

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: Cooler temperatures and precipitation throughout the State this past week brought relief from the heat. High temperatures ranged from 101 degrees in Ontario and Rome, down to 70 degrees in Astoria. Only a few stations reported high temperatures above the upper 90's. Low temperatures ranged from 60 degrees in Portland down to 37 degrees in Christmas Valley. All but three of the forty-three stations received a positive amount of precipitation. The Astoria/Clatsop station recorded the most with 2.38 total inches.

Field Crops: Last weeks precipitation was welcomed by most growers and helped alleviate some irrigation needs. Rain interrupted grass and hay harvest. Hay that was down already was damaged. Mint harvest was underway in Northwest areas. Mold issues are being experienced in Washington County, along with quality issues on some grass seed varieties. There was concern about sprouting in small grains as well. Across the Willamette Valley field corn was ready to tassel, red clover was in full bloom, and potatoes were filling rows. Cool temperatures and rain storms helped contain wild fires in Southeastern areas. Eastern areas saw very little precipitation last week and crop yields will be affected as weather conditions continue to be hot and dry. Fire danger continued to be high with the dry conditions. Statewide, the second cutting of alfalfa hay is nearing completion. Small grains across the State were reported mostly in fair condition.

Vegetables: Local vegetable farmers have kept busy at farmer's markets selling plenty of fresh produce. Snap beans, squash, early onions, cucumbers, zucchini, and even some early yellow sweet corn were reported to be available at many markets and roadside stands. Bush beans were harvested and sent to the processors. Tomatoes were reported as putting on good growth.

Fruits and Nuts: Berry harvest continued in the Northern Willamette Valley despite the rain. Southern Willamette Valley plums continued to ripen and early peaches were harvested. Pears appear to be a medium crop and were showing a lot of scab. Early apples were starting to ripen. Blueberries and blackberries were looking nice and big. Raspberries were starting to be picked; currant and goose berries were nearly done for the season. Unseasonable cool, cloudy, and humid weather prevailed in Hood River County. A mid-week storm resulted in nearly one inch of rain throughout the Hood River Valley. Cherry harvest was ongoing in the middle and upper Valley. Summer orchard operations continued work throughout the Valley. A small quantity of very late cherries is yet to be harvested in Wasco County, but for the most part, cherry harvest was complete. Apricot and peach harvest continued. Strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, and cherries were available in southern Oregon.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Greenhouses were still busy this past week cleaning and doing summer maintenance. They were also starting to get ready for fall plants. Nurseries remained busy with stock care such as watering, feeding, and work on newly planted items. Nurseries were pulling and transporting container trees, and were starting to irrigate new sets.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Livestock were reported, for the most part, doing well on dry ranges and pastures. Cattle were reported to be looking good. An abundance of horses with new foals were reported in Jackson County. Over a half-an-inch of rain in Coos and Curry counties may have extended lowland pastures, but hill pastures were still dry and getting drier. Overall, it appears that the precipitation received was probably not enough to do much good for pasture re-growth.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 07/22/07

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	33	41	26	0
Subsoil	30	44	26	0

Crop Progress-Week Ending 07/22/07

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	90	74	84	17
Winter wheat harvested	55	22	22	28
Spring wheat harvested	30	-	-	7
Days suitable for fieldwork	5.3	6.9	7.0	6.9

Crop Condition-Week Ending 07/22/07

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	23	38	33	6
Spring wheat	3	12	42	40	3
Barley	6	13	38	38	5
Corn	0	0	10	57	33
Range and pasture	16	27	39	18	0

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Southern Willamette Valley grass seed yields have been estimated to be average to below average. Rain was welcomed by row crop producers to help with irrigation needs. It has been great corn growing weather. Grass seed harvest has slowed due to rain. Mint harvest is just about ready to begin in some areas. Native plums are ripening and early peaches are being harvested. Pears appear to be a medium crop and are showing a lot of scab. It has been a good season for cherries along with high prices. Early apples are starting to ripen. Blueberries and blackberries are looking very nice and big. Raspberries are starting to be picked. Currant and goose berries are nearly done and ended up with a good crop. The local vegetable farmers are busy at the farmer's markets with plenty of fresh produce.

CLACKAMAS: We had several days of rain this past week. Most of it was light drizzles, but there were some scattered heavy downpours with thunder and lightning. Total rain reported from just over a quarter-inch to half-an-inch. It was enough rain to stop grass seed swathing and combining. It also caused concern about sprouted grass seed and sprouted winter wheat. It probably was not enough to do much good for pasture re-growth.

CLATSOP: We recently got some rain and it has been wet for the past few days.

COOS/CURRY: Another half-an-inch of very unseasonable rain this week may have temporarily extended lowland pastures, but hill pastures are all dry and getting drier. The precipitation early in the week slowed down haying, but obviously helped pasture re-growth. Low temperatures were slightly above the 5-year average this week, with highs above average in Coos and well below average in Curry. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 52.48 degrees, 1.41 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 73.7 degrees, 4.34 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.54 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2002-2004) average of 0.01 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation stands at 54.98 inches, 0.73 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through July is 57.92 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry) Low temperature for the period was 52.63 degrees, 0.49 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 67.45 degrees, 10.27 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.56 inches compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2002-2004) of 0.03 inches. Current weather year precipitation stands at 78.13 inches, 0.81 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through July is 70.49 inches.

