



# California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## WEATHER



High pressure moving across California brought dry and mild conditions to the state at the start of the week. By Tuesday, an upper-level low pressure system from the Gulf of Alaska was spreading showers across the north coast and the northern mountains. The cold air associated with this system spread across Northern California on Wednesday, bringing widespread shower activity to the northern half of the state, while Southern California remained dry and mild. The cold system spread into Southern California late Thursday and brought rain and mountain snow to the Southland. Particularly heavy rains were noted in San Diego County on Friday. By Saturday, showers persisted only across the Sierra Nevada Mountains and across Southern California. High pressure reasserted itself by Sunday, resulting in drying and warming conditions all across the state.

## FIELD CROPS

**Wheat, barley** and other winter **forage** crops continued to grow as some fields were starting to head. Irrigation continued. Although some beneficial moisture was received, additional rainfall is needed to sustain growth. Producers applied fertilizers and spraying with selective herbicides to control broad leaf weeds. **Alfalfa** was sprayed for weevils in a few areas. Alfalfa fields were being irrigated in southern areas of the state. Some **cotton** fields were sprayed with pre-plant herbicides.

## FRUIT CROPS

Stone fruit was treated for fire blight. **Peaches** were treated with bloom and nutrient sprays. **Apricots, nectarines, pluots, plums** and peaches were blooming. Early **cherries** were showing a few blooms. Peaches started to leaf out. **Grapes** were getting close to bud break. Dormant sprays were being applied to **prunes**. Early **blueberries** were starting to bloom. Harvest continued for navel **oranges, lemons** and **mandarins**. Harvest started for Valencia **oranges**. Pruning in **olives** was ongoing. Hass **avocado** harvest continued.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond** trees were in full bloom; bloom is from one to two weeks behind normal. Petal fall was underway, and almond trees were starting to leaf out. In the San Joaquin Valley, light rain hindered bee activity in almond orchards. Pruning was ongoing in **walnut** and **pistachio** orchards. Walnuts were treated for blight.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

In Tulare County, warmer temperatures were helping some vegetables to grow, including Italian **squash** and **spinach**. Fresno County reported that the low winter rainfall forced growers of annual crops to pre-irrigate in preparation for planting. Spring **broccoli** harvest was beginning, as was the harvest of winter vegetables such as **beets, broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, turnips, daikon, green onions, herbs, choys, chards** and **kales**. **Garlic, onions, lettuce, and asparagus** were growing nicely. Spring head lettuce was being treated for insects as needed, while shaping of beds and soil fumigation continued for bell **s, carrots, cantaloupes, honeydew** and **watermelons**. **Tomato** transplants were beginning. In Stanislaus County, broccoli was being planted and harvested, while land preparation was being done for **beans, cantaloupe** and tomatoes. Tomato and pepper fields were being fumigated. San Joaquin County reported asparagus was starting to be harvested, while other vegetables were growing. In Sutter County, winter vegetables were maturing for the farmer's markets and fields were being prepared for spring and summer vegetables.

## LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture conditions were reported to be in fair to good condition. Some regions of the state need more rain to promote grass development. Sheep and cattle grazed on idle fields, dry land grain and alfalfa fields. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Bees were active pollinating almond and stone fruit orchards.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 3/10/13**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 3/10/13	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 3/10/13	January 1 - 3/10/13	July 1 - 3/10/13	Week Ending 3/10/13	July 1 - 3/10/13	July 1 - 3/10/13	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days /1 --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
<b>North Coast</b>											
Eureka_WFO	46	-4	56	37	0	0	84	1.79	23.35	29.53	38.10
Ukiah	49	-3	73	33	0	0	48	1.36	25.92	31.76	38.90
Santa_Rosa_AG	51	-4	69	35	0	0	39	0.41	19.70	25.63	31.01
Napa_State_Hosp	52	-3	74	34	0	0	43	0.19	16.23	21.70	26.46
<b>Central Coast</b>											
San_Francisco_A	51	-3	66	43	0	0	41	0.28	12.12	16.54	20.11
San_Jose_AP	53	-4	68	39	0	0	42	0.66	8.63	11.91	15.08
Salinas_AP	52	-2	64	38	10	0	36	0.30	8.54	10.23	12.91
Monterey_AP	50	-4	58	39	3	0	48	0.70	10.47	16.03	20.35
King_City_Ag	53	-3	72	35	4	0	34	0.41	4.40	9.74	12.30
Paso_Robles_AP	51	-2	71	32	3	0	33	0.42	4.59	10.56	13.08
<b>Sacramento Valley</b>											
Redding	52	+2	76	34	3	0	43	1.29	21.96	25.65	33.52
Red_Bluff	53	-1	77	34	1	0	41	0.68	15.31	18.97	24.07
Willows_6W	52	-1	70	35	0	0	42	0.52	16.90	15.26	19.03
Oroville_AP	52	-1	69	35	0	0	34	0.47	15.10	22.80	28.75
Marysville	52	-3	71	34	0	0	36	0.19	15.97	17.50	22.07
Sacramento_AP	52	-2	70	37	0	0	32	0.22	12.16	14.55	17.93
<b>San Joaquin Valley</b>											
Stockton	52	-2	69	36	2	0	36	0.11	8.67	10.90	13.84
Modesto_AP	54	-3	69	37	3	0	38	0.08	7.52	10.12	13.12
Merced_Macready	53	-1	69	37	4	0	33	0.25	6.65	9.71	12.50
Madera_AP	53	-1	70	37	5	0	31	0.10	6.71	8.96	11.94
Fresno_AP	56	+3	75	38	12	0	29	0.32	5.17	8.50	11.23
Lemoore_NAS	53	-2	73	38	4	0	32	0.50	3.03	5.96	7.89
Visalia_AP	54	-1	72	41	5	0	27	0.67	4.06	8.40	11.03
Bakersfield	55	-2	76	39	10	0	30	0.80	3.02	4.80	6.49
<b>Cascade Sierra</b>											
Alturas_AP	36	-2	58	13	0	0	49	0.07	4.73	7.89	12.13
Mount_Shasta_AP	40	-1	61	25	0	0	52	1.82	22.82	30.17	39.16
Blue_Canyon	39	-1	57	27	0	0	59	1.13	38.76	51.23	66.36
Yosemite_Valley	42	-3	61	30	0	0	38	1.23	13.46	29.34	37.73
<b>South Coast</b>											
Santa_Maria_AP	53	-2	69	38	3	0	31	0.67	6.02	10.98	14.01
Santa_Barbara_A	55	-2	69	41	7	0	34	0.69	8.92	14.01	16.93
Oxnard_NWS	54	-3	72	43	78	5	27	0.89	5.35	12.92	15.62
Riverside_AP	56	-3	74	42	60	38	29	0.63	4.33	8.08	10.22
Los_Angeles_AP	56	-3	64	48	85	83	29	0.64	5.78	10.84	13.15
San_Diego_AP	57	-3	66	48	57	106	32	1.22	6.24	8.32	10.77
<b>Southeast Interior</b>											
Bishop_AP	49	+4	70	26	0	0	12	0.00	0.87	3.97	5.02
Daggett_AP	55	-2	79	36	15	0	16	0.38	1.57	3.46	4.17
Lancaster_ATC	50	0	72	26	2	0	11	0.35	1.11	6.07	7.40
Thermal	62	-2	83	38	74	120	13	0.07	2.59	3.17	3.53
Blythe_AP	63	+1	81	47	75	103	19	0.03	4.39	3.60	4.02
Imperial_CA	63	+2	82	47	95	131	13	0.03	2.07	2.68	2.96

1/ 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.

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