



AGRI-FACTS

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Washington Field Office • Olympia, WA 98507



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Contact: David Knopf (360)902-1940
nass-wa@nass.usda.gov

MAY CROP WEATHER REVIEW

Dry conditions were predominant in the major grain growing counties as the month began. Precipitation amounts were substantially below normal, and many crops suffered plant stress from lack of moisture. By the end of May, conditions turned cooler and wetter. Conditions were good for grain growers, but hay producers were hurt by the rains. There were dry conditions in Asotin and Garfield Counties. Cherries had frost damage and those who survived the frost, were delayed by cool temperatures. Dry pea and dry edible bean planting was completed. The cabbage seed crop bolted and spinach seed planting was nearly complete, but very wet conditions continued to hamper planting of seed potatoes. Range and pasture conditions, previously stressed by dry conditions, improved and cattle producers turned cattle onto summer range.

FRUIT PRODUCTION

The combined 2008 sweet cherry production for California, Oregon, and Washington is forecast at 221,000 tons, down 24 percent from 2007 and 17 percent below 2006. Washington's production is forecast at 100,000 tons, down 41 percent from the previous year. A mid-April frost and poor pollination during bloom impacted a large portion of the crop, especially the earlier varieties. Oregon fared somewhat better, where production is forecast at 35,000 tons, unchanged from 2007. The frost affected some growers in Wasco and Hood River Counties, however, the loss was partially offset by new bearing acres this year. Growers in the Willamette Valley region expect a smaller crop. California production is forecast at 86,000 tons, up 1 percent from 2007. Temperate weather, along with reports of good fruit size, led to the increase in expected production.

Production of Bartlett Pears in California, Oregon, and Washington is forecast at 382,000 tons, down 12 percent from last year and 11 percent below 2006. Washington's Bartlett crop is forecast at 150,000 tons, down 13 percent from 2007 and 9 percent below 2 years ago. Producers reported frost damage and unfavorable conditions during the pollination period. Temperatures during April, particularly during the period of April 18-22, dropped into the upper teens and low twenties in some areas. Areas to the north and south of Yakima experienced some of the lowest temperatures. Production in California is forecast at 175,000 tons, down 13 percent from last season and 12 percent below 2 years ago. Freezing temperatures in April negatively impacted the crop in the Mendocino County area. Growers reported that it was the worst freeze in nearly a half century. The Sacramento River district was not impacted as much by the freeze and was expected to produce a normal crop. Oregon growers expect to harvest 57,000 tons, down 8 percent from last year and 10 percent below the 2006 Bartlett crop. A cold, wet spring has reduced production expectations.

FRUIT PRODUCTION, JUNE 1, 2008

Crop & Year	Total Production		
	2006	2007	Indicated 2008 1/
SWEET CHERRIES:	Tons		
California	42,100	85,000	86,000
Oregon	55,100	35,000	35,000
Washington	168,000	170,000	100,000
Total	265,200	290,000	221,000
BARTLETT PEARS:			
California	199,000	201,000	175,000
Oregon	63,000	62,000	57,000
Washington	165,000	172,000	150,000
Total	427,000	435,000	382,000
APRICOTS:			
California	39,000	81,000	87,000
PRUNES (Dried):			
California	198,000	83,000	120,000
PEACHES:			
California:			
All	712,000	933,000	810,000
Clingstone 2/	359,000	503,000	380,000
Freestone	353,000	430,000	430,000
Georgia	41,000	13,000	35,000
South Carolina	60,000	12,500	65,000
TOTAL	813,000	958,500	910,000

1/ The first production forecast for sweet cherries in ID, MI, NY, and UT and tart cherries in MI, NY, OR, PA, UT, WA, and WI will be published in the "Cherry Production" release on June 19, 2008. The first estimate for 2008 sweet cherries in MT will be released in January 2009.

2/ California Clingstone peaches are over-the-scale tonnage and include culls and cannery diversions.

