

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: Most of the State experienced another week of warm, dry, and windy weather. The exception was Crescent City, whose high temperature only reached 57 degrees last week whereas all other weather stations reported high temperatures in the mid to high 60's to 83 degrees in Grants Pass and Roseburg. Average low temperatures were mostly in the 20's and 30's; however areas in the south central part of the State including Christmas Valley and Redmond recorded low temperatures of 13 and 19 degrees respectively. There was very little precipitation recorded last week. Only three weather stations reported precipitation more than one day last week, Astoria/Clatsop, Florence, and Tillamook.

Field Crops: Another week of warm and dry weather allowed farmers and ranchers to continue spring seeding and tillage activities. Wind hampered pesticide applications in some areas, especially in the northern part of the State. The warm weather continued to promote crop development statewide. There was even a report of some very early hay put up in Clackamas County. Despite the favorable planting conditions, spring planting progress still lagged behind average. As of May 7, 89 percent of the spring wheat had been planted, compared to the five-year average of 97 percent.

Vegetables: Vegetable field crops continued to be planted across the State. The most activity in Douglas County will take place the week of the 15th. Some early sweet corn varieties have emerged. Potatoes were up in Washington County. Onions were showing up in Klamath and Malheur counties. The rhubarb crop continued to be harvested for processing.

Fruits and Nuts: Continued warm and dry weather was beneficial to orchard crops throughout the Willamette Valley; light showers on May 7th were welcomed. Codling moth was out May 1st causing growers to spray. Southern Willamette Valley blueberries were blooming and setting berries. Strawberries were showing buds. Blackberries and raspberries were growing quickly. Grapes were a little slow to bud this season; early grapes were blooming. Fruit set on apples, cherries, prunes/plums, peaches, Asian pears, and other pears looked good. Fair weather for most of the week provided good conditions for fruit tree pollination throughout the

Hood River Valley. Weekend rain resulted in the initiation of pear scab infection periods at some locations in the Hood River Valley. Fire blight risk ranged from low to moderate. Codling moth biofix at the OSU-MCAREC was set on May 3rd. Crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: Red Delicious apple at 90% post bloom (WSU stage 9); Pinot noir grapes at Eichhorn-Lorenz stages 9 to 12. A variety of sprays were applied to Wasco County cherries. Much of the ground spraying was performed during the night when winds were calm. Small cherries were starting to be visible on early blooming trees. Frost fans were used several nights to control cold temperatures. Mowing of grass strips between trees was active all week. Newly planted trees were irrigated. Union County fruit crops may have been damaged by hard frosts on May 1st and 2nd. Nights continue to be cold with many below freezing mornings. Grape fungicide sprays were applied in Douglas County as shoot length was averaging six inches. Orchard fungicide sprays continued and the first codling moths were trapped; sprays will be applied within the next week. Most fruit trees were done with bloom in southern Oregon. Orchardists have been catching up on their spraying. Caneberries and grapes vines showed good growth.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Sunny weather in the Willamette Valley has helped farmer's markets sales of greenhouse and nursery products these past three weekends. Shipping of nursery products is in full swing in Columbia County. Irrigation of shrubs and perennial flowers in nurseries has begun in begun in Douglas County. Greenhouses in Jackson County are busy with vegetable and flower sales, while nurseries are busy selling trees, shrubs and other perennials. Washington County continues to set out new seedlings and move trees and shrubs to new locations for sale.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Pastures improved as warmer weather continued to help forage growth. Livestock were turned out into spring pastures, as some producers continued supplemental feeding. Rangeland, in cooler areas, continued slow growth with warmer temperatures needed. Livestock were reported in good condition throughout the State.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 05/07/06

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	0	15	76	9
Subsoil	0	8	80	12

Crop Progress-Week Ending 05/07/06

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley planted	88	84	90	87
Barley emerged	60	55	80	69
Spring wheat planted	89	78	97	97
Spring wheat emerged	60	48	81	83
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.8	6.8	-	-

Crop Condition-Week Ending 05/07/06

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Winter wheat	0	5	25	65	5
Spring wheat	0	0	22	74	4
Barley	0	0	13	82	5
Range and pasture	0	1	19	56	24

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Blueberries are blooming and berries setting. Strawberries are showing buds. First greenhouse berries showing up. Black and raspberries taking off. Grapes seem a little slow to bud this year, early ones blooming. Cherry bloom, plum/prune, peaches, pears and Asian pears set looks good. Apples have a nice bloom so far and lots of bees. Codling moth out May 1. Mostly greenhouse grown shallots, carrots, onions, and lots of different lettuces are at the Farmers markets. First season plantings going in; lots of planting going on. Greenhouse and nursery crops are off and running. Sunny weekends helped farmer's market sales and weekend greenhouse sales. People out in droves. Good sale weekends for the last three weeks. Marcola area reports frost at least three nights last week, which has slowed the growth of pasture. Great spring so far.

