

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: Conditions were generally dry, and day time temperatures remained cool to moderate, while night time temperatures dropped to below freezing in many areas of the State. High temperatures ranged from 79 degrees in Medford, down to 62 degrees in Bandon. Low temperatures ranged from 41 degrees in Detroit Lake and Crescent City, down to 15 degrees in Union. Twenty-one of forty-three weather stations received measurable precipitation, with most reporting only a trace. The Astoria/Clatsop station received the most with 0.52 total inches, followed by Baker City with 0.31 total inches. With the exception of Baker City, and for the second straight week, the State received below normal precipitation.

Field Crops: Autumn has finally arrived, bringing with it cool weather conditions and beautiful fall colors. Farmers continued to plant winter wheat this past week, some in dry soils and others in more adequate soils. Statewide, winter wheat planting progressed to 67 percent complete, while emergence was reported at 10 percent complete. Some grasses were still being planted and some red clover was being prepared for harvest in the Willamette Valley. Sugarbeet harvest has begun in some eastern areas. Klamath County growers were waiting for their fourth cutting of hay to dry up for bailing.

Vegetables: Late fall vegetables, mainly pumpkins and squash, were overflowing at road side stands throughout the Willamette Valley this past week. The last of the vegetable crops were being harvested as fall has definitely arrived in the Valley. The cold

weather reportedly damaged some of the late-harvested sweet corn. There was a delayed harvest schedule that extended later than usual. The carrot seed harvest was finally completed in central Oregon.

Fruits and Nuts: The wine grape harvest was past its peak for many areas. With a late ripening year, some grape varieties have been slow to reach the desired sugar levels. Hazelnut harvest continued. Most, but not all, hazelnuts have fallen from the trees. This year's harvest is around 10 to 14 days later than normal. The winter pear harvest continued in the upper Hood River Valley, and the apple harvest continued throughout the Valley. Post-harvest orchard cleanup continued in many orchards. Southern Oregon apple and pear harvests should wrap up soon.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Fall plant sales were winding down, but greenhouses continued work on holiday foliage plants and poinsettias. They were saw dust mulching and preparing raised beds for new sets in Washington County. Nurseries were still selling some shrubs and potted plants.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Some pastures were greening up in Western Oregon with rain and some warm weather. Some cattle are still grazing grain stubble. Livestock were down from higher elevations. Weaning, marking, and vaccinations continued.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 10/19/08

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	14	32	52	2
Subsoil	25	40	35	0

Crop Progress-Week Ending 10/19/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat planted	67	54	80	73
Winter wheat emerged	10	5	49	38
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.5	5.7	4.3	5.9

Crop Condition-Week Ending 10/19/08

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range and pasture	14	27	40	18	1

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Fall has arrived here in the Willamette Valley. The days were much cooler and farmers were working hard to get ditches in the ground before fall rains come. Grass seed crops are now planted with farmers working on getting wheat in the ground. Road side stands were overflowing with the fall bounty.

CLACKAMAS: It was a nice, sunny, and dry week with some light sprinkles. There was some morning fog and frost, but mostly perfect autumn days with dazzling fall colors all around. Some of the first southbound flocks of geese could be seen. Farmers were busy seeding, spraying, and fertilizing. Soil moisture was perfect for planting. The hazelnut and wine grape harvests were well past their halfway points.

COOS/CURRY: Heavy dews with clear skies have kept pastures moist, but most pastures were too dry and soil temperatures were too cool to allow much forage growth. Low temperatures were well below the 5-year average for the week in Coos and slightly below average in Curry County for the week. There was some farming activity early in the week with the nicer weather including harvesting cranberries. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 39.81 degrees, 6.45 degrees below the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 62.37 degrees, 8.19 degrees below the 5-year average. A few sprinkles last week, but no significant rainfall. Precipitation for the period was 0.12 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2003-2004) average of 1.57 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/08) stands at 1.37 inches, 1.48 inches below the 5 year average, and 2.7 inches below the historical average. Historical average precipitation through October is 4.07 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 46.12 degrees, 1.23 degrees below the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 69.97 degrees, 3.31 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.02 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2003-2004) average of 2.38 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/08) stands at 0.67 inches, 1.2 inches below the 5 year average, and 4.55 inches below the historical average. Historical average precipitation for Brookings area through October is 5.22 inches.

