



United States Department
of Agriculture

National Agricultural
Statistics Service

USDA/NASS
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Washington Crop Weather

Released: July 30, 2007
Week Ending: July 29, 2007
CWP WA-CW3107

Winter Wheat Grain Harvest in Progress Yields Reported to be Average to Slightly Above Average Early Apple Picking Underway

Field Crops

Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.6. The winter wheat grain harvest was well underway, and yields were reported to be near historical averages to slightly above average. Adams County reported that protein values for some red wheat missed the mark but test weights were good. Ferry County reported that the second cutting of hay was in full progress while counties on the west side struggled to get hay put up due to the heavy July rains. Christmas tree growers began side-shearing and top working Noble fir. Onion and carrot seed harvests were also underway.

Fruits and Vegetables

Yakima County reported that peach and nectarine harvests were underway as multiple vegetable crops were being harvested including sweet corn, tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, eggplant and various melons. Elsewhere, raspberry and blueberry harvests were nearing their peak, pumpkins had set fruit, apricot harvest was done, and cherry harvest was slowing. Greenhouse tomato growers reported excellent yields and fruit quality, while daffodil and tulip bulb harvests were reported to be complete.

Livestock

Range and pasture conditions were 4% very poor, 19% poor, 16% fair, 60% good and 1% excellent. On the west side, livestock owners reported rapid forage regrowth in hayfields, and above average yields were expected for pastures due to the heavy July rains. On the east side, conditions were much different with Asotin County reporting that small streams had dried up causing livestock watering problems, and pasture conditions were poor countywide.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	6.6
Last Week	5.4

Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	24	29	47	0
Topsoil 5 Yr Avg	20	39	41	0
Subsoil	25	38	37	0
Subsoil 5 Yr Avg	9	35	56	0
Irrigation Water	3	6	91	0
Irrigation Water 5 Yr Avg	3	8	89	0
Hay & Roughage	3	20	76	1

VS=Very Short SH=Short AD=Adequate S=Surplus

Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2006	5 Yr. Avg.
Spring Wheat Harvested	16	3	8	12
Winter Wheat Harvested	38	19	28	27
Barley Harvested	22	10	5	10
Potatoes Harvested	19	10	19	20
Corn Silked	58	46	73	68
Corn Dough	31	4	12	11
Corn Dented	1	NA	11	12
Proc. Green Peas Harvested	98	93	100	98
Dry Peas Harvested	60	23	37	27
Alfalfa Hay 2 nd Cutting	78	74	89	89
Alfalfa Hay 3 rd Cutting	8	0	7	15

Crop Condition*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	2	11	33	49	5
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	0	4	69	27
Spring Wheat Dryland	11	27	45	17	0
Spring Wheat Irrigated	0	4	10	78	8
Barley Dryland	4	16	37	43	0
Barley Irrigated	0	0	15	75	10
Potatoes	0	1	10	88	1
Corn	0	0	9	75	16
Dry Edible Beans	0	0	31	69	0

VP=Very Poor P=Poor F=Fair G=Good EX=Excellent

* Crop conditions are a measurement of the growing conditions and are not indicative of the quality of the crop produced.

COUNTY COMMENTS

Western

Clallam/Jefferson: Temperatures were in the high 60s to the lower 70s, with nights in the 50s.

Grays Harbor: The rural landscape transitioned from brown to green as a result of the mid-July rains. Livestock owners reported rapid forage growth in both pastures and hayfields. U-Pick vegetable farms reported brisk sales of assorted warm season vegetable crops. Raspberry and blueberry harvest was nearing its peak. Christmas tree growers began side shearing and top working Noble fir. Greenhouse tomato growers reported excellent yields and fruit quality. Daffodil and tulip bulb harvest was complete. Home gardeners continued harvesting a wide assortment of warm season vegetable crops. The mid-July rains had an enormous impact in stimulating plant growth.

Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific: Cool, humid conditions continued to frustrate hay growers while the crop farmers were watching their crops flourish. July rains will probably mean an extra cutting for some hay growers, which will probably offset losses caused by the rain.

Mason: Temperatures in the 70s most of the week helped dry things out after the previous week's heavy precipitation. Pastures were looking really good compared to this time last year. Those who have been rotationally grazing were reaping the rewards. Crop producers were keeping an eye on early blight and powdery mildew. So far, the only losses have been some lettuce, mostly in home gardens. Although, tomatoes planted outside were beginning to show some impact. Time will tell if our unusual July rain will cause any substantial effect.

Mason (2nd Report): Only a trace of precipitation was received during the week, with temperatures in the 70s and low 80s with partially sunny skies. All in all, the weather has been very pleasant for this time of year. One consequence of the rain was the proliferation of mushroom and chanterelle harvesters out for early picking. There has been an increase in fungal problems with crops like green beans and squash. Pastures were looking good though, and we are having what appears to be an above average year in terms of pasture growth.

