



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: April 7, 2013
RELEASED: April 8, 2013

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 33 NO. 40

WEATHER



A low pressure system moved through Central California at the start of the week, spreading light to moderate rain all across the State. This low pressure system then moved into the Great Basin and warmer, drier conditions developed for most of the State through Wednesday. An increase in northerly winds, especially across Southern California during the middle of the week, was a result of the low pressure system moving into Nevada. By Thursday, a series of weak storm systems had formed in the northern Pacific and started to reach the West Coast. This brought some active weather across Northern California with thunderstorms producing lightning, hail, and even a funnel cloud in Tehama County. These storm systems moved across Northern California, bringing occasional periods of clouds and light rains through the rest of the week. Southern California remained dry, with a northerly flow occasionally producing some strong gusty winds.

FIELD CROPS

Mid-week rain showers delayed planting progress; however, producers were pleased with the additional precipitation winter crops received. **Wheat, barley** and other winter **forage** crops continued to grow as fields were mostly headed out and were beginning to mature. As fields matured, some were being chopped for silage. **Rice** fields planting preparation continued as fields drained out, and producers were cultivating and leveling their fields. Rice planting had just begun in the northern parts of Sacramento Valley. **Cotton** planting was well underway by week's end. **Corn** plantings started last week. **Alfalfa** fields broke out of dormancy and have been growing well over the last couple of weeks. Some producers in the San Joaquin Valley were making their first cut of the year on alfalfa fields.

FRUIT CROPS

Irrigation continued in vineyards and fruit orchards. **Peaches, nectarines, plums, apricots** and **prunes** continued to leaf out; small fruits were visible. **Cherry** bloom was finishing up. **Grapes** continued to leaf out and vines were pushing new growth. Grape vineyards were treated with sulfur to prevent mildew. **Apples** and **pears** were leafing out and blooming. **Olives** continued to be pruned. **Blueberries** were blooming; hot house blueberries were being picked. Blooms continued to emerge on citrus trees. **Mandarin** trees were being netted to prevent cross pollination and ensure seedless fruit. Late Navel **oranges** and **lemons** continued to be harvested. Valencia orange harvest continued. Hass **avocado** harvest continued.

NUT CROPS

Nut orchards were being irrigated. **Almond** bloom was complete; trees were leafing out and nutlets were forming. Many almond orchards were sprayed with fungicide in preparation for rain. **Walnuts** were pushing catkins and were treated for blight. **Pistachio** bloom was increasing and trees were pushing new growth.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Tulare County, **squash, cucumbers, eggplants** and other summer vegetables have been planted. The warmer weather has been beneficial for plant growth. Fresno County reported that spring **onion, garbanzo bean** and **garlic** crops continued to grow well as harvesting continued for **asparagus, broccoli** and head **lettuce**. Fields were being prepared for bell **peppers, carrots, cantaloupes, honeydew** and **watermelons** by removal of over-winter cover crops, pre-irrigation, soil fumigation and shaping of beds. Leafy vegetables, such as mustard **greens, kale** and broccoli rabe were irrigated. Processing **tomatoes** were being transplanted. Merced County reported planting of tomatoes and harvest of **fennel** and **radicchio**. In Stanislaus County, tomatoes continue to be transplanted, while fields were being prepared for summer crops. Sutter County reported processing tomatoes were being transplanted.

LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture conditions were reported to be primarily in fair to good condition, with some areas reporting poor conditions. Warm weather stimulated grass and forage growth, particularly in locales that received sufficient precipitation in recent weeks. More precipitation is needed to maintain forage development. Sheep and cattle grazed on idle fields, dry land grain and alfalfa fields. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Hives were beginning to be removed from almond and stone fruit orchards where bloom was complete. Bees were active pollinating late stone fruit orchards and berries as weather permitted.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/7/13

