

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

Released: November 3, 2008
Week ending: November 2, 2008
Volume: 31-08

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Weather: Conditions remained dry and windy to begin the week, but became cool and wet by weeks end. High temperatures ranged from 76 degrees in Medford and Lorella, down to 62 degrees in Crescent City. Low temperatures ranged from 43 degrees in the North Bend and Astoria/Clatsop stations, down to 20 degrees in Christmas Valley and Lorella. Of the forty-three stations reporting, only two did not receive measurable precipitation last week. The Florence station received the most with 1.99 total inches, followed by the Crescent City station with 1.67 total inches. Despite the wet conditions, most stations were still well below the weekly and cumulative season precipitation averages. Temperatures were also warmer than normal throughout much of the State.

Field Crops: This past week brought much needed rain across the State and farmers welcomed the moisture. However, the amount of precipitation received was still not enough for fall plantings in some north central areas. Statewide, winter wheat planting has progressed to 89 percent complete, slightly behind last year and the five year average. Winter wheat emergence progressed to 40 percent complete this past week.

Vegetables: For the most part, the vegetable harvest was nearly complete throughout the State. The first major period of rain for the Willamette Valley was received towards the end of last week, too late to help many of the fall vegetables. Sweet corn was finished in Washington County, while there was still some leftover squash being harvested. Truck gardens were cleaning up

their fields in Josephine County, marking the end of another season.

Fruits and Nuts: The hazelnut harvest was virtually complete by weeks end. Weather conditions held up until the latter part of the week. The wine grape harvest was also nearly complete; Wasco County reported that harvest was in its final stages. Harvest of late season apples and post-harvest orchard clean up continued throughout the Hood River Valley. Southern Oregon apples and pears kept packing houses busy.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries were preparing for colder weather, while continuing sales of some potted shrubs and trees. Greenhouses continued growing foliage and flowers for the holiday season. The Christmas tree harvest, which will be ongoing for the next eight weeks, will begin very soon in Washington and Marion counties.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: The moisture this past week may help pasture growth. Douglas County worries that their rain was too late and that weakened pasture may be vulnerable to a sharp freeze. Washington County reported improved forage production on their pastures. Fall calving and kidding was underway. Spring calves were being sent to auction. Producers were buying hay for winter feed.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 11/02/08

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	17	26	54	3
Subsoil	26	27	47	0

Crop Progress-Week Ending 11/02/08

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	89	86	90	90
Winter wheat emerged	40	36	58	61
Days suitable for fieldwork	5.8	6.9	6.7	-

Crop Condition-Week Ending 11/02/08

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	33	46	20	1
Range and pasture	17	20	37	25	1

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Rainy weather ushered the month of October out and November in. It was the first major rain period of the year for the South Willamette Valley and was welcomed by most producers who have finished fall planting.

CLACKAMAS: We had more nice fall days early in the week, but rain showers by the weekend.

COOS/CURRY: A little rain late in the week and over the weekend should help pastures. Soil temperatures were still warm enough to allow grass growth, if water wasn't so limiting. Low temperatures were slightly above the 5-year average for the week in Coos and Curry County. Producers were completing their farming activity early in the week with the nicer weather and preparing for winter. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 40.58 degrees, 3.09 degrees above the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 68.11 degrees, 2.22 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 1.18 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2003-2004) average of 0.46 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/08) stands at 2.57 inches, 2.25 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through October is 4.07 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): The low temperature for the period was 48.15 degrees, 5.21 degrees above the 5-year average. The high temperature for the period was 67.2 degrees, 4.42 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 1.75 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2003-2004) average of 0.38 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/08) stands at 5.37 inches, 0.14 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation for Brookings area through October is 5.22 inches.

DOUGLAS: A few light rains moved into the area at the end of the week. This rain is late for helping fall seeded cover crops, pastures, lawn, and winter vegetables. We will probably enter winter with weaker stands of wheat, pasture, and lawn that could be vulnerable to a sharp freeze. The positive side of our very dry October is that the wine grape harvest, which was late, finished last week with reports of very good quality grapes. Fall orchard spraying has gone very well too.

