

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: It was a warm, dry week across the State. High temperatures ranged from only 62 degrees in Crescent City, up to 100 degrees in Medford. No other station reported a triple digit high. Lows ranged from 31 degrees in Lorella and Worden, up to 54 degrees in Portland. Moisture was minimal, with only eight stations reporting precipitation. The Joseph station received the largest accumulation, with 0.43 inches.

Field Crops: Continued dry and hot weather conditions provided great baling conditions throughout most of the State this past week. Grain crops were mostly ripe and continue to be harvested. The majority of peppermint harvest was complete in Benton, Linn, and Lane counties and the sugar beet harvest was underway. Spring oat hay was baled in Washington County, while spring oats are ready for combining. Cooler nights in north central areas were making it difficult for cutting grains in the early morning, but harvest continued. Most wheat fields have been harvested in Malheur County, while grain harvest was just beginning in Wallowa County.

Vegetables: Most vegetables were available at Farmer's markets and roadside stands. Commercial tomato fields were slow at ripening in Benton, Linn, and Lane counties. Winter squash was doing well in Josephine County but was not ready for harvest. Carrots for seed have been planted in Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson counties. Growers were rolling some potatoes in Klamath County. Onion harvest began in Malheur.

Fruits and Nuts: Blueberry harvest began to wind down in the Willamette Valley, while blackberry and peach harvest continued. Gravenstein apples were picked and Bartlett pears continued to ripen. Hazelnuts were beginning to fall in Washington County. Summer pear harvest continued in many lower Hood River Valley orchards and began in mid-valley orchards. Fruit growers in the upper valley prepared for harvest. Wasco County stone fruit harvest continued; early pear and apple harvest was just starting. Southern Oregon peaches, Bartlett pears, and wild blackberries were picked.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries have been busy doing a lot of feeding, weeding, and potting of plants for the late summer and fall sales. They are also still doing a lot of watering. Sales have been slow.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Dryland range and pasture conditions continued to deteriorate across the State. Many areas continued to be very dry and some pastures were starting to quickly become over-grazed. Watering ponds and springs were also reported drying up in some areas of the State. Irrigation continued in full swing on pastures with facilities available. Even with marginal pasture conditions, livestock remained in good condition throughout the State.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 08/20/06

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	35	35	30	0
Subsoil	25	42	33	0

Crop Progress-Week Ending 08/20/06

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	98	96	-	-
Winter wheat harvested	90	80	94	93
Barley harvested	71	66	85	78
Spring wheat harvested	70	58	80	84
Days suitable for fieldwork	7.0	6.8	-	-

Crop Condition-Week Ending 08/20/06

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Spring wheat	0	5	19	69	7
Range and pasture	14	23	34	24	5

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Majority of peppermint harvest is done. Sugar beet seed harvest is underway. Grass seed fields are being mowed, flailed, burned and prepped for 2007. Blueberries are nearing end. Some everbearing varieties of strawberries are available. Blackberry harvest continuing. Some grapes are turning color early. Grapes showing varied pollination (different sizes of grapes on one cluster). The Bartlett pear crop is ripening. Gravenstein apples picking. Apples turning color due to cool evenings. Farmers markets are open and in full swing. Sales seem to be done. Commercial tomato fields are slow at ripening. Greenhouse & nursery crop sales are slow. There are a few working on their grass seed harvest, but most are done, some clover and oats are still being harvested. Vegetables crops are coming along.

CLACKAMAS: The summer drought continues.

COOS/CURRY: Seasonably sunny, dry and windy. Temperatures were near normal for the week for Coos and Curry. No significant rainfall in the area. Brookings (South Curry): The low temperature for the period was 49.59 degrees, 1.43 degrees above the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 73.1 degrees, 2.44 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.00 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2001-2004) average of 0.0 inches. Precipitation for Weather year stands at 106.92 inches, 40.78 inches above the 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004). Historical average (through August) is 71.53 inches precipitation. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 49.2 degrees, 0.87 degrees above the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 65.12 degrees, 2.75 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.00 inches compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004) of 0.0 inches. Weather year precipitation stands at 69.12 inches, 21.67 inches above the 5-year average (including 4 drought years, 2001 – 2004). The historical average is 58.74 inches through August.

DOUGLAS: Tree fruit and vegetables progressing nicely with good weather the past two weeks. Turning hot this weekend so irrigation will have to run heavily for the next week. No significant crop problems lately.

