

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

**USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office**

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**Weather:** The weather was warmer and dryer this past week across the State. High temperatures ranged from 92 degrees in Medford, down to 70 degrees in Crescent City. Most areas outside of the coastal region reached the mid to upper 80's. The Northeast was a little cooler and the Southwest Valleys were a little warmer. Low temperatures ranged from only 25 degrees in Christmas Valley, up to 48 degrees in Roseburg. Almost no moisture was reported this past week, with only four stations reporting accumulation, and only slight amounts at that. Crescent City recorded the largest amount, with 0.04 inches, and that was distributed over three days.

**Field Crops:** The lack of moisture has made fall planting difficult for some farmers. A little moisture would help loosen the soil a bit. Third and fourth cuttings of hay continued across the State. Warmer temperatures this past week have allowed wheat planting and emergence to progress ahead of last year and the five year average. Corn silage was being harvested in the Willamette Valley. Sugarbeet harvest should start next week. Fall planting of grass and legume seed crops underway.

**Vegetables:** Pumpkins and winter squash were available across the State. Jackson County still had tomatoes and green peppers at farmer's markets and roadside stands. Josephine County reported corn shocks in fields. The sweet corn harvest in Washington County has peaked. Growers were winding down the table beet harvest. Potato and onion harvest continued in Klamath County.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Willamette Valley berries are nearly finished for the season. Prune harvest is complete on a very late crop. Apples and pears continued to be picked. Hazelnut harvest has begun on what looks to be a large crop. Walnuts turned color and chestnuts were dropping. Wine grape harvest continued; grapes were being taken to wineries for crushing. Powdery mildew on grapes continues to be a concern. Winter pear harvest continued in the mid and upper Hood River Valley. Apples were harvested throughout the Hood River Valley. Picker shortages continued to slow harvest operations. Fruit harvest continued in The Dalles and Mosier areas on pears and apples. Wine grape harvest will soon be underway with on average size crop. Apple, pear, and grape harvest continued in southern Oregon.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Summer like temperatures required watering for both nurseries and greenhouses. Digging and burlap balling of evergreen shrubs and planting of new stock were reported. Nursery tree crops are turning color and beginning their decent into fall dormancy. Retail garden centers were selling fall plants.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Producers were busy moving cattle back home from rangeland. Fall weaning and branding also continued with calves then being moved or shipped into back-grounding lots. Most fall pastures continued to need rain. Supplemental feeding was common. Livestock were reported in good condition throughout the State.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 10/01/06**

	<b>Very short</b>	<b>Short</b>	<b>Adequate</b>	<b>Surplus</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	30	40	30	0
Subsoil	32	40	28	0

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 10/01/06**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range and pasture	21	30	31	14	4

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 10/01/06**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>This week</b>	<b>Last week</b>	<b>Last year</b>	<b>5 year average</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, third cutting	95	87	-	-
Winter wheat planted	57	39	15	24
Winter wheat emerged	25	13	5	6
Days suitable for fieldwork	7.0	6.2	-	-

## WESTERN OREGON

**BENTON/LINN/LANE:** Fall plantings are going strong, corn and bean harvest is still in process. Berries are all done except for some greenhouse production and late berries.

Blueberries are done. Strawberries are done except a few “day neutral” varieties being picked. A little blackberry harvest is going on. Powdery mildew showing up in grapes. The crop looks mediocre to good. Grapes are turning color. Harvest has started. Still harvesting Asian pears. A few late peach varieties are being harvested. Prune harvest is just finished, very late for 2006. Apple harvest is continuing. Bartlett pears are very late in ripening this year. Hazelnuts look like a large crop by the looks of the nuts. Harvest continues. Pumpkins and squash are being harvested. Greenhouse and nursery crops are slowing down. Preparing for 2007.

**COOS/CURRY:** Almost continuous coastal fog this week has added to topsoil moisture, and reduced solar drying of soils. Temperatures were above normal for the week for Coos and northern Curry, with the high temperature below normal in Southern Curry. About .04 inches to .2 inches of rain fell in the area. Brookings (South Curry): The low temperature for the period was 47.44 degrees, 0.14 degrees above the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 69.34 degrees, 5.2 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.2 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2001-2004) average of 0.31 inches. Precipitation for the Weather year ending 9/30 was 107.8 inches, 40.16 inches above the 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004). The historical average (through September) is 73.48 inches precipitation. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 44.71 degrees, 2.97 degrees above the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 74.6 degrees, 5.69 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.04 inches compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004) of 0.09 inches. The Weather year precipitation through 9/30 was 69.9 inches, 20.57 inches above the 5-year average (including 4 drought years, 2001 – 2004). The historical average is 60.4 inches through September.

