



California Crop Weather

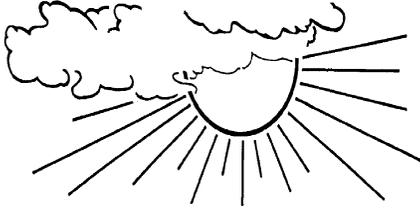
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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



At the start of the week, Northern California was enjoying mild weather, with below normal temperatures, as low pressure brushed that part of the State. Southern California remained under the influence of strong high pressure which brought hotter than normal temperatures to that region. The high pressure rebuilt over the entire state as the week progressed, with the hottest weather occurring Wednesday through Friday. By the weekend, a cold front had pushed across the State, resulting in a cooling trend, first in the North, then spreading to Southern California. The only significant precipitation in the State was associated with this front, with measurable rain being reported along the northern coastal region on Saturday and Sunday.

FIELD CROPS

Rice harvest started in Merced and Yuba Counties. Other areas were draining fields in preparation for harvest. **Cotton** continued to progress in growth and bolls were opening on plants. **Alfalfa** continued to be cut and baled, with areas entering their sixth and seventh cuttings. Pests have not been a significant problem in alfalfa this year in southern San Joaquin Valley. **Corn** for silage and corn for grain harvests continued. The corn for silage is at various stages of growth due to spread out planting dates. **Safflower** fields were being harvested in Fresno County. **Black-eyed pea** harvest continued. **Dried beans** were being windrowed.

FRUIT CROPS

Peach and **prune** harvests continued at a slower pace throughout the Central Valley, while **fig**, **nectarine**, **plum**, **Bartlett pear**, **raisin grape**, **table grape**, **wine grape**, **juicing grape**, **Gala apple**, and **Granny Smith apple** harvests continued, primarily in the San Joaquin Valley. The wine grape harvest was also underway along the Northern Coast. The Asian pear harvest was underway in the San Joaquin Valley, with Yali and Shinko varieties being picked. **Pomegranates** continued to develop in size and color, with light harvesting of Foothill and Early Wonderful varieties occurring in the San Joaquin Valley. The Valencia **orange** harvest continued at a slower pace in the San Joaquin Valley. The **lemon** harvest continued along the Central and Southern coasts. Normal spraying and maintenance continued in orchards and vineyards.

NUT CROPS

The **almond** harvest continued, though at a slower pace, in both the San Joaquin Valley and Sacramento Valley. Shaking was nearly completed for the Nonpareil variety, while shaking continued for other varieties. Sweeping, gathering, and delivering activities continued for all varieties. Quality continued to look good, though some growers showed concern over lower yields, likely caused by the March frost. Ground preparation and spraying was continued to prepare for the upcoming **walnut** and **pistachio** harvests.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Fresno County's summer vegetables were being harvested, including **squash**, **radishes**, fresh market and processing **tomatoes**, **peppers**, **eggplant**, **cucumbers**, **carrots**, **green beans**, **long beans**, **daikon**, **herbs**, **onions**, **tomatillos** and **bittermelon**. The harvests of **watermelon**, **cantaloupe**, and mixed melons were in full swing and **pumpkin** fields were growing well with good fruit set and sizing. The **garlic** harvest was winding down. Late-season squash, fall head **lettuce**, and cucumbers were being planted. Growers were controlling weeds with herbicides, hand crews, and cultivation. They were also working on pre-irrigation, soil fumigation, and shaping beds. San Joaquin County's fall tomato harvest continued, while the onion harvest was nearly complete. Farmers were picking bell peppers, watermelons, and squash. Picking was started in pumpkin fields. The watermelon harvest was wrapping up in Sacramento County, but processing tomatoes continued to be harvested. Local peppers, tomatoes, melons, and **sweet corn** continued to be harvested in Tulare County. Farmers in Merced County were harvesting **basil**, fresh market and processing tomatoes, bell peppers, fresh market red and white onions, **honeydew**, cantaloupe and tomatillos. Worm sprays were applied to tomato fields and the planting of **radicchio** continued. A small amount of organic **greens** were being harvested in Kern County.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and dry-land pasture forage conditions, already critically dry, continued to deteriorate. Fire danger was high to extreme. Upper and lower elevation vegetation in central areas showed signs of depletion with normal grazing. Increased supplemental feeding of cattle on dry pasture continued to be a necessity. Irrigated pasture remained in mostly good condition, with some increases in irrigation frequency. Some early fall beef cow calving was underway. Dairy herd reduction, in response to unfavorable milk market conditions, was ongoing. Some sheep and goats were grazing on dry-land grain fields and retired farmland, with some sheepling-off of harvested tomato fields in Merced. Honeybees were moved into melon and squash fields in Fresno, and to off-season locations in some other areas.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 09/06/09

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 09/06/09	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 09/06/09	January 1 - 09/06/09	Week Ending 09/06/09	July 1 - 09/06/09	July 1 - 09/06/09	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	54	-1	62	44	0	0	0.12	0.00	0.00	37.53
Ukiah	62	-4	83	45	238	118	0.00	0.00	0.00	37.96
Santa Rosa	63	-1	77	49	245	65	0.06	0.00	0.00	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	62	1	70	54	92	7	0.01	0.00	0.00	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	272	172	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.42
Salinas AP	62	1	71	53	117	5	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.44
Monterey FAA	60	1	69	51	90	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	18.72
King City	64	0	85	48	318	102	0.02	0.00	0.00	11.44
Paso Robles AP	63	-4	81	43	309	158	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	69	-3	90	56	559	326	1.32	0.00	0.00	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	70	-4	90	57	594	385	0.46	0.00	0.00	22.29
Chico AFS	68	-3	84	55	492	282	0.55	0.00	0.00	26.32
Marysville	69	-5	86	54	481	418	0.51	0.00	0.00	21.04
Sacramento AP	67	-3	83	52	414	265	0.56	0.00	0.00	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	67	-4	85	53	454	337	0.07	0.00	0.00	13.95
Fresno	70	-5	86	55	712	478	0.20	0.00	0.00	10.60
Bakersfield	71	-5	87	58	858	556	0.06	0.00	0.00	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	62	2	73	47	84	0	0.98	0.00	0.00	12.36
Santa Barbara	62	0	71	51	158	20	0.51	0.00	0.00	16.25
Ventura	61	0	70	53	166	0	0.08	0.00	0.00	14.38
Los Angeles	66	-3	74	57	623	459	0.15	0.00	0.00	14.77
Riverside	67	-3	84	55	703	339	0.01	0.00	0.00	9.58
San Diego AP	66	0	71	60	392	279	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	62	-6	84	36	310	146	0.06	0.00	0.00	5.37
Lancaster	64	-8	79	51	556	307	0.01	0.00	0.00	6.92
Daggett AP	72	-9	88	53	958	784	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.93
Thermal AP	80	-4	102	63	1,458	1,236	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.16
Blythe	82	-4	108	60	1,609	1,340	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.60
Imperial	80	-3	108	63	1,500	1,270	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	55	-1	74	39	58	0	0.93	0.00	0.00	12.01
Mt. Shasta	57	-2	75	40	92	0	1.50	0.00	0.00	37.02
Blue Canyon	52	-6	65	42	124	0	0.45	0.00	0.00	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	174	26	0.00	0.00	0.00	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.