



# California Crop Weather

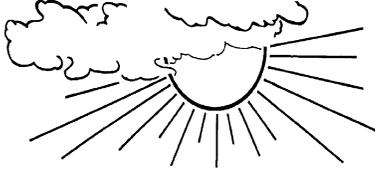
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: November 2, 2008  
RELEASED: November 3, 2008

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## WEATHER



A slow moving trough of low pressure off the coast of Northern California brought mid and high clouds across the northern part of the state Monday through Wednesday. Temperatures in the valley were slightly cooler during the beginning part of the week due to the cloud cover; reaching from the mid 70s to near 80 degrees in the Sacramento Valley. The southern California coast and mountains experienced warmer temperatures due to dryer weather and fewer clouds; with temperatures ranging from upper 70s to near 100 degrees. The central coast, including the San Francisco Bay area, remained in the 60s to around 70 degrees throughout the week. The overall weather pattern began to change to a more fall-like pattern on Thursday. Cooler weather with periods of rain became more predominant across the state. A series of weather systems moved across the state throughout the weekend, bringing significant rainfall amounts to the northern parts of the state. The higher elevations of the northern Sierra Nevada received moderate snowfall amounts as well. On Saturday, gusty winds across the valley and surrounding mountains, and minor flash flooding cases over the wildfire burn scars in the foothills and mountains were confirmed during the peak of the weather event.

## FIELD CROPS

Field preparation for small grains continued; some early plantings of winter grain were growing well. The planting of **barley** and **wheat** advanced quickly. **Cotton** defoliation and harvest activities were in full swing. A second cotton defoliation application was being applied to earlier maturing fields. **Sunflower** seed harvest should be complete by mid November. Dry **bean** harvest came to an end. **Sudan** hay, **sorghum**, and **safflower** harvests continued. **Rice** harvest was nearing completion. Harvest of **corn** for grain and silage was nearing completion.

## FRUIT CROPS

**Grape** harvest was active but slow. Crimson, Thompson Seedless, Flame Seedless, Christmas Rose, Kyoho, Red Globe, Summer Royal, and Autumn Royal table grapes were being harvested. Raisin grape harvest was complete in most areas with only a few varieties remaining to be boxed. Alicante Bouchet, Barbera, Carnelian, Carignane, French Colombard, Merlot, Muscat, Ruby Cabernet, and Thompson Seedless wine and juice grape harvests were also active. Fall tree topping and pruning were underway in many orchards. Some orchards were being pushed out due to age and poor condition, and being replaced with newer varieties. Applications of pre-emergent herbicides for the winter had begun. Stone fruit harvest was almost complete. Autumn Flame, Full Moon, and Snow Magic **peaches**; Angeleno **plums**; Flavor Fall **pluots**; Arctic Mist **nectarines** were still being picked. **Quince**, **kiwifruit**, late season **pomegranates**, **persimmons**, **apples**, Asian **pears** and **jujube** harvests also continued. The Navel **orange** season began at a steady pace. Packing sheds were harvesting Early Beck's, Bonanza, and Fukumoto. The maturity level for Navels has been good, but the color remained a problem. A few Satsuma **mandarins** were being packed. Valencia orange harvest was winding down. **Lemons** were harvested in the desert areas. **Olive** harvest was ongoing.

## NUT CROPS

**Walnut** harvest was nearing the end. There were some reports of replanting trees. **Almond** pruning and piling of hulls continued.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

With the last harvests of summer vegetable coming to an end, producers focused their attention on fall vegetables. Tulare County harvested **broccoli**, **cabbage**, and Romaine **lettuce**. The lack of moisture last week caused growers to increase irrigation. In Fresno County, fields were irrigated, weeded, fertilized, and treated for pests: Fall **asparagus**, bell **pepper**, and processing **tomato** harvests continued, while **garlic** and **onions** slowed down. Harvests continued for many farmers' market crops, such as **amaranth**, **basil**, green and long **beans**, bitter **melon**, **carrots**, **cilantro**, collard **greens**, **cucumbers**, **daikon**, **dill**, **dongqua**, **eggplant**, **gailon**, **kabocha**, leaf lettuce, **leeks**, **lemongrass**, **kale**, **mint**, **moqua**, mustard greens, **okra**, **ong choy**, **opo**, **parsley**, chili peppers, **radishes**, **sinqua**, **spinach**, summer and winter **squashes**, **swiss chard**, **tong ho**, **yam leaf**, as well as many varieties of **herbs**. Fall lettuce continued to be harvested, while fall broccoli was planted on the Westside of the county. A productive **pumpkin** harvest was in full swing. Merced County completed its **watermelon** harvest, while the harvests of fresh market tomatoes wound down. Stanislaus County's broccoli and **cauliflower** grew well. Imperial County's warm weather spurred growth in fall vegetable crops. However, producers hope for cooler temperature to firm up lettuce heads.

