



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER



A low pressure system brought rain to the northern half of California on Monday and Tuesday, along with below normal temperatures throughout the State. Snow levels over the mountains were low for this time of year. This system brought continued isolated showers over the northern part of the State, Wednesday into early Thursday.

By Thursday, high pressure began to build over the State. This continued through Sunday, with dry conditions and warmer temperatures throughout the State.

FIELD CROPS

Barley, **oat** and **wheat** fields matured at a slower rate due to the cool, damp conditions. Weed control continued in winter wheat, **rye**, oat 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. Lodging occurred in some grain fields. Small grain fields were planted in Northern California. **Rice** fields were sprayed with preplant herbicides and planted as field conditions allowed. Producers continued operations on the first cutting of alfalfa, some of which were rained on. **Corn**, **cotton**, and **sunflower** field preparation and planting took place as permitted by field moisture. Fertilizer was applied to sugar **beet** fields. **Safflower** and garbanzo **bean** growth continued.

FRUIT CROPS

Picking of **tangerines**, navel **oranges**, Valencia oranges, and **lemons** continued normally as the **grapefruit** harvest wound down. The **cherry** bloom was completed with isolated reports of hail damage to fruit in cherry, **peach**, **nectarine**, and **plum** orchards. Irrigation and fungicide applications were ongoing in **grape** vineyards in the Central Valley. Warmer weather and late spring precipitation continued to aid growth in grape vineyards along the Central Coast. The early **strawberry** harvest continued in the San Joaquin Valley.

NUT CROPS

Almond orchards showed good development amid ongoing cool, wet, and windy weather. Miticides were applied in almond orchards as growers considered pairing fungicide applications with May hull-split sprays. **Walnut** blight applications were ongoing as the early walnut bloom continued. Growers were irrigating **pistachio** orchards while blooming increased.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Tulare County, major field activities for vegetable plantings were halted by the rain early in the week. The wet conditions permitted only a limited volume of **squash** to be picked. Field work, preplant herbicide treatments and ground preparation continued in Sutter County. Producers were planting **cucurbits** and transplanting **tomatoes**. Spring planting also continued in San Joaquin County. Some market **onions** were being harvested in Imperial County. **Sweet corn** shipments were progressing and the **carrot** harvest was nearing completion. Kern County producers were staggering their processing tomato plantings in order to ease the burden on processing plants during harvest time. **Peppers**, **melons** and specialty vegetables were also being planted, while the carrot harvest progressed. The **asparagus** harvest continued in Merced County. The planting of bell pepper, tomato and **watermelon** fields was ongoing, while **honeydew** and **cantaloupe** planting had just started. Newly planted spring vegetables were progressing nicely in Fresno County. Herbicides were applied to carrots through sprinkler systems. Onions were weeded, cultivated, fertilized and treated with fungicide. Processing tomatoes continued to be planted.

LIVESTOCK

Range conditions continued to improve with recent rain. New vegetation continued to mature and build nutritional value. Late rainfall continued to re-supply soil moisture and pond basins. Non-irrigated pasture was in good condition. Supplemental feeding continued to taper down as livestock were moved to pasture. Cattle and sheared sheep grazed on alfalfa, idle fields and range.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/18/10

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION				
	Average Week Ending 4/18/10	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 4/18/10	January 1 - 4/18	Week Ending 4/18/10	July 1 - 4/18/10	July 1 - 4/18	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --				
NORTH COAST											
Eureka	51	0	66	39	38	0	1.14	33.10	34.81	37.53	
Ukiah	--	--	--	--	3	0	0.00	23.66	36.82	37.96	
Santa Rosa	56	-1	78	39	6	0	0.70	28.00	29.16	30.30	
CENTRAL COAST											
San Francisco AP	58	2	76	47	12	0	0.54	19.90	19.31	19.70	
San Jose	--	--	63	45	9	0	0.39	10.19	14.10	14.42	
Salinas AP	57	0	76	43	6	0	0.00	13.65	12.09	12.44	
Monterey FAA	--	--	--	--	2	0	0.00	13.14	14.18	18.72	
King City	57	-1	83	39	12	0	0.28	13.02	11.61	11.44	
Paso Robles AP	55	-2	76	39	0	0	0.14	12.85	12.74	13.95	
SACRAMENTO VALLEY											
Redding	56	-4	78	40	14	0	0.83	27.46	31.00	33.30	
Red Bluff FSS	56	-3	78	42	14	0	0.78	21.82	21.61	22.29	
Chico AFS	55	-3	74	39	12	0	1.01	25.54	24.40	26.32	
Marysville	56	-5	79	41	12	7	0.44	17.37	20.75	21.04	
Sacramento AP	57	-2	78	43	8	0	0.35	19.19	16.73	17.52	
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY											
Stockton WSO	57	-3	79	40	4	1	0.09	13.88	12.92	13.95	
Fresno	59	-2	80	42	36	12	0.35	10.96	10.38	10.60	
Bakersfield	60	-3	82	46	41	27	0.04	6.23	6.01	5.72	
SOUTH COAST											
Santa Maria AP	55	0	76	39	4	0	0.26	14.42	13.43	12.36	
Santa Barbara	56	-2	69	42	12	0	0.02	19.81	16.64	16.25	
Ventura	55	0	68	42	30	0	1.07	10.05	14.73	14.38	
Los Angeles	62	-2	76	50	272	113	0.19	16.36	14.46	14.77	
Riverside	--	--	--	--	114	17	--	--	10.08	9.58	
San Diego AP	61	-2	69	54	116	46	0.68	10.55	10.17	9.90	
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR											
Bishop	51	-3	79	24	0	0	0.04	8.62	4.48	5.37	
Lancaster	57	-1	80	36	7	0	0.13	7.02	7.51	6.92	
Daggett AP	--	--	69	41	86	78	0.00	4.22	3.93	3.93	
Thermal AP	68	-3	91	44	200	312	0.00	3.75	3.49	3.16	
Blythe	--	--	75	44	268	332	0.00	4.67	3.98	3.60	
Imperial	70	-1	92	48	289	351	0.00	4.06	2.94	2.75	
CASCADE - SIERRA											
Alturas	43	-1	74	20	0	0	0.04	6.10	9.68	12.01	
Mt. Shasta	46	0	72	30	0	0	0.81	38.56	35.92	37.02	
Blue Canyon	43	-2	62	30	0	0	0.71	39.88	60.65	67.04	
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	17.68	34.90	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.