

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
California Field Office

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WEATHER

A fairly typical fall pattern developed over California this week. Upper level low pressure from the Gulf of Alaska moved into the western United States on Monday, with a weak cold front pushing through northern California Monday evening. This front spread a few showers across the far northern portions of the State and spread cooler air across all of California on Monday. By Tuesday, the upper level low had moved into the Great Basin of northern Nevada, with a surface level high pressure area settling near the southeastern corner of Oregon. This pattern resulted in an offshore flow for California, with fairly strong northeasterly winds over the higher terrain. This resulted in a strong warming trend, especially in southern California, where temperatures reached the upper 90s, along with very dry conditions. By Friday however, upper level patterns shifted and the flow was reversed. Temperatures cooled across the State for the weekend. A weak weather system brought a few light showers to the northern coast and to extreme northern California.



FIELD CROPS

Cotton defoliation was in full swing across the State. **Rice** harvest was over sixty percent complete. Many **alfalfa** hay fields were in their final cutting for the season. New alfalfa field plantings continued. The **sugarbeet** harvest continued at Mendota, while planting in the Imperial Valley was ongoing. Chopping of field **corn** continued which was being stored for silage. Field preparation was ongoing for fall plantings of **wheat**, **barley**, and **oat** crops. Harvest continued in **vineseed** and **blackeye bean** fields.

FRUIT CROPS

Raisin **grape** harvest continued to progress smoothly in Fresno County, with about one third of the crop harvested. In Tulare County, harvest was complete. Dried on the vine raisins continued to dry in the vineyards. Table grape harvest continued with overall good quality reported. Among the table grape varieties harvested were Thompson Seedless, Red Globe, Royal, and Christmas Rose. Wine and juice grapes were harvested with Carignane, French Colombard, Barbera, and Merlot among the varieties picked. Stone fruit harvesting remained underway in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvested varieties included Angelino and Autumn Beaut **plums**, Snow Fall and Full Moon **peaches**, and Arctic Mist **nectarines**. Pruning continued in many orchards following harvest to establish fruit wood for next season. **Fig** harvesting continued with good yields reported. Granny Smith, Fuji, Pink Lady, and Gala **apple** varieties were picked. Harvesting of early variety Hachiya **persimmons** was underway in many locations. Asian **pears**, Pineapple and Smyrha **quince**, **kiwifruit**, and Early Foothill and Wonderful **pomegranates** were picked and packed. **Strawberries** were blooming and showing good growth in the San Joaquin Valley. Weed control and irrigation were ongoing in many citrus groves. A few late variety Valencia **oranges** continued to be harvested. The **olive** harvest remained underway. Olive orchards in the San Joaquin Valley were showing good size and plenty of fruit.

NUT CROPS

Almonds, **walnuts**, and **pistachios** continued to be harvested, with trees being shaken and nuts being swept and picked up from orchard floors and transported to hulling facilities.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Normal weather patterns were encouraging to vegetable growers. Insecticide was applied to some **broccoli** and **lettuce** fields. **Bell pepper**, **cantaloupe**, and processing **tomato** harvest neared completion. Harvest of **watermelons** ended in most fields. **Honeydew** harvest was complete. **Asparagus** harvest continued with good yields reported. **Pumpkins** were nearly ready for harvest. **Garlic**, **squash**, and sweet **corn** continued to be harvested.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland pastures conditions were dry with high fire danger. Beef cows were moving from higher elevation summer pastures to winter foothill pastures. While dry grass was abundant on many foothill ranches, due to poor nutritive value of the grass, many cows were receiving protein supplements. Fall calving of beef cows continued. Sheep were grazing on various pastures, including cantaloupe fields in the central area. Mild temperatures were aiding milk production. Bees were being moved to winter staging areas.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 10/09/05

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 10/09/05	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 10/09/05	January 1 - 10/09/05	Week Ending 10/09/05	July 1 - 10/09/05	July 1 - 10/09/05	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	53	-3	62	44	0	0	0.20	0.20	0.30	37.53
Ukiah	67	2	94	47	46	33	0.00	0.00	0.24	37.96
Santa Rosa	60	-5	73	49	4	33	0.04	0.04	0.21	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	61	-2	68	53	6	20	0.01	0.01	0.13	19.70
San Jose	65	-1	76	55	33	41	0.00	0.00	0.13	14.42
Livermore Tele	65	-1	82	49	34	43	0.05	0.05	0.12	14.21
Salinas AP	61	-2	71	54	9	23	0.12	0.12	0.10	12.44
Monterey FAA	60	-2	69	53	2	9	0.15	0.15	0.44	18.72
King City	63	-2	79	48	23	35	0.00	0.00	0.08	11.44
Paso Robles AP	64	-1	88	48	27	37	0.00	0.00	0.10	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	69	0	96	48	60	62	0.62	0.62	0.19	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	70	0	98	51	68	65	0.71	0.71	0.21	22.29
Chico AFS	70	3	94	49	67	47	0.00	0.00	0.17	26.32
Marysville	67	-2	92	49	49	62	0.15	0.15	0.15	21.04
Sacramento AP	66	-1	89	49	44	53	0.04	0.04	0.11	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	64	-4	84	46	26	57	0.02	0.02	0.11	13.95
Fresno	71	2	88	56	80	68	0.12	0.12	0.08	10.60
Bakersfield	73	1	88	58	90	82	0.00	0.00	0.05	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	61	-1	71	51	12	17	0.00	0.00	0.07	12.36
Santa Barbara	62	-2	70	53	16	27	0.00	0.00	0.14	16.25
Oxnard	65	0	73	58	38	38	0.00	0.00	0.10	14.38
Los Angeles	67	-5	75	59	51	83	0.00	0.00	0.08	14.77
Riverside	67	-3	82	55	50	73	0.00	0.00	0.06	9.58
San Diego AP	68	-1	73	64	56	65	0.09	0.09	0.07	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	63	3	87	39	29	3	0.00	0.00	0.04	5.37
Lancaster	70	4	90	48	72	44	0.00	0.00	0.04	6.92
Daggett AP	77	3	95	55	120	95	0.00	0.00	0.04	3.93
Thermal AP	80	2	100	57	139	124	0.00	0.00	0.05	3.16
Blythe	83	3	101	63	159	136	0.00	0.00	0.09	3.60
Imperial	81	1	100	60	144	137	0.00	0.00	0.08	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	53	2	82	25	0	0	0.03	0.03	0.16	12.01
Mt. Shasta	58	3	81	38	5	0	0.35	0.35	0.24	37.02
Blue Canyon	63	6	76	44	35	0	0.00	0.00	0.63	67.04
Yosemite	65	4	85	45	35	3	0.00	0.00	0.29	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.