

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
California Field Office

WEEK ENDING: November 26, 2006
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WEATHER



A series of weak Pacific frontal systems passed through the Pacific Northwest during the week, brushing the northern half of California and bringing occasional showers and cooler temperatures to the northern two-thirds of the State. The heaviest precipitation was concentrated along the extreme northern Coast with daily totals in excess of an inch at some stations, while the central Coast and the interior sections of northern California reported lighter amounts. Widespread frost occurred across the Central Valley in the cool air mass behind the fronts. Southern California remained dry through the week, and started out very warm with some stations reporting highs in the 90s at the start of the week. As the week progressed, however, the cooler air from the north moved into the southern areas, and temperatures began to return to more normal levels for this time of year.

FIELD CROPS

Alfalfa was cut and baled in some areas. In other areas, the potential to chop more alfalfa had ended because of the recent wet weather. **Rice** stubble incorporation and decomposition were ongoing in flooded fields. **Cotton** harvest was near completion. Rain and fog have delayed the harvest of some fields. Many harvested **corn** and cotton fields were prepared for the planting of forage and other winter crops. **Milo** was harvested. Silage corn harvest was essentially complete. **Potatoes** were harvested in Kern County. **Lima bean** harvest was complete in Merced County. **Garbanzos** were planted in some areas. Recently planted **wheat** and **oat** fields were emerging.

FRUIT CROPS

Grape vineyards were being irrigated, fertilized, and pruned. Calmeria, Autumn Seedless, Crimson and Red Globe table grape varieties were still being picked. Stone fruit cultural activities included irrigation, pruning, fertilizing, and spraying of orchards. **Pomegranate** harvest was ongoing with some reports of rind cracking. Harvest of Hachiya, Fuyu, and Giant Fuyu **persimmons** was still in progress. **Apples** were harvested. Winter **strawberry** harvest continued. Navel **orange** harvest was ongoing with the start of mid-season varieties being harvested. Blood orange harvest began in Tulare County. Herbicides continued to be applied in orange groves. **Lemon** harvest was underway in some districts. **Tangerine** harvest continued with Owari and Dobashi Beni varieties being picked.

NUT CROPS

Almond and **pistachio** harvests were complete. **Walnut** harvest continued as some trees were being shaken for the second time. Some nut growers were pruning, shredding, irrigating, and applying herbicides in orchards.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Onions continued to be planted. The cutting of **cilantro** began. Cooler weather has slowed the late season **tomato** and **sweet corn** harvests. In other areas fresh market tomato harvest was complete. **Cauliflower** and **broccoli** harvests were ongoing. In Tulare County winter vegetables such as broccoli, **cabbage** and cauliflower were progressing well. **Amaranth**, **basil**, **cucumbers**, **long beans**, **fava beans**, **green** and **wax beans**, **eggplant**, **mustard greens**, summer **squash**, **spinach**, various hot and sweet **peppers**, **parsley** and other Asian vegetables continued to be harvested.

LIVESTOCK

Cattle continued to move onto foothill winter pastures. New grass growth had a good start in some areas, mainly in northern California, where there was ample soil moisture. Some central California areas were in need of rain to stimulate grass growth. Many ranches had ample dry grass available from last season. Protein supplements were being fed in many areas. Hay was being fed to cattle on foothill ranches with short dry grass. Fall calving of beef cows was winding down. Milk production was being boosted by cooler temperatures and dry corrals. Sheep were grazing on alfalfa fields and retired farm land in the central areas. Fall lambing continued. Bees were being over-wintered at various locations. Some bees arrived in the northern Valley from out-of-state for early spring almond pollination.

This report is available the first workday of the week after 1:00 PDT at
www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/California/Publications/index.asp

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 11/26/06

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 11/26/06	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 11/26/06	January 1 - 11/26/06	Week Ending 11/26/06	July 1 - 11/26/06	July 1 - 11/26/06	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	49	-2	57	39	18	0	2.49	9.58	8.85	37.53
Ukiah	49	-1	61	31	1,767	1,454	0.89	4.17	7.59	37.96
Santa Rosa	52	0	64	33	931	923	0.97	4.12	6.11	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	53	0	63	40	568	443	0.31	2.31	3.44	19.70
San Jose	54	1	67	36	1,470	1,334	0.17	1.45	2.71	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1,654	1,457	0.00	0.00	2.62	14.21
Salinas AP	53	-1	67	31	506	432	0.17	1.24	2.28	12.44
Monterey FAA	54	0	69	37	296	145	0.15	0.88	3.87	18.72
King City	52	0	68	26	1,456	1,043	0.00	0.62	1.94	11.44
Paso Robles AP	51	0	74	24	1,766	1,552	0.09	0.82	1.94	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	48	-1	62	31	2,967	2,504	0.84	4.66	6.09	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	49	-1	62	32	2,884	2,610	0.36	2.38	5.05	22.29
Chico AFS	52	2	67	29	2,611	2,043	0.12	1.51	4.89	26.32
Marysville	49	-3	63	30	2,484	2,442	0.26	1.98	4.15	21.04
Sacramento AP	50	-1	65	32	2,042	1,932	0.15	1.58	3.20	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	51	0	66	31	2,389	2,214	0.18	1.75	2.77	13.95
Fresno	52	1	62	37	3,153	2,792	0.01	0.26	1.88	10.60
Bakersfield	52	-1	62	38	3,274	3,128	0.00	0.31	1.08	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	57	3	79	36	876	410	0.08	0.65	1.95	12.36
Santa Barbara	56	1	78	36	839	736	0.02	0.24	2.50	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	1,441	940	0.00	0.00	2.01	14.38
Los Angeles	66	4	91	52	2,839	2,449	0.00	0.34	1.73	14.77
Riverside	63	5	95	44	3,256	2,377	0.00	0.09	1.38	9.58
San Diego AP	63	3	80	53	2,096	1,798	0.00	0.90	1.67	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	45	2	70	18	1,824	1,552	0.00	0.78	1.17	5.37
Lancaster	52	4	77	28	2,844	2,343	0.00	0.11	1.23	6.92
Daggett AP	57	3	77	36	4,388	3,937	0.00	0.05	1.47	3.93
Thermal AP	63	4	86	41	5,131	4,870	0.00	0.03	1.31	3.16
Blythe	63	4	87	42	5,652	5,381	0.00	3.09	1.92	3.60
Imperial	66	6	88	46	5,650	5,159	0.00	0.08	1.25	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	37	2	57	13	581	296	0.23	1.63	3.30	12.01
Mt. Shasta	38	0	51	23	842	446	0.92	3.58	8.36	37.02
Blue Canyon	40	-1	56	28	1,192	574	0.88	7.20	14.83	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	53	27	1,396	1,090	0.00	2.66	8.13	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.