



California Crop Weather

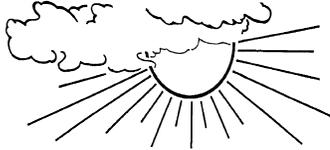
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: August 10, 2008
RELEASED: August 11, 2008

FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER



A high pressure cell remained centered over Texas during the week, with a high pressure ridge extending over the West Coast. A series of weather disturbances moving through the Pacific Northwest brushed the northern portion of the state, resulting in occasional showers across the north coast, across the northern Sacramento Valley, and across the northern Sierra Nevada mountains. Daytime temperatures across the northern half of the state were also affected by these systems, with daytime temperatures cooled to below normal levels on some days, while other days were seasonably warm. Southern California remained dry but with an onshore flow pattern which moderated temperatures. Precipitation amounts across Northern California were light for the most part, while no precipitation was reported across the South.

FIELD CROPS

Wheat fields were being harvested for feed and grain. The last of the harvested winter wheat fields were being planted to **corn** in Tulare County. Harvest of corn was still in progress for silage and grain. The fifth cutting of **alfalfa** continued. Fields continued to be windrowed, raked, and baled for the production of alfalfa hay. **Barley** fields continued to be windrowed and baled as straw. **Cotton** bloom and boll setting continued in fields. Growers continued to look for aphid, mite, and lygus in cotton. **Rice** fields continued to grow nicely while treated for weeds. **Safflower** fields were still being harvested. Some earlier planted **blackeye** bean fields were receiving final irrigations before harvest.

FRUIT CROPS

Irrigation remained necessary in vineyards and orchards given the dry conditions. Growers were monitoring water use closely due to water restrictions in many areas. **Grape** harvest was picking up speed. Flame and Thompson Seedless, Diamond Muscat, Black Emerald, Red Globe and Summer Royal varieties were harvested. Zante **currants** were harvested. Stone fruit harvest continued. In Yuba County some cling **peach** orchards were not being harvested due to damage from the April freeze. Elsewhere peach varieties harvested included August Flame, August Lady, Autumn Red, Autumn Snow, Brittany Lane, Early Saturn, Elegant Lady, Ivory Princess, Jasper Gem, Jasper Treasure, O'Henry, O'Henry II, Pink Giant, Prima 20, Prima 23, Rich Lady, Ryan Sun, September Flame 32, Snow Angel, Snow King, Spring Flame, Spring Snow, Spring Treat, Strawberry Heirloom, Summer Sweet, Summer Zee, Sweet Dreams, Sweet Kay, Sweet Sun and Vista Gem. Black Splendor, Catalina, Cherry Bomb, Crimson Gold, Fortune, Friar, Kelsey, Lone Star, Red Crimson, Royal Diamond and Simka **plums**; Apple Fire, Dapple Dandy, Dinosaur Egg, Emerald Sweet, Flavor Grenade, Flavor Heart and Mango Tango **pluots**; Arctic Belle, Arctic Queen, August Bright, August Fire, August Pearl, Candy Pearl, Diamond Bright, Diamond Pearl, Red Lion, Red Roy, Ruby Bright, Summer Bright, Summer Fire, Sunny Gun and Zee Fire **nectarines**; **figs**; Gala **apples**; Asian, Bosc and Bartlett **pears** were also being picked. Valencia **orange** harvest remained slow, but was estimated to be well over half complete in the Central Valley. Harvest in the south coastal areas was estimated to be just over one-third complete. **Lemon** harvest continued. **Olives** were forming fruit.

NUT CROPS

Almond branches were being propped under the heavy crop while hull split was occurring. Orchards were receiving their last irrigation before harvest. Elsewhere early varieties continued to be harvested. **Walnuts** were also being propped due to the heavy crop. Cleanup of broken limbs was underway. Codling moth and mite treatments on walnuts continued. Some groves were being irrigated and a number of growers were preparing for harvest.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Imperial Valley ground continued to be prepared for fall vegetables. Quality and size of some of the vegetables have been hindered because of the heat. Processing **tomatoes** were growing well as long as water was deliverable. In southern San Joaquin Valley, carrot harvest slowed way down for the month of August. In central San Joaquin Valley, commercial tomato harvest was slowed by recent hot weather, affecting fruit volume on plants. Harvest of **okra**, long **beans**, **squash**, sweet **corn**, **cilantro**, **watermelon**, **garlic**, **cantaloupe** and various Oriental vegetables continued. Summer fresh market tomato harvest was nearing completion while carrot harvest was nearly two-thirds complete; there have been some problems with forking and cavity spots. Fields were being weeded, irrigated, fertilized and treated to control insects and mildew. **Peppers**, **eggplant** and **cucumbers** were being picked with good quality. Fall crop carrots were being planted and irrigated. In northern San Joaquin Valley current vegetables harvested were fresh market tomatoes, melons and bell peppers. Farther north, harvests of fresh market **onion**, summer squash, and processing tomatoes continued, as well as worm spraying for tomatoes. In southern and central Sacramento Valley harvests continued for fresh market and processing tomatoes, sweet corn, beans, cucumbers and melons. Fungicide and insecticide treatments on tomatoes and beans continued as well as treatments for weeds and worms in melon fields.

