

# 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](mailto:nass-or@nass.usda.gov)  
Internet: [www.nass.usda.gov/or](http://www.nass.usda.gov/or)

**Weather:** More hot weather this week with a few areas receiving precipitation and thunderstorms. Southeastern counties reported fires caused by the lightning. The average temperature throughout the State was 70.9 degrees, 6.7 degrees above normal. The higher average temperatures were partly due to some warming evening temperatures. Low temperatures ranged from 37 degrees in Worden to 60 degrees in The Dalles. High temperatures ranged from 69 degrees in Crescent City to 99 degrees in La Grande and Ontario. There were 19 of the 43 stations that reported a measurable amount of precipitation, but only four of those reported more than 0.1 inch. Portland reported the most at 0.17 inches, followed by Rome and Tillamook with 0.12 inches.

**Field Crops:** Lightning sparked fires in parts of Eastern Oregon last week. Malheur County reported at least two fires, but no damage was reported except to rangeland. Sherman County had no fires, but rain interrupted field work for at least one day. Generally, hot and dry weather prevailed and helped grain crops catch up. Mint harvest was underway in Union County. Wheat harvest was wrapping up in Umatilla County and was filling storage capacity. Garlic seed harvest was done in Central Oregon. Grass seed harvest was winding down in Yamhill, and finished in Washington County. Reports of higher Crimson clover yields while weather may have adversely affected red clover yields. Willamette Valley wheat quality suffered from rust and a cold, wet spring. Yields were high.

**Vegetables:** Vegetables were doing well. There were a lot of vegetables at roadside stands and farmer's markets. Tomatoes

were turning color. Red table beets were sizing and harvest to begin soon. Carrots were looking good. Sweet corn harvest began in Lane County. Sweet corn was silking and corn canneries started harvest in Washington County. Processed sweet corn in Yamhill County will be harvested soon. Vegetable crops were about 2 to 4 weeks behind normal.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Blackberry and blueberry harvest continued in Washington County. Spotted Wing Drosophila reported as sparingly present. Peach harvest was in full swing with good quality but low yield reported. Good quality for early apples, but yield was down for a few varieties. Pears were looking good. Asian pear yield was down. Tart cherry harvest was completed. Plums had few fruits this year. Prunes were turning color in Washington County. Most tree fruits were reported to have scab in Lane County. Hazelnuts were filled. Hazelnut orchard floors were being cleared in preparation of the nut fall.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Greenhouses were getting ready for fall vegetable and decorative starts. Nursery soil was being prepared for fall planting. Plant maintenance and irrigation continued as well.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** The Livestock were doing well despite reduced forage quality on dryland range and pasture. Some stock on dryland was now being fed supplemental feed. Dryland pastures were at the end of their season or coming close to it. Irrigated and mountain pastures remained in good condition.

**Soil Moisture - Week Ending 08/28/11**

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	19	40	40	1
Subsoil	8	40	50	2

**Crop Condition - Week Ending 08/28/11**

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Winter wheat	0	0	14	66	20
Spring wheat	0	1	17	68	14
Barley	0	0	28	66	6
Corn	0	1	26	72	1
Range and pasture	8	20	28	40	4

**Crop Progress - Week Ending 08/28/11**

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	92	87	99	100
Alfalfa hay, third cutting	16	9	87	56
Winter wheat harvested	87	71	98	98
Barley harvested	83	70	97	90
Spring wheat harvested	65	52	98	90
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.8	6.9	6.6	6.5

## Western Oregon

**CLACKAMAS:** Normal weather for late August this week maybe a bit cooler than average. There was a night time lightning show mid-week that brought a light shower. First of the garden tomatoes were finally ripe, also green beans and early sweet corn. Ryegrass seed and fall wheat were mostly done. Spring wheat harvest was slowing down. Balers and flail mowers were busy with crop residue.

