



# California Crop Weather



Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: March 2, 2014  
RELEASED: March 3, 2014

FREQUENCY: Weekly  
VOL. 34 NO. 35

## WEATHER



The start of the week saw a quiet weather pattern over California as high pressure aloft brought sunny and warm conditions to most of the State. Daytime highs during this period ranged in the upper 60s to upper 70s across most of interior California. A strong low pressure system moved into a position off the West Coast by midweek. This feature generated a series of cold fronts, the first of which pushed into California at midweek. This first storm system spread light to moderate amounts of rain across the State on Wednesday and Thursday. A second stronger storm pushed through the State on Friday and Saturday. This storm brought especially heavy rains to Southern California. In the unstable atmosphere behind these fronts, scattered showers developed and brought more showers to the State along with scattered thunderstorms and even an isolated funnel cloud or two. This last surge of showers actually brought some stations up to normal precipitation for the month of February, although all stations are still far below seasonal normal.

## FIELD CROPS

Growers reported improved conditions due to recent rains. Winter forage, small grains, **wheat**, and **alfalfa** were reportedly progressing but dry land crops suffered from drought conditions. Rain prevented farmers from irrigating alfalfa fields. **Oats** were harvested for greenchop. Farmers prepared **corn** fields for planting and **sweet corn** was progressing on schedule.

## FRUIT CROPS

Heavy rains caused many growers to begin applying fungicides to protect from brown rot. Clingstone **peach** bloom began. A few growers were still pruning **prune** trees; prune growers were also finishing dormant sprays. **Cherries** were starting to show bud break. Many stone fruit growers were applying weed and bloom sprays to their orchards. Canes continued to be pruned and tied in **kiwi** and **grape** vineyards. Navel **orange**, Murcott **tangerine**, **lemon** and Minneola **tangelo** harvests continued. Valencia orange harvest began in a few locations. Young citrus trees were pruned.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond** bloom was finishing; trees were beginning to leaf out. Heavy rains knocked some petals off. Growers were applying fungicides to protect trees. Pruning remained active in **walnut**, **pecan**, and **pistachio** orchards.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Tulare County reported **broccoli**, **squash**, **cauliflower**, **peas**, **cabbage**, and **onion**, showed significant growth. Certified organic producers were preparing fields for spring planting. In Fresno County, wet conditions slowed field work. **Asparagus** began to emerge in San Joaquin County. Stanislaus County reported **parsley**, onion, **spinach**, and broccoli were growing well. Harvest of **lettuce**, broccoli, and cauliflower was winding down in Imperial County. **Carrot** harvest continued. **Melon** and **watermelon** were planted.

## LIVESTOCK

Range and non-irrigated pasture are reported to be in poor to fair condition. Extreme drought conditions continued across much of the State. More precipitation is needed to sustain grass growth. Supplemental feeding of hay and grain for livestock continued. Bees are active in most almond orchards throughout the State.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 3/2/14**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 3/2/14	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 3/2/14	January 1 - 3/2/14	July 1 - 3/2/14	Week Ending 3/2/14	July 1 - 3/2/14	July 1 - 3/2/14	July 1 - June 30
-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days /1 --	-- Inches of Precipitation --				
<b>North Coast</b>											
Eureka WFO	53	+5	65	40	120	73	52	0.52	11.63	27.77	38.10
Ukiah	55	+5	76	37	1,756	1,479	29	2.65	10.42	29.77	38.90
Santa Rosa AG	55	+3	74	36	1,169	1,143	23	2.28	11.43	24.00	31.01
Napa State Hosp	59	+6	76	40	1,483	1,222	20	3.03	14.10	20.31	26.46
<b>Central Coast</b>											
San Francisco A	57	+5	71	45	732	567	18	1.34	5.44	15.44	20.11
San Jose AP	58	+3	73	44	1,397	1,613	19	1.89	4.56	11.03	15.08
Salinas AP	59	+7	74	41	740	629	21	2.25	4.47	9.48	12.91
Monterey AP	58	+5	69	42	408	327	26	3.04	5.81	14.90	20.35
King City Ag	58	+4	82	39	1,389	1,312	20	2.32	3.25	8.96	12.30
Paso Robles AP	56	+5	80	37	2,065	1,692	13	2.48	3.89	9.69	13.08
<b>Sacramento Valley</b>											
Redding	54	+4	73	38	2,967	2,524	26	3.73	12.69	24.00	33.52
Red Bluff	55	+4	74	41	3,075	2,759	22	3.40	9.77	17.77	24.07
Willow s 6W	57	+6	73	41	2,499	2,157	22	2.62	7.02	14.27	19.03
Oroville AP	57	+6	74	43	2,533	2,239	22	2.55	9.39	21.27	28.75
Marysville	56	+4	74	39	2,546	2,589	19	1.50	7.65	16.35	22.07
Sacramento AP	57	+5	75	41	2,288	2,096	23	1.44	6.27	13.60	17.93
<b>San Joaquin Valley</b>											
Stockton	57	+5	75	38	2,330	2,347	21	1.67	4.85	10.19	13.84
Modesto AP	58	+4	76	39	2,714	2,487	18	1.80	4.61	9.41	13.12
Merced Macready	59	+7	77	39	2,765	2,459	16	1.27	3.22	9.01	12.50
Madera AP	59	+7	78	41	2,643	2,579	20	1.00	3.38	8.27	11.94
Fresno AP	61	+8	80	48	3,763	2,809	16	1.11	3.40	7.81	11.23
Lemoore NAS	61	+9	84	43	3,227	2,522	14	1.10	1.98	5.44	7.89
Visalia AP	59	+6	77	43	2,927	2,570	10	1.05	2.25	7.71	11.03
Bakersfield AP	61	+7	81	47	3,687	3,196	11	0.32	1.55	4.37	6.49
<b>Cascade Sierra</b>											
Alturas AP	43	+7	67	22	653	451	36	0.32	2.96	7.46	12.13
Mount Shasta AP	45	+6	67	30	978	510	39	2.73	9.19	28.28	39.16
Blue Canyon	43	+5	58	33	1,156	692	32	4.27	24.79	47.87	66.36
Yosemite Valley	48	+6	67	35	1,880	1,278	24	3.26	12.39	27.45	37.73
<b>South Coast</b>											
Santa Maria AP	59	+6	72	40	946	633	20	2.24	3.18	10.03	14.01
Santa Barbara A	58	+2	65	49	1,054	1,210	16	4.24	6.02	12.81	16.93
Oxnard NWS	58	+3	66	48	1,512	1,129	14	4.54	5.70	11.86	15.62
Riverside AP	59	+2	79	44	3,377	2,894	16	0.47	1.62	7.39	10.22
Los Angeles AP	60	+3	67	53	2,022	1,917	14	2.91	4.19	10.00	13.15
San Diego AP	63	+4	69	54	2,075	2,239	22	1.90	4.50	7.63	10.77
<b>Southeast Interior</b>											
Bishop AP	48	+4	72	28	2,083	1,770	15	1.71	2.76	3.75	5.02
Daggett AP	59	+5	78	42	4,564	3,890	15	0.18	3.02	3.29	4.17
Lancaster ATC	53	+4	75	32	3,150	2,510	14	1.98	3.70	5.59	7.40
Thermal	63	+2	84	40	5,535	5,265	10	0.08	1.70	3.00	3.53
Blythe AP	65	+5	82	45	5,992	5,468	18	0.11	2.65	3.43	4.02
Imperial CA	66	+5	82	45	5,829	5,325	12	0.01	2.12	2.58	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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