



# California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture  
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**WEEK ENDING:** April 17, 2016  
**RELEASED:** April 18, 2016

**FREQUENCY:** Weekly  
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## WEATHER

Temperatures averaged 3 to 6 degrees above normal for the week. Lows were in the 20s to 40s in the mountains except at the highest elevations which occasionally dropped into the teens or even single digits, 30s to 50s along the coast and across the valley, and 30s to 60s in the desert. Highs were in the 40s to 70s in the mountains depending on elevation, 60s to 70s along the coast and across the valley, and 70s to 80s in the desert.

Rainfall during the week was confined to the northern half of the State. The heaviest rain fell across the far north, with totals of 1/2 to one inch. Elsewhere rain totals were mostly under 1/4 inch, with little if any rain falling over the southern half of the State during the week. The only area of the State that received minor snowfall this week was in the Northern Sierras, where 3 to 6 inches of snow fell on Tuesday through Thursday. This snowfall combined with temperatures likely led to persistence or slight growth of the mountain snowpack, where 6 to 12 feet are still commonplace. In the Central and Southern Sierras, warm temperatures continued to erode the snowpack. Snowpacks continued to be in the 4 to 8 foot range in the central Sierras area, while snowpacks were rapidly disappearing across the southern Sierras.

## FIELD CROPS

**Alfalfa**, **oats**, **barley**, and winter forage were cut, baled, and trucked from fields. **Winter wheat** continued to mature and was rated as 85 percent good to excellent. **Corn** continued to grow and some new fields were planted. **Rice** fields were beginning to be watered and seeded. **Cotton** was 40 percent planted in locations around the State but needed warmer temperatures to facilitate emergence. Pasture and rangeland condition was 65 percent good to excellent.

## FRUIT CROPS

In Monterey County, wine **grapes** were budding and sulfur was applied. Some last minute pruning occurred, along with field cultivation. In Fresno County, grape shoot growth continued as applications of fungicides, sulfur dust, nitrogen, and zinc fertilization were applied. In San Joaquin County, fungicides were applied to all grape crops. In Stanislaus County, stone fruit orchards continued to be thinned and trimmed. Sprays were applied for weed control and orchard irrigation continued. **Apricots** were about two to three weeks away from the start of harvest. Grape vines were leafing out and some leaves were pulled to increase air flow. Both mechanical and chemical weed control continued. In Tulare County, **cherry** packers started to receive cherries. Navel and Valencia **oranges** continued to be harvested. Quality continued to be an issue as the Navel orange crop continued to mature with the hot weather. The Valencia orange harvest was accelerating. Navel, Valencia, Cara Cara, Golden Nugget **mandarins**, Minneola **tangelos**, and **lemons** continued to be packed and exported. Seedless **tangerines** remained netted to prevent cross pollination.

## NUT CROPS

In Sutter County, growers continued to apply copper and fungicides to **walnut** orchards. Walnut orchards were leafing out and some growers treated for scale. Fruit was setting on **almonds**. In Fresno County, almond orchard cleanup occurred with broken branches and a few downed trees from wind. New almond orchards were planted and trees continued to show rapid growth. **Pistachios** orchards were irrigated, and fungicides and insecticides were applied. In Stanislaus County, pistachio trees continued blooming. Walnuts and pistachios continued to be packed and exported to foreign and domestic markets.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

In Sutter County, planting and cultivation of vegetables for Farmer's Markets continued. **Processing tomato** planting began in the dryer fields. **Onions** for seed were maturing with some reports of downy mildew. **Carrots** were seeding out. In Stanislaus County, tomato transplanting began. Most row crop farmers were beginning to fumigate and prepare soil in their tomato, **bean** and **melon** fields. In Monterey County, the head **lettuce** harvest picked up. Harvest of other lettuce and **brassicas** also increased. In Fresno County, tomato transplants were planted. **Garlic** and onion stands looked good. Harvest of spring head lettuce began. Fields were prepped for melons. In Imperial County, good weather allowed for an early start to the **sweet corn** harvest.

## LIVESTOCK

In San Joaquin County, good sources of permanent pasture resulted in reduced feed cost. In Sutter County, warmer weather continued to increase rangeland forage growth and reduce the need for supplemental feed. In Santa Clara County, cattle were gaining weight with plenty of good feed. In Tulare County, the weekend rainfall helped maintain rangeland grasses, but warmer weather was increasing the drying of rangeland forage growth. Range and pasture conditions were excellent. Bee apiaries remained in citrus locations benefitting from the citrus bloom.

**CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 4/17/2016**

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION 1/			
	Average Week Ending 4/17/2016	Departure from Normal 2/	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year 2/	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season 2/	Normal Year 2/
					January 1-4/17/2016	January 1-4/17/2016	July 1-4/17/2016	Week Ending 4/17/2016	July 1-4/17/2016	July 1-4/17/2016	July 1-June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days 3/ --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
<b>North Coast</b>											
Eureka WFO	54	4	71	42	12	0	22	1.00	45.56	34.91	38.10
Ukiah	59	4	88	37	56	0	88	0.25	35.27	36.80	38.90
Santa Rosa	59	3	84	42	48	20	72	0.21	29.50	29.54	31.01
Napa State Hosp	61	4	84	41	62	18	73	0.08	24.26	25.13	26.46
<b>Central Coast</b>											
San Francisco	60	5	79	49	78	0	58	0.03	18.34	19.33	20.11
San Jose	62	3	87	48	140	54	54	0.07	14.11	14.28	15.08
Salinas	59	3	86	43	98	4	49	0.03	13.38	12.36	12.91
Monterey	58	3	80	47	69	0	60	0.01	21.25	19.25	20.35
King City Ag	60	2	90	42	79	33	49	0	9.72	11.84	12.30
Paso Robles	61	4	90	36	63	7	40	0	9.19	12.71	13.08
<b>Sacramento Valley</b>											
Redding	63	6	90	40	162	16	77	0.16	38.27	30.42	33.52
Red Bluff	63	4	89	42	129	39	71	0.48	25.18	22.15	24.07
Willows 6W	61	4	84	41	100	23	56	0.06	16.03	17.70	19.03
Oroville	63	5	84	43	111	31	73	0.22	20.99	26.93	28.75
Marysville	63	2	89	45	84	77	64	0.12	21.25	20.66	22.07
Sacramento	62	4	86	46	90	38	59	0.03	17.29	16.93	17.93
<b>San Joaquin Valley</b>											
Stockton	62	3	85	42	88	53	61	0.08	17.68	12.98	13.84
Modesto	63	3	86	47	156	98	47	0.07	14.92	12.20	13.12
Merced Macready	62	3	84	46	73	53	46	0.01	13.41	11.72	12.50
Madera	62	3	87	42	114	63	47	0	13.16	11.12	11.94
Fresno	64	4	88	46	185	71	51	0	14.33	10.43	11.23
Lemoore NAS	63	3	91	39	141	67	35	0	6.19	7.39	7.89
Visalia	63	3	88	46	129	75	46	0	9.02	10.31	11.03
Bakersfield	66	4	91	51	260	111	31	0	4.67	6.01	6.49
<b>Cascade Sierra</b>											
Alturas	48	5	72	25	0	0	96	0.83	13.63	9.58	12.13
Mount Shasta	52	6	80	32	9	0	101	0.62	42.59	35.46	39.16
Blue Canyon	47	3	70	29	10	0	85	0.56	65.75	61.00	66.36
Yosemite Valley	54	4	77	33	5	0	68	0	35.56	34.58	37.73
<b>South Coast</b>											
Santa Maria	61	6	87	43	162	0	48	0	8.84	13.43	14.01
Santa Barbara	63	5	86	46	114	61	34	0	11.78	16.59	16.93
Oxnard NWS	63	5	90	48	204	69	28	0	8.96	15.24	15.62
Riverside	67	5	90	51	451	155	39	0	8.92	9.80	10.22
Los Angeles	65	6	84	55	247	178	36	0	10.25	12.71	13.15
San Diego	67	5	86	57	352	237	45	0	10.10	10.32	10.77
<b>Southeast Interior</b>											
Bishop	58	5	80	33	16	0	18	0	3.16	4.49	5.02
Daggett	67	4	84	49	337	164	30	0	2.77	3.98	4.17
Lancaster ATC	61	4	82	37	105	28	28	0	6.83	7.20	7.40
Thermal	74	3	92	53	685	467	11	0	2.86	3.45	3.53
Blythe	74	3	90	57	776	427	17	0	1.82	3.98	4.02
Imperial CA	73	4	93	53	772	441	14	0	1.09	2.92	2.96

1/ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice).

2/ Normal periods 1970-2000 used in Departure From Normal calculations.

3/ Total number of days with precipitation events this season.

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