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 4/7/13.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 4/7/13	January 1 - 4/7/13	July 1 - 4/7/13	Week Ending 4/7/13	July 1 - 4/7/13	July 1 - 4/7/13	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days ¹ --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
North Coast											
Eureka_WFO	53	+4	61	46	0	0	94	1.29	25.69	34.00	38.10
Ukiah	57	+3	77	43	1	0	59	0.92	27.63	36.20	38.90
Santa_Rosa_AG	59	+4	74	45	11	2	43	0.69	21.13	29.08	31.01
Napa_State_Hosp	60	+5	78	45	19	0	50	1.09	18.06	24.72	26.46
Central Coast											
San_Francisco_A	58	+3	68	49	3	0	46	0.48	12.79	18.98	20.11
San_Jose_AP	61	+3	79	49	26	32	47	0.22	9.06	13.97	15.08
Salinas_AP	60	+5	76	49	20	0	40	0.20	8.84	12.05	12.91
Monterey_AP	57	+3	67	45	3	0	53	0.20	11.13	18.78	20.35
King_City_Ag	62	+5	86	45	45	12	40	0.05	4.59	11.61	12.30
Paso_Robles_AP	62	+8	84	44	42	0	36	0.02	4.62	12.53	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	59	+5	75	47	17	0	52	1.90	26.02	29.70	33.52
Red_Bluff	60	+4	76	49	27	12	48	1.27	17.49	21.77	24.07
Willows_6W	60	+5	74	46	20	0	50	0.99	18.76	17.42	19.03
Oroville_AP	60	+4	74	48	18	6	41	0.56	17.06	26.38	28.75
Marysville	61	+3	77	46	28	39	42	0.90	18.59	20.23	22.07
Sacramento_AP	60	+4	77	46	21	12	36	0.65	13.95	16.64	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	60	+3	77	46	32	22	40	0.65	9.84	12.68	13.84
Modesto_AP	62	+3	78	49	70	57	42	0.63	8.85	11.92	13.12
Merced_Macready	62	+6	79	48	71	22	37	0.47	7.56	11.44	12.50
Madera_AP	61	+3	77	46	50	28	35	0.84	7.91	10.79	11.94
Fresno_AP	65	+7	82	51	144	33	33	0.07	5.56	10.20	11.23
Lemoore_NAS	61	+4	79	43	54	31	34	0.17	3.48	7.21	7.89
Visalia_AP	62	+4	79	46	74	38	29	0.02	4.25	10.07	11.03
Bakersfield	64	+4	79	49	113	64	32	0.02	3.05	5.88	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas_AP	47	+5	68	29	0	0	58	0.74	5.60	9.22	12.13
Mount_Shasta_AP	49	+6	67	35	0	0	62	0.56	24.45	34.66	39.16
Blue_Canyon	44	+3	60	35	0	0	71	1.29	43.92	59.42	66.36
Yosemite_Valley	50	+2	67	38	0	0	44	0.60	14.97	33.76	37.73
South Coast											
Santa_Maria_AP	60	+6	75	46	19	0	34	0.09	6.15	13.16	14.01
Santa_Barbara_A	62	+5	85	48	47	39	36	0.01	9.30	16.45	16.93
Oxnard_NWS	60	+3	73	49	84	47	28	0.00	5.42	15.05	15.62
Riverside_AP	65	+4	86	51	198	110	29	0.00	4.33	9.63	10.22
Los_Angeles_AP	61	+2	68	54	107	145	29	0.00	5.78	12.54	13.15
San_Diego_AP	62	+1	67	56	94	193	32	0.00	6.24	10.09	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop_AP	57	+7	81	33	6	0	12	0.00	0.87	4.39	5.02
Daggett_AP	69	+8	87	49	238	96	16	0.00	1.57	3.88	4.17
Lancaster_ATC	63	+8	83	39	89	0	11	0.00	1.11	7.11	7.40
Thermal	75	+7	95	55	441	338	13	0.00	2.59	3.46	3.53
Blythe_AP	74	+6	92	53	423	305	19	0.00	4.39	3.92	4.02
Imperial_CA	73	+6	91	53	452	329	13	0.00	2.07	2.94	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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