

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

Released: April 9, 2007
Week ending: April 8, 2007
Volume: 02-06

Phone: 503-326-2131
Toll Free: 1-800-338-2157
Email: nass-or@nass.usda.gov
Internet: www.nass.usda.gov/or

Weather: The weather was mild and drier this past week. High temperatures ranged from 63 degrees in North Bend, up to 82 degrees in Medford. Low temperatures ranged from 11 degrees in Redmond, up to 38 degrees in Bandon. All stations reported moisture accumulation, though several reported minimal amounts. Two stations reported over an inch of rain. The Detroit Lake station reported 1.13 inches and the Aurora station reported 1.08 inches. The Lakeview station reported the smallest accumulation of 0.01 inches. Douglas County reported some light frost damage to emerging foliage on ornamentals, and some damage to fruit trees though it does not appear that any freeze damage occurred to fruit. Hood River required frost protection on the 3rd, but the extent of any damage is yet to be determined. Jefferson County reports that their irrigation season has started ten days early due to early dry conditions. Willowa County received some much needed moisture over the weekend. April will be a critical month for them since their snow pack is below normal.

Field Crops: Field crops throughout the State began to grow rapidly as spring temperatures increased last week. Adequate moisture received last week also aided grain crop development. Wheat and barley were reported in mostly good conditions this past week. Barley was reported to be 60 percent planted, while spring wheat was reported to be 72 percent planted, both ahead of last year and the five year average. Barley emergence was reported to be 47 percent and spring wheat emergence was 33 percent, both ahead of last year and the five year average.

Vegetables: Some early vegetables were being planted such as onions, peas, and radishes. Other vegetable planting was on hold until the perceived threat of frosts diminishes. Greenhouse vegetables were sold at farmers markets and rhubarb was being picked in Washington County. Potatoes were seeded in the northern part of Morrow County.

Fruits and Nuts: Washington County blueberries were budding, blackberries appeared to be leafing well, and filberts continued to grow.

Pears and some apples were starting to bloom. Polk County orchards in lower elevations began to bloom and were in full bloom by the weekend. However, showers developed over the weekend with cool temperatures. There were two frosty mornings in Douglas County, but it does not appear there is freeze damage to fruit. Southern Oregon peaches, plums, and some pears were in bloom. Sprays for codling moth were being applied. Some apple blossoms were showing pink. Frost protection was needed throughout the Hood River Valley on April 3rd as temperatures dipped into the 20's. The extent of the damage is yet to be determined. Later in the week, temperatures in the 60's and 70's accelerated the development of tree fruit bloom. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: d'Anjou pear at full bloom (WSU stage 7); Red Delicious apple at full pink (WSU stage 6); Bing cherry at first to full bloom (WSU stages 7 & 8); Pinot noir grapes at Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 2.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries continued digging plants, moving containers and loading trucks headed to the east coast. Greenhouses were still very busy getting out ornamentals, bedding plants, and some vegetable starts. Nurseries were also busy with the sales of trees and shrubs for spring planting. Local greenhouses continued shipping plant material to local retail outlets due to the high demand for spring plants.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Rain and warmer temperatures improved pasture growth. Continued warmer weather and sunshine were still needed throughout the State. Rangeland grass, in eastern Oregon, was emerging but more precipitation would be helpful. Producers were busy working herds and turning cattle out into spring pastures. Supplemental feeding was common across the State. Calving was starting to wind down in some areas. Livestock were in good condition throughout the State.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 04/08/07

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	4	23	61	12
Subsoil	4	12	59	25

Crop Progress-Week Ending 04/08/07

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley planted	60	25	35	54
Barley emerged	47	14	13	27
Spring wheat planted	72	43	51	67
Spring wheat emerged	33	17	20	28
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.2	3.1	3.6	5.4

Crop Condition-Week Ending 04/08/07

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	0	25	70	5
Barley	0	1	8	86	5
Range and pasture	0	10	40	43	7

WESTERN OREGON

CLACKAMAS: We had very nice sunny and warm weather this past week.

COLUMBIA: There was evident goose damage to some crops such as clover, pasture, and small grains.

COOS/CURRY: Intermittent rain and warming temperatures are finally allowing grasses to grow.

DOUGLAS: No rain during the past week allowed farmers to get into the fields to do field prep, spraying, or necessary digging. Frost on two mornings this week did some light damage to emerging foliage on ornamentals, and on some fruit trees. It does not appear that any freeze damage occurred to fruit. Fungicides are being put on fruit crops this week in anticipation of the next two weeks of wet cool weather.

