



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: February 17, 2008
RELEASED: February 19, 2008

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 28 NO. 34

WEATHER



The week began with fair and dry weather across California, as high pressure aloft lay just off the central California coast. Temperatures ranged above normal across much of the state. This pattern persisted through the middle of the week. At that time, a strong low pressure system dropped down through the Great Basin, across northern Nevada and down to southern Arizona by Thursday. This storm system generated some showers in southern California, with some areas reporting over an inch of rain. In the wake of that storm, breezy north and northeast winds began to blow across the state; the strongest winds were in the south. By the weekend, the low pressure system moved east of the state and rebuilt a high pressure over the central California coast bringing sunny and mild conditions to the state.

FIELD CROPS

Herbicides were being applied to small grain fields. Dryland grain was emerging. **Alfalfa** fields have broken dormancy and were growing well with the warm sunny weather. Some fields are being sprayed for weeds. Field preparation for spring planting was underway.

FRUIT CROPS

Grape growers irrigated cultivated, tied vines, and applied treatments for weeds, diseases and insects. Pruning was mostly complete. Brush was windrowed and shredded. Stone fruit growers were also irrigating and applying treatments to control weeds and insects. Dormant sprays were applied. Buds were swelling in some early variety stone fruit orchards. Spring **strawberries** were growing well and new **blueberry** bush planting continued. Warmer weather increased rind puff and fruit drop in Navel **orange** orchards. Navel picking continued, including the harvest of Cara Cara oranges. Minneola **tangelos**, Murcott **tangerines**, Melo Gold **grapefruit**, Chandler **pummelos**, as well as **lemons** were being picked. **Olive** tree pruning was still underway.

NUT CROPS

Almond buds were swelling with bloom expected soon. Almond, **pistachio**, and **walnut** groves were still being pruned. Dormant sprays were still being applied in some areas. New almonds and walnuts were planted. Trees downed from January winds were still being cleaned up.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Harvest of farmers market crops such as **amaranth**, **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**, **yu choy** and **Asian pumpkins**. Vegetable fields were being weeded, irrigated, fertilized, and treated to control weeds, insects, and mildew. Early planted **beets**, **broccoli**, **cabbage**, **carrots**, **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. Greenhouse **tomatoes**, **chillies**, and **squash** were progressing well.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland grass conditions have greatly improved due to the recent rain and warm temperatures. Vegetation has gained considerable amounts of nutrients needed to lighten up on supplemental feeding of cattle. Beef cattle calving and goat kidding was winding down. Sheep and lambs continued to graze in alfalfa fields. Movement of out-of-state beehives coming into the state was almost complete.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 02/17/08

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 02/17/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 02/17/08	January 1 - 02/17/08	Week Ending 02/17/08	July 1 - 02/17/08	July 1 - 02/17/08	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	50	0	56	39	0	0	1.22	22.36	21.11	37.53
Ukiah	51	1	75	32	0	0	0.95	16.86	21.40	37.96
Santa Rosa	55	4	79	36	2	0	0.80	15.80	16.77	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	55	2	73	45	2	0	0.30	8.97	10.75	19.70
San Jose	55	2	73	43	2	0	0.44	5.99	7.69	14.42
Salinas AP	53	1	79	39	0	0	0.37	5.35	6.43	12.44
Monterey FAA	55	2	77	44	4	0	0.28	2.80	8.15	18.72
King City	56	3	82	37	3	0	0.15	3.57	5.82	11.44
Paso Robles AP	54	3	82	34	1	0	0.01	3.64	6.39	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	54	4	77	37	2	0	0.07	13.94	17.59	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	54	3	77	35	2	0	0.04	6.08	12.90	22.29
Chico AFS	54	4	76	33	0	0	1.48	12.88	13.80	26.32
Marysville	55	3	75	40	0	0	0.00	9.30	11.82	21.04
Sacramento AP	53	2	75	35	0	0	0.24	8.55	9.46	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	55	4	74	37	0	0	0.10	5.80	7.22	13.95
Fresno	54	2	74	42	0	0	0.11	4.01	5.35	10.60
Bakersfield	54	1	77	41	0	0	0.39	1.53	3.02	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	59	6	87	40	16	0	0.12	4.71	6.54	12.36
Santa Barbara	57	3	82	38	3	0	0.18	5.54	8.47	16.25
Ventura	58	0	84	39	28	0	0.29	6.37	7.18	14.38
Los Angeles	64	4	89	49	36	1	0.42	6.37	7.06	14.77
Riverside	59	3	88	39	13	0	0.13	0.13	5.07	9.58
San Diego AP	60	1	81	51	9	0	0.03	3.79	5.23	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	45	3	69	22	0	0	0.08	5.52	2.71	5.37
Lancaster	51	3	75	23	0	0	0.04	2.22	3.98	6.92
Daggett AP	56	2	77	36	1	0	0.00	2.19	2.65	3.93
Thermal AP	63	4	88	33	24	0	0.00	2.20	2.37	3.16
Blythe	61	2	84	38	20	0	0.00	1.39	2.90	3.60
Imperial	64	3	83	43	28	3	0.00	1.97	2.15	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	37	3	62	11	0	0	0.19	6.70	6.02	12.01
Mt. Shasta	42	4	67	22	0	0	0.35	19.41	21.03	37.02
Blue Canyon	42	3	61	30	0	0	1.35	23.04	35.71	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	44	32	0	0	1.74	8.25	20.12	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.