## LIVESTOCK

Late week precipitation was expected to start much-needed rangeland forage growth in many areas, as grazing conditions throughout the state remained mostly poor. Cattle on dry pasture and rangeland continued to receive supplements of hay and other nutrients. Movement of cattle to winter pastures continued. Irrigated pastures were in good condition. Fall beef cow calving was nearing completion. Cooler temperatures boosted and steadied 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 over-wintering.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 11/02/08**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 11/02/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 11/02/08	January 1 - 11/02/08	Week Ending 11/02/08	July 1 - 11/02/08	July 1 - 11/02/08	July 1 - June 30
<b>NORTH COAST</b>	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	54	1	72	39	46	0	1.41	2.64	5.12	37.53
Ukiah	59	3	84	39	1,672	1,454	1.64	2.86	4.10	37.96
Santa Rosa	60	1	79	42	1,220	923	2.09	2.55	3.40	30.30
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>										
San Francisco AP	59	1	71	48	699	443	1.55	1.71	1.86	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,500	1,335	0.00	0.00	1.57	14.42
Salinas AP	62	3	76	45	626	432	0.48	0.69	1.32	12.44
Monterey FAA	60	2	75	46	403	145	0.37	0.48	2.42	18.72
King City	63	5	85	40	1,495	1,043	0.03	0.03	1.06	11.44
Paso Robles AP	63	6	90	40	1,910	1,552	0.21	0.25	1.20	13.95
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>										
Redding	60	1	82	42	2,928	2,504	2.53	3.25	3.75	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	62	3	82	47	2,982	2,610	1.46	2.48	3.11	22.29
Chico AFS	64	6	86	47	2,618	2,043	7.40	9.73	2.72	26.32
Marysville	62	2	83	44	2,426	2,446	2.52	3.06	2.27	21.04
Sacramento AP	62	3	81	45	2,126	1,932	2.58	2.83	1.74	17.52
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>										
Stockton WSO	64	4	83	46	2,412	2,215	1.00	1.13	1.61	13.95
Fresno	67	7	84	52	3,340	2,795	0.31	0.40	1.13	10.60
Bakersfield	69	7	86	53	3,541	3,142	0.26	0.26	0.68	5.72
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>										
Santa Maria AP	62	3	83	46	648	410	0.35	0.43	1.10	12.36
Santa Barbara	63	3	78	43	989	736	0.56	0.63	1.56	16.25
Ventura	62	0	74	44	685	0	0.68	0.87	1.15	14.38
Los Angeles	72	6	94	56	2,627	2,414	0.07	0.07	1.02	14.77
Riverside	74	11	103	54	3,019	2,392	0.00	0.00	0.87	9.58
San Diego AP	70	5	86	56	1,838	1,787	0.00	1.18	0.97	9.90
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>										
Bishop	58	7	82	31	1,811	1,552	0.22	0.47	0.87	5.37
Lancaster	62	5	89	37	2,960	2,343	0.42	0.44	0.89	6.92
Daggett AP	70	7	92	51	4,375	3,956	0.04	0.19	1.35	3.93
Thermal AP	75	7	97	47	5,445	4,878	0.00	0.28	1.18	3.16
Blythe	78	9	99	53	5,736	5,386	0.00	0.48	1.79	3.60
Imperial	77	7	96	56	5,244	5,138	0.00	0.33	1.12	2.75
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>										
Alturas	50	8	79	24	762	296	0.23	0.71	2.41	12.01
Mt. Shasta	52	6	76	36	898	446	4.74	5.94	5.13	37.02
Blue Canyon	55	6	71	39	1,350	574	4.84	6.92	8.73	67.04
Yosemite	59	8	80	41	1,553	1,090	4.44	4.57	5.01	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.