



California Crop Weather

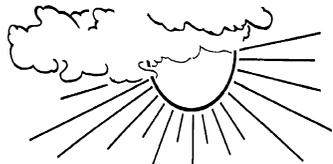
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: October 25, 2009
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FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER



Monday began with the remains of a low pressure system exiting the area. Precipitation fell in the form of scattered light rain showers as far south as Fresno. Several inches of snow fell above 6,500 feet in elevation in the Sierras as far south as Yosemite. Midweek brought another system into the Pacific Northwest that just clipped the far north coast of California. This brought light rain as far down as Eureka and fog to the Central Valley of California. High pressure dominated the remainder of the week, bringing clear skies, crisp mornings and slightly above normal maximum temperatures statewide.

FIELD CROPS

Harvested fields were being prepared to be planted to winter grains. **Winter wheat** and **barley** that was planted benefitted from the latest rainfall. **Cotton** was at various stages of harvest, with bolls being defoliated and harvest taking place in most areas. **Corn, milo,** and other grain crops were mostly harvested. Damage from the recent storms was not enough to affect the plants' ability to be harvested. **Sunflower** harvest continued in Sutter County. **Alfalfa** continued to be cut and baled where it wasn't affected by rain. **Dry bean** harvest continued in Merced County, with some fields being baled for straw. **Broccoli** for seed was planted in Fresno County. Producer started planting seed **onion** crops in San Joaquin County. **Rice** harvest approached completion.

FRUIT CROPS

Grape growers in the Central Valley and North Coast were checking for mold and other damage caused by the storm. The grape harvest in the Central Valley was nearly complete, with minor picking ongoing in table grape vineyards. The **kiwi** and **apple** harvests continued throughout the Central Valley. The **peach, plum,** and **nectarine** harvests were essentially finished. Wonderful **pomegranates** continued to be picked. Fall **strawberries** continued to be picked in the San Joaquin Valley, while the Satsuma **mandarin** harvest also continued. The Valencia **orange** harvest continued to near completion in the San Joaquin Valley, and navel oranges continued to develop in size. The **lemon** harvest continued in the desert region. Orchard activity continued to be hindered due to many orchard floors still being wet from earlier storms. Normal spraying and maintenance continued in orchards and vineyards, which included some fall fertilizer applications for fruit trees.

NUT CROPS

The **walnut** harvest resumed after orchards recovered from the storm in the Sacramento Valley. The **almond** harvest was nearly complete as the **walnut** harvest continued to near completion in the Central Valley. The majority of **pistachios** have been harvested in the Central Valley. Orchard activity has been slowed due to the persistent wetness of orchard floors.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Basil, fresh market **tomatoes** and bell **peppers** continued to be harvested in Merced County. The processing tomato harvest was winding down, while the harvests of **watermelon, cantaloupe** and **honeydew** melons were completed. **Radichio** planting finished and worm sprays were applied to tomato fields. The last of the **squash** and vine **cucumbers** were picked in Tulare County. **Broccoli, cauliflower** and **spinach** were developing well. Head **lettuce** production was slowing down in Monterey County. Kern County's fields were being stale bedded for early spring planting and **carrots** were still being harvested. In San Joaquin County, the fall harvest was slowing down and the last of the canning tomatoes were harvested along with some bell peppers. Green tomatoes were being picked. Fresno County's carrots were irrigated, fertilized, and treated with herbicides. Winter lettuce and broccoli were both progressing normally.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and dry-land pasture in many central and southern areas entered early fall in critically dry condition, but continued to improve after recent rain events followed by warm temperatures. Supplemental feeding of cattle on lower-elevation range and dry pasture continued. Pasture in northern areas was reportedly in fair to good condition. Some dairy herd reduction continued in central areas. Sheep were grazing on dry-land grain fields, older hay fields, and older vegetable and melon plantings. More bands of sheep were moved into Imperial. Some honeybees remained in squash and melon crops, and both in-state and out-of-state hives were moved to winter storage.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 10/25/09

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 10/25/09	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 10/25/09	January 1 - 10/25/09	Week Ending 10/25/09	July 1 - 10/25/09	July 1 - 10/25/09	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	54	0	63	46	12	0	0.15	2.01	3.10	37.53
Ukiah	61	1	81	47	1,684	1,454	0.30	2.90	2.33	37.96
Santa Rosa	63	2	87	48	1,202	923	0.42	3.50	1.92	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	63	3	79	53	674	443	0.28	2.29	1.06	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,503	1,332	--	--	0.96	14.42
Salinas AP	62	1	80	49	560	432	0.06	2.14	0.78	12.44
Monterey FAA	59	0	71	50	299	145	0.04	3.35	1.92	18.72
King City	62	2	85	45	1,455	1,043	0.01	2.46	0.61	11.44
Paso Robles AP	62	2	83	46	1,808	1,552	0.00	1.89	0.74	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	63	1	82	44	2,884	2,503	0.33	1.14	2.47	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	63	0	82	46	2,942	2,608	0.19	2.31	2.04	22.29
Chico AFS	61	1	79	44	2,476	2,043	0.06	1.86	1.72	26.32
Marysville	63	-1	83	48	2,433	2,437	0.13	2.15	1.37	21.04
Sacramento AP	63	1	83	48	2,162	1,930	0.17	3.38	1.06	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	63	0	79	48	2,254	2,212	0.04	2.92	0.95	13.95
Fresno	63	0	79	50	3,256	2,788	0.00	1.40	0.70	10.60
Bakersfield	65	-1	79	49	3,569	3,110	0.00	0.09	0.47	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	64	4	86	49	520	410	0.02	1.59	0.69	12.36
Santa Barbara	64	3	77	50	792	735	0.02	3.68	1.08	16.25
Ventura	63	0	80	44	665	0	0.00	1.69	0.78	14.38
Los Angeles	70	2	85	57	2,400	2,310	0.00	2.07	0.70	14.77
Riverside	--	--	90	56	2,911	2,337	0.00	0.00	0.66	9.58
San Diego AP	67	0	76	58	1,760	1,710	0.00	0.00	0.64	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	59	5	79	36	1,866	1,552	0.00	2.02	0.72	5.37
Lancaster	63	3	88	37	2,829	2,343	0.00	0.02	0.69	6.92
Daggett AP	69	3	90	50	4,142	3,907	0.00	0.05	1.27	3.93
Thermal AP	73	2	95	49	5,078	4,761	0.00	0.10	1.11	3.16
Blythe	75	3	95	56	5,644	5,258	0.00	0.12	1.69	3.60
Imperial	76	3	97	56	5,411	4,989	0.00	0.00	1.05	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	47	2	67	20	572	296	0.16	0.90	1.90	12.01
Mt. Shasta	51	2	67	34	884	446	0.00	4.61	3.30	37.02
Blue Canyon	53	2	67	33	1,242	574	0.32	5.02	5.55	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	1,508	1,090	0.00	0.01	3.31	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.