**DOUGLAS:** Temperatures soared back into the high 80's and 90's all week pushing plants to use up all of the recent rain. Orchard crops are finishing fast. Grapes also finishing fast with recent heat. Mold problems minimized by the heat and dryness although cold nights are still causing a lot of dew in the mornings keeping disease pressure on maturing grapes. Most ornamental and shade tree nursery crops are turning color, and beginning their decent into fall dormancy.

**JACKSON:** Some haying, mostly grass but some alfalfa. Hay harvest is about to come to an end. A few producers are still trying to put up their last cutting. Corn harvest is winding down. Yields were good this year. Ground work-up for fall planting

continued, but ground is much too dry for planting. Apples, pears, and grape harvest continued. So far harvest is normal or better. Pear harvest is about complete. It has been a good year for the pears. Almost all variety's yields and quality is up. Time for pumpkins again, so lots of harvest being done. Still lots of good fresh vegetables at farmers market, and roadside stands. Mostly sweet corn, tomatoes, green peppers, pumpkins, and other fall squash. Overall this has been a good year for fruit and vegetable producers. Greenhouses still busy with fall starts, now mostly decorative plants. Nurseries getting busier with fall planting sales. Still lots of watering and other plant upkeep. Cattle looking good if on irrigated pastures. Still some fall weaning and branding, getting stock of to markets. Mostly to back grounding lots. This has been another very dry week. Still lots of irrigating of pastures, and crops. But it is time for some irrigation districts to shut down for the season. Most fall field crop planting waiting for some moisture so that seed will be able to germinate and grow. Still lots of routine farm and ranch work to keep folks busy, while hoping for some fall rains.

**JOSEPHINE:** Beautiful fall weather, temperature wise. Shorter days, cooler nights and days - very nice. Sure could use some moisture, any form - dew, drizzle or rain. Truck gardens are getting ready for Halloween; pumpkins, corn shocks, and sunflowers. Lots of winter squash. Vineyards are still picking some grapes now. Wineries are taking in grapes from local growers. Still irrigating hay fields and permanent plantings. Native flora are really showing stress: deciduous trees and shrubs especially.

**MARION:** Still no rain and very dry. Dry weather continues and temperatures well above normal. Fall planting of grass and legume seed crops underway.

**POLK:** Prune harvest was great this year.

**WASHINGTON:** Field corn silage cutting at furious pace, last of third cutting alfalfa baled, fall seeding ongoing. Filbert harvest underway, berries winding down, walnuts turning, chestnuts falling, wine grape harvest underway. Sweet corn harvest peaking, potatoes ready for harvest, table beets winding down. Digging and burlap balling evergreen shrubs and setting out new plantings of green plants. Pasture is poor and having to feed hay. The high temperature was 85 degrees, the low was 44 degrees. Humidity was 70 percent for the high and 35 percent for the low. Not much wind.

**YAMHILL:** Hazelnut harvest for the big operations began this week and truck loads of wine grapes can be seen everywhere! We need rain for fall seeding of anything. Corn silage is going slow. Apple harvest continues.

## EASTERN OREGON

**GILLIAM/WHEELER:** Temperatures have been very warm this week, allowing more wheat to emerge. It would hurt if fall showed up.

**HARNEY:** Weaning and shipping in full swing. Most range cows either home or headed for home pastures.

**HOOD RIVER:** Winter pear harvest continued in the mid and upper Hood River Valley. Apples were harvested throughout the valley. The picker shortage continued to slow harvest operations.

**KLAMATH:** Potato and onion harvest continues. Warmer temperatures helping 3rd and 4th cutting hay to cure. Difficulty baling because of lack of dew.

**LAKE:** Highs for the week and weekend reached into the mid 80's. Morning temperatures have remained cool- some as low as the mid 30's. Cattle producers started to move cattle home from fall pastures.

**MALHEUR:** Harvest continues on all major crops. Sugar beets start next week. Fall field work also continues. Hot days and cool nights. No rain.

**SHERMAN:** Warm, calm weather and good planting conditions spurred full week of fall wheat planting.

**WALLOWA:** Great week as far as temperatures, which allowed many farmers to finish 3rd cuttings and fall seed. Range conditions have improved a little bit due to moisture received last week.

