

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: The last official week of summer was dominated by fall-like conditions with warm day time and cool night time temperatures. High temperatures ranged from 100 degrees in Medford, down to 64 degrees in North Bend. Low temperatures ranged from 54 degrees in Portland, down to 31 degrees in Agency Lake. Thirty out of the forty-three weather stations reported measurable precipitation. The eastern portions of the State received above average rainfall, while most other areas were still below normal. With the exception of the coastal areas, temperatures were again above average at most stations.

Field Crops: Warm and dry day time conditions prevailed most of the week, allowing third cutting of hay to continue and has progressed to 82 percent complete. Ground preparations for fall seeding also continued throughout the State. In north central Oregon, producers that already planted winter wheat stopped due to early emergence, while some fields at higher elevations continued to be planted. Others were waiting for cooler weather to seed in order to get better control on emerging grasses. Most field burning was complete in Marion County and new grass fields were beginning to show some green. Corn for silage was almost ready for harvest.

Vegetables: Sweet corn harvest for cannery processing was in full swing in the north Willamette Valley. Fall squash and pumpkins

were almost ready in Jackson County, while pumpkins in Marion County were already being harvested. Tomatoes, cucumbers, and other vegetables were also being harvested. Carrot seed was harvested in central Oregon.

Fruits and Nuts: Apples and pears continued to be picked. Bartlett pear harvest was complete in many areas and winter pear harvest was in full swing. Prune and plum harvest was at its peak. Blueberry plants were being trimmed. Hazelnuts were accumulating on orchard floors. Wine grape harvest was getting started in some areas, including Wasco and Douglas counties. Southern Oregon wine grapes were developing nicely but were not ready for harvest.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Greenhouses continued to get out fall vegetable and fall flower starts. Nurseries were still busy with stock upkeep. Christmas Trees were being marked in preparation for harvest in Marion County.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Dryland pasture and range were generally still in poor shape across the State. Irrigated pastures were fairing better. Livestock were doing well with many being fed supplement. Weaning of early spring calves has begun.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 09/21/08

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	40	38	21	1
Subsoil	39	40	21	0

Crop Progress-Week Ending 09/21/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, third cutting	82	75	99	86
Winter wheat planted	17	15	18	15
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.5	6.9	6.6	6.5

Crop Condition-Week Ending 09/21/08

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	0	0	27	58	15
Range and pasture	23	29	38	10	0

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Preparations for fall planting were underway. Vegetables, grass seed, and sugar beet seed crops were being planted. High input costs have growers questioning which inputs could be cut.

CLACKAMAS: It was another nice warm, dry week.

COOS/CURRY: Temperatures were slightly below the 5-year average for the week in both Coos and Curry counties, with traces of rainfall early in the week. The fall weather was becoming more apparent, but breezy conditions subsided for the week. Morning fog was prevalent close to the ocean and persisted inland some 15 to 20 miles. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 39.78 degrees, 4.92 degrees below the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 65.34 degrees, 3.45 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.2 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2003-2004) average of 1.14 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/07) stands at 51.69 inches, 5.89 inches below the 5 year average, and 8.7 inches below the historical average. Historical average precipitation through September is 60.4 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 47.82 degrees, 0.27 degrees below the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 65.11 degrees, 9.92 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.04 inches over 3 days, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2003-2004) average of 0.38 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/07) stands at 66.92 inches, 15.42 inches below the 5 year average, and 6.56 inches below the historical average. Historical average precipitation for Brookings area through September is 73.48 inches. Lots of fog and extensive dew has slowed the loss of moisture from pastures and were generally in very bad shape.

DOUGLAS: Fall rains have so far stayed away allowing wine grape growers to begin their harvest with good conditions. Grape harvest will be in full swing this week. The apple and pear harvests have also gone well so far. The Gala harvest was moving quickly at about 30 percent complete. The Bartlett pear harvest was 100 percent complete, and the Comice pear harvest was about 50 percent complete. The Anjou pear harvest will begin in about another week. Fall tree digging will begin for nursery in the balled and burlap category within the next two weeks.

