



California Crop Weather

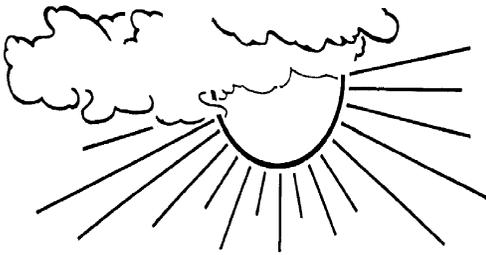
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER



Southern California began the week with lingering stormy weather exiting the region. San Diego County and surrounding mountains collected a significant amount of precipitation, including snow in the mountains. Mid-week, a more significant cold system dropped down the west coast from Alaska, bringing winter conditions back to Northern California. Strong, southerly winds impacted the Central Valley with valley peak gusts up to 60 mph and mountain peak gusts even higher. Snow fall was reported as low as 2,500 feet in the

Sierra Nevada foothills. Mountain storm total snow amounts for the Northern and Central Sierra ranged from two to three feet of new snow, and decreased to a foot or less for the Southern Sierra. Rain fell along the coast, in the coastal mountain range, and the Central Valley as far south as Point Conception and Kern County. The low pressure system began transitioning out of the area by Friday, resulting in a dry, sunny and warm weekend across the area.

FIELD CROPS

Dry-land grains continued to show good growth and steady development in parts of the State receiving rain and irrigation, but lack of moisture in other parts slowed crop development. **Wheat** fields showed vigor even though development was delayed. **Alfalfa** fields were sprayed for weevil. Broadleaf weed control in **hay**, wheat, **rye** and **oat** fields continued as wheat and other small grains were still stunted, with negligible amounts heading out. Ground preparation and fertilization continued. **Rice** fields continued to be drained. Field **corn** planting continued. Field preparation for spring **cotton** planting continued with bed formation, pre-irrigation and weed control.

FRUIT CROPS

Plums, peaches, apricots, nectarines and **cherries** were blooming. Growers were applying bloom sprays. Pruning of **grape** and **kiwi** vineyards was nearly finished, and herbicide spraying continued. Kiwifruit continued to be exported. **Pomegranate** orchards were pruned. Fruit growers were becoming very concerned about lack of water, especially in the southern part of the State. Navel **oranges**, Murcott **tangerines** and Mineola **tangelos** continued to be harvested and exported. The export of **blood oranges, Cara Caras** and **lemons** was ongoing.

NUT CROPS

Walnut orchards continued to be pruned, sprayed, fertilized and irrigated. Walnuts, **almonds**, and **pistachios** continued to be exported. Almonds were in full bloom and were being sprayed.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Tulare County, certified producers were starting early summer vegetables in greenhouses. Processing **tomato** beds were being prepared in Fresno County. The **radicchio** harvest was complete while fresh market tomato planting began in Merced County. In Stanislaus County, **broccoli** continued to be harvested, and **asparagus, lettuce, kale** and **spinach** were growing very well. Plantings by certified producers began in Sutter County.

LIVESTOCK

Non-irrigated rangeland was still in relatively poor condition for most of the State. Recent precipitation was light and more was needed for non-irrigated range to flourish. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Some cattle ranchers began to reduce herd size due to lack of rangeland forage and the high cost of supplemental feeding. Sheep and cattle grazed on retired farmland and alfalfa fields. Lambing began in some areas. Bees continued to be placed in stone fruit orchards. Bees were actively working the almond and early fruit bloom.

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 3/4/12

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 3/4/12.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days 1/	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 3/4/12	January 1 - 3/4	July 1 - 3/4/12	Week Ending 3/4/12	July 1 - 3/4/12	July 1 - 3/4	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
North Coast												
Eureka_WFO	44	-6	55	31	0	0	64	1.75	21.72	28.37	38.10	
Ukiah	47	-4	77	26	0	0	41	1.16	13.80	30.46	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	50	-4	77	28	4	0	28	0.76	12.05	24.57	31.01	
Napa_AP	49	-5	75	30	1	0	33	1.00	9.81	20.79	26.46	
Central Coast												
San_Francisco_A	52	-2	73	39	0	0	30	0.32	5.83	15.83	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	51	-5	75	36	5	0	29	0.28	3.14	11.33	15.08	
Salinas_AP	52	-2	82	37	7	0	32	0.36	5.68	9.75	12.91	
Monterey_AP	52	-2	73	38	0	0	34	0.30	5.74	15.29	20.35	
King_City_Ag	50	-5	85	29	1	0	22	0.14	2.68	9.24	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	49	-5	82	26	0	0	18	0.00	4.19	9.99	13.08	
Sacramento Valley												
Redding	50	-2	77	29	5	0	39	0.55	13.62	24.57	33.52	
Red_Bluff	50	-3	73	30	6	0	31	0.36	11.42	18.19	24.07	
Willows_6W	49	-4	73	28	2	0	30	0.63	10.69	14.62	19.03	
Oroville	49	-4	72	32	0	0	36	0.29	10.00	21.81	28.75	
Marysville	50	-5	75	30	2	0	27	0.38	8.27	16.74	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	50	-4	74	31	2	0	21	0.38	5.71	13.93	17.93	
San Joaquin Valley												
Stockton	50	-4	73	33	0	0	25	0.19	3.80	10.43	13.84	
Modesto_AP	50	-6	75	34	0	0	22	0.30	3.66	9.65	13.12	
Merced_Macready	51	-3	78	33	0	0	23	0.08	3.38	9.25	12.50	
Madera_AP	50	-3	76	35	0	0	17	0.11	2.87	8.51	11.94	
Fresno_AP	52	-3	76	38	1	0	14	0.29	3.70	8.05	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	53	0	75	36	3	0	21	0.07	2.44	5.62	7.89	
Visalia_AP	50	-5	75	36	3	0	11	0.03	2.70	7.95	11.03	
Bakersfield	54	-2	81	39	18	0	16	0.12	2.04	4.52	6.49	
Cascade Sierra												
Alturas_AP	29	-9	63	-1	0	0	36	0.29	3.34	7.61	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	35	-5	64	19	0	0	46	1.25	12.80	28.94	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	36	-3	59	23	0	0	43	2.16	21.10	49.04	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	41	-3	69	29	0	0	19	0.74	13.83	28.12	37.73	
South Coast												
Santa_Maria_AP	52	-3	83	31	10	0	19	0.00	4.65	10.36	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	52	-5	77	36	14	0	16	0.00	5.68	13.24	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	56	-1	85	36	103	5	15	0.00	5.20	12.24	15.62	
Riverside_AP	57	-1	89	40	127	30	21	0.18	3.74	7.63	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	58	0	87	42	91	73	18	0.00	4.26	10.30	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	57	-3	80	47	51	96	28	0.38	6.16	7.87	10.77	
Southeast Interior												
Bishop_AP	44	-2	71	20	0	0	10	0.00	2.55	3.84	5.02	
Daggett_AP	52	-4	76	32	14	0	13	0.00	1.00	3.35	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	47	-4	75	20	0	0	17	0.02	1.73	5.77	7.40	
Thermal	58	-4	88	32	59	95	12	0.00	1.29	3.06	3.53	
Blythe_AP	58	-4	84	38	70	81	14	0.00	2.65	3.49	4.02	
Imperial_CA	58	-5	83	37	59	107	12	0.00	0.75	2.61	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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