



California Crop Weather

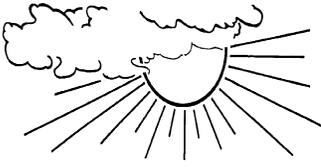
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: May 1, 2011
RELEASED: May 2, 2011

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WEATHER



A progressive weather pattern brought dry conditions and seasonable temperatures to California. However, the week began with a wet start as an upper low brought light precipitation to the northern half of the State on Monday. California would dry out under the influence of two high pressure systems for the remainder of the week, and many areas in California would see one of their driest Mays on record. Cooler than average temperatures prevailed earlier in the week, but a general warming trend would be observed in the latter half of the week. Amplification of high pressure over the State would allow for temperatures to rise to and above normal during the weekend. May began on a warm start as much of California experienced their warmest temperatures of the year on Sunday.

FIELD CROPS

Favorable weather conditions quickened the pace of field work. Spring planting moved forward throughout the State. **Rice** fields were being planted in the Sacramento Valley; other rice field operations included straw burning, tillage, and leveling. The first cutting of **alfalfa** was at various stages of being harvested and baled. **Sunflower** seed crop planting continued. **Winter wheat** and **oats** were heading out along with other small grain crops. Wheat silage harvest continued. **Cotton** continued to be planted. **Corn** and **sorghum** seed continued to be shipped in for planting. Spring field work continued with weed control in small grain and alfalfa fields, pre-plant herbicide applications, and spring tillage to prepare seedbeds. Prune orchards were irrigated.

FRUIT CROPS

The Valencia **orange** and **lemon** harvests continued in the San Joaquin Valley. The navel orange, **grapefruit**, and **mandarin** harvests were near completion. Clementine trees in Tulare County were covered with netting to prevent cross-pollination of trees. Early **cherries** were being packed in Southern California, while bloom ended and fruit development continued in the Central Valley. **Grapes** were at various stages of growth from bud break to flowering. Thinning continued in fruit orchards, as well as weed and rodent control.

NUT CROPS

Almond orchards were reported to be in good condition. Some growers started early spraying where mite numbers were significant while others were preparing. Along with almond; **walnut** and **pistachio** orchards were irrigated and were managed for weed.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Kern County reported that **carrot** harvesting continued as well as planting, because this is a year round crop. Tulare County reported cooler weather has affected fruit development of early **squash** and harvest volume. Planting and preparing vegetable beds continued. **Cucumbers** have started to size up slowly as the weather warms. Fresno County reported **tomato** blooms looked good, **lettuce** was being planted, carrots received herbicide treatments and weeds were being cleaned out of the vegetable beds. In Merced County, **bell pepper**, **cantaloupe**, **honeydew**, and tomato planting continued, as **asparagus** harvest continued. San Joaquin County reported that asparagus production was in full swing, processing and fresh market tomatoes were being transplanted and **onions** were being planted. Field work, pre-plant herbicide treatments and ground preparation continued in Sutter County. Tomatoes were being transplanted along with herbicide applications in Colusa County. In Siskiyou County, spring planting was in full force with over half of the dehydrator onion planting completed.

LIVESTOCK

New grasses and forbs were maturing and gaining nutrient strength. Non-irrigated pasture and rangeland were reported to be in good to excellent condition. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued to diminish as more livestock were moved onto open range. Some sheep were moved to higher elevations in eastern Kern County. Bee hives continued to be removed from almond orchards and moved amongst stone fruit and citrus orchards. Some bees were moved to onion fields and others were moved out of the State.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 5/1/11

STATIONS ¹	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 5/1/11.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days ²	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 5/1/11	January 1 - 5/1	July 1 - 5/1/11	Week Ending 5/1/11	July 1 - 5/1/11	July 1 - 5/1	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
North Coast												
Eureka_WFO	49	-4	58	38	0	0	126	0.23	39.02	35.90	38.10	
Ukiah	53	-5	81	35	18	15	82	0.21	34.80	37.47	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	56	-4	80	36	30	46	82	0.09	35.26	30.02	31.01	
Napa_AP	59	-2	82	38	52	44	79	0.27	30.44	25.55	26.46	
Central Coast												
San_Francisco_A	57	1	76	43	30	13	68	0.02	21.03	19.64	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	59	-4	79	43	55	93	56	0.00	13.15	14.56	15.08	
Salinas_AP	58	0	80	42	46	17	64	0.00	14.77	12.60	12.91	
Monterey_AP	53	-4	71	40	28	0	73	0.00	18.30	19.68	20.35	
King_City_Ag	58	-4	82	38	46	62	59	0.00	9.62	12.00	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	58	-2	81	32	42	28	43	0.00	13.22	12.84	13.08	
Sacramento Valley												
Redding	57	-5	80	37	46	58	85	0.01	30.52	31.23	33.52	
Red_Bluff	58	-5	81	40	51	93	74	0.00	20.33	22.57	24.07	
Willows_6W	58	-4	77	39	34	67	79	0.06	26.84	17.97	19.03	
Oroville	59	-3	81	39	45	77	72	0.03	25.92	27.49	28.75	
Marysville	60	-5	82	41	53	145	60	0.03	22.27	21.09	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	60	-2	82	41	54	84	57	0.02	21.46	17.22	17.93	
San Joaquin Valley												
Stockton	61	-3	82	41	64	110	68	0.03	14.59	13.27	13.84	
Modesto_AP	61	-4	80	45	75	165	69	0.00	13.18	12.46	13.12	
Merced_Macready	60	-4	79	39	68	109	62	0.00	14.63	11.98	12.50	
Madera_AP	59	-5	79	36	48	124	51	0.00	13.68	11.42	11.94	
Fresno_AP	61	-3	78	44	109	138	55	0.00	15.26	10.63	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	60	-4	82	38	68	129	51	0.00	10.21	7.52	7.89	
Visalia_AP	60	-5	81	39	83	138	48	0.00	15.43	10.54	11.03	
Bakersfield	62	-5	81	44	127	190	43	0.00	10.03	6.14	6.49	
Cascade Sierra												
Alturas_AP	39	-8	62	18	0	0	84	0.11	12.18	10.06	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	45	-5	69	27	0	0	100	0.03	40.09	36.37	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	42	-7	60	29	3	0	92	0.22	71.59	62.67	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	53	-1	71	36	0	0	75	0.00	47.34	35.42	37.73	
South Coast												
Santa_Maria_AP	57	1	80	39	52	1	58	0.00	22.06	13.66	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	64	4	82	46	87	96	46	0.00	25.23	16.65	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	62	3	81	49	134	100	48	0.00	22.14	15.37	15.62	
Riverside_AP	67	3	90	51	278	223	37	0.00	9.53	9.93	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	65	4	81	55	192	226	42	0.00	16.92	12.84	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	66	4	81	57	269	298	42	0.00	12.27	10.49	10.77	
Southeast Interior												
Bishop_AP	53	-4	78	26	16	18	35	0.00	7.19	4.55	5.02	
Daggett_AP	64	-4	87	43	270	271	22	0.00	1.90	3.99	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	59	-3	81	32	85	85	36	0.00	9.54	7.23	7.40	
Thermal	73	-3	95	42	589	651	12	0.00	2.60	3.45	3.53	
Blythe_AP	74	1	97	57	662	604	17	0.00	2.10	3.99	4.02	
Imperial_CA	72	0	98	46	625	602	14	0.00	2.68	2.92	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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