



California Crop Weather

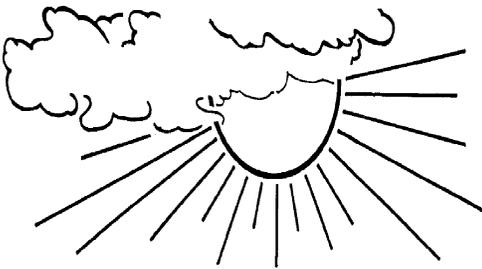
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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

WEEK ENDING: May 15, 2011
RELEASED: May 16, 2011

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 31 NO. 47

WEATHER



A weak system that brought light precipitation to the Sierra Nevada and parts of Southern California brushed over the state early last week. Weak high pressure that brought warmed temperatures a few degrees within seasonal normal built up over the state through the midweek. The most prominent feature of the week was an upper low that dropped along the Pacific coast from the Gulf of Alaska early in the weekend. Cold air with this system forced the coolest daytime, or minimum high, temperatures to Northern California in 100 years.

Due to the cool nature of this storm, low elevation snow was observed as far down as 2000 feet in the Sierra Nevada. Instability in the cold air behind this system spawned several thunderstorms throughout Sacramento and the San Joaquin Valley on Sunday.

FIELD CROPS

Favorable weather conditions quickened the pace of field work. Spring planting moved forward throughout the State. Fertilizing, rolling, flooding and sowing activities were done in Sacramento Valley **rice** fields. The second cutting of **alfalfa** was at various stages of being cut and baled. **Sunflower** seed crop planting continued. **Winter wheat** and **oat** fields were harvested and cut hay was left to dry in fields. **Barley** and **wheat** headed out across the Central Valley. **Cotton** continued to be planted as planted cotton fields began leaf development. **Corn**, **sorghum** and **dry bean** planting were ongoing. Spring field work continued with weed control in small grain and alfalfa fields, pre-plant herbicide applications and spring tillage to prepare seedbeds.

FRUIT CROPS

The Valencia **orange** and **lemon** harvests continued normally in the San Joaquin Valley, as the navel orange and **mandarin** harvests continued to wind down. Early **cherries** were picked in Southern California and the San Joaquin Valley. The **blueberry** and **strawberry** harvests were ongoing in the San Joaquin Valley as the strawberry harvest began in the Sacramento Valley. **Grapes** were at various stages of growth from shoot growth to flowering. Thinning, as well as weed and pest control, continued in fruit orchards and vineyards.

NUT CROPS

Normal nut drop continued in **almond** orchards, while limited overall pest activity was observed. Blight spray was ongoing in **walnut** orchards.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Fresno County reported **tomatoes** and dehydrator **onions** were being treated with insecticide and fertilizer on a weekly basis, but the rains may cause some problems. **Carrots** looked good. In Merced County, **bell pepper**, **cantaloupe**, **honeydew** and tomato planting continued as the **asparagus** harvest was winding down. San Joaquin County reported that asparagus production was winding down, processing and fresh market tomatoes were being transplanted, and carrot planting was underway. Field work and aphid control in carrot crop continued in Sutter County. In Siskiyou County, dehydrator onions were emerging and being treated for weeds.

LIVESTOCK

Non-irrigated pasture and rangeland were reported to be in good to excellent condition. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued to diminish as more livestock are moved onto open range. Livestock moved into northern Siskiyou range. Cool wet weather slowed the desiccation of lower elevation grasses. Some bees were moved to onion fields, while others were moved out of the state.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 5/15/11

