



California Crop Weather

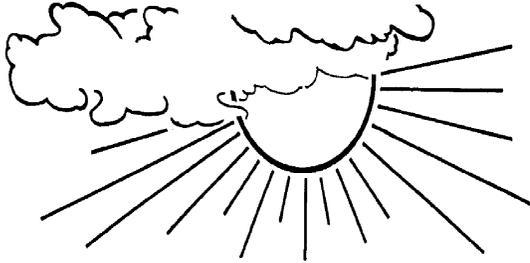
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER



High pressure was building over the West Coast at the start of the week, resulting in a dry and mild weather regime for California. Temperatures were above normal across the north and very warm in the south, where daytime highs in the 80s were reported. By Wednesday, the high pressure was at its strongest, and temperatures across the State reached their warmest levels. On Thursday, the high pressure began to weaken as a cold front approached the northern coast. On Friday, this storm system moved across the northern portion of the State, spreading rain showers across the valley and snow in the northern mountains. These showers were spotty; some areas received moderate amounts of rain, while adjacent areas received practically none. The low pressure associated with this storm moved into southern California Saturday and brought scattered precipitation to that part of the State. In the North, strong northerly winds blew in the wake of the storm system. By Sunday, the low pressure system had just about departed the State, and dry and mild conditions returned.

FIELD CROPS

Ground preparation, weed treatments, and fertilization continued for next year's crop. Winter forage crops, such as **barley**, **wheat**, and **oats**, continued to be planted. **Cotton** harvest continued, with some fields being picked twice in Tulare County, while other fields were being shredded as soon as the harvesters left. **Corn** silage and **sorghum** harvest continued. Many **alfalfa** fields have been cut and baled for the last time this season. Some producers were attempting to get one more cutting as long as the weather cooperated. **Dry bean** harvest has been completed in most areas.

FRUIT CROPS

Pomegranates, Satsuma and Clementine **mandarins**, **grapefruit**, and minor quantities of table **grapes** were being picked in the San Joaquin Valley. The navel **orange** harvest continued in the Central Valley, with fruit showing great maturity. The **lemon** harvest continued normally in the desert region. Normal maintenance continued, which included tree pruning in orchards and preparation for strawberry plantings.

NUT CROPS

The **almond**, **walnut**, **pecan**, and **pistachio** harvests were completed, while almond hulling and stockpiling continued. Post-harvest pruning and maintenance activities continued, including orchard fumigation.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Tulare County, the harvest of fall vegetables, such as **broccoli**, **cabbage** and Romaine **lettuce**, gained momentum. **Spinach** was progressing normally and being harvested throughout the county. Farmers were mowing **asparagus** fields in San Joaquin County. Fresno County processing **tomato** beds were prepared for next year. **Carrots** were being irrigated and are about a week away from harvest. Winter vegetables were growing in Kern County, but many fields were stale bedded for spring planting of vegetables and lettuce. Merced County's **radicchio** harvest continued while the harvest of **chili peppers** for processing slowed down. Ground preparation continued in Sutter County.

LIVESTOCK

Earlier rain events and cooler temperatures resulted in continuing germination of winter forages on many central and southern-area range and pasturelands. New growth was reportedly visible in the Sutter Buttes and throughout the valley and foothill regions. However, supplemental feeding of cattle on low elevation range and dry pasture continued to be a necessity as grazing conditions remained fair to poor in many areas. Some beef cow calving continued. Favorable weather and improving prices contributed to increased milk production. Sheep and feeder lambs were in the Imperial Valley for winter pasturing, mostly on alfalfa fields. Fall lambing was nearly complete.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 11/29/09

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 11/29/09	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 11/29/09	January 1 - 11/29/09	Week Ending 11/29/09	July 1 - 11/29/09	July 1 - 11/29/09	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	47	-3	59	35	14	0	0.71	5.83	9.55	37.53
Ukiah	50	1	72	30	1,685	1,454	0.07	4.47	8.22	37.96
Santa Rosa	55	3	76	33	1,222	923	0.00	4.55	6.58	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	56	3	70	43	697	443	0.01	2.49	3.72	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	1,451	1,334	--	--	2.90	14.42
Salinas AP	56	3	79	35	576	432	0.05	2.29	2.43	12.44
Monterey FAA	55	1	70	42	308	145	0.08	3.60	3.98	18.72
King City	54	2	80	32	1,476	1,043	0.00	2.47	2.09	11.44
Paso Robles AP	49	0	76	25	1,818	1,552	0.00	1.90	2.06	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	55	6	75	36	2,896	2,504	0.07	1.73	6.60	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	55	6	75	38	2,952	2,610	0.07	3.04	5.38	22.29
Chico AFS	51	3	69	33	2,505	2,043	0.28	3.01	5.27	26.32
Marysville	53	2	69	34	2,444	2,442	0.81	3.45	4.48	21.04
Sacramento AP	53	2	70	35	2,172	1,932	0.01	3.59	3.45	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	51	1	68	33	2,262	2,214	0.09	2.99	2.95	13.95
Fresno	51	1	72	34	3,282	2,792	0.00	1.60	2.00	10.60
Bakersfield	53	1	74	35	3,598	3,128	0.09	0.19	1.15	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	56	3	80	38	542	410	0.00	1.59	2.10	12.36
Santa Barbara	57	2	79	38	810	736	0.00	3.73	2.66	16.25
Ventura	60	0	82	43	803	0	0.00	1.69	2.27	14.38
Los Angeles	63	2	84	49	2,555	2,452	0.01	2.08	1.88	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	2,963	2,377	0.00	0.00	1.48	9.58
San Diego AP	60	0	78	47	1,835	1,798	0.24	0.24	1.79	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	44	2	65	21	1,866	1,552	0.07	2.08	1.22	5.37
Lancaster	47	-1	72	23	2,829	2,343	0.00	0.02	1.29	6.92
Daggett AP	51	-2	72	32	4,182	3,937	0.20	0.25	1.50	3.93
Thermal AP	59	1	84	35	5,190	4,870	0.00	0.10	1.34	3.16
Blythe	60	2	79	41	5,804	5,381	0.00	0.12	1.96	3.60
Imperial	60	0	81	41	5,594	5,159	0.00	0.00	1.29	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	35	1	58	16	545	296	0.23	2.52	3.46	12.01
Mt. Shasta	40	2	57	25	935	446	0.24	7.19	8.96	37.02
Blue Canyon	47	7	63	32	1,258	574	0.49	7.22	15.71	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	1,503	1,090	0.00	0.01	8.65	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.