Pacific: Great weather conditions provided lots of opportunities for field activities. Rain provided much needed soil moisture for both field crops and pastures. Raspberry growers continued pruning operations, and cranberry growers finished mid-season weed control activities. Shellfish farmers completed post-treatment

assessments for burrowing shrimp and continued transplanting and limited harvest of triploid oysters. Livestock were on field forage with good pasture conditions.

Pierce/King: Crop conditions remained good in the South Puget Sound area. There were no unusual situations to report and no reports of crop damage due to a weather event.

Skagit/San Juan/Island: The weather was mild during the week. Some rain showers at the beginning of the week, helped crops that usually needed irrigation. Later in the week, sunshine and warmer temperatures occurred. There were no crop losses reported.

Snohomish/N. King: It was a good week for fieldwork; not too hot. Crops and pastures were growing well. Early sweet corn was tasseling. Pumpkins have mostly set fruit. Blueberry harvest continued. There were lots of mummy berries in home gardens. Apples were sizing up. Cracking, due to recent rains and hail, was a problem with some varieties. Severe dumping of fruit in areas that were hit by the hailstorm two weeks ago was also apparent.

Snohomish/N. King (2nd Report): Temperatures came back to the 70s with cooler nights in the 50s.

Thurston: The heavy rain showers which occurred in the middle of July have quickly revitalized drought stricken forage fields and pastures. Christmas tree growers continued top working Noble fir plantations and shearing Grand fir. Turfgrass growers continued cultivating recently harvested fields in preparation for planting. The mid-July rains provided a real bonus by helping turfgrass growers decrease irrigation. Livestock owners continued making haylage. U-Pick raspberry harvest has peaked. Blueberry harvest was also nearing its peak with excellent quality reported due to almost ideal weather for fruit development the past month. Home gardeners continued feasting on cucumbers, tomatoes, potatoes, carrots, onions, and other warm season vegetable crops. The weather has been almost as perfect as it can get for plant growth. The rural landscape has turned green in most areas.

Whatcom: The weather was a mix of sun and clouds with small amounts of rain. Cooler summer temperatures averaged 62 degrees. The prior week's rain caused raspberries to mold, bringing an abrupt end to the IQF Market. The raspberries were continuing to be harvested for juice and puree. Blueberry harvest was beginning. Field crops, other than berries, were doing very well.

Central

Benton: Winter wheat harvest was just getting started. Yields were good on the best ground, but average and below on the poor soils.

Chelan: Apricot harvest was complete. Cherry harvest was beginning to slow and should be finished by August 10. Pear and apple development was good.

Douglas/Chelan: Winter wheat harvest has begun with average yields. Hot, dry, and windy conditions continued. Soft fruit was still being harvested. Late cherry harvest was finishing up in the higher elevations of Chelan County. Very limited damage occurred due to recent rain.

Franklin: Temperatures were back up to normal for most of the week. Temperatures reached 100 degrees on Thursday. It was a good growing temperature week again. According to reports from producers, this has been an excellent year for the majority of county crops both irrigated and dryland. The third cutting of alfalfa began, mostly in the southern portion of the county. Some second cutting of timothy hay has also began. Potatoes were being harvested. Beans were

flowering, and corn was maturing nicely throughout the county. Apricot and nectarine producers were readying themselves for the beginning of harvest. A very small percentage of the apple harvest (early varieties) began.

Grant: Dryland wheat harvest was well underway, with reports of average to above average yields. Onion and carrot seed harvests were also underway. Topping of sweet corn fields began. The second cutting of alfalfa was wrapping up, and the second cutting of timothy hay was beginning soon.

Yakima: Peach and nectarine harvests were underway throughout the county. Multiple vegetable crops were being harvested, including sweet corn, tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, eggplant, and various melons.

Yakima (2nd Report): Average temperatures varied from two to nine degrees above normal, with no precipitation. There were no new crop losses due to weather conditions reported.

Eastern

Adams: Winter wheat was progressing quickly throughout the county, as farmers were reporting yields near historic averages and good test weight.

Adams (2nd Report): Hot and dry conditions make the combine fly. Grain harvest was in maximum overdrive throughout the county, with yields mostly checking in at the average level for winter wheat. Spring grains still await and will likely be less than average. Reports of protein on some red wheat were missing the mark as well.

Asotin: Hot, dry weather continued. Harvest reports were coming in with yields below normal in almost all situations. Pastures were in poor condition county wide.

Asotin/Garfield: Harvest progressed rapidly in the lower country, and others in higher elevations were just beginning to harvest. Hot, dry weather persisted during the past week. Fire danger was very high. Several lightning storms caused fire damage on rangeland during the past week. Rangeland conditions continued to deteriorate in the high elevations due to the hot, dry, weather. More small streams dried up causing livestock water problems.