| STATIONS ¹ | TEMPERATURE | | | | GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------|-----|----------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|--|
| | Average Week Ending 5/15/11. | Departure from Normal | High | Low | This Season | Normal | Rain Days ² | This Season | | Normal | | |
| | | | | | January 1 - 5/15/11 | January 1 - 5/15 | July 1 - 5/15/11 | Week Ending 5/15/11 | July 1 - 5/15/11 | July 1 - 5/15 | July 1 - June 30 | |
| | -- Degrees Fahrenheit -- | | | | -- Number -- | | -- Days -- | -- Inches -- | | | | |
| North Coast | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Eureka_WFO | 51 | -3 | 58 | 42 | 0 | 0 | 129 | 0.26 | 39.38 | 36.74 | 38.10 | |
| Ukiah | 56 | -6 | 79 | 39 | 34 | 47 | 83 | 0.47 | 35.27 | 38.08 | 38.90 | |
| Santa_Rosa_AG | 53 | -9 | 72 | 36 | 42 | 81 | 83 | 0.46 | 35.72 | 30.44 | 31.01 | |
| Napa_AP | 57 | -5 | 75 | 42 | 76 | 84 | 80 | 0.35 | 30.79 | 25.97 | 26.46 | |
| Central Coast | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| San_Francisco_A | 55 | -4 | 63 | 46 | 43 | 33 | 69 | 0.19 | 21.22 | 19.84 | 20.11 | |
| San_Jose_AP | 58 | -7 | 75 | 45 | 86 | 151 | 57 | 0.28 | 13.43 | 14.82 | 15.08 | |
| Salinas_AP | 56 | -4 | 68 | 43 | 64 | 43 | 65 | 0.32 | 15.09 | 12.74 | 12.91 | |
| Monterey_AP | 52 | -5 | 59 | 41 | 28 | 1 | 74 | 0.49 | 18.79 | 19.97 | 20.35 | |
| King_City_Ag | 57 | -6 | 80 | 39 | 76 | 106 | 60 | 0.10 | 9.72 | 12.14 | 12.30 | |
| Paso_Robles_AP | 59 | -5 | 87 | 36 | 92 | 72 | 44 | 0.37 | 13.59 | 12.98 | 13.08 | |
| Sacramento Valley | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Redding | 60 | -6 | 84 | 42 | 114 | 134 | 87 | 1.51 | 32.03 | 32.07 | 33.52 | |
| Red_Bluff | 61 | -6 | 84 | 44 | 118 | 189 | 77 | 0.42 | 20.77 | 23.11 | 24.07 | |
| Willows_6W | 61 | -4 | 79 | 44 | 100 | 142 | 81 | 0.58 | 27.42 | 18.36 | 19.03 | |
| Oroville | 61 | -5 | 81 | 44 | 111 | 156 | 74 | 0.99 | 26.91 | 28.01 | 28.75 | |
| Marysville | 61 | -7 | 82 | 46 | 125 | 251 | 62 | 0.61 | 22.88 | 21.50 | 22.07 | |
| Sacramento_AP | 60 | -5 | 81 | 46 | 117 | 160 | 58 | 0.14 | 21.60 | 17.50 | 17.93 | |
| San Joaquin Valley | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stockton | 60 | -6 | 80 | 44 | 129 | 197 | 69 | 0.30 | 14.89 | 13.55 | 13.84 | |
| Modesto_AP | 61 | -7 | 83 | 42 | 154 | 263 | 70 | 0.47 | 13.65 | 12.74 | 13.12 | |
| Merced_Macready | 61 | -6 | 86 | 40 | 136 | 200 | 63 | 0.43 | 15.06 | 12.25 | 12.50 | |
| Madera_AP | 61 | -7 | 88 | 43 | 116 | 221 | 52 | 0.24 | 13.92 | 11.67 | 11.94 | |
| Fresno_AP | 64 | -5 | 88 | 46 | 221 | 246 | 58 | 0.27 | 15.53 | 10.84 | 11.23 | |
| Lemoore_NAS | 62 | -6 | 88 | 39 | 150 | 228 | 52 | 0.03 | 10.24 | 7.67 | 7.89 | |
| Visalia_AP | 62 | -5 | 88 | 43 | 173 | 236 | 49 | 0.17 | 15.60 | 10.73 | 11.03 | |
| Bakersfield | 65 | -5 | 86 | 49 | 246 | 315 | 43 | 0.00 | 10.03 | 6.28 | 6.49 | |
| Cascade Sierra | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alturas_AP | 48 | -3 | 76 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 86 | 0.14 | 12.52 | 10.67 | 12.13 | |
| Mount_Shasta_AP | 51 | -2 | 72 | 33 | 3 | 0 | 102 | 0.14 | 40.23 | 37.27 | 39.16 | |
| Blue_Canyon | 46 | -6 | 65 | 27 | 8 | 0 | 95 | 1.05 | 72.65 | 64.20 | 66.36 | |
| Yosemite_Valley | 53 | -5 | 79 | 32 | 26 | 8 | 77 | 0.82 | 48.16 | 36.22 | 37.73 | |
| South Coast | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Santa_Maria_AP | 56 | -2 | 72 | 40 | 69 | 21 | 59 | 0.10 | 22.16 | 13.80 | 14.01 | |
| Santa_Barbara_A | 58 | -4 | 72 | 46 | 95 | 138 | 47 | 0.11 | 25.34 | 16.75 | 16.93 | |
| Oxnard_NWS | 58 | -3 | 70 | 47 | 163 | 142 | 50 | 0.09 | 22.23 | 15.51 | 15.62 | |
| Riverside_AP | 64 | -3 | 87 | 50 | 384 | 315 | 39 | 0.02 | 9.56 | 10.07 | 10.22 | |
| Los_Angeles_AP | 61 | -2 | 68 | 54 | 252 | 282 | 44 | 0.09 | 17.01 | 12.98 | 13.15 | |
| San_Diego_AP | 63 | -2 | 69 | 56 | 349 | 368 | 43 | 0.02 | 12.29 | 10.63 | 10.77 | |
| Southeast Interior | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bishop_AP | 57 | -5 | 86 | 34 | 45 | 76 | 36 | 0.01 | 7.20 | 4.65 | 5.02 | |
| Daggett_AP | 69 | -3 | 95 | 50 | 433 | 427 | 22 | 0.00 | 1.90 | 4.06 | 4.17 | |
| Lancaster_ATC | 60 | -5 | 88 | 43 | 151 | 170 | 37 | 0.05 | 9.59 | 7.30 | 7.40 | |
| Thermal | 74 | -5 | 98 | 54 | 790 | 888 | 12 | 0.00 | 2.60 | 3.47 | 3.53 | |
| Blythe_AP | 76 | -2 | 10 | 57 | 907 | 838 | 17 | 0.00 | 2.10 | 4.01 | 4.02 | |
| Imperial_CA | 74 | -3 | 99 | 53 | 843 | 816 | 14 | 0.00 | 2.68 | 2.92 | 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 2011: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc.
 All rights reserved.