



# California Crop Weather

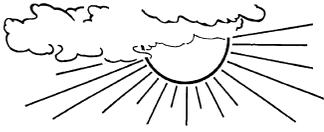
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

Pacific Region • P.O. Box 1258 • Sacramento, CA 95812 • (916) 498-5161 • (855) 270-2722 FAX • [www.nass.usda.gov/ca](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca)

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RELEASED: March 10, 2014

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## WEATHER



A weather disturbance that spread showers all across the State moved out of California at the beginning of the week. High pressure developed over Southern California after the weather system passed, bringing dry and mild conditions to that part of the State, while a series of weaker frontal systems pushed through

the north. These weather disturbances brought widespread showers through midweek for the northern coast and mountains. High pressure built into Northern California from the South by Thursday, bringing drier and warmer conditions to that region as well as Southern California. In the South, a moderate Santa Ana wind episode developed by Thursday and continued through Saturday, resulting in warm and dry conditions for the Southland. On Sunday, the high pressure ridge was beginning to shift east and another cold front approached Northern California, spreading clouds across the northern interior and bringing showers to the far northern coast.

## FIELD CROPS

**Alfalfa** fields were sprayed for aphids and weevils. Aphids have subsided and favorable conditions were reported. Growers in Kern and Tulare County have not had their first cutting but Imperial County farmers are working on their second cutting. Field **corn** was planted in the Southland. **Wheat** irrigation continues and is ahead of schedule due to drought conditions. Growers in the Sacramento Valley applied herbicides. **Cotton** fields were prepared for planting in Fresno County.

## FRUIT CROPS

Warm temperatures caused early bloom in orchards. **Peach, nectarine, plum, cherry** and **apricot** trees were in bloom. Pruning was complete in most **grape** vineyards. Bud swell occurred early due to unusually warm weather. Some vines began to leaf out. **Kiwi** plantings were showing bud break. Navel **orange**, Murcott **tangerine, grapefruit, lemon** and Minneola **tangelo** harvests continued. Valencia orange harvest was underway in a few locations. Sampling for freeze damage continued in Fresno County. Nets were placed over mandarin trees to prevent pollination from bees. Young citrus trees were pruned.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond** leaf out began on a wider scale as petal fall began to wind down. Growers applied fungicides to protect trees. Pruning remained active in **walnut, pecan, and pistachio** orchards. Pistachio orchards were sprayed with herbicides.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Winter crops of **broccoli, gailon, cauliflower, cabbage, chard, collard greens** and **kale** were harvested in Fresno County. **Asparagus** fields emerged. **Onions** and **garlic** progressed. **Carrots** were in all stages of progression, from planting to harvesting. Processing **tomato** beds received fumigation in preparation for spring transplant. Spring **lettuce** received insecticide applications. **Sweet potato** hot beds were planted in Merced County. **Parsley, onion, spinach,** and broccoli were growing well in Stanislaus County. Broccoli and spinach were harvested. Broccoli was also planted. Brassicas and lettuce planting remained active in Monterey County. Mustard covered many of the **Brussels sprout** fields in San Mateo County.

