



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: March 24, 2013
RELEASED: March 25, 2013

FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER



The week began with near to above normal high temperatures under warm high pressure, with the Central Valley and foothills in the 60s and 70s, coastal regions in the 50s and 60s, and deserts in the 80s to 90s. By Tuesday and continuing into early Thursday, a storm system swept across northern and central California, bringing cooler temperatures and rainfall. The Central Valley received 0.25 to 1.00 inches of rainfall, and the foothills and coastal regions received 0.75 to 1.25 inches. Higher mountain regions above 6,000 feet received up to around 12 inches of snowfall. High pressure began to build back in by the end of the week. Breezy, northerly winds on Friday dried out the northern and central California region, and temperatures warmed above normal through the weekend.

FIELD CROPS

Wheat, barley and other winter **forage** crops continued to grow as some fields were starting to head. Irrigation continued; rainfall was needed to sustain 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 in the southern San Joaquin Valley continued planting their fields last week.

FRUIT CROPS

Irrigation continued in vineyards and stone fruit orchards. Stone fruit trees were leafing out. **Cherries** were in full bloom. Cling **peaches** and **prunes** were in petal fall and leafing out; prune set was looking very good. **Grapes** were leafing out. **Blueberries** were blooming. Buds were forming on citrus trees. Navel **oranges, lemons** and **mandarins** continued to be harvested. Valencia orange harvest continued. Pruning in **olives** was ongoing. Hass **avocado** harvest continued.

NUT CROPS

Almond bloom was nearly complete; trees were experiencing petal fall. Nutlets were showing on early varieties. Trees continued to leaf out. Pruning was ongoing in **walnut** and **pistachio** orchards. Walnuts were treated for blight. Pistachios were showing bud break.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Tulare County, **squash, cucumbers** and **eggplants** were being planted; warmer temperatures were helping vegetables grow. Fresno County reported that **tomatoes** were being transplanted, while **bell peppers** and **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. Sheep and cattle grazed on idle fields, dry land grain and alfalfa fields. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. When weather permitted, bees were active pollinating stone fruit orchards as the almond bloom drew to a close.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 3/24/13

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 3/24/13.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 3/24/13	January 1 - 3/24/13	July 1 - 3/24/13	Week Ending 3/24/13	July 1 - 3/24/13	July 1 - 3/24/13	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days ^{1/} --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
North Coast											
Eureka_WFO	46	-4	58	33	0	0	86	0.54	23.95	32.04	38.10
Ukiah	50	-3	74	34	0	0	50	0.67	26.59	34.41	38.90
Santa_Rosa_AG	54	-2	70	39	2	0	40	0.30	20.00	27.71	31.01
Napa_State_Hosp	55	+1	72	38	1	0	45	0.36	16.59	23.52	26.46
Central Coast											
San_Francisco_A	54	-1	65	43	0	0	42	0.03	12.15	17.99	20.11
San_Jose_AP	56	-2	71	41	3	10	43	0.16	8.79	13.13	15.08
Salinas_AP	55	+1	72	36	12	0	37	0.07	8.61	11.29	12.91
Monterey_AP	52	-2	65	39	3	0	49	0.10	10.57	17.62	20.35
King_City_Ag	58	+2	81	35	15	0	35	0.04	4.44	10.87	12.30
Paso_Robles_AP	57	+4	80	29	21	0	33	0.00	4.59	11.77	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	55	+2	72	39	12	0	45	0.83	22.79	27.99	33.52
Red_Bluff	56	+2	74	38	12	0	43	0.43	15.74	20.63	24.07
Willows_6W	56	+3	72	38	6	0	44	0.09	16.99	16.57	19.03
Oroville_AP	55	0	72	36	9	0	36	0.61	15.71	24.92	28.75
Marysville	56	-2	75	37	8	7	37	0.58	16.55	19.10	22.07
Sacramento_AP	55	+1	73	39	6	0	33	0.43	12.59	15.80	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	57	+2	74	37	12	0	37	0.14	8.81	11.95	13.84
Modesto_AP	59	+2	76	38	27	20	39	0.09	7.61	11.18	13.12
Merced_Macready	58	+3	79	37	24	0	34	0.02	6.67	10.73	12.50
Madera_AP	57	+2	78	33	25	0	32	0.02	6.73	10.02	11.94
Fresno_AP	61	+6	81	40	69	2	30	0.01	5.18	9.51	11.23
Lemoore_NAS	58	+3	78	36	23	2	32	0.00	3.03	6.70	7.89
Visalia_AP	58	+2	75	37	30	7	27	0.00	4.06	9.38	11.03
Bakersfield	58	0	78	40	46	25	30	0.00	3.02	5.46	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas_AP	37	-4	59	10	0	0	50	0.01	4.74	8.59	12.13
Mount_Shasta_AP	42	0	64	23	0	0	54	0.23	23.05	32.78	39.16
Blue_Canyon	44	+5	56	33	0	0	62	3.03	41.79	55.95	66.36
Yosemite_Valley	52	+7	68	37	0	0	39	0.42	13.88	31.92	37.73
South Coast											
Santa_Maria_AP	58	+5	80	38	9	0	31	0.00	6.02	12.30	14.01
Santa_Barbara_A	59	+3	79	44	21	11	34	0.00	8.92	15.58	16.93
Oxnard_NWS	57	-1	70	43	78	19	27	0.00	5.35	14.26	15.62
Riverside_AP	62	+4	82	46	128	66	29	0.00	4.33	9.04	10.22
Los_Angeles_AP	60	+3	70	52	91	111	29	0.00	5.78	11.90	13.15
San_Diego_AP	60	0	66	53	64	146	32	0.00	6.24	9.37	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop_AP	55	+7	75	25	3	0	12	0.00	0.87	4.25	5.02
Daggett_AP	65	+7	82	39	119	36	16	0.00	1.57	3.74	4.17
Lancaster_ATC	61	+9	79	39	48	0	11	0.00	1.11	6.72	7.40
Thermal	73	+8	92	44	253	211	13	0.00	2.59	3.33	3.53
Blythe_AP	71	+7	89	48	233	186	19	0.00	4.39	3.78	4.02
Imperial_CA	71	+7	91	47	262	215	13	0.00	2.07	2.82	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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