



California Crop Weather

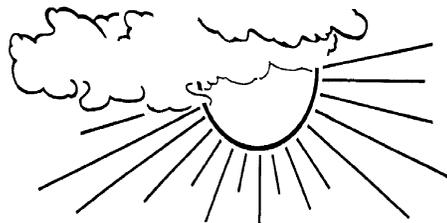
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: May 9, 2010
RELEASED: May 10, 2010

FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER



Monday, a weak cold front passed by that brought light precipitation to the north coast area and some mountain winds. Dry conditions dominated the entire State during the week. A weak trough over the Pacific Northwest brought windy conditions to the northern part of the State late Wednesday into Thursday. Another late season storm arrived on Sunday, bringing cooler temperatures, valley rain showers and isolated thunderstorms to northern California. This system also brought snow above 4,000 feet to the northern

mountains, west slopes of the Sierra Nevada, and above 5000 feet for the Southern Sierra Nevada and Tulare County Mountains very late on Sunday into Monday.

FIELD CROPS

Wheat, oat, and barley fields continued to mature. Some fields were being harvested for silage, while others were cut and baled. Weed control continued in small grain fields. Irrigation started on wheat fields in areas of the State that missed some of the spring showers. **Alfalfa** growers advanced to the second cutting in the Central Valley. **Cotton** growth continued. **Rice** ground preparation included flooding and planting. **Corn** continued to be planted.

FRUIT CROPS

Picking of Valencia **oranges** in the San Joaquin Valley continued normally as the **lemon** harvest neared its conclusion, while lemons continued to be picked at an increasing pace along the coast. The navel **orange** and **tangerine** harvests also slowed in the San Joaquin Valley. The citrus bloom neared its conclusion as widespread petal fall occurred in groves. The **cherry** harvest began on early maturing varieties. Herbicide applications and tree thinning were ongoing in **apricot, prune, plum, peach, and nectarine** orchards. Fungicide and fertilizer applications along with irrigation and thinning continued in **grape** vineyards in the Central Valley. There were sulfur applications in Central Coast vineyards. The **strawberry** harvest continued normally in the San Joaquin Valley. Normal ground maintenance was ongoing in orchards and vineyards, which included greater irrigation due to increased winds.

NUT CROPS

Precautionary miticides and fungicides were applied in **almond** orchards as insect development continued to be subdued. **Walnut** blight applications were ongoing as the walnut bloom neared its completion, along with the **pistachio** and **pecan** blooms.

VEGETABLE CROPS

The **asparagus** harvest was progressing in Merced County. Bell **peppers, cantaloupe, honeydew, tomato** and **watermelon** fields continued to be planted. Tomatoes and peppers were also planted in Tulare County, along with **sweet corn** and **squash**. Growth in the **onion** and **garlic** crops was encouraged by the warm weather. In Colusa County, the planting of processing tomato transplants continued at full tilt. Onion planting in Siskiyou County was nearly complete, but acreage was dramatically reduced because of drought conditions. Sutter County's field work, preplant herbicide treatments and ground preparation continued. Excellent conditions for vegetable growth were reported in Fresno County, especially in the garlic and onion crops. Tomatoes were cultivated, fertilized and fungicides were applied through drip irrigation. **Carrot** cultivation finished and herbicides were applied using sprinklers. Asparagus, **lettuce, cauliflower, carrots** and some organic **greens** were being harvested in Kern County. In Imperial County, onions were being harvested with excellent quality reported. The **melon** crop was progressing well with low pest pressure, while harvesting began in early planted fields.

LIVESTOCK

Non-irrigated range continued to improve across the State. Forage was maturing and gaining nutrient strength. Supplemental feeding of hay and nutrients continued in some locations. **Cattle** and **sheep** grazed idle fields and range. Late calving was finished in some areas. **Bees** continued to be moved to seed carrot and seed onion fields. Some dairies and feedlots were impacted by wet muddy condition remaining from the prior week's storms.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 5/09/10

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION				
	Average Week Ending 5/09/10	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 5/09/10	January 1 - 5/09	Week Ending 5/09/10	July 1 - 5/09/10	July 1 - 5/09	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --				
NORTH COAST											
Eureka	50	-3	60	35	38	0	0.01	37.38	36.38	38.32	
Ukiah	--	--	--	--	12	1	0.00	23.66	37.98	39.36	
Santa Rosa	59	-1	79	39	22	0	0.32	29.54	29.93	30.93	
CENTRAL COAST											
San Francisco AP	58	-1	70	47	12	0	0.01	20.54	19.84	20.33	
San Jose	--	--	--	--	32	24	0.00	16.00	14.63	15.15	
Salinas AP	57	-1	77	43	8	0	0.00	13.70	12.47	12.86	
Monterey FAA	--	--	--	--	2	0	0.00	13.14	14.44	20.52	
King City	59	-1	85	40	34	5	0.00	13.63	11.95	12.24	
Paso Robles AP	60	-1	84	37	16	8	0.00	13.11	13.09	13.35	
SACRAMENTO VALLEY											
Redding	61	-3	82	39	44	54	0.03	29.18	32.52	35.74	
Red Bluff FSS	62	-3	83	45	52	60	0.00	22.86	22.50	23.73	
Chico AFS	62	-2	83	38	50	37	0.00	27.17	25.25	26.52	
Marysville	62	-4	85	40	44	95	0.00	18.65	21.50	22.41	
Sacramento AP	61	-2	85	41	42	38	0.01	19.83	17.30	17.96	
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY											
Stockton WSO	63	-2	88	40	50	63	0.00	14.98	13.43	13.94	
Fresno	65	-2	87	48	118	119	0.04	12.11	10.83	11.38	
Bakersfield	66	-2	88	47	130	159	0.00	6.81	6.24	6.55	
SOUTH COAST											
Santa Maria AP	57	0	78	41	8	0	0.00	15.50	13.85	14.19	
Santa Barbara	60	1	79	45	24	0	0.00	20.65	16.98	17.46	
Ventura	57	0	71	45	51	0	0.00	16.12	15.07	15.34	
Los Angeles	67	1	81	57	356	224	0.00	16.31	14.90	15.29	
Riverside	--	--	--	--	179	100	*	*	10.41	10.73	
San Diego AP	63	0	73	56	152	118	0.00	10.53	10.51	10.78	
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR											
Bishop	56	-3	84	30	3	0	0.00	6.77	4.65	5.04	
Lancaster	65	2	84	42	70	38	0.00	7.64	7.68	7.86	
Daggett AP	--	--	--	--	241	270	0.00	4.18	4.04	4.23	
Thermal AP	75	0	97	50	438	609	0.00	3.75	3.53	3.61	
Blythe	--	--	--	--	532	654	0.00	4.75	4.03	4.08	
Imperial	78	3	100	53	554	645	0.00	4.11	2.97	3.02	
CASCADE - SIERRA											
Alturas	42	-5	65	14	0	0	0.11	7.77	10.57	12.26	
Mt. Shasta	48	-2	69	28	0	0	0.32	46.66	37.37	39.99	
Blue Canyon	48	-2	62	33	0	0	0.03	44.66	63.28	65.90	
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	0	0	0.00	17.69	36.41	38.41	

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.

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.