



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: March 3, 2013
RELEASED: March 4, 2013

FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER



High pressure over the western U.S. brought mainly dry and mild conditions to California for much of the week. Two rather weak storm systems brushed extreme Northern California and brought some rain to the North Coast, and isolated light showers to the northern mountains, but generally, conditions across California remained dry. Conditions across Southern California grew fairly warm and dry in an offshore northerly flow. The warmest weather developed towards the end of the work week, with temperatures across Northern California reaching the 70s, while Southern California hit the 80s. On Sunday, another weak storm system managed to break down the high pressure and spread light precipitation across Northern California. Very little precipitation reached Southern California.

FIELD CROPS

Wheat, barley and other winter **forage** crops continued to grow. Irrigation continued, and irrigated fields were in good to excellent condition. Some beneficial moisture was received; however, non-irrigated fields needed additional rainfall to sustain their growth. Some farmers were planning limited spraying for weevils in scattered alfalfa fields.

FRUIT CROPS

Pruning wrapped up in most **grape** vineyards. Bloom was increasing in early **plums, pluots, nectarines** and **peaches**. Dormant spraying was ongoing in **cherries**. **Apple** trees were showing some leaf buds. Navel **oranges, lemons** and **mandarins** continued to be harvested. Valencia orange harvest is expected to begin soon. Pruning in **olives** was ongoing. **Strawberries** and **blueberries** continued to develop with the warmer temperatures. Hass **avocado** harvest continued.

NUT CROPS

Bloom was picking up in **almond** orchards. Petal fall was underway in the earliest blooming orchards. Some growers were spraying fungicides in preparation of rain. **Walnut** orchards were being watered.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Tulare County, winter vegetables, **broccoli, cabbage** and **daikon**, were being harvested for the farmer's markets. Fields were being prepared for spring and summer vegetables. Fresno County reported processing **tomatoes** and **carrots** were being planted, while dehydrator **onions** were being fertilized. Some Onion fields were sprayed for Downy mildew protection. Onion and garlic growth has been slow due to the weather. In Stanislaus County, broccoli was being planted and harvested. San Joaquin County reported **asparagus** was starting to emerge.

LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture conditions were reported to be in fair to good condition. Rangeland was drying out in some locales due to the scant precipitation received this year. Sheep and cattle grazed on idle fields, dry land grain and alfalfa fields. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued. Bees were active pollinating blueberry, almond, plum and apricot orchards.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 3/3/13

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 3/3/13.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 3/3/13	January 1 - 3/3/13	July 1 - 3/3/13	Week Ending 3/3/13	July 1 - 3/3/13	July 1 - 3/3/13	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days ^{1/} --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
North Coast											
Eureka_WFO	47	-2	56	31	0	0	82	0.48	21.56	28.16	38.10
Ukiah	54	+4	75	29	0	0	47	0.01	24.56	30.21	38.90
Santa_Rosa_AG	54	+2	72	33	0	0	37	0.00	19.29	24.36	31.01
Napa_State_Hosp	56	+3	74	35	0	0	40	0.00	16.04	20.61	26.46
Central Coast											
San_Francisco_A	54	+2	71	40	0	0	39	0.00	11.84	15.68	20.11
San_Jose_AP	54	-2	71	35	0	0	40	0.00	7.97	11.21	15.08
Salinas_AP	55	+2	80	33	10	0	34	0.00	8.24	9.63	12.91
Monterey_AP	52	-3	69	37	3	0	46	0.00	9.77	15.13	20.35
King_City_Ag	55	+2	82	30	4	0	31	0.00	3.99	9.11	12.30
Paso_Robles_AP	54	+3	80	27	3	0	31	0.00	4.17	9.86	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	55	+5	77	31	3	0	41	0.00	20.67	24.36	33.52
Red_Bluff	56	+4	78	35	1	0	40	0.00	14.63	18.04	24.07
Willows_6W	55	+4	72	35	0	0	41	0.00	16.38	14.48	19.03
Oroville_AP	55	+3	71	34	0	0	33	0.09	14.63	21.59	28.75
Marysville	54	+2	74	31	0	0	35	0.00	15.78	16.59	22.07
Sacramento_AP	54	+2	73	34	0	0	31	0.01	11.94	13.80	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	55	+3	76	33	2	0	35	0.00	8.56	10.34	13.84
Modesto_AP	55	+1	74	33	3	0	36	0.00	7.44	9.56	13.12
Merced_Macready	55	+3	76	32	4	0	31	0.00	6.40	9.15	12.50
Madera_AP	55	+3	79	33	5	0	29	0.00	6.61	8.40	11.94
Fresno_AP	58	+5	81	38	10	0	26	0.00	4.85	7.94	11.23
Lemoore_NAS	54	+1	80	30	4	0	30	0.00	2.53	5.54	7.89
Visalia_AP	55	+2	79	34	5	0	24	0.00	3.39	7.84	11.03
Bakersfield	57	+2	82	33	9	0	28	0.00	2.22	4.45	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas_AP	37	+1	63	12	0	0	48	0.07	4.66	7.54	12.13
Mount_Shasta_AP	44	+5	60	25	0	0	49	0.00	21.00	28.68	39.16
Blue_Canyon	45	+7	59	31	0	0	55	0.17	37.63	48.55	66.36
Yosemite_Valley	47	+5	70	27	0	0	33	0.20	12.23	27.83	37.73
South Coast											
Santa_Maria_AP	56	+3	82	32	3	0	29	0.00	5.35	10.21	14.01
Santa_Barbara_A	56	0	84	35	7	0	31	0.00	8.23	13.05	16.93
Oxnard_NWS	61	+5	84	37	78	5	26	0.00	4.46	12.08	15.62
Riverside_AP	60	+3	86	37	59	28	26	0.00	3.70	7.52	10.22
Los_Angeles_AP	62	+5	82	44	85	70	28	0.00	5.14	10.18	13.15
San_Diego_AP	61	+2	80	45	57	92	30	0.00	5.02	7.76	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop_AP	45	+1	71	14	0	0	12	0.00	0.87	3.79	5.02
Daggett_AP	54	-1	81	30	10	0	14	0.00	1.19	3.32	4.17
Lancaster_ATC	51	+2	77	18	2	0	10	0.00	0.76	5.69	7.40
Thermal	59	-4	89	31	50	86	12	0.00	2.52	3.03	3.53
Blythe_AP	60	-1	84	36	54	73	18	0.00	4.36	3.46	4.02
Imperial_CA	60	-3	87	35	67	99	12	0.00	2.04	2.61	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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