



California Crop Weather

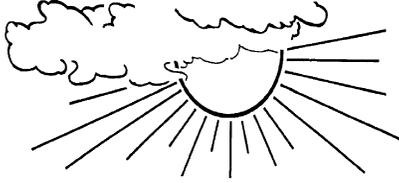
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER



A strong high pressure system with very little movement lingered over the northern California region, bringing unseasonably dry and warm weather across the state. Temperatures reached from the upper 70s to mid 80s in the Sacramento Valley, reaching to around 90 degrees in the Northern cities by the end of the work week. In the Bay Area and the central coast, very little fog was reported and the temperature reached the 80s throughout the week. The southern coasts and mountains experienced warmer temperatures of upper 70s to mid 90s. In the northern mountains, the temperature topped in the mid 70s during this same period. Gusty east to northeast winds over the west slopes of the northern Sierra Nevada kept temperatures slightly warmer than normal overnight. These winds gust to near 35 mph through the canyons. The high pressure played a key role for the large scale weather over the whole state during this period. A cooling trend with increasing periods of rain is now expected as the fall season becomes more predominant.

FIELD CROPS

Field preparation for small grains continued, with some early plantings of **wheat** germinating. **Cotton** defoliation and harvest activities were in full swing. **Alfalfa** harvest continued with the warm, dry weather. **Sunflower** seed harvest should be complete by mid November. **Sudan** hay, **sorghum**, **safflower** and dry **bean** harvest continued. **Rice** harvest was winding down. Harvest of **corn** for grain and silage was nearing completion.

FRUIT CROPS

Grape growers continued to irrigate, cultivate, and treat to control diseases and insect pests. The raisin grape harvest was complete in most areas. Table grape harvest continued with Christmas Rose, Crimson, Red Globe, Summer Royal, and Autumn Royal the major varieties picked. Wine and juice grape harvests continued. Autumn Flame, Full Moon, and Snow Magic **peaches**; Angeleno **plums**; Flavor Fall **pluots**; and Arctic Mist **nectarines** were all picked and packed. Rome Beauty **apples** and Asian **pears** were being harvested. Quince, kiwifruit, and jujube harvests continued. Picking of Fuyu and Hachiya persimmons continued. Early pruning of deciduous trees was gaining momentum. **Pomegranate** harvest continued with Early Foothill, Wonderful, and Flamingo varieties being picked. Some packing houses were continuing to pick Valencia **oranges**. Harvest of Navels continued but picking was limited. **Mandarins** continued to mature. The harvest of desert **lemons** continued. **Olives** and **avocados** were also harvested.

NUT CROPS

Walnut and **pistachio** harvests continued. **Almond** harvest was nearly complete, with late variety shaken nuts being picked up.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Processing **tomato** harvest was complete or nearing completion throughout the state. In Tulare County, the fall pole **cucumber** harvest continued, but operations were slowing down. Due to warm temperatures, some summer vegetables were still being harvested, such as **eggplant**, **peppers**, **squash**, **cucumbers**, and bitter **melon**. Fall **sweet corn** was picked and shipped to markets. Assorted **pumpkin** and **strawberry** stands continued picking for roadside sales. Stanislaus County growers continued to harvest **broccoli**, **cauliflower** as well as both processing and fresh market tomatoes. Merced producers continued to harvest fresh market tomatoes. Kern County's **lettuce** harvest was close to completion, while **carrots** and **asparagus** continued. Imperial County planted most of its carrots. In Fresno County, **garlic** and **onion** harvests were slowing, while the harvests of bell peppers and carrots continued. Harvest of farmer's market crops continued, including **amaranth**, **basil**, **beans** (green and long), bitter melon, **cilantro**, collard **greens**, cucumbers, **daikon**, **dill**, **donqua**, eggplant, **gailon**, **kabocha**, leaf lettuce, **leeks**, **lemongrass**, **kale**, **mint**, **moqua**, mustard greens, **okra**, **ong choy**, **opo**, **parsley**, chili peppers, **radishes**, **saluyot**, **sinqua**, **spinach**, summer and winter squashes, sweet corn, **swiss chard**, **tong ho**, **yam leaf**, as well as many varieties of **herbs**. Fall **broccoli** was planted on the Westside, fall lettuce was thinned and fall asparagus harvest continued. Fields were weeded, irrigated, fertilized, and treated for insects and mildew. For **watermelon**, **cantaloupe**, mixed melon, and **honeydew**, harvests came to an end. Pumpkin harvest was in full motion.