DOUGLAS: Light rains fell last week for two days, but did not cause any serious problems for the grape, filbert, or late apple harvest. Most people have been able to collect crops on the nice days in between showers. It looks like the grape harvest is stretching out with some varieties slow to hit the ripeness levels desired. Growers still need to bring in about 35 percent of the wine grape crop.

JACKSON: There were still a few fields of hay being cut, but it is not good drying weather now. Some more fall grains were being planted. Grapes, apples, and pears were still being picked, but apples and pears will soon be finished. Only late fall vegetable crops were being harvested; mostly squash and pumpkins, but also some cabbages and broccolis. Greenhouses were mostly done with fall plants, but some still working on holiday green's and poinsettias. Nurseries were still selling some shrubs and some potted plants. Cattle are now mostly all down from higher ranges. Lots of weaning, shots, and marking were being done. Dry ground pastures were still not in very good condition. Last week was another rather dry week, but there was some night time dew. Temperatures have been a bit below normal. It was not too bad of a week for getting outside work done. We still need more rain.

JOSEPHINE: It was a dry week. Temperatures were moderate; the morning high was 30 and afternoon high was 80. There was dew in the mornings. Vineyards felt the killing frosts last week on some varieties. Producers were trying to save what they had. Time will tell, but it's a real shame we didn't get those last couple of weeks of sugaring weather. Truck gardens mostly had winter squash and pumpkins, along with some apples and pears. Winter crops were in the ground and had a good start. Grass was greening up.

MARION: Cold weather has damaged sweet corn. Fall weather continued, along with grass and grain plantings.

WASHINGTON: The high temperature was 67.5 degrees and the low was 32.5 degrees. Humidity ranged from 71 percent for the high and 40 percent for the low. There were two mornings of frost. Leaves were turning colors and beautifying the country side. Field corn was mostly in the silo. Patches of red clover for seed were being defoliated and ready for combine. Irrigation systems were ready for winter. Field conditioning for fall planting was being done. Filberts were being harvested with nearly perfect harvesting conditions. Grapes were past the peak of harvest; quality is very good. The last of the sweet corn was harvested, potatoes were in, and pumpkins were being put in bins and being sold. Greenhouses were saw dust mulching and preparing raised beds for new sets. Pastures were improving with the rain and the cold, followed by warm days and some warm nights.

YAMHILL: The hazelnut harvest continued. Most, but not all, of the nuts have fallen from the trees. This year's harvest is around 10 to 14 days later than normal.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: The sugarbeet harvest was underway.

CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON: The carrot seed harvest was finally completed.

GILLIAM: Growers were dusting in small grains in fields without adequate surface moisture.

HOOD RIVER: Mostly fair weather prevailed through the week. The winter pear harvest continued in the upper Hood River Valley, and the apple harvest continued throughout the Valley. Post-harvest orchard cleanup continued in many orchards throughout the Valley.

KLAMATH: Cooler night temperatures continued. The day time temperatures remained favorable. Fourth cutting of hay was still drying. Some late grain harvest continued. The potato and onion harvests also continued.

LAKE: The area did not receive any precipitation during the week or over the weekend, but experienced warmer day and night time temperatures.

MALHEUR: The potato harvest was finished, and onions were mostly finished. The sugarbeet harvest started. Conditions were clear, dry, and warmer than normal. It was ideal for harvest and fall field work.

MORROW: Temperatures fell below freezing three days last week.

SHERMAN: Conditions were getting drier again.

UMATILLA: Seeding conditions remained dry.

UNION: The potato seed harvest was complete and the sugarbeet harvest was still underway. Weather continued to remain dry as fall proceeds.

