



# 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)

**WEEK ENDING: February 28, 2016**  
**RELEASED: February 29, 2016**

**FREQUENCY: Weekly**  
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## WEATHER

Highs this week were in the 40s to 60s in the mountains, largely dependent on elevation; 60s to 70s in the valley; 60s to 80s along the coast from north to south; and 70s to 80s in the deserts. Lows were typically in the 10s to 40s in the mountains again largely based on elevation; 30s to 40s in the valley; 30s to 50s in the desert; and 40s to 50s along the coast from north to south. Some locations at the highest elevations in the mountains dropped into the single digits on Thursday night, whereas some areas in the desert exceeded 90 degrees at least one day.

The only area of the state that recorded any rainfall were the northern fringe of the state in the mountains north of Redding. Up to a tenth of an inch of liquid precipitation fell on Friday morning. At higher elevations, there was snow and a mixture of rain, with a possible one inch of accumulations in places (particularly Mt. Shasta). No precipitation was reported elsewhere.

## FIELD CROPS

Warm, sunny weather assisted in drying fields so groundwork and preparation continued. **Rice** fields were mostly drained. **Cotton** beds were being prepared and **alfalfa** was getting ready for the first cutting. Winter forage crops continued to grow well with the warmer weather. Herbicide sprays were applied to winter grain and alfalfa crops. Black-eyed **beans** were shipped.

## FRUIT CROPS

Orchards were sprayed and mowed as necessary for weed control. In Yuba County, some **peach** and **prune** orchards were pruned. Some brown rot control was done in stone fruit orchards. In San Joaquin County, the **cherry** bloom had begun and growers prepared for the application of bloom sprays. **Grapevine** pruning continued. In Tulare County, midseason stone fruit varieties were in full bloom. Early season varieties were showing signs of leaf growth. Grapevines continued to be pruned and tied. Weed control were performed on berms. **Pomegranate** orchards were pruned. **Kiwifruit** continued to be packed for shipment to foreign markets. Navel **oranges**, **tangerines**, Minneola **tangelos**, and **lemons** continued to be harvested. Citrus groves continued to be topped and skirted, with pruned brush shredded. New trees were planted to replace old groves. Seedless tangerines were netted to prevent cross pollination during the upcoming citrus bloom season.

## NUT CROPS

Warm weather aided **almond** bloom progression. Most almond orchards were in full bloom and the application of bloom sprays continued. Packing houses continued to pack **walnuts**, almonds, and **pistachios** for foreign and domestic markets.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

The **asparagus** harvest started in Colusa and San Joaquin counties. In San Mateo County, **Brussels sprouts** fields were fumigated. In Fresno County, **onions**, **garlic**, and processing **tomatoes** were planted. Fields for **lettuce** seed, **Bell peppers**, and spring **carrots** were fumigated. Onions were fertilized. **Kale**, **arugula**, and **Mazuna mustard** for seed were all blooming. The kale was treated for downy mildew. In Tulare County, **broccoli**, **cabbage**, **cauliflower**, carrots, and Brussels sprouts were harvested and sold at Farmer's Markets.