LIVESTOCK

Dry pasture and rangeland entered the fall season in very dry and mostly poor condition, in many areas of the state. Cattle on dry pasture and rangeland were receiving supplements of hay and other nutrients. Movement of cattle to winter pastures continued. Herd sizes continued to be reduced in some central areas due to the poor feed and water conditions. Irrigated pastures were in good condition. Fall beef cow calving was nearing completion. The cooler fall weather boosted milk production. Sheep were grazing on harvested grain and melon fields, abandoned alfalfa fields, and idle farmland. Both in-state and out-of-state honeybees were moved to foothill and mountain locations in central areas for overwintering.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 10/26/08

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 10/26/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 10/26/08	January 1 - 10/26/08	Week Ending 10/26/08	July 1 - 10/26/08	July 1 - 10/26/08	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	51	-3	65	41	33	0	0.03	1.23	3.90	37.53
Ukiah	63	4	89	39	1,690	1,454	0.00	1.22	3.00	37.96
Santa Rosa	66	6	89	45	1,251	928	0.00	0.46	2.49	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	65	4	82	50	718	444	0.00	0.16	1.38	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,485	1,344	0.00	0.00	1.20	14.42
Salinas AP	65	5	92	42	631	434	0.00	0.21	0.98	12.44
Monterey FAA	62	3	87	44	399	145	0.00	0.11	2.16	18.72
King City	66	6	95	39	1,484	1,047	0.00	0.00	0.76	11.44
Paso Robles AP	64	5	93	38	1,896	1,553	0.00	0.04	0.91	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	65	4	90	42	2,952	2,516	0.00	0.72	3.04	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	67	5	89	47	3,000	2,625	0.00	1.02	2.47	22.29
Chico AFS	65	4	88	43	2,593	2,047	0.00	2.33	2.10	26.32
Marysville	65	2	87	43	2,426	2,460	0.00	0.54	1.72	21.04
Sacramento AP	65	3	86	45	2,131	1,945	0.00	0.25	1.31	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	65	3	86	43	2,394	2,229	0.00	0.13	1.18	13.95
Fresno	67	5	86	49	3,293	2,810	0.00	0.09	0.86	10.60
Bakersfield	68	3	88	50	3,472	3,148	0.00	0.00	0.55	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	64	5	92	43	655	410	0.00	0.08	0.83	12.36
Santa Barbara	61	0	91	43	962	742	0.01	0.07	1.22	16.25
Ventura	64	0	93	43	690	0	0.00	0.19	0.90	14.38
Los Angeles	74	5	98	55	2,543	2,377	0.00	0.00	0.81	14.77
Riverside	73	7	96	50	2,910	2,381	0.00	0.00	0.73	9.58
San Diego AP	68	1	88	53	1,752	1,761	0.00	1.18	0.77	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	56	3	84	28	1,805	1,552	0.00	0.25	0.78	5.37
Lancaster	62	2	87	33	2,944	2,344	0.00	0.02	0.77	6.92
Daggett AP	68	2	86	49	4,308	3,955	0.00	0.15	1.30	3.93
Thermal AP	72	1	98	42	5,324	4,845	0.00	0.28	1.14	3.16
Blythe	74	3	96	50	5,588	5,350	0.00	0.48	1.74	3.60
Imperial	74	1	96	50	5,106	5,090	0.00	0.33	1.10	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	47	2	78	18	762	296	0.00	0.48	2.14	12.01
Mt. Shasta	53	5	78	31	898	446	0.00	1.20	4.00	37.02
Blue Canyon	63	12	75	50	1,352	574	0.00	2.08	6.77	67.04
Yosemite	59	5	80	40	1,551	1,090	0.00	0.13	4.00	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.