



California Crop Weather

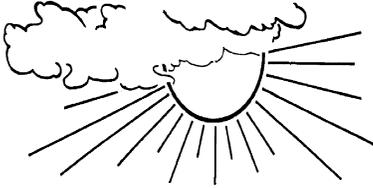
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: September 20, 2009
RELEASED: September 21, 2009

FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER



A cold front entered Northern California early Monday morning. This brought frontal rain fall from the North Coast near Eureka to Pismo Beach in Central California. The southern portions of the State remained dry. Rain is still rare in mid-September for the State of California. Several rainfall records were broken in the valley on Monday, especially in the Southern Sacramento Valley. The mountains received very little precipitation, due to the front drying out quickly as it passed through the valley region. On Tuesday, high pressure moved over California and conditions returned to normal for this time of year. Daytime highs were normal or slightly above normal for the remainder of the week, under partly cloudy skies.

FIELD CROPS

Rice harvest continued to proceed with higher yields than last year being reported. Late planted rice fields were still being drained in preparation for harvest. Harvest continued for a number of other crops including **sunflower**, **bean**, and **safflower**. **Cotton** fields received their last watering in preparation for defoliation, and continued to be monitored for aphids, mites, and lygus. **Corn** continued to be cut for silage and harvested for grain. **Alfalfa** continued to be cut and baled. **Sugar beet** planting progressed in Imperial County. **Sudan hay** and small grain harvest continued.

FRUIT CROPS

Fig, **raisin grape**, **table grape**, **wine grape**, **juicing grape**, **Gala apple**, and **Granny Smith apple** harvests continued primarily in the San Joaquin Valley. **Pinot noir** and **Chardonnay wine grape** varieties were also being harvested along the Central and North Coasts. Light rain has not appeared to damage any grape crops. The **peach**, **plum**, and **nectarine** harvests were nearing completion. **Pomegranates** continued to develop in size and color, as light harvesting of **Foothill** and **Early Wonderful** varieties continued in the San Joaquin Valley. The **Valencia orange** harvest continued to wind down in the San Joaquin Valley. **Navel oranges** for the upcoming season continued to develop in size. **Strawberry** fields were plowed and prepared for fall season berries. 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 at a slower pace in the Central Valley. Hulling and stockpile fumigations continued for the almond crop as the late-variety harvest winded down. The **walnut** and **pistachio** harvests began in parts of the Central Valley, while the rest of the area continued ground preparations for the upcoming harvests.

VEGETABLE CROPS

The **honeydew** melon harvest was still underway in Tulare County and vegetables such as **sweet corn**, **eggplant**, **squash**, **peppers**, **cucumbers** and **tomatoes** continued to be harvested. In Merced County, **radicchio** planting progressed and harvesting continued for **basil**, fresh market and processing tomatoes, **bell peppers**, fresh market red and white **onions**, **honeydew**, **cantaloupe** and **watermelon**. Worm sprays were also applied to tomato fields. Fresno County growers were still removing drip tapes from the tomato fields after the harvest was completed. **Carrots** were irrigated, cultivated, and treated with herbicide and fungicide. The processing tomato harvest was still in full production in Colusa County, with great yields reported. The harvest of sweet corn, tomatoes, watermelon, cantaloupe and other melon varieties for farmers' markets was winding down in Sutter County. Treatments for weeds and worms in processing tomatoes and melons continued. In San Joaquin County, the harvest continued for tomatoes. **Pumpkins** and watermelon were being picked, packed and shipped.

LIVESTOCK

Fire danger in many areas was high to extreme, as rangeland and dry-land pasture forage conditions continued to deteriorate. Supplemental feeding of cattle on dry pasture continued to be a necessity. Cattle were gathered from upper elevations for transport to winter pastures. Irrigated pasture remained in mostly good condition. Fall beef cow calving was underway. Dairy herd reduction, in response to unfavorable milk market conditions, continued at a somewhat decreased pace. 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 in melon and squash fields in central parts of the State, and were moved to off-season locations in other areas.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 09/20/09

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 09/20/09	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 09/20/09	January 1 - 09/20/09	Week Ending 09/20/09	July 1 - 09/20/09	July 1 - 09/20/09	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	60	2	69	51	10	0	0.02	0.74	1.07	37.53
Ukiah	72	3	99	50	1,522	1,316	0.01	0.01	0.63	37.96
Santa Rosa	71	4	99	52	1,016	785	0.10	0.16	0.47	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	69	5	93	57	558	359	0.00	0.28	0.21	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,300	1,151	0.00	0.00	0.22	14.42
Salinas AP	66	1	87	53	474	339	0.01	0.38	0.19	12.44
Monterey FAA	63	1	88	52	253	111	0.00	0.34	0.33	18.72
King City	70	3	103	51	1,265	898	0.00	0.00	0.14	11.44
Paso Robles AP	72	2	99	46	1,610	1,399	0.06	0.06	0.21	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	77	3	98	56	2,610	2,235	0.12	0.12	0.94	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	77	3	100	57	2,642	2,324	0.08	0.08	0.68	22.29
Chico AFS	74	2	96	54	2,226	1,843	0.35	0.35	0.61	26.32
Marysville	75	2	99	55	2,192	2,159	0.26	0.26	0.37	21.04
Sacramento AP	75	3	97	55	1,926	1,698	0.14	0.14	0.32	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	75	2	98	55	2,020	1,959	1.21	1.41	0.25	13.95
Fresno	78	3	102	60	2,926	2,487	0.01	0.01	0.19	10.60
Bakersfield	79	2	101	63	3,192	2,738	0.01	0.01	0.20	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	64	1	81	49	402	341	0.01	0.02	0.28	12.36
Santa Barbara	66	0	78	55	646	614	0.00	0.01	0.44	16.25
Ventura	66	0	75	56	608	0	0.00	0.00	0.27	14.38
Los Angeles	75	1	88	65	2,018	1,918	0.00	0.00	0.32	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	2,558	2,001	0.00	0.00	0.36	9.58
San Diego AP	71	-1	77	65	1,497	1,401	0.00	0.00	0.25	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	70	3	95	45	1,767	1,508	0.00	0.25	0.48	5.37
Lancaster	76	3	100	50	2,614	2,157	0.00	0.00	0.43	6.92
Daggett AP	81	1	103	58	3,752	3,471	0.00	0.05	1.08	3.93
Thermal AP	84	0	105	64	4,532	4,181	0.00	0.10	0.86	3.16
Blythe	88	2	106	69	5,015	4,622	0.00	0.12	1.27	3.60
Imperial	87	2	108	64	4,830	4,343	0.00	0.00	0.69	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	61	4	92	35	592	296	0.00	0.35	1.07	12.01
Mt. Shasta	64	4	89	41	803	446	0.13	0.57	1.48	37.02
Blue Canyon	67	5	81	47	1,145	570	0.10	0.25	1.97	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	87	47	1,379	1,048	0.01	0.01	1.41	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.