

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

WEEK ENDING: January 2, 2005
RELEASED: January 3, 2005

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 24 NO. 27

WEATHER



A large low pressure system nearly stationary off the Pacific Northwest coast created a series of upper level disturbances that rotated around the low and affected the entire State throughout the week. Rain fell over California through the week, with snowfall in the mountains measured in feet. Many rainfall records were set around the State.

FIELD CROPS

Recent rains delayed ground preparation and planting of small grains and winter forage across the State. Steady growth was observed in emerged grain fields. Many fields of **winter wheat** were emerged, and field conditions were reported to be good overall. Herbicides continued to be applied to grain crops. Heavy rains halted the shredding and discing of harvested **cotton** fields to meet plowdown requirements. Rainfall also delayed ginning activity in the southern desert area. A few cotton fields were prepared for spring planting where soil conditions allowed. New or dormant **alfalfa** fields were treated with herbicides. Older fields were green chopped or being grazed off by sheep. **Sweet potato** hotbed fumigations continued.

FRUIT CROPS

Fruit growers continued to conduct pruning, shredding, and weed spraying operations in orchards and vineyards, though activities were slowed due to wet ground conditions. Pre-emergent herbicides and dormant sprays were applied to vine and tree fruit acreage. Tree ropes were applied and repaired in fruit orchards. Open ground was fumigated for new orchard plantings. Trees that blew down during recent storms were removed from productive orchards. As weather conditions allowed, **grape** growers fixed wires and trellis cross arms. **Strawberry** and **caneberry** nursery stock digging continued. **Navel orange, lemon, pummelo, tangerine, clementine,** and **mandarin** harvested continued between rain showers. Citrus fruit maturity and external color were excellent. Pre-emergent herbicides and white wash continued to be applied in citrus groves. **Olive** tree pruning and brush shredding continued.

NUT CROPS

Hulling and shelling of stockpiled nuts was complete in most areas. Pruning and shredding activity took place as conditions permitted. Removal of trees that blew down during recent storms continued, but at a slower pace due to wet conditions. Many orchards were treated with pre-emergent herbicides. **Walnut** orchards were fumigated.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Wet conditions slowed activity in many vegetable fields. Fall vegetable harvesting was drawing to a close in many areas. Where conditions permitted, harvested fields were being prepared for planting the next rotation crop. Some vegetable seedlings, including **eggplant** and **peppers**, were being started in greenhouses. **Radicchio** was harvested in Merced County. The following vegetables were also harvested: **bok choy, daikon, gai choy, gailon, kale, kohlrabi, lemon grass, Napa cabbage, sugar cane, taro root,** and **turnips**.

LIVESTOCK

Winter pastures in California were in good to excellent condition due to ample rainfall. Cool to mild rainy weather proved more conducive to foothill pasture growth than the previous cold and foggy conditions. Cattle were in good condition, with minimal supplemental feeding. Many ranches were fully stocked with cattle for the winter season. Ewes with lambs were grazing in alfalfa pastures in the central and northern areas. Fall lambing was mostly complete. Lambs were grazing on pastures in the southern desert area. Central Valley milk production continued at a strong pace.

This report is available the first workday of the week after 1:00 PDT at www.usda.gov/nass/pubs/pubs.htm.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 01/02/05

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 01/02/05	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 01/02/05	January 1 - 01/02/05	Week Ending 01/02/05	July 1 - 01/02/05	July 1 - 01/02/05	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	44	-4	52	36	0	0	6.01	21.09	16.30	37.53
Ukiah	44	-1	51	36	0	0	5.93	17.11	14.99	37.96
Santa Rosa	47	0	56	38	0	0	7.46	16.67	11.80	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco Airport	51	3	58	45	0	0	5.74	13.11	7.20	19.70
San Jose	51	2	60	44	0	0	3.81	8.64	5.25	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	0.00	5.24	14.21
Salinas Airport	50	0	56	43	0	0	2.62	7.36	4.38	12.44
Monterey FAA	51	2	59	44	0	0	2.50	6.62	6.02	18.72
King City	51	3	61	38	0	0	3.93	9.13	3.87	11.44
Paso Robles Airport	49	3	55	38	0	0	5.05	10.67	4.02	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	45	1	53	36	0	0	5.81	20.40	11.97	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	46	1	54	38	0	0	5.69	12.73	9.25	22.29
Chico AFS	48	5	55	43	0	0	3.55	13.31	9.61	26.32
Marysville	49	4	61	41	0	0	2.85	11.69	8.30	21.04
Sacramento Airport	49	4	58	41	0	0	4.05	11.25	6.40	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	52	8	66	41	0	0	2.41	8.28	5.07	13.95
Fresno	51	6	59	44	0	0	2.45	6.87	3.60	10.60
Bakersfield	52	5	65	38	0	0	0.98	2.90	2.06	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria Airport	51	0	58	42	0	0	4.31	7.68	4.20	12.36
Santa Barbara	51	-1	59	39	0	0	6.60	10.53	5.31	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	0.00	4.68	14.38
Los Angeles	54	-4	62	43	0	0	8.49	13.87	4.20	14.77
Riverside	53	-1	65	39	0	0	2.12	7.51	3.05	9.58
San Diego Airport	57	0	64	47	0	0	3.29	9.51	3.42	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	36	-1	48	22	0	0	1.46	3.85	1.95	5.37
Lancaster	46	3	55	34	0	0	2.84	4.95	2.55	6.92
Daggett Airport	48	1	61	32	0	0	1.10	3.79	2.08	3.93
Thermal Airport	53	0	68	37	1	0	1.26	3.70	1.77	3.16
Blythe	55	2	67	41	0	0	0.14	2.10	2.48	3.60
Imperial	56	1	70	41	2	0	0.03	2.65	1.75	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	33	5	49	20	0	0	0.40	7.05	4.91	12.01
Mt Shasta	33	-1	42	27	0	0	3.87	22.67	15.16	37.02
Blue Canyon	30	-9	40	25	0	0	4.82	21.36	26.29	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	41	23	0	0	0.93	7.74	14.33	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.