

OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

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Weather: Nearly all weather stations across Oregon reported temperatures below normal and precipitation above normal. Parkdale showed the largest departure from its normal temperature with 8 degrees below normal, followed closely by Christmas Valley. Northeast Oregon stayed the closest to its average temperatures; two stations were slightly below average, two were slightly above average, and one station showed no departure from average. Ontario recorded the highest temperature last week at 77 degrees. Christmas Valley recorded the lowest temperature at 16 degrees. All weather stations reported precipitation last week ranging from trace amounts in Rome to 5.45 inches in Astoria. Seven stations located along the coast and in the Willamette Valley reported precipitation all seven days last week. Burns was the only station to report precipitation at 100 percent of normal, all other stations remain below normal.

Field Crops: Spring field work continued where possible across the State. Some fields in western Oregon remained too wet, whereas wind delayed spraying in areas of eastern Oregon. Recent rains have improved topsoil moisture and greatly benefited the winter wheat and hay crops. Cool temperatures continued to slow crop growth and development across the State. Producers were planting corn and potatoes. Most spring grain crops were planted. Alfalfa started showing more growth with irrigation starting in some areas.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Pastures, in some areas, were starting to provide adequate forage with supplemental feed being provided where necessary. Western Oregon pastures continued to be very soggy in low-land areas. Cool temperatures along with a very dry fall and winter have slowed pasture and rangeland growth across eastern Oregon. Producers in the driest areas were beginning to plan for a possible short spring grazing period and poor pasture conditions into the summer. Livestock water supplies also continued to run low in many of these areas. Livestock were in good condition with calving and lambing winding down.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries continue with digging nursery stock for shipment to out-of-state locations. Containers are being rotated and new plants are going into the ground. Greenhouses are busy supplying retail outlets with spring plants. Cooler weather and rain has slowed down the home gardeners and retail sales are slow. Christmas tree growers are finishing up planting of new Christmas trees.

Vegetables: Early vegetables were struggling to grow in Clackamas County. Jackson County, however, reported that early vegetables were off to a good start. Both counties stated that additional plantings were delayed while waiting for weather and field preparations. Rhubarb in western Oregon was near harvest stage. With field work complete, Klamath growers were receiving potato seed. Potato planting was underway in Malheur County.

Fruits and Nuts: Clackamas County fruit tree blooming was ongoing, but pollination is in question. Berry crops continued to grow. Washington County strawberries were beginning to show blossoms in most varieties. Caneberries were leafing out. Filberts were nearing full leaf; most orchards were cleared of pruning debris. Polk County cherries were suffering from the rainy conditions. The only orchard spraying done in Yamhill County last week was on Thursday. Growers continue to struggle to find weather that is suitable for applying fungicides for plant protection. Cool weather continued to slow plant development back to historical averages. Some Jackson County apples still in bloom, but they were just about done. Pears were finished with bloom. Some orchard spraying was done, but showers have been frequent. Vineyards were starting to show some growth. Josephine County orchards were doing some frost protection as all trees were in bloom. Fruit trees and blueberries continued to bloom. Bees were working over the flowers. The weather remained cool in Wasco County so little pollination took place. Late cherry varieties were near full bloom. Bee activity for pollinating the later areas of cherries was slow due to cool, windy weather. Bing and other mid-flowering varieties were at petal-fall. The weather was cool and/or windy during the entire bloom period of these mid-flowering varieties. It is still too early to assess fruit set. New plantings of rotated cherry varieties continued all week.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 04/17/05

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	8	23	66	3
Subsoil	18	32	49	1

Crop Progress-Week Ending 04/17/05

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley planted	81	80	74	77
Barley emerged	53	44	44	45
Spring wheat planted	85	83	84	85
Spring wheat emerged	53	35	54	54
Days suitable for fieldwork	5.2	5.0	-	-

