



California Crop Weather

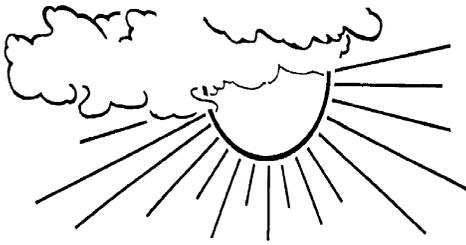
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: December 18, 2011
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WEATHER



The week began with a cold upper level low pressure system located over Southern California. This system was producing moderate to heavy rains across the southern counties. High pressure over the north resulted in a dry and cold weather regime for Northern California, with widespread freezes across the Central Valley. By mid-week, Southern California had dried out as high pressure pushed the rain producing low pressure system out of the area. A fast moving frontal system finally brought some light showers to Northern California by Thursday. A brief Santa Ana wind even developed over Southern California at this time. By the end of the week, high pressure had reasserted itself over Northern California, while the weak storm system which had brought the North the midweek showers managed to spread a few light showers across Southern California over the weekend. Overall, the week produced more precipitation for Southern California than for the North. The most significant weather feature for Northern California was the widespread freezing which occurred across much of the Central Valley during the week.

FIELD CROPS

Winter **wheat** emergence has progressed, but needs precipitation to sustain the crops growth. Some producers have irrigated their crops to assist this process. The earliest planted acres have started to head. Producers were applying herbicides for broadleaf weed control. The crop condition was rated mostly good to excellent.

FRUIT CROPS

Asian **pear** and Fuyu and Hachiya **persimmon** harvests were coming to an end. **Kiwi** harvest was over. Pineapple **quinces**, **figs** and **apples** were harvested. **Pomegranate** harvest began to slow. The **olive** harvest was complete in the Southern San Joaquin Valley. The table **grape** harvest was complete. Wine Grape harvest was complete; grapevines are dormant and pruning has begun. Warmer nights relieved citrus growers from worrying about frost. Satsuma **mandarin**, **tangerine**, and Navel **orange** harvest continued. Harvested oranges and **pummelos** were exported.

NUT CROPS

The harvest of **walnuts** was complete. Finished walnut groves were being irrigated. **Almond** stockpiles were hulled. **Pistachio** harvest was over.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Carrots were being planted and harvested in Kern County. Tulare County reported continued planting of fall vegetables. Fresno County reported irrigation and fertilizing of winter vegetables, while winter carrots were being harvested. In Sutter County, field cultivation and ground preparation was ongoing.

LIVESTOCK

Range conditions improved due to mid-week rain in some areas, but continued to deteriorate in others due to lack of rain. Low level pastures were greening and new seasonal vegetation had germinated. Calving season began to wane in Sutter County. Sheep and cattle grazed retired farmland and alfalfa fields. Supplemental feeding of livestock increased.

This report is available the first workday of the week after 1:00 PDT at
www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/California/Publications/index.asp

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 12/18/11

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 12/18/11	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days 1/	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 12/18/11	January 1 - 12/18	July 1 - 12/18/11	Week Ending 12/18/11	July 1 - 12/18/11	July 1 - 12/18	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
North Coast												
Eureka_WFO	44	-4	58	29	21	73	33	0.47	9.05	13.29	38.10	
Ukiah	45	-2	67	26	1,588	1,479	22	0.29	6.55	11.66	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	47	-2	71	29	778	1,143	15	0.09	4.24	9.31	31.01	
Napa_AP	47	-2	67	30	1,101	1,222	18	0.15	3.06	7.90	26.46	
Central Coast												
San_Francisco_A	48	-2	62	38	543	567	17	0.14	2.88	5.39	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	48	-2	63	35	1,340	1,613	15	0.06	1.53	4.04	15.08	
Salinas_AP	49	-2	68	33	595	629	18	0.01	3.23	3.37	12.91	
Monterey_AP	49	-3	67	37	227	327	24	0.20	3.75	5.43	20.35	
King_City_Ag	48	-3	66	29	1,135	1,312	12	0.13	1.54	2.99	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	45	-2	67	26	1,698	1,692	12	0.07	2.56	2.95	13.08	
Sacramento Valley												
Redding	48	3	71	24	2,496	2,524	22	0.09	6.04	9.50	33.52	
Red_Bluff	48	3	72	26	2,541	2,759	16	0.02	5.05	7.07	24.07	
Willows_6W	46	2	65	27	2,166	2,157	16	0.18	5.19	5.34	19.03	
Oroville	46	1	67	30	2,181	2,239	18	0.32	4.36	8.36	28.75	
Marysville	46	-1	65	26	2,191	2,589	14	0.14	3.43	6.44	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	45	-2	65	28	1,964	2,096	12	0.27	2.35	4.86	17.93	
San Joaquin Valley												
Stockton	44	-2	57	29	2,004	2,347	14	0.16	1.66	4.02	13.84	
Modesto_AP	43	-4	58	29	2,359	2,487	12	0.16	1.90	3.51	13.12	
Merced_Macready	43	-3	60	26	2,509	2,459	9	0.06	1.93	3.28	12.50	
Madera_AP	43	-2	59	28	2,239	2,579	7	0.11	1.48	3.01	11.94	
Fresno_AP	45	1	61	30	3,001	2,809	5	0.00	1.57	2.75	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	43	-2	62	25	2,409	2,522	10	0.00	1.45	1.87	7.89	
Visalia_AP	45	0	63	27	2,560	2,570	5	0.00	1.37	2.91	11.03	
Bakersfield	46	-2	63	31	3,136	3,196	8	0.00	1.31	1.49	6.49	
Cascade Sierra												
Alturas_AP	28	-3	54	3	494	451	14	0.00	1.41	4.25	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	35	1	54	17	767	510	25	0.04	4.96	11.99	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	40	0	60	29	1,002	692	19	0.11	8.58	20.04	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	36	-2	50	23	1,442	1,278	10	0.00	5.87	11.27	37.73	
South Coast												
Santa_Maria_AP	49	-3	71	33	610	633	12	0.16	2.48	3.08	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	51	-3	66	36	629	1,210	12	0.94	4.72	3.57	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	54	-2	71	41	1,010	1,124	10	0.36	3.42	3.30	15.62	
Riverside_AP	51	-5	65	37	2,805	2,867	14	0.49	2.68	2.03	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	54	-4	66	42	1,338	1,835	12	0.68	2.93	2.85	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	54	-4	63	46	1,702	2,136	16	0.84	4.55	2.54	10.77	
Southeast Interior												
Bishop_AP	33	-6	57	9	1,633	1,770	7	0.00	1.09	1.58	5.02	
Daggett_AP	47	-1	61	29	4,035	3,890	12	0.09	0.90	1.72	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	42	0	61	26	2,613	2,510	11	0.36	1.35	1.75	7.40	
Thermal	53	-2	67	31	5,049	5,183	11	0.07	1.02	1.48	3.53	
Blythe_AP	53	-1	66	36	5,743	5,399	12	0.61	2.63	2.14	4.02	
Imperial_CA	52	-4	65	38	5,415	5,230	11	0.21	0.58	1.44	2.96	

1/ 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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