



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: April 12, 2015
RELEASED: April 13, 2015

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 35 NO. 41

WEATHER

The week began with broad scale troughing bringing cooler temperatures to most of the State. An influx of Pacific moisture associated with a shortwave moved in from the ocean. These two events led to rainfall over most of the State, excluding the southern deserts. Most locations saw between one-half to one and a half inches of precipitation. Most of the agricultural areas of the State saw around half an inch of rain. In the mountains, temperatures were cold and most mountain locations reported between 4 and 8 inches of new snowfall on Tuesday. Although this slightly replenished mountain snowpacks in the central and northern Sierras, snowpacks in the southern Sierras continued to dwindle, with snow only seen at the highest elevations south of approximately Fresno. Temperatures were seasonally cool to start the week, with highs in the 50s and 60s across the valley and coast, 70s-80s in the desert, and 30s in the mountains. Lows were in the single digits and teens in the mountains, 30s-40s in the valley, and 40s for the coast and into the deserts. By midweek, a pattern shift was underway as the large-scale troughing began to move eastward. In its wake, high pressure built over the Great Basin and a modest ridging pattern began to build over the Pacific Coast. This process resulted in an end to precipitation and gradually warming temperatures through the second half of the week. Temperatures at most locations were 10-20 degrees higher by Saturday than they were on Monday. Valley locations saw highs in the 70s, with coastal locations reporting 60s to 70s from north to south; 80s and 90s in the desert, with 50s-60s in the mountains. Lows were in the 40s in the valley, with 50s to 60s along the coast from north to south; 50s in the deserts, and 30s-40s in the mountains. Aside from a fog event in the valley on Sunday morning, no other significant weather occurred during the second half of the week.

FIELD CROPS

Growers prepared the ground by tilling soil, making furrows, and replacing drip tape. **Wheat**, **oats**, and other winter forage crops continued to head out. **Alfalfa** for hay was cut and windrowed. **Cotton** was planted and began germination. Some small grain was harvested for silage. The wheat crop was rated as 80 percent good to excellent. Pasture and rangeland condition was 55 percent fair to good.

FRUIT CROPS

Grapes were irrigated, fertilized and cultivated for weed control. Sulfur treatments were applied to grapevines where rain occurred. Second downy mildew controls were applied in grapes. Hail damage was spotty throughout the southern part of the State with a few reports of light damage to the new **cherry** and grape crops in some areas. Reflective paper was added in cherry orchards to aid the ripening process. Citrus bloom was almost over as the declaration of petal fall for the central region was declared on April 6. Preparation began for the **olive** bloom. **Navel orange**, **lemon**, and **grapefruit** harvests continued. Established citrus groves were topped and new groves were planted. Pollination of **dates** started.

NUT CROPS

Fertilizing and irrigating of **walnuts** continued. Walnuts started to fruit in Fresno County. Some hail damage was reported to **almonds** in Madera County. The almond bloom was complete. **Pistachios** were sprayed with insecticide, fertilizer and micronutrients.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Growers continued planting **processing tomatoes** throughout the State. In Colusa County, fields were planted and drip irrigation started. In San Joaquin County, the **asparagus** harvest continued. In Monterey County, **Brassicas**, **lettuces** and other specialty crops were harvested. In Fresno County, **artichokes** were starting to pop up. **Carrot** stands were treated for nutgrass. **Onions** were fertilized and sprayed for downy mildew. Mizuna **mustard** for seed was finished and **kale** for seed bloomed. The lettuce and **broccoli** crops from winter planting were disked under. In Tulare County, **peppers**, **eggplant**, and **squash** were planted and kept under cover due to irregular weather patterns. In Imperial County, leafy vegetable harvest finished and **sweet corn** and onion harvests began. **Melon** harvest was projected to start the first week of May.

