



# California Crop Weather

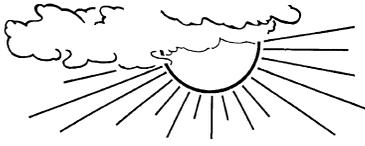
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office • P.O. Box 1258 • Sacramento, CA 95812 • (916) 498-5161 • (916) 498-5186 FAX • [www.nass.usda.gov/ca](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca)

WEEK ENDING: March 17, 2013  
RELEASED: March 18, 2013

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## WEATHER



High pressure was the dominant feature of the week's weather across California. Dry and mild conditions were reported all across the State at the start of the week. As this ridge strengthened, temperatures warmed, especially in Southern California where record breaking high temperatures in the mid and upper 90s were reported. By Friday, a low pressure system approaching the Pacific Northwest weakened the high pressure over California, and temperatures cooled slightly. Over the weekend, the cold front associated with the Pacific Northwest low moved through California. For most of the State, this resulted in only a cooling trend and high cloudiness. The only significant precipitation reported fell along the North Coast as the front moved through.

## FIELD CROPS

**Wheat, barley** and other winter **forage** crops continued to grow as some fields were starting to head. Irrigation continued, but rainfall was needed to sustain their growth. Producers were applying fertilizers and spraying with selective herbicides to control broad leaf weeds. **Rice** fields have been drained and producers were cultivating and leveling their fields. **Cotton** producers started planting their fields last week.

## FRUIT CROPS

Irrigation continued in vineyards and stone fruit orchards. Herbicide applications were made to control weeds. Early stone fruit varieties started to leaf out. Cling **peaches** were either in full bloom or past full bloom. **Grapes** were getting close to bud break. Dormant sprays were being applied to **prunes**. **Blueberries** were starting to bloom. Navel **oranges, lemons** and **mandarins** continued to be harvested. Valencia orange harvest continued. Pruning in **olives** was ongoing. Hass **avocado** harvest continued.

## NUT CROPS

Very little bloom was left on the **almond** trees, and some of the early varieties were at full petal fall. Trees were leafing out. Rain was in the forecast, so growers began spraying to protect their orchards from disease. **Walnut** bloom commenced in the very early varieties. 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. Italian **squash** and **spinach** were developing well; certified producers were preparing fields for the planting of summer vegetables. Fresno County reported that **tomatoes** were being transplanted, while **carrots** were being planted. The weather has been good for **onions** and **garlic**, which have been irrigated and fertilized.

## LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture conditions were reported to be in fair to good condition. The continued lack of significant precipitation in some regions of the State has been detrimental with hindered grass development and unseasonably early desiccation. 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. The mild dry weather stimulated dairy production.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 3/17/13**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 3/17/13.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 3/17/13	January 1 - 3/17/13	July 1 - 3/17/13	Week Ending 3/17/13	July 1 - 3/17/13	July 1 - 3/17/13	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days /1 --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
<b>North Coast</b>											
Eureka_WFO	49	-1	56	42	0	0	85	0.06	23.41	30.84	38.10
Ukiah	57	+6	80	37	0	0	48	0.00	25.92	33.18	38.90
Santa_Rosa_AG	58	+4	77	37	2	0	39	0.00	19.70	26.75	31.01
Napa_State_Hosp	58	+5	79	38	1	0	43	0.00	16.23	22.68	26.46
<b>Central Coast</b>											
San_Francisco_A	56	+2	74	43	0	0	41	0.00	12.12	17.32	20.11
San_Jose_AP	58	+3	74	40	3	3	42	0.00	8.63	12.55	15.08
Salinas_AP	57	+4	81	38	12	0	36	0.00	8.54	10.79	12.91
Monterey_AP	52	-3	70	37	3	0	48	0.00	10.47	16.87	20.35
King_City_Ag	60	+6	90	36	12	0	34	0.00	4.40	10.34	12.30
Paso_Robles_AP	61	+8	87	33	18	0	33	0.00	4.59	11.21	13.08
<b>Sacramento Valley</b>											
Redding	60	+8	79	37	12	0	43	0.00	21.96	26.88	33.52
Red_Bluff	61	+8	79	39	12	0	41	0.00	15.31	19.85	24.07
Willows_6W	60	+8	77	39	6	0	42	0.00	16.90	15.97	19.03
Oroville_AP	60	+7	78	40	9	0	34	0.00	15.10	23.92	28.75
Marysville	60	+4	80	38	8	0	36	0.00	15.97	18.35	22.07
Sacramento_AP	59	+6	78	41	6	0	32	0.00	12.16	15.22	17.93
<b>San Joaquin Valley</b>											
Stockton	60	+6	80	37	11	0	36	0.00	8.67	11.46	13.84
Modesto_AP	62	+6	81	39	20	6	38	0.00	7.52	10.68	13.12
Merced_Macready	61	+8	81	40	18	0	33	0.00	6.65	10.25	12.50
Madera_AP	61	+6	82	38	18	0	31	0.00	6.71	9.52	11.94
Fresno_AP	65	+11	85	46	52	0	29	0.00	5.17	9.03	11.23
Lemoore_NAS	61	+6	83	36	19	0	32	0.00	3.03	6.35	7.89
Visalia_AP	62	+7	82	41	25	0	27	0.00	4.06	8.91	11.03
Bakersfield	64	+7	85	41	41	11	30	0.00	3.02	5.15	6.49
<b>Cascade Sierra</b>											
Alturas_AP	43	+5	69	19	0	0	49	0.00	4.73	8.24	12.13
Mount_Shasta_AP	50	+10	69	31	0	0	52	0.00	22.82	31.54	39.16
Blue_Canyon	54	+15	63	39	0	0	59	0.00	38.76	53.72	66.36
Yosemite_Valley	54	+10	72	31	0	0	38	0.00	13.46	30.72	37.73
<b>South Coast</b>											
Santa_Maria_AP	57	+5	78	37	6	0	31	0.00	6.02	11.69	14.01
Santa_Barbara_A	56	-2	68	42	7	4	34	0.00	8.92	14.87	16.93
Oxnard_NWS	56	0	69	42	78	12	27	0.00	5.35	13.65	15.62
Riverside_AP	67	+10	94	44	113	52	29	0.00	4.33	8.59	10.22
Los_Angeles_AP	58	-1	67	49	85	97	29	0.00	5.78	11.42	13.15
San_Diego_AP	59	-2	71	50	58	125	32	0.00	6.24	8.88	10.77
<b>Southeast Interior</b>											
Bishop_AP	55	+8	81	23	0	0	12	0.00	0.87	4.11	5.02
Daggett_AP	69	+12	93	42	79	15	16	0.00	1.57	3.60	4.17
Lancaster_ATC	62	+12	88	29	31	0	11	0.00	1.11	6.42	7.40
Thermal	73	+9	100	38	164	161	13	0.00	2.59	3.26	3.53
Blythe_AP	72	+9	95	47	156	140	19	0.00	4.39	3.71	4.02
Imperial_CA	72	+9	96	44	181	170	13	0.00	2.07	2.75	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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