



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER



High pressure built over northwest California at the start of the week, resulting in dry and very mild temperatures across most of the State. By Wednesday, one weak weather system moved across the region, cooling off the temperatures and bringing a few showers. This system moved down the coast, and eventually dropped into southern California, where it brought more significant rainfall to that part of the State. A brief respite came on Friday before a stronger frontal system took aim on northern California. This storm system brought rain to the northern half of the State, along with some significant precipitation to the Sierra Nevada Mountains on Saturday night and Sunday morning. Southern California was brushed by this system late Sunday.

FIELD CROPS

Winter **wheat** heading was nearly complete in most areas. Dryland small grains were suffering from lack of moisture. The preparation and flooding of **rice** fields continued, and some rice planting had begun. Herbicide application was ongoing in rice fields. **Alfalfa** was chopped or cut and baled, with the second cutting beginning in several areas. **Safflower** planting was complete. **Sunflower** and **vineseed** fields were planted in the Sacramento Valley. Field **corn** was planted and treated for weeds. **Sugar beets** were harvested in the San Joaquin Valley. **Cotton** was planted, and early fields were emerging. Some late cotton beds were disced without planting due to low cotton prices. **Sweet potatoes** were planted in Merced County.

FRUIT CROPS

Strong winds caused minor damage to older trees in fruit orchards. Irrigation was taking place in many orchards due to the low rainfall. Fertilization and weed control measures also took place. **Apple, pear** and **quince** trees were forming fruit and some orchards were thinned. **Cherries** and **apricots** were sizing up well and good crops were expected. Early cherries were nearing maturity. **Grapes** continued to leaf out. Grapes were treated with sulfur. **Apples** were dusted. **Strawberries** were harvested. Bloom occurred in **satsuma, mandarin, orange** and **grapefruit** groves in Stanislaus County. Orange, **tangerine**, mandarin and **lemon** harvest continued at a slow rate. Some packing houses closed down but were expected to re-open in a few weeks for the Valencia season. **Minneola** harvest was finished in Tulare County. In Fresno County some mandarin growers were netting their trees to prevent bee pollination and thus seed production. **Olive** buds were swelling.

NUT CROPS

Weed control continued in **almond** and **walnut** orchards. Blight treatments also took place on walnuts. Walnuts were leafing out. Some almond orchards sustained nut loss due to strong winds. **Pistachios** were also leafing out.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Bittermelon, cucumbers, eggplant, melons, peppers, squash, tomatoes and **sweet corn** were growing well. Honeydew melons continued to grow. Processing tomatoes were sprayed for weeds and fungi. The harvests of **asparagus, bok choy, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cilantro, daikon, dandelion greens, garlic, green onions, kale, leaf and head lettuce, leeks, mustard greens, parsley, parsnips, rutabaga** and **spinach** continued. Fields of broccoli, carrots, garlic, red and yellow onions were weeded, irrigated, fertilized and treated to control insects and mildew. Packing and shipping of **radicchio** continued.

LIVESTOCK

Recent rains improved range conditions where grasses were still viable. Moisture was not sufficient to alleviate dry soils in many areas. Some livestock were still being moved to irrigated pastures because of the poor range conditions. Some ranchers were thinning their cow herds. Out of state alfalfa was shipped in and supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Sheep were grazing on retired farmland and alfalfa fields. Bees were working in blooming orchards or placed in holding areas in anticipation of safflower and vineseed bloom.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 04/22/07

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 04/22/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 04/22/07	January 1 - 04/22/07	Week Ending 04/22/07	July 1 - 04/22/07	July 1 - 04/22/07	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	46	-6	54	36	0	0	1.39	37.85	35.18	37.53
Ukiah	50	-7	76	32	28	0	1.29	22.83	37.09	37.96
Santa Rosa	52	-6	77	37	15	0	1.98	18.82	29.35	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	54	-2	70	46	16	0	0.84	11.77	19.44	19.70
San Jose	55	-5	73	42	49	0	0.50	8.80	14.22	14.42
Salinas AP	53	-4	68	41	15	0	0.52	8.31	12.18	12.44
Monterey FAA	52	-2	61	42	10	0	0.20	6.98	14.28	18.72
King City	53	-6	80	35	58	0	0.42	5.39	11.69	11.44
Paso Robles AP	52	-6	79	31	61	0	0.19	3.99	12.82	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	55	-6	82	33	92	2	1.54	21.28	31.31	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	55	-5	85	35	88	3	0.48	12.12	21.80	22.29
Chico AFS	57	-2	84	35	128	0	0.00	11.68	24.59	26.32
Marysville	56	-6	79	35	45	16	0.78	12.47	20.92	21.04
Sacramento AP	56	-4	79	36	52	0	0.68	10.47	16.86	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	57	-3	82	39	119	5	0.40	8.08	13.04	13.95
Fresno	57	-6	78	39	142	24	0.42	5.98	10.48	10.60
Bakersfield	59	-5	82	42	199	44	0.06	3.66	6.06	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	55	-1	74	38	75	0	0.61	5.17	13.53	12.36
Santa Barbara	54	-4	72	40	15	0	1.11	7.30	16.73	16.25
Ventura	53	53	67	41	64	0	1.02	6.06	14.82	4.71
Los Angeles	58	-6	71	46	271	131	0.50	3.17	14.55	14.77
Riverside	57	-6	76	40	240	29	0.23	1.65	10.15	9.58
San Diego AP	57	-5	65	50	74	57	0.38	3.89	10.26	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	49	-6	77	19	31	0	0.00	1.50	4.51	5.37
Lancaster	54	-5	76	29	152	0	0.00	1.25	7.55	6.92
Daggett AP	59	-7	86	38	341	106	0.25	0.67	3.96	3.93
Thermal AP	65	-7	83	42	498	361	0.01	0.19	3.49	3.16
Blythe	65	-7	88	48	540	384	0.00	3.88	3.99	3.60
Imperial	66	-6	90	45	580	400	0.03	0.11	2.95	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	39	-5	65	19	0	0	0.51	6.21	9.84	12.01
Mt. Shasta	42	-5	69	23	0	0	0.75	24.10	36.27	37.02
Blue Canyon	37	-8	62	23	10	0	2.77	44.22	61.25	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	68	28	0	0	0.28	17.36	35.23	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.