



California Crop Weather

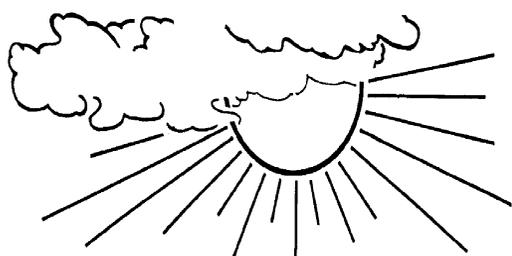
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: March 6, 2011
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WEATHER



The week started out dry, except for the far northwest portion of the State, with below normal temperatures through most of the State. On Wednesday a storm system moved over northern California bringing precipitation to the northern half of the State. On Thursday, the same system spread rain to portions of southern California with continued below normal temperatures. Friday was dry, and then on Saturday another system moved over the north and brought more precipitation lasting through Sunday.

FIELD CROPS

Wheat, barley, oats, and forage mixes continued to establish good stands. Dryland crops progressed well with adequate rainfall. Aerial herbicide applications continued on small grain fields as weather permitted. **Alfalfa** fields continued to break dormancy, with some fields receiving irrigation. **Rice** fields were being drained. Preparation for **cotton, corn**, and **beans** planting resumed as field conditions allowed. Spring field work continued with plowing, disking, planting and spraying.

FRUIT CROPS

The navel **orange, mandarin** and **lemon** harvests continued in the San Joaquin Valley, along with early varieties of Valencia oranges being picked for export markets. Lemons and **grapefruit** were also picked in the desert region, with lemons being picked in the coastal regions as well. The navel orange harvest continued at a quickened pace to limit fruit losses due to rind break down. Budding in stone fruit trees was ongoing as blooming continued in early-variety fruit trees and began in later varieties. Early **grape** varieties showed bud break and **strawberry** plants showed good growth in the San Joaquin Valley. Beehives continued to be placed in orchards, though cool temperatures limited bee activity.

NUT CROPS

Irrigation was applied to **almond** orchards across the Central Valley to limit the effects of freezing temperatures on almond buds. Full bloom was reached in most early varieties as blooming continued in all varieties. Sprays were also applied in blooming almond orchards. Pruning and spraying in **pistachio** and **walnut** orchards continued as field conditions allowed.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Ground was being prepared for **tomatoes** and **melons**. **Carrots** were being planted and harvested, and **lettuce** was growing in Kern County. Tulare County reported greenhouse vegetables were germinating. In Fresno County, growers continued to clean their fields in preparation for planting by pre-irrigation, cultivating beds, and controlling weeds. **Broccoli** harvest continued. Winter rotational vegetables were planted while **beets, cauliflower, cabbage, turnips, daikon**, green **onions, herbs**, the **choys, chards** and **kales** continued to be harvested. **Garlic** and onions were growing well and treated with herbicides. **Asparagus** has grown tremendously and harvesting had begun. Sweet **corn** and processing tomato growers began seeding new fields. Spring lettuce fields grew nicely after being weeded and thinned. Good conditions for all winter vegetables were reported, with continued irrigation and fertilizers applied.

LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture conditions were very good as grasses responded to recent precipitation. Cattle weight gains were improving as a consequence of the new vegetation. Supplemental feeding of livestock was on the decline. Sheep and cattle continued to graze on retired farmland and semi-dormant alfalfa fields. Lambing was winding down in some areas. Bee hives were placed in almond, blueberry, pear and plum orchards. Bee activity was slow due to cool weather. Some dairies were negatively impacted by mud and standing water in corrals. High feed costs have driven some dairies to reduce or eliminate alfalfa from cow rations.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 3/7/11

