

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
California Field Office

WEEK ENDING: November 27, 2005
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WEATHER



Very warm and dry conditions continued through most of the week. Much above normal temperatures were reported early in the week from all over the State. Multiple locations in northern, central, and southern California reported record high temperatures on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Thursday night and Friday brought an abrupt change to the good weather. A low pressure system swept down from the Gulf of Alaska. This system brought rain to northern California Friday, with heavy rain to the northern Sierra Nevada Mountains. Late on Friday and into Saturday morning the system sagged south bringing welcomed measurable precipitation as far south as San Diego. This system caused temperatures to plummet. Below normal temperatures were reported Statewide over the weekend, with a record low temperature being reported in Salinas on Sunday.

FIELD CROPS

Cotton harvest continued to wind down as did the cotton plow-down. Field preparation for fall planting of **winter forage, wheat, barley, and oat** crops was ongoing. Some **rice** fields were flooded for decomposition of rice stubble and a few late planted rice fields were still being harvested. Planting of new **alfalfa** fields was ongoing. Wheat planting was at different stages depending on the region of the State. Some counties report wheat plantings as complete while other counties have just begun planting wheat. Silage **corn** harvest was almost complete while previously harvested corn fields were being disced in preparation for fall planting.

FRUIT CROPS

Raisin grape growers were removing terraces, leveling the drives between rows, and irrigating. Harvesting of **table grapes** continued but was winding down. Varieties picked included Red Globe, Christmas Rose, Crimson Seedless, and Emperor. Stone fruit growers continued post-harvest activities such as pruning, irrigation, weeding, and manure and compost spreading. Harvesting continued of **Asian pears, apples, pomegranates, persimmons, figs, and kiwifruit**. Fall **strawberries** were sold at roadside stands in the San Joaquin Valley, and new fields of **blueberries** were planted. **Navel** orange maturity continued to improve, but harvesting slowed because of the Thanksgiving holiday. The lull in harvest allowed the fruit more time to gain color and increase sugar levels. Navel varieties picked and packed included Fukumoto, Newhall, Early Beck, and Bonanza. Most remaining groves of **Valencia** oranges went straight for juice. **Lemons, pummelos, and grapefruit** were picked and packed. The harvest of Owari and Clementine varieties of **tangerines** gained momentum. **Olive** harvesting for canning was complete.

NUT CROPS

Pecan harvest remained underway in the Clovis district. Post harvest pruning, shredding, irrigating, weeding, and manure and compost spreading were underway in many nut orchards.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Vegetable field work was complete on the northern coast of the State. **Legumes, lettuce, and spinach** planting was winding down in Tulare County while **broccoli, cardis, daikon, eggplant, okra, oriental squash,** and spinach was expected to end soon. In Fresno County broccoli and lettuce fields were being sprayed for worms and other insects. **Asian vegetables, baby leaf spring mix, basil, cauliflower, cucumbers, fall melons, green beans, organic cilantro, parsley, radicchio, sweet corn, and winter squash** continued to be harvested.

LIVESTOCK

Winter foothill pastures continued to be dry in many areas due to unseasonably warm weather. Cooler nocturnal temperatures and light rain in some areas have reduced fire danger to moderate. Light rains in the northern parts of the State improved conditions of pastures and range. Protein supplements were being fed to cattle across the State. Sheep were still grazing on alfalfa fields. Predator problems were reported in the Sutter Buttes. Warm dry weather continued to boost milk production. Out-of-state beekeepers continued to bring bees into California to overwinter.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 11/27/05

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 11/27/05	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 11/27/05	January 1 - 11/27/05	Week Ending 11/27/05	July 1 - 11/27/05	July 1 - 11/27/05	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	46	-5	61	35	6	0	1.53	12.32	9.09	37.53
Ukiah	50	0	72	29	1,425	1,454	0.64	3.99	7.80	37.96
Santa Rosa	52	0	73	31	773	923	0.76	2.77	6.27	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	54	1	69	38	524	443	0.14	1.20	3.54	19.70
San Jose	55	2	71	36	1,284	1,334	0.15	0.30	2.78	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1,599	1,457	0.00	0.00	2.69	14.21
Salinas AP	54	1	79	32	451	432	0.13	0.54	2.33	12.44
Monterey FAA	54	1	74	36	160	145	0.16	0.45	3.91	18.72
King City	54	3	84	28	1,259	1,043	0.01	0.47	1.99	11.44
Paso Robles AP	54	4	79	25	1,618	1,552	0.00	0.51	1.98	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	50	1	76	30	2,583	2,504	0.87	3.25	6.26	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	51	2	74	34	2,484	2,610	0.82	4.43	5.16	22.29
Chico AFS	54	5	78	28	2,353	2,043	0.36	3.51	5.01	26.32
Marysville	52	0	72	32	2,354	2,442	0.43	2.60	4.26	21.04
Sacramento AP	52	1	72	31	1,954	1,932	0.37	0.90	3.29	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	52	2	74	30	2,332	2,214	0.06	0.78	2.83	13.95
Fresno	56	5	76	33	2,979	2,792	0.00	0.34	1.92	10.60
Bakersfield	56	3	77	36	3,049	3,128	0.13	0.58	1.10	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	56	2	82	32	442	410	0.03	2.81	2.00	12.36
Santa Barbara	58	3	80	35	563	736	0.00	3.31	2.55	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	1,053	940	0.00	0.00	2.08	14.38
Los Angeles	64	3	84	45	2,120	2,450	0.00	1.53	1.78	14.77
Riverside	64	7	88	46	2,653	2,377	0.00	1.64	1.41	9.58
San Diego AP	62	2	79	49	1,701	1,798	0.06	0.85	1.71	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	45	3	69	18	1,655	1,552	0.00	1.23	1.19	5.37
Lancaster	50	2	77	24	2,429	2,343	0.00	2.58	1.25	6.92
Daggett AP	55	1	79	31	3,878	3,937	0.00	1.00	1.48	3.93
Thermal AP	62	4	86	38	5,104	4,870	0.00	2.08	1.32	3.16
Blythe	62	3	83	45	5,460	5,381	0.00	2.20	1.93	3.60
Imperial	63	3	82	43	5,316	5,159	0.00	1.81	1.26	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	37	3	64	18	558	296	0.08	3.41	3.35	12.01
Mt. Shasta	40	2	63	23	702	446	0.50	5.60	8.56	37.02
Blue Canyon	46	5	60	27	877	574	1.60	6.15	15.13	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	1,295	1,090	0.00	0.00	8.31	37.05

Normal is defined as average over the 30-year period 1961 through 1990. Dashes (-) in Average Week Ending and Departure from Normal columns mean less than five days reporting, while in High and Low columns mean no days reporting.

Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data are quality controlled by the National Climatic Data Center, the accumulated growing degree day and precipitation values are updated.