



California Crop Weather

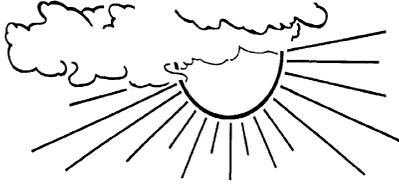
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: January 11, 2009
RELEASED: January 12, 2009

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 29 NO. 29

WEATHER



A warm front passing through the Pacific Northwest brushed the northern half of California at the start of the week. A strong ridge of high pressure kept most of the energy and moisture associated with this system well to the north. But the front did bring enough moisture to spread fog and low clouds across most of the northern two-thirds of the state. Another weak warm front moved across the state on Thursday. This front brought some rain to the north coast, and some widely scattered showers to the Northern Mountains and to the Central Valley. The persistent fog plagued the San Joaquin Valley for the rest of the week, but a moderate northerly flow swept the clouds out of the northern Sacramento Valley by midweek. Southern California saw a strong off shore flow develop, bringing Santa Ana winds to the Southland. Very warm temperatures were recorded in the southern counties, along with very low humidity. In the north, the Central Valley saw extensive low clouds and fog during the morning hours. The clouds and fog gradually eroded from the north during the week. By Saturday, the northerly flow and building high pressure brought sunny and very mild conditions to the Sacramento Valley and Sacramento River Delta, while the San Joaquin Valley remained blanketed by the persistent fog and low clouds.

FIELD CROPS

Field work continued with ground preparation, cultivation, irrigation and weed control in **alfalfa, barley, oat, rye** and **wheat** fields. Winter wheat and grains were being planted in Tulare County. Early plantings were progressing well from the recent wet weather. Cotton plow down was virtually complete. **Rice** growers continued to reshape berms and level paddies. Rice fields were being cultivated, bedded, fertilized and irrigated to prepare for spring planting. Specialty **potatoes** were harvested; planting of spring potatoes will begin soon.

FRUIT CROPS

Vineyard spraying, pruning, and tying took place as well as cane shredding and removal of old vines. **Raspberry** and **strawberry** nursery stock digging and trimming continues. Orchard pruning and herbicide spraying occurred in stone fruit orchards. Harvest of citrus fruits slowed in some areas due to inclement weather conditions. The colder temperatures were beneficial for citrus fruit to obtain its natural color and increase shelf life. Citrus harvest included **Clementines, navel oranges, tangerines, lemons**, and Melo Gold, Oro Blanco and Cocktail **grapefruit**.

NUT CROPS

Pruning and spraying took place in **almond, walnut** and **pistachio** orchards. Pre-plant fumigation was underway for new almond and walnut orchards.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Field work for winter crops slowed due to wet weather. **Radicchio, carrot, cauliflower, cilantro** and **endive** harvests continued. Leafy vegetables were harvested. **Asparagus** fields were finished being prepared for spring. Winter vegetables and other seasonal crops continued to be harvested for local markets. Harvests continued for farmers market crops such as **amaranth, basil, beets, carrots, cilantro, collard greens, daikon, dill, donqua, gailon, garlic, kale, kabocha, leaf lettuce, leeks, lemongrass, mint, mustard greens, onions** (green, red, white and yellow), **ong choy, opo, parsley, chili peppers, peanuts, radishes, saluyot** (okra leaf), **spinach**, winter **squashes, swiss chard, tong ho, yam leaf**, and a variety of **herbs**. Groundwork continued as fields were weeded, irrigated, fertilized, and treated for weeds, insects, and mildew.

LIVESTOCK

Recent rainfall has been adequate for some pasture and rangeland grass germination and growth, however conditions remain mostly poor and additional precipitation is much-needed. Cattle ranchers continued supplemental feeding programs. Dairy production remained strong with the moderate temperatures. Sheep and lambs were grazing on alfalfa fields, harvested grain land, idle farmland, and pasture. Feeder lambs were grazing on sudan and alfalfa fields in the Imperial Valley. The animals were reportedly tolerating the nighttime temperatures well. Lambing and some kidding continued. Both in-state and out-of-state honeybees were fed and over-wintered, and movement of bees into the state continued in preparation for spring pollination.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 01/11/09

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 01/11/09	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 01/11/09	January 1 - 01/11/09	Week Ending 01/11/09	July 1 - 01/11/09	July 1 - 01/11/09	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	46	-2	59	33	41	0	0.72	14.38	19.32	37.53
Ukiah	48	1	69	28	1,674	1,454	0.34	8.43	19.08	37.96
Santa Rosa	49	1	67	32	1,260	923	0.1	6.16	14.87	30.3
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	49	0	62	39	713	443	0.02	4.64	9.48	19.7
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,484	1,334	0	0	6.76	14.42
Salinas AP	50	-1	75	34	648	432	0.01	3.89	5.69	12.44
Monterey FAA	51	2	77	36	432	145	0.01	2.57	7.93	18.72
King City	50	1	76	31	1,512	1,043	0.02	1.29	5.01	11.44
Paso Robles AP	45	-2	71	26	1,892	1,552	0	1.46	5.49	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	48	3	73	31	2,934	2,504	0.04	7.68	15.49	33.3
Red Bluff FSS	49	3	75	35	2,987	2,610	0.02	4.6	11.65	22.29
Chico AFS	44	0	64	29	2,596	2,043	0.01	13.69	12.29	26.32
Marysville	45	-1	64	26	2,418	2,442	0.03	5.78	10.58	21.04
Sacramento AP	43	-2	60	29	2,114	1,932	0.03	4.66	8.29	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	43	-3	59	30	2,386	2,214	0.05	2.82	6.39	13.95
Fresno	44	-2	58	31	3,306	2,792	0.08	2.73	4.67	10.6
Bakersfield	44	-3	58	31	3,498	3,128	0.01	1.81	2.64	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	51	0	75	30	695	410	0	3.13	5.59	12.36
Santa Barbara	51	-2	74	32	1,001	736	0.03	4.07	7.37	16.25
Ventura	51	0	73	38	838	0	0	4.63	6.04	14.38
Los Angeles	59	0	83	41	2,792	2,455	0	4.66	5.9	14.77
Riverside	58	4	84	33	3,138	2,377	0	0.97	4.29	9.58
San Diego AP	57	-1	76	42	1,906	1,798	0	6.1	4.55	9.9
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	--	--	75	23	1,751	1,552	0	1.54	2.42	5.37
Lancaster	45	1	73	19	2,938	2,343	0	2.62	3.45	6.92
Daggett AP	51	3	83	25	4,362	3,937	0	1.8	2.48	3.93
Thermal AP	54	0	83	27	5,518	4,872	0	0.84	2.16	3.16
Blythe	53	-1	75	32	5,800	5,383	0	1.39	2.74	3.6
Imperial	54	-1	77	32	5,249	5,162	0	1.35	2.03	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	32	3	48	12	644	296	0.08	3.44	5.62	12.01
Mt. Shasta	38	3	53	22	917	446	0.06	10.09	18.96	37.02
Blue Canyon	46	7	62	27	1,343	574	0.14	15.14	32.27	67.04
Yosemite	35	-3	54	20	1,546	1,090	0.06	8.5	17.93	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.