

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: It was a cool rainy week across most of the State with all but one of forty-three stations reporting measurable precipitation. Nearly half had at least an inch of precipitation, and thirty stations had at least four days of rainfall. High temperatures ranged from 83 degrees in Grants Pass, down to 58 in Florence. Low temperatures ranged from 20 degrees in Christmas Valley up to 45 degrees in Tillamook. As usual, the coastal areas had a short range of temperatures, while high elevation parts of central Oregon had a relatively wide range of temperatures. Nineteen stations fell below freezing, while four stations reported temperatures exceeding 80 degrees. All but two stations reported cooler than average temperatures.

Field Crops: Rain and cold temperatures increased disease pressure and kept field work at a minimum. Cool temperatures slowed crop growth. Weather conditions kept some ready to harvest hay from being cut until the next dry spell. Crimson clover was in full bloom, and growers had cut Red Clover. Potatoes were mostly planted in Baker and Union counties. Planting of many spring crops was delayed.

Vegetables: The cool, wet weather conditions of last week kept most vegetable growers out of their fields. Truck gardeners in Josephine County were behind with plowing and planting. Jackson County

growers were able to plant early sweet corn however. Lettuce, broccoli, and cauliflower were all progressing nicely.

Fruits and Nuts: Cool, damp weather seemed to continue to hamper some small fruit growth. In Douglas County, reports indicated that tree fruits and grapes fell behind about two weeks, and the northern part of Yamhill County reported cherry and prune losses from the frost. Raspberries, blackberries, cherries and apples had some fruit emerging. Rainfall often prevented spraying. Growers irrigated young cherry trees in Wasco County. Commercial strawberries were blooming and berries were forming in Washington County.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries continued to ball and burlap shrubs and trees. Greenhouses were stocking outlets with garden stocks. Nurseries were still busy moving out plants and shrubs.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Livestock across the State continued to do well on ranges and pastures. Pasture conditions in western counties continued to improve. Standing water remained in bottom pastures in Coos/Curry counties. Grant and Klamath counties reported that pastures growth was slowed by the cold weather. Pastures in Lake County were looking good. Wasco County reported browning of forage grasses with range land maturing rapidly.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 05/23/10

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	1	4	72	23
Subsoil	0	10	71	19

Crop Progress - Week Ending 05/23/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, first cutting	18	-	13	-
Barley planted	95	93	100	98
Barley emerged	85	79	91	87
Spring wheat emerged	97	93	95	94
Days suitable for fieldwork	3.7	5.6	6.8	5.8

Crop Condition - Week Ending 05/23/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	1	6	28	56	9
Spring wheat	0	6	27	59	8
Barley	0	4	16	69	11
Range and pasture	1	3	19	62	15

Western Oregon

BENTON/LINN: The temperatures for May continue to be cooler than average. Farmers were reporting striped rust showing up in the Orchard grass and wheat crops. Farmers were having a hard time getting into the fields to finish some of the needed replanting.

CLACKAMAS: It was another excessively wet week, and cold too. Most locations picked up two inches of rain or more. Attempts to plant were foiled by rain midday on Monday, and it was wet all week after that. Sweet corn, green beans, red clover, and barley plantings were waiting.

COLUMBIA: Weather was very cool and wet this past week. Small fruit, nursery, and field crop diseases were increasing. Planting of some spring crops was delayed. Pasture conditions were improving.

COOS/CURRY: Low temperatures were 3 to 5 degrees below the 5-year average in Bandon (Coos County) and Brookings in southern Curry. High temperatures through the week were over 12 degrees below the 5-year average in southern Curry and 2 or more degrees below the 5-year average in Coos. Both Coos and Curry counties experienced cloudy, wet conditions most of the week. The rainfall kept water levels in streams and rivers above normal levels – and left standing water in many of the bottom pastures. Most livestock operations have had to delay or limit turn-out on the bottoms due to the standing water and lack of feed growth. Bandon (Coos and Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 41.21 degrees, 3.12 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 62.69 degrees, 2.05 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 1.82 inches, 1.35 inches above the 5-year (including drought in 2005) average for the week. Precipitation for the Current weather year (began 10/09) stands at 54.12 inches, 2.42 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 40.58 degrees, 4.88 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 58.18 degrees, 12.42 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 2.06 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought in 2005) average of 0.95 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/08) stands at 75.74 inches, 1.11 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation October through May is 68.15 inches.

DOUGLAS: Wet, cool weather returned in the last half of the week, shutting down field activities. Crop progression slowed without warmth. Tree fruit and grapes fell behind by about two weeks. Field grain crops have begun to lodge this year. The quality of grains and hay crops could suffer if this pattern continues.

