



California Crop Weather

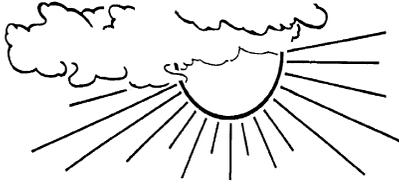
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: June 22, 2008
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WEATHER



A fairly static weather pattern settled over California for most of the week, with upper level high pressure over the southwest United States and a low pressure system off the coast of the Pacific Northwest. This resulted in a warm and dry weather regime for the state during most of the week. By Saturday, however, the low pressure system began to move ashore, resulting in widespread thunderstorm activity across Northern California. These thunderstorms produced a lot of lightning, but very little rainfall. As a result, over 600

wildfires were ignited across the state on Saturday. Friday and Saturday also saw the highest temperatures across California. Highs across the interior ranged in the 100s, and even some coastal regions in Central California saw temperatures rise over the 100 degree mark. On Sunday, the low pressure system had moved east of the state; the thunderstorm activity has ended, and temperatures cooled slightly. Precipitation for the week was limited to the showers associated with the thunderstorms mainly on Saturday, with some isolated showers in the mountains lingering through Sunday. Rain amounts were very light.

FIELD CROPS

In the Imperial Valley, Durum **wheat** harvest continued with good yields and winter wheat harvest was underway. Wheat harvest in the San Joaquin Valley was nearly half completed. More wheat will be harvested for grain this year than last year. Some Lygus material showed up with the increase in heat. Field corn started to tassel. In the Mid-Central Valley, **alfalfa** growers continued to cut, windrow, rake, and bale. **Corn** for silage planting and weed spraying was winding down. **Barley**, **oats**, and winter forage harvest continued in the Central Valley. Dry **lima bean** and **blackeye** bean planting continued. Spring **sugar beet** harvest continued while fall sugar beets were being irrigated and treated with insecticides. **Cotton**, growing quite well, was being cultivated and side-dressed with pesticides. **Rice** fields were being treated to control weeds. **Safflower** fields remained in various stages of growth.

FRUIT CROPS

Grapes continued to form bunches. Some vineyards were being pruned. Irrigation was being managed closely given the water shortage. Tulare County growers expected to begin grape harvest in mid-July. Stone fruit harvest was still in full swing. In Fresno County, Patterson and Poppy **apricots**; Golden Sweet and Honey Gold **apriums**; Brittany Lane, Bright Princess, Country Sweet, Earlich, Fancy Lady, Flavor Crest, Galaxy, June Flame, Rich Lady, Sierra Gem, Sierra Snow and Vista **peaches**; Black Beaut, Black Ice, Black Splendor, Striped Beauty, Sugar Drop and Yummy Beaut **plums**; Flavorosa, Honey Red Dino, Sugar Rosa and Spring Flavor **pluots**; and Arctic Star, Arctic Snow, Diamond Bright, Diamond Fire, Diamond Pearl, Flying Saucer, Honey Blaze, Honey Fire, June Pearl, Polar Ice, Red Jewel, Red Roy, Ruby Sweet, Snow Flare and Spring Bright **nectarines** were being harvested. **Pomegranate** and **persimmon** bloom was winding down. Spring **blackberry**, **blueberry**, **boysenberry**, **raspberry** and **strawberry** harvests continued. Harvest for some berry varieties was slowing down. Navel **orange** harvest was slowing. Valencia orange harvest continued; more fruit was being picked for the domestic market. **Lemons** and **grapefruit** were also harvested. Citrus growers were working to control diseases, insects and weeds. Groves were irrigated and foliar nutrients were being applied. New citrus fruit sizing and development were fair. **Olive** trees continued to form fruit.

