



California Crop Weather

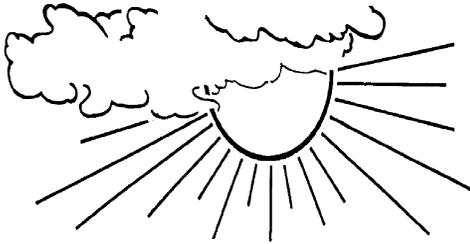
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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

WEEK ENDING: May 6, 2012
RELEASED: May 7, 2012

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 32 NO. 45

WEATHER



A diminishing high pressure ridge brought warm weather to northern interior California at the start of the week, while Southern California saw cool, moist conditions caused by a strong onshore flow pattern. A series of Pacific storms brushed the northern half of the State through early Friday, with the strongest and most organized frontal system moving through Northern California on Thursday. This resulted in widespread, but relatively light precipitation for the north, while Southern California continued to experience a relatively cool and moist onshore flow. By Friday afternoon, most of that last frontal system had moved out of the State, and warming and drying began. Gusty, northerly winds developed across Northern California on Saturday and continued on Sunday. Southern California did not see a strong, dry offshore pattern. Instead, a moist northwest flow developed by the weekend.

FIELD CROPS

Warm and dry conditions this week aided the maturation progress for the **wheat** crop. Nearly the entire crop was headed, and some of it was harvested in southern parts of the State. Some early planted wheat was cut for hay and silage as conditions continued to be rated mostly good to excellent. **Oat** hay cutting continued. **Alfalfa** growers advanced to the second cutting in the Central Valley. Warmer soil temperatures were benefiting **cotton** as producers were planting at a rapid pace. **Corn** showed good development. Some **rice** was planted.

FRUIT CROPS

Plum, prune, peach, apricot, and nectarine fruit continued to progress and develop. Harvest began in a few early peach and apricot varieties. **Cherry** fruit was developing as growers continued to spray for Oriental Fruit Fly. Early cherry varieties were getting close to harvest in the San Joaquin Valley. Weed treatments and bloom spray applications continued in **stone** fruit orchards. **Grape** and **kiwi** vines were growing fast as temperatures increased, while shoot thinning started in grape vineyards. Grapes were blooming in early varieties and locations. Mating disruptions for European Grapevine Moth were implemented in high risk vineyards. **Pomegranates** and **persimmons** were continuing to leaf-out. **Apples** were blooming and leafing-out. **Blueberries** and **strawberries** were being picked and packed in Tulare County. Strawberries continued to mature in the northern part of the State. **Orange** and **avocado** trees were in full bloom. 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 developing nicely. Hail damage was still being evaluated in the San Joaquin Valley, but the overall crop was looking large. Heavy sets were reported across the State. **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

Carrots and **lettuce** were harvested in Kern County. In Tulare County, **tomatoes, peppers, cucumber, and squash** continued to be planted as greenhouse squash harvest began. Fresno County reported irrigation and fertilization of **garlic** and **onions**. In Stanislaus County, tomatoes were being planted. San Joaquin County reported continued harvesting of **asparagus**. Processing tomatoes were being transplanted and onions were being planted. Field preparation continued as tomato transplants continued to be planted in Sutter County.

LIVESTOCK

Some rangeland grasses were beginning to dry in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys. Non-irrigated pasture continued to support livestock at higher elevations. Cattle were being moved to Forest Service allotments in the Sierras. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued to wane. Sheep and cattle grazed on retired farmland and alfalfa fields.

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 5/6/12

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 5/6/12.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days 1/	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 5/6/12	January 1 - 5/6	July 1 - 5/6/12	Week Ending 5/6/12	July 1 - 5/6/12	July 1 - 5/6	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
North Coast												
Eureka_WFO	50	-3	61	38	0	0	106	0.44	38.08	36.28	38.10	
Ukiah	58	-1	84	39	51	27	69	0.23	24.65	37.76	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	60	1	82	43	56	58	50	0.08	22.24	30.20	31.01	
Napa_State_Hosp	63	3	85	42	94	60	53	0.00	21.04	25.73	26.46	
Central Coast												
San_Francisco_A	57	-1	78	47	33	19	48	0.00	13.40	19.76	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	61	-2	84	46	100	116	44	0.00	6.97	14.68	15.08	
Salinas_AP	59	1	81	43	51	27	49	0.07	10.19	12.66	12.91	
Monterey_AP	56	0	70	42	8	0	53	0.08	11.03	19.81	20.35	
King_City_Ag	59	-2	85	41	68	80	35	0.00	6.25	12.06	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	62	2	90	38	84	44	31	0.00	8.43	12.90	13.08	
Sacramento Valley												
Redding	63	2	85	42	117	86	65	0.04	22.79	31.59	33.52	
Red_Bluff	64	-1	85	46	134	129	50	0.88	20.42	22.79	24.07	
Willows_6W	63	2	84	46	113	96	55	0.19	19.60	18.12	19.03	
Oroville	64	2	83	48	106	107	59	0.01	18.73	27.73	28.75	
Marysville	65	-2	86	48	130	186	51	0.01	15.38	21.27	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	64	2	87	47	114	114	41	0.00	12.19	17.34	17.93	
San Joaquin Valley												
Stockton	65	2	89	48	126	144	43	0.01	8.04	13.39	13.84	
Modesto_AP	67	2	90	47	150	203	38	0.00	8.46	12.58	13.12	
Merced_Macready	66	2	92	46	162	144	36	0.00	7.10	12.10	12.50	
Madera_AP	65	0	90	45	130	161	30	0.00	7.67	11.54	11.94	
Fresno_AP	68	3	92	49	221	179	28	0.00	8.15	10.75	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	65	1	92	45	167	167	32	0.00	4.41	7.58	7.89	
Visalia_AP	66	1	88	48	163	176	22	0.00	7.25	10.65	11.03	
Bakersfield	68	0	91	51	258	239	26	0.00	4.93	6.20	6.49	
Cascade Sierra												
Alturas_AP	46	-3	66	24	0	0	61	0.53	6.56	10.30	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	50	-1	70	31	8	0	79	0.26	27.54	36.79	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	51	2	67	38	23	0	71	0.19	44.80	63.36	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	60	6	77	42	42	0	36	0.00	23.33	35.78	37.73	
South Coast												
Santa_Maria_AP	59	3	82	44	45	7	35	0.00	9.57	13.72	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	57	-3	73	46	17	114	28	0.00	10.17	16.67	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	60	0	72	49	161	118	26	0.01	9.73	15.43	15.62	
Riverside_AP	65	-1	81	52	353	259	29	0.00	5.23	9.99	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	62	-1	69	54	158	250	29	0.01	7.52	12.90	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	63	-2	68	58	139	328	38	0.00	8.01	10.55	10.77	
Southeast Interior												
Bishop_AP	62	4	85	38	72	40	14	0.00	3.07	4.57	5.02	
Daggett_AP	74	6	94	53	438	333	18	0.00	1.21	4.05	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	66	4	89	46	163	118	25	0.00	3.46	7.23	7.40	
Thermal	77	2	97	55	655	748	15	0.00	1.38	3.45	3.53	
Blythe_AP	79	5	97	60	783	698	17	0.00	2.98	4.01	4.02	
Imperial_CA	76	3	96	56	670	688	13	0.00	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.

For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

Copyright 2011: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc.

All rights reserved.