



California Crop Weather

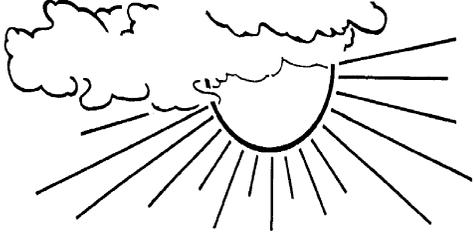
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: April 11, 2010
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WEATHER



At the start of the week, a low pressure system off the Washington coast was driving a vigorous cold front through California, spreading rain, wind and cool temperatures across the state. The low pressure quickly shifted east, and a high pressure ridge began to develop over Southern California, resulting in a warming and drying trend for the state during the middle part of the week. On Thursday, a weak storm system brushed the northern coast. This system brought showers only to the north coast, and spread

some clouds and breezy winds across the rest of Northern California; it did not impact weather in the South. Weak high pressure brought cool and dry conditions to most of the state on Friday and Saturday. On Sunday, another strong low pressure system had reached California, and another cold front was pushed across the state, bringing gusty winds, widespread showers and unseasonably cool temperatures to California.

FIELD CROPS

Barley, **oat** and **wheat** fields continued to mature. Weed control continued in winter wheat, **rye**, oats and **alfalfa** fields. Wheat and oats continued to head out. Winter forage crops were harvested for silage. Dryland crops continued to benefit from recent showers. **Rice** fields were leveled and pre-plant herbicides were applied. Producers continued operations on the first cutting of alfalfa in the Central Valley. **Corn** and **cotton** planting continued. Some cotton fields received irrigation before planting. **Sunflower** field preparation and planting took place. Fertilizer was applied to sugar **beet** fields. **Safflower** and garbanzo **bean** growth continued.

FRUIT CROPS

Picking of **tangerines**, navel **oranges** and **lemons** continued normally, as the **grapefruit** harvest neared completion and harvesting of early Valencia orange varieties increased. The **cherry** bloom was almost finished and the harvest is expected to begin in a few weeks. There were fungicide and fertilizer applications for **grape** vineyards in the Central Valley. The early **strawberry** harvest continued as many fields continued to set fruit. Shredding, thinning and fungicide applications were ongoing in stone fruit orchards.

NUT CROPS

Recent cool and wet weather has limited disease and pest concerns in **almond** orchards, though growers continued to plan fungicide spraying and pest trap placements. Irrigation was ongoing in areas where precipitation was less abundant. **Walnut** blight applications continued as early walnut varieties began to bloom. Blooming also began in **pistachio** orchards while growers began applying fungicide sprays.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Ground preparation and processing **tomato** transplanting occurred in Colusa County. Sutter County producers were applying herbicide treatments. Grounds were being prepared and the planting of tomato transplants began. The **asparagus** harvest progressed in San Joaquin and Merced Counties. In Merced, bell **pepper**, tomato and **watermelon** fields continued to be planted. Spring **onions** from transplants were harvested and shipped from Imperial County. Summer onions were about a month away and sweet **corn** is expected to be harvested in the next few weeks. In Tulare County, vegetable beds were being prepared for the upcoming season. The planting of **eggplant**, bitter **melon**, **string beans** and other vegetables was taking place in hot houses. Some early planted **zucchini** and yellow **squash** were harvested. Onions and **garlic** progressed well, but cooler temperatures slowed growth a little. Fresno County's processing tomatoes were being transplanted. **Lettuce** and other spring vegetables had been planted and were showing good signs of growth. Weeding and fungicide application took place on the onion crop.

LIVESTOCK

Range conditions continued to improve with continued rains restocking soil moisture and spurring growth and nutrient accumulation. Supplemental feeding continued to taper down and cattle weight gains continued to improve. Dairies and feedlots were drying out where the weather permitted. Cattle and sheared sheep grazed on range, alfalfa and idle fields. Weather slowed bee pollination activity as the season was progressing through the stone fruits and moving into blueberries.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/11/10

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 4/11/10	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 4/11/10	January 1 - 4/11	Week Ending 4/11/10	July 1 - 4/11/10	July 1 - 4/11	July 1 - June 30
NORTH COAST	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
Eureka	49	-2	62	37	0	0	0.39	32.69	34.09	37.53
Ukiah	--	--	--	--	2	0	0.00	23.66	36.26	37.96
Santa Rosa	52	-4	74	35	6	0	1.12	26.92	28.76	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	55	-1	69	44	8	0	1.04	19.18	19.03	19.70
San Jose	--	--	--	--	18	0	--	--	13.86	14.42
Salinas AP	55	-1	77	39	6	0	0.56	13.98	11.87	12.44
Monterey FAA	--	--	--	--	3	0	0.00	13.14	13.92	18.72
King City	55	-2	81	37	7	0	0.39	12.73	11.45	11.44
Paso Robles AP	54	-2	76	33	0	0	0.71	12.16	12.57	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	53	-5	77	32	18	0	1.05	26.33	30.45	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	54	-4	76	34	12	0	0.81	20.47	21.28	22.29
Chico AFS	54	-3	73	38	10	0	0.75	24.53	24.02	26.32
Marysville	54	-5	74	36	10	0	1.40	16.93	20.39	21.04
Sacramento AP	55	-3	72	36	7	0	1.36	18.83	16.48	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	54	-4	73	37	3	0	0.84	13.78	12.69	13.95
Fresno	57	-2	77	39	24	1	0.39	10.32	10.20	10.60
Bakersfield	58	-3	79	37	28	8	0.08	5.78	5.91	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	56	1	78	40	4	0	0.38	13.30	13.21	12.36
Santa Barbara	57	0	79	44	12	0	0.43	18.78	16.47	16.25
Ventura	57	0	80	40	30	0	0.50	8.98	14.53	14.38
Los Angeles	64	1	84	49	256	84	0.60	15.44	14.26	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	107	4	--	--	9.94	9.58
San Diego AP	62	0	79	51	109	28	0.11	9.87	10.00	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	49	-2	73	22	0	0	0.28	7.15	4.42	5.37
Lancaster	54	-2	78	30	0	0	0.15	6.74	7.42	6.92
Daggett AP	--	--	--	--	61	40	0.00	3.75	3.89	3.93
Thermal AP	65	-4	87	43	171	237	0.00	3.75	3.47	3.16
Blythe	--	--	--	--	232	252	0.00	3.81	3.95	3.60
Imperial	67	-2	89	45	224	276	0.00	4.06	2.92	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	40	-2	63	19	0	0	0.05	6.07	9.43	12.01
Mt. Shasta	39	-5	63	20	0	0	0.77	37.25	35.27	37.02
Blue Canyon	40	-3	58	24	0	0	0.99	38.98	59.48	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	17.68	34.29	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.