



# California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

Pacific Region • P.O. Box 1258 • Sacramento, CA 95812 • (916) 498-5161 • (855) 270-2722 FAX • [www.nass.usda.gov/ca](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca)

**WEEK ENDING: April 19, 2015**  
**RELEASED: April 20, 2015**

**FREQUENCY: Weekly**  
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## WEATHER

The weather pattern this week featured a building high pressure system over the Great Basin as last week's upper level trough exited the region to the east. The buildup of high pressure corresponded with a rise in daytime temperatures but cooler nighttime minimums as strong radiational cooling took effect. Radiation fog events were a nearly daily occurrence across the agricultural, irrigated parts of the valley. The unfortunate side effect of this high pressure was a return to the dry weather pattern. Aside from some very light showers across the far north on Monday, no precipitation fell anywhere in the State this week. Highs were mostly in the 70s and 80s across the valley, with 60s and 70s along the coast from north to south. The southern deserts routinely reached the 80s, with more locations exceeding 90 degrees by the weekend. Across the State, lows were regularly in the 40s and 50s. The main exception was in the mountains, where early in the week a few locations dropped to near 10 degrees. By the weekend, lows in the 30s were much more common in the mountains, even at higher elevations. Highs in the mountains were mostly 40s early in the week but rising to near 65 degrees by the weekend. With warmer temperatures and drier weather, the mountain snowpack started to shrink again, with lower elevations and latitudes suffering the most. Meager snowpacks still exist across the northern Sierras and along the higher elevations of the central Sierras.

## FIELD CROPS

**Alfalfa** fields were progressing very well as most growers completed a second cutting. Alfalfa and **oats** were harvested for hay and silage. The winter **wheat** crop was 70 percent headed. Warm, sunny weather was maturing the wheat crop at an advanced condition. Many fields were turning golden and in some fields the heads were in milk stage. **Corn** was emerging. Three percent of the **rice** crop was planted. The wheat crop was rated as 80 percent good to excellent. Pasture and rangeland condition was 55 percent fair to good.

## FRUIT CROPS

Harvest of early variety **cherries** and **peaches** was expected to begin soon in the San Joaquin Valley. **Apricot**, **nectarine**, peach, and **plum** fruit increased in size. **Prune** trees continued to leaf out and set fruit. **Grapes** were irrigated, fertilized and cultivated for weed control. Shoot removal in vineyards continued. **Pomegranate** bloom continued. **Kiwi** vines continued to leaf out and elongate shoots. Buds were forming on **olive** trees. Navel **orange**, **lemon**, and **grapefruit** harvests continued. Established citrus groves were topped and skirted; new groves were planted.

## NUT CROPS

**Almonds** were sprayed with fertilizer and insecticides; nuts continued to size. Almond nut drop began. **Walnut** catkins were falling and flowers were emerging. Fertilizing and irrigating of walnuts continued. **Pistachios** were sprayed with insecticide, fertilizer and micronutrients.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

The early plantings established roots and began to bloom. Summer vegetables sprouted. Seed **onions** finished blooming. In Fresno County, about 75 percent of the processing **tomato** crop was planted. **Lettuce** and **broccoli** were planted and irrigated. Pesticides and herbicides were applied and weeding crews worked in organic fields. Bell **peppers** were planted and **garlic** and onions sized nicely. In San Joaquin County, **asparagus** harvest continued. In Tulare County, **cucumbers**, **eggplant**, and **squash** were planted. **Onions** grew well with the warm weather. **Strawberries** were picked and sold at roadside stands. **Blueberries** were harvested.

