



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER

A high pressure system centered over the Four-Corners Region of the Southwest U.S. and spilling across Southern California brought continued warm and dry conditions to California at the start of the week. A series of low pressure systems approached the Pacific Northwest as the week progressed, weakening the high pressure across Northern California and permitted an onshore flow pattern which brought some cooling to the north, especially across the Sacramento River Delta. Another low pressure system moved into Southern California from the southeast. This system was more tropical in nature with abundant moisture; it triggered widespread thunderstorm activity across the southeastern desert and the southern half of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Another Pacific low pressure system brushed by Northern California during the weekend; this system cooled the north and created gusty winds, but brought no precipitation.

FIELD CROPS

Despite a slight cool down compared with the previous two weeks, the weather still promoted rapid crop development. **Cotton** continued to show good fruit retention and fruit development, however, some squares were lost due to the heat spell. Nearly the whole cotton crop had set bolls and set bolls were opening. **Corn** for grain was growing well; while corn for silage was being harvested. Cotton and **rice** crops were rated mostly good to excellent. Rice progressed well due to favorable weather conditions, as heading was nearly complete. **Alfalfa** continued to be cut, raked and baled. **Safflower** fields were past bloom and were drying down. **Garbanzo** bean harvest continued. **Mint** fields were blooming. **Black-eyed** beans were maturing nicely.

FRUIT CROPS

The **peach**, **nectarine** and fresh **plum** harvests continued. Cling peach harvest continued, with good quality and size reported. Table **grape** harvest continued to pick up, with Flame, Princess, Thompson Seedless, Summer Royal and Red Globe varieties being harvested in the San Joaquin Valley. Raisin grapes continued to be cut and laid on paper. Wine grape harvest was ongoing in early varieties; harvest for the remaining varieties was expected to start soon. **Prune** harvest picked up in the Sacramento Valley; cooler night temperatures have resulted in more rapid softening of fruit. **Pomegranate** and **persimmon** fruit continued to gain in size and color. Gala **apple** harvest continued. Fuji and Granny Smith harvests were picking up. Bartlett, Bosc, and Asian **pear** harvests continued throughout the state. **Fig** harvest was ongoing. **Kiwi**, **jujube**, and **olive** fruit continued to grow well. **Strawberries**, **boysenberries**, **loganberries** and **blackberries** were being picked and packed. The Valencia **orange** harvest continued, as the Navel orange harvest had finished for the season. **Tangelos**, **grapefruit** and **lemons** continued to be harvested and packed. Finger **Lime** and **Citron** harvest began for local markets.

NUT CROPS

Almond harvest was in full swing. **Walnuts**, **pistachios** and **pecans** were maturing well. Walnuts were sprayed for weeds, codling moth and husk fly; orchard floors were being cleaned up for harvest. Pistachio growers were preparing for harvest.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Tulare County, summer vegetables including **tomatoes**, **peppers**, **squash**, **eggplant** and **cucumbers** continued to be harvested. Fresno County reported harvesting of **garlic**, bell peppers, **carrots**, **onions**, processed and fresh market tomatoes, **green beans**, **watermelon**, **cantaloupe**, **honeydew**, **beets**, **bittermelon**, **chards**, **choys**, **cucumbers**, **daikon**, eggplant, **kales**, peppers, **spinach**, **squash**, **turnips** and **zucchini**. Merced County reported continued harvest of cantaloupe, honeydew, watermelon, bell pepper and tomatoes. In Stanislaus County, fresh market and roma tomatoes, honeydew and cantaloupe were being harvested. **Broccoli** that was transplanted for October harvest was growing well. **Beans** were being dried for harvest. San Joaquin County reported watermelon, bell peppers, tomatoes and onions being harvested. In Sutter County, harvest continued for processing tomatoes, melons, beans, peppers, squash and fresh market tomatoes, while beans were drying down for harvest.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and non-irrigated pasture quality continued to deteriorate with conditions reported to be fair to poor with some very poor. Irrigated pasture was reported to be in good condition. Watering holes and standing surface water sources were drying up in the San Joaquin Valley. Fire danger was high, though few fires started during the week. Over 80 thousand acres burned during the week due to North California lightning fires started on August 18. Cattle and sheep grazed idle fields, dry land grain and alfalfa fields. Supplemental feeding of hay and nutrients continued. Bees worked alfalfa, melon, squash and sunflower fields.

