

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

Released: September 24, 2007  
Week ending: September 23, 2007  
Volume: 26-07

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**Weather:** Temperatures cooled off last week as summer officially came to an end. High temperatures ranged from 85 degrees in Medford, down to 63 degrees in Crescent City. Low temperatures ranged from 46 degrees in Ontario, down 27 degrees at the Agency Lake weather station. Rome received the most precipitation with 1.20 inches followed by .54 inches in Lakeview. Only eleven of the forty-three stations did not receive precipitation last week, although many reported only a trace.

**Field Crops:** Fall weather arrived with cooler temperatures and some scattered showers in some parts of the State. Field preparation for winter wheat planting continued, but was slow due to dry soils. More moisture was needed. Most third cutting of alfalfa hay in the Willamette Valley was complete and some farmers were trying for a fourth cutting. Grass seed planting and red clover combining for seed continued this past week. Haying was delayed in eastern areas by precipitation. Most fall seeding in Sherman County got a good jump start with the help of some cooler temperatures and moisture. Harvest of many crops was the main activity in Malheur County.

**Vegetables:** Plenty of tomatoes, cucumbers, corn, squash, green peppers, cabbage, cauliflower, and some summer onions were still being picked and sold around the State. The pumpkin crop was reported to be looking like one of the best in years. The carrot seed harvest was almost complete in Jefferson County. Sweet corn continues to be harvested and moved along to the canneries. Onion yields look significantly better than last year. Harvest has begun throughout the State. The average expected harvest completion date for growers in Malheur was October 3 and was

September 27 on average for other counties. However, harvest will continue through mid October for some growers.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Winter pear harvest continued throughout the Hood River Valley. Golden Delicious apples were harvested in the lower Valley. Hazelnut harvest reported as starting or yet to start. Walnuts were looking good. Some Josephine County grape picking was in full swing, while others were waiting for the sugars. South Willamette hot and cold weather caused some minor problems last week. Plums were done with a light crop this year. Peaches were plentiful and in good condition. Grapes in Polk County were looking good with no reports of disease or loss yet. Asian pears were doing well but starting to drop with the weather and wind. Berry harvest was almost done. There was still powdery mildew forming on grapes and irregular sizing due to poor pollination and the hot and cool weather.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Greenhouses and nurseries were preparing seedbeds for fall planting, irrigating, and trimming shrubs and trees. Many greenhouses were done for the season.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Dry land pastures continued to need rain. Most areas will need considerable fall rain for pastures to improve and recover from the very dry summer. Cattle were being moved off federal land as permits expired during September. Supplemental feeding continued along with the high demand for hay in many areas. Livestock remained in good condition throughout the State.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 09/23/07**

	<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	37	45	18	0
Subsoil	31	54	15	0

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 09/23/07**

<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>
Winter wheat planted	20	13	36	15
Winter wheat emerged	2	-	11	3
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.6	6.5	6.3	-

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 09/23/07**

<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	14	45	32	9	0

## WESTERN OREGON

**BENTON\LINN\LANE:** The weather has turned to Fall with cooler day time temperatures and chilly nights. This hot and cold weather caused some minor problems in the fruit industry last week. Farmers have been busy in the fields with working and planting the ground for the grass seed crops. The mint harvest has concluded. Re-seeding and liming continues. Temperatures dropped down near 40 this past week. Plums are done but the crop is down this year. Peaches are plentiful and in good condition. Asian pears appear to be doing well but are starting to drop due to the weather and the wind. Apples are also plentiful and are being harvested. Cherries are done. There are some very late blueberries and raspberries and blackberries are just about done. There is still a lot of powdery mildew forming on grapes and they are sizing irregularly due to poor pollination and hot and cool weather. Vegetables are in full production and the pumpkin crop looks like one of the best in years. Many greenhouses are done for the season.

**CLACKAMAS:** Conditions were warm and dry last week.

**COOS\CURRY:** Low temperatures were slightly below the 5-year average this week in both Coos and Curry counties. Highs were about 4 degrees below the 5-year average in Coos and about 2 degrees above the 5-year average in Curry. Some traces of precipitation early in the week in Coos with fog in the mornings. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 44.18 degrees, 0.37 degrees below the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 69.05 degrees, 4.5 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.05 inches over 2 days, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2002-2004) average of 1.17 inches. Precipitation for current weather year precipitation stands at 57.8 inches, 1.12 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through September is 60.40 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 46.25 degrees, 2.05 degrees below the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 83.3 degrees, 2.49 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.0 inches, compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2002-2004) of 0.42 inches. Current weather year precipitation stands at 80.06 inches, 0.29 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through September is 73.48 inches.