JACKSON: It was a much cooler and damp week. There were scattered and sporadic amounts of precipitation experienced during the week, but probably not enough to prevent field work for continuing. Rainfall was not heavy, but helped keep the ground wet and aided growth. Some field irrigation was done, but little was needed yet with the rains. It was a good week to catch up on maintenance activity. Fall planted grain crops looked good, as did pastures. Grass hay was ready to be cut but the threat of showers kept the first cutting at bay. High elevation ranges saw some snow that melted off quickly. Some days and nights have been a bit too cold. There was some spraying on orchards, but most days were a bit too

damp. Vineyards were starting to get new growth for the year. There was a lot of vegetable gardening activity as weather permitted. Early sweet corn was being planted. Greenhouses were stocking outlets with garden stocks. Nurseries were still busy moving out potted plants and shrubs. Lots of cattle and sheep were on valley pastures with a good crop of new babies and even quite a few new foals.

JOSEPHINE: Overnight temperatures ranged from 30-42 degrees, while daytime temperatures ranged from 45-60 degrees. It was cooler than normal for this time of year. There were 2 inches of precipitation. Field work was minimal due to rain. Truck gardeners were way behind with plowing and planting. Irrigation systems will start later this year. Nursery sales were slow due to the weather. It was good weather for planting: no heat in the sun. Overcast, cool conditions were good for transplanting where soil was worked. Lettuce, broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower were coming along nicely. There was not a lot livestock action around. There were a lot of goats with kids. Some cows had calves but fewer than usual with the current economic conditions. Hogs and chickens were about it.

LANE: Lots of rain fell, stopping field work. It was back to being cold with morning temperatures around 40-45 degrees. There was cedar apple rust on apples. Pollination was not consistent around the County. Grapes were leafing out. Blueberries were nearing the end of a long bloom. The strawberry crop was growing very slowly.

LINCOLN: It rained all week with cool temperatures.

MARION: It was a very wet week. Farmers were in their fields only one day. They had a hard time getting into the fields to spray for rust. Grasses were one week behind.

WASHINGTON: There were reports of disease issues for all crops due to wet weather. Winter wheat was fully headed and looking good for the majority of fields, but some were yellowing from wet soil. Crimson clover was in full bloom, and red clover was cut for silage or flailed. Clover was two weeks behind. Bees were pollinating over the weekend. Isolated hail storms were experienced throughout the County. Commercial strawberries were blooming and berries were forming. Farmers had a tough time getting plantings in the ground with cold and wet weather. Some beans were coming up. Nurseries continued to ball and burlap shrubs and small trees. Calves, both bovine and buffalo, were doing well. The high temperature was 57.7 degrees, and the low 37.2 degrees. It was humid with 2.75 inches of rain.

YAMHILL: The weather became cool, blustery and rainy again. Rainfall prevented orchard spraying and continued to make disease problems worse. Sunday was the driest day of the week. Crimson clover, raspberries, blackberries and wild roses were blooming and the cherry and apple trees had small fruit emerging. There were reports that apples pollinated very well; in the north end of County there were reports of cherry and prune losses from frost and cold, damp weather during pollination. Winter wheat was heading out. The first cuttings of hay should start with the next dry spell. More farmers' markets had strawberries and local fresh vegetables; McMinnville's farmers' market opens next week. Farmers were getting very inventive with planting decisions this year during interesting economic times.

Eastern Oregon

GRANT: It was a wet, cool week. Pastures were looking fair, but grass growth was slowed by the cold weather.

HOOD RIVER: The week began with warm temperatures and ended much colder. Minimum temperatures stayed above critical ranges for developing flowers and fruit. Post-bloom fruit drop began on d'Anjou pears. Pinot noir grapes were at Eichhorn-Lorenz stages 10 to 12.

KLAMATH: Isolated rain showers moved across the County in an unseasonably cold week. Freezing night time temperatures caused damage to some young grain crops. Growth was slow for pasture and other crops. Irrigation water was available this past week to those with wells and to project irrigators with A or B lands, so there was a mixture of high and low productivity in the County at this point.

LAKE: The County received snow and rain throughout the week. Pastures looked good.

MALHEUR: The week began with above-average high temperatures and ended cold with below-average high temperatures and frost at night. The cold front brought windy storms and rain from 0.25 inches to 1 inch along with snow in higher elevations. Rain delayed the first cutting of hay in some areas. There were no reports

of damage yet, but most crops need warmer weather.

SHERMAN: A couple of storms passed through this week, dropping moisture of widely varying quantity, intensity and density.

UMATILLA: Recent rains and below normal temperatures helped keep grain crops in good condition, but problems with stripe rust were becoming an issue. The disease looks more severe than last year, but probably less severe than in 2005.

UNION/BAKER: Cold weather continued to impede pasture/range growth. Pastures looked decent. The week had lots of wind and rain and two nights below freezing. Some blown out grass seed fields were being reseeded for the third time. Almost all potatoes were planted. Wheat and barley started to emerge.

WALLOWA: Moisture was received during the week but winds and cooler weather hurt growing conditions.

