

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
California Field Office

WEEK ENDING: September 4, 2005
RELEASED: September 6, 2005

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 25 NO. 10

WEATHER



At the start of the week, an upper level low pressure trough pushed a dry cold front across northern California, bringing an onshore flow to the State, while gusty southwest winds blew across the higher elevations. By Tuesday, a surface high pressure center developed behind the cold front over Oregon, and this created a dry northerly flow over northern California. This led to Red Flag warnings across that part of the State for the middle of the week. By Thursday, the State lay in a southwesterly flow as an upper level low pressure trough developed over the West Coast. The southwest flow brought a cooling trend, and temperatures over much of the State were near normal by the end of the weekend. No significant precipitation was reported in California this week.

FIELD CROPS

Rice fields were forming seed heads and maturing while growers continued to drain fields in preparation for the upcoming harvest. A few **cotton** fields continued to bloom, but in most fields, boll development was ongoing. Many growers were applying the final irrigation in cotton fields, and treatment for worms continued. Field **corn** was being harvested for green chop and stored for silage production. **Sugar beet** harvest was ongoing. **Sudan grass** was sprayed for weeds, while **alfalfa** and corn were sprayed for worms. The **safflower** harvest was completed. The **vineseed** harvest continued. Ground preparation continued for the fall planting of **wheat**, **barley**, and **oats**.

FRUIT CROPS

Terracing for placement of raisin trays continued in **grape** vineyards. Zante **currants** continued to be dried and most have been rolled and picked up. Other varieties were placed for drying, rolled, and retrieved in many vineyards. Fresh market grapes, including Thompson Seedless, Red Globe, Autumn Royal, Crimson, and Crimson Rose, were harvested. Wine and juice grapes were also harvested. Many grape vineyards were treated for mites. Irrigation in tree fruit orchards continued, and some mite treatment was noted. A few orchards were removed after harvest, and other orchards were pruned to aid in next season's development. Stone fruit harvesting continued including **prunes**, Howard Sun and October Sun fresh **plums**, August Snow and September Snow **peaches**, and Red Jim and Arctic Pride **nectarines**. Pineapple **quince**, Early Foothill and Early Red **pomegranates**, Granny Smith **apples**, and **figs** were harvested. Planting of **strawberries** began in the San Joaquin Valley. Irrigation of citrus groves continued. Harvesting of Valencia **oranges** was mostly complete, but a few remaining oranges were picked for processing. Fertilizer and micro nutrient applications were made through drip line irrigation systems in **kiwifruit** orchards in order to reduce vine heat stress and fruit drop. The kiwifruit crop was progressing and sizing well.

NUT CROPS

Almond harvest was in full swing across the State with trees being shaken and nuts being swept and picked up from orchard floors and transported to hulling facilities. **Walnut** growers were evaluating the season's crop as they prepared for the upcoming harvest. Some walnut growers were concerned about sunburn and other defects caused by the hot weather.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Growers were taking advantage of cool mornings and hot afternoons to plant and harvest their vegetable crops. Ground preparation for the upcoming **cauliflower** season began. **Spinach** and **broccoli** continued to grow normally. **Onions** for processing were curing in the fields, while some onions were showing signs of sunburn. **Tomato** and **watermelon** harvests were coming to a close. **Pumpkins** were planted. Harvesting continued for **bell peppers**, **cantaloupe**, **eggplant**, **green beans**, summer **squash**, and **zucchini**.

LIVESTOCK

Non-irrigated ranges and pastures were in poor condition due to the summer heat. Range cattle, however, were in good condition. Milk production was low due to heat stress. Demand was excellent for stocker and feeder cattle. Fall calving was beginning in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys. Sheep continued to graze in old grain fields. Beehives were still present in vineseed fields and late planted melon fields.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 09/04/05

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 09/04/05	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 09/04/05	January 1 - 09/04/05	Week Ending 09/04/05	July 1 - 09/04/05	July 1 - 09/04/05	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	57	-1	79	46	11	0	0.01	0.30	0.64	37.53
Ukiah	71	0	99	47	1,221	1,163	0.00	0.00	0.29	37.96
Santa Rosa	67	-1	96	48	607	674	0.00	0.04	0.23	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	65	1	89	54	390	291	0.01	0.06	0.12	19.70
San Jose	70	0	93	56	976	1,008	0.00	0.01	0.13	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1,299	1,115	0.00	0.00	0.12	14.21
Salinas AP	63	-2	84	48	314	271	0.00	0.04	0.11	12.44
Monterey FAA	61	0	83	50	106	92	0.00	0.01	0.30	18.72
King City	69	1	94	45	1,022	779	0.00	0.00	0.07	11.44
Paso Robles AP	72	0	97	46	1,386	1,237	0.00	0.08	0.09	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	79	2	101	57	2,174	1,995	0.00	0.00	0.55	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	79	1	102	57	2,069	2,078	0.00	0.01	0.33	22.29
Chico AFS	77	3	102	53	1,932	1,645	0.00	0.00	0.32	26.32
Marysville	75	0	97	55	1,818	1,937	0.00	0.00	0.18	21.04
Sacramento AP	74	1	97	55	1,610	1,505	0.00	0.00	0.15	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	76	1	99	54	1,901	1,743	0.02	0.27	0.11	13.95
Fresno	81	3	100	61	2,441	2,231	0.00	0.00	0.08	10.60
Bakersfield	82	2	99	63	2,510	2,451	0.00	0.02	0.13	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	63	-1	82	47	305	280	0.00	0.00	0.15	12.36
Santa Barbara	64	-3	78	50	455	515	0.02	0.08	0.24	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	707	626	0.00	0.00	0.13	14.38
Los Angeles	73	-2	89	59	1,519	1,686	0.00	0.00	0.18	14.77
Riverside	78	2	103	55	1,878	1,761	0.00	0.00	0.25	9.58
San Diego AP	70	-2	79	63	1,206	1,214	0.00	0.01	0.16	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	72	0	98	42	1,564	1,382	0.00	0.43	0.35	5.37
Lancaster	77	0	102	47	2,105	1,936	0.00	0.01	0.32	6.92
Daggett AP	87	2	107	65	3,169	3,130	0.00	0.37	0.91	3.93
Thermal AP	89	1	114	67	3,930	3,779	0.00	0.00	0.66	3.16
Blythe	93	2	115	76	4,204	4,180	0.00	1.35	1.03	3.60
Imperial	94	4	117	71	4,032	3,910	0.00	0.68	0.51	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	60	-1	89	33	548	295	0.00	0.00	0.76	12.01
Mt. Shasta	64	1	86	44	626	436	0.00	0.00	1.00	37.02
Blue Canyon	67	2	78	54	812	524	0.00	0.00	1.19	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	91	44	1,170	938	0.00	0.00	0.97	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.