



California Crop Weather

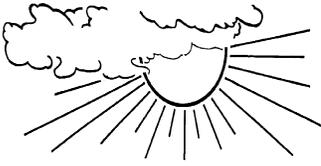
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: April 10, 2011
RELEASED: April 11, 2011

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 31 NO. 42

WEATHER



The cool spring temperatures continued throughout the week. Monday and Tuesday were clear and cool across the State. A cold, unsettled spring low pressure system moved onto the north coast late on Wednesday, sliding south into the central State and Southern California on Thursday and early Friday. Temperatures dropped too much below normal, with some maximum temperatures at 10 degrees below normal for early April. Most of the synoptic precipitation fell in the northern part of the State.

Multiple reports of winds up to 60 mph were reported in Southern California and the southern San Joaquin Valley. Snow levels dropped to nearly 1500 feet with light snow accumulations above that level. Even the higher elevations' snow accumulations were generally less than 12 inches for the storm. The bigger excitement was the widespread thunderstorm activity on Thursday and early Friday. Reports of small hail came from nearly every region. Accumulations of several inches of small hail were common, with scattered reports of a quarter of an inch to a half inch hail stones. An EF0 tornado was confirmed to have touched down near the town of Rockville in the northern Delta. Minimal damage was reported.

FIELD CROPS

The first cutting of **alfalfa** began in the San Joaquin Valley for hay and silage. Rainfall complicated drying conditions and delayed the first cutting for some farmers. **Winter wheat** harvest for silage also began last week in Tulare County, while **oat** harvest was underway in Merced County. In other areas, **rye**, **barley**, and other forage crops continued to develop. Adequate winter moisture also allowed for the development of dryland small grain crops. **Corn** and **sorghum** seed continued to be shipped in from out-of-state. **Rice** field preparation was ongoing. **Sunflower** seed planting continued in the Sacramento Valley. **Cotton** beds were prepared and planting started. Spring field work continued with weed control in small grain and alfalfa fields, pre-plant herbicide applications, and ground preparation.

FRUIT CROPS

The Navel **orange**, Valencia orange and **lemon** harvests continued normally in the San Joaquin Valley as the **grapefruit** and **mandarin** harvests neared completion. Grapefruit and lemons were also picked in the desert and coastal regions. Mandarin growers with seedless varieties in the San Joaquin Valley began net placement in preparation for the upcoming bloom. Bud break continued in **grape** vineyards across the State as early-varieties showed strong shoot growth. The **prune**, **pear**, and **cherry** blooms were nearly finished. **Strawberry** nursery plants were planted in Siskiyou County, while strawberry and **blueberry** fields in east Fresno County were in bloom. Fieldwork and spraying was ongoing in orchards and vineyards.

NUT CROPS

Growing conditions in **almond** orchards were good as irrigation, fertilizer, and final fungicide applications were prepared. Pollination was underway in both **walnut** and **pistachio** orchards, as blight control sprays for walnuts were ongoing.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Lettuce, **tomato** and **pepper** plants were growing well in Kern County. Sweet **potato** field fumigations continued while hotbed planting was complete in Merced County. In Fresno County, harvesting of **asparagus** and spring lettuce began. The **broccoli** harvest continued. Tomato and pepper transplants were growing well, as well as **carrots**, **garlic** and **onions**. **Melon**, **Onion** and tomato beds were fumigated, cultivated and irrigated as conditions allowed. Rain caused problems with the planting of **squash**, **cucumbers**, peppers, **eggplants**, and other vegetables in Tulare County. Tomatoes were planted without hot caps. Cold, wet weather with snow and freezing temperatures continued to hamper spring ground preparation in Siskiyou County.

