



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

WEEK ENDING: August 17, 2014
RELEASED: August 18, 2014

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 35 NO. 7

WEATHER



The early part of the week featured a monsoonal moisture system expanding north across the State from the desert southwest to the Baja region. This was the major driver for widespread thunderstorm activity that affected most of the mountain and desert regions. Localized heavy rain and severe hail were observed over the eastern mountains with local flash flooding in the southern mountains and desert region. Temperatures early in the week were above normal

statewide. The monsoonal moisture then began to shift east and south by the middle of the week with temperatures cooler as an onshore flow and low pressure troughing pattern developed. This low pressure trough generated some light precipitation amounts for the immediate North Coast region but dry conditions elsewhere. By the later part of the week, high pressure began to rebuild statewide with temperatures warming to above normal levels. This return of high pressure also brought some monsoonal moisture back into the southern region of the State with localized flash flooding observed in the mountain areas.

FIELD CROPS

Alfalfa was cut, dried, and baled. Growers sprayed for aphids. Second crop **silage sorghum** was up and making excellent progress. In **cotton**, bolls were opening on a wider and mostly earlier basis. Some opened in stressed areas and bolls were popping in places with no apparent stress. **Sudan grass** was showing significant growth. Irrigation was winding down in places now, earlier than normal in some cases. Some fields were left fallow due to water issues.

FRUIT CROPS

The **nectarine, peach** and inter-specific **plums** were picked, packed, and shipped to both local and foreign markets. Cling peach harvest was ongoing with yield, size and quality of the fruit being very good to excellent. **Prunes** were progressing well in the Sacramento Valley and Yuba County. **Raisin** grape harvest began in some areas of Tulare County. Table **grape** harvest increased, with Red Globe, Flame Seedless, Scarlet Royal, Princess, and Thompson varieties harvested in San Joaquin Valley. Harvest continued in early champagne grape and a few early variety vineyards. Other wine grapes were showing veraison. **Apple** harvest continued, with Gala and Gingerfold varieties picked. Later apple varieties were sugaring nicely. The harvest of late navel and Valencia **oranges** continued, but has slowed. **Tangelos, grapefruit** and **lemons** continued to be harvested and packed. Bartlett, Bosc, and Asian **pear** harvests were ongoing throughout the State. **Olive, fig, kiwi** and **pomegranate** fruit continued to grow well with some pomegranates harvested in Tulare County.

NUT CROPS

Shaking for the Nonpareil **almond** continued in Tulare, Fresno, Kern, Sutter, and Yuba Counties. Hull rot and some mold became more apparent in some areas with high humidity cited as the major contributing factor. Various diseases are also building in some almonds orchards in the lower San Joaquin Valley. Scab is blowing up in some hard shells, especially the Padre variety. Rust has increased over the last couple of weeks. In Stanislaus County, most of the Nonpareil almonds have been windrowed or they are now shaken. There is a higher level of hull rot this year, which makes nuts stick. In Merced County, there is uneven ripening, some hard-to-remove nuts, and nuts that are still green. Spider mites continued to flare in scattered almond blocks, as well as in **walnuts**. In Fresno County, walnuts are developing quickly. The Ashley husks were already splitting. Overall, walnuts maturation is 2 weeks ahead of schedule. Spraying continued for **Pistachio** in Kern County with scattered alternaria outbreaks and some eggs and small worms found in some, so application timing was good.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Tomato harvest continued in many counties including reports from Sutter, Merced, Fresno, and Tulare. Reported production was good with some decrease in yield due to heat and lack of water. There have been reports of powdery mildew in fields with a later harvest date. In Sutter County, tomatoes, **melons, green beans, Bell peppers, squash, eggplant** and **cucumbers** were harvested for farmers markets. In Monterey County, lettuce and brassicas are in production with field conditions reported as good. In San Mateo County, beans and **Brussel sprouts** are growing and **peas** are being harvested. In Tulare County, melons, beans, peppers, sweet corn, squash, and eggplant harvest continued with produce being sold at roadside stands and certified farmers markets.