**COOS/CURRY:** Continued dry, warm, and windy. Pastures were done for the season, except those that were irrigated or that were sub-irrigated by ground water or have access to hill-slope water. Low temperatures were over 2 degrees above the 5-year average in Brookings (southern Curry) and over 6 degrees above the 5-year average in Bandon (Coos County). High temperatures through the week were slightly above the 5-year average in Bandon, and nearly 11 degrees below the 5-year average in southern Curry. Trace amounts of precipitation on several days for the period in either Coos or Curry. The grazing conditions continued well. More fall like mornings with marginal conditions for cutting/baling regular grass in some areas due to persistent fog and low cloud in the mornings. There were 7 days suitable for field work during the period. Bandon (Coos and Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 54.87 degrees, which is 6.37 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 72.5 degrees, 1.38 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.05 inches over 4 days, which is 0.1 inches below the 5-year average for the week. Weather year 2011 (began 10/1/2010) precipitation stands at 53.39 inches, 2.39 inches below the 5-year average. Historical average precipitation through the month of August is 58.74 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 52.11 degrees, 2.11 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 71.9 degrees, 10.94 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.02 inches, compared to a 5-year average of 0.03 inches. Weather year 2011 (began 10/1/2010) precipitation stands at 89.61 inches, 7.67 inches above the 5-year average. Historical average precipitation through August is 71.53 inches.

**JACKSON:** Field crops had done well so far this year. The late spring with lots of moisture gave things a good start. Now it is much different with the weather being so hot and dry. Really good weather for drying hay. Peach harvest was in full swing. Some even finished up as the different varieties ripen. Most all harvest had been running about 2 weeks behind. Most caneberries were now picked, except for wild blackberries. There was a good crop of them. There were a lot of good vegetables at roadside stands and local Farmer's Markets, such as cucumbers, zucchini squash, fresh onions, good greens, and some fresh sweet corn. Greenhouses were getting ready for fall vegetable and decorative starts. Nurseries were busy with maintaining stock on hand, and of course working with new stock. All livestock were looking

really good, if on good irrigated ground with good green forage. Some stock on dry ground was now being fed supplemental feed. This was a good hot week, so good for haying, but also needed good irrigation practices

**JOSEPHINE:** Nighttime temperatures were 52-62 degrees. Daytime temperatures were 62-97 degrees. Drying winds continued; gusty at times. Harvest was speeding up with the warmer overnight temperatures. Some truck farmers in our area mentioned the delay in fruit set because of the season's cooler overnight temperatures.

**LANE:** Winter wheat harvest was done. Peppermint harvest was winding down. Good quality for early apples but yield down for Lodi and Gravenstein varieties. Peaches were good but yield was down. Plums had few fruits this year. Pears were looking good. Asian pears looked okay. Most tree fruits had scab. Insects were lower this year, so far. Nut crop in Upper Valley looked good; however Lower Valley yields so far looked down. Spotted wing drosophila was here and there. Vegetables were finally doing well. Tomatoes were just starting to turn yellow and red. Sweet corn harvest had just begun. All crops were 2 to 4 weeks later than normal.

**WASHINGTON:** Wheat fields that earlier were reported to have rust issues, appeared to be higher yielding. Wheat quality and yield hurt with rust and cold, wet spring. Wheat straw was baled. Field corn was setting ears. Grass seed harvest finished with straw baled and removed from fields. Higher grass seed prices had been reported. Reports of higher crimson clover yields had been reported, along with concern about red clover yields due to weather events this past year. Corn canneries were starting corn harvest this week. Sweet corn was silking. Carrots were doing well and beans were finished. Red table beets were sizing properly and will begin harvest soon. Filberts were filled and walnuts were sizing. Blackberries and blueberries harvest continued. Prunes were turning color. Apples were scarce and Asian pear crop was down. Nursery soil was being prepared for fall planting. Irrigation was ongoing. Cows and calves were doing well. High temperature was 85 degrees. Low temperature was 54 degrees. There was no precipitation.