JACKSON: Still more grain crops planted this week. Planted grain and hay crops are off to a good start since we have had good growing weather with adequate moisture and above average temperatures. Peaches, plums, and some pears are in bloom. Sprays for codling moth being applied. Some apple blossoms are showing some pink. Some early vegetables are being planted such as onions, peas, and radishes. Ground preparation taking place as weather permits. Greenhouses are very busy getting out ornamentals and some vegetable starts. Nurseries are also busy with sales of trees and shrubs for spring planting. Lots of cattle and other livestock are now on valley pastures. The grass is good, but still needs a bit more sun. Still some supplemental feeding and cattle being given spring shots. Lots of

spring activities thus far on farms and ranches with the good weather.

MARION: Nurseries are shipping plants. Greenhouses have bedding plants growing, and some are ready to sell. Field crops are beginning to grow rapidly as spring temperatures ranged from the low 30's to upper 70's, bringing frosts in the morning followed by warm and sunny conditions. Rainfall started and ended the week with dry conditions in the days between.

POLK: From Monday through Friday of last week, orchards in lower elevations began to come into bloom, and by the weekend they were in full bloom. However, showers developed over the weekend with cool temperatures. Similar weather is to continue through the next week or so. Conditions are not conducive to pollinators such as bees.

WASHINGTON: The warm weather experienced last week resulted in growth in all crops. Red clover and alfalfa are doing well and grass for seed is growing rapidly after fertilizers have been applied. Spot spraying is also ongoing. Blueberries are budding, blackberries appear to be leafing well, and filberts continue growing. Pears and some apples are starting to bloom. Rhubarb is being picked, while vegetable planting is in the near future with no frost timing as of yet. Greenhouse vegetables are being sold at farmers markets, while potted shrubs are being rotated in fields. Pastures are being eaten down fast, and some areas are still too wet. High temperature during the week was 79 degrees, while the low was 28 degrees. The high humidity was 72 percent and the low was 48 percent. 1.2 inches of rainfall received.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER/UMATILLA: Baker County has been seeing some rain showers off and on for the past week. Warm weather has been occurring regularly for the past week as well. Cattle are being turned out on the spring range. Fields are being worked and are getting ready for planting.

GILLIAM: Saturday showers kept producers out of the field over the weekend.

GRANT: Moisture is needed.

HARNEY: Calving is winding down and branding and turnout is continuing.

HOOD RIVER: Temperatures in the 20's on April 3rd required frost protection throughout the Hood River Valley. The extent of the damage is yet to be determined. Later in the week, temperatures in the 60s and 70s accelerated the development of tree fruit bloom. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: d'Anjou pear at full bloom (WSU stage 7); Red Delicious apple at full pink (WSU stage 6); Bing cherry at first to full bloom (WSU stages 7 & 8); Pinot noir grapes at Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 2.

JEFFERSON: Irrigation season started about ten days early this year because of early drought conditions.

KLAMATH: Warmer temperatures continue. Some planting of spring grain crops and other field preparation continues.

LAKE: Received some precipitation over the weekend. Field work such as dragging and plowing is taking place on some of the cropland acreage. Pastures have started to green up.

MALHEUR: Scattered showers through the weekend helped a little in some parts of the county. Rain on Sunday morning accumulated to about 4/10 of an inch. Corn growers are about mid-way through their planting season. Temperatures in the mid to upper 70's have helped bring the recently planted crops along. New grass on rangeland is emerging well. However, a good gentle rain for a few days would be welcome.

MORROW: Typical spring weather with temperatures down into the 20's and up to the 70's with scattered clouds and showers. Field work for summer fallow preparation continues. Potatoes are being seeded in the north end of the County. Severe freeze last week did not appear to cause any damage.

SHERMAN: Field work is ahead of normal schedule with warm dry temperatures forcing an earlier start. Chemical spraying continues for fallow and/or to delay initial tillage. Cooler temperatures and cloudy weather have slowed pasture growth. There has been some talk of springs and seeps not flowing as in the past, which could be reason to have to haul some water sooner than usual.