HOP VARIETIES

Area strung for harvest in 2008 for Washington, Oregon, and Idaho is forecast at 38,145 acres, 23 percent above the 2007 crop of 30,911 acres and 30 percent above 2006. Washington, with 28,468 acres for harvest, accounts for 75 percent of the U.S. total acreage, 5,723 acres more than a year ago. Oregon hop growers plan to string 5,792 acres, or 15 percent of the U.S. total for 2008, with Idaho hop growers accounting for the remaining 10 percent, or 3,885 acres strung for harvest. Washington, Oregon, and Idaho increased their acreage from a year ago, 25 percent, 10 percent, and 34 percent, respectively.

Hop growth was a few weeks behind normal due to cold, wet conditions. Much of the established hops were halfway to the wire, but babies, in many cases, were well behind. Growers reported no concerns with water supplies this season.

Hops: Area Harvested by Variety, State, and United States,
2006-2007 and Forecasted June 1, 2008

State and Variety	Area Harvested		Strung For Harvest
	2006	2007	2008

	Acres		
ID			
Total 1/	2,797	2,896	3,885
OR			
Cascade	*	*	98
Golding	117	115	130
Millenium	293	294	329
Mt. Hood	161	178	174
Nugget	1,590	1,675	1,762
Sterling	123	95	95
Willamette	2,301	2,396	2,596
Other Varieties	451	517	608
Total	5,036	5,270	5,792
WA			
Ahtanum	40	42	*
Apollo R			573
Bravo R			144
Cascade	1,116	1,303	2,153
Centennial	*	*	232
Chelan	505	505	629
Chinook	365	311	285
Cluster	352	366	362
Columbus/Tomahawk R	2,772	3,342	4,498
Galena	3,809	3,030	2,700
Glacier	17	21	56
Golding	53	52	38
Hallertauer	49	56	*
Millenium	910	728	740
Mt. Hood	44	43	*
Nugget	1,100	1,093	1,061
Simcoe	*	*	129
Sterling	62	*	*
Summit R	66	632	2,403
Super Galena R	*	*	537
Vanguard	*	64	*
Willamette	4,554	4,462	4,552
YCR-4(Palisade R)	54	91	272
YCR-5(Warrior R)	421	339	277
Zeus	3,982	4,737	5,943
Other Varieties	1,261	1,528	884
Total	21,532	22,745	28,468
US	29,365	30,911	38,145

1/ Only State totals published for Idaho to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

* Included in Other Varieties to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

R Registered

PRICES RECEIVED

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS FOR FARM PRODUCTS (DOLLARS/UNIT)