WASCO: Windy, cool weather prevailed through week. Some rain fell early in week. Winter wheat was looking good. A few northern fields were starting to head out. Range land was maturing rapidly. Forage grasses were turning brown. Cattle and sheep were doing well on ranges and pastures. Alfalfa was nearly ready for swathing. Irrigation was going on both hay ground and young cherry trees.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: May 23, 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	43	61	52	-2	18	-3	1.34	0.71	6	70.03	9.23	115	160
Bandon ⁸	41	63	51	-2	15	-5	1.82	1.23	6	55.21	-0.21	100	177
Crescent City	41	60	52	-3	15	-13	1.24	0.60	4	58.23	-3.68	94	142
Florence	37	58	50	-4	11	-14	3.54	2.71	7	79.57	8.56	112	151
North Bend	39	61	51	-4	16	-12	1.75	1.14	6	53.82	-5.84	90	145
Tillamook	45	64	53	+1	22	+5	2.28	1.30	6	59.11	-21.91	73	155
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	40	71	53	-4	29	-12	2.64	2.15	7	39.31	2.09	106	150
Corvallis	38	69	52	-5	20	-17	1.38	0.96	7	38.69	-0.93	98	166
Detroit Lake ⁸	36	74	49	-3	17	+0	2.83	2.10	7	76.36	13.97	122	160
Eugene	36	70	52	-5	23	-22	1.61	1.12	6	36.02	-9.84	79	136
Hillsboro	38	74	54	-3	31	-9	1.68	1.33	7	32.83	-1.33	96	139
McMinnville	39	73	53	-5	26	-18	1.39	0.97	7	25.90	-14.61	64	123
Portland	44	75	55	-4	33	-21	2.15	1.69	7	30.39	-2.23	93	159
Salem	41	74	53	-3	30	-8	2.28	1.86	7	40.09	4.07	111	142
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	36	83	54	-7	39	-29	0.60	0.33	6	26.29	-3.25	89	131
Medford	36	70	52	-7	26	-36	0.47	0.26	6	13.20	-4.06	76	92
Roseburg	40	67	53	-6	29	-24	1.54	1.22	7	29.47	-1.05	97	139
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	30	78	51	-2	25	+2	1.47	1.21	3	14.50	2.96	126	97
Echo ⁸	36	80	56	-4	48	-23	0.46	0.32	5	7.16	-0.57	93	86
Heppner	36	81	54	-3	40	-5	1.17	0.84	6	9.44	-2.19	81	81
Hermiston	36	82	58	-4	55	-16	0.47	0.33	4	7.37	-0.36	95	71
Madras ⁸	29	73	50	-6	24	-13	0.42	0.21	3	8.51	0.09	101	96
Moro	34	79	52	-3	29	-2	0.57	0.36	3	12.45	2.87	130	87
Parkdale ⁸	33	68	49	-8	19	-26	0.30	0.09	6	33.61	4.55	116	146
Pendleton	37	80	54	-6	36	-25	1.06	0.85	1	10.78	0.52	105	82
Prairie City ⁸	29	73	50	-6	24	-13	0.42	0.21	3	8.51	0.09	101	96
The Dalles	41	81	58	+3	58	+20	0.31	0.16	3	11.23	0.32	103	94
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	26	60	42	-8	3	-12	0.11	-0.10	5	9.47	-4.51	68	85
Bend	26	76	48	-3	21	+3	-	-0.21	-	8.84	-0.69	93	34
Burns	29	69	46	-6	16	-5	0.47	0.26	5	9.25	1.47	119	90
Christmas Valley ⁸	20	66	44	-11	9	-23	0.06	-0.15	3	5.10	-4.89	51	82
Klamath Falls	22	61	44	-10	3	-27	0.13	-0.08	3	6.10	-5.51	53	76
Klamath Falls ⁸	23	62	43	-11	-	-30	0.08	-0.13	3	7.00	-4.61	60	88
Lakeview	26	60	43	-10	-	-23	0.44	0.09	4	9.32	-3.85	71	97
Lorella ⁸	24	65	44	-10	4	-26	0.01	-0.20	1	7.64	-3.97	66	83
Redmond	26	73	47	-6	17	-5	0.42	0.27	6	6.29	-0.31	95	70
Worden ⁸	24	61	42	-12	-	-30	0.06	-0.15	4	6.55	-5.06	56	76
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	29	75	48	-7	20	-6	0.50	0.22	6	7.08	-0.49	94	83
Joseph	27	73	47	-2	25	+18	0.86	0.37	5	11.45	-9.14	56	81
La Grande	30	79	51	-6	28	-9	0.79	0.44	4	9.14	-4.92	65	79
Union	30	79	51	-3	33	+8	1.17	0.81	6	11.67	1.48	115	79
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	30	79	55	-7	45	-31	0.13	-0.04	4	8.29	0.21	103	77
Rome	30	72	48	-10	18	-28	0.83	0.62	3	7.89	1.73	128	65

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.