



# California Crop Weather

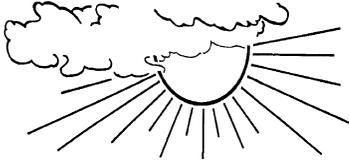
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: August 31, 2008  
RELEASED: September 2, 2008

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## WEATHER



The week began with high pressure over the Four Corner's region. Seasonably warm and dry conditions were observed across the state on Monday. A weak cold front moving through the Pacific Northwest brushed northern California on Tuesday. Although this system brought no rainfall to interior California, and only light amounts to the north coast, the surface high pressure which followed it into Oregon resulted in gusty northerly winds developing across northern California. This offshore flow resulted in very warm temperatures across the north.

In the south, monsoonal moisture moved into the state from the southeast, resulting in widespread thunderstorms across the southeast interior through the weekend. These storms were strong enough to produce localized flash flooding. On Saturday, another cold front swept through the Pacific Northwest. This front was strong enough bring gusty winds and cooler than normal temperatures to the northern half of the state through Sunday.

## FIELD CROPS

**Barley** and **wheat** fields were still being windrowed and baled as straw. Harvest was in progress for **alfalfa** seed fields. Fields continued to be windrowed, raked, and baled for the production of alfalfa hay. **Corn** for grain continued to be dried down for harvest. Chopping corn for silage was almost halfway complete in Tulare County. **Cotton** fields were in full bloom and continued squaring. Growers continued to look for aphid, mite, and lygus in cotton. Irrigation was coming to an end in most cotton fields. **Rice** fields continued to grow nicely while being treated for weeds. Fall **sugar beets** were being irrigated and treated to control insects and diseases. Early planted sugar beet fields were being harvested. Black eye **beans** were dried for harvest after being given their last irrigations.

## FRUIT CROPS

Harvest was on schedule for California **grapes**. Thompson Seedless, Autumn Royal, Princess, Crimson, Diamond Muscat, Black Emerald, Red Globe and Summer Royal grapes were being picked. Wine and juice grape varieties harvested included Alicante Bouchet, Cabernet, Carignane, Grenache, Merlot, Sauvignon and Zinfandel. Harvesting of grapes for raisins continued. Zante **currants** were being rolled. The following stone fruit varieties were harvested: Ivory Princess, Jasper Gem, Jasper Treasure, O'Henry, Rich Lady, Ryan Sun, September Flame 32, September Sun, September Snow, Snow King, Spring Treat, Sugar Crisp, Summer Flame, Summer Sweet, Summer Zee, Sweet Kay, Sweet September and Sweet Sun **peaches**; Angelino, Ebony Sun, Fortune, Friar, Howard Sun and Sugar Heart **plums**; Apple Fire, Black Kat, Dapple Fire, Emerald Beaut, Emerald Sweet, Flavor Grenade and Flavor Heart **pluots**; Arctic Pride, August Fire, August Pearl, Diamond Pearl, Fire Pearl, Red Lion, Regal Red, Red Roy, Ruby Bright, September Bright, September Red, Summer Bright, Summer Fire, Sunny Gun and Zee Fire **nectarines**. Gala and McIntosh **apples**, **figs**, Bartlett **pears**, and Asian pears were being picked. **Kiwis** were sizing in Yuba County. **Olives** were sizing. **Lemons** were harvested. Valencia **orange** harvest remained slow. Navel **oranges** were developing size and were sprayed for scale. Early indications were that the Navel harvest would be light due to fruit drop earlier in the season.

## NUT CROPS

**Pistachios** growers were preparing for harvest. **Walnut** harvest was also approaching and preparations were underway on orchard floors. Many groves were still being irrigated. A few groves received codling moth and pesticide applications. **Almond** harvest continued.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