**JACKSON:** Field preparation for fall planting continues, but at this time soil is quite dry. There is still some grass and alfalfa hay being made. Apples and pears are still being harvested. The quality of the crop looks quite good and the quantity appears to be a bit above normal. There are still lots of good vegetables being picked including tomatoes, cucumbers, corn, squash, green peppers, and some summer onions. Greenhouses are busy with

getting a start on fall plantings. Nurseries are still busy with stock care and lots of watering. Dry ground pastures look really dead, so most all livestock are now on irrigated ground. Of course, some cattle are still on higher rangeland. A lot of livestock are on the good pastures. Some supplemental feeding is still being done on dry ground. The temperature has been below normal during both days and nights. The cooler nights are making crops ripen more quickly. It also helps with some night time dew. The fruit and vegetables harvest is going strong. Plenty of fruit and vegetables are for sale at farmers markets. It was a good week for haying and other outside work. We could use a good rain now. It might still give a start to dry ground pastures.

**JOSEPHINE:** It was a nice week with hot temperatures early in the week but moderate by mid week. There were even had a couple of showers in some areas. The lowest low temperature was 40 degrees and the highest high was 94. Some grape pickers are just in full swing while others are waiting for the sugars. Early grapes are being distributed to wineries. Truck gardeners are winding down now. We are just waiting for pumpkins. Some irrigation is shut down now. Cooler and longer nights make for less needed supplemental watering.

**MARION:** This past week has been a beautiful last week of summer. Most crops have been harvested. Fall work is proceeding quite well with our agreeable weather. Fall crops such as sweet corn, cabbage, cauliflower and hazelnuts are still to be harvested. A few light showers of rain fell, but not enough to help the dry conditions.

**POLK:** Conditions remain dry in the County. Grapes are looking good with no reports of any disease or loss yet.

**WASHINGTON:** Red clover combining for seed continues. Most third cutting of alfalfa has been completed and some are trying for a fourth. Wheat is being dusted in, but need good moisture to sprout and maintain growth. Field corn is being harvested. Filbert growers are starting harvest, most nuts are down, and walnuts are looking good. Sweet corn for canneries is ongoing. Roadside stands are doing well with abundant supplies of squash, tomatoes, potatoes, and other crops. Greenhouses and nurseries are preparing seed beds, irrigating and trimming shrubs and trees. Cattle appear to be in good shape and calves look good. Some moisture in sufficient quantities would help pastures for late season feed. The high temperature was 80 degrees and the low was 39 degrees. Humidity was as high as 70 percent and as low as 32 percent. The soil and water district held its annual awards day and picnic in Hillsboro last Saturday. There was no rain received last week.

## EASTERN OREGON

**HARNEY:** Rainfall was received throughout much of Harney County during the week. The precipitation delayed the last cutting of hay in some areas. Most cattle are slated to be off federal grazing permits during September. This, coupled with a scarcity of fall pasture alternatives, is further increasing hay demand.

**HOOD RIVER:** Cooler but fair weather prevailed through the week. The winter pear harvest continued throughout the Hood River Valley. Golden Delicious apples were harvested in the lower valley.

**JEFFERSON:** The carrot seed harvest is almost complete. We have had some light frost last week.

**LAKE:** Some precipitation was received during mid-week and over the weekend with some snow in higher elevations.

**MALHEUR:** The high temperature went from above normal to below normal. Rain showers on Wednesday dropped the temperature down but it didn't completely stop most operations. Up to 0.50 inches of rain was received in some locations. Harvesting is the main function now. Just about every thing that grows is being harvested except for sugarbeets. Fall field work and winter wheat seeding continues.

