



# California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: May 2, 2010  
RELEASED: May 3, 2010

FREQUENCY: Weekly  
VOL. 30 NO. 45

## WEATHER



A strong cold front entered California on Monday. This late season storm brought rain to the valley and snow to the mountains. One to two inches of rain fell in the Central Valley. Two to three feet of snow fell above the 5000 feet level in the mountains. The main energy of the cold front remained north of Pismo Beach on Monday and Tuesday. Southern California remained dry with daytime highs in the 70s and 60s. By Wednesday, rain spread over most of the Golden State. Southern California received less than 0.25 inches of rain. High pressure began building over the State on Thursday. The weekend was California Golden with mostly clear skies with highs in the 70s to lower 80s in the valley. High temperatures in the mountains were in the 60s and 50s.

## FIELD CROPS

Planting for **rice**, **corn**, and **cotton** crops was in full-swing. Cotton planting was nearly complete. In wet areas of the State, warm and dry conditions aided the dry down of the first cutting of **alfalfa**; producers in drier areas started on their second cutting. Intermittent periods of wet weather and windy conditions caused some lodging of small grains; however, no significant damage was reported. Continued cool weather mid-week slowed the maturity of **barley**, **safflower**, **oats**, and **wheat**. Chemical applications were being applied to suppress disease and insect outbreaks.

## FRUIT CROPS

Picking of Valencia **oranges** and **lemons** continued normally as the navel **orange** and **tangerine** harvests slowed. The citrus bloom was ongoing as cool weather extended its duration. Preparations continued for the upcoming **cherry** harvest, while there were concerns about the impact of recent inclement weather on the crop. Herbicide applications were ongoing in **prune** orchards. Wet weather slowed maturity of early **apricot** and **nectarine** varieties in the San Joaquin Valley. Fungicide and fertilizer applications along with irrigation continued in **grape** vineyards in the Central Valley. Grapevine growth slowed in Central Coast vineyards due to cooler temperatures, while some vineyards were sprayed for European Grapevine Moth. The early **strawberry** harvest continued normally in the San Joaquin Valley. Normal ground maintenance was ongoing in orchards and vineyards, which included thinning to increase light exposure and fertilizer applications.

## NUT CROPS

Ongoing cool and wet weather has complicated spray scheduling in **almond** orchards as insect development has continued to be subdued. There were reports of leaf-footed bugs in the southern San Joaquin Valley, but damage has been minimal. **Walnut** blight applications were ongoing as the walnut bloom continued. Irrigation continued in **pistachio** orchards while blooming increased.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

**Carrots**, **lettuce**, processing **tomatoes**, **asparagus** and a variety of organic vegetables were growing well in Kern County. Fieldwork continued in Sutter County and included preplant herbicide treatments and ground preparation. In San Joaquin County, the **asparagus** crop continued to be cut. Tulare County's early planted melons had begun to emerge. Fields continued to be prepared for future plantings of summer vegetables. The development of the early **squash** crop was affected by cooler temperatures. Imperial County's **sweet corn** harvest was ongoing. The **onion** harvest began, but **cantaloupe** and **watermelon** fields were about a month away with good quality being reported. In Fresno County, onions were treated with fungicides to combat downy mildew. Carrots were cultivated and treated with herbicides.

## 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. Late calving was finished in some areas. Bees were being moved to seed carrot and 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 5/02/10**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION				
	Average Week Ending 5/02/10	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 5/02/10	January 1 - 5/02	Week Ending 5/02/10	July 1 - 5/02/10	July 1 - 5/02	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --				
<b>NORTH COAST</b>											
Eureka	51	-2	62	40	38	0	3.18	37.31	35.95	39.17	
Ukiah	--	--	--	--	12	0	0.00	23.66	*	37.23	
Santa Rosa	57	-2	82	37	16	0	0.63	29.22	29.72	30.07	
<b>CENTRAL COAST</b>											
San Francisco AP	57	-1	69	47	12	0	0.09	20.44	19.71	19.97	
San Jose	--	--	74	47	17	10	0.13	*	14.49	14.71	
Salinas AP	56	-1	73	42	6	0	0.01	*	12.38	13.21	
Monterey FAA	--	--	--	--	2	0	0.00	13.14	14.38	19.64	
King City	57	-2	81	38	25	0	0.02	13.63	*	11.22	
Paso Robles AP	57	-3	85	35	10	0	0.02	13.12	*	12.50	
<b>SACRAMENTO VALLEY</b>											
Redding	56	-6	80	34	32	25	0.07	29.15	32.05	33.95	
Red Bluff FSS	58	-5	82	35	36	27	0.01	*	22.23	23.15	
Chico AFS	57	-5	82	36	28	14	0.57	27.17	25.01	25.67	
Marysville	59	-5	81	37	30	54	0.59	18.65	*	20.96	
Sacramento AP	59	-3	81	36	28	14	0.19	19.82	17.14	17.17	
<b>SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY</b>											
Stockton WSO	59	-4	83	39	26	31	0.20	14.99	13.29	13.78	
Fresno	62	-3	85	43	80	71	0.05	12.07	10.71	10.81	
Bakersfield	63	-3	85	43	92	102	0.04	6.81	*	6.12	
<b>SOUTH COAST</b>											
Santa Maria AP	55	-2	74	37	8	0	0.10	15.55	*	12.83	
Santa Barbara	59	1	77	49	16	0	0.01	20.65	*	16.20	
Ventura	56	0	70	43	51	0	0.00	*	*	14.64	
Los Angeles	64	-1	75	55	310	183	0.04	*	*	14.77	
Riverside	--	--	--	--	138	65	--	--	*	9.86	
San Diego AP	60	-3	67	54	128	90	0.04	*	*	10.11	
<b>SOUTHEAST INTERIOR</b>											
Bishop	54	-3	81	31	3	0	0.02	*	4.59	5.28	
Lancaster	59	-3	85	39	34	14	0.00	7.64	*	7.39	
Daggett AP	--	--	88	57	163	193	0.00	*	*	3.83	
Thermal AP	73	-1	97	54	333	498	0.00	3.75	*	2.97	
Blythe	--	--	98	59	402	533	0.00	4.75	*	3.53	
Imperial	71	-3	97	48	428	536	0.00	4.11	*	2.82	
<b>CASCADE - SIERRA</b>											
Alturas	42	-4	70	25	0	0	0.53	7.66	10.27	12.39	
Mt. Shasta	47	-2	67	32	0	0	0.87	*	36.98	39.59	
Blue Canyon	44	-3	61	27	0	0	1.83	43.62	62.58	67.35	
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	17.69	35.98	36.46	

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 missing data.