WALLOWA: Not much change through the first part of the week, but some moisture received during the weekend is a good start. Now, if we can keep it coming that will be great. April is a critical month for rainfall since our snow-pack is below normal.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: April 8, 2007 (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	30	72	49	+3	12	+5	0.53	-0.73	4	63.52	8.17	115	129
Bandon ⁸	38	66	54	+6	32	+25	0.47	-0.78	2	50.62	0.27	101	122
Crescent City	35	67	50	+1	11	-10	0.44	-0.95	1	51.78	-4.82	91	92
Florence	34	71	50	+3	12	+5	0.46	-1.06	3	75.82	11.31	118	112
North Bend	37	63	51	+3	14	+7	0.22	-1.10	2	54.76	0.48	101	104
Tillamook	30	75	51	+5	23	+16	0.37	-1.33	3	47.56	-25.98	65	125
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	34	77	53	+6	33	+21	1.08	0.35	2	37.73	4.08	112	115
Corvallis	33	75	51	+3	24	+13	0.53	-0.20	2	42.08	5.67	116	112
Detroit Lake ⁸	29	80	51	+11	26	+24	1.13	-0.08	2	78.43	21.57	138	128
Eugene	31	76	51	+2	26	+12	0.19	-0.70	1	34.46	-7.65	82	98
Hillsboro	27	79	52	+4	33	+21	0.67	0.05	2	30.93	-0.59	98	107
McMinnville	32	76	53	+4	35	+21	0.40	-0.35	3	31.96	-5.42	86	110
Portland	32	78	54	+6	40	+26	0.61	-0.02	4	29.65	0.27	101	114
Salem	30	77	52	+5	34	+25	0.36	-0.31	2	35.68	2.71	108	100
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	31	81	55	+5	46	+23	0.13	-0.40	2	26.29	-1.14	96	77
Medford	37	82	58	+9	57	+37	0.05	-0.26	1	15.33	-0.37	98	74
Roseburg	35	80	56	+7	47	+26	0.24	-0.38	1	26.97	-0.86	97	89
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	23	64	44	+2	2	-3	0.42	0.14	1	10.08	0.31	103	76
Echo ⁸	21	72	50	+1	18	+1	0.03	-0.18	1	6.87	0.10	101	74
Hepner	24	67	46	+0	7	-2	0.21	-0.14	1	9.68	0.07	101	84
Hermiston	21	72	50	+2	19	+2	0.05	-0.16	1	6.22	-0.55	92	70
Madras ⁸	21	71	46	+2	3	-9	0.36	0.15	5	4.87	-2.55	66	63
Moro	21	67	45	+1	11	+4	0.15	-0.06	1	9.39	0.95	111	65
Parkdale ⁸	24	71	47	-1	7	-6	0.32	-0.14	3	32.08	4.84	118	84
Pendleton	22	68	49	+1	14	+0	0.05	-0.23	1	7.84	-0.95	89	72
Prairie City ⁸	21	71	46	+2	3	-9	0.36	0.15	5	4.87	-2.55	66	63
The Dalles	23	75	52	+7	32	+25	-	-0.21	-	11.55	1.64	117	64
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	31	73	50	+12	14	+12	0.06	-0.19	1	12.97	0.31	102	81
Bend	20	69	42	+1	2	-5	0.09	-0.05	1	8.15	-0.41	95	57
Burns	14	75	45	+6	8	+1	0.23	0.06	1	6.39	-0.25	96	64
Christmas Valley ⁸	14	77	44	+2	2	-6	0.21	0.02	2	3.48	-5.34	39	56
Klamath Falls	22	76	49	+8	11	+4	0.04	-0.17	1	8.14	-2.35	78	58
Klamath Falls ⁸	24	76	49	+7	9	+2	0.19	-0.02	2	9.28	-0.93	91	74
Lakeview	19	73	47	+7	11	+4	0.01	-0.28	1	2.82	-8.44	25	37
Lorella ⁸	23	77	48	+7	8	+1	0.10	-0.11	2	8.04	-2.45	77	71
Redmond	11	71	44	+2	2	-5	0.14	0.00	1	3.84	-1.87	67	45
Worden ⁸	29	75	50	+8	8	+1	0.07	-0.14	3	6.85	-3.64	65	78
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	14	74	45	+3	3	-4	0.17	-0.01	2	3.52	-2.58	58	63
Joseph	18	69	43	+5	9	+8	0.10	-0.32	1	9.61	-8.21	54	80
La Grande	19	73	48	+4	14	+7	0.06	-0.29	1	5.28	-6.56	45	55
Union	20	76	46	+3	13	+6	0.12	-0.16	1	6.92	-1.19	85	67
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	22	77	51	+3	26	+9	0.22	0.06	2	4.32	-2.83	60	54
Rome	19	77	48	+5	8	+1	0.21	0.02	3	2.01	-2.94	41	48

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2007: 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, 2006.

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.