

# CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER

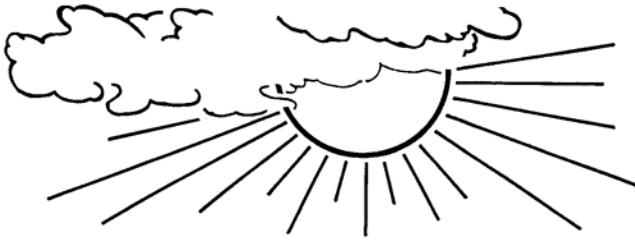


USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service  
California Field Office

WEEK ENDING: August 20, 2006  
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## WEATHER



The week was characterized by a rather persistent low pressure troughing pattern across mainly the northern two-thirds of the state. Marine air intrusions moved well inland at times. This resulted in temperatures that were near or somewhat below normal at most locations statewide. Precipitation in the form of isolated afternoon thunderstorms was mainly confined to the Northeast Plateau region and along and east of the Sierra Nevada crest.

## FIELD CROPS

**Cotton, corn, and beans** progressed well with the moderate temperatures. Corn for silage continued to be chopped and late fields cultivated. **Alfalfa** growers continued to cut, windrow, bale, irrigate, and treat for insects and perform weed control in their fields. Some alfalfa growers completed their fifth cutting with good drying conditions. Cotton plantings were at full bloom and were setting bolls. Cooler night temperatures were helping to alleviate heat stress during cotton bloom. In Fresno County, **safflower** harvest was completed.

## FRUIT CROPS

Stone fruit growers continued with picking, packing, cultivation and the applications of fungicides. Varieties being picked and packed in some districts included Snow Beauty, White Lady, Snow Princess, O'Henry, August Flame, September Flame, and Snow King **peaches**; Red Pearl, Summer Fire, Arctic Pride, Fire Pearl, and August Fire **nectarines**; Flavor Grenade, Dinosaur Egg, Yummy Giant, and Sierra Rose **pluots**; and Grand Rosa, Joanna Red, Sierra Sweet, Flavor Rich, and Yummy **plums**. **Pear** harvest was still underway in some areas. **Pomegranates** continued to size and show color. The **fig** harvest continued. Red Globe, Black Seedless, Black Corinth, Zante Currents, and Thompson Seedless table **grapes** continued with harvest in San Joaquin Valley districts. Some raisins were being harvested and Thompson Seedless grapes were being harvested for juice in Fresno County. Cultural operations for table grapes continued with thinning, training canes to trellises, cultivation and the applications of fungicides and herbicides. Dried-on-the-vine raisin harvest continued. **Strawberries** continued with various stages of pre-plant fumigation, irrigation, and fertilization in Tulare County. The Valencia **orange** harvest continued at a slow pace. Some orchards were being irrigated and treated to control weeds and insects. Navel orange orchards were showing good growth.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond** harvest began in some orchards this week. Some almond orchards were being treated for insects, irrigated, mowed, and prepared for harvest. Earlier varieties of **walnuts** have experienced some limb damage due to the large crop set.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Vegetable crops are developing well and have pretty much recovered from any hindered growth cause by the extensive heat in mid July. Concerns were for reduced set size but the recent prevailing weather temperatures have been ideal for vegetable production, with growers hoping for more set. Younger fields of **garlic** and **onion** as well as fields of **beans, tomatoes, melons** and **asparagus** were being treated with herbicides, insecticides and sprays to control army worms and stink bugs. Melon fields were also being treated for the control of cabbage looper and cucumber beetles. Fields for fall crop **broccoli** and **lettuce** were in various stages of pre plant fumigation. Late fresh market tomato planting was complete. Cantaloupe, honeydew, watermelons, and **sweet corn** continued to be harvested. Other crops being harvested were various hot and sweet **peppers**, wax beans, **cucumbers**, summer **squashes**, green onions and many types of Asian vegetables.

