



California Crop Weather

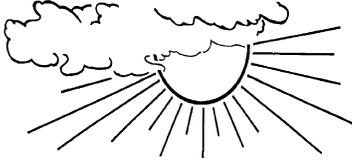
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office • P.O. Box 1258 • Sacramento, CA 95812 • (916) 498-5161 • (916) 498-5186 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov/ca

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WEATHER



The weather pattern over California this week brought near normal conditions for the middle of August. The state is very dry, except for extreme northern California, north of the city of Ukiah. The Pacific High continues to dominate the Golden State steering most storms into the Pacific Northwest. However, rain did fall north of Ukiah, California from the tail end of cold fronts moving into the Northwest, ranging from a trace up to about half an inch of precipitation. Sky conditions were mostly clear for the rest of California. Daytime high temperatures throughout the state were seasonable with 60s and 70s along the immediate coast, 80s to upper 90s in the valley and foothills, uppers 90s to around 120 in the desert, and 70s through the lower 90s in the mountains.

FIELD CROPS

Safflower fields continued with harvest. **Sorghum** continued to advance. **Barley** and **wheat** fields were still being windrowed and baled as straw. **Alfalfa** seed fields were being dried down before harvest. Fields continued to be windrowed, raked, and baled for the production of alfalfa hay. Harvest of **corn** continued for silage and grain. **Cotton** fields were in bloom and squaring. Growers continued to look for aphid, mite, and lygus in cotton. **Rice** fields continued to grow nicely while treated for weeds. Early planted **sugar beet** fields were being harvested. Fall sugar beets were being irrigated and treated to control insects and diseases.

FRUIT CROPS

Some **grape** varieties were being laid down to dry marking the start of the raisin grape harvest. Table and wine grape harvest continued. Chardonnay, Flame and Thompson Seedless, Autumn Royal, Princess, Diamond Muscat, Black Emerald, Red Globe and Summer Royal varieties were harvested. Stone fruit and pomegranate cultural practices such as irrigation, summer pruning and treatments to control weeds and insect pests continued. Stone fruit varieties picked were August Flame, August Lady, Autumn Red, Henry II, Ivory Princess, Jasper Gem, Jasper Treasure, O'Henry, Prima 23, Prima 29, Rich Lady, Ryan Sun, September Flame 32, Snow King, Spring Treat, Sugar Crisp, September Snow, Summer Flame, Summer Sweet, Summer Zee, Sweet Kay, Sweet Sun and Trazee **peaches**; Black Splendor, Fortune, Friar, Howard Sun, Kelsey, Lone Star and Sugar Heart **plums**; Apple Fire, Dapple Dandy, Dapple Fire, Dinosaur Egg, Emerald Beaut, Emerald Sweet, Flavor Grenade, Flavor Heart and Mango Tango **pluots**; Arctic Pride, August Fire, August Pearl, Diamond Pearl, Fire Pearl, Red Lion, Regal Red, Red Roy, Ruby Bright, Summer Bright, Summer Fire, Sunny Gun and Zee Fire **nectarines**. **Figs**, Gala and McIntosh **apples** and Asian **pears** were also being harvested. Various kinds of **berries** were still being picked in parts of the State. **Olive** fruits were sizing nicely, though harvest was still expected to be low in some groves. Some groves were not expected to be picked. **Lemons** were harvested. Valencia **orange** harvest remained slow. Navel oranges were developing size and were sprayed for scale.

NUT CROPS

Almond harvest remained underway. Some groves were still being irrigated. **Walnut** orchards were being prepared for harvest. Some walnut groves were also irrigated. Treatments for husk fly and mites continued in some areas.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Ground continued to be prepared for fall vegetables in the Imperial Valley, with applications of pesticides for nematode suppression for **carrot** production; some carrots were harvested. In southern San Joaquin Valley, carrot harvest had slowed way down for the month of August but will start to pick up in September. In central San Joaquin Valley, commercial **tomato** harvest was virtually complete with very good quality. Summer carrot harvest was virtually complete. Crops such as **peppers**, **eggplant** and **cucumbers** continued to be picked with good quality. **Garlic**, **onion**, bell pepper and processed tomato harvests continued. Harvest of **okra**, long **beans**, **squash**, sweet **corn**, **cilantro**, and various Oriental vegetables continued. Harvests of **watermelon**, **cantaloupe**, **honeydew**, and mixed **melon** were still going strong. Fall crop carrots were being planted and irrigated. In northern San Joaquin Valley current vegetables harvested included 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 with good quality reported. Fungicide and insecticide treatments on tomatoes and beans continued as well as treatments for weeds and worms in melon fields

