



# California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office • P.O. Box 1258 • Sacramento, CA 95812 • (916) 498-5161 • (916) 498-5186 FAX • [www.nass.usda.gov/ca](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca)

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## WEATHER



Hot weather continued across California as high pressure remained over the West at the start of the week. Daily maximum temperatures over the one hundred degree mark were normal for most interior valley locations. It was so hot in the southeastern deserts that on Monday, the minimum temperature in Death Valley only fell to 100 degrees! The pattern shifted significantly on Tuesday, with an onshore flow and a weak cold front bringing cooler temperatures to most of the Central Valley and along the coast. Even a few showers were reported on the extreme northern coastal areas, and some isolated showers also fell in the northeastern Plateau. On Wednesday, a weak northerly flow pushed large areas of smoke from Plumas County into the Central Valley. The resulting clouds of smoke were dense enough to block solar heating to the point that temperatures were held down significantly across much of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys. Valleys in southern California finally got relief from the heat on Wednesday. On Thursday, Central Valley temperatures warmed slightly as an offshore flow returned to the area and the smoke clouds dissipated, but southern California continued to enjoy a cooling trend. For Friday and the weekend temperatures were mostly near normal, but an offshore flow with low humidity kept wildfire danger high.

## FIELD CROPS

Early **rice** fields were being harvested. Other rice fields remained in various stages of developing seed heads while heading was complete in some areas. **Safflower**, **sudan** grass, and **alfalfa** harvest continued. **Cotton** fields continued to set bolls, with early bolls cracking, and some fields were being defoliated. Ground preparations for **barley**, **oat**, **wheat**, and winter forage continued. **Corn** silage and corn grain harvest continued. **Sugar beet** fields were in various stages of development. Blackeye **bean** fields were maturing in Fresno County.

## FRUIT CROPS

Wine, table, and raisin **grape** harvests were in full swing throughout the State. Good crop quality was being reported in the northern coastal areas. About 5 percent of the raisin crop had been picked up in Fresno County. **Nectarine**, **peach**, **pluot**, and **plum** harvests were winding down. **Prune** harvest was complete in some areas. **Apricot** orchards were being topped in Stanislaus County. **Apple**, **pear**, **jujube**, and **fig** harvests were ongoing at various locations throughout the State. **Pomegranates** were still coloring and harvest was ongoing in many orchards. **Persimmon** harvest was expected to begin soon in Yuba County. Heavy volume was seen in many Navel **orange** orchards for the new season. Valencia orange harvest remained slow and fruit quality was less than ideal in some groves. **Olive** orchards were sprayed for olive fruit fly. The crop appeared to be heavier than normal.

## NUT CROPS

Harvest began for early maturing **walnut** varieties. Some groves were still being treated for husk fly, codling moth, and mites. **Almond** harvest was ongoing. Some growers reported smaller sizes and lower than expected yields. **Pistachio** harvest was picking up speed. Insecticides were being applied to some pistachio groves.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Harvest continued for **basil**, **bok choy**, **broccoli**, **cilantro**, collard **greens**, **daikon**, dandelion **greens**, **garlic**, **onions**, **kale**, **leaf lettuce**, **mustard greens**, **parsley**, **peppers**, **pumpkins**, **radishes**, **spinach**, **squash**, and **tomatoes**. Growers were treating melons, processing tomatoes and fresh market tomatoes to control insects, mildew and weeds. Ground preparations continued for fall **carrot** and lettuce planting. **Cantaloupe**, **honeydew**, and **watermelon** harvest continued. Fall pole **cucumbers** and **beans** were being harvested at a steady pace in Tulare County.

## LIVESTOCK

Irrigated pastures were in good condition, but rangeland conditions remained dry and poor. Cattle were receiving supplemental feed with hay and nutrients. Bee pollination of melon fields continued. Sheep and goats were grazing on retired farmland, harvested wheat, safflower, tomato, onion and melon fields, and abandoned alfalfa fields.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 09/09/07 - “Data not available at publication”**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 09/09/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 09/09/07	January 1 - 09/09/07	Week Ending 09/09/07	July 1 - 09/09/07	July 1 - 09/09/07	July 1 - June 30
<b>NORTH COAST</b> Eureka Ukiah Santa Rosa <b>CENTRAL COAST</b> San Francisco AP San Jose Salinas AP Monterey FAA King City Paso Robles AP <b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b> Redding Red Bluff FSS Chico AFS Marysville Sacramento AP <b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b> Stockton WSO Fresno Bakersfield <b>SOUTH COAST</b> Santa Maria AP Santa Barbara Ventura Los Angeles Riverside San Diego AP <b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b> Bishop Lancaster Daggett AP Thermal AP Blythe Imperial <b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b> Alturas Mt. Shasta Blue Canyon Yosemite	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			

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.