



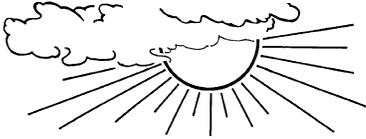
California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: September 16, 2012
RELEASED: September 17, 2012

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 33 NO. 11



WEATHER

The week in weather began with a large scale trough over the Pacific Northwest and a broad high pressure system building over the eastern Pacific Ocean. Early in the week, a weak upper disturbance passed over the Bay Area and parts of the Central Valley, but there were minimal impacts to the surface. Mid level moisture initiated isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms over portions of Southern California on Monday and Tuesday. High pressure strengthened over the state midweek bringing rather dry conditions and slightly warmer than normal temperatures. Warm and dry conditions would persist through the weekend period, with the exception of the northern coasts where scattered light rain was recorded from a small disturbance.

FIELD CROPS

Corn for silage continued to be chopped, and corn for grain was drying down. Over a third of **cotton** bolls were open by week's end. The **rice** crop was progressing well, and heading was nearly complete. Crop harvest was underway and growers started harvest of short grain rice. Cotton and rice crops were rated mostly good to excellent. Producers were preparing for harvest. **Alfalfa** continued to be cut, raked and baled across the state. Some **hay** fields were treated for various insects, although it was reported insect pressure was light. Sunflower crop was progressing through the dry down process; the yellow bracts were turning brown and the brown bracts were being harvested. Black-eyed **peas** were being cut and windrowed in southern Tulare County. Producers started planting their winter small grain crops; however, the majority of producers were still preparing ground.

FRUIT CROPS

Orchards and vineyards continued to be irrigated, due to the warm, dry weather. **Peach**, **nectarine** and fresh **plum** harvests were starting to wind down. Cling peach harvest was nearly complete. Stone fruit orchards that had completed harvest were undergoing pruning, topping, and general orchard cleanup. **Prune** harvest slowed in the Sacramento Valley. Fresh **grape** harvest continued, with Autumn Royal, Red Flame, Red Globe and Thompson Seedless varieties being harvested. Raisin grapes continued to dry, on the vine and on paper; raisins that were done drying were being collected and processed. Red and white wine grape harvest was in full swing across the state. **Persimmons** continued to size and color. Early **pomegranate** harvest started, though most varieties were still coloring. Gala, Fuji and Granny Smith **apple** and Bartlett, Bosc, and Asian **pear** harvests continued. **Fig** harvest was ongoing. **Kiwi** and **olive** fruit continued to mature; harvest for both was expected to begin in a few weeks. New citrus groves were being planted. The Valencia **orange** harvest continued. Oranges were being sorted due to re-greening. Larger sizes were going to juice. **Tangerines** continued to size and color. **Lemons** were picked and packed.

NUT CROPS

Almond harvest was in full swing. **Walnut** and **pistachio** nuts were maturing and harvest began in some locations. **Pecans** were developing well.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Tulare County reported summer vegetables, including **tomatoes**, **peppers**, **squash**, **eggplant** and **cucumbers**, continued to be harvested. In Fresno County, vegetable harvest continued with bell peppers, **carrots**, cucumbers, **daikon**, eggplant, **garlic**, **melons**, **onions**, tomatoes, squash, **basil** and **sweet corn**. Field activities included cultivation, shaping of beds, pesticide applications, irrigation and weed removal. **Broccoli** beds were being prepared with some fields already planted and emerging. Stanislaus County reported tomatoes, **honeydew**, **cantaloupe**, **beans**, squash and **pumpkins** were being harvested. Fall broccoli was growing well, and tomato and cantaloupe fields were being disked after harvest. In San Joaquin County, tomatoes, onions, cucumbers, cantaloupes, **watermelon**, honeydew, **gourds**, bell peppers, squash and pumpkins were being harvested. Sutter County reported produce for certified farmers markets continued to be harvested.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and non-irrigated pasture quality continued to deteriorate with conditions reported to be fair to poor with some in a very poor state. Irrigated pasture was reported to be in good condition. Upper elevation pasture water supplies were drying up in the southern Sierra Mountains. Cattle and sheep grazed idle fields, dry land grain and alfalfa fields. Supplemental feeding of hay and nutrients continued to increase as range quality waned. Bees worked alfalfa, melon, and squash fields.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 9/16/12

