

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
California Field Office

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WEATHER



With a broad area of low pressure over the western United States at the start of the week, the temperatures in California were a bit cooler than normal. Some light rain fell over the northern coast, and there were isolated thunderstorms over the northern mountains and in the northern end of the Sacramento Valley on Monday. By Tuesday, the showers had ceased in most areas except for the northern mountains, and temperatures began to rebound. Temperatures had returned to near seasonal normal by the middle of the week, as the low pressure trough moved out of the State and into the inter-mountain region of Idaho and northeastern Nevada. With neither a high pressure ridge nor a low pressure trough over the West Coast, a zonal, west-to-east flow over the State brought seasonal temperatures: warm days across interior valleys and the southeastern deserts and cooler temperatures to the areas immediately along the coast.

FIELD CROPS

The harvest of silage **corn** continued, and some fields were irrigated and treated for pests and weeds. Some silage corn fields were being replanted. Grain corn continued to mature, with harvest still a few weeks away. The **rice** crop continued to head. **Cotton** was progressing well, with favorable conditions for boll development. **Black eye** beans and **garbanzo** beans were treated for insect control. The harvest of garbanzo beans continued in several areas. **Safflower** harvest continued. The fifth cutting of **alfalfa** hay was underway in several areas, and weather conditions were very good for hay drying. The last fields of **barley** were awaiting harvest in Fresno County.

FRUIT CROPS

Stone fruit harvest continued but was nearing completion in some areas of the San Joaquin Valley. Varieties being picked and packed included Snow Beauty, White Lady, O'Henry, Summer Lady, Summer Sweet, and Snow King **peaches**; Summer Bright, Royal Giant, Arctic Blaze, Honey Royale, and August Pearl **nectarines**; Dapple Fire, Flavor Grenade, and Necticotom **pluots**; and Sugarosa, Wickson, Fortune, and Yummy **plums**. Harvest began on Bosc **pears** in Tulare County. **Pomegranate** fruits continued to size and show color. **Fig** harvest continued. Red Globe, Black Seedless, Black Corinth, Zante Currents, and Thompson Seedless table **grapes** were still being harvested in San Joaquin Valley districts. Cultural operations for table grapes included thinning and the applications of fungicides and herbicides. Dried-on-the-vine raisin grape harvest continued. **Strawberries** were in various stages of pre-plant fumigation, irrigation, and fertilization in Tulare County. The Valencia **orange** harvest continued at a slow pace. Some orchards were being irrigated and treated to control weeds and insects. **Lemons** continued to be packed. Citrus drop due to hot temperatures has stopped.

NUT CROPS

Almond and **pistachio** nuts continued to size with hull splitting in many almond orchards. Almond orchards were being treated for insects, irrigated, mowed, and prepared for harvest. Early ground preparations were in progress for **walnuts** in some districts.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Vegetable crops were developing well and have mostly recovered from any hindered growth cause by the extensive heat in mid July. Concerns were for reduced set size, but the recent prevailing weather temperatures have been ideal for vegetable production, with growers hoping for more set. Younger fields of **garlic** and **onion**, as well as fields of **beans**, **tomatoes**, **melons**, and **asparagus**, were being treated with herbicides and insecticides to control army worms and stink bugs. Melon fields were also being treated for control of cabbage looper and cucumber beetles. Fields of fall crop **broccoli** and **lettuce** were in various stages of pre-plant fumigation. Late fresh market tomato planting was complete. **Cantaloupe**, **honeydew**, **watermelon**, and sweet **corn** continued to be harvested. Other crops being harvested were various hot and sweet **peppers**, wax beans, **cucumbers**, summer **squashes**, green onions and many types of Asian vegetables.

LIVESTOCK

Weather returned to more normal patterns with cooler nighttime temperatures. Milk production was starting to improve in many areas. Some counties have submitted disaster declarations for the heat related losses in July. A few beef cows continued to graze on dry foothill pastures where there was ample grass. Many were receiving protein and/or nutrient supplements. There was fire danger in foothill pasture areas. Cattle on irrigated valley pastures appeared to be doing well. Fall calving has begun. Beef cattle were doing well on higher elevation pastures. Stock ewes were grazing in small grain hay fields and retired farmland, with a few in alfalfa fields. Bees pollinated melon and seed alfalfa fields in the central area and seed crops in the northern area.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 08/13/06

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 08/13/06	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 08/13/06	January 1 - 08/13/06	Week Ending 08/13/06	July 1 - 08/13/06	July 1 - 08/13/06	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	55	-4	62	45	24	0	0.02	0.12	0.28	37.53
Ukiah	74	0	99	53	1,230	902	0.00	0.00	0.12	37.96
Santa Rosa	67	0	96	50	642	513	0.00	0.01	0.10	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	66	2	88	55	414	199	0.00	0.00	0.06	19.70
San Jose	71	0	94	56	989	794	0.00	0.00	0.07	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1,148	867	0.00	0.00	0.06	14.21
Salinas AP	66	2	93	54	333	182	0.00	0.01	0.07	12.44
Monterey FAA	63	1	78	52	190	63	0.00	0.01	0.12	18.72
King City	70	2	101	49	993	601	0.00	0.00	0.03	11.44
Paso Robles AP	72	-2	102	50	1,289	963	0.00	0.00	0.02	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	81	0	103	61	2,050	1,601	0.04	0.04	0.23	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	80	-1	103	58	1,982	1,675	0.01	0.02	0.17	22.29
Chico AFS	77	1	101	57	1,791	1,317	0.00	0.00	0.13	26.32
Marysville	76	-2	100	55	1,867	1,575	0.00	0.00	0.10	21.04
Sacramento AP	74	-1	99	55	1,450	1,195	0.00	0.85	0.08	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	76	-1	103	53	1,663	1,397	0.04	0.15	0.06	13.95
Fresno	80	-1	104	60	2,148	1,807	0.00	0.91	0.02	10.60
Bakersfield	81	-2	102	62	2,220	1,987	0.00	0.17	0.04	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	66	2	91	52	470	190	0.00	0.10	0.05	12.36
Santa Barbara	67	0	79	54	584	363	0.01	0.05	0.08	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	854	460	0.00	0.00	0.05	14.38
Los Angeles	77	2	89	65	1,605	1,348	0.00	0.00	0.06	14.77
Riverside	80	2	104	58	1,991	1,380	0.00	0.03	0.10	9.58
San Diego AP	74	2	80	68	1,254	941	0.00	0.09	0.08	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	74	-2	98	45	1,415	1,104	0.00	0.27	0.23	5.37
Lancaster	81	0	104	52	2,014	1,542	0.00	0.01	0.17	6.92
Daggett AP	88	0	107	64	2,869	2,562	0.00	0.05	0.61	3.93
Thermal AP	90	0	109	67	3,379	3,147	0.00	0.00	0.35	3.16
Blythe	94	0	111	75	3,720	3,479	0.00	0.29	0.62	3.60
Imperial	95	4	110	76	3,709	3,239	0.00	0.00	0.26	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	65	-1	91	41	527	244	0.00	0.03	0.46	12.01
Mt. Shasta	68	1	89	49	643	345	0.00	0.00	0.60	37.02
Blue Canyon	68	0	80	53	838	394	0.00	0.00	0.62	67.04
Yosemite	71	-2	92	49	956	706	0.00	0.38	0.67	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.