



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEEK ENDING: March 19, 2017
RELEASED: March 20, 2017

FREQUENCY: Weekly
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WEATHER

It was a warm week across the State, as most of the area was well entrenched into a dry pattern. Fog developed across the northern central valley early in the week which helped supply a bit of moisture. Rainfall was limited to the northern third of the State late week. Rainfall amounts were very light along Interstate 80, gradually increasing to the north. The heaviest rains fell in the northern mountains, which received around a quarter inch of rain each day. Warm temperatures last week resulted in the first week of significant snowmelt in the mountains. Despite that, mountain snowpacks continued to be heavy with Lodgepole still reporting over seven feet of snow depth.

Temperature highs were in the 30s to 70s in the mountains, 60s to 80s in the valley and along the coast, and 70s to 100 in the desert. The temperature lows were in the 10s to 40s in the mountains, 40s to 50s in the valley and along the coast, and 40s to the 60s in the desert.

FIELD CROPS

Winter forage crops were maturing well. Some growers were starting to harvest silage. **Alfalfa** was making good growth as a result of the warmer weather. Drier and warmer weather were ideal for the grains.

FRUIT CROPS

Field work in vineyards continued with pruning, tying, berm sanitation, and brush shredding. Some bud break has been observed in vineyards. **Cherries** and late varieties of stone fruit continued to bloom. **Kiwifruit** were being packed and shipped to domestic and foreign markets. Some **persimmons** and **pomegranates** were leafing out. New orchards were being planted. The citrus harvest picked up with the improved weather. Late **Navel orange** harvest started in some areas. Navel oranges, Mandarins, Minneola **tangelos**, **lemons**, and late harvest **Finger limes** were being exported mostly to foreign markets. Star Ruby **grapefruit** harvest began, with most of the fruit being packed for the domestic market. Orange groves were being hedge-rowed and skirted. Growers were starting to net the seedless **tangerines** to prevent cross pollination by bees during the coming bloom. Pruning of **olives** continued.

NUT CROPS

Almond bloom was slowing down. Bee colonies continued to be moved into nut orchards for pollination. Almonds and **pistachios** were being exported. Some **walnut** orchards were blooming.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Tulare County, **squash** was being planted in hot tunnels. New fields were being prepared for spring planting. **Cucumbers** were being planted under hot caps. **Blueberries** were blooming. **Strawberry** fields continued to thrive. Previously planted **onions** continued to progress well. In Monterey County, strawberry production was picking up and harvest crews were working. A few **brassica** fields were being harvested as well. Flood waters were receding.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and dryland pasture quality continued to improve with all the recent rainfall. Condition was excellent due to continued rainfall and warmer weather. Some cattle ranchers have increased their herd size in order to take advantage of the improved forage conditions. Bees were active in almond and early stone fruit orchards.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 03/19/2017

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION 1/			
	Average Week Ending 03/19/2017	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 - 03/19/2017	January 1 - 03/19/2017	July 1 - 03/19/2017	Week Ending 03/19/2017	July 1 - 03/19/2017	July 1 - 03/19/2017	July 1 - June 30
-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days 3/ -	-- Inches of Precipitation --				
North Coast											
Eureka WFO	54	5	62	43	1	0	100	1.36	45.05	31.17	38.10
Ukiah	62	10	82	39	21	0	78	0.03	44.49	33.50	38.90
Santa Rosa	61	7	80	39	12	0	70	0.00	51.64	26.98	31.01
Napa State Hospital	62	8	81	43	20	0	60	0.00	37.44	22.89	26.46
Central Coast											
San Francisco	62	8	77	48	18	0	63	0.00	26.87	17.49	20.11
San Jose	63	6	81	46	42	6	57	0.00	15.48	12.71	15.08
Salinas	62	7	85	45	27	0	42	0.00	12.32	10.92	12.91
Monterey	59	5	77	46	13	0	60	0.00	21.10	17.07	20.35
King City Ag	62	7	90	43	33	0	41	0.00	13.62	10.48	12.30
Paso Robles	63	9	84	42	24	0	45	0.00	12.57	11.36	13.08
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	61	9	82	41	24	0	75	0.31	39.23	27.18	33.52
Red Bluff	61	7	82	42	28	0	65	0.03	25.13	20.06	24.07
Willows 6W	61	8	78	44	18	0	51	0.01	22.34	16.12	19.03
Oroville	63	9	78	46	33	0	61	0.02	27.24	24.19	28.75
Marysville	62	6	79	42	23	1	58	0.00	23.42	18.55	22.07
Sacramento	63	9	79	44	25	0	60	0.00	27.83	15.37	17.93
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	63	8	83	43	37	0	60	0.00	17.89	11.58	13.84
Modesto	66	9	85	46	65	12	52	0.00	14.09	10.81	13.12
Merced Macready	62	7	81	42	22	0	50	0.00	13.51	10.37	12.50
Madera	65	10	85	44	60	0	47	0.00	13.13	9.66	11.94
Fresno	68	12	87	51	82	0	42	0.00	12.87	9.16	11.23
Lemoore NAS	64	8	88	40	39	0	39	0.00	8.68	6.44	7.89
Visalia	66	10	86	49	61	0	37	0.00	9.51	9.05	11.03
Bakersfield	69	12	90	51	116	17	38	0.00	7.27	5.25	6.49
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas	50	11	70	27	0	0	84	0.04	10.93	8.34	12.13
Mount Shasta	52	11	71	34	0	0	82	1.24	46.48	31.87	39.16
Blue Canyon	54	14	64	43	0	0	80	0.20	96.28	54.31	66.36
Yosemite Valley	53	8	70	27	0	0	55	0.00	53.96	31.03	37.73
South Coast											
Santa Maria	60	6	83	45	37	0	52	0.00	16.22	11.84	14.01
Santa Barbara	59	2	70	48	9	7	41	0.00	22.95	15.05	16.93
Oxnard NWS	60	3	72	47	59	15	39	0.00	21.35	13.80	15.62
Riverside	70	11	92	51	161	57	37	0.00	12.66	8.72	10.22
Los Angeles	60	2	70	50	58	102	40	0.00	15.76	11.54	13.15
San Diego	64	4	80	54	122	132	37	0.00	11.85	9.01	10.77
Southeast Interior											
Bishop	58	10	81	32	2	0	28	0.00	7.84	4.14	5.02
Daggett	71	13	90	52	132	24	20	0.00	4.22	3.64	4.17
Lancaster ATC	64	12	86	38	34	0	32	0.00	6.44	6.50	7.40
Thermal	76	11	100	54	289	178	22	0.00	3.98	3.27	3.53
Blythe	76	12	97	55	290	154	21	0.00	4.65	3.72	4.02
Imperial CA	78	14	97	57	332	184	17	0.00	2.37	2.77	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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