



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

California Field Office • P.O. Box 1258 • Sacramento, CA 95812 • (916) 498-5161 • (916) 498-5186 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov/ca

WEEK ENDING: August 29, 2010
RELEASED: August 30, 2010

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 31 NO. 10

WEATHER



At the start of the week, high pressure brought warm temperatures to the Golden State, with many areas having temperatures above normal. The high pressure strengthened during the middle part of the week, with record warm temperatures reported across much of the State. Wednesday was the warmest day for most of California. On Thursday, the high pressure ridge began to shift eastward, and temperatures began to trend cooler. By the weekend, an unusual August cold front moved across the State bringing very cool temperatures and spreading light rainfall across much of Northern California. The cool air mass behind the front brought enough instability to the atmosphere to trigger thunderstorm activity across the mountains of the north.

FIELD CROPS

Bolls continued to be set and were opening for **cotton** plants. **Rice** plants continued to head out. Some rice growers completed their final irrigation with harvest to begin in a few weeks. **Sunflower** fields continued to be defoliated while harvest started in Colusa and Sutter County. **Safflower** and **corn** for silage continued to be harvested. Field operations continued with irrigation, ground preparation, and spray applications of fertilizer, herbicide, and insecticide as needed.

FRUIT CROPS

Peaches, **nectarines**, and **plums** continued to be harvested and packed as the **prune** harvest began. **Gala apples** continued to be picked in the San Joaquin Valley. **Valencia oranges** continued to be picked in the Central Valley and along the southern coast. Fertilization and irrigation of orange groves was ongoing. The **lemon** harvest along the southern coast neared completion. The table **grape** harvest continued in the San Joaquin Valley as the wine grape harvest was underway and raisin grapes continued to develop. **Strawberry** nurseries in Siskiyou County were prepared for fumigation, while strawberry fields in the San Joaquin Valley were prepared for fall planting.

NUT CROPS

There was shaking and harvesting of Nonpareil **almond** varieties in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys, as hull splitting continued and final hull split sprays were applied in later varieties. Codling moth and husk fly sprays were ongoing in **walnut** orchards as the crop continued to develop well, though harvest is expected to be one to two weeks later than usual. Sprays to suppress navel orangeworm (NOW) were planned for **pistachio** orchards. Walnut and **pecan** orchards were also irrigated.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Farmers' markets were at the peak of their summer vegetable season. Imperial County continued ground preparation for fall vegetables. In Kern County, **carrots** were being harvested. In Tulare County, **tomatoes**, **eggplant**, **green beans**, **squash** and assorted **peppers** were in harvest, while some areas were being prepared for early plantings of winter vegetables. In Fresno County, summer carrots, **melons**, **garlic** and fresh market and dehydrator **onions** were being harvested. Winter carrots were being planted. In Stanislaus County, the melon harvest was in full swing while processing tomato harvest began on the west side of the county. San Joaquin County was harvesting onions and processing tomatoes. Fall tillage and ground preparation for planting continued. Sutter County reported continued harvest of vegetables for farmers' markets. Field work and ground preparation continued. Beans were treated for spider mites and aphids, while tomatoes were treated for stinkbug.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland forage grasses and non-irrigated pasture continued to deteriorate at all elevations, and fire danger increased with higher temperatures and red flag high wind warnings mid-week. Range conditions were notably better than this time last year due to the late rains and relatively cool summer. Irrigated pasture was reported to be in good condition. Supplemental feeding of hay and nutrients continued as range quality declined. Sheep continued to graze on idle farmland, harvested grain fields and rangeland. Dairies attempted to keep cows cool with fans and misting in the central valley during the heat. Bees were in sunflower, melon and some vegetable fields.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 8/29/10