LIVESTOCK

Spring rains stimulated growth of grasses and forbs in the foothills and valleys. Non-irrigated pasture and rangeland were in very good to excellent condition. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued to decline. Sheep and cattle continued to graze on retired farmland and some alfalfa fields. Bee hives continue to be moved out of almond orchards and amongst stone fruit and citrus orchards. Some hives were moved out-of-state.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/10/11

STATIONS ¹	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 4/10/11.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days ²	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 4/10/11	January 1 - 4/10	July 1 - 4/10/11	Week Ending 4/10/11	July 1 - 4/10/11	July 1 - 4/10	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
North Coast												
Eureka_WFO	47	-4	58	34	0	0	113	0.48	35.47	34.14	38.10	
Ukiah	51	-5	80	32	15	0	76	0.08	34.19	36.25	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	52	-5	80	34	27	5	76	0.00	34.60	29.11	31.01	
Napa_AP	53	-5	77	34	33	3	75	0.11	29.96	24.76	26.46	
Central Coast												
San_Francisco_A	53	-3	74	41	25	0	63	0.04	20.74	19.02	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	54	-6	78	39	35	38	53	0.12	13.07	14.01	15.08	
Salinas_AP	53	-4	81	36	41	0	61	0.08	14.74	12.11	12.91	
Monterey_AP	51	-5	74	40	28	0	69	0.10	18.21	18.86	20.35	
King_City_Ag	53	-5	83	32	36	17	56	0.12	9.59	11.65	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	53	-3	80	32	22	0	42	0.27	13.19	12.55	13.08	
Sacramento Valley												
Redding	54	-3	75	38	38	0	80	0.02	29.88	29.80	33.52	
Red_Bluff	55	-3	76	37	36	18	67	0.00	19.89	21.80	24.07	
Willows_6W	54	-3	74	35	24	6	74	0.05	26.35	17.45	19.03	
Oroville	55	-3	73	36	24	12	68	0.00	25.33	26.46	28.75	
Marysville	55	-6	75	35	25	48	55	0.08	22.01	20.29	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	54	-4	74	34	27	18	55	0.00	21.40	16.67	17.93	
San Joaquin Valley												
Stockton	54	-5	76	33	27	29	64	0.05	14.44	12.73	13.84	
Modesto_AP	55	-6	76	36	31	66	69	0.03	13.18	11.96	13.12	
Merced_Macready	55	-4	79	35	32	29	62	0.20	14.63	11.49	12.50	
Madera_AP	53	-6	77	35	23	37	51	0.33	13.68	10.86	11.94	
Fresno_AP	56	-4	81	37	49	42	55	0.32	15.26	10.24	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	54	-6	82	33	27	40	51	0.17	10.21	7.24	7.89	
Visalia_AP	57	-3	79	35	41	47	47	0.27	15.42	10.11	11.03	
Bakersfield	58	-4	83	36	58	76	43	0.21	10.03	5.91	6.49	
Cascade Sierra												
Alturas_AP	38	-6	64	16	0	0	73	0.06	9.56	9.31	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	42	-4	64	27	0	0	89	0.10	39.17	34.78	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	39	-5	60	20	3	0	82	0.38	67.65	59.70	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	44	-6	71	26	0	0	67	0.48	46.20	33.91	37.73	
South Coast												
Santa_Maria_AP	52	-4	75	33	41	0	56	0.03	21.94	13.21	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	54	-5	68	36	50	45	45	0.00	25.22	16.45	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	55	-4	70	38	101	53	46	0.00	22.10	15.06	15.62	
Riverside_AP	59	-4	86	37	160	122	37	0.04	9.53	9.66	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	58	-3	68	44	115	154	42	0.00	16.92	12.55	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	61	-2	75	47	165	205	42	0.26	12.27	10.13	10.77	
Southeast Interior												
Bishop_AP	48	-5	75	23	10	0	35	0.03	7.19	4.41	5.02	
Daggett_AP	58	-6	85	34	132	113	22	0.00	1.90	3.90	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	52	-5	79	29	39	3	35	0.49	9.50	7.12	7.40	
Thermal	66	-5	88	48	314	371	12	0.00	2.60	3.45	3.53	
Blythe_AP	65	-5	88	42	361	335	17	0.00	2.10	3.94	4.02	
Imperial_CA	65	-4	88	42	358	357	14	0.00	2.68	2.92	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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