CLACKAMAS: Another week of fine warm days, some frost and cold nights. Normal spring tillage, spraying, planting in progress. Some very early hay was baled this week in Canby. Grass chopping for haylage started.

COLUMBIA: Excellent weather. Nursery shipping going full-bore. Pastures really starting to pick up.

COOS/CURRY: Temperatures above normal most of the week, and still breezy. Ground conditions improved, although some areas still have excess moisture. Grass silage cutting this week. Working ground for field corn. Pastures improved to mostly good condition and livestock are starting to fill the bottoms; many "sacrifice areas" continue to be devoid of vegetation, but now are dried and cracking. Cows turned out at Winter Lake. Cranberries at roughneck and hook. Early bloom beginning. Monitoring beginning for fire worm. At Brookings (South Curry), low temperatures for the period was 40.92 degrees, 2.7 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperatures for the period was 83.3 degrees, 17.03 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.0 inches. At Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry), low temperatures for the period was 42.83 degrees, 3.21 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperatures for the period was 72.2 degrees, 8.94 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.03 inches (all on Sunday).

DOUGLAS: Field work going strong as soils dry out. It has been about three weeks since our last measurable rain so the soil is able to be cultivated. In many places the ground is so dry on the surface that irrigation is being used to soften the soil. Grape crops have begun to get fungicide sprays as shoots are averaging 6 inches in length. Orchard fungicide sprays are also continuing and the first codling moths have been trapped and sprays will be going on within the next week. Nursery crops have all been moved from the fields and bare root sales all complete. Potting up of remaining bare roots will be complete this week. Vegetable field crops have been getting planted this week but the greatest activity will occur the week of May 15. Irrigation of perennial crops has begun with young grapevines and fruit trees being first followed by shrubs and perennial flowers in the nurseries.

JACKSON: This week was ideal for doing field work. Lots of planting. Hay crops are showing good growth as are grain crops. Most all tree fruit

is through with bloom with lots of leaf growth this week. Catch up spraying in the orchards ongoing. Caneberries and vineyards are showing good growth as well. If the weather stays warm some of them will get early bloom. Much work getting done in vegetable crops. Some early corn is popping up. A good week to get in garden crops. Greenhouses still busy getting out vegetable and flower starts with many starts showing up for sale at outlets. Nurseries quite busy with shrubs, trees and other perennial sales. Livestock mostly on green pastures now. Calf and lamb crop looks good. A few new foals and baby llamas were born this week. The weather was really nice this week. A good week to get much work done.

JOSEPHINE: Gorgeous weather! Yesterday there was a thin overcast during the a.m. Only blemish this week. No frost temperatures at 36 degrees and higher range during the night time. Everyone busy as bees working everything at once. Nursery sales are brisk but not full range of plants yet. Still to be planting frost tender plants all though some nurseries have them available for sale. Animals are all doing well, lots of calves. Don't see sheep so much in this area any more. The coyotes created quite a problem for sheeplemen in this area. Pears and apple trees are blooming. Plums are done, very few peach trees in the immediate area, all though some in home gardens.

MARION: Warm weather prevailed as temperatures reached the 70's. Precipitation fell this week for the first time in a while. Tillage work and chemical and fertilizer applications continue. The northwest wind most of the week interfered somewhat with spray applications, and it caused the nights to be colder than usual. A light frost early in the week touched some parts of the county. Stripe rust was reported in winter wheat pathology trials near Corvallis and some growers are starting to spray for septoria. Rust is just beginning to show up in some perennial ryegrass fields. Snap beans are up, showing signs of cold weather, a little yellow.

POLK: Heavy rains at times on Saturday May 6th. This rain should help spring planted crops. Temperatures slightly below normal for the past weekend, but before that temperatures were above normal.

