



# California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## WEATHER



It was an active weather week across California, as a series of cold Pacific storms passed over the state. Stormy days would alternate with fair weather days throughout the week as the storms would come from the northwest, first passing over northern California, and then moving across the south. Because of the cold nature of these storms, snow levels were fairly low, down to the 1,000 foot level in the foothills of the northern Sacramento Valley, and low enough in southern California to shut down Interstate 5 over the Grapevine in the Fort Tejon area. These storms built up considerable snowpack in the Sierra Nevada Mountains as well. The last in this series of storms swept through northern California on Saturday, and then through southern California on Sunday, spreading precipitation all across the state. Temperatures were mostly below normal for this time of year.

## FIELD CROPS

**Oat, barley, winter forage, and wheat** fields continued to grow well due to the ongoing rain. Across the state, ground preparation for grain and silage **corn** experienced some delay due to wet conditions. Dry land grain continued to emerge due to recent rains. Spring **alfalfa** fields continued to emerge with some fields being treated with herbicides. Dormant alfalfa herbicide applications were almost completed in Merced County. Spring **sugar beet** fields continued growing well with some being fertilized, irrigated, cultivated and treated to control insects, weeds and diseases.

## FRUIT CROPS

Excess moisture delayed some orchard and vineyard activities. Spraying was still underway to break dormancy on orchards as weather permitted. Orchard planting also remained underway. Pruning in orchards and vineyards was complete in some areas. Tree fruit growers were getting insect trapping programs ready for the new season. **Cherries** continued to bud, but were not yet blossoming. New **strawberry** plants were growing well in Tulare County. In Fresno County plastic covers were being removed from plants to allow growth. Excess rain caused damage in some strawberry fields in the southern parts of the State. Production levels fell as a result. **Blueberry** bush planting was still underway. Navel **oranges, mandarins, lemons, grapefruit** and **pummelos** were being harvested, but soggy soils delayed picking. Some growers were expecting to begin Valencia harvest ahead of schedule. Hail damage was seen in some citrus groves but the full extent of damage was not known. Some olive growers in Fresno County were pruning and topping trees.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond** trees were budding in Kern County but had not begun to blossom. Almond growers were still assessing damage from winds that blew down trees. Dormant spraying was winding down.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Herbicides and insecticides continued to be applied and fumigation for **carrot** and **tomato** hot beds continued. In Fresno County harvest continued for farmers market crops such as **amaranth, basil, bok choy, beets, broccoli,** head and Napa **cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, cilantro, choy sum, dill, dandelion,** leaf **lettuce, lemon grass, mint, mustard greens, collard greens, kale, tatsoi, tong ho, parsley, green onions, radishes, spinach, and yu choy.** Early planted beets, **broccoli, cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, garlic, onion** and lettuce crops were growing well. In Tulare County certified producer growers were gearing up for the spring planting of vegetable crops. Speciality vegetables were coming to the farmers' market stands. Commercial planting of **cucumber** and **squash** will begin soon if soil temperatures remain warm. In Kern County broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower and onion crops continued to grow well. Carrots continued to be harvested.

## LIVESTOCK

Cool temperatures continued to slow rangeland growth after recent rains. Hay and supplemental feeding of cattle continued in some areas. Milk production remained at a high level due to the mild temperatures. Calving and kidding continued on some operations. Sheep and lambs continued grazing alfalfa fields and retired farmland. Bees were overwintered in the central part of the state as in shipments of out-of-state hives neared completion.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 02/03/08**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 02/03/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 02/03/08	January 1 - 02/03/08	Week Ending 02/03/08	July 1 - 02/03/08	July 1 - 02/03/08	July 1 - June 30
<b>NORTH COAST</b>	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	42	-7	49	34	0	0	4.32	25.46	21.03	37.53
Ukiah	41	-7	50	32	0	0	4.23	20.14	21.29	37.96
Santa Rosa	42	-8	52	31	0	0	2.43	17.43	16.72	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	47	-4	54	38	0	0	1.29	9.96	10.72	19.70
San Jose	46	-6	54	34	0	0	0.63	6.18	7.68	14.42
Salinas AP	47	-5	56	33	0	0	1.31	6.29	6.42	12.44
Monterey FAA	49	-2	58	40	0	0	0.71	3.23	8.17	18.72
King City	46	-5	58	30	0	0	0.23	3.65	5.78	11.44
Paso Robles AP	45	-4	57	31	0	0	0.15	3.78	6.36	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	40	-7	51	31	0	0	2.22	16.09	17.77	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	41	-8	51	31	0	0	0.77	6.81	12.92	22.29
Chico AFS	43	-5	54	33	0	0	1.93	13.33	13.81	26.32
Marysville	43	-7	57	31	0	0	1.11	10.41	11.82	21.04
Sacramento AP	43	-5	56	31	0	0	0.66	8.97	9.43	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	44	-4	55	32	0	0	1.32	7.02	7.24	13.95
Fresno	45	-4	54	32	0	0	1.08	4.98	5.35	10.60
Bakersfield	45	-5	56	32	0	0	0.59	1.73	3.03	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	48	-4	60	34	0	0	1.34	5.93	6.46	12.36
Santa Barbara	50	-3	64	35	0	0	1.27	6.63	8.39	16.25
Ventura	50	0	62	36	15	0	0.93	7.01	7.07	14.38
Los Angeles	53	-6	64	42	8	0	0.84	6.79	6.92	14.77
Riverside	--	--	53	48	0	0	0.00	0.00	4.99	9.58
San Diego AP	53	-5	60	45	1	0	0.31	4.07	5.18	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	34	-6	52	16	0	0	0.36	5.80	2.69	5.37
Lancaster	44	-2	53	28	0	0	0.62	2.80	3.93	6.92
Daggett AP	47	-4	64	27	0	0	0.01	2.20	2.63	3.93
Thermal AP	52	-4	72	31	1	0	0.00	2.20	2.36	3.16
Blythe	51	-6	66	34	2	0	0.00	1.39	2.90	3.60
Imperial	53	-5	70	33	4	0	0.00	1.97	2.14	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	24	-7	35	5	0	0	0.81	7.32	5.95	12.01
Mt. Shasta	28	-9	37	15	0	0	2.35	21.41	21.00	37.02
Blue Canyon	24	-14	29	19	0	0	3.88	25.57	35.13	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	40	21	0	0	2.04	8.55	19.99	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.