**SHERMAN:** Seeding got started seriously after a short shower and cooler night temperatures raised the soil moisture.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: September 23, 2007 (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	43	66	55	-3	40	-15	0.44	-0.30	3	0.56	-1.51	27	6
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	44	69	56	-1	46	-3	0.05	-0.37	2	0.38	-0.83	31	8
Crescent City	42	63	54	-6	26	-30	-	-0.44	-	0.27	-0.95	22	1
Florence	34	67	53	-7	27	-39	0.18	-0.45	2	1.15	-0.59	66	4
North Bend	43	66	55	-4	40	-18	0.26	-0.19	2	0.50	-0.78	39	3
Tillamook	41	68	57	+0	51	+1	0.21	-0.74	3	0.32	-2.37	12	5
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	43	76	59	-2	63	-11	0.03	-0.42	1	0.49	-0.83	37	3
Corvallis	36	73	58	-4	55	-19	-	-0.37	-	0.43	-0.66	39	2
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	39	79	56	+3	47	+6	0.12	-0.44	1	0.24	-1.39	15	3
Eugene	36	75	57	-5	53	-30	0.10	-0.32	1	0.22	-1.03	18	2
Hillsboro	36	72	54	-6	32	-36	0.05	-0.30	1	0.25	-0.85	23	4
McMinnville	37	75	59	-3	63	-11	0.24	-0.18	1	0.37	-0.81	31	3
Portland	44	73	58	-4	62	-24	0.16	-0.26	2	0.32	-1.01	24	5
Salem	41	75	59	-3	63	-10	0.04	-0.36	1	0.52	-0.61	46	2
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	42	83	59	-6	62	-34	0.04	-0.18	2	0.23	-0.39	37	4
Medford	40	85	60	-5	73	-27	0.02	-0.19	2	0.03	-0.62	5	3
Roseburg	43	79	60	-4	70	-18	0.03	-0.25	2	0.44	-0.42	51	3
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	35	77	54	-3	27	-19	0.02	-0.12	1	0.04	-0.55	7	2
Echo <sup>8</sup>	37	76	59	-3	66	-15	-	-0.07	-	0.05	-0.32	14	3
Heppler	36	74	55	-5	38	-30	-	-0.21	-	0.35	-0.26	57	2
Hermiston	34	76	59	-3	67	-14	-	-0.07	-	0.01	-0.36	3	1
Madras <sup>8</sup>	35	75	53	-5	26	-31	0.03	-0.11	1	0.25	-0.21	54	5
Moro	37	75	55	-4	36	-21	0.05	-0.09	1	0.09	-0.37	20	2
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	35	76	53	-7	22	-41	-	-0.28	-	0.01	-0.85	1	1
Pendleton	39	73	58	-5	55	-27	-	-0.14	-	0.01	-0.44	2	1
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	35	75	53	-5	26	-31	0.03	-0.11	1	0.25	-0.21	54	5
The Dalles	43	79	61	+4	80	+19	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.46	-	-
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	27	76	49	-5	12	-23	0.08	-0.06	2	0.20	-0.26	43	4
Bend	30	74	50	-5	13	-26	0.01	-0.07	1	0.49	0.09	123	2
Burns	30	73	51	-3	14	-21	0.07	-0.07	2	0.18	-0.28	39	6
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	30	74	49	-10	11	-48	0.53	0.39	1	0.62	0.18	141	2
Klamath Falls	30	76	51	-7	20	-39	0.07	-0.07	2	0.07	-0.34	17	2
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	33	78	52	-6	27	-32	0.02	-0.12	1	0.03	-0.38	7	2
Lakeview	30	79	50	-6	25	-24	0.54	0.40	3	0.54	0.08	117	3
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	29	79	50	-8	14	-45	0.16	0.02	1	0.16	-0.25	39	1
Redmond	28	77	51	-6	14	-32	-	-0.07	-	0.34	0.00	100	1
Worden <sup>8</sup>	29	78	50	-8	15	-44	0.09	-0.05	2	0.11	-0.30	27	3
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	30	75	52	-4	17	-28	-	-0.14	-	0.27	-0.33	45	2
Joseph	34	74	49	-2	11	-15	0.01	-0.34	1	0.98	-0.03	97	4
La Grande	34	77	55	-4	37	-24	0.05	-0.16	1	0.06	-0.66	8	2
Union	34	78	56	+0	46	-2	-	-0.21	-	0.42	-0.41	51	1
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	46	76	59	-3	65	-15	0.66	0.52	2	0.67	0.21	146	3
Rome	32	79	55	-4	35	-26	1.20	1.06	6	1.25	0.79	272	8

<sup>1</sup> Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2007: 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, 2007.

<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.