## LIVESTOCK

Valley and foothill non-irrigated pasture grasses and forbs capitalized on the recent precipitation and the above normal temperatures with a flourish of new growth. Some early grasses were already developing seed. Cattle and sheep were feeding on the verdant rangeland from the coast to foothills. Sheep also grazed some fallow and abandoned fields. Dairies were drying out while the warm days stimulated milk production. During the sunny days bees were active in almond orchards. Some hives were moved into stone fruit orchards as the early varieties started to bloom.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 2/28/2016**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION <sup>1/</sup>			
	Average Week Ending 2/28/2016	Departure from Normal <sup>2/</sup>	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year <sup>2/</sup>	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season <sup>2/</sup>	Normal Year <sup>2/</sup>
					January 1-2/28/2016	January 1-2/28/2016	July 1-2/28/2016	Week Ending 2/28/2016	July 1-2/28/2016	July 1-2/28/2016	July 1-June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days <sup>3/</sup> --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
<b>North Coast</b>											
Eureka WFO	51	3	64	39	4	0	98	0.28	36.89	27.37	38.10
Ukiah	55	5	73	36	7	0	69	0.08	25.73	29.31	38.90
Santa Rosa AP	56	4	74	38	13	0	54	0	18.89	23.61	31.01
Napa State Hosp	58	6	75	40	21	0	55	0	15.21	19.98	26.46
<b>Central Coast</b>											
San Francisco A	59	6	70	48	14	0	42	0.00	12.57	15.18	20.11
San Jose AP	60	6	77	44	32	0	37	0	9.10	10.83	15.08
Salinas AP	59	7	76	40	35	0	36	0	9.70	9.30	12.91
Monterey AP	58	5	75	44	34	0	45	0	15.58	14.64	20.35
King City Ag	59	6	82	39	16	0	39	0	5.81	8.76	12.30
Paso Robles AP	56	5	79	35	2	0	32	0	7.50	9.49	13.08
<b>Sacramento Valley</b>											
Redding	57	8	76	40	23	0	61	0.07	27.41	23.62	33.52
Red Bluff	57	5	73	41	16	0	54	0	18.30	17.49	24.07
Willows 6W	56	6	74	40	18	0	40	0	10.97	14.03	19.03
Oroville AP	57	6	71	40	10	0	58	0.00	13.88	20.91	28.75
Marysville	57	4	74	38	5	0	48	0.00	13.53	16.09	22.07
Sacramento AP	57	5	74	39	5	0	45	0.00	11.82	13.38	17.93
<b>San Joaquin Valley</b>											
Stockton	57	5	75	37	6	0	48	0	12.27	10.01	13.84
Modesto AP	59	5	76	41	9	0	34	0	9.58	9.23	13.12
Merced Macready	55	3	73	38	1	0	34	0.00	8.61	8.84	12.50
Madera AP	58	6	76	39	7	0	37	0	8.59	8.11	11.94
Fresno AP	60	8	77	44	14	0	43	0	10.45	7.65	11.23
Lemoore NAS	58	6	77	37	5	0	28	0	4.80	5.32	7.89
Visalia AP	57	4	75	39	0	0	37	0.00	7.12	7.57	11.03
Bakersfield AP	61	7	82	43	25	0	24	0	3.46	4.27	6.49
<b>Cascade Sierra</b>											
Alturas AP	43	7	66	19	0	0	77	0.05	10.82	7.36	12.13
Mount Shasta AP	45	7	66	26	0	0	79	0.16	30.31	27.84	39.16
Blue Canyon	50	13	61	39	0	0	63	0.00	45.41	47.07	66.36
Yosemite Valley	51	10	70	32	0	0	54	0.00	27.78	26.99	37.73
<b>South Coast</b>											
Santa Maria AP	62	9	82	43	59	0	38	0	5.26	9.79	14.01
Santa Barbara A	60	5	80	43	41	0	27	0	8.84	12.51	16.93
Oxnard NWS	64	8	83	43	140	5	21	0	6.64	11.60	15.62
Riverside AP	66	10	86	46	176	25	28	0	7.78	7.23	10.22
Los Angeles AP	65	8	83	51	128	67	28	0	8.51	9.80	13.15
San Diego AP	65	7	81	52	156	86	37	0	9.09	7.47	10.77
<b>Southeast Interior</b>											
Bishop AP	51	8	76	26	0	0	15	0	2.17	3.69	5.02
Daggett AP	60	7	81	34	38	0	25	0	2.10	3.25	4.17
Lancaster ATC	57	9	80	28	17	0	22	0	6.07	5.47	7.40
Thermal	65	4	91	37	151	74	10	0	2.51	2.96	3.53
Blythe AP	67	7	87	46	192	61	15	0	1.72	3.39	4.02
Imperial CA	67	7	89	45	193	87	12	0	0.93	2.56	2.96

<sup>1/</sup> Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice).

<sup>2/</sup> Normal periods 1970-2000 used in Departure From Normal calculations.

<sup>3/</sup> Total number of days with precipitation events this season.

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