WASHINGTON: Planting of small grains continues with advent of clear, sunny days. Field corn planting ongoing. Hay growing rapidly as well as legumes and grasses. Irrigating sugar beets for seed. Caneberries and strawberries showing blossoms. Grapes leafing and bud burst showing minute fruits. Rhubarb starting to be picked for cannery. Sweet corn planting ongoing; potatoes up and many varieties of greenhouse vegetables selling at Farmers markets. Setting out of new seedlings continues. Ball and container shrubs and trees moving to new locations and sales delivery. Cows and calves in fair shape. Pastures gaining with better weather. Temperatures were high 78 degrees, low 32 degrees and mostly sunny. Humidity 52 to 78 percent.

YAMHILL: Windy conditions for most of this week have kept spraying to just a few hours, if any, a day. Other than that good conditions for farming. Although conditions were windy, the warm, dry weather has been good for fruit trees. There have been no apple scab infection periods. Some growers are applying codling moths control sprays this week. Little rain on Sunday was welcome.

EASTERN OREGON

CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON: Numerous orchard grass fields are not looking quite right this spring. It may be a combination of fertilizer being applied late and holding off on irrigation water, some winter grain mite activity, and clover mite activity. Weather was dry, mostly for the week. Sunday, there were showers in Crook County, but not so much in Deschutes or Jefferson counties. Monday and Tuesday mornings, low temperatures of 17-20 degrees F in many locations across central Oregon.

GILLIAM/WHEELER: Continued dryer weather allows growers to finish seeding spring crops. However, due to very wet conditions when some grain was seeded, followed by hot dry weather, the emergence of some grain is in question due to drying and hardening of the soil surface.

HARNEY: Warm weather encouraging grass growth. Flooded meadows delaying some farming operations.

HOOD RIVER: Fair weather for most of the week provided good conditions for fruit tree pollination throughout the Hood River Valley. Weekend rain resulted in the initiation of pear scab infection periods at some locations in the Hood River Valley. Fire blight risk ranged from low to moderate. Codling moth biofix at the OSU-MCAREC was set on 5/3. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: Red Delicious apple at 90% post bloom (WSU stage 9); Pinot noir grapes at Eichhorn-Lorenz stages 9 to 12.

KLAMATH: Warm temperatures remain in the basin. Hay feeding continues. Dry weather has allowed field work to proceed. Spring planting activity continues. Limited irrigation has begun. Some grain and onion crops have emerged. Some fields are still wet in spots.

LAKE: High temperatures reached the upper 60's/low 70's during the week and weekend. Field work underway in most areas of the county.

MALHEUR: Good weather all last week until Sunday. Temperatures mostly normal. Scattered rain Sunday afternoon. Most field work is finishing up. Sugarbeets and onions are showing up in the fields that did not have to be replanted. Other planting continues. Crop irrigation

started. Crop farmers generally about 2 weeks behind due to wet spring. Range conditions are good but not as good as last year.

SHERMAN: Only heard of one grower getting stuck in the field this week and initial tillage started in much more earnest this week. Wheat is not headed yet, but cereal rye just started heading 4-29. Have not looked at winter barley and wheat still low in the boot. Foxtail heading but not yet flowered. Farmers complaining about prices of fuel and fertilizer both cutting into already tight margins. May see more places trade hands this fall resulting in fewer farms and farmers.

UNION: Fruit crops may have been damaged by a hard frost the 1st and 2nd of May. Spring planted grains have shown some symptoms of freeze damage. Nights continue to be cold with many below freezing mornings.

WALLOWA: Snow pack is still around 115% of normal. Range conditions are still on hold due to cold weather. Grass is just getting started. Spring seeding is under way throughout the county. Pond conditions are still not optimal but most livestock producers are in better shape than in 2005.

