

# CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service  
California Field Office

WEEK ENDING: September 10, 2006  
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## WEATHER



At the beginning of the week, a low pressure system was passing through the Pacific Northwest, while weak high pressure remained intact over southern California. This resulted in an onshore flow over the Northern Coast, with temperatures along the coastal strip staying cool. Temperatures in southern California remained very warm. Interior portions of northern California also remained warm as the onshore flow did not penetrate the coastal mountains. The high pressure over southern California continued to strengthen during the week, resulting in very hot conditions for the southern counties, with many interior locations reporting highs in the 100's during the first part of the week. By Thursday, the pattern began to shift and cooler temperatures began to move into southern California. By Friday, a low pressure system off the coast approached and brought a dramatic cool down to much of the State. Some locations in the Central Valley saw highs 10 to 15 degrees below normal. The low pressure moved through the State on Saturday. By Sunday, high pressure was beginning to rebuild, and with it came warmer and more seasonable temperatures. No significant precipitation was reported during the week.

## FIELD CROPS

Most **rice** fields continued to head, while harvest began in some areas. **Cotton** bolls were opening. **Alfalfa** hay and **Sudan grass** were cut, windrowed, and baled. Alfalfa hay yields have been lower than usual due to the wet spring and the heat wave in July. Worm spraying continued on alfalfa fields. **Sorghum** was being chopped for silage. Early **blackeye bean** fields were being prepared for harvest. The harvest of **corn** for silage was about half done. **Vinseed** harvest continued. Early **sugar beet** fields were harvested in Fresno County, while other fields were treated for worms. **Potatoes** were harvested in Kern County.

## FRUIT CROPS

Stone fruit varieties being picked and packed included Prima 23, O'Henry, Snow Princess, Snow Gem, September Flame and Autumn Flame **peaches**; Arctic Blaze, Arctic Snow, August Red, September Red, September Bright and Summer Fire **nectarines**; Dinosaur Egg **pluots**; and Howard Sun, Joanna Red, October Sun, Emerald Beauty and Flavor Treat **plums**. Growers continued their cultural practices of irrigation, cultivation, and treatments for weeds and insects. **Grape** growers were working in their vineyards performing similar activities. Table grape harvest continued. Varieties being picked and packed included Red Globe, Black Seedless, Flame Seedless, Sweet Scarlett, Crimson Seedless and Thompson Seedless table grapes. Dried-on-the-vine raisin growers were cutting canes. In Fresno County harvest continued for Gala **apples**, **prunes** and Brown Turkey **figs**. **Pomegranates** continued to show good size and color. Valencia **orange** harvest continued slowly with some reports of small fruit size. Citrus orchard maintenance was still in progress with irrigation and treatments to control weeds and insects. Navel orange orchards were still being planted and existing orchards were showing good growth.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond** harvest continued with shaking trees, windrowing nuts, and sweeping orchards. Other almond growers continued irrigating, mowing, treating to control insects and preparing for harvest. **Walnut** growers continued to prepare ground for harvest. **Pistachios** were a couple of weeks from harvest in Tulare County.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Fall crops were in various stages of planting, irrigation and fertilization. **Cantaloupe**, **honeydew** and **watermelon** fields were being treated for worms and lygus. **Tomato** fields were treated for mold and insects. Fields of **garlic** and **onions** were in the final stages of harvest. **Sweet corn** harvest continued. **Basil**, **bittermelon**, **carrots**, **cilantro**, **cucumber**, **eggplant**, fresh market tomatoes, processing tomatoes and summer **squash** harvest continued. Other crops harvested were various hot and sweet **peppers**, **wax beans**, **green onions** and many types of Asian vegetables.

## LIVESTOCK

Fall calving remained underway with cows receiving feed supplements. Moderate temperatures were beneficial to milk cows and thus production. Sheep were grazing on hay fields, harvested safflower and cantaloupe fields and retired farmland. Bees were active in vinseed and melon fields. Range and pasture condition continued its seasonal decline. Fire hazard remained high.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 09/10/06**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 09/10/06	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 09/10/06	January 1 - 09/10/06	Week Ending 09/10/06	July 1 - 09/10/06	July 1 - 09/10/06	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
<b>NORTH COAST</b>										
Eureka	53	-5	58	44	31	0	0.01	0.22	0.79	37.53
Ukiah	71	1	102	47	1,556	1,225	0.00	0.00	0.39	37.96
Santa Rosa	65	-3	85	50	763	718	0.00	0.02	0.30	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	61	-4	71	53	452	317	0.00	0.00	0.15	19.70
San Jose	67	-3	81	56	1,193	1,064	0.00	0.00	0.15	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1,427	1,178	0.00	0.00	0.14	14.21
Salinas AP	61	-3	73	52	390	296	0.00	0.05	0.12	12.44
Monterey FAA	60	-1	68	51	222	99	0.00	0.01	0.30	18.72
King City	68	0	90	50	1,202	825	0.00	0.00	0.08	11.44
Paso Robles AP	71	0	105	46	1,573	1,303	0.00	0.00	0.11	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	77	2	102	55	2,532	2,089	0.00	0.04	0.70	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	76	0	101	55	2,468	2,176	0.00	0.02	0.44	22.29
Chico AFS	75	2	101	51	2,244	1,724	0.00	0.00	0.42	26.32
Marysville	73	-2	99	51	2,212	2,025	0.00	0.00	0.23	21.04
Sacramento AP	71	-2	97	52	1,776	1,582	0.00	0.85	0.20	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	73	-1	99	51	2,062	1,829	0.00	0.24	0.14	13.95
Fresno	79	2	102	57	2,716	2,333	0.00	0.91	0.11	10.60
Bakersfield	81	2	101	57	2,824	2,565	0.00	0.17	0.15	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	64	0	76	53	588	303	0.00	0.10	0.19	12.36
Santa Barbara	64	-3	77	53	710	554	0.01	0.08	0.28	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	1,093	669	0.00	0.00	0.16	14.38
Los Angeles	78	3	99	64	2,056	1,776	0.00	0.00	0.22	14.77
Riverside	81	5	106	53	2,546	1,856	0.00	0.03	0.28	9.58
San Diego AP	72	0	85	61	1,600	1,285	0.00	0.09	0.18	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	71	2	98	43	1,730	1,438	0.00	0.27	0.39	5.37
Lancaster	79	4	103	52	2,564	2,027	0.00	0.01	0.36	6.92
Daggett AP	85	2	104	62	3,647	3,267	0.00	0.05	0.97	3.93
Thermal AP	86	0	104	54	4,180	3,938	0.00	0.00	0.72	3.16
Blythe	89	-1	104	71	4,622	4,355	0.02	1.77	1.10	3.60
Imperial	91	2	103	72	4,634	4,080	0.00	0.00	0.57	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	64	5	92	36	626	296	0.00	0.03	0.86	12.01
Mt. Shasta	66	5	91	42	807	444	0.00	0.00	1.18	37.02
Blue Canyon	70	6	83	57	1,110	548	0.00	0.00	1.41	67.04
Yosemite	72	4	93	48	1,280	986	0.00	0.38	1.11	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.