

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Phone: 503-326-2131
Toll Free: 1-800-338-2157
Email: nass-or@nass.usda.gov
Internet: www.nass.usda.gov/or

Weather: Unseasonably low temperatures prevailed across the State. Twenty-five out of forty-three stations reported temperatures below freezing. Willamette Valley and Coastal areas remained above freezing for the most part, while much of the rest of Oregon received frost. High temperatures ranged from 75 degrees in The Dalles, down to 53 degrees in Joseph. Low temperatures ranged from 12 degrees in Lakeview up to 41 degrees in Portland. Twenty stations reported more than 2 days of rain, but twenty-two stations remain more than an inch behind normal cumulative precipitation for this time of year. Clackamas and Yamhill counties reported seeing snow down to 1,000 feet. Wind hindered field activities.

Field Crops: Cold weather and excess moisture hindered some wheat fields in the Willamette Valley. Where fields were dry enough, farmers were spraying and tilling, although Wasco and Umatilla counties reported that high winds limited spraying. Many areas experienced frost at night, which may prove damaging to cereal crops. Rust disease was present on Marion County grain crops. Alfalfa and red clover neared the cutting stage in Washington County, while hay cutting began in Malheur. Klamath County farmers were still uncertain of irrigation potential through the season.

Vegetables: Sweet corn planning continued. Weather limited field work.

Fruits and Nuts: Hazelnut orchard maintenance continued with flail mowing and spraying for Eastern Filbert Blight. Blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, and apples continued to bloom while peaches, pears, and cherries looked good in areas. Good grape growth was seen.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries were busy with spring plants. Ornamental plants were blooming. New plants went into the ground, while Arborvitae and small shrubs continued to be shipped. Spring vegetables and decorative plant starts continued to keep greenhouses busy.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Livestock were looking good and most were on spring pastures. Growth in Western Oregon was still slow due to cooler temperatures. Coos and Curry counties reported bottom pastures that were stilling under standing water from heavy rainfalls earlier in the week. Wasco County reported brown areas on some shallow rangeland.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 05/09/10

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	1	6	76	17
Subsoil	1	14	70	15

Crop Progress - Week Ending 05/09/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley planted	91	86	93	92
Barley emerged	77	69	75	72
Spring wheat planted	96	94	97	96
Spring wheat emerged	86	76	78	78
Days suitable for fieldwork	4.7	3.9	3.8	5.3

Crop Condition - Week Ending 05/09/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Winter wheat	0	4	31	49	16
Range and pasture	0	5	19	62	14

Western Oregon

CLACKAMAS: Heavy rain, wind, some hail, and cold temperatures early in the week gave way to warmer temperatures by the weekend. Snow was seen down to 1000 feet. There was a lot of vegetative growth in all grass and cereal crops. Ornamentals were blooming.

COOS/CURRY: Low temperatures were over 4 degrees below the 5-year average in Bandon (Coos County) and nearly 5 degrees below the 5-year average in southern Curry. High temperatures through the week were nearly 5 degrees below the 5-year average in Coos and over 11 degrees below the 5-year average in southern Curry. Both Coos and Curry counties experienced fairly heavy rainfall the first part of the week. The drier weather from midweek through the weekend was much needed, and helped to drop the water levels in streams and rivers back to more normal levels. A lot of bottom pastures remain under standing water. Very late in the season for this much standing water. Bandon (Coos and Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 36.02 degrees, 4.32 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 57.66 degrees, 4.98 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.75 inches, 0.3 inches above the 5-year (including drought in 2005) average for the week. Precipitation for the Current weather year (began 10/09) stands at 51.22 inches, 1.63 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation October through May is 55.97 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 39.15 degrees, 4.96 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 64.12 degrees, 11.22 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.3 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought in 2005) average of 1.36 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/08) stands at 72.29 inches, 1.28 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation October through May is 68.15 inches.

DOUGLAS: A drier pattern allowed some limited field work. There was some tillage going on and a good opportunity for fungicide sprays. Conditions turned cool and damp, pushing farmers out of fields. Weather this spring has been conducive to fungal growth in tree fruit, grapes, berry crops and ornamentals.

HOOD RIVER: The week started with cool wet weather conditions and then ended with warmer and drier weather. For most of the week persistent wind prevented post bloom spray applications. Minimum temperatures dipped into critical ranges for developing flowers and fruit on May 7 with widespread frost protection. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: Red Delicious apple were at post bloom (WSU stage 9); Pinot noir grape were at Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 9.

