



# Crop Progress and Condition



## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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### In Cooperation with...

- University of Idaho Extension
- Idaho State Department of Agriculture
- Oregon State University Extension Service
- Oregon Department of Agriculture
- Washington State University Extension
- Washington State Department of Agriculture
- USDA, Farm Service Agency
- USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service

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## Idaho

The average temperatures in Idaho for March were above normal in the north and below normal in the south. Accumulated precipitation was below normal in the north but normal in the south. Elmore and Owyhee Counties reported average crop conditions as the dormancy period ends. Buds were present on most trees, but leaf breaks had not yet occurred. Ranges and pastures had slowly begun growing, but growth this past week was more than average. Weed and pest pressure were higher than average due to the lack of sub-freezing temperatures during winter. Calving season experienced milder conditions. Jerome and Twin Falls Counties reported farmers were back in the fields. A few acres of spring cereals and sugarbeets were planted. Other major activities included applying fertilizer, heavy field tillage, and hauling manure. There appeared to be adequate irrigation water for this year. Ranges and pasture grasses were starting to break dormancy. There were a few reports of heavy vole damage in fields across the valley. The weather stayed suitable for livestock. Bonneville and Madison Counties reported that the fields were still too wet to work. Clark, Fremont, and Madison Counties reported cold weather, with snow covering the winter wheat. Bannock, Bingham, and Butte Counties reported rising temperatures and some light flooding.

## Oregon

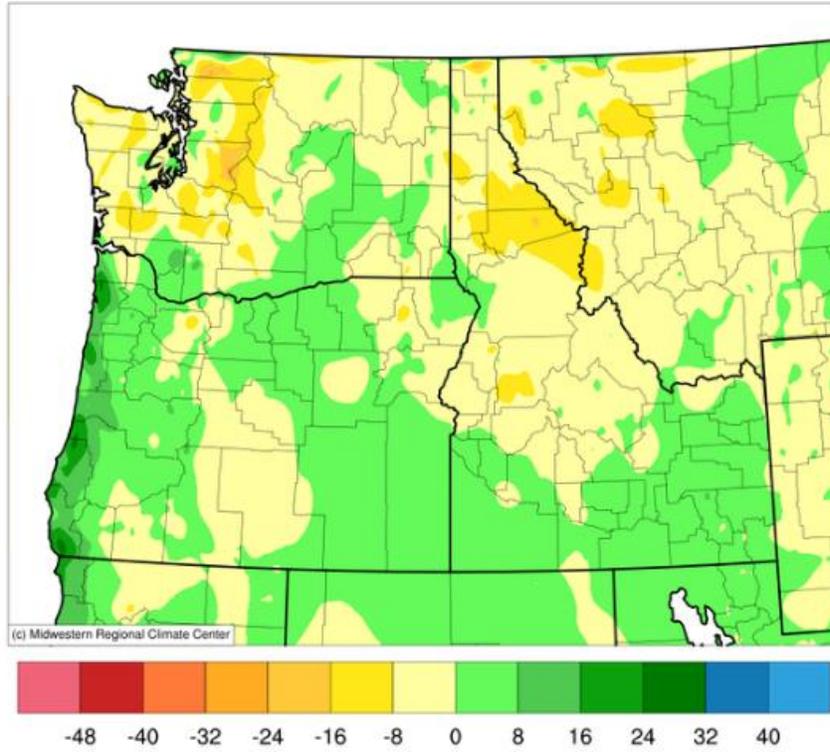
Temperatures ranged from average to above average. The reprieve from constant precipitation in Columbia, Multnomah, and Washington Counties allowed some field work to get done. Blueberries and small fruits perked up. Winter damage to crops and field conditions was minimal. Benton and Lincoln Counties experienced warm, sunny weather last week, which allowed pasture grass to progress. Many local farms were finishing up calving season and were in the middle of lambing. Clatsop and Tillamook Counties reported above average temperatures. Field activities consisted of manure application and haying. Field activity increased for spring grass plantings. Hood River, Sherman, Gilliam, Wasco, and Wheeler Counties reported crops were looking well and received a lot of moisture. Reports mentioned operations were assessing if there was any damage from the cold weather, stripe rust, or any other plant disease. Fields had dried out enough that people started spraying and mowing stubble. The warmer weather was very beneficial to pastures and crops. Lake County reported recent precipitation. Livestock and irrigation water conditions were given a positive outlook for the upcoming grazing and crop season. Umatilla County reported dry conditions and needed more moisture to keep dryland crops in good condition. Malheur County reported warm, dry conditions, allowing for accelerated planting and fieldwork. Ranchers were preparing to move cattle out to pasture.