LIVESTOCK

Because of the early almond bloom, many bee colonies were moved to the foothills to catch wildflower bloom and into olive groves. Range conditions remained poor and forage dried out early in the season. Sheep were moved into alfalfa fields and grazed on retired farmland areas.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/19/2015

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 4/19/2015	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 4/19/2015	January 1 - 4/19/2015	July 1 - 4/19/2015	Week Ending 4/19/2015	July 1 - 4/19/2015	July 1 - 4/19/2015	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days /1 --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
North Coast											
Eureka WFO	50	0	59	39	6	0	75	1.87	30.89	34.35	38.10
Ukiah	53	-3	82	34	44	0	52	1.21	25.41	36.41	38.90
Santa Rosa AP	54	-4	77	35	18	8	43	0.75	23.31	29.23	31.01
Napa State Hosp	55	-2	80	36	62	6	46	1.55	20.31	24.86	26.46
Central Coast											
San Francisco A	58	+3	74	46	70	0	34	0.59	14.69	19.11	20.11
San Jose AP	57	-3	78	41	85	42	35	0.25	10.74	14.09	15.08
Salinas AP	57	+2	78	42	159	0	32	0.34	9.11	12.18	12.91
Monterey AP	54	-1	66	43	62	0	42	0.41	14.04	18.97	20.35
King City Ag	57	-2	81	39	93	21	28	0.66	7.25	11.71	12.30
Paso Robles AP	56	-1	86	34	88	1	25	0.43	8.13	12.60	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	56	-2	83	37	110	4	59	0.90	25.46	29.97	33.52
Red Bluff	56	-3	83	35	96	22	58	0.62	23.45	21.90	24.07
Willow s 6W	56	-2	83	35	82	10	43	0.54	19.89	17.52	19.03
Oroville AP	57	0	82	40	92	16	44	0.77	17.46	26.59	28.75
Marysville	56	-4	81	37	71	54	40	1.01	14.72	20.39	22.07
Sacramento AP	57	-2	82	37	97	22	34	0.96	13.25	16.75	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	58	-2	81	37	121	35	35	0.58	9.27	12.80	13.84
Modesto AP	59	-3	80	39	157	74	30	0.42	7.79	12.02	13.12
Merced Macready	57	-3	79	38	86	35	30	0.35	6.37	11.55	12.50
Madera AP	57	-3	80	40	131	43	24	0.34	4.91	10.94	11.94
Fresno AP	59	-2	80	43	194	48	20	0.56	5.14	10.30	11.23
Lemoore NAS	57	-3	82	38	136	46	21	0.53	4.27	7.28	7.89
Visalia AP	58	-3	79	41	159	53	15	0.72	6.07	10.17	11.03
Bakersfield AP	60	-2	82	44	240	84	16	0.06	4.64	5.95	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas AP	41	-3	67	16	0	0	67	0.09	7.03	9.39	12.13
Mount Shasta AP	43	-2	69	27	0	0	69	1.22	35.47	34.96	39.16
Blue Canyon	41	-2	64	25	7	0	57	0.99	29.89	60.05	66.36
Yosemite Valley	51	+2	80	32	23	0	33	1.14	10.79	34.09	37.73
South Coast											
Santa Maria AP	56	+2	74	41	165	0	22	0.60	4.24	13.27	14.01
Santa Barbara A	57	-3	69	43	152	49	21	0.18	6.85	16.50	16.93
Oxnard NWS	56	-2	71	42	306	57	23	0.22	6.51	15.12	15.62
Riverside AP	61	-1	83	45	441	130	26	0.06	4.31	9.70	10.22
Los Angeles AP	59	-2	70	48	318	160	24	0.10	5.52	12.59	13.15
San Diego AP	63	+1	69	56	446	213	22	0.00	5.54	10.19	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop AP	50	-3	82	24	23	0	8	0.00	0.78	4.43	5.02
Daggett AP	62	-1	86	43	313	125	13	0.00	1.96	3.92	4.17
Lancaster ATC	56	-1	84	30	73	9	17	0.01	4.36	7.14	7.40
Thermal	70	0	88	45	582	393	17	0.00	1.22	3.45	3.53
Blythe AP	69	-1	89	51	666	357	21	0.00	2.69	3.96	4.02
Imperial CA	69	+1	87	49	654	377	17	0.00	2.70	2.92	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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