



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER



It was a fairly quiet week for California weather, as a low pressure trough moved out of the region through the Great Basin, across northeast Nevada and Idaho. Isolated showers fell across the northeastern plateau behind the trough. In the wake of that system, high pressure began to build over California. As a result, temperatures across the State gradually began to warm up to above seasonal normal, with highs across the Central Valley and the southern California interior reaching the 80s and lower 90s. The deserts in the southeast warmed into the 100 to 110 degree range by the end of the week. Only the immediate coastal strip remained cool, with some spotty light drizzle reported along the northern coast.

FIELD CROPS

With warmer weather, drying conditions for hay have been excellent. The cycle of cutting and baling **alfalfa** has been well underway. **Barley**, **oats** and **wheat** have been growing well with many fields headed out. Early planted **corn** was also showing good progress. The harvests of small grains for silage have increased with the warmer than normal conditions. Slight lodging in small grains was seen in some areas due to strong winds. Winds also halted field activities in some **sweet potato** fields. Wheat fields were irrigated or fertilized. New **sugar beet** fields were fertilized, irrigated, cultivated and side-dressed. Fall sugar beets were still being harvested. **Cotton** fields were cultivated and treatments were applied to control insects and weeds. Many **rice** fields were emerging. Some dry **bean** fields had also emerged and good growth was noted. In other areas of the State bean planting was still underway. A few **safflower** fields were in the full flower stage in Fresno County.

FRUIT CROPS

Grape shoot and leaf thinning continued. Various varieties were still blooming. Grape vineyards were fertilized, irrigated and sprayed to control weeds, diseases and insects. **Apple**, **pear**, and **quince** trees were still being thinned. Apples were sprayed for worms. Stone fruit orchard activities included irrigation, fertilization and the application of herbicides. Harvests of Poppy, Early Cot, Castlebrite, Katy, Primacot, Judy's Delight and Red Velvet **apricots** continued. **Cherry** harvest also continued with Rainier and Tulare varieties being packed. Crimson Lady, Early Saturn, Saturn, Spring Snow, May Sweet, Queencrest, Snow Angel, Spring Flame, Sugar Time and Super Rich **peach** and Early Glo, Mayfire, Spring Flare, Red Jewel and Zee Fire **nectarine** harvests were underway. Harvest of Flavorosa **pluots** began. Harvests of Red Beaut and Black Ice **plums** progressed. **Pomegranates** continued to bloom and form fruit. **Kiwi** fruits were being treated to control weeds and insect pests. **Strawberry** and **blueberry** harvests were ongoing. Harvests of **lemons** and Navel **oranges** continued at a slow pace. Valencia harvest was picking up speed, though fruit maturity remained a problem for some growers. Some growers were treating to control fungus and weeds and applying nutrients. Some **olive** trees were still blooming and others continued to form fruit.

NUT CROPS

Almond orchards were being sprayed for weeds and mites. **Walnut** groves were being sprayed for blight. Cultural activities such as fertilization and irrigation were also underway in nut groves.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Conducive weather conditions have promoted positive growth patterns for many vegetables. Planting of **peppers**, **okra**, **eggplant**, **string beans** and **tomatoes** continued in Tulare County and crookneck and zucchini **squash** were being picked. Planting of processing tomato, **cantaloupe**, and **honeydew** continued in Merced County. 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. Packing and shipping of **radicchio** was winding down.

LIVESTOCK

Foothill pastures were dry. Feeder cattle and calves, mainly in the northern area, continued to ship to local auctions or to video sale buyers. Most feeder cattle in central California have already shipped from pastures, with many moving to video sale buyers, local auctions or to local feedlots. Some areas in central California reported forage growth on foothill pastures this past winter was only 40 percent of normal. Some beef cows remained on foothill pastures and many were receiving protein and other supplemental feeds. Many of the cattle that normally move to summer irrigated pastures have already done so. Sheep were grazing on dryland wheat, retired farm land and in older alfalfa fields in the central area. Bee hives were being placed into melon, cucumber and squash fields for pollination.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 05/27/07

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 05/27/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 05/27/07	January 1 - 05/27/07	Week Ending 05/27/07	July 1 - 05/27/07	July 1 - 05/27/07	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	50	-4	62	39	0	0	0.03	37.09	37.26	37.53
Ukiah	66	3	91	43	152	44	0.00	23.43	38.62	37.96
Santa Rosa	64	2	87	46	104	21	0.00	20.63	30.38	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	60	1	82	49	66	0	0.00	11.71	20.05	19.70
San Jose	66	1	84	52	174	94	0.00	9.46	14.88	14.42
Salinas AP	57	-2	71	42	42	0	0.00	8.42	12.61	12.44
Monterey FAA	56	-2	73	42	26	0	0.00	7.02	14.50	18.72
King City	63	-1	87	41	164	47	0.00	5.21	12.08	11.44
Paso Robles AP	66	2	93	40	234	72	0.00	3.92	13.20	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	73	5	94	55	400	181	0.00	22.77	34.03	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	73	3	94	55	412	217	0.00	12.60	23.07	22.29
Chico AFS	71	3	91	48	411	152	0.00	12.78	25.77	26.32
Marysville	72	2	92	51	322	257	0.00	12.18	21.91	21.04
Sacramento AP	70	3	89	52	284	146	0.00	10.89	17.59	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	73	4	94	53	436	197	0.00	7.93	13.69	13.95
Fresno	74	3	96	54	526	299	0.00	6.06	11.06	10.60
Bakersfield	76	3	95	57	616	361	0.00	3.08	6.38	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	59	1	75	44	122	0	0.00	5.13	14.00	12.36
Santa Barbara	58	-2	66	50	38	2	0.01	7.21	17.11	16.25
Ventura	59	59	67	49	46	0	0.01	6.08	15.17	4.71
Los Angeles	65	-3	73	55	466	348	0.00	3.21	15.07	14.77
Riverside	69	1	90	50	526	220	0.00	1.70	10.55	9.58
San Diego AP	62	-3	68	58	170	202	0.00	3.91	10.61	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	65	1	93	36	204	51	0.00	1.50	4.80	5.37
Lancaster	71	2	92	44	472	162	0.00	1.33	7.75	6.92
Daggett AP	78	2	99	54	891	534	0.00	0.66	4.09	3.93
Thermal AP	78	-2	98	55	1,137	945	0.00	0.19	3.56	3.16
Blythe	82	0	100	64	1,249	1020	0.00	3.85	4.05	3.60
Imperial	81	1	101	61	1,266	977	0.00	0.13	2.99	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	54	1	82	30	8	0	0.05	6.54	11.29	12.01
Mt. Shasta	58	3	83	34	30	0	0.00	25.13	38.42	37.02
Blue Canyon	60	5	72	46	58	0	0.00	48.75	64.48	67.04
Yosemite	63	3	84	45	91	0	0.00	15.39	37.28	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.