## LIVESTOCK

Warm weather stimulated grass and forage growth where soil moisture was adequate, but the ongoing drought continued to negatively affect pasture conditions. Supplemental feeding of livestock increased as nutritional value of dryland pastures decreased. Sheep continued to graze on fallow fields, crop stubble fields, and alfalfa stubble fields. Mild weather conditions were favorable for dairy production.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/19/2015**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 4/19/2015	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season	Normal Year
					January 1 - 4/19/2015	January 1 - 4/19/2015	July 1 - 4/19/2015	Week Ending 4/19/2015	July 1 - 4/19/2015	July 1 - 4/19/2015	July 1 - June 30
					-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days /1 --
<b>North Coast</b>											
Eureka WFO	51	+1	62	37	6	0	76	0.49	31.38	35.00	38.10
Ukiah	60	+5	88	37	63	0	52	0.00	25.41	36.86	38.90
Santa Rosa AP	60	+3	82	41	26	22	43	0.00	23.31	29.58	31.01
Napa State Hosp	62	+5	82	42	80	20	46	0.00	20.31	25.17	26.46
<b>Central Coast</b>											
San Francisco A	59	+3	80	48	77	1	34	0.00	14.69	19.36	20.11
San Jose AP	61	+1	80	46	97	57	35	0.00	10.74	14.31	15.08
Salinas AP	61	+5	84	43	170	5	32	0.00	9.11	12.38	12.91
Monterey AP	56	+1	77	41	64	0	42	0.00	14.04	19.29	20.35
King City Ag	60	+2	85	39	103	35	28	0.00	7.25	11.86	12.30
Paso Robles AP	61	+5	87	35	102	8	25	0.00	8.13	12.72	13.08
<b>Sacramento Valley</b>											
Redding	67	+10	93	43	160	18	59	0.00	25.46	30.49	33.52
Red Bluff	66	+7	93	45	139	42	58	0.00	23.45	22.19	24.07
Willow s 6W	63	+6	87	40	108	26	43	0.00	19.89	17.73	19.03
Oroville AP	65	+7	91	45	133	34	44	0.00	17.46	26.98	28.75
Marysville	64	+3	89	43	103	81	40	0.00	14.72	20.70	22.07
Sacramento AP	64	+6	86	42	132	41	34	0.00	13.25	16.96	17.93
<b>San Joaquin Valley</b>											
Stockton	64	+5	87	43	153	57	35	0.00	9.27	13.01	13.84
Modesto AP	65	+4	86	46	195	102	30	0.00	7.79	12.22	13.12
Merced Macready	63	+3	87	41	112	56	30	0.00	6.37	11.74	12.50
Madera AP	64	+5	89	39	167	67	24	0.00	4.91	11.15	11.94
Fresno AP	67	+6	89	45	244	75	20	0.00	5.14	10.45	11.23
Lemoore NAS	64	+4	91	35	172	71	21	0.00	4.27	7.40	7.89
Visalia AP	66	+6	90	39	204	79	15	0.00	6.07	10.33	11.03
Bakersfield AP	67	+5	90	43	294	116	16	0.00	4.64	6.02	6.49
<b>Cascade Sierra</b>											
Alturas AP	45	+2	75	18	0	0	68	0.12	7.15	9.61	12.13
Mount Shasta AP	52	+6	79	30	0	0	71	0.03	35.50	35.53	39.16
Blue Canyon	53	+9	70	27	10	0	58	0.14	30.03	61.14	66.36
Yosemite Valley	58	+7	82	32	27	0	33	0.00	10.79	34.65	37.73
<b>South Coast</b>											
Santa Maria AP	61	+6	82	44	178	0	22	0.00	4.24	13.45	14.01
Santa Barbara A	60	+2	79	45	156	63	21	0.00	6.85	16.60	16.93
Oxnard NWS	62	+4	81	48	323	71	23	0.00	6.51	15.25	15.62
Riverside AP	68	+6	87	50	499	160	26	0.00	4.31	9.81	10.22
Los Angeles AP	63	+4	77	55	344	181	24	0.00	5.52	12.72	13.15
San Diego AP	67	+5	80	58	497	241	22	0.00	5.54	10.34	10.77
<b>Southeast Interior</b>											
Bishop AP	59	+5	84	34	30	0	8	0.00	0.78	4.50	5.02
Daggett AP	69	+5	91	48	376	171	13	0.00	1.96	3.98	4.17
Lancaster ATC	59	+2	86	32	90	32	17	0.00	4.36	7.21	7.40
Thermal	71	-2	95	42	658	480	17	0.00	1.22	3.45	3.53
Blythe AP	73	+3	95	49	761	439	21	0.00	2.69	3.98	4.02
Imperial CA	72	+3	95	46	741	452	17	0.00	2.70	2.92	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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