



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: January 6, 2008
RELEASED: January 7, 2008

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 28 NO. 28

WEATHER



At the beginning of the week, high pressure aloft lay over the Southwest U.S. while a strong surface high pressure cell had developed over the Great Basin states. This resulted in a cool and dry pattern for northern California, while southern California had very mild temperatures in a weak offshore flow. Morning low temperatures across the Central valley were quite cold, with freezing temperatures common during the morning hours at many locations. Fog and low clouds also developed at some areas across the Valley. Things began to change by Thursday, when the upper level high over the Southwest began to shift east and weaken, opening the storm door. A cold airmass approached California and began to spread showers late Thursday. Friday saw some wild weather across California as

a vigorous cold front moved across the region. Heavy rain and lots of mountain snow came with this system, but the real news maker was the wind. Strong southerly winds wreaked havoc across much of the state. Maximum wind gusts around 70 mph were reported in the Central Valley, while mountain stations reported winds near 100 mph. By Saturday the winds were gone, but significant rains continued across the state. A few showers lingered on Sunday, as a cold arctic airmass remained off the coast, and continued to feed the state moist, unstable air.

FIELD CROPS

Barley, oat, wheat, and **winter forage** crops were emerging after the recent rains. Spring **alfalfa** fields were emerging with a few fields being irrigated and treated to control weeds. **Cotton** plow down was complete. Recently planted winter forage crops have benefited from the recent rainfall. Ground preparations slowed down in some areas this week due to wet conditions. Spring alfalfa was emerging with a few fields being irrigated and treated to control weeds. Spring **sugar beet** fields remain in various stages of development with some being fertilized, irrigated, cultivated and treated to control insects, weeds and diseases.

FRUIT CROPS

Cultural practices in vineyards included pruning, tying vines, fertilization and the application of insect and weed treatments. Similar activities took place in stone fruit orchards. **Strawberries** were growing well in Fresno County and **blueberry** bushes were being planted. Nursery stock digging and trimming was taking place in strawberry and **raspberry** fields in Merced County. With cold temperatures citrus growers were carefully watching their groves. Recent rains helped curtail fears of a dry frost in some areas. **Mandarin, lemon, pummelo,** Oro Blanco **grapefruit** and Navel **orange** harvests continued. Blood orange harvest began. Citrus growers were also applying treatments to control fungus, insects, and weeds. Olive tree pruning remained underway.

NUT CROPS

Almond and **walnut** trees were being pruned and dormant sprays were applied in almond groves. Young almond trees were planted in some areas. Cold temperatures were expected to be beneficial to **pistachios**.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Ground preparation for spring **carrot** and **lettuce** planting continued. Herbicides and insecticides continued to be applied. Fields of **garlic** were being irrigated while **broccoli** fields were being cultivated. In Fresno county **asparagus** growers continued to cut ferns in preparation of harvest. Harvest of farmers market crops such as **amaranth, basil, bok choy, beets, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, cilantro, choy sum, dill, daikon, dandelion, leaf lettuce, lemon grass, lobok, long beans, mint, moqua,** collard and mustard **greens, kale, tatsoi, tong ho, winter radicchio, spinach,** and **yu choy** continued. Early planted beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, garlic, onion and lettuce crops were growing well. Tulare County certified producers planted vegetables for the much anticipated winter farmers' markets. Early spring spinach crop was progressing quite well. In Kern County broccoli, cabbage carrots, cauliflower and spinach crops were growing well. Carrots were being planted for winter markets.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland pasture improved due to recent rains. Cattle have been moved from foothill pastures to irrigated pastures due to the continued dry conditions in the San Joaquin Valley. Supplemental cattle feeding continued. Milk production increased due to the cool weather. Beef cattle calving, lambing, and kidding continued in some areas. Sheep continued to graze on cut wheat, alfalfa fields and retired farmland in the San Joaquin Valley. Lambs continued to graze on alfalfa fields in the Imperial Valley. Shipments of out-of-State bees continued as hives were fed and overwintered.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 01/06/08

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 01/06/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 01/06/08	January 1 - 01/06/08	Week Ending 01/06/08	July 1 - 01/06/08	July 1 - 01/06/08	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
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	--	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.