

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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WEATHER



At the start of the week, a high pressure ridge was building over the West Coast. This brought a warming trend to most of California, with daytime highs in the Central Valley reaching the 90s, while temperatures in Southern California rose into the 80s. Hot temperatures baked the southeast deserts, with highs ranging in the upper 90s to 114 in Death Valley. By Wednesday, weak low pressure aloft began to influence the State's weather. An onshore flow brought cooler temperatures to Southern California, where daytime highs cooled to the 70s. The low pressure also brought scattered thunderstorms to the northern mountains, with isolated light rainfall reported by some mountain stations in the Siskiyou and Northern Sierra Nevada ranges. The low pressure system moved across Northern California during the weekend, cooling off the Central Valley, while the onshore flow across Southern California persisted, keeping temperatures in the southern counties very mild and even bringing brief sprinklings of rain to the area by Sunday morning.

FIELD CROPS

Warm, dry weather benefitted field crops. Cutting, windrowing, raking, and baling of **alfalfa** was in full swing. Seedling alfalfa was growing well and continued to be irrigated. **Sugar beets** continued to make good growth while the harvesting of mature sugar beets continued. **Cotton** was showing improved growth in the warmer areas. Cultivation and weed spraying continued in cotton fields. Growth in early planted **corn** was progressing well, with some areas applying liquid fertilizer. Planting of **rice**, field corn, **sunflower**, and **vineseed** continued. **Barley**, **oats**, **wheat**, and winter forage were being harvested.

FRUIT CROPS

Fruit thinning and weed control continued in most orchards. Growers continued their seasonal cycle of irrigation and cultivation. Stone fruit harvesting was steadily picking up, with more varieties maturing with the arrival of warmer temperatures. Varieties harvested included Earlicot and Flavorella **apricots**, Ranier and Bing **cherries**, Super Rich and Sugar Snow **peaches**, Golden Sweet **apriums**, Red Beaut **plums**, Flavorosa **pluots**, and Zee Fire and Red Roy **nectarines**. **Pomegranates** were in full bloom. There was severe hail damage in a small area of Yuba County during the week. Approximately 90 percent of the fruit in the 50 acre affected area was destroyed, and there was some leaf damage noted on **persimmons** and **kiwifruit**. Aside from the leaf damage, kiwifruit set appeared to be very good. **Blueberry** and **strawberry** harvesting continued. Blueberry growers were experiencing a good harvest with very good sized fruit. **Boysenberries** and **blackberries** were at the beginning of harvest. Table **grapes** in the San Joaquin Valley were suckered and bloom sprayed for size. A few citrus packers continued to pack Navel **oranges**, but the season was coming to a close. Valencia orange harvest continued with maturity and quality remaining good. Some orchards were being size picked for the larger sizes, leaving the smaller ones to size later into the season. Growers were monitoring their orchards and spraying for cutworms, thrips, and red mites. **Olives** and **avocados** continued to bloom.

NUT CROPS

Growers continued their seasonal cycle of irrigation and cultivation in nut orchards. Many **almond** growers were applying pesticides and fungicides in their orchards. **Walnuts** were being treated for blight and codling moth.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Warm temperatures promoted vegetable development across the State. Many fields were cultivated, irrigated, fertilized and weeded. Sulfur was applied to some **tomato** fields. **Onions** were treated for rust. Processing tomatoes were beginning to bloom in Fresno County. Late tomato transplants were planted in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys. **Bell pepper** and **melon** planting continued. **Amaranth**, **mustard greens**, **spinach**, **sweet corn** and many Asian vegetables, including **bok choy**, **gai choy**, **kankon**, and **you choy**, were planted. **Asparagus** harvest was wrapped up for the season. Harvest of **cucumbers**, **fava beans**, **green beans**, **parsley**, **radicchio**, and **squash** continued. Other vegetables reported harvested include **carrots**, **lettuce**, **onions**, **honeydew**, **cantaloupe** and **watermelon**.

LIVESTOCK

Good weight gain was still being seen in cattle, while cattle prices were holding at record highs. Pasture and range conditions were reported as mostly good. Rangelands in lower elevations were beginning to dry up, while those at higher elevations were still seeing moisture and growth. Bees were working in vineseed fields.

This report is available the first workday of the week after 1:00 PDT at www.usda.gov/nass/pubs/pubs.htm.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 05/29/05

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 05/29/05	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 05/29/05	January 1 - 05/29/05	Week Ending 05/29/05	July 1 - 05/29/05	July 1 - 05/29/05	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	55	0	69	44	0	0	0.02	46.43	37.35	37.53
Ukiah	67	3	93	46	86	53	0.00	37.59	38.68	37.96
Santa Rosa	62	-1	81	40	52	26	0.00	37.00	30.43	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	62	2	78	52	64	0	0.00	27.69	20.06	19.70
San Jose	66	1	84	53	149	104	0.00	24.75	14.90	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	121	77	0.00	0.00	14.50	14.21
Salinas AP	60	0	70	47	62	0	0.00	19.57	12.62	12.44
Monterey FAA	58	0	70	49	27	0	0.00	15.36	14.50	18.72
King City	66	2	89	46	153	54	0.00	18.86	12.09	11.44
Paso Robles AP	70	4	94	42	160	83	0.00	22.83	13.21	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	76	7	96	52	260	199	0.00	38.47	34.20	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	74	3	96	51	221	240	0.00	27.00	23.12	22.29
Chico AFS	73	5	96	48	264	169	0.00	29.04	25.83	26.32
Marysville	72	1	94	50	232	280	0.00	22.29	21.94	21.04
Sacramento AP	70	2	94	51	173	163	0.00	21.47	17.62	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	72	2	97	50	239	216	0.00	18.66	13.71	13.95
Fresno	76	4	97	54	341	324	0.00	16.71	11.08	10.60
Bakersfield	77	4	97	53	359	388	0.00	9.96	6.39	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	60	1	72	46	48	0	0.00	19.82	14.01	12.36
Santa Barbara	61	1	77	49	70	4	0.02	32.69	17.12	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	161	31	0.00	0.00	15.46	14.38
Los Angeles	68	0	78	58	422	363	0.00	37.07	15.08	14.77
Riverside	--	--	80	60	316	236	0.00	21.13	10.55	9.58
San Diego AP	66	0	71	59	318	213	0.00	22.65	10.62	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	71	6	95	44	145	63	0.00	10.22	4.82	5.37
Lancaster	76	7	95	50	251	181	0.00	17.36	7.75	6.92
Daggett AP	84	7	104	63	551	568	0.00	8.63	4.09	3.93
Thermal AP	83	2	104	62	1037	987	0.00	7.96	3.56	3.16
Blythe	89	6	109	69	1067	1066	0.00	6.70	4.05	3.60
Imperial	85	5	104	62	1072	1019	0.00	5.13	2.99	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	57	4	85	33	7	0	0.00	14.75	11.37	12.01
Mt. Shasta	60	4	88	37	18	0	0.00	45.08	38.54	37.02
Blue Canyon	62	6	75	39	31	0	0.00	61.37	64.58	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	79	44	43	1	0.00	23.92	37.37	37.05

Normal is defined as average over the 30-year period 1961 through 1990. Dashes (-) in Average Week Ending and Departure from Normal columns mean less than five days reporting, while in High and Low columns mean no days reporting.

Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data are quality controlled by the National Climatic Data Center, the accumulated growing degree day and precipitation values are updated.