Ferry: Time flies! The weather has been very dry for several weeks with no rain and continued dry heat.

Ferry (2nd Report): The second cutting of alfalfa hay was in full swing. Harvest of soft fruit was nearly complete.

Lincoln: Winter wheat harvest was progressing throughout the county.

Pend Oreille: The high temperature was 94 degrees and the low was 49 degrees with a trace of precipitation. Fields continued to be dry. Hay was in very short supply. Most hay that has been for sale has been sold at a premium price. There was very little available in this area's market. Poultry egg laying was good. Livestock were getting fat on old hay fields turned into pastures. Old pastures were drying fast.

Stevens: Very dry conditions will start to magnify the severity of no rain.

Walla Walla: Grain harvest progressed. Yields and quality were all over the board. Dryland crops were really dry, and the fire danger was extreme.

Walla Walla (2nd Report): Reports from the harvest continued to indicate average crops. Harvest was going well to date.

Weekly Weather Statistics
July 30, 2007

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS				LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIP			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	BASE-50F		BASE-60F		TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	PCT		
	---	---	---	---	TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN	INCHES	---	---	INCHES	DFN	NORMAL	DAYS
WEST															
Bellingham Intl	47	73	62	-2	86	-5	16	-6	0.07	-0.21	1	35.75	+1.06	103	171
Everett	52	73	62	-3	83	-12	15	-13	0.10	-0.13	2	33.06	-1.93	94	168
Hoquiam	53	72	64	+4	102	+25	32	+18	0.12	-0.14	3	71.31	+4.96	107	192
Kelso	50	81	66	+3	117	+15	47	+12	0.00	-0.21	0	39.81	-5.20	88	138
Olympia	45	79	64	+0	98	+0	28	+0	0.02	-0.14	1	56.75	+7.51	115	168
Seattle-Tacoma	55	78	66	-1	111	-1	41	-1	0.03	-0.11	1	44.66	+8.66	124	161
Shelton	50	77	64	-2	101	-11	31	-11	0.08	-0.08	1	77.28	+13.70	122	174
Tacoma WA AP	47	78	64	-1	102	-3	32	-3	0.02	-0.15	2	40.45	+1.55	104	161
Vancouver WA	56	83	69	+5	135	+30	65	+28	0.08	-0.08	1	37.87	-2.15	95	142
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	49	99	74	+6	171	+38	101	+38	0.00	-0.06	0	8.05	-0.47	94	80
Omak AP	54	98	77	+9	194	+66	124	+65	0.00	-0.14	0	10.40	-3.52	75	62
Stampede Pass	44	73	58	+2	55	+7	1	-6	0.01	-0.27	1	97.52	+18.57	124	183
Wenatchee	61	97	79	+5	201	+32	131	+33	0.00	-0.07	0	8.56	+0.70	109	50
Yakima AP	50	97	75	+5	175	+28	105	+28	0.00	-0.03	0	6.92	-0.63	92	61
NORTHEAST															
Colville	53	102	77	+10	188	+69	118	+67	0.00	-0.20	0	14.46	-5.60	72	104
Deer Park	42	96	71	+2	148	+8	78	+8	0.00	-0.14	0	17.78	+0.08	100	112
Republic	46	93	71	+7	147	+47	77	+42	0.00	-0.21	0	13.65	-0.91	94	78
Spokane AP	59	95	76	+6	183	+43	113	+43	0.01	-0.13	1	14.65	-1.08	93	101
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	54	97	77	+2	195	+13	125	+13	0.00	-0.07	0	7.27	+0.33	105	67
Moses Lake	52	98	76	+1	184	+2	114	+2	0.00	-0.07	0	6.35	-0.59	91	64
Quincy	60	93	76	+5	185	+31	115	+31	0.00	-0.07	0	7.80	+0.37	105	51
Ritzville	57	99	77	+8	193	+53	123	+53	0.00	-0.07	0	10.47	-0.39	96	83
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	53	102	80	+2	210	+7	140	+7	0.00	-0.06	0	4.66	-1.48	76	49
Pasco	52	100	79	+5	207	+26	137	+27	0.00	-0.07	0	7.28	+0.19	103	70
Pullman	45	96	71	+6	150	+35	80	+32	0.00	-0.14	0	16.44	-3.70	82	105
Walla Walla Rgn	63	97	80	+5	214	+32	144	+32	0.00	-0.14	0	17.63	-1.01	95	91
Whitman Mission	49	98	77	+5	188	+34	118	+34	0.00	-0.10	0	13.30	+0.23	102	99
WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE															
Lewiston ID	62	103	83	+9	232	+56	162	+57	0.00	-0.14	0	8.67	-2.94	75	84

Summary based on NWS data.
 Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Friday September 1, 2006
 DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
 NA = Data Unavailable

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Precipitation
 Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.
 Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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National weather summary: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/waobr/weather/2006/summary/weth1606.pdf>
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