



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: April 14, 2013
RELEASED: April 15, 2013

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 33 NO. 41

WEATHER



A cold front moved through California at the start of the week, spreading light precipitation across much of the State. The upper level low pressure driving this cold front then moved into the Great Basin across Northern Nevada. This resulted in a strong northerly wind pattern which brought strong gusty offshore winds to much of the State. The dry and warm conditions persisted through Friday. Over the weekend, the high pressure over the coast weakened and a weak cold front pushed through the State, cooling temperatures statewide while bringing a cool and moist onshore flow to Southern California. Little if any precipitation was associated with this feature.

FIELD CROPS

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** field planting preparation continued as fields were drained then cultivated and leveled. **Cotton** planting was more than a third complete by week's end. **Corn** plantings continued last week and emerged plants were growing rapidly. **Alfalfa** producers continued making their first cut of the year on fields.

FRUIT CROPS

Strong winds last week resulted in some damage to orchards and vineyards. **Olive** bloom was expected to begin soon. **Strawberries** were being harvested. Fruit was growing on **peach, nectarine, plum, apricot** and **cherry** trees. **Grapes** continued to leaf out and vines were pushing new growth. Growers were finishing up with pruning and tying of vines. Vineyards were being sprayed with fungicides and treated with sulfur to prevent powdery mildew. **Apples** and **pears** continued to leaf out. Citrus bloom continued. New groves were being planted. **Mandarin** trees were being netted to prevent cross pollination and ensure seedless fruit. Late season Navel **oranges** and **lemons** continued to be harvested. Valencia orange harvest continued. Hass **avocado** harvest continued.

NUT CROPS

Last week's high winds blew nuts off trees and broke limbs in **almond** orchards. Some almond trees were knocked down by the wind. **Walnuts** were pushing catkins and continued to be treated for blight. **Pistachios** were in full bloom and trees were pushing new growth.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Tulare County, the warmer weather has been beneficial for plant growth; Italian **squash** continued to grow rapidly. Processing **tomatoes** continued to grow in Fresno County and strong winds burned some plants. In Madera County, processing tomatoes were being transplanted. Merced County reported planting of tomatoes and harvest of **fennel** and **radicchio** continued. In Stanislaus County, transplanted tomatoes were growing well, while fields were being prepared for summer crops. San Joaquin County reported **asparagus** harvest was going strong while cool season vegetables were being harvested as well. Processing tomato transplants continued to be planted in Sutter County.

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 where soil moisture permitted. Despite recent rain, snow pack and precipitation were well below seasonal norms for much of the State. Above average temperatures and dry windy conditions this week contributed to growing concerns about forage development for range cattle. Sheep and cattle grazed on idle fields, dry land grain and alfalfa fields. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Hives were moved from orchards where bloom was complete. Bees were active pollinating berries and late blooming stone fruit.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/14/13

