



# California Crop Weather

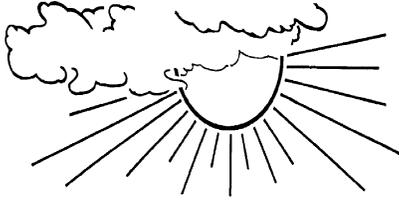
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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RELEASED: July 27, 2009

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## WEATHER



Strong high pressure settled over the Desert Southwest this week, resulting in a common summer time pattern with very hot temperatures observed across most of California. The high pressure was generally centered over the interior, to the east of our state, with minor fluctuations in its position bringing relatively minor changes in the temperature pattern. One significant exception occurred when a weak upper level low pressure trough approached the San Francisco Bay region on Thursday. This resulted in a deepened marine layer, which brought a strong Delta Breeze to the Sacramento River Delta and the

adjacent portions of the southern Sacramento and northern San Joaquin Valleys. These areas saw some relief from the hot weather as the cooler marine air pushed into the region. By the end of the week, the high pressure had reasserted its influence over this region, and more typical summer conditions returned.

## FIELD CROPS

Aerial herbicide applications to **rice** fields slowed. **Alfalfa** fourth and fifth cuttings continued; some areas received treatment for worms. **Sudan grass** continued to be cut and baled; fields were also treated for broadleaf. **Winter forage** and small grains continued to be harvested for hay and silage. **Cotton** continued to progress with plants squaring and setting bolls. Adequate irrigation has contributed to the growing conditions. **Wheat** harvest has been completed in most areas. **Chickpea** harvest concluded. **Sunflower** growth continued. **Corn** tasseled and early planted fields started harvest for silage; some fields were treated for mites. **Sorghum** continued to develop. **Sugarbeet** harvest started.

## FRUIT CROPS

**Nectarine, peach, fig** and **plum** harvests continued normally in the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys. The Seedless Royal and Flame **grape** harvest was in full swing in the San Joaquin Valley. Some fungicide sprays were applied to grape vineyards. Cool weather persisted along the North Coast, though veraison began in vineyards. The Central Coast experienced warmer weather as veraison began for earlier maturing varieties, along with mildew treatments being applied. The **blackberry** harvest continued. **Pomegranate** development continued well. The valencia **orange** harvest began slowing down. Regreening occurrences continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Normal spraying and maintenance continued in orchards and vineyards, along with increased irrigation to deal with hotter temperatures.

## NUT CROPS

Codling moth, mites, worm treatments, and sunburn prevention sprays continued for **walnuts**. Hull split and miticide spraying continued for **almonds** in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys. Hull split in almonds continued to pick up pace in most orchards.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

The harvest of summer vegetables continued in Tulare County and included **peppers, squash, eggplant, cucumbers,** and **tomatoes**. The second plantings of squash and cucumber were ongoing and recent irrigation applications increased due to higher temperatures. **Honeydew** melons were packed and shipped and the commercial tomato harvest was well underway. In Fresno County, **garlic** and **onions** were being harvested. Despite excellent yields on processing tomatoes, the quality was deteriorating due to hot weather and sun burning. Both yield and quality were looking good for the **carrot** crop. Processing onions were about halfway through the harvest and yields were expected to be above average. The second half of fresh market onions were also being harvested and it is anticipated that hail damage from a few months ago will lower the yield. Kern County's melon harvest was finishing up. Due to its late start, farmers missed the Fourth of July market. Merced County's fresh market tomato planting was almost completed and worm sprays were being applied to the fields. Both fresh market and processing tomatoes were being harvested along with bell pepper, fresh market red and white onions, honeydew, and **cantaloupe**. The harvest of vegetable crops and melons for farmers' markets also progressed in Sutter County. Maintenance activities, irrigation, and ground preparation continued. Treatments for lygus, mold, powdery mildew, aphids, and spider mites were applied to processing tomatoes and the harvest is expected to begin in the next few weeks. Cantaloupes and honeydews were being harvested in Stanislaus County. Sulfur applications continued to be applied on tomatoes. Sweet **corn** was growing well and the early crop is about a month away from harvest.

