



California Crop Weather

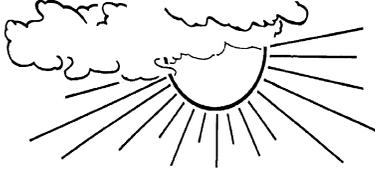
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office • P.O. Box 1258 • Sacramento, CA 95812 • (916) 498-5161 • (916) 498-5186 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov/ca

WEEK ENDING: November 9, 2008
RELEASED: November 10, 2008

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 29 NO. 20

WEATHER



This week was wet over the state of California. Friday was the only dry day over the Golden State. A cold front entered Northern California bringing precipitation north of Modesto to Crescent City. The highest rain fall amounts were 1.18 inches in Crescent City to less than .10 inches near Modesto. By Tuesday, rain spread over California from the Oregon border to San Diego. The precipitation totals were less than an inch throughout the state. Daytime high temperatures were in the 60s. On Wednesday and Thursday, rain was confined north of Redding, with a few isolated showers elsewhere. Daytime highs rebounded in the upper 60s and 70s in most locations. Friday was dry with daytime highs reaching into upper 70s and 80s throughout Southern California and 60s and lower 70s in Northern California. On Saturday, another cold front entered extreme Northern California bringing more rain in areas north of Redding. On Sunday, precipitation was falling north of Bakersfield to Crescent City with highs in the 60s.

FIELD CROPS

Field preparations for small grains were still in progress. Some early plantings of winter grain were germinating. **Alfalfa** growers were on the 8th cutting of alfalfa hay. Seed alfalfa fields were starting dormancy. **Cotton** defoliation and harvest activities continued. Some of the earlier harvested cotton fields continued with stalk plowdown and shredding. Blackeyed bean harvest was coming to an end. **Sudan** hay, **sorghum**, and **safflower** harvests continued. **Rice** harvest was nearing completion. Harvest of **corn** for grain and silage was almost complete.

FRUIT CROPS

Crimson and Thompson Seedless, Calmeria, Christmas Rose, Kyoho, Red Globe, Summer Royal, and Autumn Royal table **grapes** were being harvested and shipped. A small portion of the raisin crop remained to be boxed. Wine and juice grape harvests continued. Varieties picked included Alicante Bouchet, Barbera, Carnelian, Carignane, French Colombard, Merlot, Muscat, Ruby Cabernet, and Thompson Seedless. Stone fruit and **pomegranate** cultural practices such as irrigation and pruning continued. Early pruning of deciduous trees was gaining pace. Early Foothill, Wonderful, and Flamingo pomegranates were picked. Rain caused splitting on some fruit still on the tree. Angeleno **plums** and Flavor Fall **pluots** were harvested. **Quince**, **kiwifruit**, **apples**, Asian **pears**, and **jujube** harvests continued. Picking of Fuyu and Hachiya **persimmons** was still underway. A few fall **strawberry** stands were open for business. Valencia **orange** harvest was slow. Most remaining fruit was being field harvested directly to juice and headed for the domestic market. Navel oranges were showing better maturity. Fruit color was progressing slowly in some areas. Harvest was slow. Satsuma **mandarins** were showing high maturity. Chandler **pummelos** were picked. The **olive** harvest continued. **Lemons** were harvested.

