

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

Released: April 2, 2012  
Week ending: April 1, 2012  
Volume: 01-12

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:** Typical spring temperatures for the State, but abnormally high precipitation in most areas. There were some reports of flooding throughout the Willamette Valley. Water supply concerns in the Northeast have been minimized with recent snow pack increase. The average temperature across Oregon of 45.6 degrees was 1.1 degrees above normal. Low temperatures ranged from 41 degrees in Bandon, down to 22 degrees in Bend, Christmas Valley, and Redmond. High temperatures ranged from 52 degrees in Florence, up to 76 degrees in Ontario. All 43 stations reported measurable precipitation, with 28 of those receiving more than half an inch. There were 38 stations that had above normal levels. The South Coast reported the most with 8.6 inches in Crescent City and 7.0 inches in Bandon. The average precipitation level across the western stations was 3.9 inches, and the rest of the State averaged 0.6 inches.

**Field Crops:** Record breaking March rain in the Willamette Valley had people watching crops there. Crops in the south Willamette were weathering weather well. Will watch weather going forward as crop stress may soon show. Washington County grass seed was looking good but fall grain was suffering from the wet and cold. Field work limited. While precipitation in eastern Oregon was more welcome, it slowed field work including spring seeding.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Sweet cherry buds in Wasco County were in the green tip stage of development. Weather remains cool and unsettled. Bloom was potentially 10 days away. Crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: d'Anjou pear with blossom buds exposed (WSU stage 2); Red Delicious apple at green tip to half-inch green (WSU stages 2 & 3); Bing cherry at green tip (WSU stage 3); Pinot noir grape at Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 2. Bud break was beginning to occur on some hazelnut varieties. The incessant rains have prevented application of preventative fungicide sprays for EFB. There was damage to prune and hazelnut trees due to wet snow in Lane County. Prune and peach trees were blooming. Cherries and pears were close to bloom in Lane County. Fruits, berries, and nuts were still dormant in Washington County.

**Vegetables:** Garlic was going fine. Some peas were in the ground. Vegetables in Washington County were not yet planted except in high hoop houses.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Greenhouse and nurseries had covers of low plastic on new seedlings. They were moving arborvitae to sales outlets.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Rangeland was looking good but wet and cool conditions have meant slow growth. Cows and calves were looking good.

**Soil Moisture - Week Ending 04/01/12**

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	0	5	50	45
Subsoil	6	7	56	31

**Crop Condition - Week Ending 04/01/12**

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Winter wheat	1	9	35	44	11
Range and pasture	16	11	44	28	1

**Crop Progress - Week Ending 04/01/12**

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley planted	35	-	46	49
Barley emerged	10	-	42	29
Spring wheat planted	37	-	25	28
Spring wheat emerged	15	-	9	10
Days suitable for fieldwork	1.3	-	3.0	-

## Western Oregon

**COLUMBIA:** Very wet and cool with delayed blooms on a variety of native and cultivated plants. Pastures delayed but started to pick up.

**LANE:** Very wet, causing little to no field work, and very few pollinators seen. Prune and peach trees were blooming. Huge damage to prune and hazelnut trees due to wet snow. Cherries and pears were close to bloom. Garlic was going fine. Some commercial peas were in the ground.

**LINN/BENTON:** The Willamette Valley has experienced a record breaking amount of rain for the month of March. At this time crops are weathering the weather well, but if the weather continues with the rain trend, some of the crops will start to show water stress.

**WASHINGTON:** Grass for seed was looking good. Fall grain suffering from wet and cold weather, much flooding and debris in low land fields. Fruits, berries, and nuts were still dormant. Vegetables were not yet planted except in high hoop houses. Greenhouse and nurseries had covers of low plastic on new seedlings. They were moving arborvitae to sales outlets. Cows and calves looked good and were on fall supplemental feed. High temperature 54.5 degrees, low 32.0 degrees. Rain fell five days. Total precipitation was 5.2 inches. Floods cut off access to the highway in three points.

**YAMHILL:** Bud break was beginning to occur on some hazelnut varieties. The incessant rains have prevented application of preventative fungicide sprays for Eastern Filbert Blight (EFB).

## Eastern Oregon

**GRANT:** Weather has been cool and wet so no growth on the rangelands.

**HOOD RIVER:** The week started dry, but cool and wet conditions prevailed through most of the week. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: d'Anjou pear with blossom buds exposed (WSU stage 2); Red Delicious apple at green tip to half-inch green (WSU stages 2 & 3); Bing cherry at green tip (WSU stage 3); Pinot noir grape at Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 2.

**LAKE:** County is currently at 80% of average for precipitation--storms in recent weeks have improved water supply. Irrigation reservoir storage is above average for this time of year.

**UMATILLA:** Additional rain this week, with more forecasted for the weekend. While rain is needed,

farmers are also trying to get spring spraying and fertilizing finished, and trying to get spring wheat seeded into the ground.

**WALLOWA:** March has been a great moisture month with snow and rain throughout the entire month. Snow pack is in good shape due to these events.

