



California Crop Weather

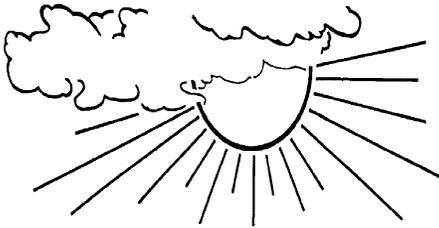
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER



A high pressure ridge over the West Coast brought dry and mild conditions to California at the start of the week. By Tuesday, a low pressure system in the Gulf of Alaska began to push a cold front towards Northern California. This feature spread some showers over the far northern coastal region by Tuesday, while the rest of the State enjoyed dry and mild conditions. By Wednesday, the cold front had spread across Northern California, bringing scattered showers and cooler temperatures to the northern half of the State. This same system created a relatively strong offshore flow for

Southern California, which brought very dry conditions to the southland. This pattern persisted through Friday, with the north having relatively cool weather with light precipitation, while the south was warm and dry. The low pressure system finally shifted eastward, out of the State by the end of the week, and high pressure built over the region. This resulted in a drying and warming trend for the north, as well as continued dry and mild conditions for Southern California.

FIELD CROPS

Wheat, grain hay, rye and oats continued to mature and were in fair to excellent condition. Over half of the winter wheat crop had headed out. Precipitation events that have occurred in the past weeks have reduced the pressure on producers to irrigate their crops. Cotton producers' main activity was preparing seedbeds. However, some producers began to plant during the week. **Alfalfa** fields continued to green well following pest and weed control applications. Producers were making their first cutting of Alfalfa during the week. **Rice** ground preparation, fertilization and draining continued throughout the week.

FRUIT CROPS

Plum, peach, apricot, and nectarine bloom was complete in all but the latest varieties. Trees were almost fully leafed-out and showing fruit. Thinning continued in apricots. **Cherries** continued to bloom and leaf-out. **Prunes** were past full bloom and beginning to leaf-out in Sutter and Yuba Counties. Weed treatments and bloom sprays continued in stone fruit orchards. **Kiwis** continued to be exported. **Grapevines** continued to leaf-out while growth was beginning to accelerate. **Apples** were starting to bloom and leaf-out. **Strawberries** were being transplanted in Siskiyou County. Roadside strawberry stands had opened in Tulare County. **Olive** groves were pruned. Navel **oranges, tangerines, tangelos** and **lemons** continued to be harvested and packed for export. The harvesting of late variety navel oranges and early Valencia oranges began. Cara Cara orange harvest was wrapping up. Seedless tangerine groves were netted in preparation for the coming bloom.

NUT CROPS

Almond bloom was over. Almond trees were leafing-out and nuts were growing larger. Freeze damage was becoming apparent in some areas hit hard by the March cold spell. **Walnuts** were continuing to leaf-out while early varieties were in bloom. Growers were applying blight sprays. **Pistachios** were leafing-out. Walnuts, almonds, and pistachios continued to be exported.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Kern County reported **carrots** were harvested and **tomatoes** were planted. In Tulare County, Italian **squash**, tomato, and **cucumber** seedlings were planted and tented under plastic and hot caps, while processing tomato seedlings were planted on the west side of the county. Fresno County reported processing tomato transplants were thriving, while **lettuce** was beginning to be harvested. **Garlic** and **onions** had established a good start. In Stanislaus County, **broccoli** and **spinach** were being harvested, while tomato transplants were being planted. San Joaquin County reported continued harvest of **asparagus**. In Sutter County, field preparation continued and processing tomato transplants were delivered to fields.

