



# California Crop Weather

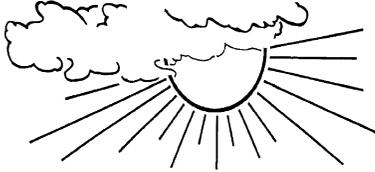
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## WEATHER



High pressure was positioned over the central California coast at the start of week. Surface high pressure over the interior resulted in a warm and dry offshore flow over southern California, with temperatures across the southern coastal valleys reaching the 90s. Northern California temperatures were warm as well, with highs in the 80s being common. By Wednesday, the high pressure had weakened, and a weak cold front was brushing the northern half of the state. This ended the warm offshore flow and even spread showers across the northern coast and mountains, and the far northern reaches of the Sacramento Valley. The frontal system had exited the state by Friday, and weak high pressure began to rebuild over the state. An offshore flow returned to southern California, resulting in a slight warm up. By Saturday a very weak and dry cold front moved through. The major effect of this system was the reversal of the offshore flow, bringing a cooler weather pattern to southern California.

## FIELD CROPS

Small grain fields continued to be planted and were progressing normally. Early planted fields of **barley**, **wheat**, and **oats** were showing good emergence. Oat fields were being sprayed for weeds. **Alfalfa** was starting the dormant season. Some growers were cutting and baling for the last time. **Cotton** defoliation and harvest activities were nearing completion. Some of the picked fields were disked and shredded. **Sudan** hay and **safflower** harvest continued. Harvest of **corn** silage and **sorghum** was nearing completion.

## FRUIT CROPS

**Grape** growers were pruning and removing old vineyards. Crimson Seedless, Christmas Rose, Rouge, Kyoho, Red Globe, Summer Royal, and Autumn Royal table grapes were still being harvested. Wine grape harvest was ongoing. Growers continued harvesting late varieties of **pomegranates**. New pomegranate orchards were being planted. Flavor Fall **pluots** were harvested. **Quince**, Fuyu and Hachiya **persimmons**, Asian **pears**, and **jujube** harvests continued. New **blueberry** bushes were being planted. Valencia **oranges** were packed as demand dictated. Navel oranges were harvested. Fruit color was still green in many groves. Sugar content was high. **Lemons**, Satsuma and Clementine **mandarins**, Chandler **pummelos**, Melo Gold and Cocktail **grapefruit** were also harvested. **Olives** were still being harvested.

## NUT CROPS

Nut trees had begun going dormant in some areas and were being pruned. Fumigations were underway for replants. New **almond** and **pistachio** orchards were already being planted. **Walnuts** were still being harvested in some areas.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Fall vegetables were still being harvested, especially farmers' market crops, such as **amaranth**, **basil**, green and long **beans**, bitter **melon**, **carrots**, **cilantro**, collard **greens**, **cucumbers**, **daikon**, **dill**, **dongqua**, **eggplant**, **gailon**, **kabocha**, leaf **lettuce**, **leeks**, **lemongrass**, **kale**, **mint**, **moqua**, mustard **greens**, **okra**, **ong choy**, **opo**, **parsley**, **peanuts**, chili **peppers**, **radishes**, **sinqua**, **spinach**, summer and winter **squashes**, sweet **corn**, **swiss chard**, **tong ho**, **yam leaf**, and many varieties of **herbs**. The cool weather gave winter vegetables increased momentum this week. **Broccoli**, **cabbage**, Romaine lettuce, and spinach grew well across California. Produce grew faster than expected in the southern regions of the state, which may bring harvest dates together for staged planting of broccoli and lettuce. Both **onions** and broccoli for seed were sprinkled for moisture. **Cauliflower** started slow, but continued to pick up, showing potential for the upcoming season. **Radicchios** continued to be picked. **Strawberry** stands were open for business. Carrots were almost ready for harvest, while organic parsley was completed and cilantro neared its end. **Tomato** beds were mulched and fieldwork continued, as the ground was weeded, irrigated, fertilized and treated to controls pests.

## LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and pasture continued to improve with recent rains and milder temperatures, however conditions remained mostly poor. Some greening of foothill pastures was visible. Cattle on dry pasture and rangeland continued to receive supplements of hay and other nutrients due to the poor feed conditions. Movement of cattle to lower elevations continued, as well as some thinning of herds. Irrigated pastures were in good condition. Fall beef cow calving continued, and was nearing completion in some areas. Milk production continued at a high level due to the milder temperatures. Sheep were grazing on harvested grain, alfalfa, Sudan grass, and tomato fields and idle farmland in central areas, and some movement of lambs into the Imperial Valley continued. Fall lambing continued. Honeybees were moved to foothill and mountain locations in central areas for over-wintering.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 11/23/08**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 11/23/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 11/23/08	January 1 - 11/23/08	Week Ending 11/23/08	July 1 - 11/23/08	July 1 - 11/23/08	July 1 - June 30
<b>NORTH COAST</b>	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	49	-2	60	37	40	0	0.51	5.55	9.68	37.53
Ukiah	53	2	76	32	1,674	1,454	0.10	4.46	8.38	37.96
Santa Rosa	56	3	77	36	1,232	923	0.03	3.35	6.73	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	57	3	73	45	719	443	0.00	1.98	3.80	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,518	1,334	0.00	0.00	2.97	14.42
Salinas AP	58	4	87	40	663	432	0.01	0.89	2.52	12.44
Monterey FAA	58	4	82	41	436	145	0.00	0.62	4.17	18.72
King City	59	7	92	36	1,490	1,043	0.00	0.10	2.14	11.44
Paso Robles AP	56	5	85	32	1,899	1,552	0.00	0.29	2.10	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	54	4	76	35	2,950	2,504	0.07	4.11	6.58	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	56	5	78	39	2,993	2,610	0.00	3.06	5.51	22.29
Chico AFS	56	6	78	36	2,598	2,043	0.00	11.11	5.37	26.32
Marysville	56	3	77	36	2,420	2,442	0.00	3.38	4.56	21.04
Sacramento AP	56	4	75	39	2,120	1,932	0.00	2.89	3.53	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	55	3	76	35	2,390	2,214	0.01	1.15	3.04	13.95
Fresno	59	7	81	40	3,318	2,792	0.00	0.72	2.04	10.60
Bakersfield	60	6	84	43	3,516	3,128	0.00	0.43	1.17	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	60	5	88	42	716	410	0.00	0.60	2.14	12.36
Santa Barbara	58	3	84	42	1,002	736	0.01	1.02	2.72	16.25
Ventura	62	62	85	45	786	0	0.00	1.11	2.26	14.38
Los Angeles	70	8	91	54	2,802	2,462	0.00	0.27	1.88	14.77
Riverside	68	10	93	46	3,073	2,377	0.00	0.51	1.49	9.58
San Diego AP	64	4	87	53	1,912	1,805	0.00	1.32	1.82	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	49	6	77	22	1,816	1,552	0.00	0.55	1.24	5.37
Lancaster	56	7	81	33	2,953	2,343	0.00	0.44	1.29	6.92
Daggett AP	62	7	81	45	4,380	3,937	0.00	0.22	1.49	3.93
Thermal AP	66	6	91	43	5,512	4,872	0.00	0.28	1.33	3.16
Blythe	66	6	87	47	5,806	5,384	0.00	0.48	1.94	3.60
Imperial	69	7	90	49	5,415	5,174	0.00	0.33	1.27	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	41	6	72	17	755	296	0.00	1.76	3.51	12.01
Mt. Shasta	45	6	69	26	898	446	0.05	8.03	9.06	37.02
Blue Canyon	55	13	68	43	1,369	574	0.00	8.41	16.24	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	66	32	1,552	1,090	0.00	5.42	8.81	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.