



# California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## WEATHER



At the beginning of the week, upper level high pressure was centered over the central California coast, while a strong surface high pressure cell was over the Great Basin area of northeastern Nevada. This resulted in dry and warm conditions over the Golden State, with Santa Ana winds blowing through southern California fanning the flames of the wildfires in that portion of the state. This pattern persisted through Wednesday, when the surface high began to shift eastward, and an upper level low pressure began to approach northern California. By the end of the week, the storm in the south spread into southern California and the central coast, resulting in light shower activity in those areas. The central coast near Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo received the heaviest rains. On Sunday, drying conditions returned as another high pressure moved over the state. A weak offshore flow developed over southern California and brought dry conditions in that part of the state.

## FIELD CROPS

**Rice** straw baling was nearing completion while rice harvest was complete within various parts of the state. **Alfalfa** eighth cutting was winding down. New alfalfa field planting continued and herbicide applications have been applied. **Cotton** harvest continued and defoliation was complete. **Oat** and **winter forage** planting continued and weed control was being applied. Herbicide sprays have been applied to earlier planted oat fields in some areas across the state. **Corn** silage and corn grain harvests remained slow. **Dry lima** and other dry **bean** harvest continued. The next round of **sugar beet** harvest has begun. **Sorghum** was being harvested in Fresno County. **Lettuce** seed fields continued to be harvested. Damage to nurseries from wind and fire was reported in San Diego County. Christmas tree farms look to have been spared by the fires.

## FRUIT CROPS

Damage to the **avocado** crop from Southern wildfires was being assessed but did not appear to be as great as initially feared. Varieties of table **grapes** still being harvested were Autumn Royal, Crimson Seedless, Christmas Rose, Red Globe, and Thompson. The wine grape and juice grape harvest continued at a slower rate with Alicante Bouschet, Grenache, Merlot, Muscat, and Zinfandel varieties still being picked. **Pomegranates** were being picked, but harvest was slowing due to cooler temperatures that were causing fruit to split. **Apple, quince, pear, jujube** and **kiwi** harvests also continued, but were tapering down. Hachiya and Fuyu **persimmons** were harvested. Strawberry transplants continued to grow well and strawberries were being picked in Tulare and Ventura counties. Navel **orange** harvest had begun in Tulare County. Testing and sizes were not favorable. Fukumoto Navel oranges were showing better maturity in the southern parts of the County. Applications of growth regulators took place in Navel orchards. Valencia orange harvest continued at a slow pace. Satsuma **mandarins** and Chandler **pummelos** were picked. High winds caused severe scarring on **lemons** in Ventura County, but the extent of damage has not been assessed. **Olive** harvest continued and was proving to be a better crop than the previous season. Many growers reported above average yields.

## NUT CROPS

Some **almond** groves were still being harvested. Growers were pruning young almond trees. **Walnut** and **pistachio** harvests also continued. Late season Franquette variety walnut harvest had begun.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Some **pumpkins** and winter vegetables in Riverside County were reported to be damaged by high winds. Growers continued to treat **melons**, processing **tomatoes** and fresh market tomatoes for control of insects, mildew and weeds. Ground preparations continued for winter **carrot** and **lettuce** planting while beds were being shaped for 2008 processing tomatoes. Lettuce, **cauliflower**, and transplanted **broccoli** crops were growing well. Harvest continued for fall broccoli, carrots, pickling **cucumbers**, leaf lettuce, freezer lima **beans**, **parsley**, **radishes**, **spinach**, and **sweet corn**. **Garlic, onion, squash**, processing and fresh market tomato harvests were winding down. Melon harvest was slow and nearing completion with some **honeydew** fields being plowed under. **Asparagus, bell pepper**, and pumpkin harvest was nearly complete. Harvest of **amaranth, basil**, bittersweet melons, **bok choy, cassava, cilantro, choy sum**, Indian beans, **dill, daikon**, leaf lettuce, **lemon grass, lobok**, long beans, **mint, moqua**, collard and mustard **greens, eggplant, kale, okra, tatsoi, tong ho**, and **yu choy** continued. Vegetable fields were being weeded, irrigated, fertilized and treated to control insects and mildew.