JACKSON: There were below normal temperatures four days and nights last week and limited field planting with damp soils.

Wind machines and orchard heaters were busy during the week with several days of frost or near frost conditions. Grain and hay crops were doing well. Greenhouses continued to be busy with spring vegetables and decorative plant starts. Nurseries were busy with spring plants.

JOSEPHINE: Daytime temperatures were in the 50's with one day in the 60's. There was frost 3 days with nighttime temperatures in upper 20's. Grapes were not affected in some places but in open areas they were. Wind and cold temperatures have limited bees in fields. Flowers were blooming. Field work was preparing for truck gardens. Strawberries continued to bloom.

LANE: Colder weather conditions slowed field work as well as plant growth. There were wet soils but they were drying slowly. Maintenance of hazelnut orchards continued with flail mowing and spraying for Eastern Filbert Blight (EFB). Apples still continue to bloom. Peaches and pears looked good. Cherries looked good with some frozen out. Blueberries and raspberries continued to bloom. There was excellent growth for grapes. Farmers markets were still slow.

LINN/BENTON/LINCOLN: Field work continued in dryer fields, but many were disrupted by rain showers. Some wheat fields have suffered from too much moisture.

WASHINGTON: The low temperature was 32.0 degrees and the high temperature was 66.6 degrees. There were some light and short showers. Crimson clover continued to bloom. Winter wheat showed flag leaf and high water damage. Alfalfa and red clover were nearing cutting stage. Wine grapes continued to grow rapidly with longer days and warmer weather. There were some early strawberries at Saturday markets. Sweet corn and field corn plantings continued. Nursery plants were going in ground as were home gardens. Digging and shipping of Arborvitae and small shrubs continued. Cattle and calves on pasture and continued to look good.

MARION: Frequent rain and hail showers limited field spraying for wheat and grasses. Rust disease was present on grain crops.

YAMHILL: There were blustery conditions and snow levels down to 1000 feet during the beginning of last week. Temperatures were still to the mid 50's degrees Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday saw an increase in temperature in the mid 60's low 70's. Farmers were spraying grass fields and tilling continued. Crimson clover and blueberries were blooming. Bees were starting to move into fields. Red clover silage trucks were on the road this weekend. Winter wheat fields were up 18-20 inches.

Eastern Oregon

GILLIAM: A storm front over Sunday night brought steady precipitation to the area, with rain continuing to fall Monday morning.

GRANT: A spring snow storm was experienced last week. Most cows were turned out into the spring pastures.

HARNEY: Cool, windy conditions prevailed last week limiting spraying operations. Cool daytime and nighttime temperatures limited alfalfa and pasture growth. No precipitation was received throughout most of the County. Total precipitation has been 87 percent of average since October 1.

KLAMATH: There were cool daytime high temperatures and freezing night time temperatures. Some grain crops were damaged because of the frost. The Bureau of Reclamation announced an operations plan for 2010, however the start date for irrigation water deliveries was still unknown. It is possible that once water deliveries begin that it may be stopped during the year. Spring preparation work continued.

LAKE: There was snow and rain last weekend.

MALHEUR: The first of the week had high temperatures around 70 degrees, followed by below average temperatures, and ended with average temperatures around 60 to 65 degrees. Conditions were dry. A hail storm came through parts of northern Malheur County; no major crop damage was reported. Hay cutting began.

MORROW: High winds prevailed last week.

SHERMAN: Cereal rye and wheat were heading. April rain levels were at a 1.25 inches over the crop year average.

UMATILLA: High winds and cold temperatures prevailed at the beginning of the week. There was damage to some row crops. Frosts may have future impact on cereal crops.

UNION/BAKER: Temperatures were below freezing two nights last weekend, and spring snow fell midweek in some parts of Union County. Snow slowed potato plantings for a couple days. Most livestock was turned out into spring pastures. Grass growth was slowed with cool weather.

WALLOWA: Good moisture was received on Wednesday (snow and rain), which helped all crops.