LIVESTOCK

Very poor feed and water conditions continued on rangeland and pasture in many areas of the state, and producers continued to contend with high supplemental feed costs. Cattle were receiving supplements of hay and other nutrients at all elevations. The high fire dangers reported throughout the summer remained in many areas. Stocker and feeder cattle continued to move to out-of-state locations with better grazing conditions. Irrigated pastures were in good condition. Early fall calving of beef cows continued. The seasonal decline in milk production continued at most dairies. Sheep and goats were grazing on idle farmland, harvested grain fields, and some rangeland in the central part of the state. Honeybees continued to pollinate melon fields in the central area and sunflower and vineseed crops in the north, and some remained in holding areas. Leafcutter bees were in alfalfa seed fields.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 08/24/08

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 08/24/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 08/24/08	January 1 - 08/24/08	Week Ending 08/24/08	July 1 - 08/24/08	July 1 - 08/24/08	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	59	0	68	51	28	0	0.59	1.33	0.54	37.53
Ukiah	72	0	97	53	1,268	1,126	0.00	0.00	0.22	37.96
Santa Rosa	68	0	88	50	822	645	0.00	0.00	0.17	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	65	1	76	57	393	272	0.00	0.01	0.11	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,039	972	0.00	0.00	0.12	14.42
Salinas AP	65	1	76	57	343	252	0.00	0.00	0.10	12.44
Monterey FAA	63	2	73	53	233	87	0.00	0.00	0.38	18.72
King City	70	2	90	53	1,001	750	0.00	0.00	0.06	11.44
Paso Robles AP	73	0	103	51	1,390	1,196	0.00	0.00	0.07	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	80	1	102	62	2,264	1,938	0.02	0.11	0.47	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	79	1	101	61	2,276	2,016	0.00	0.00	0.27	22.29
Chico AFS	76	1	95	59	1,952	1,595	0.00	0.20	0.23	26.32
Marysville	77	0	99	59	1,851	1,881	0.00	0.00	0.15	21.04
Sacramento AP	74	0	96	57	1,580	1,455	0.00	0.00	0.12	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	76	-1	98	58	1,766	1,689	0.03	0.22	0.10	13.95
Fresno	81	1	101	61	2,470	2,168	0.00	0.01	0.05	10.60
Bakersfield	82	0	99	63	2,609	2,380	0.00	0.00	0.10	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	65	1	78	54	386	265	0.00	0.00	0.12	12.36
Santa Barbara	67	0	75	55	688	490	0.00	0.00	0.18	16.25
Ventura	67	0	75	57	478	0	0.00	0.05	0.07	14.38
Los Angeles	74	-2	83	64	1,692	1,627	0.00	0.00	0.15	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	1,930	1,698	0.00	0.00	0.21	9.58
San Diego AP	71	-1	76	65	1,117	1,165	0.00	0.00	0.14	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	76	2	99	49	1,506	1,350	0.02	0.41	0.32	5.37
Lancaster	81	2	103	57	2,311	1,879	0.00	0.00	0.29	6.92
Daggett AP	88	1	105	70	3,260	3,043	0.00	0.15	0.86	3.93
Thermal AP	91	1	109	69	4,081	3,676	0.00	0.12	0.61	3.16
Blythe	93	1	110	74	4,223	4,068	0.00	0.31	1.01	3.60
Imperial	92	2	109	70	3,866	3,799	0.00	0.01	0.46	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	67	3	93	39	622	305	0.01	0.12	0.68	12.01
Mt. Shasta	67	2	92	48	718	437	0.00	0.17	0.87	37.02
Blue Canyon	69	2	84	54	973	512	0.00	0.00	1.01	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	92	56	1,186	911	0.00	0.00	0.84	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.