**YAMHILL:** Perennial rye grass was just about finished. Winter wheat had a few fields left. Spring wheat was quickly coming to an end. Winter wheat yields on some fields reported as high as 180 bushels with the County average running closer to 135 bushels. Spring wheat was running closer to 80 bushels. Fall field preparations were in full swing. Processed sweet corn will be the next crop up for harvest. The floor of hazelnut orchards were being cleared in preparation of the nut fall. Should be seeing apples show up in the fresh markets (farmers markets and stands). Tart cherry harvest was completed. Peach and apple harvest continued.

## Eastern Oregon

**CROOK/JEFFERSON/DESCHUTES:** Wheat harvest began last week. It will be a race to get some of the fields harvested in time so carrot seed crop can be planted in time. There has been a good run of warm weather with no precipitation for the hay producers. Spring wheat rapidly ripened this year. Garlic seed harvest was going the week before. Grapes were still “green as a gourd” and here it is almost September! There was lots of smoke in the air mid to end of week. Temperatures were in the 90’s most of the week. Thunderstorms and showers on Saturday and Sunday across the area.

**HARNEY:** Last weekend and earlier this week there have been lots of thunder storms. Lots of lightening and small fires started.

**KLAMATH:** Another week of great weather. Temperatures were in the mid 80’s for the highs and mid 40’s for the lows. Grain harvest continued, by next week it should be in high gear. Potato vines were dying off in preparation for harvest.

**LAKE:** No precipitation during the week. Thunderstorms did spark fires in some areas. Mountain pastures remain in good condition.

**MALHEUR:** Recent hot weather hit Malheur County this week. High temperature was around 95 degrees or over. Low temperatures were 60-65 degrees. A few thunder storms traveled through Malheur County causing at least two fires.

One of the fires is located west of Vale and the other fire is located south of Jordan Valley. No damage has been reported other than to the rangeland. Wheat harvest was winding down. Shepody potato harvest was under way. Some early onions were being harvested.

**SHERMAN:** Wednesday dropped some lightning and rain. No fires here but rains were restricted to the part of the County that was still harvesting. Most operators were able to get back to cutting by late afternoon. Early morning Friday also brought a shower, although most operators in the areas that received rain were done. Late harvest continued with all but one grower done in the north end, but several still cutting in the central. One good thing about the late harvest was that usual crowd of stragglers was looking timelier this year. County fair continued this week ending Saturday with auction. Crowds had been reduced by late harvest.

**UMATILLA:** Wheat harvest was wrapping up in Umatilla County, and storage space was becoming a limiting factor due to high yields.

**UNION:** Mint harvest continued. Majority of winter wheat harvested with spring wheat and barley harvest just began.

**WALLOWA:** Warmer temperatures were helping grain crops.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: August 28, 2011 (as of 11:00 am) <sup>1</sup>**