WASCO: Wind prevailed the first five days of the week, and then turned to summer weather the last two days. Strong winds limited amount of time spent weed spraying. Field tillage, spring seeding and fertilization continued. The winter wheat crop looked very good. Crop prospects looked good at this point. Alfalfa fields were growing rapidly. Annual pasture grasses were looking fine. Range land was starting to show brown areas where there was shallow ground. Livestock were doing well on the lush grasses. Grape vineyards were turning green.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: May 9, 2010 (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	36	64	49	-3	2	-12	1.58	0.83	3	68.38	8.90	115	153
Bandon ⁸	36	58	49	-3	7	-7	0.75	0.04	3	52.31	-1.88	97	169
Crescent City	36	57	48	-4	4	-18	0.20	-0.56	2	56.49	-4.08	93	137
Florence	35	63	48	-4	3	-12	0.87	-0.05	3	75.15	5.85	108	142
North Bend	36	57	49	-4	8	-12	0.53	-0.22	2	51.37	-7.00	88	137
Tillamook	36	64	49	-2	4	-5	1.02	-0.05	4	56.65	-22.36	72	148
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	37	69	50	-4	15	-13	0.58	0.06	3	36.42	0.18	100	142
Corvallis	33	67	48	-5	7	-18	0.36	-0.13	3	37.08	-1.68	96	157
Detroit Lake ⁸	33	66	46	-2	3	-4	2.22	1.41	5	73.29	12.40	120	149
Eugene	32	68	50	-5	13	-18	0.31	-0.22	4	34.19	-10.69	76	128
Hillsboro	32	69	48	-5	8	-20	0.41	0.02	3	31.05	-2.41	93	131
McMinnville	31	67	49	-6	8	-23	0.40	-0.07	3	24.35	-15.32	61	115
Portland	41	71	52	-4	21	-16	0.57	0.08	4	28.04	-3.63	89	150
Salem	36	69	50	-3	14	-9	0.45	0.03	3	37.71	2.53	107	134
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	32	73	51	-6	19	-31	-	-0.28	-	25.23	-3.76	87	122
Medford	31	72	53	-4	28	-15	0.08	-0.18	1	12.66	-4.18	75	85
Roseburg	35	71	53	-3	23	-16	0.13	-0.25	2	27.53	-2.32	92	131
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	28	62	44	-6	1	-11	0.09	-0.19	3	12.32	1.30	112	92
Echo ⁸	30	70	50	-7	7	-43	0.02	-0.13	2	6.65	-0.80	89	79
Heppner	30	63	47	-7	4	-24	0.02	-0.32	2	7.90	-3.05	72	73
Hermiston	31	71	51	-7	17	-33	0.06	-0.09	2	6.88	-0.57	92	66
Madras ⁸	27	65	44	-9	-	-23	0.13	-0.01	2	7.94	-0.13	98	92
Moro	30	65	45	-7	-	-18	0.15	0.01	4	11.48	2.32	125	82
Parkdale ⁸	32	67	45	-9	-	-31	0.75	0.53	4	33.24	4.60	116	138
Pendleton	32	67	49	-8	10	-31	0.15	-0.10	3	9.43	-0.41	96	79
Prairie City ⁸	27	65	44	-9	-	-23	0.13	-0.01	2	7.94	-0.13	98	92
The Dalles	35	75	54	+3	30	+7	0.05	-0.09	2	10.55	-0.07	99	89
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	18	59	40	-7	-	-7	-	-0.21	-	9.21	-4.35	68	79
Bend	23	62	42	-7	-	-7	-	-0.14	-	8.64	-0.54	94	33
Burns	19	62	42	-7	3	-11	0.01	-0.20	1	8.53	1.17	116	84
Christmas Valley ⁸	15	61	40	-12	-	-21	0.12	-0.09	2	4.69	-4.88	49	77
Klamath Falls	18	64	42	-8	-	-16	0.06	-0.09	2	5.60	-5.59	50	71
Klamath Falls ⁸	17	63	42	-9	-	-16	0.08	-0.07	3	6.57	-4.62	59	84
Lakeview	12	60	38	-11	-	-14	0.58	0.30	2	8.28	-4.22	66	91
Lorella ⁸	13	63	41	-10	-	-16	0.30	0.15	2	7.25	-3.94	65	81
Redmond	24	65	45	-5	5	-8	0.04	-0.10	1	5.53	-0.78	88	61
Worden ⁸	20	62	42	-9	-	-16	0.12	-0.03	1	6.22	-4.97	56	71
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	22	60	40	-11	-	-14	0.22	-0.02	1	6.43	-0.58	92	74
Joseph	21	53	37	-9	-	+0	0.74	0.32	3	10.09	-9.59	51	75
La Grande	28	63	44	-8	3	-18	0.27	-0.08	3	7.96	-5.40	60	72
Union	27	62	43	-8	1	-13	0.49	0.14	4	9.99	0.51	105	70
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	28	73	49	-8	17	-37	0.03	-0.11	1	7.83	0.06	101	71
Rome	16	71	44	-10	6	-22	0.06	-0.15	1	6.69	0.95	117	60

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2010: 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, 2009.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.