



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: March 29, 2015
RELEASED: March 30, 2015

FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER

Pacific moisture streamed into the State early in the week, which led to light and scattered rainfall for the northern third of the State on Monday and Tuesday. Most amounts were very light, although isolated locations exceeded half an inch on Monday. Beginning Wednesday, the Pacific moisture influx shut off, and high pressure built over the West Coast, which resulted in the State remaining dry for the rest of the week. The buildup of high pressure corresponded with an increase in daily temperatures, as readings over the weekend were roughly 10 degrees warmer than last weekend. The valley typically saw highs in the 70s to 80s with lows in the 40s to 50s. Temperatures were similar along the coast, slightly cooler in the north and warmer in the south. The southern deserts saw summer like temperatures, with highs exceeding 100 degrees after Friday at a few locations. The mountains continued to stay cool, with highs in the 40s to 60s and lows in the single digits 20s and 30s. Warming temperatures continued to erode what is left of the mountain snowpack, which is getting hard to find, even at higher elevations.

FIELD CROPS

Alfalfa fields were baled and newly planted fields were irrigated. Forage crops continued to show good development with the warm weather. Winter forage crops were harvested. **Wheat** fields were irrigated. Wheat and barley started to head nicely in southern areas. **Cotton** fields were ready to be planted. The wheat crop was rated as 85 percent good to excellent. Pasture and rangeland condition was 60 percent fair to good.

FRUIT CROPS

Most fruit crops went through petal drop and are now fully leafed-out. Mechanical and chemical weed control continued in fruit tree orchards. Bloom sprays were applied to some stone fruit orchards. Orchard replant continued. Early and mid-maturing varieties of **grapes** continued to leaf-out while some late varieties have yet to start. Fungicide applications on wine grapes continued. In San Joaquin County, the **cherry** harvest was anticipated to begin up to two weeks early due to warm weather following a good bloom. In Tulare County, bloom continued with late varieties of stone fruit approaching the end of the bloom period while early varieties of **nectarines** were undergoing fruit thinning. Cherries and **plum** varieties were developing well. The citrus bloom was declared in the central part of the State. Some citrus groves continued to hedge rows, top and skirt. **Navel, tangelos, tangos, sweet limes, and lemons** continued to be harvested and packed. **Olive** trees were starting to bloom.

NUT CROPS

Almonds have gone through petal drop and are now fully leafed-out. Almonds were maturing well, with touch up weed control and suckering continuing. Orchard replant continued. Due to warm temperatures older walnut trees have started to bloom and leaf-out while young walnut trees were being whitewashed to prevent sunburn. Micronutrients were sprayed on **pistachios**.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Colusa County, continued dry weather and above average temperatures lead to drying soils. Transplanting of row crops such as **processing tomatoes** continued. In Sutter County, weed control and field preparation for summer vegetables continued. Fields were prepared for processing tomatoes and **cucurbits** for seeds. In Monterey County, harvesting of **broccoli** and **cauliflower** was going strong. Asparagus season was in full swing and looked good. The **head lettuce** harvest started in a few fields and **Romaine** and **leaf lettuce** harvest was picking up. In San Mateo County, **herbs** were growing strong and seedlings continued to take hold for spring/summer crops. In Fresno County, growers continued planting processing tomatoes and **Bell peppers**. **Carrot** stands were reported as looking good. In Tulare County, growers began planting **eggplants**. Bell peppers and **squash** continued to grow well. Due to the continued dry weather, these crops were irrigated.