WASCO: Wind prevailed most of the week and a few sprinkles were noted on Sunday. The winter wheat crop looks very good in its bright green cover. Crop prospects look good at this point. Strong winds limited time spent weed spraying. Other farm activities in grain crop areas, included field tillage and fertilization. Cherry orchard activity included numerous types of spraying on both bearing and non-bearing trees. Much of the ground spraying was performed through the night when there was no wind. Small cherries are starting to be visible on the early blooming trees. Frost fans were used several nights to control cold temperatures. Mowing of grass strips between trees were active all week. Irrigation on new orchard plantings was noted. Alfalfa fields growing rapidly. Annual pasture grasses are holding their own. Range land starting to show brown areas where there is shallow ground. Yellow and purple wild flowers color the hills. Livestock doing well on the lush grasses. Strawberries in the home gardens are setting strawberries rapidly; there are still a lot of white blooms showing. Rhubarb is ready for making sauce and pies.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: May 7, 2006 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	36	75	51	+1	14	+0	0.90	0.12	3	70.99	11.71	120	156
Bandon ⁸	43	72	54	+4	28	+14	0.03	-0.70	1	60.78	6.79	113	123
Crescent City	40	57	50	-2	6	-15	-	-0.77	-	75.53	15.17	125	131
Florence	30	82	51	-1	15	+1	0.24	-0.70	2	75.91	6.87	110	146
Tillamook	27	76	49	-1	12	+5	0.60	-0.49	2	84.96	6.25	108	157
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	33	78	55	+3	37	+10	0.13	-0.41	1	46.13	10.03	128	134
Corvallis	35	77	54	+3	32	+9	0.30	-0.19	1	46.68	8.06	121	134
Detroit Lake ⁸	30	76	52	+5	20	+13	0.50	-0.33	1	93.85	33.18	155	152
Eugene	33	76	52	-2	22	-7	0.15	-0.40	1	41.90	-2.84	94	123
Hillsboro	31	76	53	+0	23	-3	0.12	-0.29	1	39.73	6.37	119	130
McMinnville	32	78	54	+2	31	+2	0.14	-0.35	1	36.53	-3.02	92	131
Portland	39	77	56	+2	43	+8	0.08	-0.41	1	36.25	4.72	115	137
Salem	35	79	53	+2	24	+3	0.23	-0.21	1	44.76	9.70	128	128
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	37	83	58	+2	57	+9	-	-0.29	-	42.78	13.87	148	115
Medford	35	81	59	+5	64	+22	-	-0.28	-	24.08	7.30	144	93
Roseburg	39	83	57	+4	52	+15	-	-0.40	-	42.55	12.80	143	126
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	28	74	51	+3	18	+8	-	-0.28	-	13.11	2.17	120	80
Echo ⁸	28	77	53	-4	25	-22	0.04	-0.13	1	8.47	1.06	114	81
Heppner	31	74	51	-2	17	-10	-	-0.32	-	12.24	1.39	113	92
Hermiston	25	77	53	-4	27	-20	0.02	-0.15	1	8.76	1.35	118	64
John Day	29	73	50	-1	19	+1	-	-0.35	-	7.54	-1.75	81	95
Madras ⁸	25	74	48	-4	9	-12	-	-0.14	-	10.63	2.60	132	97
Moro	29	72	50	-1	13	-3	-	-0.14	-	15.19	6.07	167	76
Parkdale ⁸	28	72	49	-5	7	-22	0.11	-0.13	1	42.30	13.72	148	136
Pendleton	27	76	52	-3	22	-17	0.01	-0.26	1	10.91	1.13	112	88
The Dalles	33	78	55	+4	39	+18	-	-0.14	-	16.97	6.39	160	85
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	37	69	53	+7	21	+14	-	-0.21	-	18.27	4.77	135	103
Bend	23	74	47	+0	11	+4	-	-0.14	-	18.79	9.65	206	72
Burns	25	72	49	+2	13	-1	0.10	-0.11	1	12.74	5.44	175	89
Christmas Valley ⁸	13	72	45	-6	4	-17	-	-0.21	-	6.74	-2.77	71	79
Klamath Falls	25	72	50	+1	9	-5	-	-0.14	-	15.31	4.17	137	92
Klamath Falls ⁸	33	71	51	+2	11	-3	0.01	-0.13	1	15.08	3.94	135	123
Lakeview	28	66	49	+2	6	-7	-	-0.28	-	8.12	-4.30	65	64
Lorella ⁸	25	70	50	+0	6	-8	0.01	-0.13	1	17.44	6.30	157	115
Redmond	19	76	46	-2	4	-7	-	-0.14	-	8.87	2.60	141	75
Worden ⁸	30	71	51	+2	8	-6	-	-0.14	-	13.13	1.99	118	112
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	23	73	47	-3	3	-11	-	-0.22	-	7.07	0.14	102	79
Joseph	22	68	45	+0	3	+3	-	-0.42	-	15.86	-3.70	81	105
La Grande	27	73	49	-3	10	-11	0.03	-0.32	1	5.51	-7.75	42	68
Prairie City ⁸	21	71	45	+2	3	+3	0.19	-0.09	1	11.32	-5.10	69	86
Union	25	75	48	-3	7	-7	0.02	-0.33	1	8.67	-0.71	92	90
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	35	77	55	-2	36	-16	0.14	0.00	1	12.27	4.54	159	81
Rome	21	72	48	-5	8	-19	0.03	-0.18	1	8.65	2.97	152	75

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2006: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2005.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.