



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 1999

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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CALIFORNIA, South Central

CAZ020>021

03	1400PST 2100PST				0	0	20K	22.7K	High Wind
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Much above normal wind conditions led to downed powerlines and agricultural deciduous trees in many parts of the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley. Fresno reported \$22.7K due to downed almond trees. While Kings County had approximately 20 power poles blown over on Highway 198 just east of Hanford. While wind speeds did not reach high wind warning criteria, advisory levels were reached with consistent peak gusts throughout the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley at ASOS sites varying from 38 to 45 MPH ... one unofficial gust was reported in the Kerman area of Fresno County at 64 MPH. Over 12,000 customers in the Central San Joaquin Valley and the north-portion of the South San Joaquin Valley were without power due to downed powerlines.

Kern County

**2 SE Bakersfield to
2.1 SE Bakersfield**

03	1630PST 1635PST		0.1	10	0	0	3K		Tornado (F0)
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With strong gradient wind and some convective activity, a cold air funnel touched down briefly in Southeast Bakersfield near Pacheco Road and Kaiser Court. A few small trees were downed along with damage to a small shed.

Madera County

**10 SE Madera to
10.5 SE Madera**

08	1403PST 1405PST				0	0			Funnel Cloud
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Reported just west of Highway 99 at the Fresno/Madera County Line by a Storm Chaser.

Kings County

**Hanford to
10 E Hanford**

08	1852PST 1912PST				0	0	3.4M		Hail (1.00)
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Hail damage to young vines, stone fruit, and deciduous crops.

Fresno County

Reedley

08	1925PST 1935PST				0	0	15.7M		Hail (0.75)
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Hail damage to young vines, stone fruit, and deciduous crops.

Tulare County

Porterville

08	1925PST 1940PST				0	0	2M		Hail (0.75)
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Hail damage to young vines, stone fruit, and deciduous crops. From the Tulare County Ag Commissioner some damage was reported in the vicinity of Porterville.

Tulare County

**2 W Visalia to
2 SE Visalia**

08	1925PST 1935PST				0	0	4M		Hail (0.75)
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Hail damage to young vines, stone fruit, and deciduous crops. This particular damage band was reported between Goshen/Caldwell ESE through Visalia toward Exeter in Tulare County.

Besides the frost and wind during early April, very active thunderstorms moved through the Fresno, Kings, and Tulare County areas early on the evening of April 8th. Hail up to 1-inch was reported in northeast Hanford with crop damage north and east of town. Besides the hail near Porterville, Visalia had 3/4-inch hail by 2025 PDT. Even smaller hail on intolerant crops in Fresno County brought damage to area agriculture. Fresno County assessed a loss of \$15.65M, Kings \$3.39M, and Tulare \$6.0M due to hail during this time period.

CAZ020>021

10	0300PST 0700PST				0	0	131.0M		Extreme Cold
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Unseasonably cool air led to strong radiational cooling conditions and minor frost episodes on the mornings of April 1st (unofficial report of 29 deg F.), 2nd, and the coolest conditions of these three days occurred on the morning of Easter Sunday, the 4th, in the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley. The 3 days early in the month were followed by another relatively cold morning on the 10th. While not all areas dropped to less than freezing, several areas had temperatures in the 28 to 32 degree range for 4 hours, with pockets dropping unofficially as low as 25 deg F. on the west side in Kings and Fresno Counties. Fresno dropped to 33F on the 4th



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CALIFORNIA, South Central

which broke the old record of 35 set in 1901...and dropped to 34F on the 10th. On the other hand, Bakersfield's lowest temperature was 33F on the 10th, with a 35F low on the 4th. In Kings County, Hanford dropped to 33F on the 4th, and 34F on the 10th. This time of year deciduous trees, vineyards, and vegetable crops are quite vulnerable to temperatures less than 30 degrees for any length of time. While damage losses at individual locations varied from only 30 to 60%, the amount of agricultural crop value for the San Joaquin Valley led to a substantial damage figure. All this on the heels of the disastrous December 1998 Freeze (see December Storm-of-the-Month). Damage due to freezing was assessed at Merced \$12.0M, Madera \$8.5M, and Fresno \$88.75M for the Central Valley; and Kings \$12.76M and Tulare \$9.0M for the Southern San Joaquin Valley