



California Crop Weather

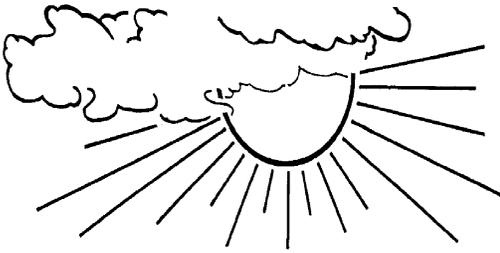
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: April 3, 2011
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WEATHER



California's cold and wet streak came to an end last week as March went out like a lamb. Benign zonal flow aloft early last week would provide for the development of some high clouds and mild temperatures. A Pacific ridge of high pressure led to dry, sunny, and increasingly warm conditions through mid- to late week. Temperatures reached their warmest levels of the year across the State during the apex of the high pressure on Thursday. The respite of sunny weather would end Saturday when a weak cold front swept across the Golden State and forced temperatures down dramatically. An increase in cloud cover and a few showers were observed Saturday with some clouds persisting into Sunday. River levels fell gradually through the week as a result of reduced reservoir releases and lack of precipitation. San Joaquin levels will remain elevated through the year due to snowmelt from a productive winter season.

FIELD CROPS

Warm temperatures and drier weather allowed field work to resume throughout the State. **Wheat** and **oats** were beginning to head out. Weed control continued in **rye**, **barley**, and winter forages. **Alfalfa** growth was spurred by the recent rainfall. Broadleaf and grass control was ongoing in alfalfa. **Rice** field maintenance operations were carried out including pre-plant herbicide application, leveling, and drainage. Crop seed continued to be delivered for spring planting. **Cotton** bed preparation and planting progressed in the San Joaquin Valley. Field work continued with tillage, fertilization, and weed control.

FRUIT CROPS

The Navel **orange**, Valencia orange, **grapefruit**, **mandarin**, and **lemon** harvests slowed down in the San Joaquin Valley due to heavy storms. Lemons were also picked in the desert and coastal regions. Citrus plants were being shipped across the country from Tulare County nurseries. Bud break began in Napa County **grape** vineyards as cultivation, pruning, and spraying preparation continued. **Prunes** reached full bloom in the Sacramento Valley as spraying continued in stone fruit orchards. Fieldwork and fungicide applications resumed as warm weather dried orchard and vineyard floors.

NUT CROPS

The **almond** bloom was completed across the State as fungicide and fertilizer applications were prepared. Bloom sprays and fieldwork was done to prepare for the upcoming **walnut** and **pistachio** blooms.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Processing **tomatoes** were being planted in Kern County. In Fresno County, **carrots** germinated, processing tomatoes were being planted and harvesting of vegetables was resuming after the previous week's weather hampered harvest. **Asparagus** harvest continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Field work, herbicide treatments and ground preparation continued in Sutter County.

LIVESTOCK

Warm weather and soil moisture stimulated growth of grasses and forbs in the foothills and valleys. Non-irrigated rangeland and pasture were reported to be in very good to excellent condition. Supplemental feeding of livestock diminished. Sheep and cattle continued to graze on retired farmland. Bee hives were moved into stone fruit orchards. Bee activity increased with rising temperatures.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/3/11

STATIONS ¹	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION				
	Average Week Ending 4/3/11.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days ²	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 4/3/11	January 1 - 4/3	July 1 - 4/3/11	Week Ending 4/3/11	July 1 - 4/3/11	July 1 - 4/3	July 1 - June 30
North Coast	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --		
Eureka_WFO	50	1	58	36	0	0	110	0.24	34.99	33.32	38.10
Ukiah	59	6	84	36	14	0	75	0.00	34.11	35.58	38.90
Santa_Rosa_AG	61	6	86	37	27	0	76	0.06	34.60	28.60	31.01
Napa_AP	61	6	87	38	33	0	74	0.07	29.85	24.31	26.46
Central Coast											
San_Francisco_A	60	6	80	46	24	0	62	0.02	20.70	18.64	20.11
San_Jose_AP	61	3	84	44	33	24	51	0.02	12.95	13.69	15.08
Salinas_AP	61	7	88	44	38	0	60	0.00	14.66	11.81	12.91
Monterey_AP	58	4	81	44	28	0	68	0.00	18.11	18.41	20.35
King_City_Ag	61	5	94	40	34	8	53	0.00	9.47	11.40	12.30
Paso_Robles_AP	60	6	87	39	20	0	40	0.00	12.92	12.30	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	60	7	87	37	35	0	79	0.50	29.86	29.12	33.52
Red_Bluff	61	5	87	36	34	4	67	0.45	19.89	21.38	24.07
Willows_6W	60	6	81	37	23	0	73	0.00	26.30	17.14	19.03
Oroville	60	5	79	41	23	0	68	0.01	25.33	25.90	28.75
Marysville	61	3	80	40	23	27	54	0.00	21.93	19.86	22.07
Sacramento_AP	60	5	80	39	26	4	55	0.00	21.40	16.35	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	61	5	84	42	25	14	63	0.00	14.39	12.44	13.84
Modesto_AP	61	3	84	44	27	45	68	0.01	13.15	11.68	13.12
Merced_Macready	61	5	84	42	26	14	60	0.00	14.43	11.22	12.50
Madera_AP	60	3	84	41	21	20	49	0.00	13.35	10.55	11.94
Fresno_AP	62	5	86	45	36	22	53	0.00	14.94	9.99	11.23
Lemoore_NAS	60	3	85	39	20	22	50	0.00	10.04	7.05	7.89
Visalia_AP	62	5	84	45	25	27	45	0.00	15.15	9.86	11.03
Bakersfield	64	5	88	48	40	52	40	0.00	9.82	5.77	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas_AP	42	2	73	20	0	0	70	0.02	9.50	9.03	12.13
Mount_Shasta_AP	44	2	69	24	0	0	85	0.03	39.07	34.03	39.16
Blue_Canyon	51	11	71	32	3	0	80	0.35	67.27	58.28	66.36
Yosemite_Valley	50	3	76	32	0	0	64	0.00	45.72	33.16	37.73
South Coast											
Santa_Maria_AP	62	8	89	42	41	0	54	0.00	21.91	12.90	14.01
Santa_Barbara_A	60	3	85	43	50	31	45	0.00	25.22	16.19	16.93
Oxnard_NWS	62	5	85	46	100	39	46	0.00	22.10	14.79	15.62
Riverside_AP	67	8	97	47	144	96	36	0.00	9.49	9.46	10.22
Los_Angeles_AP	63	5	83	51	110	133	42	0.00	16.92	12.32	13.15
San_Diego_AP	65	5	82	55	146	177	40	0.00	12.01	9.88	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop_AP	59	9	85	33	9	0	33	0.00	7.16	4.34	5.02
Daggett_AP	69	9	95	45	115	76	22	0.00	1.90	3.83	4.17
Lancaster_ATC	61	7	89	35	34	0	34	0.00	9.01	6.99	7.40
Thermal	75	7	103	53	270	298	12	0.00	2.60	3.42	3.53
Blythe_AP	76	10	100	51	314	267	17	0.00	2.10	3.87	4.02
Imperial_CA	75	9	101	52	316	293	14	0.00	2.68	2.90	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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