



California Crop Weather

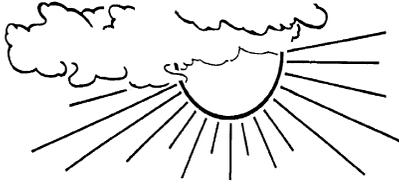
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: September 7, 2008
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WEATHER



The early part of the week featured dry and seasonable weather conditions across the Golden State. Strong high pressure began to build across Northern and Central California by the middle of the week with dry and gusty northerly winds over the interior and mountain areas of Northern California. Above normal temperatures moved into many of the coastal valleys and the greater Bay Area region. The high pressure ridge and warming trend then spread into southern California with some of the coastal valleys of southern California seeing quite warm temperatures for a time. The marine layer along the California coast began to increase during the later part of the week with cooler temperatures and local low clouds spreading from the immediate coast into some of the coastal valleys. This cooling trend then began to push inland during the late portion of the period as the high pressure ridge began to weaken and some dry and minor cold fronts began to brush the northern portion of the state. No significant precipitation was observed statewide through the period.

FIELD CROPS

Harvested **barley** and **wheat** fields continued to be windrowed and baled for straw. Harvest continued in **alfalfa** seed fields. Alfalfa growers were still cutting, windrowing, raking, and baling for the production of hay. **Corn** for grain and silage were being harvested. **Cotton** fields were in full bloom, squaring, and setting bolls. Growers continued to look for aphid, mite, and lygus in cotton. **Rice** fields continued to grow nicely while being treated for weeds. Fall **sugar beets** were being irrigated and treated to control insects and diseases. Early planted sugar beet fields were being harvested. Black eye **beans** were dried for harvest.

FRUIT CROPS

Grape harvest advanced. Thompson and Crimson Seedless, Autumn Royal, Princess, Lindy Black, Kyoho, Niabell, Red Globe and Summer Royal table grapes were being harvested. Wine and juice grape harvested included Alicante Bouchet, Cabernet, Carignane, Grenache, Merlot, Sauvignon and Zinfandel. Harvesting of grapes for raisins also continued. Zante **currants** were being rolled. **Pomegranate** harvest began. Stone fruit harvest also continued. Stone fruit varieties picked were Full Moon, Howard Sun, Ivory Princess, Jasper Gem, Jasper Treasure, O'Henry, Rich Lady, Ryan Sun, September Flame 32, September Sun, September Snow, Snow King, Snow Magic, Spring Treat, Sugar Crisp, Summer Flame, Summer Sweet, Summer Zee, Sweet Kay, Sweet September and Sweet Sun **peaches**; Angelino, Betty Ann, Ebony Sun, Fortune, Friar, Howard Sun and September Yummy **plums**; Apple Fire, Black Kat, Black Pearl, Dapple Fire, Emerald Beaut, Flavor Treat and Flavor Heart **pluots**; and Arctic Mist, Arctic Pride, Arctic Snow, August Fire, August Pearl, August Red, Ruby Bright, September Bright, September Red, Summer Bright, Summer Fire, Sunny Gun and Zee Fire **nectarines**. Gala and McIntosh **apples**, **figs** and Asian **pears** were being harvested. **Olives** were sizing well. **Lemon** harvest continued. Valencia **orange** harvest remained slow. Planting of new citrus trees was slowing.

NUT CROPS

Pistachio harvest began in some areas. **Walnut** growers were still preparing their groves for harvest. Leafroller, husk fly and mite treatments were still underway in some areas. **Almond** harvest continued.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In the Imperial Valley, fields intended for winter **cauliflower**, **broccoli**, and **lettuce** were prepared for early irrigation. In southern San Joaquin Valley, summer **carrot** harvest was completed, while the commercial **tomato** harvest was about half complete. Other crops being harvested were **eggplant**, **peppers**, **cucumbers**, **squash** and fresh market tomatoes. In central San Joaquin Valley **garlic**, **onion**, bell pepper, and processed tomato harvests continued as well as **watermelon**, **cantaloupe**, **honeydew** and mixed melon harvests. Harvest of **okra**, long **beans**, squash, sweet **corn**, **cilantro**, and various Oriental vegetables was also ongoing. Fall crop carrots were being planted and irrigated. Fields were being weeded, irrigated, fertilized, and treated to control insects and mildew. **Beets**, all of the **choys**, **mustard**, Napa **cabbage**, sweet corn, garlic, **jicama**, **chayote**, and **yams** were growing nicely. **Asparagus** ferns were being mowed to stimulate new growth and fall broccoli was being seeded. In northern San Joaquin Valley current vegetables harvested included fresh market tomatoes, melons and bell peppers. Fall tomato beds were being prepared. Farther north, harvests of fresh market tomato, freezer squash, watermelon, cantaloupe, honeydew, and bell pepper continued. In southern Sacramento Valley harvests continued for fresh market and processing tomatoes, sweet corn, freezer 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

