



# California Crop Weather

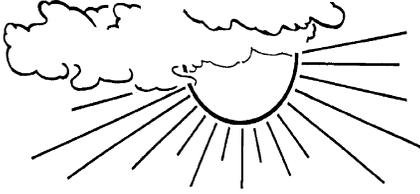
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: June 29, 2008  
RELEASED: June 30, 2008

FREQUENCY: Weekly  
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## WEATHER



A static weather pattern remained in place for the week. A high pressure ridge was centered over the desert southwest, while a weak low pressure system moved slowly down the coast from off of British Columbia. Smoke from hundreds of wildfires cloaked northern California with a dense smoke layer for most of the week. This was especially true across the Central Valley. The smoke was so thick that it reduced the sunlight enough to effect high temperatures in the region. In spite of that, many locations across northern California had very warm temperatures this week. As the interior high

pressure ridge strengthened, temperatures warmed. Meanwhile the offshore low pressure system made its way south, with moisture rotating around it setting off isolated mountain thunderstorms. By the end of the week, the high pressure was still over the interior, while the low pressure system remained offshore. The week's temperatures ran above normal, while precipitation was virtually nonexistent, typical for this time of year.

## FIELD CROPS

In Kern County, as **wheat** was harvested, a lot of fields were going to **corn** for grain. A lack of water remained the problem in Kern County. Planting and weed spraying of corn for silage continued to wind down. Some Lygus treatments were underway across the state. **Safflower** fields remained in full bloom. Lygus continued to move out of **safflower**, weeds and other sources. Multiple treatments were being made in some areas. In the Mid-Central Valley, **alfalfa** growers continued to cut, windrow, rake, and bale. The third cutting of alfalfa was completed, and the fourth cutting began. **Barley**, **oats**, and winter forage harvests were almost complete. Dryland grain and barley harvest for hay was complete in Kern County. Dry **lima bean** and **blackeye** bean planting was winding down. Spring **sugar beet** harvest was almost over while fall sugar beets continued to be irrigated and treated with insecticides. **Cotton** continued to grow well, and was being cultivated and side-dressed with pesticides. **Rice** fields were growing nicely with early planted fields being treated to control weeds.

## FRUIT CROPS

**Grapes** were being sprayed with fungicides. In Tulare County, harvest for early grape varieties was still expected to begin mid-July. The following stone fruit varieties were harvested during the week: Patterson, Helena, Robada, Judy's Delight and Poppy **apricots**; Golden Sweet and Honey Gold **apriums**; Brittany Lane, Bright Princess, Earlich, Fancy Lady, Flavor Crest, Galaxy, June Flame, Rich Lady, Sierra Gem, Snow Beauty and Vista **peaches**; Black Ice, Hiromi Red, Sugar Drop and Yummy Beaut **plums**; Flavorosa, Honey Red Dino, Sugar Rosa and Spring Flavor **pluots**; and Arctic Star, Arctic Snow, Diamond Bright, Diamond Ray, Diamond Pearl, Flying Saucer, Grand Bright, Grand Sweet, Honey Blaze, Honey Kist, June Pearl, Polar Ice, Red Bright, Red Diamond, Red Jewel, Red Roy, Ruby Diamond, Ruby Sweet and Snow Flare **nectarines**. **Cherries** were still being harvested in Sutter County. **Figs** were harvested in Merced County. **Pomegranate** and **persimmon** bloom was complete in Tulare County. Spring **boysenberry**, **blueberry** and **strawberry** harvests were winding down. A few late Navel **orange** groves were being harvested and quality was good, though more fruit was destined for the processing market. Valencia harvest was building speed. **Lemons** and **grapefruit** were also harvested. Some citrus growers were planting new trees. **Olives** continued to form fruit.

