

# CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service  
California Field Office

WEEK ENDING: October 8, 2006  
RELEASED: October 10, 2006

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## WEATHER

The week started with high pressure over most of California. Daytime highs were in the 70s and lower 80s in the Central Valley. The first major low pressure system entered the State Tuesday night and into Wednesday. Rain fell over most of northern California on Thursday; up to a half an inch fell in the valley and foothills, and almost an inch in the higher elevations. The snow levels were above 7,000 feet in most locations. The low moved slowly to the south on Friday. Rainfall totals were a lot less in southern California, with less than a quarter of an inch of precipitation. High Pressure redeveloped over the Golden State on Saturday.



## FIELD CROPS

**Rice** harvest was well underway and in some areas rice straw was being baled. **Cotton** harvest was slowly picking up speed and treatments for insects occurred on some fields. The **vineseed** and **dry bean** harvests progressed, though drying conditions for beans were hampered by rain in some areas. The seventh cutting of **alfalfa** was ongoing, but growth was slowed due to shorter days and cooler temperatures. Trace amounts of rain contributed to drying time. **Sugar beets** were irrigated, cultivated, side-dressed and sprayed. **Corn** for silage harvest was ongoing. The **sunflower** harvest was almost finished. **Sweet potatoes** were harvested. Winter forage planting continued.

## FRUIT CROPS

Stone fruit harvest was nearly complete. Cultural operations such as fall pruning, the application of herbicides and the pushing out of orchards for replanting occurred. Stone fruit varieties being picked and packed included Sweet September, Autumn Sun, Prima Gattie and Snow Fall **peaches**; Arctic Mist and Late Red Jim **nectarines**; Flavor Fall **pluots**; and Angelino, Autumn Beaut and Holiday **plums**. Grape growers continued to cultivate, irrigate and treat vineyards with herbicides. Autumn Royal, Crimson Seedless, Crispy, Italia, Prima Red, Red Globe and Thompson Seedless table **grape** varieties were being harvested. The harvest of grapes for **raisins** was essentially complete, but growers of dried-on-the-vine raisins continued to harvest their crop. The Granny Smith **apple** harvest was ongoing. **Fig** harvest progressed and prune harvest was completed. Early Foothill, Early Red and Early Wonderful **pomegranates** were harvested. Valencia **oranges** were packed in Tulare County. Citrus groves were irrigated and fertilized and treatments were applied for weed control.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond** harvest is almost complete as a few growers continued with the shaking of trees. **Walnuts** varieties were harvested in Tulare County as were **pistachios**.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

**Tomato** harvest was complete in some areas. Mold was reported in some tomato fields because of the rains. **Pumpkin** and **melon** harvests were ongoing. The melon harvest was slowed because of the cooler temperatures and shorter days. **Asparagus** harvest continued and in some areas fields were sprayed for aphids. Fall **broccoli** and **lettuce** fields were in various stages of planting and growth. Freezer **lima bean** harvest progressed and insecticide applications were made in some fields. Beds were prepared for **onions**. Other vegetables reported harvested were **amaranth**, **basil**, **cucumber**, **green**, **long** and **wax beans**, **eggplant**, **mustard greens**, **squash**, **sweet corn**, **peppers**, **parsley** and **cilantro** as well as many Asian vegetables.

## LIVESTOCK

Beef cattle continued to move from higher elevations to foothill pastures. Feeder cattle were moving to market. Colder temperatures and threat of snow in some higher elevation pastures were prompting increased movement. Dry grass on many foothill ranches was ample due to heavy spring rains. Cattle were receiving protein and other supplements. Fall calving of beef cows continued. Mild weather in valley areas was helping milk production. Sheep were grazing in harvested wheat, barley and cantaloupe fields in the central area. Fall lambing was expected to begin soon. Feeder lambs were arriving in the southern desert from out-of-state for the winter pasture season. Bees were moving to winter staging areas in the Central and Northern Valley.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 10/08/06**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 10/08/06	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 10/08/06	January 1 - 10/08/06	Week Ending 10/08/06	July 1 - 10/08/06	July 1 - 10/08/06	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
<b>NORTH COAST</b>										
Eureka	52	-4	67	40	31	0	0.28	0.71	1.75	37.53
Ukiah	60	-5	86	43	1,722	1,429	0.31	0.31	1.18	37.96
Santa Rosa	59	-5	87	44	876	884	0.55	0.57	0.93	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	60	-3	79	50	526	422	0.34	0.34	0.48	19.70
San Jose	62	-4	78	51	1,372	1,276	0.24	0.34	0.50	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1,591	1,406	0.00	0.00	0.47	14.21
Salinas AP	59	-4	81	45	448	407	0.00	0.05	0.42	12.44
Monterey FAA	59	-2	74	48	244	138	0.03	0.04	1.20	18.72
King City	60	-5	82	42	1,376	1,005	0.35	0.36	0.34	11.44
Paso Robles AP	61	-5	86	43	1,708	1,519	0.00	0.00	0.45	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	64	-5	89	48	2,808	2,432	0.22	0.26	1.45	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	63	-6	89	48	2,760	2,526	0.10	0.12	1.24	22.29
Chico AFS	61	-6	76	44	2,509	1,996	0.15	0.15	1.03	26.32
Marysville	62	-8	86	44	2,434	2,347	0.19	0.19	0.73	21.04
Sacramento AP	61	-6	85	46	1,978	1,860	0.26	1.11	0.59	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	63	-5	84	47	2,303	2,136	0.55	0.89	0.52	13.95
Fresno	64	-6	79	51	3,021	2,696	0.08	0.99	0.40	10.60
Bakersfield	63	-9	78	48	3,144	2,982	0.12	0.30	0.32	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	62	-1	82	46	725	395	0.04	0.19	0.45	12.36
Santa Barbara	60	-4	75	46	780	699	0.05	0.29	0.78	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	1,238	846	0.00	0.00	0.50	14.38
Los Angeles	69	-3	82	58	2,384	2,145	0.01	0.01	0.51	14.77
Riverside	68	-2	88	51	2,904	2,212	0.00	0.03	0.51	9.58
San Diego AP	66	-3	74	58	1,838	1,583	0.00	0.09	0.41	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	59	-1	80	34	1,830	1,552	0.02	0.29	0.62	5.37
Lancaster	64	-3	84	42	2,792	2,309	0.01	0.05	0.55	6.92
Daggett AP	--	--	88	58	4,087	3,757	0.00	0.06	1.19	3.93
Thermal AP	79	1	98	50	4,745	4,539	0.00	0.00	1.03	3.16
Blythe	79	-1	98	54	5,244	5,014	0.00	4.61	1.55	3.60
Imperial	80	0	101	55	5,220	4,734	0.08	0.08	0.90	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	49	-2	71	23	629	296	0.06	0.09	1.46	12.01
Mt. Shasta	51	-4	69	35	846	446	0.06	0.06	2.07	37.02
Blue Canyon	50	-8	70	40	1,207	574	0.59	0.59	3.37	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	79	36	1,375	1,090	0.60	0.98	2.05	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.