STATIONS ¹	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 3/7/11.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days ²	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 3/7/11	January 1 - 3/7	July 1 - 3/7/11	Week Ending 3/7/11	July 1 - 3/7/11	July 1 - 3/7	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
North Coast												
Eureka_WFO	51	3	61	39	0	0	89	2.20	26.14	28.57	38.10	
Ukiah	50	-2	62	33	0	0	58	1.16	24.48	30.68	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	51	-4	67	32	3	0	58	1.46	25.62	24.75	31.01	
Napa_AP	52	-2	66	33	9	0	59	0.88	21.80	20.95	26.46	
Central Coast												
San_Francisco_A	53	0	64	40	6	0	47	0.64	15.62	15.95	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	54	-2	67	37	7	0	38	0.08	8.72	11.43	15.08	
Salinas_AP	55	2	71	35	10	0	48	0.06	10.53	9.84	12.91	
Monterey_AP	58	6	71	41	14	0	57	0.04	13.19	15.42	20.35	
King_City_Ag	54	-2	76	30	5	0	42	0.09	6.89	9.33	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	51	-2	70	31	0	0	31	0.08	8.61	10.09	13.08	
Sacramento Valley												
Redding	49	-2	61	31	15	0	62	1.08	22.62	24.76	33.52	
Red_Bluff	50	-3	61	31	10	0	51	0.82	13.21	18.32	24.07	
Willows_6W	51	-1	63	31	1	0	58	1.14	19.19	14.73	19.03	
Oroville	52	0	65	38	0	0	53	1.24	18.75	21.98	28.75	
Marysville	52	-3	66	35	3	0	41	0.88	15.91	16.87	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	52	-2	68	33	4	0	43	0.65	15.10	14.04	17.93	
San Joaquin Valley												
Stockton	53	-1	69	31	0	0	49	0.30	11.54	10.51	13.84	
Modesto_AP	54	-2	71	33	0	0	54	0.24	10.22	9.73	13.12	
Merced_Macready	53	-1	70	31	0	0	47	0.13	10.45	9.33	12.50	
Madera_AP	52	-2	69	31	0	0	39	0.12	9.91	8.59	11.94	
Fresno_AP	54	1	71	32	0	0	42	0.06	11.54	8.13	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	52	-3	70	28	0	0	40	0.03	8.05	5.68	7.89	
Visalia_AP	52	-3	68	30	0	0	35	0.06	12.09	8.03	11.03	
Bakersfield	55	-1	71	31	1	0	31	0.04	8.18	4.57	6.49	
Cascade Sierra												
Alturas_AP	38	1	49	20	0	0	55	0.59	8.53	7.66	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	39	-2	50	29	0	0	65	1.62	26.83	29.15	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	36	-3	48	26	0	0	63	3.75	51.99	49.43	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	42	-2	60	21	0	0	53	1.79	36.74	28.34	37.73	
South Coast												
Santa_Maria_AP	53	0	71	32	12	0	45	0.08	16.23	10.47	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	53	-4	69	36	12	0	38	0.30	18.15	13.38	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	54	-3	74	38	68	5	39	0.21	15.87	12.36	15.62	
Riverside_AP	57	-1	80	37	64	31	31	0.02	8.07	7.71	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	57	-1	76	44	69	75	35	0.19	13.09	10.40	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	60	1	77	45	82	98	36	0.00	10.55	7.95	10.77	
Southeast Interior												
Bishop_AP	44	-2	68	17	0	0	27	0.00	6.44	3.87	5.02	
Daggett_AP	55	-2	77	29	8	0	21	0.00	1.85	3.37	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	50	0	70	26	0	0	28	0.00	7.36	5.83	7.40	
Thermal	59	-4	84	32	46	100	12	0.00	2.60	3.08	3.53	
Blythe_AP	62	0	85	39	63	85	16	0.00	2.04	3.51	4.02	
Imperial_CA	62	-1	87	34	76	111	14	0.00	2.68	2.62	2.96	

1 Weather stations added as of July 6, 2010.

2 New addition as of July 6, 2010. Total number of days with precipitation events this season.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) is in inches.

Air Temperatures are in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Normal periods 1970-2000 used in Departure From Normal calculations.

For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

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