WASCO: Cool nights and warm days prevailed. Winds were very mild and foliage was turning fall colors in all agricultural areas. The Columbia Gorge is beautiful with all the fall colors. Fall grain planting continued all week. The fruit harvest was in the final cleanup stages. Cattle were grazing grain stubble fields.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: October 19, 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	35	66	52	+0	21	+1	0.52	-0.76	4	4.03	-1.97	67	18
Bandon ⁸	40	62	53	-2	21	-7	0.12	-0.78	3	1.65	-2.05	45	18
Crescent City	41	63	51	-5	12	-29	0.03	-1.04	3	1.89	-2.24	46	11
Florence	34	69	53	-2	23	-10	0.19	-1.13	1	4.36	-1.20	78	13
North Bend	39	63	53	-2	25	-10	0.16	-0.85	1	2.36	-1.70	58	11
Tillamook	32	68	53	+2	28	+7	0.05	-1.53	5	1.32	-6.24	17	22
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	33	69	52	+0	25	+5	0.03	-0.67	2	1.18	-2.31	34	12
Corvallis	31	68	52	-2	21	-2	0.02	-0.66	2	1.43	-1.64	47	16
Detroit Lake ⁸	41	70	55	+9	40	+30	0.05	-1.03	3	4.45	-0.27	94	16
Eugene	33	70	53	-1	31	+3	-	-0.73	-	1.56	-1.71	48	10
Hillsboro	29	69	52	+0	25	+6	0.04	-0.58	2	1.38	-1.59	46	13
McMinnville	28	69	52	-2	29	+5	0.05	-0.62	2	1.45	-1.85	44	14
Portland	39	70	54	-1	32	+1	0.01	-0.58	1	2.02	-1.13	64	14
Salem	33	69	53	+2	32	+12	0.02	-0.63	2	0.93	-2.14	30	12
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	29	73	54	-3	31	-10	-	-0.54	-	0.67	-1.43	32	7
Medford	33	79	57	+3	52	+16	0.01	-0.31	1	0.41	-1.20	25	7
Roseburg	38	72	56	+2	45	+6	-	-0.51	-	1.14	-1.13	50	7
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	26	73	50	+3	17	+9	-	-0.21	-	0.53	-0.70	43	7
Echo ⁸	27	74	52	+1	25	+7	0.01	-0.13	1	0.34	-0.39	47	5
Heppler	32	72	51	+0	22	+3	-	-0.21	-	0.52	-0.86	38	8
Hermiston	26	74	53	+3	32	+14	-	-0.14	-	0.30	-0.43	41	5
Madras ⁸	28	72	51	+3	19	+4	-	-0.14	-	0.36	-0.52	41	6
Moro	29	73	50	+3	16	+6	-	-0.14	-	0.53	-0.39	58	2
Parkdale ⁸	26	71	49	-2	13	-3	-	-0.48	-	1.63	-0.60	73	10
Pendleton	29	73	53	+2	31	+10	0.01	-0.20	1	0.40	-0.65	38	7
Prairie City ⁸	28	72	51	+3	19	+4	-	-0.14	-	0.36	-0.52	41	6
The Dalles	34	73	56	+7	46	+35	-	-0.17	-	0.46	-0.50	48	5
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	22	73	46	+2	2	-5	-	-0.31	-	0.58	-0.77	43	3
Bend	21	71	47	+1	8	+0	-	-0.14	-	0.63	-0.15	81	4
Burns	18	75	47	+3	4	+1	-	-0.14	-	0.73	-0.21	78	5
Christmas Valley ⁸	19	78	48	-2	3	-12	0.01	-0.20	1	0.52	-0.59	47	9
Klamath Falls	25	74	49	+0	5	-8	-	-0.24	-	0.41	-0.69	37	3
Klamath Falls ⁸	25	75	49	+1	4	-9	0.01	-0.23	1	0.44	-0.66	40	4
Lakeview	21	76	46	-2	4	-6	-	-0.28	-	0.60	-0.68	47	4
Lorella ⁸	21	77	47	-2	2	-11	-	-0.24	-	0.51	-0.59	46	2
Redmond	25	76	51	+3	17	+6	-	-0.14	-	0.91	0.25	138	5
Worden ⁸	20	76	47	-3	2	-11	-	-0.24	-	0.29	-0.81	26	3
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	20	69	44	-4	-	-7	0.31	0.17	4	1.51	0.40	136	15
Joseph	21	64	43	+1	-	+0	-	-0.42	-	1.42	-0.98	59	8
La Grande	21	71	49	+0	12	-1	0.08	-0.20	1	0.76	-0.88	46	8
Union	15	71	46	-2	7	-4	0.07	-0.14	1	1.40	-0.20	88	11
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	28	74	51	+2	17	+0	-	-0.14	-	1.40	0.55	165	4
Rome	21	77	50	+2	17	+5	-	-0.14	-	0.90	0.00	100	6

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.