



CEREAL Newsletter

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May 2016

Precipitation: Where are we?

Precipitation has been variable this crop year. We have experienced both wet and dry months. Table 1 shows data on precipitation at two sites comparing how crop-year 2016 stacks up with recent years. This season is drier than what might be expected. We were about 85-97% of average at the end of April. Recent rains have improved the outlook, but the year is shaping up for below average precipitation.

Studies examining effectiveness of rainfall in the months of April, May, and June (i.e., growing season) by Schillinger at Lind, WA found rain in May and June is much more beneficial than rain in April for both winter wheat and spring wheat grain yield. However, the contribution of May and June rain is 50% more effective in boosting winter wheat grain yield compared to spring wheat. As of today, May 23rd, rain

for the month at Pendleton Airport stands at .96". Little rain is in the forecast for the next 10 days – June will bring our way. Remember to join us for the 2016 Field Days at Pendleton, and Moro. Important research efforts on your behalf – fertility, weed control, residue management will be covered, plus pesticide license credits and CCA credits are available.

Table 1.

Crop Year Precipitation Comparison September 1 to April 30, inches

Site	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	30 yr Ave.	Departure	% of Ave.
Pendleton Ag Research Center	11.96	15.54	10.63	8.43	12.44	12.03	11.19	13.33	-2.14	84
Reese Near Rew Elevator	8.12	9.80	6.73	6.89	7.65	7.61	7.77	8.01	-0.24	97

Data Courtesy of Dave Robertson, Hydrologic Technician, USDA-ARS, Pendleton.
(More data at <http://oregonstate.edu/cprc/dataarsclimate.htm>)

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CALENDAR

June

June 6 **Hermiston Experiment Station Wheat Field Day**

Location: HAREC
Contact: 541-567-8321

June 7 **Pendleton-Ruggs Wheat Tour**

Location: CBARC
Contact: 541-278-4186

June 14 **Pendleton Experiment Station Field Day**

Location: CBARC
Contact: 541-278-4186

June 15 **Sherman Experiment Station Field Day**

Location: Moro, OR
Contact: 541-278-4186

June 16 **Morrow Co. Dryland Crop Tour & Social**

Location: Heppner, OR
Contact: 541-676-9642

June 17 **Gilliam Co. Crop Tour**

Location: Condon, OR
Contact: jordan.maley@oregonstate.edu

June 23 **Milton Freewater Crop Tour**

Location: Milton-Freewater, OR
Contact: mike.flowers@oregonstate.edu

June 29 **NE Oregon Field Day**

Location: Union, OR
Contact: darrin.walenta@oregonstate.edu

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