## LIVESTOCK

Many acres of rangeland were burned by wildfires. Thousands of horses were evacuated to fairgrounds and other facilities in Southern California. New grass growth began in a few foothill areas in northern California. However, many foothill areas including central and southern California continued to be dry. Supplemental feeding of cattle with hay or nutrients continued. Fall calving of beef cows continued with a large number of calves being branded and vaccinated. Cooler temperatures continued to help milk production. Sheep and goats were grazing on retired farm land, alfalfa fields, harvested wheat, safflower, tomato, corn, and melon fields. Feeder lambs continued to arrive in the Imperial Valley for the winter pasture season. Beekeepers were moving their bee hives to foothill and mountain locations.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 10/28/07**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 10/28/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 10/28/07	January 1 - 10/28/07	Week Ending 10/28/07	July 1 - 10/28/07	July 1 - 10/28/07	July 1 - June 30
<b>NORTH COAST</b>	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	53	-1	75	41	90	0	0.02	8.81	3.45	37.53
Ukiah	61	3	86	42	1,510	1,454	0.00	2.29	2.63	37.96
Santa Rosa	62	1	89	42	897	923	0.00	4.51	2.17	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	62	2	81	49	567	443	0.00	2.16	1.19	19.70
San Jose	64	3	86	48	1,214	1,334	0.00	1.31	1.06	14.42
Salinas AP	63	3	94	45	489	432	0.00	1.77	0.87	12.44
Monterey FAA	62	3	86	50	348	145	0.00	1.26	2.01	18.72
King City	65	5	98	39	1,267	1,043	0.08	0.38	0.68	11.44
Paso Robles AP	65	5	95	38	1,740	1,552	0.25	0.60	0.82	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	66	5	86	45	2,672	2,504	0.00	4.34	2.71	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	67	5	86	48	2,652	2,610	0.00	2.34	2.23	22.29
Chico AFS	65	5	88	45	2,438	2,043	0.00	2.04	1.88	26.32
Marysville	64	2	85	42	2,490	2,442	0.00	2.31	1.52	21.04
Sacramento AP	64	3	85	44	1,931	1,932	0.00	1.72	1.17	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	66	4	88	44	2,470	2,214	0.00	1.32	1.06	13.95
Fresno	68	6	91	46	3,096	2,792	0.05	0.26	0.77	10.60
Bakersfield	68	4	89	45	3,244	3,120	0.02	0.28	0.51	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	64	4	93	48	630	410	0.26	0.74	0.76	12.36
Santa Barbara	63	2	93	43	602	736	0.02	0.56	1.15	16.25
Ventura	68	68	96	46	669	0	0.02	0.43	0.84	14.38
Los Angeles	74	6	95	56	2,258	2,332	0.00	1.47	0.75	14.77
Riverside	74	9	98	53	2,953	2,351	0.00	0.00	0.69	9.58
San Diego AP	70	4	88	58	1,538	1,727	0.00	0.46	0.70	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	--	--	84	29	2,016	1,552	0.00	0.79	0.75	5.37
Lancaster	63	4	87	40	2,965	2,343	0.00	0.40	0.73	6.92
Daggett AP	66	1	88	43	4,350	3,921	0.00	0.16	1.28	3.93
Thermal AP	73	3	98	50	4,994	4,788	0.00	0.20	1.12	3.16
Blythe	75	4	96	56	5,611	5,287	0.00	0.12	1.71	3.60
Imperial	75	3	96	53	5,444	5,022	0.00	0.68	1.06	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	47	4	78	24	493	296	0.00	2.50	1.99	12.01
Mt. Shasta	51	3	79	34	750	446	0.00	4.10	3.61	37.02
Blue Canyon	62	12	75	50	1,065	574	0.00	7.04	6.07	67.04
Yosemite	53	1	83	20	1,361	1,090	0.00	0.93	3.59	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.