**WASCO:** Cloudy and cool temperatures most of last week. Some early blossoming fruit trees from warmer weather a couple weeks ago. Alfalfa and grass forage were looking good but slow growing degree days have made for some concerns. Rangeland was looking good but same concern with cool temperatures and slow growing. Hope for some warmer weather in April. Sweet cherry buds were in the green tip stage of development. Weather remains cool and unsettled. Bloom is potentially 10 days away.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: April 1, 2012 (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	40	54	47	+2	-	-7	5.39	4.01	7	54.38	0.10	100	136
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	41	58	50	+3	5	-2	7.03	5.60	7	53.07	3.77	108	123
Crescent City	36	56	48	-2	3	-13	8.57	6.92	7	49.70	-5.73	90	87
Florence	33	52	45	-4	-	-7	4.28	2.52	6	56.33	-6.89	89	118
North Bend	34	55	48	-1	1	-6	4.78	3.27	6	32.09	-21.07	60	96
Tillamook	37	57	49	+3	5	-2	3.72	1.77	6	47.87	-24.23	66	136
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	33	59	48	+1	3	-4	2.72	1.92	7	34.29	1.26	104	135
Corvallis	34	58	47	-1	2	-5	3.41	2.58	7	37.65	1.86	105	130
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	33	53	42	+2	-	+0	4.97	3.61	6	78.70	22.87	141	122
Eugene	34	59	49	+0	6	-6	3.03	1.98	6	33.85	-7.51	82	103
Hillsboro	34	56	47	+0	-	-7	2.28	1.54	6	24.61	-6.39	79	110
McMinnville	37	56	48	+1	1	-7	3.15	2.26	7	33.11	-3.63	90	117
Portland	39	58	49	-1	1	-10	2.53	1.84	6	29.35	0.51	102	116
Salem	32	56	48	+2	1	-6	3.06	2.30	6	37.45	5.05	116	113
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	33	60	47	-4	5	-14	3.63	3.01	7	24.03	-2.95	89	90
Medford	35	60	49	+0	9	-5	1.13	0.78	5	12.26	-3.17	79	67
Roseburg	37	60	49	+0	7	-8	2.71	2.01	6	25.08	-2.22	92	97
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	31	58	44	+4	-	+0	0.29	0.01	4	7.67	-1.86	80	64
Echo <sup>8</sup>	34	64	49	+0	9	-3	0.41	0.25	6	4.98	-1.61	76	66
Heppner	33	61	47	+2	-	-7	0.36	0.01	4	5.71	-3.60	61	54
Hermiston	35	64	50	+3	14	+2	0.49	0.33	6	4.51	-2.08	68	56
Madras <sup>8</sup>	30	62	45	+1	4	-3	0.45	0.29	5	4.58	-2.66	63	57
Moro	34	59	46	+3	3	-1	1.20	0.99	5	7.53	-0.73	91	55
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	33	55	44	-3	-	-7	3.40	2.88	6	40.16	13.31	150	115
Pendleton	34	61	48	+2	6	-3	0.76	0.53	5	7.01	-1.54	82	59
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	30	62	45	+1	4	-3	0.45	0.29	5	4.58	-2.66	63	57
The Dalles	39	62	50	+5	7	+0	0.94	0.71	6	10.31	0.58	106	73
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	30	54	40	+2	-	+0	1.64	1.33	6	11.14	-1.32	89	63
Bend	22	53	40	+0	-	-3	0.16	-0.02	1	5.46	-2.98	65	26
Burns	26	62	43	+5	-	-1	0.11	-0.10	5	5.89	-0.61	91	49
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	22	58	40	-2	-	-7	0.27	0.06	3	3.76	-4.89	43	52
Klamath Falls	26	58	40	-2	-	-4	0.66	0.42	4	4.99	-5.32	48	48
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	26	56	40	-2	-	-4	0.75	0.51	5	6.48	-3.83	63	64
Lakeview <sup>8</sup>	26	53	38	-2	-	-2	0.58	0.28	6	5.60	-5.42	51	64
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	27	56	40	-2	-	-4	0.58	0.34	6	6.36	-3.95	62	57
Redmond	22	59	43	+3	1	-6	0.39	0.25	3	4.85	-0.74	87	39
Worden <sup>8</sup>	28	56	40	-2	-	-4	0.65	0.41	3	5.65	-4.66	55	55
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	33	68	46	+6	8	+4	0.21	0.00	4	3.67	-2.28	62	45
Joseph	29	62	43	+7	-	+0	0.74	0.32	5	7.52	-9.94	43	83
La Grande	30	70	47	+5	8	+1	0.41	0.06	6	8.17	-3.38	71	74
Imbler <sup>8</sup>	31	64	45	+3	-	-7	0.21	-0.22	6	11.04	-6.15	64	81
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	31	76	51	+5	17	+6	0.36	0.20	4	5.08	-1.94	72	44
Rome	30	69	46	+4	6	+2	0.05	-0.14	3	4.10	-0.69	86	38

<sup>1</sup> Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2012: 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, 2011.

<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.