JACKSON: Crops are looking good. With last week's hot weather some crops are showing the effects of the heat. Livestock is fairing with the warm weather. Range pastures are starting to turn brown with the lack of moisture. Still some alfalfa hay being made. Grain crops mostly all ripe and being harvested. Some fields being shallow tilled getting ready for fall planting. Bartlett

pears are being picked. Still some varieties of peaches being picked. Lots of people picking wild blackberries. They are smaller this year but sweeter. Lots of fresh sweet corn, tomatoes, green beans and squash at roadside stands. Some bell peppers also ready. Lots of irrigation being done. Greenhouses still in preparation maintenance for fall planting. Nurseries doing lots of feeding, weeding, and potting of plants for late summer and fall sales. Still doing lots of watering of plants. Livestock on irrigated pastures looking quite good. Dry ground pasture is really dead and dry. It is taking lots of irrigating to keep pastures growing. Pear harvest, peach harvest, some haying and grain harvest this week. Also lots of vegetable harvesting being done. The week has been above normal temperatures for both days and nights. Days in mid to upper 90's, nights mid 50's. Good weather for outside work but quite hot in the mid days.

JOSEPHINE: First of week warm, end of week hot with lots of smoke. Truck gardens are doing a brisk business with the late summer fruits coming on fast and furious. Summer squash, green beans, cucumbers, tomatoes of all sizes and colors, eggplant, beets, and corn. Winter squash doing very well but not ready to harvest yet. Second cutting of hay in some fields done, others just starting. Grapes are starting to fatten up. Peaches in short supply and quality is extremely poor. Fruit size small and flavor just not there.

MARION: Continued dry weather provided good baling conditions. Grain harvest close to finishing.

POLK: Nightly temperatures are dropping off into the low 50's. With expected highs in the 90's the next few days, mildew issues could arise.

WASHINGTON: Beets for seed in windrow. Field corn setting ears. Spring oat hay baled while spring oats are ready for combining. Blueberries winding down. Late strawberries at markets. Filberts beginning to fall. Sweet corn ready. All vegetables can be purchased at Farmers markets and roadside stands. Rotating potted plants from upper fields to valley floor. Irrigation ongoing. Dry pastures. Feeding hay. All irrigation from Tualatin River and tributaries with water rights after August 15, 1930 are regulated off. Adequate supply for Tualatin Valley irrigation members. State Fair starts August 25th through September 4th.

YAMHILL: Peach harvest continues. Some of the earliest apples are getting ready for harvest.

EASTERN OREGON

CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON: Carrots for seed have all been planted. Kentucky bluegrass for seed is mostly planted.

GILLIAM/WHEELER: It's starting to feel like fall. Cooler nights have made cutting grain in the early morning tough, but harvest is going well. Producers are still getting good yields ,

HARNEY: Second crop alfalfa finishing up, meadow hay harvest progressing well with little rain or wind problems. A few yearlings were shipped this week.

HOOD RIVER: Summer pear harvest continued in many lower Hood River Valley orchards and began in mid-valley orchards. Fruit growers in the upper valley prepared for harvest.

KLAMATH: Harvest of grain and third cutting hay continues. Mint harvest under way, some potatoes are being rolled ,

LAKE: Temperatures ranged from the mid 80's to low 90's. No measurable precipitation during the week or weekend. Spotty thunderstorms in some areas of the county. Some areas in the northern end of the county had some thunderstorms, which delayed the completion of hay harvest.

MALHEUR: Weather moderated from 5 to 10 degrees above normal to normal, with scattered thunder showers, dry lightning and fires. Most wheat fields harvested, onion harvest just starting.

SHERMAN: The dew in the mornings has slowed morning start up of grain harvest. The hail storm that hit 20-25% of county May 19 showed more damage as harvesters cut fields. It also delayed some cutting as sucker heads produced green berries when original crop ready for cutting. Nearly all hail hit fields re-adjusted for losses greater than first assessed. County grain yields are in the average range, and quality is medium.

WALLOWA: More severe thunderstorms with hail during the week. Still waiting for crop damage estimates. Storms also gave some rain too, which helped contain any lightning caused fires. Hay cutting delayed due to wet weather. Grain harvest just beginning.