LIVESTOCK

Range conditions continued to be very dry with little forage for cattle to feed in all elevations. Herd reduction continued in response to shortage of feed. Available water at the lower elevation continued to decline. Fire danger remained high across the State. Sheep and cattle grazed on idle fields, dry land grain, and alfalfa fields. Supplemental feeding of cattle continued. Bees worked alfalfa, sunflower, melon, and squash 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 8/17/14

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 8/17/14	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 8/17/14	January 1 - 8/17/14	July 1 - 8/17/14	Week Ending 8/17/14	July 1 - 8/17/14	July 1 - 8/17/14	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days /1--	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
North Coast											
Eureka_WFO	60	+2	67	52	34	39	2	0.01	0.03	0.33	38.10
Ukiah	73	+2	99	53	1,420	960	0	0.00	0.00	0.05	38.90
Santa_Rosa_AP	68	+1	85	53	806	687	0	0.00	0.00	0.06	31.01
Napa_State_Hosp	69	0	85	53	1,067	764	1	0.00	0.05	0.05	26.46
Central Coast											
San_Francisco_A	68	+5	79	57	698	298	0	0.00	0.00	0.03	20.11
San_Jose_AP	69	-3	81	57	1,024	1,026	0	0.00	0.00	0.06	15.08
Salinas_AP	65	+2	75	56	485	329	1	0.00	0.01	0.04	12.91
Monterey_AP	64	+3	75	54	368	127	1	0.00	0.01	0.09	20.35
King_City_Ag	71	+2	89	53	1,046	815	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	12.30
Paso_Robles_AP	74	0	102	50	1,489	1,107	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	79	0	101	61	2,144	1,727	5	0.00	0.19	0.13	33.52
Red_Bluff	79	-2	100	61	2,240	1,853	4	0.00	0.29	0.10	24.07
Willow_s_6W	77	+3	95	59	1,952	1,422	1	0.00	0.15	0.06	19.03
Oroville_AP	79	+4	99	60	2,103	1,546	2	0.00	0.21	0.09	28.75
Marysville	77	-1	100	56	1,881	1,757	1	0.00	0.01	0.07	22.07
Sacramento_AP	75	+1	95	57	1,658	1,360	1	0.00	0.01	0.05	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	76	-1	96	55	1,739	1,559	0	0.00	0.00	0.05	13.84
Modesto_AP	77	0	96	59	1,954	1,668	0	0.00	0.00	0.05	13.12
Merced_Macready	79	+2	99	62	2,110	1,647	0	0.00	0.00	0.03	12.50
Madera_AP	81	+3	101	62	2,055	1,759	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	11.94
Fresno_AP	85	+6	103	68	2,723	1,916	1	0.00	0.01	0.01	11.23
Lemoore_NAS	82	+5	102	62	2,310	1,714	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.89
Visalia_AP	82	+4	99	61	2,157	1,748	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	11.03
Bakersfield_AP	86	+5	102	69	2,776	2,144	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas_AP	67	+2	91	40	666	354	8	0.04	0.84	0.47	12.13
Mount_Shasta_AP	67	+2	91	48	852	378	6	0.02	0.45	0.56	39.16
Blue_Canyon	69	+2	79	57	842	469	4	0.00	0.65	0.54	66.36
Yosemite_Valley	77	+5	101	55	1,511	859	3	0.00	0.21	0.58	37.73
South Coast											
Santa_Maria_AP	67	+4	81	56	860	329	0	0.00	0.00	0.03	14.01
Santa_Barbara_A	67	-3	79	57	837	694	1	0.00	0.01	0.03	16.93
Oxnard_NWS	68	+2	77	57	1,023	620	1	0.00	0.03	0.02	15.62
Riverside_AP	81	+2	99	64	2,258	1,774	2	0.00	0.05	0.06	10.22
Los_Angeles_AP	71	0	77	63	1,396	1,024	2	0.00	0.17	0.03	13.15
San_Diego_AP	75	+3	82	69	1,669	1,232	2	0.00	0.07	0.03	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop_AP	75	-2	100	50	1,566	1,311	0	0.00	0.00	0.17	5.02
Daggett_AP	88	+2	108	68	3,156	2,660	2	0.00	0.03	0.70	4.17
Lancaster_ATC	81	+2	102	63	2,070	1,751	1	0.00	0.03	0.10	7.40
Thermal	92	+2	112	72	3,840	3,510	3	0.00	0.32	0.36	3.53
Blythe_AP	94	+2	111	75	4,096	3,638	2	0.08	0.08	0.66	4.02
Imperial_CA	95	+5	111	80	3,934	3,415	2	0.00	0.07	0.23	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 2013: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc.

All rights reserved.