

# CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service  
California Field Office

WEEK ENDING: February 5, 2006  
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## WEATHER



Monday through Friday a series of low pressure troughs moved through northern California on zonal flow. This brought rain and snow to most of the northern half of California, while southern California remained dry through the week. Over the weekend, one last weak trough moved through northern California and brought light rain and snow from the Bay area through the north, while areas to the south remained dry.

## FIELD CROPS

Herbicide spraying for weed control in **wheat** and **oat** fields was ongoing in all regions of the State. Forage crops such as wheat, **barley**, and oats were growing well due to cool and sunny conditions. Field work continued in preparation for spring planting, and dry land grain planting continued in Tulare County. Stanislaus County reported newly planted **alfalfa** crops were beginning to emerge and alfalfa fields were being sprayed with dormancy sprays due to the warmer weather. In Merced County, **sugar beets** continued to be treated for voles. **Sweet potato** hotbed field fumigations continued to wind down while sweet potato hotbed preparations and some seeding continued.

## FRUIT CROPS

Buds continued to swell in many orchards, and the warm weather has caused some early varieties of tree fruit to begin pushing buds. Dormant solutions and herbicides continued to be applied in stone fruit orchards. Replanting of fruit trees began. Pre-emergent herbicide applications in vine and tree acreage continued at a rapid pace. Pruning continued in vineyards, and canes were being tied in Thompson Seedless varieties. The harvesting of **Navel oranges, tangelos, pommelos, lemons, mandarins, and tangerines** was ongoing. Problems with puff and crease in Navels have increased grade-out at packing houses. **Grapefruit** and grapefruit hybrid harvest continued. Applications of copper, lime, and zinc continued in order to control fungal disease as well as to comply with export requirements. Packers were concerned about the shortage of pickers. **Olive** orchards continued to be pruned with brush being shredded.

## NUT CROPS

Bee hives continued to be placed in **almond** orchards. Almond trees were in the popcorn stage with a few trees already showing blooms. Replanting of nut trees began. Pruning and dormant sprays continued in nut orchards as field conditions permitted.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Warming temperatures promoted vigorous growth in **broccoli, lettuce, cabbage** and **spinach** fields in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Conditions improved for field activities, permitting resumption of spring planting preparations. As conditions permitted some fields were fumigated and sprayed for pre-planting weed control. Lettuce and **onion** fields were weeded, thinned and sprayed for aphids and mildew in western Fresno County. Onions for processing were planted. **Tomato** transplants were also planted in a few fields. Some late winter vegetables continued to be harvested. Broccoli, lettuce, greenhouse vegetables, **mustard greens**, and **radicchio** were harvested. Cool season Asian vegetables including **bok choy, gai choy, yu choy, gailon, daikon, napa cabbage** and **sugar pea leaf** were also reported harvested.

## LIVESTOCK

Winter foothill pastures were in good condition and improving. Supplemental feeding of cattle continued but was limited to a few areas. Branding of fall calves continued. Lambing season was essentially complete across the state. Sheep were grazed on retired crop land and old alfalfa fields. Beehives were being moved into almond and stone fruit orchards in preparation for the upcoming almond pollination. Conditions at many dairies were improving as pens were beginning to dry.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 02/05/06**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 02/05/06	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 02/05/06	January 1 - 02/05/06	Week Ending 02/05/06	July 1 - 02/05/06	July 1 - 02/05/06	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
<b>NORTH COAST</b>										
Eureka	50	0	64	34	0	0	4.38	44.83	22.75	37.53
Ukiah	50	1	64	30	0	0	1.69	28.94	23.56	37.96
Santa Rosa	52	1	67	31	0	0	1.06	26.69	18.56	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	54	3	62	42	0	0	0.47	14.53	11.97	19.70
San Jose	55	4	66	39	1	0	0.10	9.25	8.58	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1	0	0.00	0.00	8.47	14.21
Salinas AP	54	2	70	41	0	0	0.28	5.76	7.15	12.44
Monterey FAA	53	2	72	41	0	0	0.03	5.80	8.73	18.72
King City	54	3	74	35	1	0	0.02	5.76	6.51	11.44
Paso Robles AP	52	3	70	35	0	0	0.03	6.84	7.21	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	49	2	67	34	0	0	1.71	28.58	19.93	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	50	1	65	35	0	0	1.05	18.29	14.17	22.29
Chico AFS	51	4	68	32	0	0	0.36	17.44	15.34	26.32
Marysville	53	3	64	36	0	0	0.51	13.25	13.11	21.04
Sacramento AP	53	4	64	37	0	0	0.19	13.17	10.58	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	54	5	67	37	0	0	0.42	8.83	8.05	13.95
Fresno	52	3	66	39	0	0	0.11	5.92	5.99	10.60
Bakersfield	53	2	68	39	0	0	0.00	2.55	3.39	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	56	4	79	39	2	0	0.00	8.57	7.30	12.36
Santa Barbara	56	3	76	39	2	0	0.00	7.60	9.39	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	41	0	0.00	0.00	8.50	14.38
Los Angeles	60	0	82	47	34	0	0.00	4.95	7.88	14.77
Riverside	61	6	88	41	43	0	0.00	2.14	5.64	9.58
San Diego AP	58	-1	66	50	14	0	0.00	1.43	5.81	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	47	7	71	21	0	0	0.00	6.89	2.95	5.37
Lancaster	54	8	72	28	0	0	0.00	3.63	4.41	6.92
Daggett AP	58	7	78	38	2	0	0.00	0.84	2.78	3.93
Thermal AP	61	4	84	38	23	0	0.00	2.08	2.55	3.16
Blythe	61	4	79	40	20	0	0.00	2.20	3.05	3.60
Imperial	62	4	82	43	24	0	0.00	1.40	2.27	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	36	5	53	16	0	0	0.62	8.61	6.32	12.01
Mt. Shasta	38	2	54	22	0	0	2.33	32.70	23.12	37.02
Blue Canyon	39	0	60	29	0	0	3.86	46.82	38.22	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	0.91	22.04	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.