



California Crop Weather

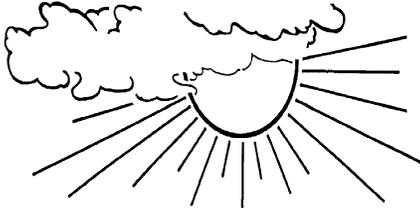
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: August 9, 2009
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WEATHER



The week began with a strong high pressure cell centered over the South/Central United States, while a low pressure system was moving through the Pacific Northwest. The combination resulted in slightly below normal temperatures across the northern half of California, while Southern California was quite warm. An unusually strong low pressure system developed off the Central California coast at midweek. This low then moved ashore on Thursday, resulting in unseasonably cool weather across the State. Scattered showers accompanied the cold front associated with this low pressure.

These showers were mainly focused along the northern coast and across the mountains of Northern California. By the weekend, the low pressure had moved out of the State and rebuilding high pressure brought a warming and drying trend to California.

FIELD CROPS

Corn was in various stages of growth, with silage harvest taking place in early planted fields. Irrigation and development continued for **cotton** fields, with bolls being set on lower parts of the plant. Heads were forming on **sorghum**. Fifth and sixth cuttings of **alfalfa** continued. Aerial herbicide applications were mostly complete in **rice** fields; plants continued to develop heads. **Sudan hay** and small grain harvest continued. **Sunflower** fields continued to mature. Pest treatments continued with sunflowers being treated for worms, cotton for aphids, alfalfa for worms, and corn for mites. In some areas, harvested fields were being left to rest with no tillage of the previous crop taking place.

FRUIT CROPS

Fig, **nectarine**, **peach**, **plum**, and other stone fruit harvests continued normally in the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys. Some fresh **prunes** were harvested in the Sacramento Valley, though scattered showers heightened concerns about brown rot in unharvested stone fruit. The table **grape** harvest continued in full swing in the San Joaquin Valley, along with fungicide applications to control mildew and weeds. North Coast vineyards continued to develop well, with veraison reached in most varieties. The **blackberry** harvest continued normally. The Bartlett **pear** harvest was in full swing along the North Coast, with excellent sizing. The Bartlett and French butter pear harvest finished in the San Joaquin Valley, while the Bosc and Asian pear harvests continued. **Pomegranate** development continued well, showing good size and color. The gala **apple** harvest continued in the San Joaquin Valley. The valencia **orange** harvest continued in the San Joaquin Valley, though at a slower pace. Red scale treatment applications were nearly finished in citrus groves. New citrus groves continued to be planted. Normal spraying and maintenance continued in orchards and vineyards.

NUT CROPS

Shaking of Nonpareil **almonds** began in the southern San Joaquin Valley, while hull split continued in other orchards. Final ground preparation and spraying began to prepare for the full-scale almond and **walnut** harvests in the San Joaquin Valley. Walnut quality looked good. Codling moth and miticide sprays continued for **walnuts** and **almonds** in the Sacramento Valley. Irrigation was increased in **pistachio** orchards in order to maximize development during the nut fill stage.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Fresh market **tomato** field planting was winding down in Fresno County and worm sprays were applied to fields. Harvests continued for fresh market and processing tomatoes, bell **peppers**, fresh market red and white **onions**, **honeydew**, **cantaloupe** and **watermelon**. The **tomatillo** harvest was underway. The tomato crop in Fresno County looked excellent and high yields were expected. The **carrot** harvest was nearing the halfway point. Colusa County's processing tomato harvest was in full swing with great yields reported. Maintenance activities, irrigation and ground preparation continued in Sutter County. The harvests of vegetable crops and melons for farmers' markets continued. Weed treatments were applied to **sweet corn** and processing tomatoes were treated for lygus, mold, powdery mildew, aphids and spider mites. The processing tomato harvest was about one week into the harvest. Cantaloupe and honeydew melons continued to be harvested in Stanislaus County, with more fields in the area reaching maturity. Tomatoes, melons and corn were expected to have harvests in full swing within the next month. Tulare County's assorted peppers, tomatoes, melons and sweet corn were harvested and sold at farmers' markets statewide.

LIVESTOCK

Fire danger was high to extreme in many central and southern areas, with the critically dry conditions of pasture and rangeland combined with high temperatures. Supplemental feeding of cattle continued to be a necessity for many ranchers. Irrigated pasture remained in relatively good condition. Milk production was down, with the increased heat stress following the typical high summer temperatures. Dairy herd reduction, in response to unfavorable milk market conditions, continued at a steady, somewhat increased pace. Some sheep and goats were grazing on dry-land grain fields, retired farmland, and some rangeland, with some sheepling-off of harvested tomato fields in Merced. 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 08/09/09

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 08/09/09	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 08/09/09	January 1 - 08/09/09	Week Ending 08/09/09	July 1 - 08/09/09	July 1 - 08/09/09	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	59	0	73	47	4	0	0.04	0.24	0.24	37.53
Ukiah	69	-5	95	51	972	848	0.00	0.00	0.11	37.96
Santa Rosa	67	0	93	50	620	484	0.00	0.00	0.09	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	66	2	85	57	294	184	0.00	0.00	0.05	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	806	754	0.00	0.00	0.06	14.42
Salinas AP	65	2	84	52	274	168	0.26	0.26	0.06	12.44
Monterey FAA	62	0	77	49	154	58	0.06	0.15	0.08	18.72
King City	69	0	96	49	830	567	0.00	0.00	0.02	11.44
Paso Robles AP	71	-3	98	50	1,046	908	0.00	0.00	0.01	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	76	-5	100	58	1,820	1,519	0.00	0.00	0.19	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	76	-5	100	59	1,836	1,594	0.00	0.00	0.15	22.29
Chico AFS	73	-4	93	58	1,514	1,252	0.00	0.00	0.11	26.32
Marysville	74	-5	99	56	1,490	1,503	0.00	0.00	0.09	21.04
Sacramento AP	73	-3	98	56	1,284	1,134	0.00	0.00	0.07	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	73	-5	96	56	1,364	1,329	0.03	0.09	0.06	13.95
Fresno	78	-4	98	59	2,030	1,722	0.00	0.00	0.02	10.60
Bakersfield	78	-6	96	61	2,254	1,895	0.00	0.00	0.03	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	63	-1	75	50	214	173	0.00	0.00	0.04	12.36
Santa Barbara	66	-1	83	53	396	336	0.00	0.01	0.07	16.25
Ventura	64	0	75	53	333	0	0.00	0.00	0.02	14.38
Los Angeles	74	-1	91	62	1,360	1,287	0.00	0.00	0.04	14.77
Riverside	78	0	103	58	1,770	1,308	0.00	0.00	0.08	9.58
San Diego AP	73	0	82	66	972	892	0.00	0.00	0.06	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	73	-3	98	50	1,234	1,043	0.00	0.12	0.22	5.37
Lancaster	78	-3	100	54	1,798	1,463	0.00	0.00	0.14	6.92
Daggett AP	84	-4	106	61	2,641	2,449	0.00	0.05	0.55	3.93
Thermal AP	93	2	116	65	3,363	3,027	0.00	0.00	0.30	3.16
Blythe	94	0	115	68	3,642	3,345	0.00	0.07	0.53	3.60
Imperial	92	1	115	69	3,484	3,113	0.00	0.00	0.21	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	62	-5	91	37	408	223	0.19	0.35	0.41	12.01
Mt. Shasta	62	-6	87	44	541	318	0.38	0.44	0.55	37.02
Blue Canyon	62	-7	77	45	708	362	0.12	0.14	0.56	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	81	51	865	655	0.00	0.00	0.64	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.