



California Crop Weather

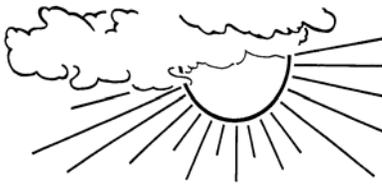
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: September 23, 2007
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WEATHER



The week began with warm and dry conditions across the state, an offshore flow producing very low humidity across southern California. As the week progressed, an unusually strong and cold upper level low pressure system developed in the Gulf of Alaska and dropped into northern California by midweek, resulting in much cooler than normal temperatures and widespread showers. The higher mountains even saw the first dusting of snow for the season! The low pressure system then skipped from northern California to a position off the Central California coast and continued to drop southward until Saturday. This spread the shower activity into southern California and allowed the North to dry out. On Saturday, the low pressure was finally pushed northeastward, resulting in some heavy shower activity for southern California, and spreading lighter rains into the north. By Sunday, most of the precipitation in the state had ceased, with the exception of some isolated showers in the mountains. Skies began to clear from the west, and temperatures began to warm, although most areas were still cooler than normal.

FIELD CROPS

Rice heading was completed and harvest was underway. **Safflower** harvest has ended in Fresno County. **Sudan** grass harvest continued. **Alfalfa** growers continued with their seventh cutting. New alfalfa planting was underway and alfalfa seed harvest has ended. **Cotton** fields continued to set bolls, with some fields being defoliated. Ground preparation for **barley**, **oat**, **wheat**, and winter forage continued. **Corn** silage and grain were in various stages of growth, harvest, irrigation, fertilization, and treatment to help with weeds and insects. **Sugar beets** remained in various stages of development. Blackeye **bean** fields were still maturing in Fresno County. **Bean** fields were wind rowed, dried, and harvested. Some bean fields were sprayed to control aphids.

FRUIT CROPS

Grape harvest continued with Autumn Royal, Champagne, Crimson Seedless, Christmas Rose, Niabell Concord, Kyoho, Red Globe, Summer Royal and Thompson Seedless table varieties being picked. Alicante Bourschet, Grenache, Merlot, Muscat, Pinot Noir, Thompson Seedless, and Zinfandel wine grapes were also harvested. About 70 percent of raisin grapes were dried and picked up in Tulare County. **Peaches**, **nectarines**, **plums**, and **pluots** were still being harvested in parts of California. Fall pruning remained underway in stone fruit orchards. **Jujubes**, **figs**, **pomegranates**, Granny Smith and Gala **apples**, and **pears** were still being harvested. **Quince** harvest was 70 percent complete in Tulare County. A few fall **strawberries** were being picked. Strawberry growers continued to plant transplants. The **olive** crop looked heavy. Groves were sprayed for olive fruit fly. As the Valencia **orange** harvest was winding down, fall scale trapping for monitoring insect levels in citrus groves for the new season continued. Foliar nutrients were applied to some trees.

NUT CROPS

Pistachios, **almonds**, and **walnuts** were still being harvested throughout the State. Worm treatments took place in some walnut orchards.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Growers were treating **melons**, processing **tomatoes**, and fresh market tomatoes to control insects, mildew and weeds. Fall **spinach** and **broccoli** crops were progressing normally. Harvest continued for broccoli, **garlic**, **onions**, leaf **lettuce**, freezer lima beans, **parsley**, **peppers**, **pumpkins**, **radishes**, spinach, **squash**, sweet **corn**, sweet **potatoes**, and tomatoes. Ground preparations started for winter **carrot** and lettuce planting. **Cantaloupe**, **honeydew**, and **watermelon** harvest continued. Harvest was at a steady pace for **amaranth**, **basil**, bittersweet melons, **bok choy**, **cassava**, **cilantro**, **choy sum**, **okra**, **eggplant**, **kale**, collard and mustard **greens**.

LIVESTOCK

Cooler weather was positive for fall calving of beef cows and milk production. Light rain fell in some foothill areas but was not sufficient to start new grass. Mountain areas received rain. Beef cows on dry foothill pastures continued to receive hay and nutrient supplements. Buyers continued to take delivery of previously purchased feeder cattle on summer pastures. Sheep and goats were grazing on retired farmland, harvested wheat, safflower, tomato, corn and melon fields and in abandoned alfalfa fields. Bees continued to pollinate in melon fields in the central area. Beekeepers in the northern valley continued to treat for wax moth.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 09/23/07

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 09/23/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 09/23/07	January 1 - 09/23/07	Week Ending 09/23/07	July 1 - 09/23/07	July 1 - 09/23/07	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	54	-3	65	41	78	0	0.01	1.23	1.17	37.53
Ukiah	62	-6	84	44	1,464	1,340	0.03	0.15	0.70	37.96
Santa Rosa	61	-5	81	43	828	804	0.05	0.22	0.53	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	61	-3	72	52	501	371	0.15	0.16	0.24	19.70
San Jose	63	-5	74	51	1,114	1,175	0.26	0.27	0.25	14.42
Salinas AP	62	-3	73	48	417	352	0.47	0.48	0.22	12.44
Monterey FAA	61	0	71	51	292	115	0.29	0.29	0.39	18.72
King City	61	-6	80	42	1,156	919	0.15	0.15	0.17	11.44
Paso Robles AP	61	-7	84	42	1,656	1,423	0.00	0.18	0.25	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	66	-8	88	48	2,582	2,274	0.21	1.36	1.01	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	64	-9	88	47	2,540	2,364	0.28	1.14	0.76	22.29
Chico AFS	65	-6	88	50	2,318	1,874	0.40	0.67	0.68	26.32
Marysville	65	-8	86	49	2,343	2,195	0.09	0.13	0.42	21.04
Sacramento AP	64	-7	82	49	1,834	1,730	0.05	0.06	0.36	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	66	-6	87	47	2,322	1,993	0.14	0.42	0.29	13.95
Fresno	67	-7	89	50	2,897	2,528	0.04	0.06	0.22	10.60
Bakersfield	68	-8	88	54	3,038	2,785	0.26	0.26	0.22	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	61	-3	75	47	512	351	0.01	0.05	0.30	12.36
Santa Barbara	60	-5	72	44	540	630	0.21	0.25	0.50	16.25
Ventura	61	61	75	47	392	0	0.23	0.23	0.33	14.38
Los Angeles	67	-7	78	55	1,955	1,958	0.52	0.52	0.36	14.77
Riverside	66	-7	84	47	2,625	2,041	0.00	0.00	0.39	9.58
San Diego AP	66	-5	71	59	1,294	1,433	0.05	0.05	0.27	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	59	-6	86	35	1,996	1,523	0.22	0.87	0.51	5.37
Lancaster	63	-8	89	41	2,889	2,190	0.20	0.22	0.45	6.92
Daggett AP	69	-10	92	51	4,088	3,527	0.00	0.16	1.10	3.93
Thermal AP	76	-7	97	55	4,519	4,248	0.00	0.20	0.90	3.16
Blythe	76	-9	95	56	5,087	4,695	0.12	0.12	1.32	3.60
Imperial	76	-9	97	59	4,948	4,415	0.45	0.50	0.72	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	54	-2	82	30	543	296	0.64	0.91	1.14	12.01
Mt. Shasta	55	-3	80	41	749	446	0.07	0.27	1.57	37.02
Blue Canyon	52	-10	74	39	1,048	573	1.28	1.30	2.15	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	79	32	1,327	1,062	0.69	2.61	1.50	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.