Grazing conditions remained very poor on dryland pasture and rangeland in most areas. Lower-elevation water sources continued to dry out. Fire danger remained high in many areas. Beef cattle on dry pasture and rangeland were receiving supplements of hay and other nutrients, and herd reduction continued in some areas due to the poor feed and water conditions. Many cattle were moved to lower elevations for over-wintering. Fall beef cow calving continued. Irrigated pastures were in good condition. Hot weather again resulted in decreased milk production. Sheep 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; some remained in holding areas.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 09/07/08

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 09/07/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 09/07/08	January 1 - 09/07/08	Week Ending 09/07/08	July 1 - 09/07/08	July 1 - 09/07/08	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	54	-4	70	42	30	0	0.01	0.85	0.86	37.53
Ukiah	75	4	105	44	1,502	1,270	0.00	0.00	0.45	37.96
Santa Rosa	73	6	101	45	1,031	747	0.00	0.00	0.34	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	72	8	93	55	583	335	0.00	0.01	0.16	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,284	1,102	0.00	0.00	0.15	14.42
Salinas AP	69	5	91	45	484	313	0.00	0.00	0.13	12.44
Monterey FAA	66	5	88	47	317	105	0.00	0.00	0.30	18.72
King City	74	6	103	42	1,216	856	0.00	0.00	0.09	11.44
Paso Robles AP	76	4	107	43	1,638	1,350	0.00	0.00	0.12	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	83	6	106	59	2,617	2,156	0.00	0.09	0.78	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	82	5	108	58	2,620	2,246	0.00	0.00	0.49	22.29
Chico AFS	78	4	104	53	2,244	1,781	0.00	0.20	0.47	26.32
Marysville	78	3	102	53	2,128	2,088	0.00	0.00	0.25	21.04
Sacramento AP	78	5	102	53	1,859	1,636	0.00	0.00	0.22	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	79	4	104	53	2,063	1,889	0.00	0.22	0.15	13.95
Fresno	81	4	106	57	2,799	2,406	0.00	0.01	0.12	10.60
Bakersfield	81	2	100	59	2,936	2,646	0.00	0.00	0.16	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	64	0	82	48	448	319	0.00	0.00	0.20	12.36
Santa Barbara	68	1	76	59	802	581	0.00	0.00	0.31	16.25
Ventura	67	0	77	57	580	0	0.00	0.05	0.16	14.38
Los Angeles	75	0	87	64	1,937	1,837	0.00	0.00	0.23	14.77
Riverside	81	5	102	62	2,240	1,923	0.00	0.00	0.30	9.58
San Diego AP	73	1	81	67	1,312	1,334	0.00	0.00	0.19	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	69	-2	97	41	1,628	1,483	0.00	0.39	0.42	5.37
Lancaster	79	3	103	50	2,596	2,095	0.00	0.00	0.38	6.92
Daggett AP	86	2	107	61	3,643	3,366	0.00	0.15	1.02	3.93
Thermal AP	92	4	115	70	4,522	4,052	0.00	0.22	0.75	3.16
Blythe	93	3	112	77	4,674	4,482	0.00	0.53	1.15	3.60
Imperial	93	4	113	76	4,319	4,203	0.00	0.18	0.60	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	59	-1	89	31	618	297	0.00	0.11	0.92	12.01
Mt. Shasta	64	2	90	39	792	456	0.00	0.17	1.27	37.02
Blue Canyon	71	7	85	45	1,171	569	0.00	0.00	1.52	67.04
Yosemite	71	3	95	50	1,387	1,024	0.00	0.00	1.18	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.