



# California Crop Weather

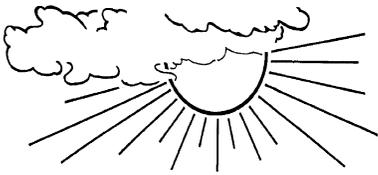
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: October 24, 2010  
RELEASED: October 25, 2010

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## WEATHER



The start of the week found a low pressure system located just off Southern California, while high pressure over Western Oregon was moving towards Northern California. This unusual pattern resulted in two separate weather regimes for California. Northern California enjoyed a mild and dry pattern through Thursday. In Southern California, however, the low pressure system spread a rainy Pacific storm system across the region which persisted through Thursday, resulting in cool temperatures and widespread showers, some locally heavy. On Thursday, the pattern started to reverse; a low pressure system off the coast of British Columbia began to intensify and move south, while a high pressure ridge began to develop over Southern California. By the weekend, Southern California was enjoying dry and mild weather. Northern California saw a trio of Pacific storm systems move through, each one stronger than the previous storm. On Sunday, the strongest of the storms spread heavy rain, gusty winds, and high elevation snow to the North.

## FIELD CROPS

**Rice** harvest continued to progress in the Sacramento Valley along with the baling of rice straw. Weekend rains brought harvest to a halt and strong winds flattened some fields. **Cotton** harvest continued as fields were ready in the San Joaquin Valley. **Alfalfa** continued to be cut and baled. Some cut hay fields received rain late in the week. New fields of alfalfa were being planted. **Corn** continued to be harvested for grain and silage. **Potato** harvest was winding down in Northern California. **Bean** harvest continued and the straw of finished fields was baled. **Sorghum** was being harvested for silage. Harvested fields continued to be prepared for winter grain crops. Winter grains continued to be planted throughout the State, including **winter wheat, rye**, and other small grains.

## FRUIT CROPS

The packing of Valencia **oranges** was slowed, but exports continued while early navel oranges began showing color in Tulare County. The table **grape** harvest was ongoing in the San Joaquin Valley as some globe grapes were still to be harvested in Kern County. The **kiwi** harvest neared completion in Butte County. **Mandarins** were picked and placed in sweat rooms to color and mature in Tulare County.

## NUT CROPS

While most of the **walnuts** have been harvested in Butte County, heavy rains brought the harvest to a halt. The **almond, walnut** and **pistachio** harvests continued in Sutter and Tulare Counties, and the San Joaquin Valley, while the last of the almond harvest was completed in Kern County and the San Joaquin Valley.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

The **onion** harvest was coming to an end in Siskiyou County. In Sutter County, field work and ground cultivation continued as the processing **tomato** harvest was coming to an end. The tomato harvest was also finishing up in Stanislaus County. **Cauliflower** had begun to be harvested and **cantaloupes** were expected to be completely harvested by the end of the month. In Imperial County, early plantings of produce appeared to have good stands. **Endive** continued to grow in Lassen County. Planting of winter vegetable crops began in Tulare County as the last crop of **honeydew melons** was being picked. **Lettuce** and **cabbage** were being harvested in Kern County.

## LIVESTOCK

Rangeland forage and non-irrigated pasture conditions ranged from fair to poor. Recent precipitation has improved range conditions and ranchers have begun to reduce supplemental feeding. Irrigated pastures were in good shape and quality. Movement of cattle and sheep from summer to winter pastures in the valley continued. Some cattle and sheep grazed on alfalfa and grain fields. Cool weather stimulated milk production. Bees continued to be moved to wintering yards.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 10/24/10**

