



California Crop Weather

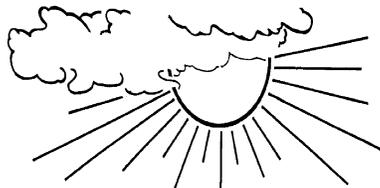
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER



The start of the week saw dry and mild weather across the northern half of California, while Southern California had a few lingering showers, the residual effects of a low pressure system which had recently exited the State. A low pressure system rapidly approached Northern California on Tuesday, resulting in cool showery weather spreading across the northern portion of the State, while scattered light showers continued to fall across the south. The low pressure center moved into Central California by Wednesday. This kept the showers continuing across much of the State through Thursday, when the low shifted into Southern California. Dry conditions returned to the State on Friday, as the low pressure system shifted eastward, out of the State. High pressure then began to build over California, resulting in dry and warm conditions during the weekend.

FIELD CROPS

Intermittent showers hampered field preparation and planting for **rice**, **corn**, and **cotton** crops. The wet weather also delayed progress on the first cutting of **alfalfa**—some fields have been cut and rained on, while others were delayed and have yet to be cut. Broadleaf and grass control took place in alfalfa fields, where conditions allowed. Cool, overcast weather slowed the development of **barley**, **safflower**, **oats**, and **wheat**. Lodging occurred in some small grain fields.

FRUIT CROPS

Picking of **tangerines**, navel **oranges**, Valencia oranges, and **lemons** continued normally as the **grapefruit** harvest was completed. Packing sheds were preparing for the upcoming **cherry** harvest. Herbicide applications were ongoing in **prune** orchards. Fungicide applications continued in **grape** vineyards in the Central Valley, while some vineyards were also thinned to increase light exposure. Table grape vineyards were irrigated as they showed good development. The early **strawberry** harvest continued normally in the San Joaquin Valley.

NUT CROPS

Due to ongoing cool and wet weather, **almond** orchards showed good development as growers continued fungicide applications. Recent weather has significantly slowed insect development, reducing the need for pesticides. **Walnut** blight applications were ongoing as the walnut bloom continued. Irrigation continued in **pistachio** orchards while blooming increased.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Rain interfered with the head **lettuce** harvest that started up in Monterey County. When fields were dry enough to cultivate, producers in Sutter County were planting **cucurbits**. Fieldwork, preplant herbicide treatments and ground preparation also continued. Wet weather conditions hampered the **asparagus** crop in San Joaquin County. In Tulare County, **tomatoes** were showing good growth and caps were being removed. **Peas**, **peppers**, **cucumbers** and **onions** were also progressing well, and early **squash** had started to bloom. Asparagus continued to be harvested in Merced County, and fields of bell pepper, **cantaloupe**, **honeydew**, tomato and **watermelon** continued to be planted. In Kern County, **carrots**, lettuce and organic vegetables were still being harvested.

LIVESTOCK

Non-irrigated range continued to improve. Vegetation was maturing and gaining nutrient strength. Rains continued to resupply soil moisture. Supplemental feeding continued in some locations. Cattle and sheep grazed idle fields and range. Lambing was underway in Lassen County. Late calving was finished in some areas. Bees were being moved to seed onion fields. Some dairies and feedlots were plagued by persistent wet muddy conditions as the dry spells between storms have been brief.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/25/10

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 4/25/10	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 4/25/10	January 1 - 4/25	Week Ending 4/25/10	July 1 - 4/25/10	July 1 - 4/25	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	51	-1	65	38	38	0	1.57	34.47	35.43	37.53
Ukiah	--	--	--	--	6	0	0.00	23.66	37.29	37.96
Santa Rosa	56	-2	82	40	10	0	0.59	28.59	29.48	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	57	0	76	47	12	0	0.08	19.98	19.53	19.70
San Jose	--	--	72	49	13	2	0.51	10.70	14.31	14.42
Salinas AP	56	-1	77	44	6	0	0.00	13.65	12.25	12.44
Monterey FAA	--	--	--	--	2	0	0.00	13.14	14.32	18.72
King City	57	-2	84	42	20	0	0.59	13.61	*	11.44
Paso Robles AP	56	-3	83	38	4	0	0.11	12.96	12.89	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	61	0	82	45	26	7	0.01	28.00	31.55	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	60	-1	83	44	26	8	1.10	22.92	21.93	22.29
Chico AFS	59	-1	80	44	20	2	1.06	26.60	24.73	26.32
Marysville	59	-4	83	43	21	25	0.70	17.90	*	21.04
Sacramento AP	59	-1	83	43	18	2	0.14	19.33	16.96	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	58	-3	84	44	14	11	0.28	14.16	13.12	13.95
Fresno	59	-4	81	43	56	36	0.64	11.60	10.55	10.60
Bakersfield	60	-5	81	42	62	59	0.40	6.67	*	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	55	-1	82	38	8	0	0.22	14.64	*	12.36
Santa Barbara	54	-4	62	42	12	0	0.03	19.84	*	16.25
Ventura	54	0	66	40	30	0	0.13	10.18	*	14.38
Los Angeles	60	-4	75	48	287	146	0.00	16.36	14.63	14.77
Riverside	--	--	--	--	122	38	--	--	*	9.58
San Diego AP	59	-4	70	49	129	66	0.37	10.96	*	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	53	-3	80	32	0	0	0.18	8.80	4.54	5.37
Lancaster	55	-5	82	33	20	2	0.29	7.31	*	6.92
Daggett AP	--	--	85	56	129	129	0.00	4.21	*	3.93
Thermal AP	65	-7	91	43	250	400	0.00	3.75	*	3.16
Blythe	--	--	90	70	319	426	0.00	4.67	*	3.60
Imperial	69	-4	92	44	349	438	0.03	4.09	*	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	43	-2	67	16	0	0	0.48	6.58	9.96	12.01
Mt. Shasta	45	-2	71	29	0	0	1.70	40.49	36.51	37.02
Blue Canyon	44	-2	66	28	0	0	1.73	41.64	61.69	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	17.68	35.47	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.

Asterisks (*) indicate data not available at time of publication.

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.