



California Crop Weather

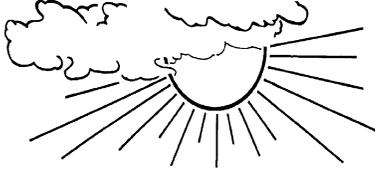
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: November 30, 2008
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WEATHER



The week began with a high pressure ridge over Arizona creating a southwesterly flow over California. This pattern brought mostly dry and mild conditions to the state at the start of the week. A low pressure system then dropped down the coast from the Gulf of Alaska. This system then moved down the coast and swung ashore over Southern California. The cold front generated by this low pressure brought significant rainfall to Southern California, with some stations reporting 24 hour totals exceeding an inch. Northern California also received rain from this system, but rainfall in the north was not as heavy as down south. Towards the end of the week high pressure aloft settled over California. The combination of residual moisture from the earlier rains, and the stagnant conditions resulting from the high pressure, resulted in widespread fog developing across the Central Valley. This pattern also led to an offshore flow across Southern California, which brought warm and dry conditions to that part of the state.

FIELD CROPS

Barley, wheat, and **oat** fields continued to be planted, with early planted fields showing good emergence. **Alfalfa** has gone into dormancy in many areas of the state. Planting of new alfalfa fields continued; a few fields were already emerging. **Cotton** defoliation and harvest activities were nearing completion. **Sudan** hay, **safflower** and **sorghum** harvests continued. Harvest of **corn** was complete in many counties.

FRUIT CROPS

Grape growers continued their post-harvest activities. Irrigation, treatments for weeds, disease and insect control, soil treatments, and pruning and shredding were taking place. Only limited picking of table varieties remained underway. Irrigation, pruning, and insect and weed treatments were also taking place in stone fruit orchards. **Kiwi** and **pomegranate** harvests were complete in Merced County. **Quince,** Fuyu and Hachiya **persimmons,** Asian **pears,** and **jujube** harvests continued. Valencia **oranges** were packed as demand dictated. Some Navel oranges were harvested, but harvest was slow as maturity was marginal with fruit color lagging. **Lemons,** Satsuma and Clementine **mandarins,** Chandler **pummelos,** Melogold and Cocktail **grapefruit** were also harvested. **Olives** were still being harvested.

NUT CROPS

Nut trees had begun going dormant in some areas and were being pruned. Fumigations were underway for replants. New **almond** and **pistachio** orchards were already being planted. **Walnuts** were still being harvested in some areas.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Broccoli, cauliflower and **cabbage** continued to grow well throughout the state. **Garlic** began to emerge. Ground preparation and other field work continued, with bird control as a focus. **Tomato** beds were prepared with drip irrigation. The **radicchio** harvest continued in Merced County. Harvests also continued for cool-season vegetables, baby **carrots,** green **onions,** and **strawberries** for roadside sale. Out-of-state **blueberry** plants arrived in Tulare County for fall planting.

LIVESTOCK

More seasonal precipitation was needed to support forage growth on rangeland and pasture, which remained in fair to poor condition throughout the state. Continued greening of foothill pastures was visible. Cattle ranchers continued supplemental feeding programs. Irrigated pastures were in good condition. Fall beef cow calving continued, and was nearly complete in some areas. Milk production remained high due to the mild, dry weather. Sheep and lambs were grazing on alfalfa fields and idle farmland in central areas, and feeder lambs were grazing on Sudan hay and alfalfa fields in the Imperial Valley. Fall lambing continued. Both in-state and out-of-state honeybees were being over-wintered.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 11/30/08

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 11/30/08	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 11/30/08	January 1 - 11/30/08	Week Ending 11/30/08	July 1 - 11/30/08	July 1 - 11/30	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	50	0	63	38	40	0	0.02	5.57	11.42	37.53
Ukiah	52	3	73	35	1674	1454	0.01	4.47	9.88	37.96
Santa Rosa	54	2	66	40	1227	923	0.03	3.38	7.82	30.3
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	55	2	65	47	716	443	0.2	2.18	4.45	19.7
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1545	1334	0	0	3.42	14.42
Salinas AP	56	4	72	46	654	432	0.63	1.52	2.82	12.44
Monterey FAA	--	--	58	49	430	145	0	0.62	4.26	18.72
King City	56	5	75	40	1480	1043	0.51	0.61	2.48	11.44
Paso Robles AP	54	4	73	35	1898	1552	0.26	0.55	2.39	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	56	8	77	35	2963	2504	0	4.11	7.93	33.3
Red Bluff FSS	55	6	78	38	2991	2610	0	3.06	6.26	22.29
Chico AFS	53	5	77	38	2596	2043	0	11.11	6.29	26.32
Marysville	52	1	67	37	2420	2442	0.11	3.49	5.37	21.04
Sacramento AP	53	3	66	40	2119	1932	0.1	2.99	4.12	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	52	2	64	37	2390	2214	0.25	1.4	3.45	13.95
Fresno	54	5	67	37	3308	2792	0.75	1.47	2.32	10.6
Bakersfield	54	3	64	42	3502	3128	0.63	1.06	1.34	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	57	4	72	42	704	410	1.91	2.51	2.51	12.36
Santa Barbara	58	3	69	44	1006	736	0.93	1.95	3.09	16.25
Ventura	57	0	72	46	972	0	1.34	2.45	2.76	14.38
Los Angeles	63	1	76	52	2768	2461	1.6	1.87	2.26	14.77
Riverside	62	5	85	47	3038	2377	0.45	0.96	1.74	9.58
San Diego AP	62	2	75	52	1910	1799	2.35	3.67	2.13	9.9
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	48	7	72	23	1816	1552	0.4	0.95	1.36	5.37
Lancaster	54	7	71	33	2953	2343	1.13	1.57	1.48	6.92
Daggett AP	--	--	65	44	4406	3937	0	0.22	1.59	3.93
Thermal AP	66	8	87	45	5551	4872	0.49	0.77	1.42	3.16
Blythe	64	6	80	48	5814	5383	0.25	0.73	2.06	3.6
Imperial	65	6	84	48	5432	5163	0.04	0.37	1.38	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	39	6	62	16	632	296	0	1.77	3.86	12.01
Mt. Shasta	44	7	61	27	898	446	0	8.03	10.53	37.02
Blue Canyon	53	12	68	40	1364	574	0.32	8.73	18.17	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	59	32	1552	1090	0.27	5.69	10.05	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.