JACKSON: The haying being done is still mostly second cutting alfalfa, but there is still some grass hay that is mostly too ripe to be very good hay. Grass hay is showing good growth and should be on track for a second cutting by mid August. Fruit is sizing up now and there are strawberries, blueberries and cherries being picked. Farmers markets are having a good supply of fresh vegetables now that mostly consist of snap beans, squash, early onions, and some corn. Greenhouses are still cleaning up and are busy doing summer maintenance. They are also getting ready for fall plants. Nurseries remain busy with stock care such as watering, feeding, and work on newly planted items. Livestock

are looking quite good if they are on good irrigated pastures, but now need some supplemental feed if they are on dry ground. There surely seems to be a lot of horses with new foals. It wasn't quite as warm this past week with high's mostly in the 80's during the day and in the 40's and 50's at night. There is still a lot of irrigating even though we did have some rain last week. It was a good week for outdoor work.

JOSEPHINE: We had beautiful weather this past week. It was mainly cool, breezy, and sunny with some partial clouds. We received a good rain early in the week. Saturday also had a weak front move through along with some rain. It was gorgeous for working outside. Grapes are showing good size. Blueberries being picked in the Valley right now are looking wonderful. Cherries and raspberries are still available. Tomatoes are starting to pick up. The first cutting of grass hay is in. Some of the early cut fields are going for their second cutting. Watering was not a problem this past week except for pastures.

MARION: This past week transitioned from quite warm to cooler-than-normal with an unseasonably large amount of rain. Grass seed harvest was shut down Tuesday morning due to rain overnight. Coupled with that, the grass straw balers sat idle with many tarps as cover to keep rain off of them. The rain and cooler weather has helped the berry harvest and has cut some farm irrigation costs related to pumping and pipe-moving expenses. The grass seed growers don't seem too bewildered by the wet weather so far, but say much more rain could bring reduced yields and quality problems.

POLK: There has been sporadic moisture received this past week. Humidity levels have been high for this time of the year.

WASHINGTON: Due to last week's rain, caneberry producers have stopped picking. Mold issues are being experienced in the county along with quality issues. Potential yield loss, perhaps 5% to 10% of crop, may have sprouted in grass seed varieties. Small grain harvest is also being detained due to last week's rains. Small grain concerns are being raised about sprouting as well. Sweet corn and vegetables crops are doing well. No reports of hay damage. Wheat is ready for harvest but was delayed by four days of constant drizzle or intermittent showers. Field corn is ready to tassel and red clover is in full bloom. Grass for seed is in the swath and most crimson clover has been harvested. Potatoes are filling rows and sweet corn has started to tassel. Some early yellow sweet corn is already at farmer's markets and roadside stands. Zucchini and cucumbers are also available at markets. Bush beans harvested in our area have been sent to the processors. Nurseries are pulling and transporting container trees and are starting to irrigate new sets. Pastures are greening up with the recent high humidity, rain, and warm days and nights. Cattle are looking good. High temperature of 80 degrees with a low of 62 degrees. High humidity of 84 percent with a low of 60 percent. Rain for the week totaled 1.3 inches.

YAMHILL: Even though we only had a little rain this week, it still was enough to cause concern for grass seed farmers with grass down. It may cause problems for the grain crops as well, but no reports on either crop at this point.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: There wasn't much of a change from last week as the weather continues to be hot and dry.

HOOD RIVER: Unseasonable cool, cloudy, and humid weather prevailed during the past week. A mid-week storm resulted in nearly one inch of rain throughout the Hood River Valley. Cherry harvest was ongoing in the middle and upper Valley. Summer orchard operations continued work throughout the Valley.

JEFFERSON: Rain showers have slowed Kentucky bluegrass threshing. The 2008 crop of onions and parsley grown for seed have mostly been planted.

KLAMATH: Cooler weather and rain during this past week. The second cutting of hay is still being dropped. There was more rain damage to hay during the week. Potatoes are blooming. Some grain hay is still being cut.

LAKE: Cooler temperatures and rain storms toward the end of the week helped with the containment of the fire that was reported to have burned 8,121 acres. Pasture conditions continue to decline.

MALHEUR: Weather continues to be hot and dry with no relief in sight. Potato yields will most likely be affected. Wheat harvest has started and will probably push more next week. Row crop irrigation is the main focus right now.

MORROW: Wheat harvest continues after a little rain delay last week. Yields are now coming in average or a little better in some spots.

SHERMAN: Cool temperatures and intermittent showers have dissuaded harvest activity. This coming week looks to be warmer and drier. Lots of growers should be in full harvest swing.

WALLOWA: Crop and range quality continues to decline due to hot dry weather. Very little moisture received during the week, but cooler temperatures have helped somewhat. Forest fires have made the County very smoky, but it is getting better. Fires are still burning but cooler weather has helped. Livestock producers are looking for water to utilize their grass.

