



California Crop Weather

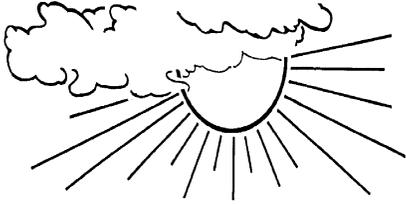
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: February 14, 2010
RELEASED: February 16, 2010

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WEATHER



High pressure over the state at the start of the week quickly buckled and allowed several weak weather systems to pass through. The strongest of these storms moved from Northern California down into Southern California at midweek, spreading light to moderate rains. Temperatures at the start of the week were generally below normal. On Friday, a high pressure area began to build over California, resulting in warmer and dryer conditions across the state.

Temperatures quickly rose above normal for most of the state, with Southern California seeing highs reach into the 80s by the weekend.

FIELD CROPS

Continued rainfall was beneficial for dryland crops, and also lessened the need for irrigation. The rainfall has also made weed control more difficult. As field conditions allowed, weed control measures were undertaken in **wheat**, **oat** and **alfalfa** fields. Fertilizer applications were also ongoing as growers prepared for spring planting.

FRUIT CROPS

Maintenance work was sporadic in vineyards and orchards as rains have led to very high soil moisture. Trees and vines entered a deeper dormancy due to cool seasonal temperatures. Stone fruit grafting took place in the San Joaquin Valley, as well as some blooming occurring in **plum** trees. **Cherry** trees are expected to begin blooming soon. The wetter than usual weather has delayed **blueberry** pollination. Picking of **tangerines** navel **oranges**, **grapefruit** and **lemons** continued as orchard conditions allowed.

NUT CROPS

Blooming in **almond** orchards began, with widespread blooming expected in the coming week. Bees and bloom sprays continued to be used throughout almond orchards. Orchard work continued in other nut orchards, including herbicide applications for **walnut** trees.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Growers were planting vegetable crops in Monterey County, despite cold weather and periodic rains making it difficult to prepare the fields. **Asparagus** sprouted in San Joaquin County. Muddy conditions continued to hinder the harvesting of produce in Imperial County. In Tulare County, **spinach**, **broccoli** and **cabbage** were being picked. Fields were disced to break and aerate the soil for future vegetable planting. In Fresno County the harvests of winter vegetables including **beets**, broccoli, cabbage, **turnips**, **daikon**, **green onions**, **herbs**, **bok choy**, **gai choy**, **yu choy**, **Swiss chard** and **kale** were coming to an end. Some growers continued to plant winter rotational vegetable crops, while others cultivated, pre-irrigated and weeded fields in preparation for next season's planting. The Fall-planted **garlic** and **onion** crops were showing good growth, and **carrot** fields that were planted by seed started to emerge. Spring **lettuce** was growing well and some of the older fields were being weeded and thinned. Growers of **melon** and **tomato** crops were applying pre-plant fumigation when soil conditions permitted. Some fields were bedded up for processing tomatoes. Previously planted onions for processing emerged in some fields. The **radicchio** harvest continued in Merced County. Carrots, cabbage, lettuce and other vegetables were growing in Kern County. Fields were bedded up for tomatoes and melons.

LIVESTOCK

The condition of range and dry pasture continued to show improvement in the central and southern areas of California. The need for supplemental feeding of cattle continued to lessen. Northern grazing lands continued to be in good to very good condition. Wet conditions created muddy areas and standing water pools that were issues for dairies and beef feed lots. In the central part of the state, sheep and cattle were grazing on retired farmland and semi-dormant alfalfa hay fields. In the Imperial Valley, wet conditions kept sheep off of alfalfa fields. Shipment of feeder lambs from the Imperial Valley was ongoing. Both local and out-of-state beehives were placed in almond and plum orchards in anticipation of the upcoming blooms.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 2/14/10

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 2/14/10	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 2/14/10	January 1 - 2/14	Week Ending 2/14/10	July 1 - 2/14/10	July 1 - 2/14	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	51	2	62	41	0	0	0.84	22.22	24.47	37.53
Ukiah	--	--	63	40	0	0	0.28	21.24	25.83	37.96
Santa Rosa	51	0	69	34	0	0	0.41	19.23	20.45	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	53	1	62	46	0	0	0.27	13.27	13.27	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	2.92	9.52	14.42
Salinas AP	52	-1	66	35	0	0	0.39	8.48	7.92	12.44
Monterey FAA	--	--	56	42	0	0	0.50	13.08	9.77	18.72
King City	53	1	70	37	0	0	0.03	8.52	7.35	11.44
Paso Robles AP	50	0	67	34	0	0	0.11	9.39	8.11	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	48	-1	62	33	0	0	0.80	19.07	21.90	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	50	0	62	36	0	0	0.59	15.86	15.41	22.29
Chico AFS	51	2	62	35	0	0	0.59	19.45	16.87	26.32
Marysville	52	1	64	33	0	0	0.15	12.33	14.37	21.04
Sacramento AP	52	2	64	38	0	0	0.29	13.05	11.72	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	52	1	66	37	0	0	0.48	9.17	8.86	13.95
Fresno	51	0	66	39	0	0	0.26	7.05	6.67	10.60
Bakersfield	50	-2	65	38	0	0	0.43	4.64	3.78	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	51	-2	73	36	0	0	0.42	10.91	8.28	12.36
Santa Barbara	52	-2	72	37	0	0	0.39	15.41	10.53	16.25
Ventura	53	0	78	36	22	0	0.30	11.97	9.20	14.38
Los Angeles	58	-2	81	40	76	1	0.44	13.38	9.11	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	15	0	0.00	0.00	6.40	9.58
San Diego AP	57	-2	74	47	22	0	0.66	7.54	6.50	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	41	0	65	22	0	0	0.00	6.71	3.25	5.37
Lancaster	48	0	69	32	0	0	0.23	5.71	4.97	6.92
Daggett AP	--	--	59	40	0	0	0.28	3.72	2.97	3.93
Thermal AP	57	-1	83	41	6	0	0.43	3.64	2.77	3.16
Blythe	--	--	67	43	7	0	0.00	3.32	3.23	3.60
Imperial	58	-2	79	43	6	0	0.28	2.91	2.40	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	39	6	55	19	0	0	0.15	4.37	6.70	12.01
Mt. Shasta	38	1	50	24	0	0	0.60	26.08	24.95	37.02
Blue Canyon	39	1	54	31	0	0	0.35	26.44	41.78	67.04
Yosemite	39	-2	55	27	0	0	0.11	10.89	24.30	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.