



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER



A strong high pressure system, centered over the desert Southwest, was the dominating weather feature for California this week. As the week progressed, the high pressure spread over the State, resulting in a sharp warming trend. Triple digit heat was common across all of California except for the immediate coastal strip. The southern San Joaquin Valley saw highs exceed 110 degrees, while the northern Sacramento Valley temperatures approached that level. At the start of the week, the far north coastal region saw very light rain, but even that had stopped by Tuesday. The only other precipitation was from isolated thundershower activity in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The heat wave persisted through the weekend.

FIELD CROPS

Hot weather promoted rapid crop development over the past week. **Cotton** showed good fruit retention and fruit development. **Corn** for grain was growing well, while corn for silage was being harvested. Cotton and **rice** crops were rated mostly good to excellent. The rice crop progressed well due to favorable weather conditions. **Alfalfa** continued to be cut, raked and baled. **Safflower** fields were past bloom and had started drying down. The harvest of **garbanzo** beans had begun. **Mint** was beginning to bloom in some fields. An unusually low amount of pest pressure was noted across all crops; however, producers continued to monitor the crops.

FRUIT CROPS

The **peach, nectarine** and fresh **plum** harvests continued. Cling peach harvest was ongoing; size and quality of the fruit were very good. **Prunes** were progressing well in the Sacramento Valley, as irrigation and potassium applications were ongoing. Table **grape** harvest continued, with Flame Seedless, Summer Royal, Princess, Red Globe, and Thompson varieties being harvested in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvest continued in early champagne grape vineyards. Other wine grapes were showing veraison. **Apple** harvest continued, with Gala and Gingergold varieties being picked. Later apple varieties were sugaring nicely. Bartlett, Bosc, and Asian **pear** harvests were picking up throughout the State. **Kiwi, fig, jujube, olive** and **pomegranate** fruit continued to grow well. **Strawberries, boysenberries, loganberries** and **blackberries** were being picked and packed. **Blueberry** harvest was finished. Olives were being sprayed for scale; fruit was sizing and growing well. The harvest of late navel and Valencia **oranges** continued, slowly. **Tangelos, grapefruit** and **lemons** continued to be harvested and packed.

NUT CROPS

Almond harvest was picking up, as more orchards started shaking trees. There was also good developmental progress in **walnut, pistachio** and **pecan** orchards. Walnuts were sprayed for weeds, coddling moth and husk fly. Pistachio nut fill continued; growers were seeing some nut splitting.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Kern County reported organic vegetables and **cantaloupe** being harvested. In Tulare County, summer vegetables, including **melons, tomatoes, beans, peppers, squash, eggplant** and **gourds**, continued to be harvested. Fresno County reported harvesting of **garlic**, bell peppers, **carrots, onions**, processed and fresh market tomatoes, green beans, **watermelon**, cantaloupe, **honeydew, beets, bittermelon, chards, choys, cucumbers, daikon**, eggplant, **kales**, peppers, **spinach**, squash, **turnips** and zucchini. San Joaquin County reported watermelon being harvested. In Sutter County, harvest was ongoing for processing tomatoes, melons, beans, peppers, squash and fresh market tomatoes. Siskiyou County reported onions bulking and looking good.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland forage grasses and non-irrigated pasture continued to deteriorate at all elevations and fire danger increased with higher temperatures. The week ended with over 5,000 acres of rangeland burning in Lake County. Irrigated pasture was reported to be in good condition. Supplemental feeding of hay and nutrients increased as range quality declined. Cattle and sheep grazed idle fields, dry land grain and alfalfa fields. Dairies attempted to keep cows cool with fans and misting in the San Joaquin Valley. Bees worked alfalfa, melon, squash and sunflower fields.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 8/12/12

