



California Crop Weather

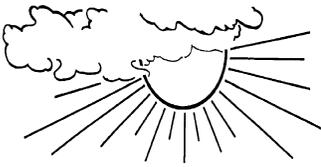
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: April 17, 2011
RELEASED: April 18, 2011

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WEATHER



The start of the week in California had weak high pressure building over the State. Temperatures were near normal for early April. Daytime highs were 60s and 70s in the valley, 50s along the coast, and upper 40s and 50s in the mountains. By Wednesday, a cold low entered the Northern portion of California. Rain and snow fell north of Stockton, California. Snow levels were down to 3000 feet in some locations. The heaviest precipitation was around one half of an inch in the Eureka area. Isolated thunderstorm activity was reported on Wednesday in the Sacramento Valley and surrounding mountains. Southern California stayed dry with daytime highs just below normal during the mid-week. On Thursday through Sunday, high pressure rebounded quickly with drying conditions throughout the State with daytime highs a little above normal. Valley highs were in the 70s and 80s over the weekend, and the desert had daytime highs in the 90s.

FIELD CROPS

Drying conditions improved for the first cutting of **alfalfa** and the harvest of winter forage mixtures. **Winter wheat** harvest for silage continued, as well as the **oat** harvest. Winter grain crops continued to progress, with wheat, **barley**, and oats heading out. Rice field preparation continued with tillage and leveling. **Cotton** planting was ongoing, along with **corn**. **Sunflower** seed planting continued. 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. **Grape** vineyards showed strong shoot growth across the State. The **prune**, **pear**, and **cherry** blooms were finished. **Kiwi** orchards and citrus groves were blooming. **Strawberry** nursery planting continued 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 and fertilizer was applied. Observed pest activity was very low, with some spraying for spider mites done in Kern County. Pollination was underway in both **walnut** and **pistachio** orchards, as catkins continued to elongate on walnut trees. Blight control sprays for walnuts were also ongoing.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Lack of rain last week allowed growers to continue planting **squash**, **cucumbers**, **peppers**, **eggplants**, and other vegetables. Picking started on a limited volume. **Tomatoes** were planted without hot caps. Planting of mixed summer vegetables is in full swing for varieties such as peppers, **string beans**, **bitter melons**, eggplants, tomatoes and **shinqua** in Tulare County. In Fresno County, harvesting continued for **spinach**, **broccoli**, **lettuce** and **cabbage**. **Garlic** and **onions** have shown excellent progress. Processing tomato planting is nearly complete, and **carrots** were growing well. Madera County reported fresh tomatoes being transplanted. Tomato planting continued as bell pepper planting began in Merced County. **Asparagus** harvest continued in San Joaquin County as tomato bed preparations were underway. Sutter County reported field work, preplant herbicide treatments and ground preparation continued as tomato transplants began. The dehydrated onion crop had begun to get planted 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 due to this season's abundance of rainfall. 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 with some repositioned in stone fruit and citrus orchards. Some hives were moved out-of-state.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/17/11

STATIONS ¹	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 4/17/11.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days ²	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 4/17/11	January 1 - 4/17	July 1 - 4/17/11	Week Ending 4/17/11	July 1 - 4/17/11	July 1 - 4/17	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
North Coast												
Eureka_WFO	51	0	60	41	0	0	118	2.38	37.85	34.82	38.10	
Ukiah	54	-2	72	35	17	0	78	0.12	34.31	36.74	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	54	-5	76	35	28	18	77	0.05	34.65	29.49	31.01	
Napa_AP	56	-2	74	38	37	16	76	0.04	30.00	25.09	26.46	
Central Coast												
San_Francisco_A	55	-2	66	46	25	0	64	0.15	20.89	19.30	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	57	-4	71	41	41	52	54	0.05	13.12	14.25	15.08	
Salinas_AP	56	-1	73	40	42	3	61	0.00	14.74	12.33	12.91	
Monterey_AP	53	-4	64	39	28	0	69	0.00	18.21	19.21	20.35	
King_City_Ag	56	-4	78	35	41	31	56	0.00	9.59	11.82	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	58	2	82	36	33	6	42	0.00	13.19	12.70	13.08	
Sacramento Valley												
Redding	57	0	75	43	44	14	81	0.09	29.97	30.35	33.52	
Red_Bluff	58	-2	77	44	45	36	69	0.18	20.07	22.11	24.07	
Willows_6W	57	-1	75	40	30	20	75	0.13	26.48	17.67	19.03	
Oroville	57	-2	75	41	30	28	69	0.35	25.68	26.88	28.75	
Marysville	58	-3	79	40	36	73	56	0.05	22.06	20.62	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	58	-1	76	39	35	35	55	0.00	21.40	16.90	17.93	
San Joaquin Valley												
Stockton	59	-2	79	38	39	50	65	0.07	14.51	12.95	13.84	
Modesto_AP	59	-3	79	42	44	94	69	0.00	13.18	12.17	13.12	
Merced_Macready	58	-2	80	39	43	50	62	0.00	14.63	11.70	12.50	
Madera_AP	57	-4	80	36	30	59	51	0.00	13.68	11.09	11.94	
Fresno_AP	60	-2	81	41	63	67	55	0.00	15.26	10.41	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	59	-2	82	39	40	63	51	0.00	10.21	7.38	7.89	
Visalia_AP	59	-2	81	39	53	71	47	0.00	15.42	10.29	11.03	
Bakersfield	59	-4	80	39	68	106	43	0.00	10.03	6.00	6.49	
Cascade Sierra												
Alturas_AP	43	0	64	19	0	0	76	0.10	9.66	9.55	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	46	-1	59	29	0	0	94	0.19	39.36	35.38	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	41	-3	58	25	3	0	84	0.25	67.90	60.85	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	50	-2	72	32	0	0	69	0.05	46.25	34.50	37.73	
South Coast												
Santa_Maria_AP	58	3	82	41	50	0	56	0.00	21.94	13.41	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	59	0	75	43	58	59	45	0.00	25.22	16.58	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	60	3	79	46	117	67	46	0.00	22.10	15.22	15.62	
Riverside_AP	66	4	95	45	204	150	37	0.00	9.53	9.79	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	63	3	81	52	140	175	42	0.00	16.92	12.69	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	64	2	80	54	191	233	42	0.00	12.27	10.30	10.77	
Southeast Interior												
Bishop_AP	52	-2	83	25	12	0	35	0.00	7.19	4.48	5.02	
Daggett_AP	64	0	91	42	164	157	22	0.00	1.90	3.97	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	59	3	83	38	53	24	35	0.00	9.50	7.19	7.40	
Thermal	70	-2	98	41	384	454	12	0.00	2.60	3.45	3.53	
Blythe_AP	72	2	99	47	447	415	17	0.00	2.10	3.98	4.02	
Imperial_CA	70	1	97	46	431	430	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.
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