## LIVESTOCK

February's precipitation provided ranchers with emerging grass, though the amount is still inadequate due to the drought. Range and non-irrigated pastures were in poor to fair condition. Typically livestock supplemental feeding of hay and grain declines in the spring, but it continued unabated due to the lack of quality forage. Sheep grazed on harvested carrot fields and alfalfa. Bees were active as weather permitted. The quality of many hives was stronger than last year. As almond bloom drew to a close, bees were moved to stone fruit orchards for pollination.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 3/9/14**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 3/9/14	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 3/9/14	January 1 - 3/9/14	July 1 - 3/9/14	Week Ending 3/9/14	July 1 - 3/9/14	July 1 - 3/9/14	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days /1--	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
<b>North Coast</b>											
Eureka WFO	56	+7	65	43	120	73	57	2.20	13.83	29.15	38.10
Ukiah	56	+5	73	39	1,756	1,479	34	2.20	12.62	31.34	38.90
Santa Rosa AG	57	+4	72	39	1,171	1,143	27	0.75	12.18	25.29	31.01
Napa State Hosp	59	+6	73	43	1,487	1,222	23	0.75	14.85	21.41	26.46
<b>Central Coast</b>											
San Francisco A	58	+6	68	48	736	567	20	0.24	5.68	16.31	20.11
San Jose AP	61	+6	81	45	1,411	1,613	21	0.19	4.75	11.73	15.08
Salinas AP	60	+8	79	44	750	629	23	0.10	4.57	10.09	12.91
Monterey AP	59	+6	76	45	414	327	29	0.12	5.93	15.81	20.35
King City Ag	62	+7	80	43	1,405	1,312	23	0.02	3.45	9.60	12.30
Paso Robles AP	59	+7	77	40	2,072	1,692	13	0.00	3.89	10.39	13.08
<b>Sacramento Valley</b>											
Redding	56	+5	71	42	2,967	2,524	31	2.17	14.86	25.30	33.52
Red Bluff	58	+5	72	44	3,077	2,759	27	1.16	10.93	18.71	24.07
Willow s 6W	57	+6	70	42	2,500	2,157	27	1.36	8.38	15.06	19.03
Oroville AP	59	+7	72	44	2,536	2,239	27	1.79	11.18	22.49	28.75
Marysville	59	+5	72	43	2,549	2,589	21	0.86	8.51	17.26	22.07
Sacramento AP	59	+6	71	45	2,291	2,096	25	0.40	6.67	14.36	17.93
<b>San Joaquin Valley</b>											
Stockton	59	+6	74	43	2,336	2,347	24	0.53	5.38	10.75	13.84
Modesto AP	60	+5	75	43	2,725	2,487	20	0.31	4.92	9.97	13.12
Merced Macready	60	+7	75	44	2,778	2,459	19	0.45	3.67	9.57	12.50
Madera AP	60	+7	75	44	2,653	2,579	23	0.17	3.55	8.83	11.94
Fresno AP	63	+9	77	47	3,786	2,809	17	0.02	3.42	8.37	11.23
Lemoore NAS	63	+10	79	44	3,251	2,522	14	0.00	1.98	5.86	7.89
Visalia AP	60	+6	73	43	2,935	2,570	10	0.00	2.25	8.27	11.03
Bakersfield AP	61	+6	83	42	3,704	3,196	11	0.00	1.55	4.72	6.49
<b>Cascade Sierra</b>											
Alturas AP	44	+8	66	24	653	451	40	0.68	3.64	7.81	12.13
Mount Shasta AP	46	+7	66	30	978	510	44	1.79	10.98	29.78	39.16
Blue Canyon	45	+6	58	34	1,156	692	37	3.19	27.98	50.57	66.36
Yosemite Valley	50	+8	68	34	1,880	1,278	26	0.56	12.95	28.98	37.73
<b>South Coast</b>											
Santa Maria AP	62	+9	86	46	964	633	20	0.00	3.18	10.80	14.01
Santa Barbara A	62	+7	83	46	1,077	1,210	16	0.00	6.02	13.79	16.93
Oxnard NWS	62	+7	84	49	1,532	1,129	14	0.00	5.70	12.72	15.62
Riverside AP	65	+8	84	48	3,417	2,903	16	0.00	1.62	7.95	10.22
Los Angeles AP	63	+6	85	53	2,045	1,929	14	0.00	4.19	10.67	13.15
San Diego AP	64	+6	83	52	2,107	2,253	22	0.00	4.50	8.19	10.77
<b>Southeast Interior</b>											
Bishop AP	51	+6	74	29	2,083	1,770	15	0.00	2.76	3.94	5.02
Daggett AP	61	+6	80	43	4,578	3,890	15	0.00	3.02	3.43	4.17
Lancaster ATC	56	+7	74	34	3,150	2,510	14	0.00	3.70	5.98	7.40
Thermal	69	+6	90	47	5,597	5,298	10	0.00	1.70	3.14	3.53
Blythe AP	69	+8	86	48	6,059	5,497	18	0.00	2.65	3.57	4.02
Imperial CA	69	+7	88	49	5,892	5,356	12	0.00	2.12	2.65	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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