



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: December 30, 2007
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WEATHER



The week began with high pressure aloft centered over the southern California coast. This brought dry and mild weather to most of the state. Temperatures in southern California were well above normal with many stations reporting highs in the seventies. A series of Pacific storm systems moved through the state during the week. The first storms brought rain to the northern and central coast, and significant snowfall to the northern mountains and to the Sierra Nevada. Very cold air moved in behind the frontal systems and overnight lows across the Central Valley were quite chilly, with widespread frost and freezing temperatures. Another storm moved through on Thursday, and as it moved through an already cold atmosphere, brought very low snowfall to many locations in the northern

Sacramento Valley and adjacent foothills. Gusty winds developed across southern California by midweek, as a cool and dry offshore wind pattern developed. Another weaker storm pushed through northern California on Saturday. This storm brought more showers to northern California but had little effect on the south.

FIELD CROPS

Planting of **winter forage** crops continued. Recently planted winter forage crops have benefited from the recent rainfall. Ground preparations continued for winter planting. In Tulare County **cotton** fields have been picked and plow down was virtually complete. Spring **alfalfa** was emerging with a few fields being irrigated and treated to control weeds. Spring **sugar beet** fields were in various stages of development with some being fertilized, irrigated, cultivated and treated to control insects, weeds and diseases.

FRUIT CROPS

Grape growers continued to prune, tie vines, fertilize and apply insect and weed treatments. Stone fruit growers were also busy pruning, fertilizing, irrigating, and taking measures to control insects and weeds. Soil fumigations were under way in Tulare County for future **strawberry** plantings. Strawberries were growing well in Fresno County and **blueberry** bushes were being planted. Hachiya and Fuyu **persimmons** were still being harvested. **Mandarin, lemon, pummelo** and Navel **orange** harvests continued. Citrus growers were also applying treatments to control fungus, insects, and weeds. Some growers were topping trees. **Olive** tree pruning was still underway.

NUT CROPS

Pruning continued to take place throughout the State in nut groves. Soil amendments, herbicide applications and weed treatments were also underway.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Ground preparation for **carrot** and **lettuce** planting continued. Herbicides and insecticides continued to be applied to vegetable fields. Fields of **garlic** were being irrigated while **broccoli** fields were being cultivated. In Fresno county **asparagus** growers continued to cut ferns in preparation of harvest. Harvest of **amaranth, basil, bok choy, cabbage, cilantro, choy sum, dill, daikon, dandelion, leaf lettuce, lemon grass, lobok, long beans, mint, moqua, collard greens, kale, tatsoi, tong ho, winter radicchio, spinach, yu choy,** and mustard greens continued. Broccoli, cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, garlic, onion and lettuce crops were growing well. In Tulare County, work for winter vegetable crops slowed in the past week due to the rain but broccoli, cauliflower, turnips, and cabbage should be ready for harvest in the next few weeks. Early spring **spinach** crop was progressing quite well. Lots of ground area has been bedded up for future planting.

LIVESTOCK

Range conditions were improving with recent rains. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Sheep continued to graze on abandoned fields and retired farmland. Fall beef cattle calving continued, as well as lambing, and kidding. Bee hives were being over wintered in various locations. Shipments of out-of-State bees continued to move into central California for the upcoming almond pollination season.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 12/30/07 - "Data not available at publication"

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 12/30/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 12/30/07	January 1 - 12/30/07	Week Ending 12/30/07	July 1 - 12/30/07	July 1 - 12/30/07	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST Eureka Ukiah Santa Rosa CENTRAL COAST San Francisco AP San Jose Salinas AP Monterey FAA King City Paso Robles AP SACRAMENTO VALLEY Redding Red Bluff FSS Chico AFS Marysville Sacramento AP SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY Stockton WSO Fresno Bakersfield SOUTH COAST Santa Maria AP Santa Barbara Ventura Los Angeles Riverside San Diego AP SOUTHEAST INTERIOR Bishop Lancaster Daggett AP Thermal AP Blythe Imperial CASCADE - SIERRA Alturas Mt. Shasta Blue Canyon Yosemite	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			

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.