NUT CROPS

Walnut and **pistachio** harvests continued. **Almond** harvest was winding down. Hullers remained busy. Zinc was being applied to some trees to burn off leaves. New almond and pistachio orchards were being planted.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Many fall vegetables were being harvested and picked this week. Tulare County picked **cucumbers**, **sweet corn**, **pumpkin**, and **tomatoes**. In Fresno County, fields were weeded, irrigated, fertilized, and treated for pests and mildew. Harvests continued at a slower pace for **garlic**, bell **peppers**, and **onions**. Harvests continued for many farmers' market crops, such as **amaranth**, **basil**, green and long **beans**, bitter **melon**, **carrots**, **cilantro**, collard **greens**, **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 harvest continued. Fall **broccoli** was growing well. Merced County completed its harvest of fresh market tomatoes. Some spinach was being harvested and stale bedding was underway in Kern County.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and pasture showed slight improvement in many areas due to recent rains and milder temperatures, however conditions remained mostly poor. Cattle on dry pasture and rangeland continued to receive supplements of hay and other nutrients. Movement of cattle to lower elevations for over-wintering continued, and some thinning of herds continued due to the poor feed and water outlook. Irrigated pastures were in good condition. Fall beef cow calving was nearing completion in some areas. Cooler temperatures boosted and steadied milk production. Sheep were grazing on harvested grain and alfalfa fields and idle farmland in central and southern areas, with increased movement into the Imperial Valley. Fall lambing continued. 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 11/09/08

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 11/09/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 11/09/08	January 1 - 11/09/08	Week Ending 11/09/08	July 1 - 11/09/08	July 1 - 11/09	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	52	0	60	44	40	0	1.46	4.07	6.55	37.53
Ukiah	53	-1	70	38	1,670	1,454	1.50	4.36	5.48	37.96
Santa Rosa	57	1	73	41	1,201	923	0.77	3.32	4.52	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	57	0	72	45	696	443	0.27	1.98	2.50	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,482	1,334	0.00	0.00	2.03	14.42
Salinas AP	57	-1	77	41	616	432	0.17	0.86	1.72	12.44
Monterey FAA	56	-1	73	43	389	145	0.14	0.62	3.22	18.72
King City	57	0	80	37	1,450	1,043	0.07	0.10	1.40	11.44
Paso Robles AP	55	0	78	34	1,888	1,552	0.04	0.29	1.51	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	53	-3	70	38	2,928	2,504	0.79	4.04	4.64	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	54	-2	69	39	2,966	2,610	0.58	3.06	3.87	22.29
Chico AFS	55	0	71	38	2,590	2,043	1.38	11.11	3.52	26.32
Marysville	55	-3	70	38	2,410	2,442	0.32	3.38	3.00	21.04
Sacramento AP	55	-2	69	40	2,115	1,932	0.06	2.89	2.33	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	56	-1	72	40	2,386	2,214	0.00	1.13	2.11	13.95
Fresno	56	-1	71	40	3,291	2,792	0.32	0.72	1.46	10.60
Bakersfield	56	-3	70	42	3,479	3,129	0.17	0.43	0.83	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	60	2	85	43	658	410	0.17	0.60	1.42	12.36
Santa Barbara	60	2	78	40	982	736	0.39	1.01	1.91	16.25
Ventura	63	63	85	47	716	0	0.24	1.11	1.46	14.38
Los Angeles	67	1	85	53	2,650	2,439	0.20	0.27	1.26	14.77
Riverside	64	3	90	46	2,926	2,387	0.51	0.51	1.03	9.58
San Diego AP	64	1	81	53	1,834	1,802	0.14	1.32	1.20	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	49	1	73	30	1,812	1,552	0.08	0.55	0.99	5.37
Lancaster	54	0	77	31	2,953	2,343	0.00	0.44	1.02	6.92
Daggett AP	58	-2	78	41	4,335	3,940	0.03	0.22	1.39	3.93
Thermal AP	66	1	86	38	5,426	4,891	0.00	0.28	1.22	3.16
Blythe	67	2	87	50	5,714	5,401	0.00	0.48	1.82	3.60
Imperial	69	2	106	45	5,306	5,167	0.00	0.33	1.17	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	42	2	66	25	755	296	0.79	1.50	2.75	12.01
Mt. Shasta	41	-2	56	28	898	446	1.88	7.82	6.48	37.02
Blue Canyon	43	-2	62	30	1,341	574	1.49	8.41	11.23	67.04
Yosemite	45	-3	59	31	1,552	1,090	0.85	5.42	6.33	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.