JACKSON: It was a good week for outdoor work. Some light rain showers moved in on Saturday, which was much needed. With irrigation systems now done for the season, pastures needed

the rain to put on any growth. Days were mostly in the 60 to 70 degree range, with nights in the low 40's and 30's. There was still some grain being planted, and still some ground preparation for planting being done. Stubble was also being mulched in. Fruit harvest was mostly completed and packing houses very busy. Some fall vegetables were still being harvested, but were mostly done for this season. Greenhouses were still growing items for the holiday season. Nurseries were getting ready for colder weather, but still selling some potted shrubs and trees. Most all cattle are now on valley pastures. Some fall calves were born last week. Most all livestock were looking quite good. Overall, it was a good week to get fall work done.

JOSEPHINE: The area received rain on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, with snow in higher elevations for a total of 1.5 inches of precipitation for the week. It was a very gentle storm, with a little wind and steady rain. Truck gardens have been cleaning up fields. Grass hay fields were being limed last week in some areas.

MARION: The first half of the week brought clear skies and sunny days excellent for fall field work. Toward the end of the week the rains set in and with that we get mud and a rapid slowdown in field work. Some earlier planted grass seed fields were showing rows and looking good. Hopefully they will get a good soil-stabilizing cover established before heavy rains come. Grain planting continued. The Christmas tree harvest is the big harvest activity that will be ongoing for the next eight weeks.

WASHINGTON: The high temperature last week was 66.9 degrees and the low was 37.8 degrees with 1.25 total precipitation. Humidity ranged between 82 and 51 percent. Field preparations continued for spring planting. The last of the red clover was combined and cover crops were showing. Squash was being harvested and sweet corn was done. The sunny, dry, October appears to have produced an excellent wine grape crop. The hazelnut harvest was winding down, while walnuts were dropping. Christmas tree growers were gearing up for harvest. Pastures were producing better forage.

YAMHILL: The hazelnut harvest was, for the most part, completed by the end of last week. Conditions had been favorable, but a rainy period began toward the end of the week, which may have slowed the harvest for some.

EASTERN OREGON

GILLIAM: The area received light rain beginning Thursday, which will hopefully improve very dry fall seeding conditions.

GRANT: The area was in need of moisture.

HOOD RIVER: It was mostly fair weather during the week, with rain over the weekend. Harvest of late season apples and post-harvest orchard clean up continued throughout the Hood River Valley.

LAKE: The area received a substantial amount of precipitation over the weekend.

MALHEUR: Malheur County got a fair amount of rain this past weekend.

MORROW: The area received rain on Saturday and Sunday.

SHERMAN: Some south end grain planted a month ago has not sprouted due to lack of moisture. Fields planted early are looking fair, but will need a good rain soon. Short showers over the weekend didn't change the outlook too much; it was still short on moisture. It was a quiet week as many took off for first season elk camping.

UNION: The soil profile was still fairly dry and needs fall precipitation prior to ground freeze to improve moisture.

WALLOWA: Conditions were cool and wet over the weekend.