Station	Air temperature <sup>2</sup>				Growing degree days <sup>3</sup>		Last week precip. <sup>4</sup>			Season cum. precipitation <sup>5</sup>			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Days <sup>7</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Pct. normal	Days <sup>7</sup>
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria	50	78	63	+4	95	+24	0.03	-0.35	1	82.81	16.60	125	227
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	55	73	62	+4	85	+28	0.05	-0.23	4	55.19	-3.58	94	207
Crescent City	49	69	60	+1	71	+8	0.02	-0.26	2	64.87	-0.22	100	163
Florence	46	79	63	+3	91	+14	0.04	-0.32	1	80.61	4.34	106	208
North Bend	54	75	62	+3	86	+16	-	-0.28	-	47.98	-15.20	76	150
Tillamook	50	81	64	+6	103	+40	0.12	-0.38	1	80.58	-7.79	91	202
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	55	90	73	+9	166	+57	0.03	-0.25	2	51.34	10.42	125	196
Corvallis	51	90	73	+8	160	+51	0.02	-0.21	1	45.84	3.26	108	194
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	57	93	74	+14	172	+93	-	-0.35	-	99.47	32.09	148	204
Eugene	50	92	73	+7	162	+43	0.01	-0.28	1	39.90	-9.32	81	156
Hillsboro	51	89	71	+7	152	+47	-	-0.28	-	39.79	2.34	106	181
McMinnville	54	93	74	+8	166	+56	-	-0.21	-	44.49	1.42	103	176
Portland	59	89	74	+7	171	+45	0.17	-0.12	1	47.42	11.27	131	183
Salem	55	92	74	+9	168	+56	0.11	-0.10	1	47.78	8.73	122	171
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	57	95	77	+7	190	+48	0.01	-0.13	1	41.92	10.97	135	151
Medford	58	97	78	+8	200	+51	-	-0.14	-	21.92	3.12	117	115
Roseburg	56	92	75	+8	179	+50	-	-0.19	-	38.39	5.75	118	163
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	54	93	73	+10	164	+67	0.10	-0.10	2	17.88	3.92	128	138
Echo <sup>8</sup>	58	97	78	+9	200	+59	0.01	-0.12	1	12.64	3.74	142	121
Heppner	56	94	75	+9	180	+57	-	-0.20	-	18.57	4.75	134	129
Hermiston	59	98	78	+9	200	+59	-	-0.13	-	13.05	4.15	147	115
Madras <sup>8</sup>	54	94	73	+8	160	+55	0.05	-0.09	2	11.33	0.97	109	114
Moro	51	95	76	+11	184	+73	-	-0.14	-	14.91	3.85	135	103
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	52	94	72	+7	153	+44	0.06	-0.11	1	46.38	15.65	151	173
Pendleton	58	98	77	+8	194	+52	-	-0.14	-	17.70	5.74	148	128
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	54	94	73	+8	160	+55	0.05	-0.09	2	11.33	0.97	109	114
The Dalles	60	98	80	+15	211	+104	-	-0.14	-	15.08	2.63	121	115
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	41	87	64	+4	98	+23	-	-0.19	-	17.56	1.42	109	107
Bend	47	92	70	+9	141	+60	-	-0.14	-	7.80	-3.84	67	54
Burns	43	93	68	+7	130	+44	-	-0.16	-	15.18	5.28	153	124
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	41	92	67	+2	119	+10	-	-0.14	-	10.16	-2.16	82	128
Klamath Falls	43	89	66	+2	115	+9	-	-0.14	-	10.58	-2.86	79	84
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	45	88	67	+2	119	+13	-	-0.14	-	13.26	-0.18	99	114
Lakeview <sup>8</sup>	38	90	64	+2	102	+7	-	-0.14	-	15.86	0.30	102	127
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	39	92	65	-2	104	-2	-	-0.14	-	13.69	0.25	102	115
Redmond	47	94	71	+8	147	+52	0.08	-0.06	2	11.58	3.06	136	91
Worden <sup>8</sup>	37	89	64	-2	98	-8	-	-0.14	-	12.86	-0.58	96	101
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	42	96	70	+6	139	+39	-	-0.23	-	13.22	2.44	123	126
Joseph	50	92	71	+12	147	+80	-	-0.28	-	16.24	-8.49	66	133
La Grande	48	99	73	+6	162	+43	-	-0.23	-	17.97	0.62	104	138
Imbler <sup>8</sup>	47	96	73	+9	160	+59	0.02	-0.19	1	21.97	-1.37	94	151
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	53	99	78	+8	199	+50	-	-0.14	-	12.06	2.44	125	99
Rome	50	98	74	+8	170	+47	0.12	-0.02	1	14.45	6.23	176	104

<sup>1</sup> Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2011: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

<sup>2</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

<sup>3</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

<sup>4</sup> Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

<sup>5</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2010.

<sup>6</sup> DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

<sup>7</sup> Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

<sup>8</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.