



# California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## WEATHER



An upper level ridge of high pressure lay over the West Coast at the start of the week, and warm and dry conditions resulted across California. This pattern continued until midweek, when a low pressure system approached the coast of British Columbia, and the associated low pressure trough moved over the West Coast. This resulted in an increased onshore flow, with cooler temperatures and increased humidity for most of the State, with the exception of the southeast interior deserts. Cold fronts passing through the Pacific Northwest occasionally brushed the northern edges of the State, but these systems brought only variable high cloudiness and no significant rainfall to California. The only measurable rainfall in the state during the week was along the extreme northern coast, where light rain and drizzle fell at times, and some isolated shower activity occurred in the northern mountain ranges. By the end of the week, the low pressure trough was gradually shifting east, and temperatures were beginning to warm to above normal levels.

## FIELD CROPS

**Rice** planting was ongoing in many areas and was almost complete in some parts of the State. In Fresno County rice was emerging above the water level. Aerial herbicides were being applied to some fields. The third cutting of **alfalfa** was underway in Merced County. **Wheat** heads were maturing and harvest was expected to begin soon in some areas. Dry land grains were cut for hay. Dry land wheat was showing stress due to the drought conditions. Field **corn** planting and emergence continued. Corn for silage was irrigated. **Safflower** fields were also being irrigated. **Cotton** was cultivated and treated for aphids and mites. Spring **sugar beet** harvest was winding down. New sugar beet fields were fertilized, irrigated, cultivated, side-dressed and treated to control insects and weeds. Dry **lima beans** were being planted. **Potatoes** were being harvested in Kern County.

## FRUIT CROPS

The **grape** crop was looking good. Vines continued to leaf out and form bunches. Grape shoot and leaf thinning were ongoing. Grape vineyards were fertilized, irrigated and sprayed to control weeds, diseases and insects. **Apple, pear** and **quince** trees were still being thinned. Harvests of Poppy, Early Cot, Castlebrite and Red Velvet **apricots** continued. **Pomegranates** were blooming. **Cherry** harvest progressed with Brook and Tulare varieties being packed. May Sweet, Queencrest, Snow Angel, Spring Flame, Sugar Time and Super Rich **peach**, as well as Early Glo, Mayfire, Spring Flare and Zee Fire **nectarine** harvests were underway. **Plum** harvest was in the early stages. Stone fruit orchards were irrigated, fertilized and herbicides were applied. **Strawberry** and **blueberry** harvests continued. Harvests of **oranges** and **lemons** were ongoing, though the Navel season was in its last stages. **Olive** trees were forming fruit.

## NUT CROPS

The **almond** and **pistachio** crops were still looking good. Orchard work such as fertilization, irrigation and spray applications for weeds continued in nut orchards.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Vegetables were benefiting from higher temperatures. Early **tomato** varieties were showing fruit that was sizing well. **Melon** fields were in all stages of growth; a few fields were still being planted. **Bell pepper** planting in Merced County came to a halt but was expected to resume in July. **Zucchini** was planted. Harvests of **asparagus, bok choy, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cilantro, daikon, dandelion** and **mustard greens, garlic, green onions, kale, leaf and head lettuce, leeks, parsley, parsnips, rutabaga** and **spinach** were ongoing in Fresno County, though the harvests of some spring vegetables were winding down. Packing and shipping of **radicchio** continued.

## LIVESTOCK

Strong winds were damaging to pastures and rangelands already in poor condition. Pastures at lower elevations were deteriorating rapidly due to the lack of moisture. Cattle in the foothills were being fed hay and other supplements. Sheep were grazing on dry land wheat, retired farmland and hay fields. Bees were moved into seed onion fields and were also working in fields with wild mustard and wild flowers as a food source. Some hives were waiting for safflower and vineseed fields to bloom.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 05/20/07**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 05/20/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 05/20/07	January 1 - 05/20/07	Week Ending 05/20/07	July 1 - 05/20/07	July 1 - 05/20/07	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
<b>NORTH COAST</b>										
Eureka	49	-4	58	38	0	0	0.08	37.04	36.94	37.53
Ukiah	62	0	90	43	108	19	0.00	23.43	38.39	37.96
Santa Rosa	59	-2	80	42	76	8	0.00	20.63	30.21	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	56	-3	64	49	56	0	0.00	11.71	19.98	19.70
San Jose	60	-4	71	49	132	61	0.00	9.46	14.80	14.42
Salinas AP	56	-3	67	48	42	0	0.00	8.42	12.56	12.44
Monterey FAA	54	-3	65	44	26	0	0.00	7.02	14.50	18.72
King City	60	-2	81	40	146	26	0.00	5.21	12.05	11.44
Paso Robles AP	66	2	91	43	190	39	0.00	3.92	13.17	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	71	5	93	53	310	123	0.00	22.77	33.38	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	72	4	95	55	318	145	0.00	12.60	22.86	22.29
Chico AFS	70	4	95	48	336	98	0.00	12.78	25.57	26.32
Marysville	68	0	92	47	240	185	0.00	12.18	21.76	21.04
Sacramento AP	67	1	90	49	212	96	0.00	10.89	17.49	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	69	2	90	51	345	136	0.00	7.93	13.61	13.95
Fresno	72	3	91	55	426	220	0.00	6.06	10.97	10.60
Bakersfield	73	3	91	58	507	273	0.00	3.08	6.33	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	57	-1	68	44	121	0	0.00	5.13	13.96	12.36
Santa Barbara	56	-3	66	45	38	0	0.01	7.20	17.07	16.25
Ventura	57	57	65	46	45	0	0.00	6.07	15.14	4.71
Los Angeles	64	-3	72	54	434	296	0.00	3.21	15.02	14.77
Riverside	67	1	86	49	466	168	0.00	1.70	10.51	9.58
San Diego AP	61	-4	65	57	153	167	0.00	3.91	10.58	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	67	5	91	42	161	20	0.00	1.50	4.75	5.37
Lancaster	74	7	92	48	397	103	0.00	1.33	7.73	6.92
Daggett AP	80	6	99	57	764	420	0.00	0.66	4.07	3.93
Thermal AP	78	0	98	56	1,012	805	0.00	0.19	3.55	3.16
Blythe	83	3	100	64	1,096	868	0.00	3.85	4.04	3.60
Imperial	81	3	99	60	1,122	838	0.00	0.13	2.98	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	56	5	85	29	7	0	0.00	6.49	11.03	12.01
Mt. Shasta	60	6	82	35	17	0	0.00	25.13	38.01	37.02
Blue Canyon	62	9	73	52	46	0	0.00	48.75	64.11	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	81	48	63	0	0.00	15.39	36.96	37.05

Normal is defined as average over the 30-year period 1961 through 1990. Dashes (-) in Average Week Ending and Departure from Normal columns mean less than five days reporting, while in High and Low columns mean no days reporting.

Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data are quality controlled by the National Climatic Data Center, the accumulated growing degree day and precipitation values are updated.