Crop Condition-Week Ending 04/17/05

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Winter wheat	1	5	23	67	4
Spring wheat	0	17	51	28	4
Barley	1	3	48	42	6
Range and pasture	4	10	37	46	3

WESTERN OREGON

CLACKAMAS: Still wet and cold. Inclement weather has put most field activities on hold. Some damage to pastures. Some field work delay. We are paying the bill now for our warm February and early March. Fruit tree blooming is ongoing, but pollinization is in question. Berry crops continue to grow. Early vegetables are struggling to grow. Additional plantings are delayed until fields are prepared. Nurseries are able to gather some materials for shipment. Greenhouse operators have adequate supplies for slow retail sales. Livestock are in good condition, but still some stress on calves. Pastures are providing ample supplies of forage in most cases. April has given us over four inches of rain so far.

COOS/CURRY: Rainfall this week has extended the late flooding of lowland areas. Many producers are maintaining livestock off bottom pastures in holding areas or back on upland (winter) pastures. Rainy, wet conditions prevailed throughout the period. Even with the recent rains, officials continue to be concerned about potential fire danger this summer and possible water shortages due to failure to refill the depleted aquifers. Low temp in Brookings for the period was 39.28 degrees, 2.58 degrees below the 5-year average. High temp for the period was 58.72 degrees, 1.6 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 2.65 inches over 6 days, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2001-2004) average of 2.28 inches. Weather year precipitation stands at 60.25 inches, still 1.05 inches below historical average (through March) of 61.13 inches precipitation. Low temp in Bandon for the period was 36.05 degrees, 2.98 degrees below the 5-year average. High temp for the period was 59.02 degrees, 2.76 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 1.84 inches over 6 days compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004) of 1.52 inches. Weather year precipitation stands at 41.17 inches, 2.06 inches below the 5-year average (including 4 drought years, 2001 – 2004, 9.2 inches below the 10 year average (1995-2004) and 6.82 inches below the historic average (through March).

JACKSON: Weather was wet and a bit too cool, but we sure need the rain. Everyone was busy with work they could get done with the weather the way it was. Fields are a bit too wet to do much planting, but some planting was accomplished. The rains have really helped with the hay crops growth, still a bit behind last year. Still some apples in bloom, but they are also just about done. Pears are finished with bloom. Some spraying being done, but showers have been frequent. Vineyards are starting to show some growth. Early vegetables were off to a good start, but not much planting this week. Too wet and a bit

too cool. Lots and lots of flower and garden starts at retail outlets being purchased for planting. Nurseries are busy also with sales and new plantings. Plenty of cattle in the lower valley pastures. Grass is starting to provide enough growth to sustain them, although there is still some supplemental feeding. Lots of calves, lambs, young llama and foals.

JOSEPHINE: Hail, snow, fine snow, rain, high fog and sunshine along with wind. Appreciable amounts of each. April has shown herself to be a fickle lady. Livestock and pasture all in good condition. Orchards were doing some frost protection as all trees were in bloom. Fruit trees and blueberries continue to bloom. Bees were working over all the flowers. Greenhouse and nursery business is starting to pick-up again. February was really good for those who had stock ready to go. It is too early for truck gardens; they are still preparing soil and planting.

LINN: Subsoil moisture continues to be a concern, percentages are localized with some areas short and other areas adequate.

MARION: Most crops were looking good. Recent rains have greatly improved soil moisture and field crop potential. Seeing a little rust in new perennial ryegrass fields. Have seen more Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus showing up in quite a few two year old perennial fields. Most Foote winter wheat fields have lots of stripe rust in them and have, or should be, treated with a fungicide.

POLK: Rain has helped grass seed, but some newly planted fields and some spring oats fields were drowned. Cherries suffering from rainy conditions. No prunes yet.

