



# California Crop Weather

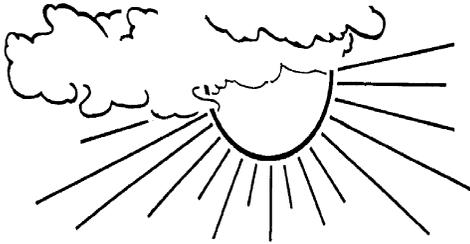
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: May 20, 2012  
RELEASED: May 21, 2012

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## WEATHER



California had seasonable weather for mid-May. No rain fell this week, except for isolated thunderstorm activity on Monday. The thunderstorms produced a trace of rain in most of Lassen and Shasta counties, but Lassen Park did receive brief heavy rain on Monday. Otherwise, The Golden State was high and dry from Eureka to San Diego. High temperatures in California at the start of the week were slightly cooler due a low pressure area leaving the region. Highs were in the 70s to lower 80s in the Central Valley from Redding to Bakersfield, in the 70s to lower 80s in the Los Angeles to San Diego region, and 100 to around 112 in the desert at Death Valley. The coastal region was a little warmer with highs in the 60s. By midweek, near normal climate calculations dominated the State under high pressure. Highs were back in the 80s to lower 90s in the Central Valley from Redding to Bakersfield, 70s to mid 80s in the Los Angeles to San Diego region, and 100 to around 112 in the desert at Death Valley. The coastal region was back to normal with highs only in the 50s at the adjacent coast.

## FIELD CROPS

Warm and dry conditions this week aided the maturation progress for the **wheat** crop. Wheat for grain was drying down and turning brown while the harvest of wheat for silage was in full-swing. **Oat** hay cutting continued. **Alfalfa** growers were finishing their second cutting for most areas while others have already started their third cutting. Steady higher temperatures were benefiting **cotton** as producers continued planting the crop; early planted cotton was emerging at a rapid pace and plants have started to add some leaves. Corn had emerged and showed good progress. Over half of the **rice** crop had been planted and more than a quarter had emerged. Warm weather had aided their developmental progress.

## FRUIT CROPS

**Plum, prune, peach, apricot,** and **nectarine** fruit continued to progress and develop. Prune and peach trees in the Sacramento Valley were being thinned. Harvest continued for early peach, nectarine and apricot varieties in the San Joaquin Valley. **Cherry** fruit was developing as growers continued to spray for the Oriental Fruit Fly. Harvest began for early cherry varieties. **Grape** and **kiwi** vines were growing fast as temperatures increased, while bloom was picking up for both. Mating disruptions for European Grapevine Moth have been put up in high risk vineyards. **Pomegranates** and **persimmons** were continuing to leaf-out as pomegranate bloom began. **Apples** were blooming and leafing-out. **Olives** were blooming. **Blueberries** and **strawberries** were being picked and packed in the San Joaquin Valley. **Orange** and **avocado** bloom was nearing end. Navel orange harvest was nearly complete. **Tangerines, tangelos** and **lemons** continued to be harvested and packed for export. The harvesting of Valencia oranges continued to pick up.

## NUT CROPS

**Almond** nuts were in the late jelly stage as growers applied insecticides to prevent against stink and leaf-footed bugs. **Walnut** fungicide applications continued; nuts were developing. **Pistachio** nuts were developing.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Kern County reported continued harvest of **carrots** as processing **tomatoes** were growing well. In Tulare County, summer vegetables were being planted, while **cucumbers** and **eggplants** were behind in development due to the cool spring weather. Italian **squash** was being harvested, while **onions** were growing well. Merced County reported fresh and processing tomato planting continued as **asparagus** and **radicchio** harvest continued. In San Joaquin County, asparagus harvest continued, onions were growing, and **watermelon** was planted. In Sutter County, tomato transplants were growing rapidly.