NASS is currently conducting our annual September surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of September, NASS is surveying U.S. small grains growers for final production. We are also asking hog producers about their summer pig crop, next year's farrowing intentions, and current inventory. The responses will provide the foundation for 2012 production estimates. All participating farmers should respond. Your information matters!

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 8/26/12

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 8/26/12.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal Season	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 8/26/12	January 1 - 8/26/12	July 1 - 8/26/12	Week Ending 8/26/12	July 1 - 8/26/12	July 1 - 8/26/12	July 1 - 6/30/2013
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days /1 --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
North Coast											
Eureka_WFO	57	-3	68	46	3	48	12	0.01	0.80	0.45	38.10
Ukiah	73	2	100	46	1,262	1,080	0	0.00	0.00	0.14	38.90
Santa_Rosa_AG	63	-6	85	45	620	767	0	0.00	0.00	0.13	31.01
Napa_State_Hosp	65	-4	78	51	929	844	0	0.00	0.00	0.12	26.46
Central Coast											
San_Francisco_A	61	-4	71	52	264	338	0	0.00	0.00	0.05	20.11
San_Jose_AP	66	-5	82	55	933	1,135	0	0.00	0.00	0.09	15.08
Salinas_AP	62	-3	70	53	300	371	0	0.00	0.00	0.05	12.91
Monterey_AP	58	-4	66	52	77	147	3	0.00	0.05	0.15	20.35
King_City_Ag	66	-4	84	51	779	905	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	12.30
Paso_Robles_AP	72	-2	101	52	1,367	1,240	1	0.00	0.01	0.03	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	78	1	100	59	2,067	1,905	0	0.00	0.00	0.22	33.52
Red_Bluff	79	-1	101	57	2,127	2,042	0	0.00	0.00	0.19	24.07
Willows_6W	76	2	95	56	1,797	1,568	1	0.00	0.04	0.10	19.03
Oroville	77	3	95	57	1,880	1,699	0	0.00	0.00	0.18	28.75
Marysville	75	-2	97	54	1,840	1,924	0	0.00	0.00	0.10	22.07
Sacramento_AP	73	-3	94	55	1,574	1,503	1	0.00	0.03	0.06	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	74	-3	96	56	1,634	1,719	0	0.00	0.00	0.06	13.84
Modesto_AP	77	1	96	57	1,920	1,829	0	0.00	0.00	0.07	13.12
Merced_Macready	79	3	100	58	2,084	1,815	1	0.00	0.02	0.03	12.50
Madera_AP	78	2	99	58	1,895	1,937	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.94
Fresno_AP	84	6	103	63	2,570	2,107	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.23
Lemoore_NAS	79	4	101	55	2,039	1,881	1	0.00	0.03	0.00	7.89
Visalia_AP	79	3	99	59	2,103	1,921	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.03
Bakersfield	85	4	100	64	2,581	2,357	1	0.00	0.02	0.04	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas_AP	65	2	91	38	544	399	1	0.00	0.06	0.58	12.13
Mount_Shasta_AP	68	4	92	44	766	426	2	0.00	0.07	0.72	39.16
Blue_Canyon	71	6	82	61	923	538	2	0.00	0.48	0.68	66.36
Yosemite_Valley	76	5	97	56	1,492	978	1	0.00	0.05	0.66	37.73
South Coast											
Santa_Maria_AP	64	0	74	54	293	379	1	0.00	0.03	0.04	14.01
Santa_Barbara_A	67	-3	79	58	425	784	1	0.00	0.02	0.10	16.93
Oxnard_NWS	69	3	80	62	742	692	1	0.00	0.05	0.05	15.62
Riverside_AP	79	0	98	62	2,192	1,964	0	0.00	0.00	0.16	10.22
Los_Angeles_AP	72	2	83	64	968	1,134	0	0.00	0.00	0.13	13.15
San_Diego_AP	72	-2	79	66	1,049	1,362	0	0.00	0.00	0.07	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop_AP	76	3	98	51	1,551	1,448	5	0.07	0.24	0.25	5.02
Daggett_AP	89	5	107	70	3,342	2,915	7	0.02	0.45	0.79	4.17
Lancaster_ATC	83	5	102	62	2,344	1,936	1	0.00	0.02	0.20	7.40
Thermal	91	3	107	76	3,934	3,805	5	0.17	0.56	0.48	3.53
Blythe_AP	92	2	107	78	4,255	3,954	9	0.03	2.37	0.90	4.02
Imperial_CA	94	4	107	79	3,998	3,721	3	0.00	1.01	0.33	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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