WASHINGTON: Grass for seed was spot sprayed and fertilized, weather permitting. Legumes growing well. Fall planted grains looking good. Strawberries beginning to show blossoms in most varieties. Caneberries leafing out. Filberts nearing full leafing, most orchards cleaned of pruning debris. Harvest near for rhubarb. Balling of large trees for shipment continues, as does rotation of potted shrubs. Cattle and calves doing well with most pastures soggy.

YAMHILL: The only orchard spraying done last week was on Thursday. Growers continue to struggle to find weather that is suitable for applying fungicides for plant protection. Cool weather continued to slow plant development back to historical averages.

EASTERN OREGON

GILLIAM: Cloudy most of the week, but with little rain. Livestock producers were beginning to consider early sales in response to poor pasture conditions.

HARNEY: Some early livestock turnouts; most were finishing calving and branding.

JEFFERSON: Cold, no rain. Strong winds hampering irrigation. Growth slowed to normal after balmy January.

KLAMATH: Spring land prep tillage continues. Irrigation began. Limited planting. Onion beds were prepared and planted. Potato field work was done; growers were receiving seed. Pastures are slowly growing. Most livestock continue to be fed hay. Calving and lambing nearly complete.

LAKE: Received some precipitation during the week and over the weekend. Cool temperatures continue to delay plant growth.

MALHEUR: Corn and potatoes being planted. High temperatures varied from normal to below normal. No significant moisture. Low temperatures hovered around normal. Cattle and range conditions were good.

MORROW: Received 0.25 inches of precipitation over the weekend. Temperatures remain cool. Early, fall-planted wheat remains healthy. Timely rains in April, May, and June are required for average grain production this year.

SHERMAN: Ranges and pastures are short of forage due to cool temperatures and lack of moisture during last winter and this spring. Most ranchers agree that the spring grazing will be extremely short. Small grains in the north on sandy soil starting to show moisture stress.

WALLOWA: Moisture continued, which is good, but snow pack is still only 69% with a water content of 50% so we are not out of the woods yet. Every little bit of moisture is helping the fall wheat and range conditions, as well as the spring wheat which has been planted. Ponds are still low and springs are not running at a high volume, so some producers will probably be hauling water or looking for other water sources.

WASCO: Weather continued variable through week; frost, windy, showers, hail, cloudy, and scattered periods of "sunshine". Weather remains cool, so little pollination is taking place. Late cherry varieties are near full bloom at this time. Bee activity for pollinating the later areas of cherries was slow due to cool, windy weather. Bing and other mid-flowering varieties are at petal-fall. Weather was cool and/or windy during the entire bloom period of these mid-flowering varieties. It is still too early to assess fruit set. New plantings of rotated cherry varieties continued all week. Spring field work continued, weather permitting. Wind delayed weed spraying to short periods each day. Spring seeding of grain crops were nearly completed by weeks end. Winter wheat is showing good growth on the south slopes, but north slopes still showing dirt between rows. Alfalfa showing more grow as irrigation continued. Cattle doing well on adequate pasture conditions.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: April 17, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)