NUT CROPS

Irrigation, insect, disease and weed control continued in nut groves. **Almonds**, **walnuts** and **pistachios** were developing normally. Branches were bending under the heavy walnut crop. Some almond growers were expecting yields larger than the previous season.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Growers in the Imperial Valley had nearly completed the melon harvest. Several fields of fresh market onions were being disked under because the market price will not cover harvest costs. All the processing **tomatoes** had been planted and were growing well. In the south Central Valley, bell **peppers**, **peas**, sweet **corn**, **onions** (red, white and yellow), **beans** (green, fava and long), **cucumbers**, summer **squash** and **broccoli** were being picked. In southern and central San Joaquin Valley, early planted fields of cucumbers and summer squash were being harvested. Sweet corn was progressing normally for a mid June harvest. **Garlic** was being dried for harvest. Farmers market oriental crops continued to be harvested. In northern San Joaquin Valley areas early planted processing and fresh market tomatoes continued to grow well. Planting continued for bell peppers, fresh market tomatoes, freezer beans, cantaloupe, watermelon, and honeydew melons. Planting of processed tomatoes was nearly complete. **Lettuce** and **carrot** harvests continued. Harvests of fresh market onion and summer squash continued with good quality reported in areas farther north into Sacramento valley. Other crops being harvested were dehydrated onions, carrots, sweet corn and **artichokes**. **Radicchio** packing was complete. Heat increased the presence of insects and army worms with insecticide application ongoing in many fields.

LIVESTOCK

Fire hazards were severe again this week, due to extremely dry pasture and range conditions. Several foothill areas were already blackened by fire. Movement of cattle off of grasslands continued, and some cattle were moved to out-of-State locations with better grazing conditions. Supplemental feeding of hay and other nutrients stepped up as conditions continued to decline. Milk production dropped off due to the increase in temperatures. Sheep were grazing on idle farmland, dryland grain fields, older alfalfa fields and rangeland. Honeybees remained active in melon, squash, sunflower, and cucumber fields. Hives were placed in holding areas awaiting safflower and vineseed bloom. Leafcutter bees were prepared for placement in seed alfalfa fields.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 06/22/08

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 06/22/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 06/22/08	January 1 - 06/22/08	Week Ending 06/22/08	July 1 - 06/22/08	July 1 - 06/22/08	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	52	-4	65	40	18	0	0.03	35.20	38.35	37.53
Ukiah	72	3	99	48	407	286	0.00	27.83	39.38	37.96
Santa Rosa	71	6	101	46	397	179	0.00	24.30	30.93	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	67	5	96	49	224	44	0.00	15.81	20.33	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	538	330	0.00	11.33	15.15	14.42
Salinas AP	67	5	105	47	218	36	0.00	10.67	12.82	12.44
Monterey FAA	64	4	91	48	170	6	0.00	7.57	14.71	18.72
King City	74	8	107	48	442	221	0.00	9.29	12.25	11.44
Paso Robles AP	78	8	108	47	550	346	0.00	8.62	13.35	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	78	2	100	55	865	634	0.02	25.24	35.80	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	80	3	100	60	911	715	0.00	15.05	23.74	22.29
Chico AFS	78	5	100	54	804	545	0.00	19.44	26.55	26.32
Marysville	77	1	106	51	752	721	0.00	15.68	22.41	21.04
Sacramento AP	76	4	103	51	668	500	0.00	13.71	17.96	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	78	4	106	51	732	609	0.00	10.12	13.94	13.95
Fresno	85	7	110	62	1,032	817	0.00	8.94	11.41	10.60
Bakersfield	85	7	110	68	1,092	921	0.00	2.53	6.56	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	71	10	110	50	232	22	0.00	11.62	14.19	12.36
Santa Barbara	72	8	98	52	312	84	0.00	15.93	17.34	16.25
Ventura	69	0	88	51	207	0	0.00	14.32	15.34	14.38
Los Angeles	79	8	97	61	877	681	0.00	13.52	15.27	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	829	586	0.00	6.33	10.74	9.58
San Diego AP	72	4	92	60	484	430	0.00	7.50	10.79	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	74	2	99	46	439	369	0.00	7.39	5.04	5.37
Lancaster	89	14	106	70	894	609	0.00	7.87	7.86	6.92
Daggett AP	93	8	110	71	1,438	1,255	0.00	2.58	4.22	3.93
Thermal AP	94	7	118	60	2,026	1,764	0.00	3.62	3.62	3.16
Blythe	98	8	116	80	2,051	1,929	0.00	2.15	4.08	3.60
Imperial	95	8	116	70	1,864	1,810	0.00	2.37	3.01	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	61	2	86	35	64	0	0.14	12.50	12.31	12.01
Mt. Shasta	65	3	85	44	153	22	0.00	29.71	40.02	37.02
Blue Canyon	70	8	82	61	233	33	0.01	37.97	65.88	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	327	141	0.00	15.97	38.46	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.