In Imperial Valley, pre-irrigation of some of the fall produce fields started. Fresh market **onions** were shipped to Mexico. The early planted fall vegetable crop was growing well with very few insect problems reported. In southern San Joaquin Valley, summer **carrot** harvest was virtually completed. Fall vegetable crops were doing nicely. In central San Joaquin Valley, the **tomato** market continued to be sluggish due to heavy harvest volumes. Tomatoes were currently being exported to Mexico and Canada. Harvest of **bell peppers**, **garlic**, onions, processing tomatoes, **okra**, long **beans**, **squash**, sweet **corn**, **cilantro**, and various Oriental vegetables continued. Harvest of **watermelon**, **cantaloupe**, **honeydew**, and mixed **melon** was steady. Fall crop carrots were being planted and irrigated. Fields were being weeded, irrigated, fertilized, and treated to control insects and mildew. **Beets**, all of the **choys**, **mustard**, Napa **cabbage**, sweet corn, garlic, **jicama**, and **chayote** were growing nicely. **Asparagus** ferns were being mowed to stimulate new growth and fall **broccoli** was being seeded. In northern San Joaquin Valley current vegetables harvested included fresh market tomatoes, melons and bell peppers. Farther north, harvests of fresh market onion, summer squash, watermelon, cantaloupe, honeydew, freezer squash, freezer beans, and bell pepper continued, as well as spraying to control worms in tomato fields. In southern and central Sacramento Valley harvests continued for fresh market and processing tomatoes, sweet corn, beans, **cucumbers** and melons with good quality reported. Fungicide and insecticide treatments on tomatoes and beans continued as well as treatments for weeds and worms in melon fields. Farmer's markets were going strong.

## LIVESTOCK

Very poor grazing conditions continued in most areas of the state. Beef cattle on dry pasture were receiving supplements of hay and other nutrients. Many cattle were moved to lower elevations for over-wintering. Fire danger remained high in many areas. Fall beef cow calving was underway. Irrigated pastures were in good condition. High temperatures stressed dairy cows, resulting in decreased milk production. Sheep were grazing on idle farmland, harvested grain fields, and some rangeland in the central part of the state. Honeybees continued to pollinate melon fields in the central area and sunflower and vineseed crops in the north, and some remained in holding areas.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 08/31/08**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 08/31/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 08/31/08	January 1 - 08/31/08	Week Ending 08/31/08	July 1 - 08/31/08	July 1 - 08/31/08	July 1 - June 30
<b>NORTH COAST</b>	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	58	0	86	44	39	0	0.08	0.91	0.68	37.53
Ukiah	76	4	108	50	1,404	1,200	0.00	0.00	0.30	37.96
Santa Rosa	73	6	101	51	932	697	0.00	0.00	0.24	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	69	4	90	55	476	303	0.00	0.01	0.13	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,172	1,038	0.00	0.00	0.14	14.42
Salinas AP	67	3	90	53	407	283	0.00	0.00	0.12	12.44
Monterey FAA	64	3	83	53	274	97	0.00	0.00	0.33	18.72
King City	72	4	103	50	1,104	804	0.00	0.00	0.08	11.44
Paso Robles AP	78	5	107	52	1,542	1,276	0.00	0.00	0.10	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	85	8	109	63	2,478	2,051	0.00	0.09	0.58	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	85	7	110	66	2,487	2,134	0.00	0.00	0.34	22.29
Chico AFS	82	7	107	58	2,144	1,691	0.00	0.20	0.34	26.32
Marysville	80	4	108	56	2,016	1,987	0.00	0.00	0.19	21.04
Sacramento AP	78	4	104	54	1,736	1,548	0.00	0.00	0.15	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	81	5	107	56	1,944	1,791	0.02	0.24	0.11	13.95
Fresno	86	7	107	66	2,682	2,290	0.00	0.01	0.09	10.60
Bakersfield	86	6	105	71	2,824	2,516	0.00	0.00	0.15	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	65	1	82	53	424	293	0.00	0.00	0.17	12.36
Santa Barbara	68	1	77	60	754	537	0.00	0.00	0.27	16.25
Ventura	67	0	77	57	536	0	0.00	0.05	0.12	14.38
Los Angeles	77	1	91	65	1,840	1,734	0.00	0.00	0.21	14.77
Riverside	--	--	92	67	2,081	1,814	0.00	0.00	0.28	9.58
San Diego AP	73	1	81	68	1,222	1,251	0.00	0.00	0.18	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	76	4	102	51	1,622	1,422	0.00	0.39	0.37	5.37
Lancaster	83	6	107	57	2,499	1,992	0.00	0.00	0.36	6.92
Daggett AP	90	5	109	69	3,478	3,209	0.00	0.15	0.96	3.93
Thermal AP	90	2	106	76	4,290	3,870	0.10	0.32	0.73	3.16
Blythe	91	0	107	76	4,423	4,280	0.22	0.75	1.10	3.60
Imperial	91	1	105	77	4,068	4,006	0.17	0.35	0.56	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	62	1	96	36	628	305	0.00	0.11	0.80	12.01
Mt. Shasta	66	3	94	43	768	450	0.00	0.17	1.05	37.02
Blue Canyon	74	9	90	55	1,107	543	0.00	0.00	1.29	67.04
Yosemite	78	8	98	55	1,350	971	0.00	0.00	1.01	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.