



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER



The rainy season has begun in the Golden State as two cold fronts entered the state of California during the week. The first cold front entered on Monday into the far northern Coastal Range leaving one to two inches of precipitation. On Tuesday, rain and snow moved south to just north of Fresno. Rain totals were 0.25 to 1.50 inches of rain in the valley and mountains. Snow totals were minimal due to high snow levels. Wednesday was dry over most of California. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, a more powerful weather system entered the state. Rain and snow fell from Eureka to San Diego due to a powerful winter-like storm. Rain and snow began on Thursday along the far Northern coast and spread south to southern California by Saturday. The precipitation amounts ranged from about two inches in the Central Valley to around four inches in the mountains. Up to two feet of fresh snow fell above

5,000 feet in the Sierra Nevada. Even Death Valley in the Southern Desert received 0.55 inches of rain with this system. Late Saturday night high pressure began to dry out the Golden State.

FIELD CROPS

Alfalfa harvest was completed. New alfalfa planting continued to wind down and herbicide applications were being applied. **Cotton** harvest was completed while cotton stalk shredding and plow down continued. Planting of **oats, winter wheat, and winter forage** continued. Herbicides continued to be applied to small grain fields. Dry **bean** harvest continued. **Sugar beet** fields were in various stages of development with some being fertilized, irrigated, cultivated and treated to control insects, weeds and diseases.

FRUIT CROPS

With harvest complete, **grape** growers were pruning their vineyards and applying weed and insect control treatments. Fall pruning, mowing, discing and treatments to control pests were occurring in stone fruit orchards. **Blueberry** plants were arriving in Tulare County for fall planting. **Raspberry** nursery stock digging continued. **Strawberries** were growing well. **Quince, jujube** and **persimmon** harvests continued in Fresno County. Navel **orange** harvest was slow. Fruit were still showing good color with good sugar content. **Mandarins, lemons** and **pummelos** were harvested. Some citrus growers were topping trees and applying foliar nutrients. **Olives** were being harvested for oil in San Joaquin County. Olive trees were being pruned in some areas.

NUT CROPS

Almond stockpile hulling continued. Pruning of nut trees was still underway. Groves were also fertilized and sprayed for weeds.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Ground preparation for winter **carrot** and **lettuce** planting was occurring while processing **tomato** beds were being shaped and mulched for 2008. Herbicides and insecticides continued to be applied. Early planted winter crops of **beets, cabbage, carrot, broccoli, cauliflower, garlic, onion** and lettuce crops showed good development. Harvest was complete for fall carrots, pickling **cucumbers**, freezer lima **beans, parsley, potatoes, radishes, spinach, garlic, onion, bell pepper, squash** and **sweet corn**, processing and fresh market tomato. In Fresno County **asparagus** growers were cutting ferns in preparation of harvest. Harvest of **amaranth, basil, bittersweet melons, bok choy, cassava, cilantro, choy sum, Indian beans, dill, daikon, leaf lettuce, lemon grass, lobok, long beans, mint, moqua, collard greens, eggplant, kale, okra, tatsoi, tong ho, radicchio, yu choy** and mustard greens continued.

LIVESTOCK

Rain in central and northern California was very beneficial to foothill pastures. However, some central areas, particularly the southern San Joaquin Valley received only light rain and additional rain is needed in central California.

Supplemental feeding of cattle continued. New grass growth on some northern area foothills was getting closer to sustaining cattle. Fall calving is complete in many areas. Milk production remained at a high level. Sheep were grazing on abandoned alfalfa fields, retired farmland and harvested safflower fields. Feeder lambs were in good condition on alfalfa pastures in the Imperial Valley. Bees were being over-wintered in various locations. Shipments of bee hives from other States continued in preparation for next years almond pollination.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 12/09/07

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 12/09/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 12/09/07	January 1 - 12/09/07	Week Ending 12/09/07	July 1 - 12/09/07	July 1 - 12/09/07	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	49	0	62	31	89	0	2.69	11.48	4.25	37.53
Ukiah	50	2	66	27	1,495	1,454	2.95	5.24	3.34	37.96
Santa Rosa	52	2	69	28	878	920	1.94	6.45	2.63	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	53	2	66	40	544	442	0.80	2.96	1.50	19.70
San Jose	54	3	68	37	1,184	1,326	0.44	1.75	1.26	14.42
Salinas AP	52	0	71	30	455	431	0.33	2.10	1.01	12.44
Monterey FAA	54	3	70	39	326	145	0.24	1.50	2.09	18.72
King City	52	2	74	28	1,233	1,041	0.17	0.47	0.85	11.44
Paso Robles AP	48	0	75	26	1,708	1,552	0.10	0.45	0.95	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	51	4	66	33	2,632	2,497	2.93	7.27	3.33	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	52	4	67	38	2,606	2,600	1.38	3.72	2.54	22.29
Chico AFS	51	4	63	27	2,404	2,042	2.02	4.06	2.37	26.32
Marysville	51	2	66	35	2,461	2,425	1.81	4.12	1.90	21.04
Sacramento AP	51	3	66	37	1,902	1,922	2.10	3.82	1.48	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	50	3	66	32	2,432	2,204	0.85	2.17	1.22	13.95
Fresno	49	1	68	32	3,040	2,777	0.31	0.52	0.89	10.60
Bakersfield	51	1	70	37	3,188	3,091	0.03	0.29	0.60	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	54	2	82	35	602	410	0.19	0.67	0.99	12.36
Santa Barbara	54	1	79	32	579	731	0.24	0.78	1.37	16.25
Ventura	54	54	73	37	608	0	0.26	0.67	1.15	14.38
Los Angeles	59	-1	83	45	2,174	2,278	0.41	1.88	1.00	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	2,862	2,316	0.00	0.00	0.86	9.58
San Diego AP	56	-2	67	46	1,467	1,685	0.55	1.01	0.87	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	41	2	71	16	2,007	1,552	0.33	1.12	0.81	5.37
Lancaster	48	3	76	25	2,942	2,343	0.04	0.44	0.85	6.92
Daggett AP	51	1	74	33	4,304	3,883	0.00	0.16	1.34	3.93
Thermal AP	55	0	76	34	4,908	4,721	0.51	0.71	1.16	3.16
Blythe	56	1	70	41	5,511	5,213	0.00	0.12	1.76	3.60
Imperial	56	-1	74	40	5,340	4,940	0.07	0.75	1.10	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	34	2	51	7	493	296	0.48	2.98	2.11	12.01
Mt. Shasta	37	0	50	24	750	446	2.34	6.44	4.23	37.02
Blue Canyon	38	-2	52	26	1,044	574	3.56	10.60	6.88	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	41	21	1,359	1,090	0.00	0.93	4.01	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.