WASCO: Hot, summer weather prevailed all week. Wheat and barley harvest was nearly complete by week's end. Third cutting of alfalfa hay in the Tygh Valley and Dufur bottom land was underway all week. Cattle continue to hold their own on the dry pastures that are becoming over grazed. Watering ponds and springs continue to dry up. Stone fruit crops continued to be harvested through the week, while early pear and apples just starting. Fire danger was critical all over Wasco County.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: August 20, 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	47	73	59	-2	66	-11	-	-0.29	-	76.77	10.99	117	185
Bandon ⁸	49	65	58	-2	54	-9	-	-0.22	-	63.92	5.47	109	143
Crescent City	47	62	54	-5	33	-30	0.01	-0.20	1	79.08	14.31	122	149
Florence	40	69	55	-6	38	-39	-	-0.31	-	81.78	5.92	108	168
Tillamook	43	65	56	-4	42	-24	-	-0.38	-	93.72	5.91	107	185
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	51	94	69	+3	133	+19	-	-0.21	-	49.94	9.33	123	155
Corvallis	45	92	67	+1	117	+5	0.01	-0.20	1	49.99	7.67	118	160
Detroit Lake ⁸	50	97	70	+8	141	+54	-	-0.29	-	100.93	33.95	151	175
Eugene	42	94	66	-3	112	-13	-	-0.26	-	45.70	-3.19	93	146
Hillsboro	49	96	68	+4	131	+19	-	-0.27	-	43.53	6.40	117	149
McMinnville	47	95	69	+3	131	+16	-	-0.15	-	39.87	-2.96	93	150
Portland	54	91	70	+2	143	+10	-	-0.26	-	40.44	4.62	113	160
Salem	50	93	69	+3	134	+15	-	-0.16	-	48.13	9.32	124	148
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	48	99	72	+1	153	+3	-	-0.13	-	46.69	15.90	152	133
Medford	47	100	74	+2	168	+9	-	-0.14	-	26.40	7.76	142	107
Roseburg	48	97	70	+2	143	+8	-	-0.14	-	46.39	13.96	143	145
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	45	92	68	+3	125	+17	-	-0.14	-	16.45	2.71	120	102
Echo ⁸	46	97	73	+2	161	+8	-	-0.07	-	11.23	2.47	128	104
Heppner	47	94	70	+2	142	+8	-	-0.14	-	17.23	3.63	127	118
Hermiston	45	98	73	+2	165	+12	-	-0.07	-	11.30	2.54	129	84
John Day	42	93	68	+0	127	+3	-	-0.21	-	10.11	-2.83	78	119
Madras ⁸	41	95	67	+1	122	+6	-	-0.14	-	12.94	2.74	127	117
Moro	46	95	68	+1	126	+4	-	-0.12	-	18.59	7.69	171	96
Parkdale ⁸	44	92	65	-3	105	-13	-	-0.14	-	45.26	14.72	148	151
Pendleton	51	98	73	+2	161	+7	-	-0.14	-	14.02	2.22	119	104
The Dalles	52	98	72	+6	157	+41	-	-0.14	-	19.02	6.73	155	99
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	35	88	62	-1	86	+0	-	-0.20	-	19.28	3.36	121	118
Bend	41	90	64	+2	100	+9	-	-0.14	-	20.98	9.50	183	85
Burns	39	94	65	+2	109	+9	0.11	-0.04	1	16.43	6.72	169	108
Christmas Valley ⁸	34	92	62	-6	87	-34	-	-0.14	-	9.37	-2.79	77	96
Klamath Falls	36	88	64	-4	99	-18	-	-0.14	-	16.46	3.18	124	106
Klamath Falls ⁸	37	88	64	-3	102	-15	-	-0.14	-	15.83	2.55	119	136
Lakeview	34	91	64	-2	98	-8	0.06	-0.08	1	8.57	-6.83	56	70
Lorella ⁸	31	92	62	-6	86	-31	-	-0.14	-	17.90	4.62	135	124
Redmond	36	98	64	-2	103	-4	-	-0.14	-	12.01	3.65	144	98
Worden ⁸	31	90	61	-7	75	-42	-	-0.14	-	13.84	0.56	104	128
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	38	94	63	-4	91	-22	0.13	-0.08	3	10.58	0.07	101	111
Joseph	47	82	63	+4	94	+18	0.43	0.15	2	20.58	-3.83	84	139
La Grande	41	95	68	-2	125	-6	-	-0.21	-	9.28	-7.81	54	93
Prairie City ⁸	39	93	64	+4	99	+29	0.02	-0.19	1	15.99	-4.47	78	115
Union	43	94	66	-1	115	+0	-	-0.21	-	13.22	-0.16	99	116
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	47	93	70	-5	141	-26	0.07	-0.02	1	13.20	3.74	140	97
Rome	41	96	67	-3	121	-17	-	-0.14	-	10.42	2.36	129	92

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.