

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER



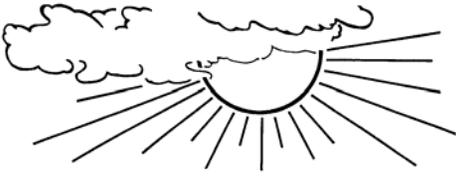
USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
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WEATHER

At the start of the week, a cold low pressure system brought a reversal of the normal weather pattern to the State, with chilly weather to southern California, while a developing high pressure center off the California-Oregon coast actually brought warmer and drier conditions to the northern half of the State. Southern California actually experienced some frost conditions at the start of the week due to this pattern. The low pressure responsible for this pattern quickly moved eastward, and by Tuesday was situated in Arizona. High pressure built off the central California Coast and spread across southern and central California by the middle of the week, bringing warmer temperatures. Another Pacific storm system began to approach northern California by Friday, spreading showers and cooler temperatures across the northern half of the State, while the south remained dry and warm as the weather



pattern returned to a more normal situation. By Christmas Eve, high temperatures in southern California were in the 70s and 80s. Rain had returned to the northern coast and daytime temperatures across northern California only reached the 40s and 50s.

FIELD CROPS

Planting of **oats**, winter **wheat** and forage mixes was ongoing. Early plantings of oats and wheat have emerged and were being fertilized and sprinkler-irrigated in some areas. Growth was slowed somewhat due to cooler temperatures. Some fields were being prepared for the dryland wheat crop. **Triticale** seed was being drilled into some bedded fields for cover crops. Weed control measures were taking place in small grain fields and **alfalfa** fields. **Cotton** plowdown compliance was essentially complete. New **sugar beet** fields continued to be irrigated, cultivated, side-dressed and sprayed to control insects and diseases. **Sweet potato** hotbed fumigations were underway in Merced County.

FRUIT CROPS

Pruning was taking place in **grape** vineyards as was the application of herbicides and fertilizers. Many grape growers were busy fixing wires and cross arms on vineyard trellises. Stone fruit growers were also fertilizing, pruning, applying herbicides and pushing out old orchards for replanting. **Persimmon** harvest was complete in Tulare County, but was ongoing in Fresno County. The harvest of Navel **oranges**, **mandarins**, **pummelos** and **lemons** progressed. Assessments of possible damage to citrus fruits were being made due to freezing temperatures, especially external damages due to ice marks. Internal damages were more difficult to assess and the extent of damage, if any, is still unknown. Cooler weather continued to enhance rind color development and degreening was no longer necessary. Herbicides and fungicides were being applied to orange groves. **Olive** orchards were being pruned. **Strawberry**, **raspberry** and bare root fruit tree nursery stock digging continued.

NUT CROPS

Almond and **pistachio** orchards were pruned and fertilized. Herbicides were also being applied and brush was shredded in many orchards.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Cauliflower and **broccoli** were transplanted for spring harvesting. **Garlic** and **onion** transplants were weeded and irrigated. Various preparations took place in fields for **tomato** and **bean** replanting. New **lettuce** fields were in various stages of growth and treatments to control insects and mildew occurred. Cooler weather has slowed insect pressure and the level of spraying has decreased in some areas. Winter vegetables were growing well in Tulare County. **Radicchio** harvest continued. The harvest of **amaranth**, **basil**, broccoli, **cilantro**, **dill**, **mustard greens**, various kinds of **peppers**, **spinach**, **Swiss chard** and **dandelion greens** was ongoing. Many types of Asian vegetables were also being harvested.

LIVESTOCK

The rains started the re-growth of additional pastures and rangelands and improved the condition of ranges where re-growth had already begun. In some areas rainfall remained below normal and pastures were in poor condition. Grazing of livestock continued and some were still receiving nutrient supplements. Sheep were grazing in harvested alfalfa fields and on retired farmland. Bees were brought in from various northern States for over-wintering and for the upcoming almond pollination season.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER -- WEEK ENDING 12/24/2006

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 12/24/2006	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 12/24/2006	January 1 - 12/24/2006	Week Ending 12/24/2006	July 1 - 12/24/2006	July 1 - 12/24/2006	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	46	-2	62	30	17	0	1.65	17.23	14.76	37.53
Ukiah	41	-5	53	25	1,768	1,454	0.83	8.39	13.06	37.96
Santa Rosa	44	-4	59	26	938	923	0.88	7.88	10.29	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	46	-3	55	35	567	443	0.50	6.40	6.09	19.70
San Jose	46	-3	58	33	1,472	1,334	0.43	3.37	4.52	14.42
Livermore Tele	--	--	--	--	1,658	1,457	0.00	0.00	4.50	14.21
Salinas AP	45	-5	60	30	502	432	0.55	3.26	3.72	12.44
Monterey FAA	47	-4	60	33	296	145	0.51	2.93	4.82	18.72
King City	43	-5	59	25	1,459	1,043	0.24	1.81	3.31	11.44
Paso Robles AP	41	-5	63	23	1,763	1,552	0.04	1.56	3.32	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	41	-4	58	25	2,950	2,504	0.30	10.31	10.47	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	41	-4	57	26	2,876	2,610	0.39	4.64	8.03	22.29
Chico AFS	42	-2	58	24	2,611	2,043	0.53	5.13	8.32	26.32
Marysville	41	-5	55	22	2,538	2,442	0.57	4.38	7.17	21.04
Sacramento AP	42	-3	56	26	2,041	1,932	0.74	4.59	5.48	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	43	-2	56	28	2,389	2,214	0.22	3.31	4.43	13.95
Fresno	42	-3	54	30	3,158	2,792	0.95	2.00	3.07	10.60
Bakersfield	42	-5	57	30	3,278	3,128	0.21	1.07	1.78	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	49	-2	73	30	874	410	0.30	1.76	3.52	12.36
Santa Barbara	48	-4	71	28	837	736	0.03	1.75	4.29	16.25
Oxnard	--	--	--	--	1,450	940	0.00	0.00	3.87	14.38
Los Angeles	56	-3	77	41	2,877	2,455	0.02	1.10	3.34	14.77
Riverside	57	3	83	33	3,279	2,377	0.00	0.45	2.43	9.58
San Diego AP	53	-4	69	42	2,097	1,798	0.03	1.84	2.86	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	33	-4	57	9	1,822	1,552	0.00	0.79	1.71	5.37
Lancaster	37	-5	61	15	2,836	2,343	0.01	0.35	2.09	6.92
Daggett AP	43	-5	63	23	4,272	3,937	0.00	0.15	1.88	3.93
Thermal AP	50	-4	74	24	5,133	4,870	0.00	0.03	1.60	3.16
Blythe	48	-5	70	29	5,646	5,381	0.00	3.09	2.34	3.60
Imperial	51	-4	73	32	5,687	5,159	0.00	0.05	1.61	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	28	0	44	0	581	296	0.07	1.99	4.54	12.01
Mt. Shasta	39	5	60	15	842	446	0.43	8.78	13.48	37.02
Blue Canyon	37	-2	50	24	1,190	574	2.23	16.00	23.03	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	43	18	1,396	1,090	1.50	9.02	12.61	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.