



# California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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RELEASED: December 8, 2014

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## WEATHER

A strong shift in the prevailing weather pattern drove the weather across the State. The wet season began in earnest as low pressure settled over the Colorado River Valley between Las Vegas and Yuma, pulling in Pacific moisture. The beginning of the week started relatively warm, with highs in the 60s and 70s across much of the State outside the mountains. Heavy rain on Wednesday kept afternoon highs a few degrees cooler than other days, but by Thursday most of the State reported highs in the 60s and 70s and this trend continued through the end of the week. In the valley and across the southern tier reported lows in the upper 40s and lower 50s, while temperatures in the coldest parts of the mountains routinely dropped into the teens. Pacific moisture brought rain to most of the state. Several locations in the central valley near Sacramento reported over 5 inches of rain for the week and some locations received rainfall nearly every day. The desert south and the Los Angeles basin saw the least amount of rainfall, but nearly every location reported at least some rain during the week. The moisture contributed to the growth of the snowpack in the Sierras, with several mountain locations receiving between 6 and 12 inches of snow during the week.

## FIELD CROPS

Rain soaked fields reduced access and most fields were empty and bare. The **wheat** crop was off to an excellent start. Emergence is considered in excellent shape due to recent rainfall. 87 percent of wheat was emerged and condition was rated as 80 percent good or excellent. Pasture and rangeland condition was 70 percent poor to fair. The Cotton Plowdown Regulations compliance deadline is rapidly approaching. All fields must be shredded and disked by December 20, 2014. The last cutting of alfalfa for silage was ongoing.

## FRUIT CROPS

Growers pruned, sprayed for weeds, irrigated and fertilized in preparation for their dormant season. The last of the **olives** for olive oil and late variety table **grapes** were harvested. Growers were pushing out Thompson Seedless grapes vineyards in Sutter County. **Kiwifruit** and **Persimmons** harvest continued. Color in navel **oranges** was improving and exports were on the rise. Growers were treating groves for fungal diseases and Fuller Rose Beetle. Mandarin oranges, **grapefruit**, **limes**, and **lemons** were packed and shipped to foreign markets.

## NUT CROPS

Pruning of **almond** and **walnut** orchards continued. Shelling and processing of stored almonds was ongoing. **Pistachio** harvest continued.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

In Monterey County, **lettuce** production ended as area enters host-free period to control Lettuce Mosaic Virus. The no-plant period runs from December 7 through December 21. In Sutter County, winter vegetable field preparation and planting was completed. In Tulare County, **spinach** and **broccoli** harvest ended and fields were prepared for winter and spring planting. **Cauliflower** fields continued to mature. In Fresno County, early **carrots** and broccoli near harvest and early **onions** look good.

## LIVESTOCK

Local **bee** hives received supplemental feeding to sustain the hives until spring bloom; out of state beehives were conveyed and placed in local bee yards preparing for almond bloom season. The eastern slope of Coast Range Mountains was still very dry and range conditions were poor. Recent precipitation gave grasses a chance to grow, but overall, conditions were still dry. **Sheep** continued to graze on small grains fields, alfalfa fields, or on retired farmlands and ranchers were supplementing feed with baled hay.

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](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/California/Publications/index.asp)