## LIVESTOCK

Rangeland conditions continue to be good to fair in those regions that benefited from late season rains. Other areas of the State, primarily in the lower elevations and southern San Joaquin Valley, were drying out. Some valley floor pastures were irrigated. Supplemental feeding continued due to drying range grasses. Cattle and sheep grazed on irrigated pasture, summer range, and retired farmland and idle fields. Beehives were placed in kiwi for pollination and in citrus groves for honey production.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 5/20/12**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 5/20/12.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days 1/	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 5/20/12	January 1 - 5/20	July 1 - 5/20/12	Week Ending 5/20/12	July 1 - 5/20/12	July 1 - 5/20	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
<b>North Coast</b>												
Eureka_WFO	52	-2	62	42	0	0	106	0.00	38.08	37.04	38.10	
Ukiah	66	5	90	42	150	65	69	0.00	24.65	38.32	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	61	-2	79	43	88	99	50	0.00	22.24	30.62	31.01	
Napa_State_Hosp	63	1	84	46	171	106	53	0.00	21.04	26.11	26.46	
<b>Central Coast</b>												
San_Francisco_A	58	-2	72	48	53	45	48	0.00	13.40	19.90	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	64	-1	82	50	186	181	44	0.00	6.97	14.88	15.08	
Salinas_AP	59	0	74	47	65	55	49	0.00	10.19	12.80	12.91	
Monterey_AP	56	-2	66	48	8	7	53	0.00	11.03	20.05	20.35	
King_City_Ag	63	-1	87	42	125	130	35	0.00	6.25	12.20	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	66	3	98	40	183	99	31	0.00	8.43	13.04	13.08	
<b>Sacramento Valley</b>												
Redding	71	4	93	48	285	179	65	0.00	22.79	32.37	33.52	
Red_Bluff	71	3	95	52	307	243	50	0.00	20.42	23.33	24.07	
Willows_6W	70	4	92	48	268	185	55	0.00	19.60	18.54	19.03	
Oroville	69	3	93	52	260	200	59	0.00	18.73	28.19	28.75	
Marysville	70	1	93	49	281	308	51	0.00	15.38	21.62	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	68	3	93	47	250	201	41	0.00	12.19	17.62	17.93	
<b>San Joaquin Valley</b>												
Stockton	69	2	92	48	264	244	43	0.00	8.04	13.65	13.84	
Modesto_AP	71	4	94	52	322	315	38	0.00	8.46	12.86	13.12	
Merced_Macready	72	5	96	50	341	250	36	0.00	7.10	12.31	12.50	
Madera_AP	69	2	94	48	283	274	30	0.00	7.67	11.73	11.94	
Fresno_AP	74	5	95	53	439	304	28	0.00	8.15	10.90	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	71	3	96	48	337	281	32	0.00	4.41	7.73	7.89	
Visalia_AP	72	4	93	54	338	289	22	0.00	7.25	10.79	11.03	
Bakersfield	74	4	95	52	472	383	26	0.00	4.93	6.34	6.49	
<b>Cascade Sierra</b>												
Alturas_AP	59	7	86	28	12	0	61	0.00	6.56	10.94	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	63	10	87	39	45	0	79	0.00	27.54	37.63	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	61	8	76	45	68	0	71	0.00	44.80	64.76	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	65	8	89	44	125	22	36	0.00	23.33	36.52	37.73	
<b>South Coast</b>												
Santa_Maria_AP	58	0	78	43	50	33	35	0.00	9.57	13.86	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	60	-1	81	46	33	156	28	0.00	10.17	16.81	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	61	1	74	49	183	160	26	0.00	9.73	15.57	15.62	
Riverside_AP	72	6	97	53	517	363	29	0.00	5.23	10.12	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	64	2	73	55	211	311	29	0.00	7.52	13.04	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	66	2	72	60	207	403	38	0.00	8.01	10.68	10.77	
<b>Southeast Interior</b>												
Bishop_AP	68	5	94	40	158	110	14	0.00	3.07	4.71	5.02	
Daggett_AP	81	8	103	60	719	509	18	0.00	1.21	4.06	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	74	8	98	50	360	217	25	0.00	3.46	7.35	7.40	
Thermal	86	8	108	59	999	1,004	15	0.00	1.38	3.51	3.53	
Blythe_AP	88	9	107	69	1,149	955	17	0.00	2.98	4.01	4.02	
Imperial_CA	85	8	107	62	996	922	13	0.00	0.81	2.95	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.

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