

# CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service  
California Field Office

WEEK ENDING: November 20, 2005  
RELEASED: November 21, 2005

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## WEATHER



A high pressure ridge settled over the West Coast during the week, resulting in mostly dry conditions across California, except for some showers along the north coast on Monday. The high pressure persisted, and an offshore flow developed which brought very warm and dry conditions, especially to Southern California where some inland high temperatures reached the lower 90s. This pattern changed very little over the next several days, with above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall across the State throughout the week.

## FIELD CROPS

**Cotton** harvest continued as did the cotton plow-down. Field preparation for fall planting of winter forage, **wheat**, **barley**, and **oat** crops was ongoing. Silage **corn** harvest was almost complete, while previously harvested corn fields were being disced in preparation for fall planting. The **sugar beet** harvest continued in Fresno County. Previously harvested fields were being replanted. Some newly emerged sugar beet fields were receiving herbicide applications. Many **alfalfa** hay fields continued to be cut, windrowed, raked, and baled, while other fields were irrigated.

## FRUIT CROPS

Harvesting of table **grape** varieties continued, including Red Globe, Christmas Rose, Crimson Seedless, and Autumn Royal. Stone fruit growers continued post-harvest activities such as pruning, irrigation, weeding, and manure and compost spreading. Harvesting of **apples**, **figs**, **kiwifruit**, Asian **pears**, **persimmons**, and **pomegranates** was ongoing in preparation for the upcoming holiday season. Fall **strawberries** continued to be sold at roadside stands in the San Joaquin Valley, and new fields of **blueberries** were planted. Applications of copper and lime for fungus control, weed control, and irrigations continued in several citrus groves. A few late variety Valencia **oranges** were being harvested, with most being field juiced. The Navel orange harvest was underway in most areas, with Tule Golds and Early Becks the primary varieties picked. **Tangerine** harvest continued with the Okisu Wase variety finishing and the Owari and Clementine varieties gaining momentum. **Lemons** continued to be harvested in the desert region and the Central Valley. **Olive** harvesting continued throughout the State with good yields reported.

## NUT CROPS

A small amount of late variety **almonds** and **walnuts** continued to be harvested. **Pecan** harvest began in Fresno County. Post harvest pruning, shredding, irrigating, weeding, and manure and compost spreading were underway in many nut orchards.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Head **lettuce** was harvested in Fresno County, with some insect damage reported. The head lettuce harvest should commence next week in the Imperial Valley. **Onions** for processing were transplanted, and soil fumigation was ongoing in the San Joaquin Valley. Fresh **tomato** harvest was winding down. Asian vegetables, baby leaf spring mix, **basil**, **broccoli**, **cauliflower**, **cucumbers**, **daikon**, **eggplant**, fall **melons**, **green beans**, **parsley**, **radicchio**, **sweet corn**, and winter **squash** continued to be harvested.

## LIVESTOCK

Winter foothill pastures continued to be dry in many areas due to unseasonably warm weather. Colder night time temperatures and light rain in some areas have reduced fire danger. North winds and warm daytime temperatures diminished the affects of rain on northern California foothills. Most beef cows have been moved from higher elevations to foothill pastures. Protein supplements were being fed to cattle. Fall calving of beef cows continued. Many ewes with lambs were grazing in alfalfa fields in the Central Valley. Fall lambing was winding down. Feeder lambs in the Imperial Valley were grazing in alfalfa, bermuda, and sudan fields. Daytime temperatures in the 70's and dry weather have boosted milk production in the central and northern valleys. Out of State beekeepers were still bringing bees into California to over-winter.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 11/20/05**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 11/20/05	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 11/20/05	January 1 - 11/20/05	Week Ending 11/20/05	July 1 - 11/20/05	July 1 - 11/20/05	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
<b>NORTH COAST</b>										
Eureka	49	-2	63	37	6	0	0.29	10.79	7.49	37.53
Ukiah	56	5	78	34	1,425	1,454	0.00	3.35	6.36	37.96
Santa Rosa	59	6	84	36	773	923	0.00	2.01	5.18	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	61	6	73	46	524	443	0.00	1.06	2.90	19.70
San Jose	62	7	78	42	1,284	1,334	0.00	0.15	2.30	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1,599	1,457	0.00	0.00	2.22	14.21
Salinas AP	65	10	86	45	449	432	0.01	0.41	1.96	12.44
Monterey FAA	63	9	82	46	159	145	0.00	0.29	3.67	18.72
King City	62	9	87	37	1,257	1,043	0.00	0.46	1.62	11.44
Paso Robles AP	59	7	84	31	1,618	1,552	0.00	0.51	1.67	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	59	7	80	34	2,583	2,504	0.00	2.38	5.20	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	59	8	79	36	2,484	2,610	0.00	3.61	4.36	22.29
Chico AFS	58	7	79	38	2,353	2,043	0.00	3.15	4.12	26.32
Marysville	58	4	76	36	2,354	2,442	0.00	2.17	3.48	21.04
Sacramento AP	58	5	77	37	1,954	1,932	0.00	0.53	2.69	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	58	5	77	37	2,332	2,214	0.01	0.72	2.37	13.95
Fresno	60	7	78	42	2,979	2,792	0.00	0.34	1.62	10.60
Bakersfield	60	5	79	41	3,048	3,128	0.00	0.45	0.93	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	63	8	85	40	440	410	0.00	2.78	1.63	12.36
Santa Barbara	61	5	85	39	560	736	0.01	3.31	2.14	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	1,026	940	0.00	0.00	1.64	14.38
Los Angeles	68	5	86	52	2,086	2,438	0.00	1.53	1.45	14.77
Riverside	69	10	91	47	2,621	2,377	0.00	1.64	1.18	9.58
San Diego AP	65	4	83	51	1,682	1,796	0.00	0.79	1.40	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	51	7	77	23	1,655	1,552	0.00	1.23	1.06	5.37
Lancaster	52	2	76	25	2,429	2,343	0.00	2.58	1.09	6.92
Daggett AP	57	1	78	37	3,873	3,937	0.00	1.00	1.42	3.93
Thermal AP	65	4	87	37	5,082	4,870	0.00	2.08	1.26	3.16
Blythe	65	4	84	46	5,440	5,381	0.00	2.20	1.85	3.60
Imperial	65	2	87	45	5,288	5,155	0.00	1.81	1.20	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	40	5	64	17	558	296	0.02	3.33	3.00	12.01
Mt. Shasta	44	4	62	26	702	446	0.00	5.10	7.22	37.02
Blue Canyon	57	15	70	47	877	574	0.00	4.55	12.83	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	1,295	1,090	0.00	0.00	7.06	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.