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 12/7/14**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 12/7/14	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 12/7/14	January 1 - 12/7/14	July 1 - 12/7/14	Week Ending 12/7/14	July 1 - 12/7/14	July 1 - 12/7/14	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days /1--	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
<b>North Coast</b>											
Eureka WFO	58	+10	69	46	132	73	33	1.81	12.64	11.01	38.10
Ukiah	56	+10	63	48	2,161	1,479	26	3.67	10.01	9.64	38.90
Santa Rosa AP	57	+8	64	46	1,344	1,143	18	2.59	5.59	7.77	31.01
Napa State Hosp	59	+11	67	49	1,736	1,222	24	3.59	7.53	6.58	26.46
<b>Central Coast</b>											
San Francisco A	61	+11	67	54	1,387	567	16	4.56	6.51	4.43	20.11
San Jose AP	59	+9	68	50	1,636	1,613	15	2.56	5.11	3.38	15.08
Salinas AP	63	+11	71	54	1,055	629	15	1.16	3.17	2.79	12.91
Monterey AP	60	+8	68	51	714	327	22	1.53	4.80	4.53	20.35
King City Ag	61	+11	69	50	1,723	1,312	13	1.50	1.78	2.44	12.30
Paso Robles AP	59	+12	70	45	2,314	1,692	7	1.18	2.40	2.39	13.08
<b>Sacramento Valley</b>											
Redding	55	+10	62	48	3,168	2,524	29	2.80	12.01	7.94	33.52
Red Bluff	56	+9	63	48	3,295	2,759	30	3.11	11.50	5.90	24.07
Willow s 6W	56	+10	64	47	2,929	2,157	20	4.07	8.60	4.46	19.03
Oroville AP	58	+12	66	47	3,082	2,239	22	2.38	7.08	6.93	28.75
Marysville	59	+11	67	50	2,762	2,589	20	3.22	6.45	5.28	22.07
Sacramento AP	60	+13	69	51	2,596	2,096	18	3.13	5.39	4.06	17.93
<b>San Joaquin Valley</b>											
Stockton	59	+13	71	44	2,684	2,347	17	1.38	3.72	3.44	13.84
Modesto AP	59	+11	71	45	2,920	2,487	14	1.10	3.12	2.96	13.12
Merced Macready	59	+13	71	45	3,184	2,459	11	0.91	2.27	2.73	12.50
Madera AP	61	+15	75	46	3,084	2,579	7	0.54	1.37	2.52	11.94
Fresno AP	59	+14	73	47	4,100	2,809	5	0.42	1.33	2.31	11.23
Lemoore NAS	58	+12	72	41	3,394	2,522	4	0.51	1.36	1.54	7.89
Visalia AP	58	+11	72	45	3,172	2,570	3	0.38	1.44	2.38	11.03
Bakersfield AP	61	+13	75	48	4,162	3,196	3	0.44	1.10	1.26	6.49
<b>Cascade Sierra</b>											
Alturas AP	42	+11	55	27	840	451	32	0.68	4.31	3.81	12.13
Mount Shasta AP	46	+11	54	38	1,146	510	31	3.20	12.91	10.17	39.16
Blue Canyon	44	+5	52	40	1,308	692	29	8.30	20.32	17.07	66.36
Yosemite Valley	46	+8	57	32	2,193	1,278	16	1.33	4.49	9.63	37.73
<b>South Coast</b>											
Santa Maria AP	64	+12	75	51	1,627	633	7	0.75	2.07	2.43	14.01
Santa Barbara A	61	+7	69	50	1,513	1,210	6	2.38	3.74	2.82	16.93
Oxnard NWS	62	+5	75	51	1,827	1,124	8	1.51	2.35	2.60	15.62
Riverside AP	62	+6	77	49	3,704	2,867	10	0.47	1.15	1.70	10.22
Los Angeles AP	62	+4	72	54	2,471	1,814	8	1.33	2.18	2.27	13.15
San Diego AP	65	+7	77	56	2,937	2,115	9	2.53	2.98	2.10	10.77
<b>Southeast Interior</b>											
Bishop AP	43	+4	60	24	2,218	1,770	4	0.36	0.52	1.36	5.02
Daggett AP	55	+7	66	44	4,669	3,890	5	0.41	0.44	1.59	4.17
Lancaster ATC	51	+8	65	36	3,022	2,510	6	1.23	1.56	1.42	7.40
Thermal	63	+8	82	46	5,738	5,183	6	0.01	0.46	1.37	3.53
Blythe AP	63	+9	78	47	6,166	5,399	11	0.08	0.75	1.97	4.02
Imperial CA	63	+7	78	50	6,038	5,230	8	0.18	1.81	1.33	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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