

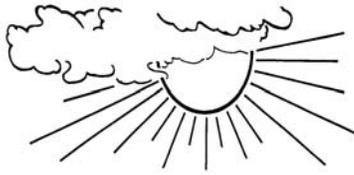
CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
California Field Office

WEEK ENDING: September 17, 2006
RELEASED: September 18, 2006

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 27 NO. 11



WEATHER

Weather not available at publication.

FIELD CROPS

Rice harvest was progressing slowly in the Sacramento Valley, with yields lower than expected thus far. Ground preparation for small grain planting began. The fifth and sixth **alfalfa** cuttings were ongoing, and fields were treated for worms. **Oats** and **Sudan grass** were also cut and baled, with excellent drying conditions. Early planted **blackeye bean** fields were receiving the final irrigation before harvest. **Cotton** bolls continued to open. Cotton growers were treating to control aphid and white fly infestations. **Silage** corn harvest continued. **Sweet potatoes** were harvested in Merced County.

FRUIT CROPS

Stone fruit trees continued to be pruned in harvested orchards. Orchards were also irrigated, cultivated and treated with fungicides and herbicides. Stone fruit varieties being picked and packed included Prima 27, O'Henry, Snow Magic, Snow Princess, September Fire, Ryan Sun and Full Moon **peaches**; Late Red, Arctic Snow, August Red, September Red, September Bright and Summer Flare **nectarines**; Dinosaur Egg **pluots**; and Catalina, Flavor Fall, October Sun, Emerald Beauty and Angeleno **plums**. Cultural operations for table **grapes** were still underway. These operations included irrigation, cultivation, and the application of fungicides and herbicides. Grape varieties harvested included Red Globe, Black Seedless, Flame Seedless, Sweet Scarlet, Autumn Royal, Crimson Seedless, Christmas Rose, Zinfandel, Merlot and Thompson Seedless table and wine grapes. Dried-on-the-vine raisin growers were cutting canes. Grapes for raisins were also harvested and being dried. Harvest for **prunes**, Granny Smith **apples** and Brown Turkey **figs** continued in Fresno County. **Pomegranates** continued to show size and color with a few varieties being harvested. **Strawberry** growers were preparing fields for the new Fall season. Valencia **oranges** continued to be packed and showed small fruit size. Citrus grove maintenance was still ongoing with irrigation, fertilization, and weed control. New Navel orange orchards were still being planted. Older orchards showed good growth.

NUT CROPS

Almond harvest continued with shaking trees, windrowing nuts, and sweeping orchards. **Pistachio** harvest began in some areas. **Walnut** growers continued to prepare the grounds for harvest.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Transplanting of fall season **broccoli** and **cauliflower** was underway. Harvest of fall **asparagus** began. Some **garlic** and **onion** fields were in the final stages of harvest. In other areas onions were at their peak in growth. Iceberg **lettuce** production was in full swing. Other lettuce fields were in various stages of planting, cultivation or hand-weeding, irrigation, fertilization and treatments to control insects. Harvesting of **cantaloupe**, **honeydew**, and **watermelon** continued. **Sweet corn** and processing **tomatoes** were in various stages of growth, cultivation, and harvest. **Basil**, **bittermelon**, **carrots**, **cilantro**, **cucumber**, **eggplant**, fresh market 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

Beef cattle were beginning to move from higher elevation pastures to foothill pastures in the central area. Fall calving of beef cows continued on irrigated valley pastures and dry foothill pastures. Many cattle on the foothills were receiving protein and other supplements. Fire danger remained high. Mild temperatures were positive to milk production. In the central area, stock ewes were grazing in small grain hay fields, retired farmland and harvested cantaloupe fields. Bees were pollinating late melon fields in the central area.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 09/17/06

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 09/17/06	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 09/17/06	January 1 - 09/17/06	Week Ending 09/17/06	July 1 - 09/17/06	July 1 - 09/17/06	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	52	-6	63	40	31	0	0.07	0.29	0.99	37.53
Ukiah	69	0	103	40	1,621	1,290	0.00	0.00	0.55	37.96
Santa Rosa	66	-1	97	44	804	765	0.00	0.02	0.41	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	64	-1	83	49	476	347	0.00	0.00	0.19	19.70
San Jose	69	0	93	52	1,252	1,126	0.00	0.00	0.19	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1,481	1,246	0.00	0.00	0.19	14.21
Salinas AP	64	0	93	47	420	326	0.00	0.05	0.17	12.44
Monterey FAA	60	-1	76	48	228	108	0.00	0.01	0.32	18.72
King City	67	-1	102	40	1,252	877	0.00	0.00	0.12	11.44
Paso Robles AP	65	-5	97	40	1,609	1,372	0.00	0.00	0.18	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	75	0	101	47	2,636	2,193	0.00	0.04	0.88	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	74	-1	101	47	2,568	2,282	0.00	0.02	0.61	22.29
Chico AFS	72	0	99	45	2,328	1,809	0.00	0.00	0.55	26.32
Marysville	70	-3	97	45	2,284	2,121	0.00	0.00	0.32	21.04
Sacramento AP	70	-2	97	48	1,844	1,665	0.00	0.85	0.28	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	71	-2	100	49	2,142	1,922	0.01	0.25	0.22	13.95
Fresno	74	-2	99	50	2,813	2,443	0.00	0.91	0.16	10.60
Bakersfield	75	-2	97	51	2,931	2,689	0.00	0.17	0.18	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	66	2	96	48	630	330	0.01	0.11	0.25	12.36
Santa Barbara	64	-3	87	46	734	597	0.02	0.10	0.38	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	1,130	717	0.00	0.00	0.22	14.38
Los Angeles	72	-2	92	60	2,141	1,876	0.00	0.00	0.28	14.77
Riverside	75	0	99	51	2,647	1,960	0.00	0.03	0.33	9.58
San Diego AP	70	-2	79	61	1,666	1,367	0.00	0.09	0.23	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	66	-1	96	36	1,778	1,490	0.00	0.27	0.46	5.37
Lancaster	73	-1	101	41	2,645	2,121	0.00	0.01	0.41	6.92
Daggett AP	78	-2	102	52	3,776	3,413	0.00	0.05	1.05	3.93
Thermal AP	83	-2	106	60	4,340	4,111	0.00	0.00	0.82	3.16
Blythe	85	-2	103	62	4,798	4,545	0.02	4.61	1.22	3.60
Imperial	86	-1	105	57	4,812	4,267	0.00	0.00	0.65	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	56	-1	92	25	640	296	0.00	0.03	1.01	12.01
Mt. Shasta	60	0	89	32	833	446	0.00	0.00	1.39	37.02
Blue Canyon	62	-1	82	38	1,152	566	0.00	0.00	1.79	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	90	43	1,319	1,033	0.00	0.38	1.32	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.