



California Crop Weather

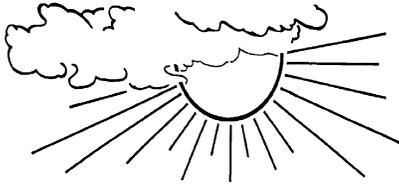
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office • P.O. Box 1258 • Sacramento, CA 95812 • (916) 498-5161 • (916) 498-5186 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov/ca

WEEK ENDING: January 18, 2009
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WEATHER



High pressure aloft over California resulted in a very quiet weather pattern for the state. The Central Valley had some late night and early morning fog, the result of cooler air being trapped in the valley. Surface high pressure over northern Nevada generated an offshore flow across the northern half of the valley, mainly the Sacramento Valley, which pushed the fog out of that area and allowed the sun to warm temperatures to record breaking levels, especially across the northern portion of the Sacramento Valley. The Great Basin high pressure also resulted in a Santa Ana Wind episode for southern California, prompting red flag warnings for increased wildfire danger. High temperatures in the south approached 90 degrees in places. This pattern persisted through the end of the week. No significant precipitation was reported in the state, as dry conditions continued to plague California.

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 growing well in Tulare County. Early plants continued to progress. **Rice** growers continued to reshape berms and level paddies. Rice fields were being cultivated, fertilized and irrigated to prepare for spring planting.

FRUIT CROPS

The Navel **orange** harvest picked up this week. Maturity and color on the Navels were good, especially in the southern central valley. Valencia oranges continued to mature. **Grapefruit** harvest of Melo Gold, Oro Blanco and Cocktail varieties continued. Other citrus such as **lemons** and **mandarins** were harvested in some areas. **Raspberry** and **strawberry** nursery stock digging and trimming continued as well as bare root nursery stock digging. Clear weather along the north coast allowed good progress for pruning, however, a lack of rain caused some concern as water storage is very low. Orchard pruning, fertilizing and weed spraying continued for vineyards and dormant orchards such as peaches.

NUT CROPS

Pruning and shredding activities took place in **almond**, **walnut**, and **pistachio** orchards. Pre-emergent herbicides and dormant sprays were applied. Almonds were starting to bud.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Vegetable crops were thriving due to warmer weather. **Cauliflower** and **broccoli** were growing well. Broccoli, **carrot**, cauliflower, **cilantro**, **endive**, and radicchio harvests continued. Leafy vegetables, including **lettuce** and **spinach**, were harvested. **Asparagus** fields were finished being prepared for spring. Harvests continued for farmers market crops such as **amaranth**, **basil**, **beets**, **collard greens**, **daikon**, **dill**, **donqua**, **gailon**, **garlic**, **kale**, **kabocha**, **leeks**, **lemongrass**, **mint**, **mustard greens**, **onions** (green, red, white and yellow), **ong choy**, **opo**, **parsley**, **chili peppers**, **peanuts**, **radishes**, **saluyot** (okra leaf), 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

Pasture and rangeland forage growth continued at a moderate rate, however conditions remained mostly poor and additional precipitation was much-needed. The continuation of supplemental feeding programs for rangeland cattle was a necessity. Fall beef cow calving continued in a few areas. Dairy production remained high with the mild temperatures. Sheep and lambs were grazing on alfalfa fields, harvested grain land, idle farmland, and pasture. Feeder lambs were grazing in the Imperial Valley. Sheep and lambs were reportedly tolerating the nighttime temperatures well. Lambing and kidding continued at a decreased rate. Both in-state and out-of-state honeybees were fed and over-wintered, and movement of bees into the state continued in preparation for upcoming almond pollination.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 01/15/09

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 01/15/09	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 01/15/09	January 1 - 01/15/09	Week Ending 01/15/09	July 1 - 01/15/09	July 1 - 01/15/09	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	48	0	67	34	40	0	0.04	14.16	20.71	37.53
Ukiah	51	4	76	29	1,674	1,454	0	8.43	20.96	37.96
Santa Rosa	--	--	84	36	1,276	923	0	6.16	16.33	30.3
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	56	6	72	43	714	443	0	4.62	10.48	19.7
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,484	1,334	0	0	7.46	14.42
Salinas AP	61	10	80	39	668	432	0	3.9	6.23	12.44
Monterey FAA	61	8	80	41	446	145	0	2.57	7.82	18.72
King City	--	--	83	34	1,516	1,043	0	1.27	5.51	11.44
Paso Robles AP	53	5	79	28	1,891	1,552	0	1.51	6.14	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	57	11	78	28	2,946	2,504	0	7.67	17.36	33.3
Red Bluff FSS	58	12	78	33	3,002	2,610	0	4.68	12.71	22.29
Chico AFS	54	9	74	34	2,596	2,043	0	13.69	13.52	26.32
Marysville	51	5	76	29	2,428	2,442	0	5.78	11.57	21.04
Sacramento AP	51	4	74	32	2,114	1,932	0	4.82	9.21	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	50	4	69	31	2,385	2,214	0	2.89	7.05	13.95
Fresno	51	5	70	34	3,304	2,792	0	2.87	5.18	10.6
Bakersfield	55	6	93	35	3,512	3,128	0	1.81	2.92	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	60	8	87	38	702	410	0	3.12	6.17	12.36
Santa Barbara	58	5	79	36	996	736	0	4.04	8.15	16.25
Ventura	--	--	85	55	826	0	0	4.28	6.63	14.38
Los Angeles	--	--	88	50	2,897	2,455	0	4.66	6.64	14.77
Riverside	--	--	87	46	3,207	2,377	0	1.08	4.87	9.58
San Diego AP	64	7	81	49	1,964	1,798	0	6.1	5.06	9.9
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	--	--	73	24	1,748	1,552	0	1.54	2.62	5.37
Lancaster	--	--	70	24	2,938	2,343	0	2.62	3.8	6.92
Daggett AP	53	4	72	35	4,335	3,937	0	2.82	2.62	3.93
Thermal AP	62	8	84	38	5,550	4,872	0	0.84	2.32	3.16
Blythe	62	7	78	42	5,814	5,383	0	1.38	2.84	3.6
Imperial	62	5	81	42	5,220	5,162	0	1.37	2.13	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	--	--	48	14	644	296	0	2.2	5.92	12.01
Mt. Shasta	41	6	58	25	917	446	0	10.48	20.76	37.02
Blue Canyon	56	17	69	44	1,346	574	0	14.99	34.63	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	62	30	1,546	1,090	0	8.52	19.53	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.