| STATIONS | TEMPERATURE | | | | GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE | | RAIN DAYS | PRECIPITATION | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------|-----|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Average Week Ending 4/14/13. | Departure from Normal | High | Low | This Year | Normal Year | This Season | This Week | This Season | Normal Season | Normal Year |
| | | | | | January 1 - 4/14/13 | January 1 - 4/14/13 | July 1 - 4/14/13 | Week Ending 4/14/13 | July 1 - 4/14/13 | July 1 - 4/14/13 | July 1 - June 30 |
| | -- Degrees Fahrenheit -- | | | | -- Number -- | | -- Days ¹ -- | -- Inches of Precipitation -- | | | |
| North Coast | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Eureka_WFO | 49 | -2 | 57 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 95 | 0.86 | 26.55 | 34.74 | 38.10 |
| Ukiah | 57 | +2 | 81 | 38 | 4 | 0 | 60 | 0.21 | 27.84 | 36.76 | 38.90 |
| Santa_Rosa_AG | 61 | +5 | 83 | 44 | 22 | 12 | 44 | 0.08 | 21.21 | 29.51 | 31.01 |
| Napa_State_Hosp | 61 | +5 | 85 | 43 | 34 | 10 | 51 | 0.10 | 18.16 | 25.10 | 26.46 |
| Central Coast | | | | | | | | | | | |
| San_Francisco_A | 58 | +2 | 80 | 47 | 10 | 0 | 47 | 0.01 | 12.80 | 19.30 | 20.11 |
| San_Jose_AP | 60 | 0 | 82 | 45 | 35 | 46 | 48 | 0.04 | 9.10 | 14.24 | 15.08 |
| Salinas_AP | 57 | +1 | 80 | 43 | 22 | 0 | 41 | 0.05 | 8.89 | 12.30 | 12.91 |
| Monterey_AP | 54 | -2 | 74 | 43 | 4 | 0 | 54 | 0.13 | 11.26 | 19.17 | 20.35 |
| King_City_Ag | 60 | +2 | 87 | 42 | 53 | 25 | 40 | 0.00 | 4.59 | 11.81 | 12.30 |
| Paso_Robles_AP | 62 | +6 | 87 | 38 | 60 | 3 | 36 | 0.00 | 4.62 | 12.71 | 13.08 |
| Sacramento Valley | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Redding | 63 | +7 | 82 | 45 | 43 | 8 | 52 | 0.00 | 26.02 | 30.30 | 33.52 |
| Red_Bluff | 64 | +6 | 86 | 46 | 59 | 27 | 49 | 0.07 | 17.56 | 22.12 | 24.07 |
| Willows_6W | 62 | +6 | 83 | 45 | 41 | 14 | 51 | 0.13 | 18.89 | 17.67 | 19.03 |
| Oroville_AP | 61 | +4 | 85 | 44 | 35 | 20 | 42 | 0.28 | 17.34 | 26.85 | 28.75 |
| Marysville | 63 | +4 | 86 | 43 | 51 | 61 | 43 | 0.02 | 18.61 | 20.60 | 22.07 |
| Sacramento_AP | 63 | +5 | 86 | 45 | 43 | 26 | 37 | 0.03 | 13.98 | 16.90 | 17.93 |
| San Joaquin Valley | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stockton | 63 | +5 | 87 | 44 | 56 | 41 | 41 | 0.01 | 9.85 | 12.93 | 13.84 |
| Modesto_AP | 64 | +3 | 84 | 45 | 99 | 82 | 42 | 0.00 | 8.85 | 12.15 | 13.12 |
| Merced_Macready | 63 | +5 | 82 | 43 | 92 | 41 | 38 | 0.02 | 7.58 | 11.67 | 12.50 |
| Madera_AP | 61 | +2 | 82 | 39 | 64 | 49 | 36 | 0.02 | 7.93 | 11.05 | 11.94 |
| Fresno_AP | 65 | +6 | 85 | 43 | 184 | 55 | 34 | 0.03 | 5.59 | 10.40 | 11.23 |
| Lemoore_NAS | 64 | +5 | 82 | 42 | 84 | 52 | 34 | 0.00 | 3.48 | 7.36 | 7.89 |
| Visalia_AP | 62 | +3 | 84 | 39 | 100 | 59 | 30 | 0.06 | 4.31 | 10.28 | 11.03 |
| Bakersfield | 64 | +3 | 85 | 43 | 150 | 92 | 33 | 0.05 | 3.10 | 6.00 | 6.49 |
| Cascade Sierra | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alturas_AP | 41 | -3 | 68 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 60 | 0.46 | 6.06 | 9.49 | 12.13 |
| Mount_Shasta_AP | 49 | +4 | 72 | 31 | 0 | 0 | 64 | 0.13 | 24.58 | 35.32 | 39.16 |
| Blue_Canyon | 50 | +7 | 67 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 72 | 0.46 | 44.38 | 60.67 | 66.36 |
| Yosemite_Valley | 53 | +4 | 76 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 45 | 0.71 | 15.68 | 34.41 | 37.73 |
| South Coast | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Santa_Maria_AP | 56 | +2 | 80 | 38 | 20 | 0 | 35 | 0.02 | 6.17 | 13.40 | 14.01 |
| Santa_Barbara_A | 59 | 0 | 75 | 47 | 48 | 53 | 36 | 0.00 | 9.30 | 16.63 | 16.93 |
| Oxnard_NWS | 59 | +1 | 78 | 45 | 89 | 61 | 28 | 0.00 | 5.42 | 15.25 | 15.62 |
| Riverside_AP | 63 | +2 | 84 | 47 | 223 | 138 | 29 | 0.00 | 4.33 | 9.79 | 10.22 |
| Los_Angeles_AP | 62 | +2 | 74 | 53 | 121 | 166 | 29 | 0.00 | 5.78 | 12.71 | 13.15 |
| San_Diego_AP | 60 | -3 | 72 | 53 | 102 | 221 | 32 | 0.00 | 6.24 | 10.29 | 10.77 |
| Southeast Interior | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bishop_AP | 58 | +5 | 87 | 31 | 16 | 0 | 12 | 0.00 | 0.87 | 4.46 | 5.02 |
| Daggett_AP | 70 | +7 | 91 | 49 | 307 | 137 | 16 | 0.00 | 1.57 | 3.95 | 4.17 |
| Lancaster_ATC | 61 | +5 | 85 | 36 | 120 | 15 | 11 | 0.00 | 1.11 | 7.20 | 7.40 |
| Thermal | 71 | 0 | 92 | 45 | 516 | 417 | 13 | 0.00 | 2.59 | 3.46 | 3.53 |
| Blythe_AP | 72 | +3 | 95 | 49 | 510 | 379 | 19 | 0.00 | 4.39 | 3.99 | 4.02 |
| Imperial_CA | 71 | +2 | 95 | 48 | 527 | 397 | 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.
 For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.
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