

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

WEEK ENDING: January 30, 2005
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WEATHER



Upper level high pressure persisted over California at the beginning of the week, which resulted in sunny, dry and mild conditions over Southern California, along the coast and in the mountains. It also trapped fog and cool air in the Central Valley. This pattern finally broke up on Tuesday, as a series of Pacific storm systems made their way across California. The first storm affected the northern half of the State late Tuesday, and then spread rains as far as Southern California by Wednesday. The storms brought widespread showers to the entire State through Friday. By Saturday, the stormy pattern came to an end, and high pressure began to rebuild, bringing drying and warming to most all of California for the weekend.

FIELD CROPS

All across the State, field operations started back up as fields dried out. Most counties reported herbicide treatments to **alfalfa** and small grain fields, as well as fertilizer applications to small grains. The State's grain and new alfalfa fields were making good progress, as the rain stopped and the sun appeared. A few **cotton** fields in Fresno County had yet to be disced under to meet the plowdown requirements for Pink Bollworm due to wet field conditions. **Sugar beet** plantings in Fresno County continued to grow well. New alfalfa fields in the Kern County area were doing well with perhaps a first cutting in February, weather permitting. Field work in the heavy soil areas of Merced County were still on hold due to rain. **Sweet potato** hotbed fumigations continued, as well as herbicide applications to bedded-up fields in preparation for spring plating. In Monterey County, a few **rice** fields had begun to drain. Stanislaus County reports winter forage were doing well, although wet and windy conditions layed over some fields.

FRUIT CROPS

As weather and field conditions permitted, **grape** growers continued pruning vines, tying canes, repairing trellis wire, and replacing end posts in vineyards. Fertilizers and soil amendments were also applied in many vineyards. Growers continued to remove non-productive orchards and vineyards and prepare the open ground for new plantings. **Plum, peach, and nectarine** orchards were beginning to push buds. Orchard weed spraying, field fumigation, and dormant spraying continued in tree fruit orchards, as field conditions allowed. Field preparations for the spring **strawberry** crop were underway, with some growers laying out plastic. **Navel oranges, lemons, grapefruit, minneolas, and pummelos** were harvested. Rain and fog, however, continued to slow harvest activities in many areas. Pruning and brush shredding continued in **olive** orchards.

NUT CROPS

A few **almond** trees were pushing buds in the San Joaquin Valley. Growers began placing bees in almond orchards to aid in pollination. Removal of non-productive orchards and storm damaged trees continued. Many orchards were treated with pre-emergent herbicides. **Walnut** orchards were fumigated.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Cool, wet, windy weather continued to slow crop development and caused some additional crop damage in Ventura County. However, damage was minimal in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. **Tomato** and **onion** growers were ready to plant but unable to get into the wet fields. Early plant hot house vegetables were progressing well. In fields dry enough to support machinery, harvest of **broccoli, cauliflower, carrots,** and specialty Oriental crops continued. Planting of processed onions continued in some of the drier fields in Fresno County. Fumigations of various vegetables also continued. The following vegetables were also harvested: **beets, bok choy, daikon, gai choy, gailon, kale, kohlrabi, lemon grass, Napa cabbage, sugar cane, taro root, turnips,** and **you choy.**

LIVESTOCK

Winter pastures in California were in excellent condition in many areas. Additional rain and some sunny weather late in the period were beneficial. Cattle were in good condition with only minimal supplemental feeding reported. Fall born calves were doing very well on the grass. A few beef cows were still calving in some areas. Sheep, mainly ewes with lambs, were grazing on alfalfa pastures and fallow land. Some sheep in the southern San Joaquin Valley were moving to foothills or the Mojave desert. Lambing was reported in a few areas but most commercial operations were finished. While many dairies were still muddy, milk production improved in some areas.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 01/30/05

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 01/30/05	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 01/30/05	January 1 - 01/30/05	Week Ending 01/30/05	July 1 - 01/30/05	July 1 - 01/30/05	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	49	0	62	34	0	0	1.46	26.27	21.64	37.53
Ukiah	49	1	66	30	0	0	2.42	23.06	22.11	37.96
Santa Rosa	49	0	66	32	0	0	0.81	19.70	17.31	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco Airport	52	1	61	41	0	0	0.92	16.19	11.12	19.70
San Jose	53	1	63	38	0	0	0.98	11.60	7.95	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	0.00	7.89	14.21
Salinas Airport	53	1	67	35	2	0	0.69	9.67	6.63	12.44
Monterey FAA	53	1	62	42	0	0	0.49	8.10	8.07	18.72
King City	53	3	72	32	0	0	0.49	11.66	5.96	11.44
Paso Robles Airport	50	2	68	32	0	0	0.69	14.79	6.61	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	51	4	66	35	0	0	2.16	24.45	18.52	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	50	2	65	36	0	0	1.55	16.09	13.32	22.29
Chico AFS	49	3	61	32	0	0	1.01	17.92	14.32	26.32
Marysville	49	0	60	35	0	0	0.93	15.16	12.27	21.04
Sacramento Airport	48	0	58	32	0	0	0.99	14.00	9.81	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	48	0	59	32	0	0	1.18	11.08	7.50	13.95
Fresno	50	2	70	35	0	0	0.43	9.30	5.53	10.60
Bakersfield	51	1	67	36	0	0	0.29	5.67	3.12	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria Airport	53	1	71	35	1	0	0.48	11.28	6.66	12.36
Santa Barbara	53	0	63	36	1	0	0.50	20.01	8.64	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	28	0	0.00	0.00	7.71	14.38
Los Angeles	59	-1	71	43	50	0	0.34	20.36	7.15	14.77
Riverside	--	--	67	35	19	0	0.30	12.90	5.17	9.58
San Diego Airport	60	1	69	48	41	0	0.46	14.48	5.39	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	44	5	62	28	0	0	0.13	6.98	2.77	5.37
Lancaster	49	4	66	30	0	0	0.44	8.93	4.06	6.92
Daggett Airport	51	0	70	36	0	0	0.31	5.42	2.67	3.93
Thermal Airport	58	2	72	40	20	0	0.15	5.29	2.42	3.16
Blythe	58	2	73	43	22	0	0.77	3.94	2.94	3.60
Imperial	60	2	71	42	24	0	0.61	3.82	2.19	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	38	7	57	18	0	0	0.13	7.43	6.09	12.01
Mt Shasta	39	3	59	25	0	0	2.80	27.36	21.89	37.02
Blue Canyon	37	-2	51	25	0	0	1.87	27.23	36.09	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	51	28	0	0	0.00	9.26	20.60	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.