LIVESTOCK

Non-irrigated rangeland began to gradually improve in response to the late spring rains. Greening was reported across the State. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. When weather conditions permitted, bees were working the cherry, plum and other stone 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 4/8/12

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 4/8/12.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days 1/	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 4/8/12	January 1 - 4/8	July 1 - 4/8/12	Week Ending 4/8/12	July 1 - 4/8/12	July 1 - 4/8	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
North Coast												
Eureka_WFO	46	-5	58	32	0	0	90	1.15	34.28	34.03	38.10	
Ukiah	49	-6	68	32	0	0	63	0.11	23.22	36.17	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	50	-7	68	32	4	4	43	0.03	19.96	29.05	31.01	
Napa_State_Hosp	52	-5	71	33	1	2	47	0.00	18.65	24.70	26.46	
Central Coast												
San_Francisco_A	53	-4	64	41	0	0	43	0.03	10.65	18.97	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	54	-6	71	38	10	36	39	0.00	5.12	13.97	15.08	
Salinas_AP	54	-3	72	36	12	0	42	0.02	8.29	12.07	12.91	
Monterey_AP	51	-5	68	37	1	0	45	0.09	9.12	18.80	20.35	
King_City_Ag	54	-4	81	33	5	15	29	0.00	4.28	11.62	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	53	-4	80	29	0	0	25	0.00	6.51	12.52	13.08	
Sacramento Valley												
Redding	50	-7	70	29	5	0	57	0.22	20.24	29.71	33.52	
Red_Bluff	51	-7	71	30	7	16	43	0.21	18.02	21.75	24.07	
Willows_6W	51	-6	70	28	2	4	47	0.00	17.23	17.41	19.03	
Oroville	53	-5	72	34	0	10	52	0.10	16.49	26.39	28.75	
Marysville	54	-6	73	37	4	45	44	0.17	12.72	20.24	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	53	-5	73	34	2	16	34	0.05	9.82	16.63	17.93	
San Joaquin Valley												
Stockton	53	-6	77	34	0	26	36	0.00	6.00	12.69	13.84	
Modesto_AP	55	-6	80	38	7	63	32	0.00	6.21	11.93	13.12	
Merced_Macready	54	-4	80	34	16	26	31	0.00	5.41	11.46	12.50	
Madera_AP	53	-6	81	32	9	34	24	0.00	6.17	10.82	11.94	
Fresno_AP	56	-3	82	38	27	39	22	0.00	6.24	10.21	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	54	-5	86	30	13	37	27	0.00	3.44	7.22	7.89	
Visalia_AP	55	-5	82	36	14	44	17	0.00	4.54	10.08	11.03	
Bakersfield	57	-4	85	38	57	72	22	0.00	3.32	5.89	6.49	
Cascade Sierra												
Alturas_AP	38	-5	69	19	0	0	51	0.46	4.90	9.27	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	40	-5	62	20	0	0	70	0.40	23.44	34.68	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	40	-3	58	24	0	0	63	0.56	39.18	59.52	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	47	-2	73	30	0	0	30	0.00	19.67	33.81	37.73	
South Coast												
Santa_Maria_AP	54	-2	72	34	10	0	28	0.00	7.26	13.17	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	56	-3	73	38	14	43	22	0.00	7.96	16.42	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	61	4	81	41	135	51	21	0.00	7.71	15.03	15.62	
Riverside_AP	64	3	88	43	187	118	26	0.00	4.65	9.64	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	61	2	82	50	120	151	23	0.00	6.04	12.52	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	62	0	76	51	76	201	34	0.00	7.13	10.10	10.77	
Southeast Interior												
Bishop_AP	49	-4	75	18	1	0	13	0.00	2.84	4.40	5.02	
Daggett_AP	60	-3	86	38	102	107	15	0.00	1.03	3.89	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	53	-3	81	25	7	0	22	0.00	2.64	7.11	7.40	
Thermal	66	-4	92	38	248	360	14	0.00	1.32	3.45	3.53	
Blythe_AP	69	1	90	48	325	325	15	0.00	2.84	3.93	4.02	
Imperial_CA	67	-2	90	45	274	347	12	0.00	0.75	2.92	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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