Commodity	Unit	Entire Month		Preliminary May 2008	Entire Month		Preliminary May 2008	U.S. Parity Price
		May 2007	Apr. 2008		May 2007	Apr. 2008		
		Washington			United States			
Wheat, All	Bu.	5.31	10.30	7.78	4.88	10.00	8.80	13.10
Wheat, Winter	Bu.	5.22	10.10	7.65	4.77	9.61	7.76	-
Wheat, Durum	Bu.	-	-	-	5.39	13.80	12.10	-
Wheat, Spring	Bu.	5.52	11.40	8.30	4.98	10.50	10.20	-
Barley, All	Bu.	3.75	5.43	4.78	3.12	4.54	4.76	9.01
Corn	Bu.	-	-	-	3.49	5.15	5.12	8.25
Oats	Bu.	-	-	-	2.49	3.48	3.46	5.36
Lentils	Cwt.	-	-	-	13.20	33.40	32.70	-
Chickpeas, All	Cwt.	-	-	-	29.50	31.20	7/	-
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt.	-	-	-	24.40	34.40	36.30	66.40
Dry Edible Peas	Cwt.	-	-	-	10.10	17.50	16.40	-
Hops	Lbs.	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.44
Potatoes, All	Cwt.	7.55	7.65	7.45	7.95	8.45	9.21	20.30
Potatoes, Processing	Cwt.	7.00	6.15	-	6.74	6.50	-	-
All Hay (baled) 1/	Tons	131.00	162.00	166.00	138.00	152.00	166.00	-
Alfalfa (baled) 1/	Tons	130.00	160.00	165.00	145.00	157.00	177.00	-
Hay, Other (baled) 1/	Tons	135.00	170.00	170.00	115.00	140.00	134.00	-
Apples, Fresh 2/	Lbs.	0.301	0.334	0.338	0.269	0.335	0.339	0.784
Cattle, All Beef	Cwt.	-	-	-	92.80	86.60	90.50	250.00
Steers and Heifers	Cwt.	-	-	-	98.10	91.60	95.40	-
Calves	Cwt.	-	-	-	124.00	116.00	116.00	362.00
Milk Cows 3/	Head	-	-	-	-	1,940.00	-	-
Broilers, Live 4/	Lbs.	-	-	-	0.470	0.460	0.480	-
Eggs, Market 1/ 8/	Doz.	0.710	1.010	0.820	0.618	0.884	0.698	2.18
Milk, All 5/ 6/	Cwt.	18.10	17.50	17.50	18.00	18.00	18.20	47.80
Hogs, All	Cwt.	-	-	-	53.10	44.10	54.10	137.00
Sheep	Cwt.	-	-	-	30.80	28.80	-	114.00
Lambs	Cwt.	-	-	-	97.10	99.40	-	284.00

1/ Mid-month price.

2/ Equivalent packinghouse door return for apples for CA, MI, NY, and WA. Prices as sold for other states.

3/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices available for January, April, July, and October.

4/ Equivalent liveweight price.

5/ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

6/ May 2008 Fat test percent: all milk 3.62.

7/ Insufficient sales to establish a price.

8/ Also referred to as table eggs.



WINTER WHEAT: HARVESTED ACREAGE, YIELD, & PRODUCTION

State & Area	Harvested Acres		Yield			Production	
	2007	Indicated 2008	2007	May 1, 2008	Jun 1, 2008	2007	Indicated 2008
	Thousand Acres		Bushels			Thousand Bushels	
Washington	1,690	1,720	64	63	63	108,160	108,360
Oregon	735	760	55	60	60	40,425	45,600
Idaho	710	840	73	72	73	51,830	61,320
Pacific NW 1/	3,135	3,320	63.9	64.6	64.8	200,415	215,280
U. S. Total	35,952	40,162	42.2	44.3	45.3	1,515,989	1,817,364

1/ Washington, Idaho, and Oregon.

Based on June 1 conditions, **Washington's** 2008 winter wheat crop is expected to total 108.4 million bushels, slightly above the 2007 production of 108.2 million bushels. Washington growers are expected to average 63.0 bushels per acre from 1.72 million acres.

In the Pacific Northwest States (Idaho, Oregon, and Washington), yields are unchanged from last month in Washington and Oregon but up 1 bushel in Idaho. Forecasted head counts from the objective yield survey in Washington are above last year. Condition ratings declined in Washington but improved in Oregon and Idaho during May. Crop progress was behind normal for all three States at the end of May.

Wheat: Production by Class, United States, 2006-2008 1/

Year	Winter					Spring 2/					
	Hard Red	Soft Red	Hard White	Soft White	All White	Hard Red	Hard White	Soft White	All White	Durum	Total
2006	682,079	390,165	13,284	212,553	225,837	432,339	6,226	21,915	28,141	53,475	1,812,036
2007	961,588	357,897	21,460	175,044	196,504	448,904	5,589	24,554	30,143	71,686	2,066,722
2008	1,029,523	571,627	23,212	193,002	216,214						

1/ Wheat class estimates are based on the latest available data including both survey and administrative data. The previous end-of-season class percentages are used throughout the forecast season for States that do not have survey or administrative data available.

2/ Spring production by class and total production will be published in "Crop Production" released July 11, 2008.

