



# California Crop Weather

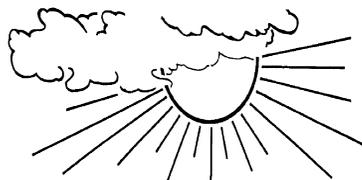
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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

WEEK ENDING: November 1, 2009  
RELEASED: November 2, 2009

FREQUENCY: Weekly  
VOL. 30 NO. 19

## WEATHER



High pressure over the Western U.S. brought strong and gusty northerly winds to California early in the week. Later in the week, fair skies with above normal afternoon highs and near normal overnight lows prevailed over California.

## FIELD CROPS

**Cotton** harvest progressed in Tulare and Merced Counties. The cotton harvest in Kern and Fresno Counties was nearly complete. The last cutting of **alfalfa** was being baled in northern San Joaquin Valley. **Corn** for silage was being harvested for the second time in Stanislaus County, where some fields were planted twice with 90 day maturity corn. Corn for grain harvest continued. **Rice** harvest was nearly complete. **Winter wheat** and other grains and forages continued to be planted. The harvest of **Sudan hay** and other small grains continued. **Dry bean** harvest continued, with some fields being baled for straw. **Sunflower** harvest continued in Sutter County. Producers continued to carry out fall fieldwork.

## FRUIT CROPS

The wine and raisin **grape** harvests in the Central Valley were completed as minor picking continued in table grape vineyards. Plastic covers were applied to some of the vineyards with remaining table grapes, while vine stripping began in completed vineyards to accommodate spraying. Warm weather and light winds created good ripening and picking conditions for grapes in Napa County. The **peach, plum, and nectarine** harvests were completed. Wonderful **pomegranates** and Satsuma **mandarins** continued to be picked in the San Joaquin Valley. The Valencia **orange** harvest was completed as early navel orange harvesting began. The **lemon** harvest continued in the desert region. Normal spraying and maintenance continued in orchards, which included some fall fertilizer applications for fruit trees.

## NUT CROPS

The **almond** harvest was completed. Final hulling and stockpile fumigations continue. Growers have reported yields lower than expectations. The **walnut, pecan, and pistachio** harvests continued to near completion in the Central Valley. Pruning and maintenance of harvested orchards continued.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Fresh market **tomatoes**, freezer **bean, basil, and sweet potatoes** continued to be harvested in Merced County. Fresh market tomatoes continued to be picked in San Joaquin County. The processing tomato and the bell **pepper** harvests were completed. **Radicchio** harvest was underway. The last of the **squash** and vine **cucumbers** were being picked in Tulare County. The **broccoli, cauliflower, and spinach** were progressing well. In Fresno County, the winter **lettuce** and broccoli progressed nicely. Some planting of **cabbage** and **spinach** occurred in Kern County. In Stanislaus County, the harvest of fresh market tomatoes and beans were finishing. Broccoli and spinach were being planted.

## LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and dry-land pasture in many central and southern areas continued to improve after recent rains and favorable temperatures. However, the relatively dry condition of winter grasses remained a challenge to livestock producers. Supplemental feeding of cattle on lower-elevation range and dry pasture continued. Pasture in northern areas was reportedly in good condition. Some dairy herd reduction continued in central areas. Sheep were grazing on dry-land grain fields, older hay fields, and some older vegetable plantings in central areas. Migration of sheep and lambs into the Imperial Valley for the winter pasture season continued. Both in-State and out-of-State honeybees were moved to winter storage.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 11/1/09**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 11/1/09	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 11/1/09	January 1 - 11/1/09	Week Ending 11/1/09	July 1 - 11/1/09	July 1 - 11/1/09	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
<b>NORTH COAST</b>										
Eureka	50	-3	64	37	12	0	0.04	2.06	4.01	37.53
Ukiah	57	0	78	34	1,682	1,454	0.01	2.92	3.12	37.96
Santa Rosa	--	--	81	42	1,213	923	0.00	3.50	2.58	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	61	2	74	50	682	443	0.00	2.29	1.42	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,517	1,334	--	--	1.23	14.42
Salinas AP	57	-2	73	37	561	432	0.02	2.17	1.02	12.44
Monterey FAA	55	-2	67	43	298	145	0.00	3.36	2.15	18.72
King City	--	--	82	33	1,460	1,043	0.00	2.46	0.81	11.44
Paso Robles AP	56	-1	83	30	1,813	1,552	0.00	1.89	0.95	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	59	-1	80	41	2,892	2,504	0.00	1.14	3.05	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	59	0	79	44	2,950	2,610	0.00	2.31	2.52	22.29
Chico AFS	--	--	83	36	2,489	2,043	0.00	1.86	2.16	26.32
Marysville	59	-2	80	41	2,440	2,442	0.00	2.15	1.77	21.04
Sacramento AP	59	-1	78	40	2,168	1,932	0.00	3.38	1.36	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	59	-1	82	38	2,260	2,214	0.00	2.92	1.24	13.95
Fresno	59	-1	82	40	3,266	2,792	0.00	1.40	0.89	10.60
Bakersfield	58	-4	83	41	3,578	3,127	0.00	0.09	0.57	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	59	0	85	35	532	410	0.00	1.59	0.87	12.36
Santa Barbara	61	1	84	40	808	736	0.01	3.70	1.29	16.25
Ventura	--	--	86	43	680	0	0.00	1.69	0.94	14.38
Los Angeles	--	--	91	52	2,449	2,359	0.00	2.07	0.84	14.77
Riverside	--	--	94	57	2,932	2,364	0.00	0.00	0.75	9.58
San Diego AP	63	-2	85	50	1,784	1,747	0.00	0.00	0.79	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	--	--	72	30	1,866	1,552	0.00	2.02	0.79	5.37
Lancaster	--	--	80	28	2,829	2,343	0.00	0.02	0.78	6.92
Daggett AP	58	-5	81	35	4,144	3,932	0.00	0.05	1.30	3.93
Thermal AP	63	-5	90	38	5,104	4,817	0.00	0.10	1.14	3.16
Blythe	65	-4	87	43	5,680	5,320	0.00	0.12	1.73	3.60
Imperial	66	-4	91	45	5,452	5,059	0.00	0.00	1.08	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	--	--	65	23	572	296	0.24	1.14	2.13	12.01
Mt. Shasta	47	1	67	32	884	446	0.03	4.64	4.11	37.02
Blue Canyon	51	2	68	28	1,246	574	0.00	5.02	6.97	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	1,508	1,090	0.00	0.01	4.07	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.