## NUT CROPS

**Almonds**, **pistachios** and **walnuts** were developing normally. Almonds were sprayed for hull split and walnuts for codling moth.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Growers in the Imperial Valley have virtually completed the **melon** harvest. Several fields of fresh market **onions** have been disked under because the market price will not cover harvest costs. Processing **tomatoes** had been planted and were growing as well as could be expected in the high heat. In southern San Joaquin Valley, **bell peppers**, **peas**, melons, sweet **corn**, onions (red, white and yellow), **beans** (green, fava and long), **cucumbers**, summer **squash** and **broccoli** were being picked. In central San Joaquin Valley, commercial tomato harvest had begun. Warm weather has already reduced bloom on plants. Sweet corn was progressing normally for a late June harvest. Garlic continued to be dried for harvest. Farmers market oriental crops continued to be harvested. In northern San Joaquin Valley planting is winding down for fresh market tomato, bell peppers, freezer bean, **cantaloupe**, **watermelon**, and **honeydew** melons. **Lettuce** and **carrots** continued to be harvested. In areas farther north into Sacramento Valley, harvests of fresh market onions and summer squash continued with good quality reported. Other crops being harvested were dehydrated onions, carrots, sweet corn and **artichokes**. Tomatoes, beans and **zucchini** squash acreage was reduced due to lack of deliverable water. Heat increased the presence of insects and army worms with insecticide application ongoing in many fields.

## LIVESTOCK

Fire danger was at a high level again this week, due to extremely dry pasture and range conditions. Several areas were already charred by fire. Most cattle have shipped from pasture. Supplemental feeding of hay and other nutrients was ongoing. Milk production continued to decline with the increase in temperatures. Sheep were grazing on idle farmland, dryland grain fields, older alfalfa fields and rangeland. Honeybees were busy in melon, squash, cucumber, sunflower, safflower, and early vineseed fields. Some hives remained in holding areas. Leafcutter bees were prepared for placement in seed alfalfa fields.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 06/29/08**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 06/29/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 06/29/08	January 1 - 06/29/08	Week Ending 06/29/08	July 1 - 06/29/08	July 1 - 06/29/08	July 1 - June 30
<b>NORTH COAST</b>	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	53	-4	65	45	18	0	0.02	35.21	38.40	37.53
Ukiah	60	-10	90	0	447	362	0.00	27.83	39.39	37.96
Santa Rosa	63	-3	83	47	363	229	0.00	24.30	30.96	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	59	-3	71	50	180	63	0.00	15.81	20.34	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	502	396	0.00	11.33	15.17	14.42
Salinas AP	58	-4	67	51	166	55	0.00	10.67	12.84	12.44
Monterey FAA	57	-4	70	49	130	16	0.00	7.57	14.70	18.72
King City	65	-2	85	48	412	275	0.00	9.29	12.25	11.44
Paso Robles AP	68	-3	95	47	539	430	0.00	8.62	13.36	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	81	3	107	60	1,030	773	0.02	25.26	35.82	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	80	2	105	62	1,053	853	0.00	15.05	23.78	22.29
Chico AFS	76	1	93	59	902	655	0.00	19.44	26.59	26.32
Marysville	75	-2	94	54	836	845	0.00	15.68	22.46	21.04
Sacramento AP	72	-1	90	54	722	598	0.00	13.71	17.99	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	74	-1	93	54	796	721	0.05	10.22	13.95	13.95
Fresno	81	3	100	63	1,157	958	0.00	8.94	11.39	10.60
Bakersfield	82	2	99	66	1,228	1,072	0.00	2.53	6.56	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	60	-2	74	50	162	40	0.00	11.62	14.20	12.36
Santa Barbara	65	1	84	51	296	119	0.00	15.93	17.35	16.25
Ventura	62	0	73	51	163	0	0.00	14.32	15.34	14.38
Los Angeles	73	1	89	63	929	776	0.00	13.52	15.27	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	895	696	0.00	6.33	10.75	9.58
San Diego AP	68	-1	77	63	512	498	0.00	7.50	10.79	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	74	1	98	49	539	476	0.00	7.39	5.06	5.37
Lancaster	80	3	100	56	978	742	0.00	7.87	7.87	6.92
Daggett AP	88	2	108	68	1,598	1,450	0.00	2.58	4.25	3.93
Thermal AP	89	1	115	66	2,200	1,974	0.00	3.62	3.61	3.16
Blythe	93	1	114	72	2,245	2,166	0.00	2.15	4.08	3.60
Imperial	90	1	114	68	2,042	2,025	0.00	2.37	3.03	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	67	6	96	37	144	12	0.01	12.38	12.36	12.01
Mt. Shasta	68	5	93	45	236	52	0.00	29.71	40.15	37.02
Blue Canyon	71	7	82	60	334	68	0.00	37.96	66.03	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	381	210	0.00	15.97	38.49	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.