



# California Crop Weather

National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

In Cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## WEATHER



The week started with dry conditions over California due to a dominant high pressure ridge centered over the State. Northern California had been dry for 33 consecutive days during the State's rainy season. Sacramento recorded the driest January since records began in 1849, with only 0.07 inches of precipitation. The rest of California was under similar dry conditions. In fact, southern California daytime high temperatures were in the 80s in many locations and very dry. On Wednesday, the dry spell came to an end. A dynamic low pressure system entered the State. Rain and snow started in the northwestern part of California and spread southward down to Fresno. Rain and snow continued through

Saturday in the northern half of the State. Rainfall averages through the period were 3 to 4 inches in the valley, 5 to 8 inches in the foothills and mountains, and about 3 feet of snow in elevations above 6,000 feet. Rain and snow did spread to southern California by Saturday night with about an inch of precipitation in the wettest areas.

## FIELD CROPS

Recent rains and warmer weather improved the rate of growth in winter forage, **wheat** and other grain fields in parts of the State. In other areas, below average rainfall remained a problem. Germination of seed was occurring slowly despite the recent moisture in these areas. Irrigation measures were increased to promote growth. Weed treatments took place on wheat, **oat** and **alfalfa** fields. Alfalfa was recovering slowly from the frost damage that took place several weeks ago. **Sugar beets** were irrigated, cultivated and side-dressed. Land preparations were made for spring **cotton**. Ground preparations for grains and silage **corn** were at full speed in Tulare County.

## FRUIT CROPS

Citrus losses from the January freeze were becoming more apparent. The primary bloom was lost for **lemons** in some areas. In colder areas some trees were expected to be removed. Packing and harvest of citrus was minimal. Many growers were juicing straight from the field. Oroblanco and Melogold **grapefruit** survived the January frost in Tulare County. Recent rain was expected to aid Valencia **orange** recovery. Fruit tree cultural practices continued with irrigating, fertilizing, pruning, shredding, and applying herbicides and dormant sprays. Farmers were planting new blocks of stone fruit and the grafting of new varieties was also occurring. Old orchard **pomegranates** were being replaced with new trees. **Apricot** and **nectarine** orchards were blooming on the eastside of Tulare County. **Grape** vineyard cultural practices continued with herbicide spraying and trellis system repair. Grape cover crops emerged and were being irrigated, fertilized and treated for weeds. **Strawberry** and **raspberry** nursery stock digging was complete.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond**, **walnut**, and **pistachio** cultural activities continued with pruning, shredding, irrigating, and applying herbicides and dormant sprays. New almond and pistachio orchards were still being planted. Almond bloom was expected to begin in two weeks in Stanislaus County.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Field activities were slowed by rainfall in some locations. **Rapini** in the Imperial Valley was still showing damage from the January cold snap causing several fields to be chopped and plowed. In the San Joaquin Valley vegetables were showing good growth in response to irrigation. Field activities included weeding, irrigation, fertilization, insect and mildew control treatments, and field preparations for planting. Dehydrator **onions** were planted in Fresno County. Harvests of **broccoli**, **bok choy**, **cabbage**, **daikon**, **green onions**, **kale**, **leaf lettuce**, **leeks**, **mustard greens**, **parsley**, **radicchio**, **Swiss chard** and **turnips** were ongoing. Harvests of **escarole** and **tatsoi** were also reported.

## LIVESTOCK

Range conditions were improving in some areas with the warmer weather and recent rains. Pastures were growing slowly in other areas and livestock were receiving hay and nutrient supplements where ranges remained dry. Additional moisture remained essential to the improvement of pastures in some parts of the State. Sheep were feeding on retired farmland. The arrival of bee hives from out of state remained underway. Bees were placed in almond orchards in anticipation of spring pollination.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 02/11/07**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 02/11/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 02/11/07	January 1 - 02/11/07	Week Ending 02/11/07	July 1 - 02/11/07	July 1 - 02/11/07	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
<b>NORTH COAST</b>										
Eureka	51	2	63	41	0	0	3.37	20.97	23.89	37.53
Ukiah	52	3	70	34	0	0	4.78	15.83	25.09	37.96
Santa Rosa	54	3	69	36	0	0	2.31	12.51	19.84	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	55	3	64	44	0	0	1.80	7.82	12.84	19.70
San Jose	57	4	68	43	0	0	0.70	5.17	9.21	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	0.00	9.09	14.21
Salinas AP	54	2	66	37	0	0	0.66	5.03	7.67	12.44
Monterey FAA	55	3	67	41	0	0	0.58	4.55	9.50	18.72
King City	56	4	79	38	0	0	0.31	3.28	7.07	11.44
Paso Robles AP	54	4	77	36	0	0	0.70	3.04	7.81	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	51	2	67	34	2	0	4.67	15.81	21.28	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	52	2	69	36	0	0	3.71	9.62	15.01	22.29
Chico AFS	54	6	69	38	0	0	2.63	9.39	16.38	26.32
Marysville	54	4	66	36	0	0	2.97	8.62	13.96	21.04
Sacramento AP	54	4	66	38	0	0	2.22	6.56	11.35	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	56	6	68	38	0	0	1.34	4.91	8.60	13.95
Fresno	55	4	69	40	0	0	0.82	3.05	6.45	10.60
Bakersfield	58	6	75	40	0	0	0.43	1.58	3.65	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	58	5	76	39	4	0	0.47	3.21	7.95	12.36
Santa Barbara	55	1	75	38	0	0	0.83	4.81	10.15	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	41	0	0.00	0.00	9.33	14.38
Los Angeles	65	5	89	50	70	0	0.42	1.92	8.71	14.77
Riverside	62	7	89	39	42	0	0.13	0.98	6.15	9.58
San Diego AP	59	0	83	47	15	0	0.02	2.21	6.27	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	46	5	69	23	0	0	0.08	1.26	3.15	5.37
Lancaster	54	8	77	30	0	0	0.04	0.51	4.79	6.92
Daggett AP	58	6	78	39	1	0	0.00	0.27	2.91	3.93
Thermal AP	58	0	83	35	9	0	0.00	0.12	2.70	3.16
Blythe	63	5	82	43	22	0	0.00	3.27	3.17	3.60
Imperial	64	4	85	41	28	0	0.00	0.06	2.36	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	41	9	62	25	0	0	0.22	3.31	6.57	12.01
Mt. Shasta	44	7	66	33	0	0	3.80	16.50	24.33	37.02
Blue Canyon	43	4	64	33	0	0	9.88	30.13	40.59	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	58	34	0	0	0.27	11.16	23.57	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.