STATIONS <sup>1</sup>	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 10/24/10	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days <sup>2</sup>	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 10/24/10	January 1 - 10/24	July 1 - 10/24/10	Week Ending 10/24/10	July 1 - 10/24/10	July 1 - 10/24	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
<b>North Coast</b>												
Eureka_WFO	55	2	66	44	27	73	20	2.36	3.94	2.92	38.10	
Ukiah	59	-1	86	42	1,446	1,474	5	4.08	4.19	2.14	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	59	-4	77	46	839	1,119	7	4.16	4.47	1.81	31.01	
Napa_AP	59	-3	75	47	1,026	1,202	5	2.96	3.08	1.45	26.46	
<b>Central Coast</b>												
San_Francisco_A	63	3	73	54	780	551	5	0.65	0.71	0.96	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	62	-2	77	51	1,298	1,581	2	0.25	0.26	0.94	15.08	
Salinas_AP	62	1	74	50	450	607	6	0.32	0.54	0.70	12.91	
Monterey_AP	59	-2	72	49	159	310	13	0.37	0.83	1.16	20.35	
King_City_Ag	62	0	85	50	1,088	1,289	5	0.25	0.47	0.67	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	61	-1	80	44	1,590	1,681	2	0.01	0.03	0.78	13.08	
<b>Sacramento Valley</b>												
Redding	61	-1	91	46	2,529	2,509	10	3.64	4.16	2.23	33.52	
Red_Bluff	63	-1	91	48	2,531	2,730	8	1.36	1.60	1.82	24.07	
Willows_6W	62	-2	81	49	2,180	2,131	7	2.23	2.39	1.11	19.03	
Oroville	60	-2	79	51	2,307	2,217	8	2.28	2.54	1.72	28.75	
Marysville	62	-3	81	48	2,084	2,552	1	1.62	1.62	1.35	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	62	-2	79	50	1,867	2,061	5	1.36	1.42	1.04	17.93	
<b>San Joaquin Valley</b>												
Stockton	61	-3	79	47	1,904	2,317	7	1.11	1.34	0.98	13.84	
Modesto_AP	62	-2	81	45	2,271	2,449	6	0.46	0.59	0.89	13.12	
Merced_Macready	63	-1	81	49	2,113	2,430	7	0.19	0.51	0.73	12.50	
Madera_AP	64	2	83	50	2,279	2,554	4	0.04	0.27	0.79	11.94	
Fresno_AP	65	3	83	52	2,889	2,780	4	0.00	0.14	0.72	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	66	3	85	50	2,414	2,494	2	0.00	0.04	0.64	7.89	
Visalia_AP	63	0	81	48	2,459	2,538	4	0.01	0.46	0.72	11.03	
Bakersfield	66	1	78	54	3,026	3,146	4	0.13	0.25	0.46	6.49	
<b>Cascade Sierra</b>												
Alturas_AP	48	3	75	24	516	451	14	0.68	2.57	1.84	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	51	3	73	35	735	510	10	2.67	3.97	3.12	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	51	-2	69	38	1,007	692	9	7.59	8.77	4.73	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	55	-1	73	43	1,521	1,278	10	1.38	3.29	3.16	37.73	
<b>South Coast</b>												
Santa_Maria_AP	61	0	70	50	282	611	8	0.16	0.89	0.68	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	62	-2	68	51	452	1,159	8	0.31	1.14	0.91	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	63	0	69	54	789	1,031	11	0.59	1.51	0.67	15.62	
Riverside_AP	63	-5	70	57	2,568	2,752	5	0.40	0.45	0.67	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	64	-3	69	58	1,044	1,662	7	0.23	1.00	0.66	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	67	-1	72	62	1,230	1,957	11	1.07	1.89	0.62	10.77	
<b>Southeast Interior</b>												
Bishop_AP	56	2	72	38	1,772	1,770	9	0.18	1.04	0.71	5.02	
Daggett_AP	65	-2	80	55	3,956	3,828	6	1.05	1.11	1.34	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	62	3	72	52	2,568	2,500	4	1.15	1.27	0.67	7.40	
Thermal	70	-2	84	53	4,606	5,012	6	0.63	0.73	1.09	3.53	
Blythe_AP	69	-3	85	54	5,213	5,226	4	0.24	0.30	1.71	4.02	
Imperial_CA	70	-4	84	57	4,977	5,009	7	0.18	1.57	1.02	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.

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