



California Crop Weather

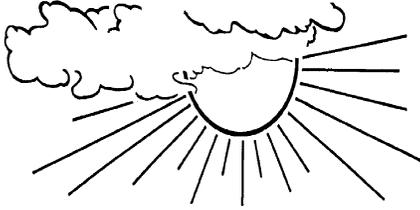
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: August 2, 2009
RELEASED: August 3, 2009

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 30 NO. 6

WEATHER



The week began with strong high pressure over the entire southwestern portion of the United States, including California, bringing very hot weather to the Golden State. The high pressure strengthened a little on Tuesday, resulting in the hottest day of the week. Then the high pressure ridge began to weaken, with a broad low pressure system developing over the upper Midwest. This brought about a gradual cooling trend. Another upper level low pressure system approached the Central California coast towards the end of the week. This system resulted in an increased onshore flow which cooled off many coastal areas as well as the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. This low also sparked a few showers across the mountains, especially across the Northern Sierra Nevada range. It even managed to spread a few sprinkles down to the Northern Sacramento Valley. The upper level low pressure remained off the Central California coast for the rest of the weekend, keeping areas near the coast relatively mild, while interior regions remained seasonably hot.

FIELD CROPS

Early planted **rice** fields began to develop seed heads. Aerial herbicide applications were nearly completed. **Winter wheat** harvest was virtually completed. Good **cotton** crop conditions were reported; plants continued squaring and setting bolls. **Corn** for silage was harvested and supplied to dairies. **Alfalfa** continued to be cut and baled. **Safflower** fields were drying in preparation to be harvested. Crop upkeep continued with cotton, alfalfa, corn, and **sunflower** fields being monitored and treated for insect pests. Harvested fields of small grains were being prepared for fall planting.

FRUIT CROPS

Fig, nectarine, peach, plum, and other stone fruit harvests continued normally in the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys. The Summer Royal and Flame Seedless **grape** harvest continued in full swing in the San Joaquin Valley, with the addition of Thompson seedless grapes being harvested. Treatments were applied to grape vineyards to control mildew and weeds. Central Coast vineyards continued to develop well, though spraying to control mildew was ongoing. The **blackberry** harvest continued. **Pomegranate** development continued. The gala **apple** harvest began in the San Joaquin Valley. The valencia **orange** harvest continued in the San Joaquin Valley, as red scale treatments were applied in citrus groves. New citrus groves continued to be planted. Normal spraying and maintenance continued in orchards and vineyards, along with increased irrigation to deal with hotter temperatures.

NUT CROPS

Codling moth and miticide sprays continued for **walnuts** and **almonds** in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys. Walnuts have been developing well. Hull split in almonds continued to pick up pace in most orchards. Some San Joaquin almond trees have suffered salt water damage due to irrigation with salty well water, though these occurrences have been fairly limited in scope.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Summer vegetables such as **squash, carrots, radishes, tomatillos, peppers, eggplant** and **cucumbers** were growing well and being harvested in Fresno County. **Lettuce** beds were prepared for fall planting. Growers continued planting **melons, eggplant, cucumbers** and **squash** by seed and transplants. The harvesting of **watermelon, cantaloupe, honeydew** and mixed melon was in full swing. Successive planting continued and some fields that were previously harvested were being disked and cultivated. Field activities continued and included weed control with herbicides, hand crews, soil fumigation, and bed shaping. **Sweet corn** fields were being harvested and treated to control worms. Some **onion** and **garlic** fields were rolled and bulbs were cured in preparation of harvest. Processing and fresh market **tomato** fields were being harvested, with about fifty percent complete. Yields were high and quality was fine, except for some sunburn issues. The carrot harvest began with good yield and quality. Farmers started to plant winter carrots. In Tulare County, the harvest of summer vegetables progressed and included peppers, squash, eggplant, cucumbers, **okra**, onions, sweet corn and various Asian vegetables. Honeydew melons were packed and shipped. Recent irrigation applications increased due to the hot weather. The commercial tomato harvest continued to be slowed by high temperature, which affected fruit volume. Sutter County's harvest of vegetable crops and melons for farmers' markets continued. Melons were treated for cucumber beetles and loopers and weed treatments were applied to corn. Processing tomatoes were treated for lygus, mold, powdery mildew, aphids and spider mites. Processing tomatoes in Yuba County were ripening and beginning to show color. Stanislaus County's cantaloupe and honeydew harvests were in full swing with no reported problems. Sulfur applications were applied to tomatoes. The last of the onions and garlic in Kern County were being harvested. The carrot harvest was at a standstill and will not continue until September. The planting of fresh market tomatoes was winding down in Merced County and worm sprays were applied to the fields. The harvests continued for fresh market and processing tomatoes, bell peppers, fresh market red and white onions, honeydew and cantaloupe.