LIVESTOCK

Already poor rangeland and non-irrigated pasture conditions continued to decline at all elevations, and the drying of some lower-elevation water sources continued. Cattle were receiving supplements of hay and other nutrients at all elevations, and some herds were thinned due to the feed expense pressures. Irrigated pastures were in good condition. Early fall calving of beef cows commenced. Dairy and poultry production benefited from a break in temperatures in some areas. Sheep and goats were grazing on idle farmland, harvested grain fields, and some rangeland in the central part of the state. Honeybees were busy in melon, squash, and cucumber crops and some were stored in holding areas. Pollination continued in sunflower and vineseed crops in the northern valley as well. Leafcutter bees were in alfalfa seed fields.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 08/10/08

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 08/10/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 08/10/08	January 1 - 08/10/08	Week Ending 08/10/08	July 1 - 08/10/08	July 1 - 08/10/08	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	55	-3	66	45	18	0	0.04	0.17	0.30	37.53
Ukiah	73	-1	95	51	1,054	961	0.00	0.00	0.14	37.96
Santa Rosa	64	-3	87	50	670	543	0.00	0.00	0.11	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	61	-3	77	53	299	213	0.01	0.02	0.07	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	938	836	0.00	0.00	0.08	14.42
Salinas AP	61	-3	71	52	274	196	0.00	0.00	0.08	12.44
Monterey FAA	58	-3	67	51	188	72	0.00	0.00	0.08	18.72
King City	68	-1	93	49	826	636	0.00	0.00	0.04	11.44
Paso Robles AP	74	0	98	50	1,193	1,020	0.00	0.00	0.03	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	80	-1	100	58	1,936	1,687	0.01	0.08	0.25	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	80	-1	101	58	1,960	1,761	0.00	0.00	0.18	22.29
Chico AFS	77	0	99	57	1,684	1,387	0.20	0.40	0.14	26.32
Marysville	76	-2	99	55	1,580	1,652	0.00	0.00	0.10	21.04
Sacramento AP	73	-2	95	54	1,346	1,258	0.00	0.00	0.09	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	75	-2	96	55	1,504	1,469	0.02	0.17	0.07	13.95
Fresno	83	1	101	65	2,147	1,897	0.00	0.01	0.02	10.60
Bakersfield	85	1	100	68	2,277	2,085	0.00	0.00	0.06	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	62	-2	73	50	304	207	0.00	0.00	0.06	12.36
Santa Barbara	68	1	77	56	596	391	0.00	0.00	0.10	16.25
Ventura	67	0	78	56	416	0	0.00	0.00	0.03	14.38
Los Angeles	77	1	88	65	1,535	1,410	0.00	0.00	0.08	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	1,639	1,454	0.00	0.00	0.13	9.58
San Diego AP	73	1	80	68	980	990	0.00	0.00	0.10	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	77	1	99	47	1,282	1,170	0.02	0.32	0.25	5.37
Lancaster	85	4	100	67	2,042	1,627	0.00	0.00	0.19	6.92
Daggett AP	91	2	107	73	2,878	2,679	0.00	0.15	0.68	3.93
Thermal AP	94	3	112	76	3,647	3,272	0.08	0.20	0.41	3.16
Blythe	96	2	111	78	3,760	3,619	0.01	0.29	0.71	3.60
Imperial	95	3	111	77	3,476	3,370	0.00	0.01	0.31	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	66	0	94	37	471	271	0.08	0.18	0.50	12.01
Mt. Shasta	67	-1	89	43	559	378	0.17	0.34	0.64	37.02
Blue Canyon	71	2	81	59	818	431	0.00	0.00	0.66	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	991	761	0.00	0.00	0.71	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.