



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER



The previous week in weather was dominated by a strong high pressure in the east Pacific leading to very warm and dry conditions across California. Dry soils and fuels, combined with these warm, dry and occasionally windy conditions helped initiate and spread fires in the State, including the Panther fire in Northern California, and the Spring fire in Southern California. Temperatures steadily climbed throughout the week and record high temperatures were reached on Friday and Saturday. The weather pattern shifted at the start of the current week when a retrograding, or

backwards moving, storm system slid south of the dominant high pressure and into the State from the Great Basin. This system spawned numerous rain showers and thunderstorms over the Sierra Nevada and southern Cascades, several of which spilled over into the Sacramento Valley. The strongest of these storms produced roughly a half an inch of rain.

FIELD CROPS

Corn, rice and **cotton** continued to be planted in the San Joaquin Valley. **Wheat, oats** and winter **forage** crops were being cut for hay and silage. Rice fields planting continued, but was slowed due to windy conditions in the Sacramento Valley. Rice planting was over one-third completed by week's end and cotton planting was over three-quarters completed. Cotton continues to germinate and grow well with the hot weather. Many **alfalfa** producers finished bailing their second cutting. **Safflower** planting continued, while **sunflowers** began to emerge. **Garbanzo** beans were flowering.

FRUIT CROPS

Kiwi bloom began in the Sacramento Valley; bees were placed in vineyards last week in preparation for bloom. **Pomegranates** were setting fruit; bloom was complete. **Strawberry** harvest was in full swing across the State. **Blueberry** harvest was expected to begin soon; growers were irrigating. **Apples** were showing fruit. Early **cherry** harvest was picking up in the San Joaquin Valley. **Apricots** were gaining color and nearing harvest. **Peach** and **nectarine** growers were thinning fruit. Stone fruit growers were placing reflective ground cover in orchards to help fruit color. **Grape** growers were irrigating and treating to control fungus, mildew and mites. Blooms were appearing in grape vineyards; vines continued to leaf out. Citrus groves were being irrigated and bloom continued as new groves were being planted.

NUT CROPS

Almond growers were irrigating, fertilizing, and spraying trees with miticides and fungicides. Growers continued to clean up branches and trees knocked down by April winds. Almond nuts were developing well. **Walnut** growers were trapping and monitoring codling moths. Walnut trees were being irrigated and fertilized. **Pistachios** were being irrigated; growers were monitoring and treating for navel orange worm. Pistachio bloom is finishing.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Certified producers continued to plant and harvest for Farmers Markets in Tulare County. **Cabbage, carrots, sweet corn**, heirloom **tomatoes**, bell **peppers, onions** and **garlic** were growing well in Fresno County. Harvest continued for **asparagus, broccoli**, spring **lettuce, cauliflower, cucumbers**, sugar snap **peas**, snow peas, onions, garlic, and fava **beans**. Farmers continued to transplant tomatoes and prepare beds for bell peppers, **cantaloupe** and **melons**. In Madera County, processing tomatoes were being planted. Merced County reported harvest of **radicchio**, asparagus, and **fennel** and planting of bell peppers and tomatoes. In Stanislaus County, greenhouse tomatoes were being picked; sugar snap peas, lettuce, onions, garlic, **squash**, fava beans, **radishes** and broccoli were being harvested. Tomato and pepper transplants were growing well and ground prep was being done for cantaloupes. San Joaquin County reported asparagus harvest was slowing, while processing tomatoes were being planted. Dehydrator onions were being planted in Siskiyou County.

LIVESTOCK

The week before the state's Fire Awareness Week nearly 40 thousand acres burned in ten CALFIRE incidents found across the state from Riverside to Tehama counties. The lack of rainfall, recent drying winds and an increase in early season fire activity has raised concerns about a potentially severe fire season in the western states. Range and pasture conditions were reported to be in fair to good condition, with some areas reporting poor conditions. Some cattle were moved to irrigated pasture due to poor range. Cattle and sheared sheep grazed on rangeland, idle fields, dry land grain and alfalfa fields. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Some bees were shipped out of state, primarily north to work apple orchards in Washington State.

Alert! The window to respond to the Census of Agriculture is almost closed!

