with above average precipitation. There was little to no field activity in March. In southeastern Idaho, temperatures were below normal with heavy snowfall. Winter weather with additional snow accumulation caused planting and field work delays.

Oregon

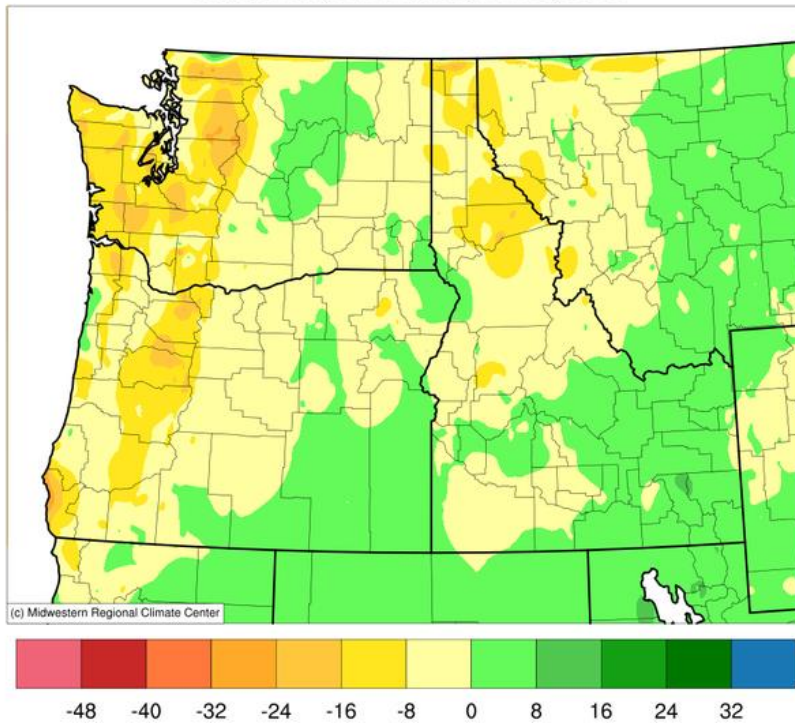
Moisture conditions throughout the State ranged from very wet to wet for March. However, the western part of Oregon received lower than normal amounts of precipitation. Temperatures ranged from below normal to around normal. Columbia, Multnomah, and Washington Counties reported below average temperatures and rainfall. Nurseries were doing okay from winter weather. Berries were hit by winter weather with concerns that cold pockets could cause some damage. Polk County reported unusually cold temperatures. Clatsop and Tillamook Counties reported cold temperatures, hail within the last half of the month, and severe weather warnings in places. Morrow County reported a smaller winter wheat crop than in previous years. Winter wheat struggled to emerge and grow with later than average planting dates and cold soil conditions. Gilliam, Hood River, Sherman, Wheeler, and Wasco Counties reported subpar moisture content with below average temperatures. Baker and Grant Counties reported low temperatures and high moisture, with standing water in fields. The cold temperatures negatively impacted calving. Douglas, Jackson, and Josephine Counties reported high moisture and low temperatures which limited field work. Malheur County reported low temperatures with storms throughout the month. These storms led to above average snowpack. Streams began to fill and run off. Lake County reported very high precipitation compared to the median.

Washington

In southcentral Washington, weather was colder and dryer than usual. Producers could have started farming because the fields were dry enough. However, the weather was too cold. Producers were waiting for weeds to emerge to spray, but they hadn't started growing yet. Weather was not ideal for crops or livestock, but calving had begun around the region. Yakima County received some moisture in March, mostly as rain. Many fruit orchards and vineyards were pruned or worked on training plants, so they were ready for the season. Hop growers started stringing up their trellis systems, planting cover crops, and laying out irrigation hose. Perennial alfalfa fields were beginning to green up. Northeast Washington was warmer with some rain. In east central Washington, some spring seeding started. In the drier areas of Walla Walla County spring planting started. In other areas fields were still under snow. Parts of Douglas County remained under snow cover and snow mold was forecast to be an issue for producers. Farming started in the southern end of Lincoln County. Winter wheat was in mostly fair condition. Soil moisture was in short to adequate supply, but not excessive. In southeast Washington, the nights remained cold and precipitation continued.

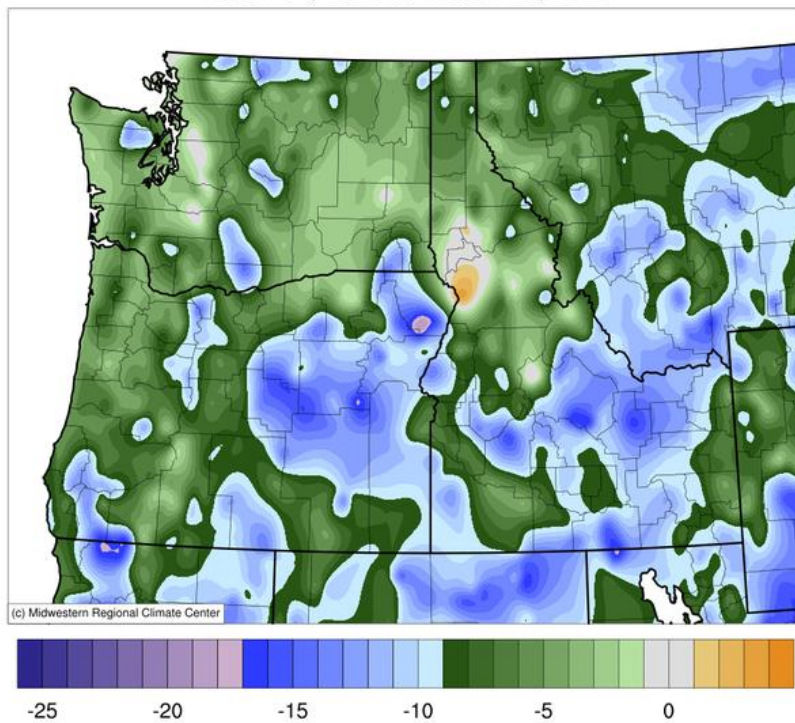
Accumulated Precipitation (in): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals

October 01, 2022 to March 26, 2023



Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals

March 01, 2023 to March 26, 2023



<https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>

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