## **Washington**

Western Washington saw an earlier spring than usual, with blossoms emerging earlier. After a cold snap, blossoms bounced back, and pollinators were out, but many brassicas were killed due to the cold. Fields were still wet, although a few farmers tilled some ground last week. In central Washington, temperatures were above normal. Native grasses started greening up, and fields were drying out for possible field activity. Calving was going well with no problems. In Yakima County, fields were greening up in the Yakima Valley, from cover crops to grass hays. Rivers and streams were running low compared to last spring. Hop yards were strung for the upcoming season. Most vegetable fields had been prepared, tilled, hilled, and were ready for planting. Pear orchards were white from the dormant applications applied to ward off insects. Apple and cherry orchards received delayed dormant sprays of insecticides and horticultural oils for overwintering aphids, scales, and mites. Precocious cherry blocks were already showing pink as the flower florets began to extend. Apricots were showing a weak flower bloom. In east central Washington, producers experienced moderate springtime weather, temperatures had warmed up, and some counties saw rainfall. Northeastern Washington did not see much rain, but temperatures rose. In southeast Washington, the snowpack was light, and dry conditions continued.

**Accumulated Precipitation (in): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals**

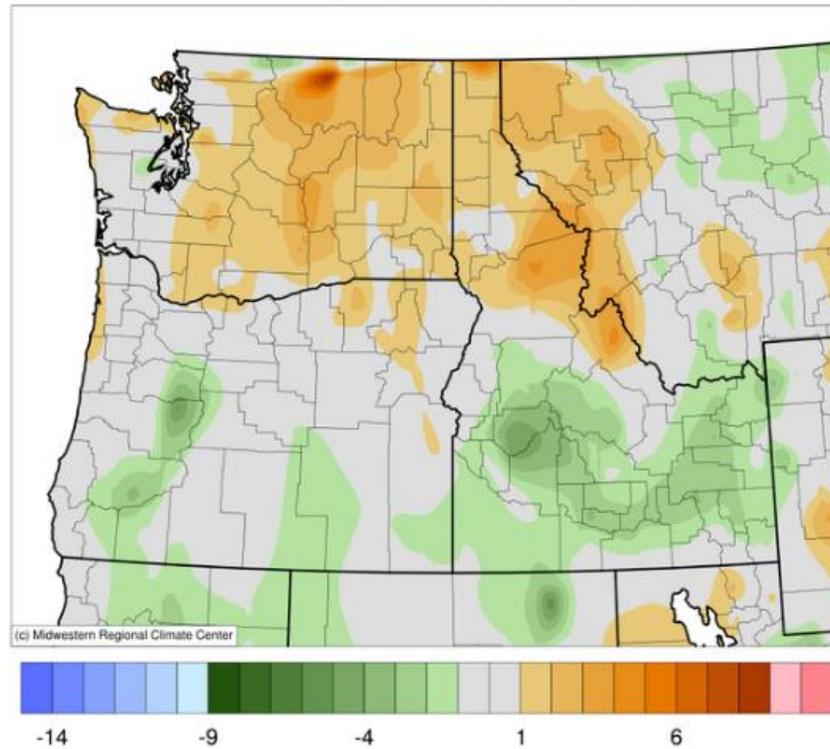
October 01, 2023 to March 24, 2024



<http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/>

**Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals**

March 01, 2024 to March 24, 2024



<http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/>



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