

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
California Field Office

WEEK ENDING: June 4, 2006
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WEATHER



The week began dry and a little cooler than normal for California as a weak high pressure ridge kept storms away from the State. The ridge kept temperatures at, or slightly below, seasonal normals. The dry and mild weather persisted through midweek. On Thursday, a low pressure area remained off the coast of the Pacific Northwest, while strong high pressure began to develop over the Four Corners region of the Desert Southwest. This brought different weather regimes to the northern and southern parts of the State for the remainder of the week. The ridging had the predominate influence on the weather in the south. In the north, the low pressure system had more influence. As a result, the weather over southern California was hot and dry through the end of the week, with many locations having temperatures around 100 degrees. Temperatures ranged in the 80s and 90s in the north. There were showers on the north coast, scattered showers and thunderstorms in the mountains, and isolated showers in the northern Sacramento Valley.

FIELD CROPS

Harvesting of winter **forage** crops for hay and silage was winding down. Hay drying conditions were improving with warmer temperatures. The second cutting of **alfalfa** for hay was ongoing. Seed alfalfa fields were weeded. **Rice** field flooding and planting continued. Some rice growers were also beginning to apply pesticides to their fields. **Sugar beets** were harvested. **Corn** planting continued in many areas, and earlier planted crops were progressing well. The harvest of winter **wheat** for silage was nearly complete, and harvest for grain was on-going. **Safflower** fields were showing good growth. **Sweet potatoes** were planted in the San Joaquin Valley.

FRUIT CROPS

Stone fruit harvesting continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Among the varieties harvested were April Snow and May Snow **peaches**, Red Beaut and Early Queen **plums**, and Red Roy and May Glo **nectarines**. Popycot, Poppy, Golden Sweet, Diamondcot and Castlebrite **apricots** were harvested with good size and color reported. Fruit previously scarred by hail was left in the field. **Cherry** harvest was complete in southern areas of the San Joaquin Valley, but was at its peak in more northern locations. Bing, Tulare, and Rainer variety cherries were ready for harvest. **Blueberry** and **strawberry** harvesting continued throughout the State. **Blackberry** harvest had just begun in the San Joaquin Valley. **Pomegranates** continued to bloom. The yearly cycle of cultivation, furrowing, irrigation, and mildew control continued in **grape** vineyards. Pesticide and fungicide applications for insect and mildew control remained underway. Field crews were suckering and pulling leaves in vineyards and training canes onto trellises. Perlette and Flame Seedless table grapes were harvested in the Coachella Valley. Navel **orange** harvesting was approaching its end for the season. Valencia picking continued, but activities were slowing down due to lack of demand and the start of the tree fruit season. Spraying for scale control began in citrus groves, and new citrus fruits were developing fairly well due to mild weather. Hand and mechanical pruning in **lemon** groves continued. **Grapefruit** and lemons continued to be harvested, and **olive** trees continued to bloom.

NUT CROPS

Almond, **pistachio**, and **walnut** nuts continued to size up. Cultural practices continued, including irrigation, spray applications for weed and mildew control, and treatment for codling moth, mites, and lygus. Almond and pistachio orchards were also treated to control the leaf footed bug.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Warming weather stimulated vegetable development. Cultivation, hand weeding and irrigation continued. Some **tomato** fields were treated with herbicides for weed control. Fungicides, herbicides and insecticides were applied to **garlic** and **onion** fields. A few **melon** fields were treated for cucumber beetle. Tomato, **sweet corn**, and melon planting continued. Harvest of **cucumbers**, daikon, **mustard greens**, summer **squash** and **zucchini** continued. **Amaranth**, **basil**, **carrots**, corn, **dandelions**, and onions were reported harvested. **Peppers**, **bittermelon**, **kabocha**, **moqua**, **opo**, and **sinqua** were showing good progress.

LIVESTOCK

Rangelands continued to dry out at lower elevations but nutrient levels remained good. At higher elevations, pastures still had moisture and growth. Beef cows and stocker cattle continued to move to summer pastures. Grazing conditions provided for weight gains on cattle. Sheep continued to graze on harvested small grain and broccoli fields. Sheep on pasture also benefited from the good conditions. Dairy production was going well. Bees continued to pollinate melon, cucumber and alfalfa fields in central California and seed fields in northern California.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 06/04/06

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 06/04/06	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 06/04/06	January 1 - 06/04/06	Week Ending 06/04/06	July 1 - 06/04/06	July 1 - 06/04/06	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	56	1	66	41	2	0	0.37	62.30	37.58	37.53
Ukiah	66	1	88	40	196	85	0.02	51.07	38.85	37.96
Santa Rosa	63	0	83	43	87	45	0.00	45.69	30.54	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	62	2	77	51	58	3	0.01	26.05	20.11	19.70
San Jose	67	1	83	48	206	139	0.00	22.43	14.95	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	193	111	0.00	0.00	14.54	14.21
Salinas AP	63	2	80	48	52	1	0.00	15.38	12.65	12.44
Monterey FAA	60	1	74	49	28	0	0.00	13.91	14.51	18.72
King City	67	3	91	42	185	78	0.00	13.67	12.10	11.44
Paso Robles AP	70	4	94	42	226	121	0.00	14.37	13.22	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	70	0	88	49	479	264	0.07	45.38	34.66	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	72	0	91	49	441	315	0.00	30.17	23.27	22.29
Chico AFS	72	3	93	47	432	227	0.00	31.59	25.98	26.32
Marysville	72	0	93	47	371	352	0.00	30.66	22.04	21.04
Sacramento AP	71	3	93	48	300	216	0.00	23.46	17.69	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	72	1	95	47	340	279	0.00	16.72	13.76	13.95
Fresno	75	2	94	52	484	404	0.00	15.13	11.15	10.60
Bakersfield	74	-1	92	51	522	476	0.00	6.90	6.43	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	64	4	83	43	75	0	0.00	17.40	14.03	12.36
Santa Barbara	63	2	80	47	82	11	0.01	17.70	17.14	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	195	46	0.00	0.00	15.48	14.38
Los Angeles	73	5	93	59	431	413	0.00	13.14	15.10	14.77
Riverside	76	7	104	51	513	289	0.00	7.45	10.58	9.58
San Diego AP	69	3	82	58	282	248	0.00	6.13	10.64	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	66	-1	94	37	246	103	0.00	7.75	4.86	5.37
Lancaster	74	3	97	48	462	246	0.00	6.32	7.76	6.92
Daggett AP	79	1	104	53	774	681	0.00	1.34	4.11	3.93
Thermal AP	87	5	112	62	1,120	1,119	0.00	2.35	3.58	3.16
Blythe	87	3	112	58	1,276	1,211	0.00	2.45	4.06	3.60
Imperial	85	3	113	61	1,210	1,151	0.00	1.90	3.00	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	56	1	81	26	26	0	0.00	15.66	11.57	12.01
Mt. Shasta	58	0	77	33	50	0	0.20	60.08	38.88	37.02
Blue Canyon	59	2	73	41	77	0	0.00	90.90	64.84	67.04
Yosemite	61	0	81	42	83	10	0.00	46.01	37.58	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.