JACKSON: There was still some hay being made. Ground preparation for fall crop planting was being done, but soil is really too dry for seeding. The pear and apple harvests continued. Vineyards were looking good, but most were not ready for harvest. Some warmer weather is still needed to get sugar leaves up more. There were still lots of vegetables being harvested. Fall squash and pumpkins were about ready. Greenhouses were busy getting out fall vegetable and fall flower starts out. Nurseries were still busy with stock upkeep. Valley pastures that have irrigation

were still doing well, so livestock on irrigated ground were looking good. It was somewhat cooler last week and we had hopes for some rain, but did not receive any. A good rain would be a big help about now. It is needed for fall pastures and for fall grain planting. Some early spring calves are being weaned now. It was a good week to get outside work done.

JOSEPHINE: It was a very nice week. Day time temperatures were in the 80's and night time temperatures were in the low 40's. It was generally dry but we did have two mornings with some slight dew. Our truck gardens did not appear to be doing as well as in the past. Corn was good later but early corn had poor pollination. Traffic was not as good either so sales were down. There was some rain Sunday night with heavy fog Monday morning. Grapes were doing well and filling out nicely. Livestock were all looking good where pastures were good.

MARION: The weather reminds us that fall is now upon us with warm days and cool nights. We had some overcast days and rainy spells last week. The vine maples were turning fall colors in the mountains. Some trees in the Willamette Valley were beginning to lose some leaves. All the summer harvests were, for the most part, pretty well wrapped up. Fields were being worked and new fields of grass were beginning to show some green. Most of the field burning is done. Pumpkins and other fall crops were being harvested. Christmas Trees were being marked for harvest.

POLK: It was warm during the week and still very dry. Fall farming continued.

TILLAMOOK: Cooler temperatures and some moisture have helped forage. It is beginning to feel like fall.

WASHINGTON: The high temperature was 90 degrees and the low was 47 degrees. Humidity ranged from 72 percent for the high and 47 percent for the low. Fall seeding has begun. Filberts were dropping and the caneberry harvest was coming to a close. An abundant apple crop is being reported. The red clover harvest has finished. Field corn was nearing the cutting stage for silage. Flailing and ground preparation for fall seeding was ongoing with some wheat already planted. Prunes were peaking, pears (including Asian) were ready, and Gravenstein apples were being picked. Blueberries were being trimmed. The sweet corn harvest for cannery processing was in full speed. Tomatoes and cucumbers were plentiful and other vegetables were being harvested. Irrigation continued and cover crops were processed. Livestock looked good with supplemental feeding being done.

YAMHILL: The apple harvest continued. Hazelnuts were accumulating on orchard floors, although the harvest will be later than normal this year.

EASTERN OREGON

GILLIAM: Light rain on Saturday settled the dust, but did not improve fall seeding conditions where moisture is needed.

GRANT: Hot, dry weather last week and moisture is needed.

HOOD RIVER: Warm dry weather early in the week gave way to cooler, showery conditions to end the week. The winter pear harvest was in full swing in the lower Hood River Valley and began in mid-valley orchards. Fruit growers in the upper valley prepared for the winter pear harvest.

LAKE: The majority of government permittees have come off of their allotments. Evening and morning temperatures were cooler last week.

MALHEUR: Harvest continued all through the week until Friday evening. Weather was warmer than normal and mostly clear until Friday evening when the heavy rains came down. It was the first rain in approximately 60 days. Total for the storm varied from 0.25 inches to 1.50 inches. Ontario and Payette had 1.00 inch and Caldull had the high of 1.50 inches. There was standing water in many fields and ditches. All field operation stopped and probably

won't resume until Tuesday or Wednesday.

MORROW: The area received significant rainfall Friday evening and Saturday.

SHERMAN: Many growers elected to seed early and there was some actually up. There was a small amount of moisture available and combined with warm (not hot) days and evenings, caused some wheat to shoot up. As a result, producers stopped seeding and other have not begun seeding in hopes of cooler weather and potential for getting a good kill on emerging grasses. As of Friday, 9/19, the area was still suffering from lack of rain.

WALLOWA: We received some good moisture on Saturday.