**WASCO:** Field cultivation, fertilization, and grain seeding continued on a limited scale through the week. The temperatures were above normal through mid-week and most areas experienced very little wind. Rain is needed for optimum soil moisture condition. Fruit harvest continued in The Dalles and Mosier areas on pears and apples. Wine grape harvest will soon be underway with an average size crop. Alfalfa hay growers are finished for season and livestock are holding their own on dwindling pasture conditions.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: October 1, 2006 (as of 11:00 am) <sup>1</sup>**

Station	Air temperature <sup>2</sup>				Growing degree days <sup>3</sup>		Last week precip. <sup>4</sup>			Season cum. precipitation <sup>5</sup>			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Days <sup>7</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Pct. normal	Days <sup>7</sup>
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria/Clatsop	42	78	58	+3	59	+14	-	-0.86	-	1.44	-1.60	47	9
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	45	75	58	+2	57	+13	0.04	-0.45	3	0.78	-0.98	44	8
Crescent City	45	70	53	-5	23	-31	0.02	-0.52	1	0.25	-1.58	14	5
Florence	39	82	57	-2	48	-10	-	-0.76	-	1.04	-1.56	40	4
Tillamook	37	73	54	-2	32	-9	-	-1.08	-	2.22	-1.70	57	10
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	44	86	64	+6	100	+44	-	-0.49	-	0.84	-1.04	45	6
Corvallis	40	85	62	+5	89	+31	-	-0.42	-	0.66	-0.91	42	5
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	42	88	64	+12	102	+71	-	-0.63	-	1.33	-1.02	57	7
Eugene	38	86	62	+3	88	+23	-	-0.42	-	0.52	-1.21	30	6
Hillsboro	39	86	62	+5	81	+29	-	-0.42	-	0.59	-0.98	38	5
McMinnville	42	87	64	+6	96	+38	-	-0.47	-	0.74	-0.97	43	6
Portland	47	85	65	+6	110	+42	-	-0.42	-	0.86	-0.95	48	8
Salem	41	85	64	+6	99	+43	-	-0.42	-	0.56	-1.05	35	5
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	40	90	66	+5	111	+32	-	-0.28	-	0.18	-0.76	19	3
Medford	44	92	68	+7	127	+48	-	-0.21	-	0.06	-0.83	7	3
Roseburg	48	91	67	+7	119	+45	-	-0.28	-	0.65	-0.53	55	6
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	41	88	63	+10	94	+62	-	-0.14	-	0.14	-0.61	19	4
Echo <sup>8</sup>	39	87	64	+6	98	+39	-	-0.07	-	0.17	-0.28	38	5
Heppner	40	87	65	+9	106	+56	-	-0.19	-	0.49	-0.34	59	6
Hermiston	37	87	63	+5	89	+30	-	-0.07	-	0.25	-0.20	56	4
John Day	33	85	59	+5	67	+24	-	-0.14	-	0.42	-0.44	49	5
Madras <sup>8</sup>	38	86	61	+7	80	+38	0.01	-0.07	1	0.20	-0.36	36	6
Moro	41	85	63	+9	96	+56	-	-0.08	-	0.24	-0.32	43	2
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	39	89	61	+6	79	+32	-	-0.28	-	0.14	-1.04	12	3
Pendleton	45	88	65	+8	109	+48	-	-0.14	-	0.40	-0.21	66	5
The Dalles	44	89	66	+11	110	+66	-	-0.09	-	0.05	-0.52	9	1
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	29	83	55	+5	40	+16	-	-0.18	-	0.11	-0.55	17	4
Bend	32	87	61	+10	77	+49	-	-0.07	-	0.13	-0.35	27	4
Burns	30	84	56	+6	43	+20	-	-0.10	-	0.33	-0.25	57	4
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	25	85	54	-2	30	-14	-	-0.14	-	0.05	-0.55	8	2
Klamath Falls	33	84	57	+2	50	+7	-	-0.14	-	0.06	-0.51	11	2
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	33	84	57	+2	51	+8	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.57	-	-
Lakeview	27	82	53	+0	26	-10	-	-0.18	-	0.07	-0.59	11	1
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	26	86	55	-1	36	-7	-	-0.14	-	0.05	-0.52	9	2
Redmond	30	91	58	+5	57	+24	-	-0.07	-	0.27	-0.15	64	3
Worden <sup>8</sup>	26	84	55	-2	36	-7	0.01	-0.13	1	0.13	-0.44	23	3
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	28	83	55	+3	35	+4	-	-0.14	-	0.44	-0.32	58	8
Joseph	39	75	57	+9	49	+32	-	-0.35	-	1.83	0.42	130	8
La Grande	34	82	57	+3	54	+10	-	-0.23	-	0.59	-0.39	60	5
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	33	83	57	+11	53	+40	-	-0.21	-	1.06	-0.04	96	6
Union	38	85	61	+8	78	+44	-	-0.21	-	0.65	-0.42	61	6
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	35	84	60	+2	68	+11	-	-0.08	-	0.36	-0.19	65	6
Rome	29	85	59	+4	65	+22	-	-0.12	-	0.05	-0.55	8	2

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

<sup>2</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

<sup>3</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

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

<sup>5</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2006.

<sup>6</sup> DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).

<sup>7</sup> Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

<sup>8</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.