



California Crop Weather

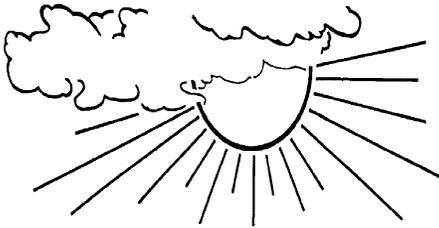
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: April 1, 2012
RELEASED: April 2, 2012

FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER



A series of Pacific storms passed over California during the week, bringing much needed rainfall to the valleys and snow to the mountains of Northern California. At the start of the week, a low pressure system approached the Northern California coast and pushed a cold front across the State on Tuesday. This brought moderate to heavy rains across the State, with periods of heavy snow in the coastal mountain ranges and in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. A short break in the weather came Wednesday, as California sat between weather systems. The next storm system moved onto the North Coast late Thursday and spread heavy rain to that part of the State, with light to moderate rainfall across most of the rest of the State. Temperatures across most of the State remained relatively moderate through the week, although the final cold front, which passed through on Saturday, did usher in some very cool temperatures along with strong gusty winds.

FIELD CROPS

Continued rain events have helped support the growth of small grains and recharge soil moisture supplies. **Wheat, wheat hay, rye** and **oats** continued to mature and were in fair to excellent condition. Small grain crops have started to head out in earlier planted crops, while later planted crops were still in the boot stage. Planting preparations were ongoing with some stoppages caused by recent weather events. **Alfalfa** fields continued to green well following pest and weed control applications. Some areas were able to start their first cutting. Continued rains hindered **rice** paddy draining, but ground preparation, fertilization and draining continued as conditions permitted.

FRUIT CROPS

Plum, peach, apricot, and **nectarine** bloom was complete in all but the latest varieties. Trees were leafing-out and showing fruit. Apricots were being thinned in Stanislaus County. **Cherries** continued to bloom and were beginning to leaf-out. **Prunes** were passing full bloom and beginning to leaf-out in Sutter and Yuba Counties. Weed treatments and bloom sprays continued in stone fruit orchards. **Grapevines** were leafing-out. **Apples** were starting to bloom and leafing-out. **Strawberry** grounds were being fumigated in San Joaquin County. In Tulare County, strawberry development slowed due to cooler temperatures. **Olive** groves were pruned. Navel **oranges, tangerines, tangelos** and **lemons** continued to be harvested and packed for export. The harvesting of late variety navel oranges and Valencia oranges began. Cara Cara orange harvest was wrapping up. Seedless tangerine groves were netted in preparation of the coming bloom.

NUT CROPS

Almond bloom was over while trees were leafing-out and nuts were forming. Freeze damage was becoming apparent in some areas hit hard by the March cold spell. **Walnuts** were continuing to leaf out with early varieties in bloom. **Pistachios** were breaking bud.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Kern County reported **carrots** being harvested. In Tulare County, Italian **squash** and **cucumber** seedlings were being planted and tented under plastic as **tomatoes** were being planted under hot caps. Fresno County reported processing tomato transplants were being planted. Carrot and bell **pepper** planting continued while **onions** were fertilized. In Stanislaus County, **broccoli** and **spinach** were being harvested as tomato transplants were being planted and fertilized. San Joaquin County reported harvesting of **asparagus**. In Sutter County, field preparation continued.

LIVESTOCK

Non-irrigated rangeland greening was reported across the State with northern and some central counties benefiting the most from recent precipitations. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued with cattle grazing on rangelands. When weather conditions permitted, bees were working the cherry, plum and other stone fruit bloom. Temperatures in the southern San Joaquin Valley were favorable for milk production.

This report is available the first workday of the week after 1:00 PDT at
www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/California/Publications/index.asp

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/1/12

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 4/1/12.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days 1/	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 4/1/12	January 1 - 4/1	July 1 - 4/1/12	Week Ending 4/1/12	July 1 - 4/1/12	July 1 - 4/1	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
North Coast												
Eureka_WFO	50	1	60	37	0	0	85	5.73	33.13	33.19	38.10	
Ukiah	50	-5	61	35	0	0	61	4.76	23.11	35.47	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	53	-3	68	35	4	0	42	1.72	19.93	28.51	31.01	
Napa_State_Hosp	54	-3	66	36	1	0	47	1.89	18.65	24.23	26.46	
Central Coast												
San_Francisco_A	56	1	64	45	0	0	42	1.27	10.62	18.58	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	56	-3	71	39	10	22	39	0.57	5.12	13.64	15.08	
Salinas_AP	57	3	70	43	12	0	41	0.40	8.27	11.76	12.91	
Monterey_AP	55	1	65	45	1	0	44	0.68	9.03	18.33	20.35	
King_City_Ag	56	-2	72	41	5	7	29	0.19	4.28	11.35	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	55	1	74	39	0	0	25	0.47	6.51	12.25	13.08	
Sacramento Valley												
Redding	51	-4	63	36	5	0	55	1.65	20.02	29.01	33.52	
Red_Bluff	53	-4	67	39	7	2	42	1.95	17.81	21.31	24.07	
Willows_6W	54	-2	65	40	2	0	47	2.18	17.23	17.09	19.03	
Oroville	53	-4	68	40	0	0	51	2.60	16.39	25.81	28.75	
Marysville	55	-4	70	39	4	25	42	1.40	12.55	19.79	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	55	-2	67	41	2	2	33	1.41	9.77	16.30	17.93	
San Joaquin Valley												
Stockton	55	-2	69	42	0	12	36	0.80	6.00	12.39	13.84	
Modesto_AP	57	-2	72	45	4	42	32	0.24	6.21	11.63	13.12	
Merced_Macready	58	2	74	44	16	12	31	0.28	5.41	11.17	12.50	
Madera_AP	57	-1	73	45	9	18	24	0.41	6.17	10.50	11.94	
Fresno_AP	59	2	75	45	22	20	22	0.54	6.24	9.95	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	58	0	76	40	12	20	27	0.03	3.44	7.02	7.89	
Visalia_AP	58	1	73	45	12	25	17	0.32	4.54	9.82	11.03	
Bakersfield	59	0	76	47	52	49	22	0.23	3.32	5.74	6.49	
Cascade Sierra												
Alturas_AP	41	-1	57	24	0	0	48	0.36	4.44	8.99	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	39	-5	52	30	0	0	68	6.32	23.04	33.91	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	36	-5	52	28	0	0	59	3.32	38.62	58.05	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	47	-1	70	32	0	0	30	1.27	19.67	33.04	37.73	
South Coast												
Santa_Maria_AP	56	2	69	40	10	0	28	0.36	7.26	12.85	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	53	-5	68	39	14	29	22	0.51	7.96	16.14	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	55	-3	64	43	112	37	21	0.46	7.71	14.74	15.62	
Riverside_AP	58	-3	73	43	158	93	26	0.25	4.65	9.42	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	56	-3	68	48	108	130	23	0.46	6.04	12.28	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	58	-3	65	50	62	173	34	0.32	7.13	9.83	10.77	
Southeast Interior												
Bishop_AP	50	0	79	28	1	0	13	0.20	2.84	4.33	5.02	
Daggett_AP	62	2	85	39	86	71	15	0.03	1.03	3.82	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	55	2	80	36	7	0	22	0.15	2.64	6.97	7.40	
Thermal	68	0	90	43	201	288	14	0.00	1.32	3.41	3.53	
Blythe_AP	69	3	92	48	260	258	15	0.00	2.84	3.86	4.02	
Imperial_CA	67	2	90	47	225	284	12	0.00	0.75	2.89	2.96	

1/ 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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