

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
California Field Office

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WEATHER

At the start of the week, a low pressure trough was beginning to move towards the northern California coast from the Gulf of Alaska. This low pressure system kept temperatures slightly below normal, and brought some light showers to the north coastal region on Monday. This pattern continued for the next two days, with the low pressure gradually moving ashore, and passing through northern California late Tuesday and Wednesday. Besides cooling temperatures, this system also brought some light showers to the northern mountains and even into the northern sections of the Sacramento Valley. Southern California remained dry throughout this period. By Thursday, the low pressure trough had moved out of the State and headed east. High pressure began to build over the west coast, and an offshore flow began to blow, resulting in a rapid warming and drying trend. By the weekend, warm and dry conditions were the rule all across the State.



FIELD CROPS

The harvest of winter forage crops for **silage** was mostly complete throughout the State, and many harvested fields were being disced in preparation for **corn** planting. Field corn was progressing well and was sprayed for mites. Late planting of **rice** was complete in most areas, and aerial applications of herbicides continued. Rice was doing well with the warm temperatures. The third cutting of **alfalfa** hay was ongoing, while some fields were irrigated. Winter **wheat** grain harvest was in full swing. **Safflower** fields were blooming. **Sunflower** and **dry bean** crop planting continued. **Cotton** growers were treating fields for mites and lygus. **Sweet potato** planting continued in the San Joaquin Valley.

FRUIT CROPS

Harvest and packing of stone fruit continued. Varieties included Sugar Snow, Spring Snow and Crown Princess **peaches**; Black Beaut, Black Splendor and Early Queen **plums**; and Red Roy, Diamond Bright and Zee Fire **nectarines**. Diamond Cot and Castlebrite **apricots** were still being harvested with good size and color reported. **Pomegranates** continued to bloom. **Prune** crops appeared to look better than last year's crop. Table **grapes** were still being harvested in the Coachella Valley. The demand for grapes was very good. Varieties harvested included White, Flame and Black Beauty Seedless. Pesticide and fungicide applications for insect and mildew control also continued in grape vineyards. **Strawberry** harvest continued with good demand. **Blueberry** and **blackberry** harvest continued. Navel **orange** harvest was slowing down. **Lemon** harvest continued. The quality of lemons was reportedly good and the domestic demand for lemons rose.

NUT CROPS

Almonds, pistachios and **walnuts** continued to do well. Cultural practices continued in nut orchards, including irrigation and spray applications for weed and mildew control. Almond and pistachio orchards were treated for leaf-footed bug, worms, and hoppers.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Processing **tomato** and **watermelon** planting was complete in several areas. Planting of fresh market tomato, **cantaloupe, honeydew**, and freezer **lima beans** continued. Previously planted **melons** and processing tomatoes progressed well with the increased temperatures and were treated with fertilizer. **Radicchio** packing and shipping was almost complete. Several fields of **garlic** and **onions** were treated with herbicide, fungicide, and insecticide. Some **lettuce** fields were treated for worms and lettuce for seed was maturing on schedule. **Cucumber, squash, zucchini**, and various Asian vegetables continued to be harvested. Harvesting of **amaranth, basil, beets, dandelion, eggplant, peppers, green beans, mustard greens** and early varieties of fresh market tomatoes also continued.

LIVESTOCK

Foothill pastures were dry and movement of feeder cattle to market or summer pastures was starting to wind down. Some beef cows remained on foothill pastures. While weight gains on feeder cattle were reported to be good in some central California locations, they were below last years' record gains. Auctions were still receiving large numbers of feeder cattle and slaughter cows. Water levels continued to run high in rivers and lakes from mountain snow melt. Sheep, mainly ewes, were grazing on retired farmland and harvested small grain hay fields with a few in alfalfa fields. Bees were working in melon, cucumber, and small grain fields in central California and seed fields in northern California.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 06/18/06

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 06/18/06	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 06/18/06	January 1 - 06/18/06	Week Ending 06/18/06	July 1 - 06/18/06	July 1 - 06/18/06	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	56	0	63	45	2	0	0.08	60.94	37.95	37.53
Ukiah	68	0	92	50	314	189	0.00	51.07	39.05	37.96
Santa Rosa	66	0	101	46	157	113	0.03	45.72	30.69	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	63	2	85	53	90	22	0.01	26.08	20.17	19.70
San Jose	68	0	92	54	292	240	0.00	22.43	15.02	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	309	217	0.00	0.00	14.61	14.21
Salinas AP	62	1	88	48	80	17	0.00	15.35	12.71	12.44
Monterey FAA	60	1	76	50	36	0	0.00	13.91	14.57	18.72
King City	67	2	98	47	283	152	0.00	13.67	12.14	11.44
Paso Robles AP	71	1	102	47	378	238	0.00	14.34	13.24	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	73	-2	98	56	690	457	0.24	45.52	35.35	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	74	-2	100	56	636	528	0.34	30.49	23.49	22.29
Chico AFS	71	-2	102	52	608	396	0.00	31.59	26.24	26.32
Marysville	72	-3	100	50	536	550	0.00	30.66	22.19	21.04
Sacramento AP	71	0	100	50	458	367	0.00	23.46	17.80	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	73	0	102	51	531	455	0.00	16.70	13.83	13.95
Fresno	76	-1	101	54	730	625	0.00	15.08	11.28	10.60
Bakersfield	76	-2	100	55	776	715	0.00	6.90	6.49	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	64	3	87	47	114	7	0.00	17.38	14.06	12.36
Santa Barbara	68	5	90	49	167	46	0.00	17.81	17.18	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	291	95	0.00	0.00	15.52	14.38
Los Angeles	73	3	93	61	596	554	0.00	13.23	15.14	14.77
Riverside	76	4	103	54	713	445	0.00	7.45	10.63	9.58
San Diego AP	70	3	80	63	410	344	0.00	6.10	10.69	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	71	0	100	42	416	239	0.00	7.80	4.96	5.37
Lancaster	75	0	103	53	712	436	0.00	6.48	7.79	6.92
Daggett AP	83	0	108	63	1,140	988	0.00	1.34	4.17	3.93
Thermal AP	88	2	112	65	1,538	1,465	0.00	2.35	3.59	3.16
Blythe	90	1	110	70	1,698	1,596	0.00	2.45	4.06	3.60
Imperial	88	2	110	68	1,641	1,504	0.00	1.90	3.00	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	59	1	84	36	52	0	0.01	15.88	11.99	12.01
Mt. Shasta	61	0	82	46	94	5	0.38	60.46	39.43	37.02
Blue Canyon	59	-2	77	43	126	8	0.00	90.95	65.24	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	86	46	145	71	0.00	46.01	37.98	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.