WASCO: It was a dry week in Wasco County. Wine grape picking was underway. Grain farmers continued to prepare for fall planting of winter wheat. A few fields were being planted at higher elevations. The pear and apple harvests were active all week. Alfalfa hay operations also continued. Cattle were still doing fairly well on dry pastures. Rain is still much needed.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: September 21, 2008 (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	48	79	57	-2	52	-4	0.21	-0.52	1	0.22	-1.67	12	2
Bandon ⁸	40	65	52	-6	20	-30	0.02	-0.40	2	0.03	-1.08	3	3
Crescent City	44	65	54	-5	33	-23	0.03	-0.40	3	0.03	-1.08	3	3
Florence	40	67	53	-7	23	-44	0.02	-0.59	1	0.02	-1.56	1	1
North Bend	45	64	54	-6	27	-32	-	-0.44	-	-	-1.17	-	-
Tillamook	41	81	57	-1	52	+1	0.24	-0.70	1	0.25	-2.21	10	2
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	49	90	63	+3	95	+19	-	-0.44	-	-	-1.20	-	-
Corvallis	45	89	61	-1	76	+0	0.02	-0.34	1	0.03	-0.96	3	2
Detroit Lake ⁸	45	91	63	+9	95	+52	0.13	-0.43	1	0.14	-1.35	9	2
Eugene	44	89	62	-1	83	-2	0.07	-0.35	1	0.07	-1.07	6	1
Hillsboro	44	90	62	+3	88	+18	0.12	-0.23	1	0.12	-0.89	12	1
McMinnville	44	92	62	+2	86	+10	0.02	-0.40	1	0.02	-1.06	2	1
Portland	54	89	65	+3	108	+20	0.35	-0.07	1	0.42	-0.80	34	2
Salem	50	89	63	+3	91	+16	0.13	-0.26	1	0.13	-0.90	13	1
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	47	97	69	+6	134	+36	-	-0.21	-	-	-0.56	-	-
Medford	50	100	71	+7	148	+46	-	-0.21	-	-	-0.60	-	-
Roseburg	48	95	67	+5	119	+29	-	-0.28	-	-	-0.79	-	-
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	45	91	66	+10	111	+63	0.11	-0.03	2	0.11	-0.43	20	2
Echo ⁸	40	90	65	+3	104	+20	0.04	-0.03	2	0.04	-0.30	12	2
Heppler	47	91	68	+9	128	+58	0.03	-0.18	1	0.03	-0.53	5	1
Hermiston	39	91	65	+4	106	+22	0.08	0.01	2	0.08	-0.26	24	2
Madras ⁸	45	93	64	+7	101	+42	0.03	-0.11	1	0.03	-0.39	7	1
Moro	44	89	65	+8	108	+49	0.16	0.02	1	0.16	-0.26	38	1
Parkdale ⁸	41	86	61	+2	78	+13	0.04	-0.24	2	0.04	-0.75	5	2
Pendleton	47	92	67	+5	118	+34	0.11	-0.03	2	0.11	-0.31	26	2
Prairie City ⁸	45	93	64	+7	101	+42	0.03	-0.11	1	0.03	-0.39	7	1
The Dalles	46	94	67	+9	118	+55	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.42	-	-
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	31	88	56	+3	49	+12	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.42	-	-
Bend	36	93	61	+7	81	+41	-	-0.09	-	-	-0.37	-	-
Burns	37	90	60	+7	76	+39	0.09	-0.05	1	0.09	-0.33	21	1
Christmas Valley ⁸	33	91	57	-2	53	-7	0.20	0.06	2	0.20	-0.20	50	2
Klamath Falls	36	90	59	+2	68	+8	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.37	-	-
Klamath Falls ⁸	35	90	60	+2	69	+9	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.37	-	-
Lakeview	34	89	58	+2	58	+7	0.01	-0.13	1	0.01	-0.41	2	1
Lorella ⁸	34	92	58	+0	59	-1	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.37	-	-
Redmond	37	97	63	+7	90	+42	0.11	0.04	1	0.11	-0.20	35	1
Worden ⁸	32	90	57	-2	54	-6	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.37	-	-
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	32	89	58	+3	57	+10	0.94	0.80	3	0.94	0.39	171	3
Joseph	42	84	63	+13	96	+68	1.14	0.79	2	1.14	0.22	124	2
La Grande	36	90	62	+4	86	+23	0.39	0.18	2	0.39	-0.26	60	2
Union	37	90	64	+8	98	+48	0.46	0.25	2	0.46	-0.30	61	2
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	40	89	64	+3	98	+15	1.01	0.87	2	1.01	0.59	240	2
Rome	38	90	63	+6	95	+32	0.53	0.39	2	0.53	0.11	126	2

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2008: 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, 2008.

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.