



California Crop Weather

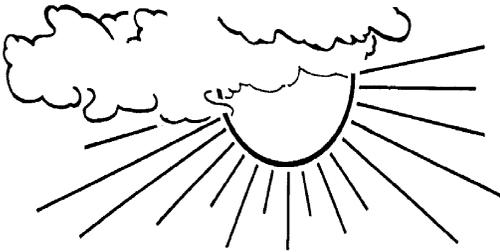
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: March 27, 2011
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WEATHER



A very active weather pattern brought widespread heavy rain and mountain snow, strong winds, thunderstorms and even tornadoes to California this week. Monday saw the remains of one powerful Pacific storm system exiting the State through the southeastern end. Heavy rains were recorded in Southern California as a result, while the north had residual light rains. There was a brief respite on Tuesday, in between storm systems. On Wednesday, a strong cold front pushed through Northern California bringing heavy precipitation. In the cool, unstable atmosphere behind the cold front, numerous thunderstorms developed, and a few small tornadoes were spawned in the Central Sacramento Valley. Vigorous weather systems continued to hit the State through Saturday, resulting in unusually high precipitation amounts across California. River levels ran high, and a generous overflow ran through the Sacramento River bypass system into the Delta. Several flood warnings were posted along major rivers across Northern California. Sunday was a relatively calm day as the last of the organized storm systems moved out of California, with only light precipitation reported across the State.

FIELD CROPS

Field work was delayed due to heavy rainfall in many areas. **Wheat** fields were progressing. Winter wheat experienced some lodging due to the recent rain and wind in Tulare County. Winter forage development continued, along with **barley** and **oat** crops. The recent heavy rains have helped **alfalfa** fields grow. Broadleaf and grass control continued in alfalfa fields. Irrigation took place in areas not affected by rain. Dry land crops progressed in areas with sufficient soil moisture. Herbicide applications recommenced on small grain fields as weather permitted. Drainage work was ongoing in **rice** fields. Preparation in **cotton** and **dry bean** fields continued. **Corn** seed arrived in preparation for spring planting. Some spring field work continued with tillage and weed control where conditions allowed.

FRUIT CROPS

The Navel **orange**, Valencia orange, **grapefruit**, **mandarin**, and **lemon** harvests continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Picking of lemons and grapefruit was ongoing in the desert region, with some lemons being picked in the coastal regions as well. Citrus plants were being shipped across the country from Tulare County nurseries. Pre-emergent herbicides were applied in Napa County **grape** vineyards along with ongoing pruning. Shoot elongation was showing in most grape varieties. Blooming continued in stone fruit with some concern for mold and mildew. **Cherry and prune** orchards were almost in full-bloom. **Strawberry** plants were maturing and showing good development. **Olive** trees continued to be pruned.

NUT CROPS

The **almond** bloom continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Bees continued to be positioned in late blooming almond orchards and fungicide applications were ongoing as weather allowed. Some damage was reported from wind and spotty hail. Blight sprays and field preparations continued for **walnuts**.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Processing **tomatoes** were being planted with drip irrigation testing occurring in some fields. Field preparations for **lettuce** planting were underway in Fresno County. **Carrots, cabbage** and some organic vegetables were being harvested in Kern County. Early **squash** were under hot caps and bloom was expected in the upcoming weeks in Tulare County. **Broccoli** and other winter vegetables harvest, though hampered by wet conditions, continued in Fresno County. **Asparagus** harvest was still underway in the San Joaquin Valley.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland conditions continued to advance due to the heavy spring rains. Central Valley and foothill rangeland and pasture were reported to be in very good to excellent condition. Supplemental feeding of livestock declined due to the quality of the rangeland. Cattle weight gains continued to improve as a consequence of the flourishing vegetation. Sheep and cattle continued to graze retired farmland. Milk production was tempered by unseasonably cool and wet conditions in the principle dairy region.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 3/27/11

