



# California Crop Weather

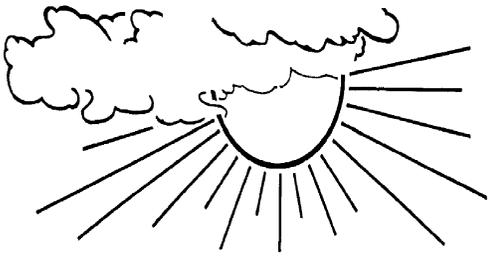
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: February 19, 2012  
RELEASED: February 21, 2012

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## WEATHER



This week's weather was affected by a series of rather weak cold fronts which passed over the persistent high pressure ridge that has been in place just off the West Coast. The strongest of the storm systems brought widespread showers to the entire State, spreading from the North Coast early Monday, and sweeping south and east across California. Light to moderate rains were associated with this system, with moderate snowfall across the northern mountains and the Sierra Nevada. At least two other weak frontal systems then passed across California as the week progressed. In between systems, gusty offshore flow brought drying conditions to Southern California. The last of the cold fronts moved through during the weekend. These storms brought just light amounts of precipitation to the Golden State. Seasonal precipitation still remains far below seasonal normal.

## FIELD CROPS

Dry-land grains showed good growth and steady development, although more precipitation was still needed. Some replanting of **wheat** fields was required, while poor fields were destroyed so that other crops may be planted pending forecasted rain. Some small grain fields were being irrigated. Irrigated fields showed outstanding development. Weed control in **hay**, **wheat**, **rye** and **oat** fields continued. Ground preparation and fertilization also continued. **Rice** fields were being drained. **Alfalfa** fields showed decent growth as a result of recent rainfall. Field preparation for spring **cotton** planting continued with bed formation, pre-irrigation and weed control. Fields were also being prepared for **corn** planting.

## FRUIT CROPS

Pruning of orchards was nearly complete; herbicide spraying continued. Lack of rainfall and mountain snowpack remained a concern for growers. Early **plums** and **apricots** were blooming. **Grape** and **kiwi** vineyards continued to be pruned and sprayed. Kiwifruit, **persimmons** and **Asian pears** continued to be exported. **Olives** were dormant. Navel **orange** and **tangerine** harvests continued. Frost damage was limited. The export of **pummelos**, **grapefruit**, **Cara Caras** and **lemons** was ongoing.

## NUT CROPS

A few growers were still irrigating, planting, and pruning in **walnut** and **pistachio** orchards. Walnuts and pistachios continued to be exported. **Almond** orchard work was complete. Almond bloom began to pick up across the State. Some operations applied bloom sprays. Due to lack of precipitation, many orchards have been irrigated at least once.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Kern County reported continued planting of **carrots**. Fresno County reported poor conditions hindered harvest. In Stanislaus County, **broccoli** continued to be harvested and **asparagus** and **spinach** were growing very well.

## LIVESTOCK

Non-irrigated rangeland remained in poor condition despite recent showers. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Sheep and cattle grazed on retired farmland and alfalfa fields. Bees continued to be brought into the State and placed in almond and plum orchards for pollination.

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](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/California/Publications/index.asp)

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 2/19/12**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 2/19/12.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days 1/	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 2/19/12	January 1 - 2/19	July 1 - 2/19/12	Week Ending 2/19/12	July 1 - 2/19/12	July 1 - 2/19	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
<b>North Coast</b>												
Eureka_WFO	46	-4	56	33	0	0	58	0.67	19.87	25.57	38.10	
Ukiah	48	-2	68	30	0	0	39	0.56	12.64	27.15	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	50	-4	70	33	0	0	26	0.23	11.29	21.75	31.01	
Napa_AP	50	-3	65	35	0	0	31	0.30	8.81	18.43	26.46	
<b>Central Coast</b>												
San_Francisco_A	51	-3	63	41	0	0	27	0.23	5.48	13.96	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	52	-3	66	39	1	0	26	0.31	2.84	9.93	15.08	
Salinas_AP	51	-3	66	35	4	0	28	0.41	5.30	8.53	12.91	
Monterey_AP	50	-4	61	38	0	0	32	0.31	5.44	13.47	20.35	
King_City_Ag	49	-5	66	30	0	0	20	0.16	2.54	7.86	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	47	-5	69	26	0	0	18	0.07	4.19	8.55	13.08	
<b>Sacramento Valley</b>												
Redding	49	0	68	34	0	0	36	0.56	13.06	21.91	33.52	
Red_Bluff	50	-2	67	35	0	0	29	1.04	11.06	16.23	24.07	
Willows_6W	49	-2	65	35	0	0	28	0.50	10.07	12.92	19.03	
Oroville	49	-3	64	35	0	0	34	0.52	9.71	19.29	28.75	
Marysville	50	-3	67	33	0	0	25	0.42	7.89	14.86	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	50	-3	65	33	0	0	19	0.27	5.31	12.30	17.93	
<b>San Joaquin Valley</b>												
Stockton	50	-3	66	33	0	0	22	0.43	3.61	9.26	13.84	
Modesto_AP	50	-4	66	35	0	0	20	0.35	3.36	8.51	13.12	
Merced_Macready	49	-3	65	32	0	0	21	0.56	3.30	8.12	12.50	
Madera_AP	48	-3	64	31	0	0	14	0.37	2.76	7.39	11.94	
Fresno_AP	50	-2	65	36	0	0	12	0.40	3.41	6.93	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	49	-4	66	30	0	0	19	0.38	2.37	4.80	7.89	
Visalia_AP	49	-3	63	36	3	0	10	0.20	2.67	6.94	11.03	
Bakersfield	52	-3	68	36	14	0	14	0.17	1.92	3.82	6.49	
<b>Cascade Sierra</b>												
Alturas_AP	32	-3	52	10	0	0	31	0.38	2.96	6.91	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	38	-1	57	20	0	0	42	0.29	11.55	25.83	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	36	-4	50	23	0	0	37	1.01	18.89	43.42	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	39	-3	56	27	0	0	17	2.13	13.09	24.82	37.73	
<b>South Coast</b>												
Santa_Maria_AP	49	-5	67	33	6	0	19	0.32	4.65	8.71	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	52	-4	65	36	11	0	16	0.01	5.68	11.14	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	53	-4	70	38	90	0	15	0.03	5.20	10.36	15.62	
Riverside_AP	54	-3	74	39	92	16	20	0.39	3.56	6.51	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	54	-4	72	41	73	50	18	0.09	4.26	8.82	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	56	-4	68	46	41	68	26	0.52	5.78	6.79	10.77	
<b>Southeast Interior</b>												
Bishop_AP	40	-3	65	19	0	0	10	0.05	2.55	3.42	5.02	
Daggett_AP	52	-2	72	35	7	0	13	0.00	1.00	3.07	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	47	-2	66	24	0	0	16	0.24	1.71	4.96	7.40	
Thermal	56	-4	77	35	29	44	12	0.27	1.29	2.78	3.53	
Blythe_AP	57	-3	74	39	38	34	14	0.01	2.65	3.21	4.02	
Imperial_CA	57	-4	74	39	33	57	12	0.17	0.75	2.47	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.  
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