## LIVESTOCK

Higher elevation summer pastures were still in good condition. Heavy spring rain and snow has kept some non-irrigated high desert pastures greener than normal for this time of year. There was ample water for irrigated pastures. Fall calving of beef cows continued on irrigated valley pastures and dry foothill pastures. Cows on the foothills were receiving protein and other supplements. Cool nighttime temperatures and high 80 to mid 90 degree daytime temperatures much more favorable to fall calving. Milk production was also being aided by the improved weather. Stock ewes were grazing in small grain hay fields, retired farmland, with a few in alfalfa fields. Bees pollinated melon and seed alfalfa fields in the central area and seed crops in the northern area.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 08/20/06**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 08/20/06	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 08/20/06	January 1 - 08/20/06	Week Ending 08/20/06	July 1 - 08/20/06	July 1 - 08/20/06	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
<b>NORTH COAST</b>										
Eureka	54	-5	61	49	24	0	0.04	0.16	0.37	37.53
Ukiah	71	-1	95	50	1,309	992	0.00	0.00	0.16	37.96
Santa Rosa	63	-4	80	49	664	565	0.00	0.01	0.13	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	62	-2	73	53	430	227	0.00	0.00	0.08	19.70
San Jose	68	-2	84	55	1,042	864	0.00	0.00	0.09	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1,210	949	0.00	0.00	0.08	14.21
Salinas AP	62	-2	71	52	344	209	0.04	0.05	0.08	12.44
Monterey FAA	61	0	69	53	198	71	0.00	0.01	0.22	18.72
King City	68	-1	84	50	1,046	660	0.00	0.00	0.04	11.44
Paso Robles AP	67	-6	92	46	1,340	1,055	0.00	0.00	0.04	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	78	-1	99	57	2,176	1,735	0.00	0.04	0.30	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	77	-2	99	58	2,102	1,810	0.00	0.02	0.21	22.29
Chico AFS	76	0	99	52	1,900	1,427	0.00	0.00	0.16	26.32
Marysville	74	-3	95	51	1,965	1,697	0.00	0.00	0.12	21.04
Sacramento AP	71	-4	91	51	1,526	1,297	0.00	0.85	0.09	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	74	-3	94	50	1,758	1,513	0.03	0.18	0.08	13.95
Fresno	79	-1	97	61	2,283	1,950	0.00	0.91	0.02	10.60
Bakersfield	80	-2	96	65	2,363	2,143	0.00	0.17	0.07	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	65	1	77	51	504	219	0.00	0.10	0.07	12.36
Santa Barbara	65	-2	74	52	618	413	0.00	0.05	0.12	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	906	514	0.00	0.00	0.06	14.38
Los Angeles	73	-3	82	64	1,694	1,456	0.00	0.00	0.09	14.77
Riverside	75	-3	97	56	2,097	1,505	0.00	0.03	0.15	9.58
San Diego AP	72	0	78	67	1,340	1,028	0.00	0.09	0.10	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	71	-3	96	47	1,493	1,204	0.00	0.27	0.26	5.37
Lancaster	76	-3	99	52	2,121	1,676	0.00	0.01	0.21	6.92
Daggett AP	85	-3	104	66	3,041	2,752	0.00	0.05	0.70	3.93
Thermal AP	89	0	110	63	3,584	3,355	0.00	0.00	0.45	3.16
Blythe	93	0	110	77	3,952	3,710	0.00	1.75	0.78	3.60
Imperial	92	1	110	70	3,934	3,458	0.00	0.00	0.34	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	64	0	94	37	558	272	0.00	0.03	0.54	12.01
Mt. Shasta	66	1	92	43	687	384	0.00	0.00	0.70	37.02
Blue Canyon	68	1	77	56	896	443	0.00	0.00	0.75	67.04
Yosemite	71	-1	88	50	1,029	789	0.00	0.38	0.72	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.