## LIVESTOCK

Pasture and rangeland in most areas of the state continued to deteriorate with the rising temperatures. Rapid drying of vegetation and natural water sources at all elevations in most central areas was reported. Fire danger was high in many central and southern areas. Increased supplemental feeding of cattle remaining on rangeland and dry-land pasture was a necessity. Accelerated drying of northern-area pastureland was also reported. Irrigated pasture was in good condition. High temperatures in central areas greatly increased heat stress on dairy cows, reducing milk production further. Dairy herd reduction continued at a slower pace. Some sheep and goats were grazing on dry-land grain fields, retired farmland and some rangeland. Honeybees were pollinating safflower, sunflower, vineseed, melon, squash, and cucumber plantings. Leaf cutter bees were in seed alfalfa fields.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 07/26/09**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION				
	Average Week Ending 07/26/09	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 07/26/09	January 1 - 07/26/09	Week Ending 07/26/09	July 1 - 07/26/09	July 1 - 07/26/09	July 1 - June 30	
-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --					
<b>NORTH COAST</b>											
Eureka	55	-3	61	50	0	0	0.03	0.16	0.17	37.53	
Ukiah	76	2	104	52	796	645	0.00	0.00	0.08	37.96	
Santa Rosa	64	-3	86	49	546	379	0.00	0.00	0.07	30.30	
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>											
San Francisco AP	60	-3	72	53	237	132	0.00	0.00	0.04	19.70	
San Jose	--	--	--	--	681	607	0.00	0.00	0.04	14.42	
Salinas AP	60	-3	68	53	228	120	0.00	0.00	0.04	12.44	
Monterey FAA	57	-4	64	50	136	26	0.04	0.05	0.07	18.72	
King City	68	0	88	52	707	446	0.00	0.00	0.01	11.44	
Paso Robles AP	76	2	104	52	872	709	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.95	
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>											
Redding	85	2	107	64	1,517	1,219	0.00	0.00	0.13	33.30	
Red Bluff FSS	84	2	105	63	1,554	1,292	0.00	0.00	0.12	22.29	
Chico AFS	80	2	105	56	1,276	1,009	0.00	0.00	0.09	26.32	
Marysville	78	-2	102	53	1,270	1,235	0.00	0.00	0.07	21.04	
Sacramento AP	74	-2	101	53	1,101	914	0.00	0.00	0.05	17.52	
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>											
Stockton WSO	76	-2	100	53	1,169	1,079	0.02	0.05	0.04	13.95	
Fresno	86	3	108	65	1,730	1,408	0.00	0.00	0.02	10.60	
Bakersfield	88	3	108	70	1,936	1,555	0.00	0.00	0.01	5.72	
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>											
Santa Maria AP	62	-2	74	51	184	116	0.00	0.00	0.03	12.36	
Santa Barbara	66	-1	79	55	320	241	0.00	0.01	0.04	16.25	
Ventura	65	0	76	55	272	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	14.38	
Los Angeles	77	2	90	65	1,162	1,073	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.77	
Riverside	83	5	103	66	1,506	1,051	0.00	0.00	0.03	9.58	
San Diego AP	73	1	81	66	808	723	0.00	0.00	0.03	9.90	
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>											
Bishop	82	5	105	57	1,007	814	0.11	0.11	0.15	5.37	
Lancaster	87	6	107	66	1,488	1,166	0.00	0.00	0.08	6.92	
Daggett AP	93	3	111	77	2,239	2,040	0.00	0.05	0.30	3.93	
Thermal AP	95	4	113	78	2,892	2,596	0.00	0.00	0.13	3.16	
Blythe	97	2	115	83	3,144	2,862	0.00	0.07	0.24	3.60	
Imperial	98	6	114	83	3,000	2,664	0.00	0.00	0.08	2.75	
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>											
Alturas	71	5	98	43	285	131	0.00	0.00	0.28	12.01	
Mt. Shasta	73	5	95	50	416	205	0.00	0.00	0.40	37.02	
Blue Canyon	76	7	85	67	560	235	0.00	0.02	0.44	67.04	
Yosemite	--	--	100	70	696	466	0.00	0.00	0.49	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.