LIVESTOCK

Hilly, dry pastureland continued to be grazed by cattle. Some beehives were still in orchards. Reports of very dry weather have allowed for early cleaning of corrals at dairies. Non-irrigated pasture and rangeland conditions were degrading due to the lack of precipitation. Cattle were moved to areas where some green grass remained. Supplemental feeding continued.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 3/29/2015

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 3/29/2015	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 3/29/2015	January 1 - 3/29/2015	July 1 - 3/29/2015	Week Ending 3/29/2015	July 1 - 3/29/2015	July 1 - 3/29/2015	July 1 - June 30
					-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days /1 --
North Coast											
Eureka WFO	54	+5	61	42	6	0	70	1.36	28.69	32.63	38.10
Ukiah	61	+8	86	42	38	0	49	0.34	24.01	34.96	38.90
Santa Rosa AP	60	+5	83	41	18	0	41	0.09	22.38	28.12	31.01
Napa State Hosp	63	+8	84	45	53	0	44	0.07	18.75	23.89	26.46
Central Coast											
San Francisco A	61	+7	79	50	67	0	32	0.04	13.99	18.30	20.11
San Jose AP	63	+6	85	46	81	15	34	0.04	10.49	13.40	15.08
Salinas AP	63	+9	90	48	156	0	31	0.05	8.77	11.54	12.91
Monterey AP	58	+4	77	46	62	0	40	0.01	13.63	18.00	20.35
King City Ag	62	+7	91	43	81	3	27	0.00	6.62	11.14	12.30
Paso Robles AP	64	+10	93	41	78	0	24	0.00	7.70	12.03	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	65	+12	88	46	95	0	56	0.37	24.41	28.52	33.52
Red Bluff	64	+9	88	46	79	0	55	0.55	22.77	20.98	24.07
Willow s 6W	63	+10	86	44	68	0	40	0.20	19.35	16.85	19.03
Oroville AP	64	+10	85	47	74	0	40	0.27	16.60	25.39	28.75
Marysville	64	+7	85	43	58	17	37	0.04	13.47	19.46	22.07
Sacramento AP	64	+10	84	46	81	0	32	0.00	12.21	16.06	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	65	+9	86	46	101	4	34	0.03	8.69	12.18	13.84
Modesto AP	66	+9	87	49	130	30	28	0.00	7.37	11.42	13.12
Merced Macready	63	+7	88	43	74	4	27	0.00	6.01	10.97	12.50
Madera AP	64	+8	89	45	115	10	21	0.00	4.57	10.28	11.94
Fresno AP	67	+10	91	49	159	12	18	0.00	4.58	9.75	11.23
Lemoore NAS	64	+8	91	44	111	12	20	0.00	3.74	6.87	7.89
Visalia AP	65	+8	90	43	132	17	13	0.00	5.35	9.62	11.03
Bakersfield AP	67	+10	93	46	198	37	15	0.00	4.58	5.62	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas AP	47	+8	75	23	0	0	63	0.43	6.92	8.81	12.13
Mount Shasta AP	51	+9	77	33	0	0	65	0.27	34.13	33.37	39.16
Blue Canyon	53	+13	68	34	6	0	53	0.74	28.48	57.06	66.36
Yosemite Valley	58	+12	83	36	17	0	30	0.37	9.65	32.52	37.73
South Coast											
Santa Maria AP	64	+10	93	45	161	0	21	0.00	3.64	12.60	14.01
Santa Barbara A	66	+9	88	49	138	21	20	0.00	6.67	15.89	16.93
Oxnard NWS	65	+9	88	49	286	29	21	0.00	6.29	14.52	15.62
Riverside AP	70	+11	94	49	375	81	25	0.00	4.25	9.25	10.22
Los Angeles AP	66	+8	85	54	289	121	23	0.00	5.42	12.10	13.15
San Diego AP	68	+8	84	58	375	161	22	0.00	5.54	9.63	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop AP	61	+12	85	38	18	0	8	0.00	0.78	4.29	5.02
Daggett AP	69	+10	92	49	238	55	13	0.00	1.96	3.78	4.17
Lancaster ATC	63	+10	87	38	51	0	16	0.00	4.35	6.85	7.40
Thermal	75	+9	98	49	425	252	17	0.00	1.22	3.37	3.53
Blythe AP	76	+11	97	57	498	224	21	0.00	2.69	3.82	4.02
Imperial CA	75	+10	98	55	493	252	17	0.00	2.70	2.85	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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