



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: December 16, 2007
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WEATHER



Weak low pressure systems moved across the state throughout the week bringing areas of cold weather to northern California. The San Francisco Bay Area and surrounding coasts were at or slightly below normal temperatures during the entire week. Southern California experienced moderate temperatures with some of the coastal areas receiving above normal temperatures. The mountains experienced normal temperatures throughout the week with a slight cooling trend toward the end of the week. The San Joaquin Valley saw freezing overnight lows. Temperatures reached into the upper 20's in some locations. Day time highs reached as high as the low 60's. The Sacramento Valley also saw below freezing temperatures through the middle part of the week as a trough moved through. The deserts saw temperatures in the mid to upper teens in the over night hours throughout most of the week. Day time highs reached into the low to upper 50's. Most of the state remained dry through Friday except some trace

amounts of precipitation were reported in the mountains of northern California. A moderate storm system moved on shore Saturday bringing some rain to the far northern coasts of the state. By Sunday night most of northern California received at least a quarter inch of rain with some locations reporting over half inch. Some mountain locations reported up to 6 to 8 inches of new snow Sunday night.

FIELD CROPS

New **alfalfa** planting was winding down and herbicide applications continued to be applied. **Cotton** plow down was getting close to completion. Planting of **oat**, **winter wheat**, and **winter forage** was winding down. Herbicides continued to be applied to small grain fields. **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

Both **grape** and stonefruit growers were pruning, cultivating, and treating to control weeds and insects. Recent frost was conducive to leaf drop in some fruit orchards. **Persimmons** were harvested in Tulare County. New **blueberry** bushes were planted. **Strawberry** harvest continued in southern California. Citrus growers were applying foliar nutrients, topping trees and treating to control fungus, insects and weeds. Navel **orange** harvest moved forward. Maturity, color and sugar content held steady. Some groves experienced rind puff. Cooler temperatures were expected to help fruit size and create a tougher rind. Leaves and stems, however, were damaged in some orchards due to the cooler weather. **Mandarins**, **pummelos**, and **lemons** were harvested. **Olive** trees were pruned.

NUT CROPS

Almond stockpile hulling was slowing down. Pruning, fertilization, and spraying for weeds continued in nut groves.

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 12/16/07

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 12/16/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 12/16/07	January 1 - 12/16/07	Week Ending 12/16/07	July 1 - 12/16/07	July 1 - 12/16/07	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	41	-7	50	31	89	0	0.33	9.12	4.16	37.53
Ukiah	43	-4	59	25	1,495	1,454	0.00	2.29	3.33	37.96
Santa Rosa	47	-1	62	29	878	920	0.00	4.51	2.66	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	48	-2	59	38	544	442	0.00	2.16	1.54	19.70
San Jose	47	-3	59	33	1,184	1,326	0.00	1.31	1.29	14.42
Salinas AP	47	-4	62	31	455	431	0.00	1.77	1.04	12.44
Monterey FAA	49	-2	61	37	326	145	0.05	1.31	1.94	18.72
King City	44	-4	64	26	1,231	1,041	0.00	0.30	0.88	11.44
Paso Robles AP	42	-5	63	23	1,708	1,552	0.00	0.35	1.03	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	45	-1	61	27	2,632	2,497	0.08	4.42	3.20	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	45	-2	62	28	2,606	2,600	0.05	2.39	2.60	22.29
Chico AFS	46	0	63	29	2,404	2,042	0.00	2.04	2.34	26.32
Marysville	42	-5	58	26	2,461	2,425	0.00	2.31	1.95	21.04
Sacramento AP	43	-3	59	29	1,902	1,922	0.00	1.72	1.50	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	43	-3	58	27	2,432	2,204	0.01	1.33	1.25	13.95
Fresno	44	-2	58	31	3,040	2,777	0.00	0.21	0.91	10.60
Bakersfield	45	-3	62	31	3,188	3,091	0.00	0.26	0.61	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	48	-4	65	31	597	410	0.00	0.48	1.03	12.36
Santa Barbara	47	-5	63	30	578	731	0.00	0.54	1.48	16.25
Ventura	51	51	66	37	607	0	0.00	0.41	1.20	14.38
Los Angeles	55	-4	69	42	2,164	2,277	0.00	1.47	1.07	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	2,862	2,316	0.00	0.00	0.88	9.58
San Diego AP	53	-5	64	43	1,467	1,685	0.18	0.64	0.86	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	33	-5	54	13	2,007	1,552	0.00	0.79	0.84	5.37
Lancaster	38	-6	55	19	2,941	2,343	0.00	0.40	0.89	6.92
Daggett AP	42	-7	55	28	4,304	3,883	0.00	0.16	1.36	3.93
Thermal AP	50	-4	67	30	4,906	4,721	0.00	0.20	1.15	3.16
Blythe	50	-5	63	36	5,508	5,213	0.00	0.12	1.78	3.60
Imperial	51	-6	66	34	5,340	4,940	0.00	0.68	1.11	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	26	-4	44	7	493	296	0.00	2.50	2.06	12.01
Mt. Shasta	33	-2	50	16	750	446	0.35	4.45	4.22	37.02
Blue Canyon	38	-3	48	26	1,044	574	0.00	7.04	7.00	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	50	23	1,359	1,090	0.00	0.93	4.05	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.