

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

WEEK ENDING: July 24, 2005
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WEATHER

The previous week's heat wave continued into the new week across California, as strong high pressure remained over the Great Basin to the east of the State. One hundred degree plus temperatures were the rule for the Central Valley, and temperatures in the southeast deserts were over 110 degrees. At midweek, upper level low pressure off the California coast began to interact with monsoonal moisture coming from the desert southwest. This combination led to increasing clouds and some thunderstorms in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The cloudiness and increased humidity also made its way across the Central Valley on Wednesday and Thursday. By Friday, the upper level low pressure had shifted northward into Oregon and weakened, while the monsoonal moisture drifted away with the low pressure. The Great Basin high pressure system then rebuilt and brought a rise in temperatures to the northern half of the State. In southern California, the remains of Tropical Storm Emily drifted in from western Mexico. This brought some clouds and increased humidity to the southern counties, and led to a few thunderstorms and isolated showers in the southeast deserts and mountains.



FIELD CROPS

Corn and **cotton** fields continued to thrive in the valley's summer heat. Some growers continued irrigation and treating corn and cotton fields for insect pests. In the Imperial Valley region, continued very hot and humid days caused scalding in **alfalfa** and cotton. Irrigation was ongoing in fields of **sugar beets** planted late in the season and harvesting of mature sugar beets was ongoing. Seed alfalfa fields continue to bloom as they were treated for lygus and irrigated. Most fields of alfalfa hay continued to be cut, wind rowed, raked, and baled, while others were irrigated. Weed treatment on **rice** fields continued, and rice was progressing very well with the hot weather. **Wheat straw** was being baled.

FRUIT CROPS

Applications of insecticides and fungicides in **grape** vineyards have slowed down, but some growers reported extra culling due to brown rot caused by the heat. Good growing conditions have increased harvest of Flame Seedless, Thompson Seedless, and Zante Currant grapes in the San Joaquin Valley. Perlette table grape harvest was winding down. Field crews continued to harvest stone fruit. Varieties of stone fruit harvested included Elegant Lady and Klondike **peaches**; Friar and Flavorich **plums**; Dapple Dandy and Flavor Grenade **pluots**; and Grand Pearl and Kay Pearl **nectarines**. Tulare Giant fresh **prune** harvest was nearly complete. Shinsui Asian **Pear** harvest continued in the San Joaquin Valley, with good sizes reported. In northern areas of the State, Bartlett pear harvesting began. Harvested tree fruit orchards were being topped, fertilized and irrigated. Unharvested orchards were heavily irrigated to offset heat damage to fruit, and some summer pruning began. The harvesting of Black Mission and Brown Turkey **figs** remained underway with good yields being reported. **Pomegranate** bloom was ongoing, and most of the fruit was sizing well and beginning to show color. Many **blackberry** growers were still harvesting fruit. Valencia **oranges** were harvested at a slow pace. Soft fruit and small sizes lowered demand for Valencias, and some citrus houses suspended their operations due to slow movement. Citrus varieties had some sunburn damage due to extreme temperatures. Growers were monitoring and spraying for cutworms, thrips, and red mites in citrus. Spraying of **olives** continued for olive fruit fly control.

NUT CROPS

Almond hull split continued to be noted in many almond orchards. **Walnut**, almond, and **pistachio** orchards were being irrigated. Codling moth treatment continued on walnut orchards. Broken limbs were reported in Yuba County, as the walnut crop appeared heavier than average.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Above normal temperatures reduced production and damaged some vegetables. Splitting **tomatoes** and burning **lettuce** were reported. **Melon** harvest increased. Spraying for worms in tomatoes and melons continued. Some tomato fields were also treated for fungus. Planting of freezer **lima beans** and **cauliflower** continued. Lettuce for fall harvest was planted. Harvest of **carrots**, **cucumbers**, **bell peppers**, bitter melon, **bush beans**, cherry tomatoes, **eggplant**, fresh market and processed tomatoes, **garlic**, **green beans**, **okra**, **onions**, **parsley**, **squash**, **string beans**, and **sweet corn** continued. **Amaranth**, **cilantro**, and various Asian vegetables were also reported harvested.

LIVESTOCK

Irrigated valley pastures and mountain summer pastures were reported to be in moderate to good condition. Hot weather was drying non-irrigated mountain pastures and stressing livestock. Some beef cows continued to graze on dry foothill pastures. Milk production was down due to hot weather. In the central area, stock ewes were grazing in retired grain fields. Beekeepers continued to move beehives to summer locations, such as the mountain forests for wild flowers. Bees were active in blooming vineseed fields in the Sacramento Valley.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 07/24/05

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 07/24/05	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 07/24/05	January 1 - 07/24/05	Week Ending 07/24/05	July 1 - 07/24/05	July 1 - 07/24/05	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	56	-1	65	48	6	0	0.02	0.11	0.17	37.53
Ukiah	78	4	104	56	622	615	0.00	0.00	0.08	37.96
Santa Rosa	66	-2	78	53	364	364	0.00	0.00	0.07	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	67	3	89	57	256	125	0.00	0.05	0.04	19.70
San Jose	71	0	82	61	580	585	0.01	0.01	0.04	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	702	613	0.00	0.00	0.03	14.21
Salinas AP	65	1	92	52	205	113	0.04	0.04	0.04	12.44
Monterey FAA	62	1	73	52	80	22	0.01	0.01	0.08	18.72
King City	71	2	92	54	595	429	0.00	0.00	0.01	11.44
Paso Robles AP	80	6	106	56	777	680	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	87	5	112	63	1,230	1,174	0.00	0.00	0.12	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	86	3	107	62	1,166	1,247	0.00	0.00	0.11	22.29
Chico AFS	84	6	109	60	1,101	973	0.00	0.00	0.09	26.32
Marysville	82	3	106	60	1,081	1,196	0.00	0.00	0.08	21.04
Sacramento AP	79	3	104	57	920	882	0.00	0.00	0.05	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	82	4	106	59	1,106	1,043	0.05	0.10	0.04	13.95
Fresno	90	7	107	69	1,416	1,363	0.00	0.00	0.01	10.60
Bakersfield	91	6	107	73	1,448	1,506	0.00	0.00	0.01	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	64	1	83	51	161	108	0.00	0.00	0.02	12.36
Santa Barbara	69	3	82	57	236	228	0.00	0.03	0.04	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	410	310	0.00	0.00	0.02	14.38
Los Angeles	78	3	96	62	960	1,042	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.77
Riverside	86	8	106	64	1,106	1,015	0.00	0.00	0.02	9.58
San Diego AP	73	2	86	65	737	699	0.01	0.01	0.02	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	85	8	108	60	920	780	0.00	0.00	0.13	5.37
Lancaster	91	10	110	71	1,232	1,123	0.00	0.00	0.07	6.92
Daggett AP	94	4	117	78	1,988	1,981	0.00	0.00	0.27	3.93
Thermal AP	96	5	115	82	2,612	2,533	0.00	0.00	0.11	3.16
Blythe	99	4	118	82	2,789	2,793	0.00	0.00	0.21	3.60
Imperial	96	4	116	82	2,722	2,600	0.16	0.16	0.07	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	72	6	98	46	267	118	0.00	0.00	0.26	12.01
Mt. Shasta	71	4	95	51	299	188	0.00	0.00	0.38	37.02
Blue Canyon	75	6	83	66	356	216	0.00	0.00	0.44	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	101	55	533	439	0.00	0.00	0.45	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.