



California Crop Weather

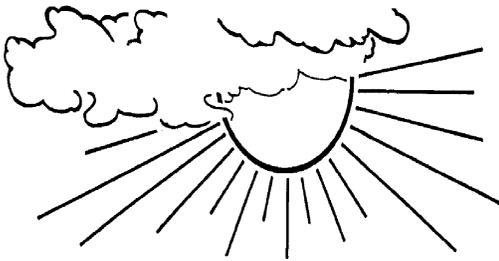
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office • P.O. Box 1258 • Sacramento, CA 95812 • (916) 498-5161 • (916) 498-5186 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov/ca

WEEK ENDING: April 29, 2012
RELEASED: May 1, 2012

FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER



A high pressure ridge was just east of California at the start of the week and warm and dry conditions prevailed across most of the State as a result through Tuesday. A low pressure system moving in from the Gulf of Alaska pushed a cold front across the entire length of the State starting on Wednesday, and the cool and wet conditions continued through Thursday all across California. This system brought rain and even mountain snow to the entire State. By Friday, this system had mostly departed from California, and building high pressure with increasing off-shore flow brought drying and warming conditions for the weekend.

FIELD CROPS

Above average temperatures this week aided the maturation progress for the **wheat** crop. Nearly the entire crop was headed. Some early planted grain was cut for hay and silage. Wheat conditions continued to be rated mostly good to excellent. **Oat** hay cutting continued. Warmer soil temperatures were benefiting **corn** and **cotton** as cotton producers were planting at a rapid pace. Cotton producers have planted over half of the cotton crop. Some replanting was reported. **Rice** producers made their final preparations for planting.

FRUIT CROPS

Plum, prune, peach, apricot, and nectarine fruit continued to progress and develop while growers were evaluating freeze and hail damage from a few weeks ago. Harvest began in a few early peach varieties. **Cherry** fruit was developing as growers continued to spray for Oriental Fruit Fly. Weed treatments and bloom spray applications continued in stone fruit orchards. **Grape** and **kiwi** vines were growing fast as temperatures increased. **Pomegranates** and **persimmons** were continuing to leaf-out. **Apples** were blooming and leafing-out. **Blueberries** were being picked and packed in Tulare County. **Orange** and **avocado** trees were in bloom in early locations. 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 continued to pick up.

NUT CROPS

Almond nuts were continuing to develop. Hail damage was still being evaluated in the San Joaquin Valley. Heavier than normal drops, possibly due to earlier frost damage, was reported in some areas. **Walnuts** were in full bloom as blight applications continued. **Pistachio** bloom ran its course in the Fresno area. Fungicides were applied to some orchards.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Fresno County reported continuing harvesting of spring vegetables. In Stanislaus County, **tomatoes** were being planted as **spinach** and **broccoli** harvest continued. San Joaquin County reported continued harvesting of **asparagus**, while processing tomatoes were being transplanted and **onions** were being planted. In Siskiyou County, dehydrator onions were being planted.

LIVESTOCK

Non-irrigated rangeland continued to improve in response to late spring rains. Range grasses and forbs were germinating across much of the State. Drying of some range grasses on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley was reported. Livestock continued to be moved to rangeland. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued to wane as nutrient value and volume of grasses increased. Sheep and cattle grazed on retired farmland and alfalfa fields. Stone fruit pollination activities were winding down for the year.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/29/12

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 4/29/12.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days 1/	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 4/29/12	January 1 - 4/29	July 1 - 4/29/12	Week Ending 4/29/12	July 1 - 4/29/12	July 1 - 4/29	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
North Coast												
Eureka_WFO	55	4	66	47	0	0	102	0.73	37.64	35.83	38.10	
Ukiah	59	2	85	39	43	13	68	0.09	24.42	37.42	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	59	1	80	41	41	44	49	0.06	22.16	29.99	31.01	
Napa_State_Hosp	63	4	82	41	68	42	53	0.25	21.04	25.52	26.46	
Central Coast												
San_Francisco_A	60	4	71	49	29	12	48	0.43	13.40	19.62	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	64	3	83	49	83	90	44	0.27	6.97	14.54	15.08	
Salinas_AP	61	4	74	46	47	16	48	0.16	10.12	12.59	12.91	
Monterey_AP	58	3	70	43	8	0	52	0.20	10.95	19.65	20.35	
King_City_Ag	62	2	82	43	61	59	35	0.17	6.25	11.99	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	62	4	89	41	66	26	31	0.20	8.43	12.83	13.08	
Sacramento Valley												
Redding	64	5	87	39	87	54	63	0.07	22.75	31.17	33.52	
Red_Bluff	65	4	88	42	103	88	49	0.07	19.54	22.54	24.07	
Willows_6W	65	5	91	41	87	63	53	0.53	19.41	17.95	19.03	
Oroville	64	3	84	44	79	73	58	1.03	18.72	27.45	28.75	
Marysville	64	1	85	44	93	139	50	0.69	15.37	21.06	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	63	3	85	42	80	80	41	0.57	12.19	17.20	17.93	
San Joaquin Valley												
Stockton	64	3	86	46	89	105	42	0.40	8.03	13.25	13.84	
Modesto_AP	65	2	85	48	101	159	38	0.21	8.46	12.44	13.12	
Merced_Macready	65	3	87	45	120	104	36	0.07	7.10	11.96	12.50	
Madera_AP	65	2	85	41	96	118	30	0.09	7.67	11.40	11.94	
Fresno_AP	67	4	86	48	165	132	28	0.15	8.15	10.61	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	66	3	86	41	127	123	32	0.03	4.41	7.51	7.89	
Visalia_AP	66	3	84	46	121	132	22	0.43	7.25	10.52	11.03	
Bakersfield	68	4	86	51	203	183	26	0.27	4.93	6.13	6.49	
Cascade Sierra												
Alturas_AP	49	3	81	26	0	0	59	0.83	6.03	10.02	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	55	7	80	30	8	0	78	0.16	27.28	36.30	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	52	6	71	34	23	0	69	2.75	44.61	62.55	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	57	4	79	37	35	0	36	1.00	23.33	35.36	37.73	
South Coast												
Santa_Maria_AP	61	6	80	43	40	0	35	0.32	9.57	13.64	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	58	-2	70	44	16	93	28	0.33	10.17	16.65	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	61	2	81	49	157	97	25	0.15	9.72	15.36	15.62	
Riverside_AP	67	3	90	51	319	217	29	0.26	5.23	9.92	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	63	1	79	54	144	222	28	0.40	7.51	12.83	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	64	1	75	56	116	293	38	0.46	8.01	10.48	10.77	
Southeast Interior												
Bishop_AP	62	6	90	39	52	15	14	0.00	3.07	4.55	5.02	
Daggett_AP	74	7	98	51	337	262	18	0.01	1.21	3.98	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	66	6	87	46	122	80	25	0.00	3.46	7.23	7.40	
Thermal	78	5	98	55	538	636	15	0.06	1.38	3.45	3.53	
Blythe_AP	78	5	101	56	646	589	17	0.12	2.98	3.98	4.02	
Imperial_CA	76	4	94	56	557	588	13	0.06	0.81	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.

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