STATIONS ¹	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 8/29/10	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days ²	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 8/29/10	January 1 - 8/29	July 1 - 8/29/10	Week Ending 8/29/10	July 1 - 8/29/10	July 1 - 8/29	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
North Coast												
Eureka_WFO	58	-2	73	46	7	50	11	0.06	0.18	0.50	38.10	
Ukiah	73	2	109	45	1,040	1,103	1	0.00	0.01	0.17	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	71	4	106	48	473	783	2	0.00	0.02	0.15	31.01	
Napa_AP	70	2	105	51	638	860	0	0.00	0.00	0.14	26.46	
Central Coast												
San_Francisco_A	69	6	99	57	326	346	0	0.00	0.00	0.08	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	73	3	102	53	811	1,155	0	0.00	0.00	0.11	15.08	
Salinas_AP	67	3	101	50	216	381	1	0.00	0.01	0.08	12.91	
Monterey_AP	64	2	87	52	78	152	6	0.00	0.15	0.18	20.35	
King_City_Ag	70	1	112	46	700	923	0	0.00	0.00	0.04	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	74	1	109	48	1,094	1,266	1	0.00	0.02	0.05	13.08	
Sacramento Valley												
Redding	80	3	110	58	1,880	1,939	2	0.13	0.13	0.25	33.52	
Red_Bluff	80	2	111	60	1,848	2,078	0	0.00	0.00	0.22	24.07	
Willows_6W	78	4	107	55	1,585	1,596	0	0.00	0.00	0.13	19.03	
Oroville	78	4	102	57	1,705	1,727	1	0.00	0.01	0.21	28.75	
Marysville	77	2	107	56	1,495	1,956	0	0.00	0.00	0.13	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	76	2	108	54	1,288	1,531	0	0.00	0.00	0.09	17.93	
San Joaquin Valley												
Stockton	76	0	108	53	1,338	1,750	0	0.00	0.00	0.08	13.84	
Modesto_AP	76	1	107	52	1,664	1,861	0	0.00	0.00	0.09	13.12	
Merced_Macready	75	-2	106	50	1,547	1,847	0	0.00	0.00	0.03	12.50	
Madera_AP	77	-1	107	53	1,657	1,971	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	11.94	
Fresno_AP	81	3	110	57	2,086	2,143	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	77	1	110	47	1,745	1,913	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.89	
Visalia_AP	78	2	108	55	1,826	1,954	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	11.03	
Bakersfield	83	3	111	57	2,193	2,397	0	0.00	0.00	0.06	6.49	
Cascade Sierra												
Alturas_AP	62	-2	98	37	474	407	5	0.19	0.24	0.63	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	66	2	97	45	636	434	2	0.00	0.09	0.78	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	68	3	88	44	712	550	1	0.14	0.14	0.74	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	74	3	103	51	1,173	1,000	1	0.00	0.01	0.70	37.73	
South Coast												
Santa_Maria_AP	64	0	94	48	117	389	2	0.00	0.04	0.06	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	62	-7	79	50	283	802	1	0.00	0.01	0.12	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	64	-3	82	53	521	707	2	0.00	0.03	0.07	15.62	
Riverside_AP	82	4	110	59	1,824	2,002	0	0.00	0.00	0.18	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	68	-4	83	60	677	1,156	0	0.00	0.00	0.15	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	70	-3	82	61	741	1,388	2	0.00	0.02	0.10	10.77	
Southeast Interior												
Bishop_AP	74	2	103	43	1,444	1,472	3	0.00	0.11	0.28	5.02	
Daggett_AP	87	3	110	64	2,984	2,963	1	0.00	0.02	0.82	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	81	3	108	56	1,968	1,970	0	0.00	0.00	0.22	7.40	
Thermal	91	3	116	64	3,432	3,863	0	0.00	0.00	0.52	3.53	
Blythe_AP	96	6	117	69	3,897	4,016	1	0.03	0.03	0.94	4.02	
Imperial_CA	96	6	116	72	3,712	3,781	2	0.16	0.18	0.36	2.96	

1 Weather stations added as of July 6, 2010.

2 New addition as of July 6, 2010. Total number of days with precipitation events this season.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) is in inches.

Air Temperatures are in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Normal periods 1970-2000 used in Departure From Normal calculations.

For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

Copyright 2010: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc.

All rights reserved.