Station	Air temperature ¹				Growing ² Degree days		Last week precip. ³			Season cum. Precipitation ⁴			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total Inches	DFN	Days	Total Inches	DFN	Pct. Normal	Days
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	36	55	47	-2	1	-6	5.45	4.36	7	50.62	-6.42	89	133
Bandon ⁵	36	59	48	-2	-	-8	1.84	0.81	6	46.71	-5.26	90	121
Crescent City	38	59	49	-2	4	-17	3.21	2.15	6	46.26	-12.03	79	97
Florence	35	56	47	-3	2	-11	3.13	1.88	7	52.22	-14.26	79	121
Tillamook	33	56	46	-2	1	-6	5.00	3.59	7	57.20	-18.55	76	129
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁵	36	58	46	-4	1	-13	1.35	0.71	6	22.98	-11.67	66	117
Corvallis	34	61	49	-1	10	-4	0.85	0.26	6	16.24	-20.90	44	90
Detroit Lake ⁵	31	55	42	-1	-	-7	2.92	1.90	7	27.02	-31.48	46	67
Eugene	33	58	47	-4	5	-15	1.02	0.29	6	20.50	-22.79	47	103
Hillsboro	32	57	45	-5	4	-10	1.24	0.74	7	19.90	-12.45	62	116
McMinnville	33	57	46	-4	4	-12	0.85	0.27	6	18.24	-20.11	48	114
Portland	38	57	48	-3	3	-18	1.47	0.91	7	20.03	-10.22	66	112
Salem	35	57	46	-3	5	-9	1.25	0.69	6	19.20	-14.68	57	103
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	32	68	48	-6	4	-27	0.36	-0.06	4	22.75	-5.40	81	82
Medford	29	69	47	-4	7	-19	0.50	0.22	5	13.04	-3.10	81	67
Roseburg	34	64	48	-3	9	-18	0.76	0.23	5	21.34	-7.32	74	87
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	26	61	42	-3	-	-7	0.13	-0.16	2	6.62	-3.54	65	58
Echo ⁵	27	64	49	-3	9	-16	0.24	0.09	5	3.68	-3.32	53	75
Heppner	30	67	47	-1	6	-8	0.37	0.09	4	6.10	-3.90	61	71
Hermiston	27	64	49	-3	11	-14	0.21	0.06	3	3.61	-3.35	52	46
John Day	24	62	43	-4	3	-11	0.29	0.01	3	6.51	-1.91	77	74
Madras ⁵	23	61	42	-5	1	-13	0.10	-0.05	6	4.57	-3.09	60	74
Moro	24	61	43	-4	-	-8	0.23	0.02	2	5.34	-3.40	61	71
Parkdale ⁵	27	55	42	-8	-	-18	0.32	-0.07	6	16.31	-11.60	58	105
Pendleton	28	67	47	-3	5	-16	0.38	0.13	3	5.10	-4.06	56	64
The Dalles	29	60	48	+1	4	-10	0.10	-0.11	2	5.97	-4.26	58	69
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁵	28	59	41	-2	-	-7	0.06	-0.15	1	8.94	-4.05	69	57
Bend	22	59	40	-4	-	-7	0.08	-0.06	1	8.02	-0.77	91	50
Burns	22	69	42	-1	-	-7	0.17	0.03	4	6.81	-0.02	100	65
Christmas Valley ⁵	16	63	38	-7	-	-14	0.33	0.19	3	5.72	-3.32	63	58
Klamath Falls	21	61	39	-5	-	-8	0.27	0.09	2	7.30	-3.48	68	55
Klamath Falls ⁵	21	62	39	-6	-	-8	0.21	0.03	3	6.79	-3.99	63	81
Lakeview	21	63	41	-2	-	-7	0.16	-0.12	3	3.26	-8.34	28	37
Lorella ⁵	19	64	40	-5	-	-8	0.17	-0.01	4	8.05	-2.73	75	84
Redmond	20	61	42	-3	4	-3	0.20	0.07	3	5.36	-0.54	91	54
Worden ⁵	23	62	39	-6	-	-8	0.17	-0.01	3	6.58	-4.20	61	72
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	19	66	42	-3	-	-7	0.28	0.10	2	5.57	-0.72	89	62
Joseph	22	63	41	+1	-	-7	1.18	0.76	5	11.11	-7.32	60	87
La Grande	25	70	44	-2	8	-6	0.44	0.10	4	6.28	-5.96	51	63
Prairie City ⁵	22	65	40	+2	-	-7	0.64	0.29	4	7.19	-8.45	46	53
Union	27	69	46	+0	5	-8	0.71	0.43	4	8.19	-0.28	97	71
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	22	77	47	-4	7	-20	0.18	0.04	1	3.69	-3.62	50	36
Rome	18	76	46	-1	6	-8	0.01	-0.13	1	4.73	-0.40	92	46

¹ Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. ² Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. ³ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁴ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2004. ⁵ Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).
Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.

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