WASCO: Fall weather prevailed with warm days and cold nights. The trees were very colorful with their many colors. Top soil moisture was improving slowly. All of the fall wheat crop was planted. Orchard activities were nonexistent, while the wine grape harvest was in its final stages. Spring calves continued to be sold through auctions. Hay sales for winter feed supplies were active.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: November 2, 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	43	65	56	+7	43	+33	0.68	-1.19	3	5.09	-4.32	54	24
Bandon ⁸	41	68	55	+4	37	+16	1.18	-0.41	4	2.85	-3.64	44	24
Crescent City	42	62	53	-1	25	-3	1.67	-0.19	6	3.67	-3.74	50	18
Florence	40	63	53	+2	22	+3	1.99	-0.07	3	6.56	-2.71	71	18
North Bend	43	70	55	+3	38	+15	1.24	-0.51	3	3.66	-3.50	51	15
Tillamook	41	64	56	+7	43	+32	0.21	-2.17	3	1.53	-10.34	13	25
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	38	71	53	+5	22	+15	0.53	-0.55	3	1.93	-3.51	35	17
Corvallis	36	69	52	+4	20	+11	0.58	-0.57	3	2.14	-2.97	42	21
Detroit Lake ⁸	39	69	53	+11	23	+22	1.08	-0.74	4	6.11	-1.84	77	21
Eugene	35	68	52	+3	18	+4	0.70	-0.68	3	2.35	-3.32	41	15
Hillsboro	34	70	51	+3	15	+8	0.76	-0.24	3	2.28	-2.47	48	18
McMinnville	37	71	52	+4	25	+14	0.68	-0.46	3	2.27	-3.06	43	19
Portland	39	67	54	+5	28	+14	0.42	-0.49	3	2.54	-2.24	53	18
Salem	37	69	52	+4	21	+14	0.62	-0.46	3	1.63	-3.36	33	16
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	35	75	55	+6	40	+21	0.63	-0.29	3	1.30	-2.42	35	10
Medford	35	76	58	+10	58	+44	0.31	-0.24	2	0.72	-1.86	28	9
Roseburg	42	71	57	+6	48	+29	0.45	-0.50	3	1.61	-2.30	41	11
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	31	74	50	+9	18	+17	0.11	-0.23	3	0.64	-1.21	35	10
Echo ⁸	25	63	46	-2	4	-3	0.10	-0.11	1	0.43	-0.68	39	5
Heppner	32	68	50	+4	11	+4	0.10	-0.22	2	0.62	-1.35	31	10
Hermiston	25	63	46	+0	8	+1	0.08	-0.13	3	0.38	-0.73	34	8
Madras ⁸	28	68	50	+7	13	+6	0.24	-0.01	3	0.60	-0.72	45	9
Moro	30	66	48	+5	4	+3	0.24	-0.03	1	0.81	-0.58	58	4
Parkdale ⁸	29	66	47	+1	2	-5	0.41	-0.42	3	2.67	-1.02	72	15
Pendleton	28	65	49	+3	12	+5	0.10	-0.18	3	0.50	-1.06	32	10
Prairie City ⁸	28	68	50	+7	13	+6	0.24	-0.01	3	0.60	-0.72	45	9
The Dalles	31	65	49	+5	10	+3	0.41	0.12	2	0.93	-0.54	63	8
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	22	68	46	+6	2	+2	0.37	-0.07	3	0.95	-1.21	44	6
Bend	28	72	51	+10	17	+17	-	-0.25	-	0.63	-0.59	52	4
Burns	21	71	48	+9	6	+6	0.27	0.03	2	1.00	-0.38	72	7
Christmas Valley ⁸	20	74	48	+5	9	+4	-	-0.30	-	0.52	-1.16	31	9
Klamath Falls	25	70	49	+7	8	+6	0.39	0.03	3	0.80	-0.95	46	6
Klamath Falls ⁸	26	71	49	+6	7	+5	0.20	-0.16	2	0.64	-1.11	37	6
Lakeview	25	71	48	+6	-	+0	0.23	-0.16	4	0.83	-1.16	42	8
Lorella ⁸	20	76	48	+6	3	+1	0.34	-0.02	2	0.85	-0.90	49	4
Redmond	25	74	52	+9	20	+18	0.02	-0.19	2	0.93	-0.09	91	7
Worden ⁸	22	72	48	+6	5	+3	0.17	-0.19	2	0.46	-1.29	26	5
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	21	69	48	+8	8	+8	0.01	-0.17	1	1.55	0.12	108	19
Joseph	34	70	51	+14	14	+14	0.01	-0.54	1	1.51	-1.91	44	10
La Grande	25	72	51	+9	16	+9	0.08	-0.32	1	0.87	-1.52	36	10
Union	25	73	50	+8	11	+6	0.17	-0.11	2	1.53	-0.59	72	13
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	26	67	50	+5	11	+7	0.11	-0.10	2	1.51	0.30	125	6
Rome	26	74	52	+9	19	+18	0.20	0.06	2	1.11	-0.07	94	9

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.