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 9/16/12.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal Season	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 9/16/12	January 1 - 9/16/12	July 1 - 9/16/12	Week Ending 9/16/12	July 1 - 9/16/12	July 1 - 9/16/12	July 1 - 6/30/2013
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days ¹ --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
North Coast											
Eureka_WFO	54	-4	64	46	3	69	14	0.03	0.84	0.95	38.10
Ukiah	72	3	97	46	1,484	1,297	0	0.00	0.00	0.48	38.90
Santa_Rosa_AG	65	-4	85	47	727	930	0	0.00	0.00	0.38	31.01
Napa_State_Hosp	68	0	85	47	1,088	1,012	0	0.00	0.00	0.33	26.46
Central Coast											
San_Francisco_A	61	-4	75	51	306	434	0	0.00	0.00	0.16	20.11
San_Jose_AP	66	-4	83	50	1,090	1,349	1	0.00	0.01	0.23	15.08
Salinas_AP	63	-2	74	53	373	476	0	0.00	0.00	0.17	12.91
Monterey_AP	59	-4	68	51	81	213	3	0.00	0.05	0.33	20.35
King_City_Ag	68	-1	92	48	936	1,091	1	0.00	0.01	0.17	12.30
Paso_Robles_AP	75	5	105	47	1,670	1,482	1	0.00	0.01	0.24	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	77	4	100	53	2,405	2,228	0	0.00	0.00	0.43	33.52
Red_Bluff	77	2	99	55	2,475	2,394	0	0.00	0.00	0.54	24.07
Willows_6W	75	3	95	53	2,096	1,844	1	0.00	0.04	0.31	19.03
Oroville	76	5	95	54	2,200	1,965	0	0.00	0.00	0.42	28.75
Marysville	75	2	96	51	2,143	2,233	0	0.00	0.00	0.31	22.07
Sacramento_AP	75	3	97	52	1,860	1,775	1	0.00	0.03	0.27	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	75	2	98	52	1,931	2,019	0	0.00	0.00	0.27	13.84
Modesto_AP	78	5	97	58	2,261	2,134	0	0.00	0.00	0.25	13.12
Merced_Macready	79	6	101	58	2,464	2,126	2	0.00	0.04	0.11	12.50
Madera_AP	78	5	101	57	2,256	2,259	0	0.00	0.00	0.12	11.94
Fresno_AP	84	9	106	67	3,044	2,454	0	0.00	0.00	0.14	11.23
Lemoore_NAS	79	7	104	57	2,418	2,190	1	0.00	0.03	0.19	7.89
Visalia_AP	79	6	100	61	2,479	2,232	0	0.00	0.00	0.14	11.03
Bakersfield	84	8	104	68	3,049	2,748	1	0.00	0.02	0.10	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas_AP	60	2	90	32	583	449	1	0.00	0.06	1.04	12.13
Mount_Shasta_AP	65	6	91	42	877	492	2	0.00	0.07	1.23	39.16
Blue_Canyon	71	9	81	61	1,135	642	3	0.00	0.49	1.46	66.36
Yosemite_Valley	75	8	94	53	1,793	1,167	1	0.00	0.05	1.12	37.73
South Coast											
Santa_Maria_AP	64	-1	77	51	379	484	1	0.00	0.03	0.25	14.01
Santa_Barbara_A	68	2	82	57	592	961	4	0.00	0.10	0.34	16.93
Oxnard_NWS	71	5	87	59	949	840	2	0.00	0.06	0.31	15.62
Riverside_AP	84	8	106	66	2,683	2,335	0	0.00	0.00	0.36	10.22
Los_Angeles_AP	75	5	98	65	1,263	1,359	0	0.00	0.00	0.32	13.15
San_Diego_AP	76	5	101	66	1,379	1,618	0	0.00	0.00	0.19	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop_AP	70	3	94	42	1,797	1,653	6	0.00	0.25	0.45	5.02
Daggett_AP	83	4	100	64	3,897	3,376	7	0.00	0.45	1.03	4.17
Lancaster_ATC	79	6	99	54	2,775	2,250	2	0.00	0.04	0.31	7.40
Thermal	86	2	109	68	4,547	4,366	7	1.42	2.01	0.84	3.53
Blythe_AP	87	0	106	69	4,908	4,553	11	0.07	2.45	1.32	4.02
Imperial_CA	87	2	106	70	4,660	4,311	4	0.02	1.03	0.55	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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