



California Crop Weather

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

In Cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER



A cold and dry arctic air mass remained in place over California at the start of the week, and many locations across the State reported morning low temperatures below freezing. Across the Central Valley, overnight lows plunged into the 20s for several hours each morning during the first part of the week. On Tuesday and Wednesday, a weak cold front moved down the State. This system spread isolated showers across the region, and the winds associated with the cold front managed to stir up the atmosphere to briefly moderate temperatures in some areas. However, in the Central Valley mornings remained very chilly. High pressure behind the cold front moved into the Great Basin, creating an offshore flow which brought cool and dry air into the State. This pattern resulted in a Santa Ana like condition for southern California, and led to increased fire danger in the southern counties. In the north, the offshore breeze moderated the overnight lows somewhat, and allowed daytime temperatures to rise well above normal. Precipitation totals from the week's frontal passage were not impressive, generally less than a tenth of an inch.

FIELD CROPS

Cold weather slowed the growth of **wheat, oats**, winter forage, and other small grains. Small grain fields in the Central Valley were showing stress due to lack of moisture. Dormant herbicide applications to **alfalfa** were complete, and cold weather has slowed growth. Newly planted alfalfa fields were adversely affected by the recent freezing temperatures. **Potatoes** and **sugar beets** were also damaged by the freeze. **Sweet potato** hotbed fumigations were complete in Merced County.

FRUIT CROPS

Damage assessments were still being made to the citrus crop because of the freeze. It appears damage was substantial. Packing houses were moving fruit picked before the freeze. **Oranges** for juice were harvested. Oro Blanco and Melogold **grapefruit** harvest was nearing completion in Tulare County. Some growers were pruning in preparation for harvest and treating to control fungus and weeds. **Grape** vineyard activities such as pruning, herbicide spraying, and trellis system repair continued. New vineyard cover crops were doing well. Stone fruit and **pomegranate** tree cultural practices continued with fertilizing, pruning, shredding, applying herbicides and dormant sprays, and the pushing out of orchards for replanting. **Strawberry** and **raspberry** nursery stock digging was winding down.

NUT CROPS

Almond and **pistachio** tree cultural activities continued with pruning, brush shredding and applying herbicides. New almond and **walnut** orchards were planted. Existing walnut orchards were pruned and soil amendments and pre-emergent herbicide applications were made.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Recent freezing weather has also affected vegetable growers. Damage occurred to **broccoli** but the extent of damage was unknown. **Radicchio** also sustained damage. Greenhouses were heated to protect seedlings. Land preparations were still being made for **tomato** planting, but some planting activities were put on hold because of the weather. Some harvest activities were also put on hold. In other areas, the harvests of broccoli, **mustard greens, spinach, lettuce, cabbage, kale, leeks, parsley, Swiss chard, turnips, green onions** and various Asian vegetables were ongoing. Some fields were also weeded, irrigated, fertilized and treaded to control insects and mildew.

LIVESTOCK

Stocker cattle were shipped into California from other states for grazing. Ranges were still growing slowly. Many pastures were deteriorating due to lack of moisture and supplemental feeding of livestock was necessary. Because of freezing temperatures, special efforts were made to keep cow walkways free from ice. Spring calving was about to begin. Sheep were still grazing in alfalfa fields. Beehives continued to be moved into California from other states for the upcoming almond pollination season.

This report is available the first workday of the week after 1:00 PDT at
[www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics by State/California/Publications/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/California/Publications/index.asp)

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 01/21/07

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 01/21/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 01/21/07	January 1 - 01/21/07	Week Ending 01/21/07	July 1 - 01/21/07	July 1 - 01/21/07	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	41	-8	52	27	0	0	0.02	20.15	19.94	37.53
Ukiah	44	-4	66	21	0	0	0.00	11.04	19.89	37.96
Santa Rosa	45	-3	68	24	0	0	0.00	9.82	15.52	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	46	-3	62	33	0	0	0.16	6.81	9.88	19.70
San Jose	46	-4	63	31	0	0	0.18	3.92	7.07	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	0.00	7.03	14.21
Salinas AP	44	-7	64	25	0	0	0.17	4.16	5.90	12.44
Monterey FAA	45	-8	59	29	0	0	0.22	3.75	7.58	18.72
King City	43	-7	66	19	0	0	0.06	2.24	5.24	11.44
Paso Robles AP	40	-8	63	16	0	0	0.00	1.72	5.76	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	48	2	67	21	2	0	0.00	12.15	16.40	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	46	-1	65	22	0	0	0.00	5.96	12.10	22.29
Chico AFS	43	-2	65	24	0	0	0.00	6.76	12.81	26.32
Marysville	42	-5	62	20	0	0	0.00	4.96	11.00	21.04
Sacramento AP	42	-5	62	21	0	0	0.00	5.98	8.70	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	42	-4	65	20	0	0	0.09	3.83	6.69	13.95
Fresno	41	-6	57	24	0	0	0.00	3.36	4.88	10.60
Bakersfield	41	-8	57	24	0	0	0.00	1.63	2.76	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	47	-4	66	25	3	0	0.08	2.48	5.83	12.36
Santa Barbara	45	-8	67	24	0	0	0.02	2.20	7.63	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	23	0	0.00	0.00	6.69	14.38
Los Angeles	54	-5	70	36	26	0	0.01	1.32	6.20	14.77
Riverside	49	-5	68	30	16	0	0.00	0.80	4.53	9.58
San Diego AP	50	-8	61	35	4	0	0.00	2.05	4.77	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	35	-4	63	9	0	0	0.00	0.83	2.50	5.37
Lancaster	34	-11	60	7	0	0	0.00	0.44	3.58	6.92
Daggett AP	39	-11	63	14	0	0	0.00	0.22	2.52	3.93
Thermal AP	45	-10	69	17	1	0	0.09	0.12	2.23	3.16
Blythe	47	-8	67	25	2	0	0.13	4.78	2.78	3.60
Imperial	46	-11	66	23	3	0	0.00	0.05	2.07	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	22	-8	41	-3	0	0	0.00	2.61	5.74	12.01
Mt. Shasta	32	-4	46	11	0	0	0.02	13.02	19.76	37.02
Blue Canyon	40	1	57	23	0	0	0.00	20.00	33.17	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	10.56	18.60	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.