



# California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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RELEASED: February 11, 2008

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## WEATHER



The last of a series of winter storms was exiting California at the start of the week, with a few lingering snow showers falling across the Sierra Nevada Mountains and over the mountains of southern California on Monday. After that system passed, surface high pressure began to develop over the Great Basin in northeast Nevada and northwest Utah, resulting in a moderate off shore flow across the Golden State, while upper level high pressure built over the central California coast, diverting most Pacific storm systems to the north of the state. Two of these storms did manage to brush the northern half of the state at midweek, but these only resulted in isolated shower activity along the north coast and in the northern mountains and across the Northeast Plateau. The rest of the state remained dry. By the week's end, clearing skies and a moderate offshore flow resulted in a warming trend which brought above normal temperatures to the entire state.

## FIELD CROPS

Recent rains improved the growth of **oat**, **barley**, **winter forage**, and **wheat** fields. Fields were being treated with herbicides. In Colusa County, some wheat was flooded due to five inches of rainfall received the previous week. Dry land grain continued to emerge after the recent rains. Spring **alfalfa** fields were growing well, with some fields being treated with herbicides, while alfalfa seed fields were growing back from the last mowing. Spring **sugar beet** fields continued growing well with some being fertilized, irrigated, cultivated and treated to control insects, weeds and diseases. Pre-irrigation of **cotton** fields was ongoing in Fresno County. Sweet **potato** hot bed planting had begun. Potatoes continued to be harvested.

## FRUIT CROPS

With warmer weather, early **nectarine** varieties began to bloom in Tulare County. Other early stone fruit varieties were still in the budding stage. Growers were getting trapping programs in place. Lingering wet conditions in groves and vineyards still prohibited many cultural activities. Attempts at fertilizing, grafting, windrowing, shredding, applying pre-emergent and fungicide were made nonetheless. Spring **strawberries** were growing well in Fresno County. Some southern California strawberry fields were still recovering from previous damaging rains and fruit supplies remained low. New **blueberry** bushes were still being planted. The harvests of **mandarins**, **minneolas**, Navel **oranges**, **lemons**, **grapefruit** and **pummelos** remained underway.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond** growers were awaiting bloom which was expected to begin soon. The clearing of downed trees from January winds was still underway. New almond trees were planted in some areas. **Walnuts** were pruned. Dormant spraying was still taking place.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Herbicides and insecticides continued to be applied and fumigation for **carrot** and **tomato** hot beds continued. In Fresno County harvest continued for farmers market crops such as **amaranth**, **Asian pumpkins**, **basil**, **bok choy**, **beets**, **broccoli**, head and napa **cabbage**, carrots, **cauliflower**, **celeriac**, **cilantro**, **choy sum**, **dandelion**, **dill**, leaf **lettuce**, **lemon grass**, **mint**, mustard and collard **greens**, **kale**, **parsley**, green **onions**, **radishes**, **spinach**, **rutabagas**, **tatsoi**, **tong ho**, **yam leaf**, **yams** and **yu choy**. Vegetable fields were being weeded, irrigated, fertilized, and treated to control weeds, insects, and mildew. Early planted beets, **broccoli**, cabbage, carrot, cauliflower, **garlic**, onion and lettuce crops were growing well. In Tulare County certified producer growers were gearing up for the spring planting of outdoor vegetables. **Eggplant** and Oriental vegetables were currently being planted in green houses. Carrots continued to be harvested.

## LIVESTOCK

Rangeland grass conditions have improved with the recent rain. Supplemental feeding of cattle continued in some areas. Beef cattle calving and goat kidding continued. Sheep continued to graze on retired farmland and alfalfa fields. Bee hives were being moved into stone fruit and almond orchards.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 02/10/08**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 02/10/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 02/10/08	January 1 - 02/10/08	Week Ending 02/10/08	July 1 - 02/10/08	July 1 - 02/10/08	July 1 - June 30
<b>NORTH COAST</b>	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	42	-7	52	31	0	0	0.15	21.29	21.08	37.53
Ukiah	48	-1	71	29	0	0	0.05	15.96	21.42	37.96
Santa Rosa	49	-2	72	29	0	0	0.00	15.00	16.83	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	51	0	66	38	0	0	0.01	8.68	10.77	19.70
San Jose	50	-2	68	34	0	0	0.00	5.55	7.72	14.42
Salinas AP	51	-1	72	32	0	0	0.00	4.98	6.44	12.44
Monterey FAA	53	0	74	38	0	0	0.00	2.52	8.48	18.72
King City	50	-1	76	30	0	0	0.00	3.42	5.82	11.44
Paso Robles AP	48	-2	71	30	0	0	0.00	3.63	6.39	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	47	-1	71	30	0	0	0.00	13.87	17.76	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	48	-1	68	32	0	0	0.00	6.04	12.95	22.29
Chico AFS	47	-2	67	27	0	0	0.00	11.40	13.87	26.32
Marysville	47	-3	66	33	0	0	0.00	9.30	11.87	21.04
Sacramento AP	48	-2	66	31	0	0	0.00	8.31	9.50	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	48	-2	66	30	0	0	0.01	5.71	7.26	13.95
Fresno	49	-1	66	35	0	0	0.00	3.90	5.36	10.60
Bakersfield	49	-3	66	36	0	0	0.03	1.17	3.03	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	55	2	79	34	2	0	0.00	4.59	6.50	12.36
Santa Barbara	52	-1	73	34	0	0	0.00	5.36	8.42	16.25
Ventura	54	0	78	36	20	0	0.00	6.08	7.14	14.38
Los Angeles	58	-2	83	41	19	0	0.00	5.95	7.05	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	3	0	0.00	0.00	5.04	9.58
San Diego AP	57	-2	77	43	4	0	0.08	3.84	5.23	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	41	0	66	18	0	0	0.00	5.44	2.71	5.37
Lancaster	46	-1	70	26	0	0	0.01	2.19	3.97	6.92
Daggett AP	49	-3	72	27	0	0	0.00	2.19	2.64	3.93
Thermal AP	55	-3	82	32	3	0	0.00	2.20	2.37	3.16
Blythe	54	-4	79	32	4	0	0.00	1.39	2.91	3.60
Imperial	55	-4	81	33	6	0	0.00	1.97	2.15	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	25	-7	44	-6	0	0	0.01	6.52	5.99	12.01
Mt. Shasta	35	-2	53	14	0	0	0.00	19.06	20.93	37.02
Blue Canyon	40	2	57	20	0	0	0.04	21.73	35.58	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	49	20	0	0	0.00	6.51	20.17	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.