STATIONS ¹	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION				
	Average Week Ending 3/27/11.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days ²	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 3/27/11	January 1 - 3/27	July 1 - 3/27/11	Week Ending 3/27/11	July 1 - 3/27/11	July 1 - 3/27	July 1 - June 30
North Coast	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --		
Eureka_WFO	48	-2	61	39	0	0	106	4.14	34.75	32.33	38.10
Ukiah	47	-7	55	37	0	0	75	4.39	34.11	34.67	38.90
Santa_Rosa_AG	48	-8	60	36	3	0	75	3.51	34.54	27.90	31.01
Napa_AP	50	-6	59	36	9	0	73	3.13	29.78	23.70	26.46
Central Coast											
San_Francisco_A	52	-3	58	45	6	0	61	2.63	20.68	18.14	20.11
San_Jose_AP	51	-7	62	40	13	13	50	2.25	12.93	13.26	15.08
Salinas_AP	52	-4	61	42	15	0	60	1.84	14.66	11.42	12.91
Monterey_AP	51	-4	59	42	15	0	68	2.31	18.11	17.82	20.35
King_City_Ag	50	-6	62	37	10	1	53	0.83	9.47	11.02	12.30
Paso_Robles_AP	50	-5	64	38	5	0	40	1.34	12.92	11.91	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	47	-7	55	40	15	0	78	2.89	29.36	28.25	33.52
Red_Bluff	49	-7	57	39	10	0	66	2.90	19.44	20.80	24.07
Willows_6W	49	-6	57	38	1	0	73	2.67	26.30	16.71	19.03
Oroville	49	-7	57	44	0	0	67	2.27	25.32	25.16	28.75
Marysville	51	-7	59	44	3	13	54	2.03	21.93	19.28	22.07
Sacramento_AP	50	-6	60	40	5	0	55	1.88	21.40	15.92	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	50	-7	61	38	4	0	63	1.76	14.39	12.06	13.84
Modesto_AP	50	-8	63	38	6	26	67	1.82	13.14	11.30	13.12
Merced_Macready	50	-7	63	36	6	0	60	2.15	14.43	10.85	12.50
Madera_AP	51	-6	62	39	3	6	49	2.14	13.35	10.16	11.94
Fresno_AP	52	-6	63	41	9	8	53	1.89	14.94	9.64	11.23
Lemoore_NAS	52	-6	64	40	2	8	50	0.74	10.04	6.79	7.89
Visalia_AP	52	-6	63	43	1	13	45	2.14	15.15	9.51	11.03
Bakersfield	54	-5	65	41	5	31	40	1.33	9.82	5.55	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas_AP	36	-5	45	23	0	0	68	0.19	9.48	8.71	12.13
Mount_Shasta_AP	35	-8	43	29	0	0	83	5.06	39.04	33.07	39.16
Blue_Canyon	29	-12	33	25	0	0	79	5.15	66.92	56.52	66.36
Yosemite_Valley	39	-9	52	27	0	0	64	4.16	45.72	32.23	37.73
South Coast											
Santa_Maria_AP	51	-4	61	39	13	0	54	1.31	21.91	12.46	14.01
Santa_Barbara_A	51	-7	63	39	32	17	45	1.49	25.22	15.74	16.93
Oxnard_NWS	52	-6	62	42	79	25	46	1.69	22.10	14.39	15.62
Riverside_AP	53	-7	66	40	88	75	36	1.40	9.49	9.15	10.22
Los_Angeles_AP	54	-6	61	44	80	117	42	2.13	16.92	12.00	13.15
San_Diego_AP	58	-3	65	49	108	155	40	1.32	12.01	9.51	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop_AP	43	-8	67	23	0	0	33	0.46	7.16	4.27	5.02
Daggett_AP	53	-7	75	37	50	47	22	0.05	1.90	3.76	4.17
Lancaster_ATC	48	-6	64	36	13	0	34	1.23	9.01	6.79	7.40
Thermal	60	-7	78	40	166	235	12	0.00	2.60	3.35	3.53
Blythe_AP	60	-7	77	40	197	208	17	0.06	2.10	3.80	4.02
Imperial_CA	61	-5	77	43	208	236	14	0.00	2.68	2.83	2.96

1 Weather stations added as of July 6, 2010.

2 New addition as of July 6, 2010. Total number of days with precipitation events this season.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) is in inches.

Air Temperatures are in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Normal periods 1970-2000 used in Departure From Normal calculations.

For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

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