



# California Crop Weather

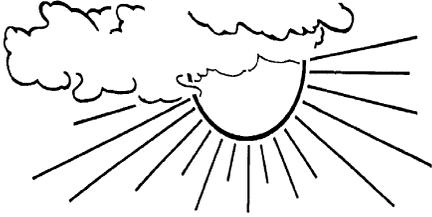
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: December 20, 2009  
RELEASED: December 21, 2009

FREQUENCY: Weekly  
VOL. 30 NO. 26

## WEATHER



At the start of the week, scattered showers were falling across northern California, as a weather system moved out of the State and into the Great Basin to the east. Southern California was dry and mild. As the week progressed, high pressure aloft built over California. This high pressure trapped cool air and moisture in the Central Valley, and as a result, foggy, cool weather persisted across most of the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys during the week. Southern California enjoyed sunny and unseasonably warm weather as abundant sunshine warmed the Southland. The high pressure buckled slightly by Friday, as a weak weather system pushed through the Pacific Northwest and brushed the northern coast of California. This system spread light showers across much of Northern California on Saturday and Sunday. Southern California remained dry, with very warm temperatures on Saturday, cooling off slightly by Sunday.

## FIELD CROPS

**Wheat, oats, and barley** continued to be planted. Planted fields benefitted from the rainfall. Early planted seed continued to emerge. Harvested fields continued to be prepared for next year. Ground preparation, weed treatments and fertilization continued for next year's crop. **Alfalfa** has gone dormant and fields were being grazed off by sheep.

## FRUIT CROPS

Satsuma and Clementine **mandarins**, navel **oranges** and **grapefruit** were being picked in the Central Valley. There was some minor freeze damage to young **olive** and citrus orchards as a result of last week's lower temperatures. Lower temperatures have helped fruit trees and vines enter a deeper dormancy for the winter. The **lemon** harvest continued normally in the desert region, along with some fruit being picked in the San Joaquin Valley. Normal maintenance activities continued, which included orchard pruning, weed control measure, and fertilizer applications.

## NUT CROPS

Post-harvest pruning and maintenance activities continued normally in nut orchards, as nut trees began entering dormancy for the winter.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Ground preparation and other field work took place in Sutter and San Joaquin Counties. On the Westside of Stanislaus County, the harvest of **broccoli** and **cauliflower** was still going strong. **Carrots**, along with fall **lettuce**, were being harvested in Fresno County, where dehydrator onions were planted and tomato beds were being prepared. The radicchio harvest progressed in Merced County. Tulare County vegetable growers continued to prepare the ground for spring planting and soil fumigation carried on as much as the soil moisture allowed. In Kern County, winter vegetables were growing in the fields and the ground was prepared for lettuce planting.

## LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture in many central and southern areas continued to improve after recent rain events, with increased germination of winter annuals. However, overall grazing conditions remained mostly poor, and supplemental feeding of beef cattle on winter range and dry pasture continued to be a necessity. Stocker demand remained somewhat low. Northern-area pasture and range reportedly remained in good condition. Beef cow calving neared completion. Milk production continued at a relative high due to the seasonal break in temperatures. Sheep and feeder lambs wintering in the Imperial Valley were mostly on alfalfa. Sheep were grazing on old alfalfa and idle land in central areas.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 12/20/09**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 12/20/09	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 12/20/09	January 1 - 12/20	Week Ending 12/20/09	July 1 - 12/20/09	July 1 - 12/20	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
<b>NORTH COAST</b>										
Eureka	53	4	60	39	28	0	1.76	7.87	14.05	37.53
Ukiah	51	5	64	37	1,685	1,454	0.91	6.35	12.28	37.96
Santa Rosa	52	5	66	43	1,279	923	0.76	6.93	9.66	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	53	4	61	47	696	443	0.05	4.71	5.63	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,464	1,334	0.00	0.02	4.22	14.42
Salinas AP	53	3	69	40	572	432	0.02	3.49	3.47	12.44
Monterey FAA	53	3	68	43	308	145	0.02	5.24	4.60	18.72
King City	51	3	68	36	1,505	1,043	0.00	3.17	3.09	11.44
Paso Robles AP	48	2	67	35	1,818	1,552	0.00	3.93	3.07	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	48	3	67	39	2,896	2,504	2.20	4.71	9.87	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	49	2	66	37	2,952	2,610	1.06	5.13	7.58	22.29
Chico AFS	50	5	62	39	2,505	2,043	0.58	6.73	7.80	26.32
Marysville	50	4	61	39	2,444	2,442	0.38	5.32	6.72	21.04
Sacramento AP	50	4	60	39	2,170	1,932	0.15	6.85	5.13	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	49	4	58	41	2,260	2,214	0.00	4.51	4.18	13.95
Fresno	50	4	62	38	3,280	2,792	0.00	3.41	2.86	10.60
Bakersfield	51	3	66	41	3,596	3,128	0.00	1.30	1.67	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	55	4	73	38	542	410	0.00	3.88	3.26	12.36
Santa Barbara	54	1	74	38	808	736	0.00	7.07	3.94	16.25
Ventura	60	0	79	41	606	0	0.00	4.44	3.63	14.38
Los Angeles	63	4	80	48	2,580	2,455	0.00	4.81	3.04	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	2,970	2,377	0.00	0.00	2.23	9.58
San Diego AP	59	2	77	47	1,844	1,798	0.00	2.47	2.65	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	37	-1	61	19	1,864	1,552	0.00	3.28	1.62	5.37
Lancaster	45	2	64	29	2,827	2,343	0.00	0.90	1.93	6.92
Daggett AP	47	-1	64	31	4,181	3,937	0.00	0.62	1.80	3.93
Thermal AP	57	3	79	36	5,194	4,870	0.00	0.68	1.54	3.16
Blythe	57	3	74	41	5,809	5,381	0.00	0.97	2.27	3.60
Imperial	58	2	78	40	5,549	5,159	0.00	0.34	1.55	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	38	9	55	22	569	296	0.06	2.54	4.38	12.01
Mt. Shasta	40	5	53	30	940	446	2.69	10.05	12.78	37.02
Blue Canyon	43	4	59	32	1,254	574	0.37	13.94	21.76	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	1,508	1,090	0.00	0.01	11.93	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.