



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: September 26, 2010
RELEASED: September 27, 2010

FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER



Weather at the start of the week was influenced by a pair of low pressure troughs which moved across the northern section of the State on Monday through early Wednesday morning. These troughs were relatively dry, but cool, keeping temperatures below normal for much of the State for the last days of summer. High pressure began to rebuild over Southern California on Wednesday, starting a warming trend which ushered in the beginning of autumn. The high pressure strengthened through the weekend, bringing 100 degree weather to Southern California, while the north warmed to above normal levels as well, although not as warm as those reported across the south. No significant precipitation was reported in California this week.

FIELD CROPS

Rice harvest started in early-planted fields in the San Joaquin Valley. **Alfalfa** continued to be cut and baled, with last cutting taking place in some fields. **Corn** continued to be harvested for silage. **Sudan** grass harvest was completed. Harvested silage fields were being prepared for fall planting. **Wheat, barley, and oats** were being planted for winter forage. **Rye** and **sunflower** harvests continued. **Cotton** continued to progress, with bolls opening and fields being prepped for defoliation. Dry **bean** harvest moved forward, with beans being cut and windrowed to dry. **Potato** fields continued to be prepared for harvest. Field preparation for fall crops progressed with tillage and spray applications as needed.

FRUIT CROPS

The **apple, pear, and fig** harvests were ongoing in the Central Valley. Valencia **oranges** continued to be picked in the Central Valley and along the southern coast. The **lemon** harvest along the southern coast was essentially complete while light picking continued in the desert region. The table and juice **grape** harvests were ongoing in the San Joaquin Valley while the raisin and wine grape harvests neared completion. Labor shortages slowed down the raisin grape harvest, though warmer weather has created ideal drying conditions for raisin grapes. **Olive** orchards continued to show strong development. Orchards where harvests were completed were irrigated.

NUT CROPS

Shaking and harvesting of **almonds** in the Central Valley was ongoing. Harvesting of early variety **walnuts** began in the Central Valley as final orchard preparations were made for later varieties. The **pistachio** harvest continued to pick up as preparations for the full-scale harvest were made. Irrigation and pest control were ongoing in **pecan** orchards.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Imperial County reported ground preparation for winter vegetables. Kern County reported some acreage of **peppers** removed due to presence of melon fruit fly. Tulare County reported **honeydew** melons continued to be picked and packed, with quality and sugar content excellent. In Fresno County, **cantaloupe** and processing **tomatoes** harvests were winding down while **onion** and **garlic** harvests were on the rise. Merced County reported bell pepper, freezer **bean** cantaloupe, honeydew and **watermelon** harvests continued. Stanislaus County reported tomatoes and melons as still being harvested. Mild weather has affected some of the cantaloupe production, causing the melons to be lower than normal in sugar content as well as developing slower than usual. San Joaquin County farmers continued harvest of watermelons, **squash**, tomatoes, melons and **pumpkins**. Sutter County reported continued field work and ground preparation, as well as continued harvests of processing tomatoes, beans and honeydew melons. Colusa County reported that processing tomatoes have good yields, and harvest is going great.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland forage and non-irrigated pasture conditions ranged from fair to poor. Irrigated pastures were in good shape. Supplemental feeding of cattle with hay, grain, and other nutrients increased as range deteriorated. Sheep and goats continued to graze on idle farmland and early harvested grain fields. The cool mild weather helped encourage increases in milk production. Bees were moved from vineseed fields to sunflower.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 9/19/10