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION					
	Average Week Ending 8/12/12.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	Rain Days 1/	This Season		Normal		
					January 1 - 8/12/12	January 1 - 8/12	July 2 - 8/12/12	Week Ending 8/12/12	July 2 - 8/12/12	July 1 - 8/12	July 1 - June 30	
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --		-- Inches --			
North Coast												
Eureka_WFO	57	-2	64	50	2	39	10	0.02	0.78	0.28	38.10	
Ukiah	77	5	107	52	1,040	909	0	0.00	0.00	0.04	38.90	
Santa_Rosa_AG	69	2	92	48	549	659	0	0.00	0.00	0.06	31.01	
Napa_State_Hosp	72	3	92	52	826	731	0	0.00	0.00	0.05	26.46	
Central Coast												
San_Francisco_A	62	-2	72	52	244	282	0	0.00	0.00	0.02	20.11	
San_Jose_AP	71	-1	90	56	819	982	0	0.00	0.00	0.06	15.08	
Salinas_AP	64	-1	76	53	244	313	0	0.00	0.00	0.03	12.91	
Monterey_AP	58	-3	66	51	67	119	3	0.00	0.05	0.08	20.35	
King_City_Ag	71	2	92	51	657	779	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.30	
Paso_Robles_AP	83	10	110	54	1,129	1,051	1	0.00	0.01	0.01	13.08	
Sacramento Valley												
Redding	84	5	109	60	1,747	1,651	0	0.00	0.00	0.08	33.52	
Red_Bluff	85	5	109	62	1,805	1,773	0	0.00	0.00	0.09	24.07	
Willows_6W	81	6	104	59	1,524	1,362	1	0.00	0.04	0.05	19.03	
Oroville	82	6	104	60	1,591	1,482	0	0.00	0.00	0.06	28.75	
Marysville	81	4	107	57	1,574	1,687	0	0.00	0.00	0.06	22.07	
Sacramento_AP	79	5	105	55	1,350	1,300	1	0.00	0.03	0.04	17.93	
San Joaquin Valley												
Stockton	80	4	105	54	1,386	1,492	0	0.00	0.00	0.05	13.84	
Modesto_AP	83	6	105	58	1,636	1,600	0	0.00	0.00	0.05	13.12	
Merced_Macready	84	7	108	61	1,774	1,577	1	0.00	0.02	0.03	12.50	
Madera_AP	83	5	106	59	1,595	1,683	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.94	
Fresno_AP	90	10	111	67	2,186	1,836	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.23	
Lemoore_NAS	84	7	109	60	1,722	1,644	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.89	
Visalia_AP	84	6	102	63	1,795	1,676	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.03	
Bakersfield	90	8	109	69	2,192	2,056	1	0.00	0.02	0.00	6.49	
Cascade Sierra												
Alturas_AP	69	4	98	41	420	334	0	0.00	0.00	0.42	12.13	
Mount_Shasta_AP	73	7	99	47	603	356	1	0.00	0.06	0.50	39.16	
Blue_Canyon	78	10	89	65	717	438	2	0.00	0.48	0.48	66.36	
Yosemite_Valley	83	10	105	58	1,223	807	1	0.00	0.05	0.56	37.73	
South Coast												
Santa_Maria_AP	64	-1	77	51	230	309	1	0.00	0.03	0.03	14.01	
Santa_Barbara_A	69	0	82	57	317	659	1	0.00	0.02	0.03	16.93	
Oxnard_NWS	71	5	85	59	600	592	1	0.00	0.05	0.02	15.62	
Riverside_AP	89	10	106	67	1,862	1,694	0	0.00	0.00	0.03	10.22	
Los_Angeles_AP	74	4	83	64	782	980	0	0.00	0.00	0.03	13.15	
San_Diego_AP	75	3	85	66	843	1,182	0	0.00	0.00	0.02	10.77	
Southeast Interior												
Bishop_AP	80	5	103	54	1,308	1,251	3	0.04	0.14	0.16	5.02	
Daggett_AP	95	9	112	77	2,910	2,553	6	0.09	0.43	0.65	4.17	
Lancaster_ATC	89	9	109	64	1,983	1,671	1	0.00	0.02	0.10	7.40	
Thermal	98	8	117	76	3,468	3,390	4	0.00	0.39	0.32	3.53	
Blythe_AP	100	8	115	87	3,790	3,507	6	0.03	1.91	0.58	4.02	
Imperial_CA	99	8	115	82	3,515	3,290	3	0.00	1.01	0.19	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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