WASCO: Rain showers on Wednesday disrupted the wheat harvest. The harvest of the second cutting of alfalfa hay got rain on the swathed windrows. Still picking late cherry varieties in some of the higher elevation orchards. A small quantity of very late cherries are yet to be harvested, but for the most part cherry harvest is complete. Apricot and peach harvest was active. Cattle and sheep were doing fairly well on dry ranges and pastures. Fire danger is high in most farming areas. Several wheat fires were reported.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: July 22, 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	56	70	63	+3	89	+19	2.38	2.17	6	72.74	7.94	112	189
Bandon ⁸	52	76	68	+11	132	+75	0.64	0.57	4	55.85	-1.97	97	162
Crescent City	50	70	62	+5	87	+31	1.01	0.94	4	58.93	-5.21	92	125
Florence	55	72	64	+4	96	+26	1.33	1.19	5	85.99	11.08	115	149
North Bend	52	72	64	+5	103	+37	0.83	0.76	4	60.52	-1.71	97	141
Tillamook	57	73	65	+7	104	+46	0.94	0.62	4	54.63	-31.88	63	167
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	59	84	68	+3	132	+17	0.61	0.47	4	41.21	1.27	103	144
Corvallis	57	84	67	+2	123	+11	0.47	0.40	5	46.45	4.77	111	143
Detroit Lake ⁸	55	87	67	+4	119	+27	0.71	0.55	5	87.34	21.30	132	164
Eugene	54	86	68	+0	125	-1	0.46	0.39	3	38.67	-9.47	80	126
Hillsboro	55	80	67	+1	118	+6	0.40	0.33	5	34.88	-1.46	96	141
McMinnville	57	82	68	+2	127	+15	0.29	0.21	5	35.97	-6.38	85	144
Portland	60	82	69	+1	136	+4	0.39	0.28	3	34.05	-0.98	97	152
Salem	59	84	69	+2	132	+14	0.34	0.23	3	39.90	1.61	104	129
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	55	88	69	-4	134	-20	0.39	0.37	2	30.03	-0.41	99	100
Medford	55	94	71	-3	151	-13	0.52	0.50	2	17.61	-0.64	96	97
Roseburg	56	90	70	+2	142	+9	0.42	0.35	2	30.72	-1.26	96	114
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	50	88	68	+2	129	+14	-	-0.07	-	14.11	0.89	107	99
Echo ⁸	59	95	75	+2	176	+14	0.04	0.03	1	9.02	0.55	106	96
Heppler	55	89	71	+2	144	+5	0.06	-0.01	2	14.14	1.01	108	105
Hermiston	56	95	75	+2	177	+15	0.03	0.02	1	8.39	-0.08	99	85
Madras ⁸	52	90	68	+2	130	+10	0.40	0.33	2	7.21	-2.57	74	83
Moro	48	88	69	+1	132	+6	0.04	0.00	1	11.30	0.74	107	84
Parkdale ⁸	51	83	65	-3	107	-12	0.75	0.74	1	34.72	4.58	115	107
Pendleton	54	93	73	-2	159	-6	0.27	0.20	2	10.24	-1.16	90	91
Prairie City ⁸	52	90	68	+2	130	+10	0.40	0.33	2	7.21	-2.57	74	83
The Dalles	57	93	73	+7	166	+47	0.02	-0.01	1	12.45	0.53	104	77
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	44	85	63	-2	89	-9	0.87	0.80	2	15.82	0.46	103	100
Bend	48	88	67	+4	121	+23	0.44	0.37	1	10.64	-0.35	97	70
Burns	39	94	68	+0	124	+5	0.01	-0.06	1	8.54	-0.64	93	80
Christmas Valley ⁸	37	91	64	-6	97	-36	0.13	0.06	1	5.85	-5.81	50	76
Klamath Falls	46	86	64	-5	98	-29	0.33	0.26	2	9.85	-2.93	77	77
Klamath Falls ⁸	46	84	63	-5	96	-31	0.45	0.38	4	11.14	-1.36	89	104
Lakeview	39	88	62	-6	86	-37	-	-0.07	-	3.70	-11.29	25	48
Lorella ⁸	43	88	63	-6	94	-33	0.27	0.20	1	9.98	-2.80	78	88
Redmond	48	92	68	+2	126	+12	0.15	0.08	1	4.65	-3.25	59	52
Worden ⁸	39	85	61	-8	80	-47	0.24	0.17	2	8.12	-4.66	64	97
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	47	97	72	+5	153	+34	0.11	0.04	1	5.45	-4.31	56	82
Joseph	47	87	68	+9	129	+54	0.02	-0.12	1	13.55	-9.97	58	107
La Grande	52	97	74	+4	168	+28	0.29	0.20	1	7.61	-8.74	47	73
Union	52	95	72	+6	155	+36	0.24	0.15	1	9.94	-2.74	78	90
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	55	101	80	+3	212	+23	-	0.00	-	5.84	-3.34	64	65
Rome	48	101	76	+4	186	+27	0.01	-0.06	1	3.24	-4.46	42	60

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.