STATIONS ¹	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION				
	Average Week Ending 9/19/10	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days ²	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 9/19/10	January 1 - 9/19	July 1 - 9/19/10	Week Ending 9/19/10	July 1 - 9/19/10	July 1 - 9/19	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --		
North Coast											
Eureka_WFO	57	0	69	44	21	73	16	0.00	1.57	1.24	38.10
Ukiah	66	-3	96	42	1,268	1,367	2	0.00	0.11	0.74	38.90
Santa_Rosa_AG	67	1	99	45	667	992	3	0.00	0.12	0.56	31.01
Napa_AP	68	2	96	46	850	1,075	0	0.00	0.00	0.49	26.46
Central Coast											
San_Francisco_A	70	7	90	57	549	471	1	0.00	0.01	0.26	20.11
San_Jose_AP	68	-1	94	50	1,070	1,428	0	0.00	0.00	0.32	15.08
Salinas_AP	66	2	96	46	336	521	2	0.00	0.02	0.27	12.91
Monterey_AP	62	-1	84	49	127	243	9	0.00	0.21	0.43	20.35
King_City_Ag	68	0	102	43	900	1,160	0	0.00	0.00	0.27	12.30
Paso_Robles_AP	70	2	104	42	1,358	1,561	1	0.00	0.02	0.39	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	70	-3	99	50	2,248	2,335	5	0.00	0.47	0.63	33.52
Red_Bluff	71	-3	100	51	2,232	2,515	4	0.01	0.19	0.80	24.07
Willows_6W	69	-2	94	50	1,917	1,943	1	0.00	0.05	0.41	19.03
Oroville	70	1	92	52	2,057	2,053	2	0.00	0.04	0.61	28.75
Marysville	70	-3	98	50	1,825	2,341	0	0.00	0.00	0.47	22.07
Sacramento_AP	70	-1	98	51	1,611	1,871	1	0.00	0.01	0.39	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	70	-3	97	47	1,645	2,124	0	0.00	0.00	0.36	13.84
Modesto_AP	70	-3	95	51	2,020	2,242	0	0.00	0.00	0.34	13.12
Merced_Macready	69	-4	95	48	1,852	2,233	0	0.00	0.00	0.20	12.50
Madera_AP	70	-3	95	49	1,999	2,366	0	0.00	0.00	0.22	11.94
Fresno_AP	73	1	96	54	2,527	2,572	0	0.00	0.00	0.24	11.23
Lemoore_NAS	70	-2	96	47	2,102	2,297	0	0.00	0.00	0.28	7.89
Visalia_AP	70	-2	95	52	2,166	2,338	0	0.00	0.00	0.24	11.03
Bakersfield	73	-3	95	56	2,652	2,884	0	0.00	0.00	0.19	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas_AP	55	0	90	30	491	451	8	0.00	0.87	1.25	12.13
Mount_Shasta_AP	57	-1	85	36	681	509	6	0.00	1.22	1.53	39.16
Blue_Canyon	63	3	82	48	859	669	2	0.00	0.15	1.99	66.36
Yosemite_Valley	66	2	96	41	1,382	1,219	1	0.00	0.01	1.48	37.73
South Coast											
Santa_Maria_AP	65	2	95	46	173	527	2	0.00	0.04	0.35	14.01
Santa_Barbara_A	63	-4	85	47	326	1,026	1	0.00	0.01	0.52	16.93
Oxnard_NWS	66	0	88	52	621	897	2	0.00	0.03	0.41	15.62
Riverside_AP	76	2	110	53	2,252	2,470	0	0.00	0.00	0.44	10.22
Los_Angeles_AP	68	-2	87	57	824	1,447	0	0.00	0.00	0.41	13.15
San_Diego_AP	70	-2	89	61	957	1,718	2	0.00	0.02	0.29	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop_AP	67	3	96	39	1,657	1,708	3	0.00	0.11	0.55	5.02
Daggett_AP	78	1	103	56	3,568	3,533	1	0.00	0.02	1.13	4.17
Lancaster_ATC	71	1	101	46	2,331	2,347	0	0.00	0.00	0.40	7.40
Thermal	82	-1	111	57	4,120	4,570	0	0.00	0.00	0.93	3.53
Blythe_AP	87	4	110	64	4,681	4,770	1	0.00	0.03	1.44	4.02
Imperial_CA	86	3	110	58	4,464	4,528	2	0.00	0.18	0.66	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.

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