

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
California Field Office

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WEATHER



A series of Pacific cold fronts pushed through northern California during the week, bringing widespread rain to the valleys and the first significant mountain snow of the season. Rainfall in the Central Valley was generally light, between a tenth and a quarter of an inch, while foothill locations received from one half to one inch. Most of the inland rainfall was concentrated in the Sacramento Valley and the extreme northern portion of the San Joaquin Valley. Mountain snow in the Northern Sierra and other northern mountain ranges was heavy enough to impact transportation across the summits. The cold fronts also brought cooler air to the northern half of the State. Southern California was relatively unscathed by these systems, and dry and mild conditions persisted in the southern counties through the week. An offshore flow developed at the start of the week and brought very warm temperatures to the southland, with some high temperatures hitting the 90s on Tuesday. Those conditions ended by midweek, and the rest of the period saw cooler temperatures nearer to normal levels.

FIELD CROPS

Field preparations, including pre-planting fertilization and pre-emergent herbicide application, were ongoing for fall planting of **wheat**, **barley**, and **oat** crops. **Rice** harvest was nearly complete. Rice stubble was chopped, disced under or burned before getting too wet. **Cotton** harvest was almost complete, and plow down continued, while some operations were considering a second pick to raise yields. Field **corn** harvest for silage was winding down for the season. The **sugar beet** harvest was also winding down in Fresno County. Sugar beet planting was complete in the Imperial Valley, with good stands reported. Many **alfalfa** hay fields continued to be cut, windrowed, raked, and baled, while other fields were irrigated. Alfalfa was also being green chopped and new fields of alfalfa hay and winter forage were being prepared for planting. **Sudan** hay was being cut and baled. **Dry bean** harvest continued.

FRUIT CROPS

The prolonged raisin **grape** harvest was nearly complete, with a small number of open trays still in the fields. Many raisin growers were taking down terraces, leveling the drives between rows, and irrigating. Harvesting of fresh market grapes continued with varieties including Red Globe, Autumn Royal, Crimson Seedless, Christmas Rose, Ruby Seedless, Calmeria, Rouge, and Emperor. Strippings of some table grapes were being sent to wineries. Post harvest irrigation, weeding, manure and compost spreading were ongoing in fruit tree orchards. Wonderful **pomegranate** harvest continued in most locations, but was nearing completion in Tulare County with approximately 98 percent of the crop harvested. Giant Fuyu, Fuyu, and Hachiya **persimmons** were picked and packed. Also harvested were Asian **pears**, Pink Lady **apples**, **figs**, and **kiwifruit**. **Strawberry** plants in the San Joaquin Valley were showing good growth. Fall strawberries were being sold at roadside stands. The Valencia **orange** harvest was nearly complete with most of the fruit being sold for the domestic market. The Navel orange harvest began; Varieties picked included Fukumotos, Early Becks, and Bonanza. **Tangerine** harvest continued with Okitsu Wase and Owari varieties. **Mandarins** were showing good color. The **olive** harvest continued across the State with good yields reported. Olive harvest in the San Joaquin Valley was approximately half completed.

NUT CROPS

A small amount of late variety **almonds** and **walnuts** continued to be harvested. Tree pruning was underway. Some trees were being removed and stacked for disposal.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Winter **squash** harvest began. Fall **melon** harvest continued at a slow pace in the Imperial Valley. Freezer **lima bean** harvest was nearly complete. The **tomato** harvest was winding down, and some fields were being cultivated for the next growing season. **Garlic** and **onion** fields began to emerge. In the San Joaquin Valley, **green bean** harvest had begun, and **lettuce** harvest should begin in a couple of weeks. Fall **asparagus**, **broccoli**, **cauliflower**, **garlic**, **okra**, **parsley**, **spinach**, and sweet **corn** were harvested.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland pastures continued to be dry, however the first significant fall rain was forecast for early next week. Beef cows continued to move from higher elevation summer pastures to winter foothill pastures. Protein supplements were still being fed to cattle. Fall calving of beef cows continued. Sheep were moving into alfalfa fields in the Central Valley. Sheep were also grazing on retired farm land. Fall lambing was in full swing. Feeder lambs in the Imperial Valley were grazing in alfalfa, bermuda, and sudan fields. Cooler temperatures continued to boost milk production throughout the State. Out of State beekeepers were bringing bees into California to over-winter.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 11/06/05

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 11/06/05	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 11/06/05	January 1 - 11/06/05	Week Ending 11/06/05	July 1 - 11/06/05	July 1 - 11/06/05	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	52	-1	65	42	11	0	3.91	8.00	4.82	37.53
Ukiah	54	-2	75	38	1,425	1,454	0.67	1.51	3.88	37.96
Santa Rosa	56	-1	77	39	763	923	0.27	1.27	3.21	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	58	0	72	46	515	443	0.05	0.31	1.76	19.70
San Jose	59	0	74	45	1,264	1,334	0.00	0.11	1.49	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1,596	1,457	0.00	0.00	1.41	14.21
Salinas AP	57	-1	82	37	417	432	0.00	0.16	1.25	12.44
Monterey FAA	56	-1	69	43	129	145	0.02	0.07	2.43	18.72
King City	58	0	86	38	1,236	1,043	0.00	0.02	1.00	11.44
Paso Robles AP	56	0	86	34	1,616	1,552	0.00	0.10	1.13	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	55	-2	78	41	2,574	2,504	0.67	1.18	3.57	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	56	-2	78	40	2,476	2,610	0.34	0.85	2.96	22.29
Chico AFS	58	1	76	40	2,349	2,043	0.18	1.02	2.59	26.32
Marysville	58	-1	73	37	2,347	2,442	0.06	0.87	2.15	21.04
Sacramento AP	57	-1	74	39	1,948	1,932	0.16	0.40	1.67	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	59	1	77	40	2,330	2,214	0.03	0.76	1.52	13.95
Fresno	60	2	83	44	2,972	2,792	0.00	0.09	1.07	10.60
Bakersfield	60	0	82	42	3,039	3,128	0.00	0.28	0.65	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	61	3	86	40	416	410	0.00	0.80	1.05	12.36
Santa Barbara	58	-1	86	41	553	736	0.01	1.39	1.49	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	974	938	0.00	0.00	1.02	14.38
Los Angeles	65	-1	88	51	2,014	2,388	0.00	1.31	0.98	14.77
Riverside	66	4	96	45	2,544	2,375	0.00	1.63	0.84	9.58
San Diego AP	65	1	85	54	1,633	1,767	0.00	0.69	0.92	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	51	2	78	24	1,671	1,552	0.00	1.08	0.85	5.37
Lancaster	58	3	79	37	2,357	2,343	0.00	2.58	0.86	6.92
Daggett AP	63	2	80	47	3,756	3,937	0.00	1.02	1.33	3.93
Thermal AP	69	3	91	47	5,001	4,845	0.00	2.08	1.17	3.16
Blythe	70	3	89	50	5,361	5,350	0.00	2.20	1.77	3.60
Imperial	70	2	89	48	5,204	5,098	0.00	1.81	1.11	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	41	1	67	26	558	296	0.52	1.94	2.33	12.01
Mt. Shasta	42	-2	67	29	702	446	2.23	3.53	4.90	37.02
Blue Canyon	44	-2	65	32	880	574	1.31	3.99	8.31	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	1,295	1,090	0.00	0.00	4.79	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.