LIVESTOCK

Mostly poor to very poor dry-land pasture and rangeland conditions in most areas of the state continued to be a substantial challenge to livestock producers, as available forage continued to decline with the warmer temperatures and natural water sources dried up. 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. Irrigated pasture was in good condition. The end of the heat wave was good news for dairy and poultry producers, though milk production remained on the lower end with the typical summer temperatures. 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 in sunflower, vineseed, melon, squash, and cucumber fields. Honeybees and leaf cutter bees were in seed alfalfa fields.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 08/02/09

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 08/02/09	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 08/02/09	January 1 - 08/02/09	Week Ending 08/02/09	July 1 - 08/02/09	July 1 - 08/02/09	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	56	-2	65	50	0	0	0.04	0.20	0.20	37.53
Ukiah	76	1	105	52	910	749	0.00	0.00	0.09	37.96
Santa Rosa	63	-4	85	50	570	432	0.00	0.00	0.07	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	62	-1	71	52	253	158	0.00	0.00	0.04	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	747	681	0.00	0.00	0.05	14.42
Salinas AP	61	-2	71	52	238	143	0.00	0.00	0.05	12.44
Monterey FAA	59	-4	67	50	139	44	0.03	0.08	0.07	18.72
King City	69	0	89	53	766	507	0.00	0.00	0.01	11.44
Paso Robles AP	74	0	106	52	970	810	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	87	5	113	68	1,706	1,372	0.00	0.00	0.15	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	85	3	112	66	1,727	1,446	0.00	0.00	0.13	22.29
Chico AFS	81	3	101	63	1,421	1,133	0.00	0.00	0.09	26.32
Marysville	78	-2	104	57	1,393	1,372	0.00	0.00	0.08	21.04
Sacramento AP	73	-3	102	55	1,195	1,025	0.00	0.00	0.06	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	75	-3	102	56	1,276	1,206	0.01	0.06	0.04	13.95
Fresno	85	2	105	67	1,906	1,568	0.00	0.00	0.02	10.60
Bakersfield	87	3	107	71	2,128	1,727	0.00	0.00	0.01	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	62	-3	72	51	194	144	0.00	0.00	0.03	12.36
Santa Barbara	65	-1	73	58	356	288	0.00	0.01	0.04	16.25
Ventura	65	0	75	57	306	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	14.38
Los Angeles	74	-1	84	64	1,262	1,180	0.00	0.00	0.01	14.77
Riverside	80	1	99	63	1,645	1,180	0.00	0.00	0.04	9.58
San Diego AP	71	-1	78	66	884	806	0.00	0.00	0.04	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	80	3	105	54	1,146	931	0.01	0.12	0.18	5.37
Lancaster	87	5	107	69	1,674	1,317	0.00	0.00	0.10	6.92
Daggett AP	94	4	112	74	2,470	2,247	0.00	0.05	0.43	3.93
Thermal AP	95	4	116	67	3,135	2,813	0.00	0.00	0.20	3.16
Blythe	97	3	117	78	3,404	3,106	0.00	0.07	0.37	3.60
Imperial	97	4	117	75	3,256	2,890	0.00	0.00	0.13	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	74	7	97	48	384	180	0.16	0.16	0.34	12.01
Mt. Shasta	75	7	99	51	521	264	0.07	0.07	0.47	37.02
Blue Canyon	77	7	88	64	677	301	0.00	0.02	0.48	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	92	63	811	561	0.00	0.00	0.58	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.