There are only a few weeks left to complete and return the 2012 Census of Agriculture. Because time is running out, NASS may contact you or farmers in your area by phone or in person to collect information for the Census. *Help ensure you and your industry have the most complete set of agricultural statistics available for your country and county.* For more information or for help filling out your Census form, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov or call (888) 424-7828.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 5/5/13

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 5/5/13.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 5/5/13	January 1 - 5/5/13	July 1 - 5/5/13	Week Ending 5/5/13	July 1 - 5/5/13	July 1 - 5/5/13	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days /1 --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
North Coast											
Eureka_WFO	53	0	80	37	1	0	96	0.00	26.63	36.35	38.10
Ukiah	66	+8	95	42	100	23	60	0.00	27.84	37.88	38.90
Santa_Rosa_AG	70	+11	90	49	138	54	44	0.00	21.21	30.31	31.01
Napa_State_Hosp	70	+11	92	49	166	54	51	0.00	18.16	25.81	26.46
Central Coast											
San_Francisco_A	67	+10	89	50	81	17	47	0.00	12.80	19.83	20.11
San_Jose_AP	70	+8	92	53	152	108	48	0.00	9.10	14.72	15.08
Salinas_AP	63	+6	89	48	54	23	42	0.00	8.92	12.70	12.91
Monterey_AP	62	+6	87	43	23	0	55	0.00	11.27	19.87	20.35
King_City_Ag	67	+7	97	44	155	74	39	0.00	4.58	12.09	12.30
Paso_Robles_AP	68	+8	97	44	176	38	36	0.00	4.62	12.95	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	73	+11	95	50	237	76	53	0.03	26.05	31.64	33.52
Red_Bluff	74	+12	98	53	277	116	49	0.00	17.56	22.84	24.07
Willows_6W	73	+12	94	51	221	86	50	0.00	18.77	18.15	19.03
Oroville_AP	72	+10	94	52	193	97	42	0.00	17.34	27.79	28.75
Marysville	72	+8	94	49	222	172	43	0.00	18.61	21.32	22.07
Sacramento_AP	73	+11	93	52	222	104	38	0.00	14.00	17.39	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	72	+9	93	51	215	132	42	0.00	9.86	13.42	13.84
Modesto_AP	74	+10	93	55	294	189	42	0.00	8.85	12.61	13.12
Merced_Macready	73	+10	95	53	268	132	38	0.00	7.58	12.12	12.50
Madera_AP	71	+7	94	49	212	148	36	0.00	7.93	11.55	11.94
Fresno_AP	76	+12	95	60	428	165	34	0.00	5.59	10.76	11.23
Lemoore_NAS	71	+7	94	49	253	153	34	0.00	3.48	7.60	7.89
Visalia_AP	73	+9	93	52	277	162	30	0.00	4.31	10.67	11.03
Bakersfield	76	+10	95	57	386	222	33	0.00	3.10	6.21	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas_AP	50	+3	76	21	0	0	63	0.00	6.38	10.25	12.13
Mount_Shasta_AP	57	+8	81	32	11	0	67	0.00	24.66	36.83	39.16
Blue_Canyon	60	+12	72	45	24	0	73	0.00	44.39	63.43	66.36
Yosemite_Valley	64	+10	87	48	60	0	45	0.00	15.68	35.81	37.73
South Coast											
Santa_Maria_AP	63	+7	94	47	63	5	35	0.00	6.17	13.77	14.01
Santa_Barbara_A	63	+4	89	50	84	108	38	0.01	9.32	16.74	16.93
Oxnard_NWS	65	+6	92	50	146	112	28	0.00	5.42	15.50	15.62
Riverside_AP	70	+6	97	53	384	247	29	0.00	4.33	10.02	10.22
Los_Angeles_AP	67	+5	90	57	214	242	30	0.00	5.84	12.96	13.15
San_Diego_AP	65	+2	82	58	183	318	33	0.00	6.25	10.58	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop_AP	62	+5	91	31	78	32	12	0.00	0.87	4.56	5.02
Daggett_AP	74	+6	100	51	541	311	16	0.00	1.57	4.04	4.17
Lancaster_ATC	68	+6	94	36	268	106	11	0.00	1.11	7.27	7.40
Thermal	78	+4	106	49	833	715	13	0.00	2.59	3.46	3.53
Blythe_AP	81	+7	106	61	856	666	19	0.00	4.39	4.02	4.02
Imperial_CA	80	+7	106	55	846	658	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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