



California Crop Weather

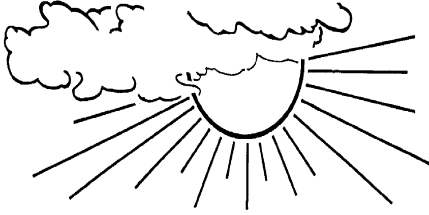
Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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WEATHER



A series of unseasonably strong and cold low pressure systems moved through the West Coast this week. This brought cool, blustery weather and spread a few showers across the State. Generally, temperatures were well below normal for most of the State, with the possible exception of an occasional hot day in the southeastern deserts. Precipitation was widely scattered, but light. Snow fell on the highest elevations of the mountains across northern California. The pattern persisted throughout the week, with weak high pressure alternating with small low

pressure systems, resulting in continued cool temperatures and precipitation which, while light, was above normal for this late in the season.

FIELD CROPS

Cool temperatures slowed the growth of **cotton**, **rice**, and small grains. So far, pest pressure has been low in cotton fields. Rice crop preparation continued with fields being planted and treated for weeds. The **oat** and **wheat** harvests continued. Fields were being prepared for double cropping in Tulare County. **Alfalfa**, oats, and other forages continued to be cut, baled, or green chopped in the San Joaquin Valley. **Corn** fields were planted and sprayed for weeds. **Sunflower** and **bean** fields continued to be planted in the Sacramento Valley.

FRUIT CROPS

In the San Joaquin Valley, picking of Valencia **oranges** continued normally, the navel **orange** harvest continued at a slower pace, and the **tangerine** harvest was completed. **Lemons** and tangerines were harvested along the coast. Pesticides were applied to citrus groves to control early pests. **Olive** orchards showed healthy blooming in the San Joaquin Valley. The **cherry** harvest of early maturing varieties continued to increase, along with early **apricot** and **peach** varieties. Fungicide, herbicide, and fertilizer applications, as well as irrigation, were ongoing in **grape** vineyards in the Central Valley. Central Coast grape vineyards showed good vine development. The **blueberry** and **strawberry** harvests continued in the San Joaquin Valley, while strawberry nursery plants were being planted and harvested in Siskiyou and Lassen Counties.

NUT CROPS

Cool weather continued to delay development in **almond** orchards, though trees remained healthy and insect presence was limited. Small numbers of brown almond mites were present in orchards in the upper Central Valley, but miticide applications have kept populations under control. Blight and herbicide applications, along with irrigation, were ongoing in **walnut** orchards. The walnut, **pistachio**, and **pecan** blooms continued toward completion.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Dry bulb **onions** were emerging in Siskiyou County. It was still too cold to plant vegetables in Lassen County without proper cover. Sutter County's onion crops were treated for thrips, and the planting of **tomato** transplants progressed. Weed treatments were applied to **sweet corn**. In San Joaquin County, tomatoes were being planted along with sweet corn. Persistent cool weather prolonged the **asparagus** harvest past the normal season. Sweet corn, **squash** and tomatoes were a little behind schedule in Tulare County because the cool weather slowed vegetable growth. However, Kern County's **carrots** and **lettuce** harvests carried on without complication. Tomatoes were slowly growing in Fresno County, and were fertilized and treated for pests as weather permitted. Onions were treated for downy mildew, irrigated and fertilized. Carrots were also irrigated and treated with herbicides and fungicides. Asparagus harvest was completed in Merced County, but the **radicchio** and **parsley** harvests continued. **Bell peppers**, **cantaloupe**, **honeydew**, tomato and **watermelon** fields continued to be planted.

LIVESTOCK

Non-irrigated range began to dry out in some areas, while locations receiving precipitation continued to flourish. Livestock were expected to remain on the Sutter Buttes into June. Cattle were beginning to be moved to summer range in Siskiyou and Lassen Counties. Cattle and sheep continued to graze a few idle fields. Supplemental feeding of hay and nutrients continued in a few locations and began in some regions including Kern County. Bees were in citrus groves, onion and carrot seed fields while some were moved to olive groves. Some dairies and feedlots were still struggling to dry out from the late season rains and cool weather, while those in the southern parts of the State were faring better with warmer temperatures.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 5/23/10

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
	Average Week Ending 5/23/10	Departure from Normal	High	Low	This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
					January 1 - 5/23/10	January 1 - 5/23	Week Ending 5/23/10	July 1 - 5/23/10	July 1 - 5/23	July 1 - June 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Inches --			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	49	-5	62	0	38	0	1.09	39.01	37.08	38.32
Ukiah	--	--	--	--	12	28	0.00	23.66	38.49	39.36
Santa Rosa	55	-6	72	38	22	12	0.76	30.45	30.28	30.93
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	57	-3	66	47	12	0	0.07	20.89	20.01	20.33
San Jose	--	--	--	--	37	74	0.00	16.00	14.84	15.15
Salinas AP	57	-2	69	40	9	0	0.02	13.86	12.58	12.86
Monterey FAA	--	--	--	--	2	0	0.00	13.14	14.50	20.52
King City	58	-5	77	44	48	34	0.04	13.69	12.06	12.24
Paso Robles AP	60	-4	85	40	52	52	0.04	13.23	13.19	13.35
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	56	-11	73	34	86	146	0.13	30.06	33.66	35.74
Red Bluff FSS	58	-11	75	37	96	174	0.25	23.43	22.95	23.73
Chico AFS	58	-9	81	37	93	120	0.19	27.61	25.66	26.52
Marysville	59	-11	75	37	82	215	0.09	18.43	21.83	22.41
Sacramento AP	59	-7	76	40	78	116	0.03	20.16	17.53	17.96
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	60	-7	77	42	88	161	0.01	15.11	13.64	13.94
Fresno	63	-8	84	47	190	252	0.14	12.26	11.00	11.38
Bakersfield	63	-9	82	47	216	309	0.14	7.17	6.35	6.55
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	57	-1	76	39	12	0	0.18	15.56	13.98	14.19
Santa Barbara	62	2	84	50	44	0	0.14	20.86	17.09	17.46
Ventura	58	58	74	42	54	0	0.17	16.29	15.16	15.34
Los Angeles	64	-3	78	56	418	318	0.03	16.34	15.04	15.29
Riverside	--	--	--	--	237	189	*	*	10.53	10.73
San Diego AP	62	-3	71	55	178	182	0.00	10.99	10.60	10.78
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	58	-6	85	26	14	32	0.01	6.79	4.77	5.04
Lancaster	60	-7	85	41	116	127	0.00	7.64	7.74	7.86
Daggett AP	--	--	--	--	387	467	0.00	4.18	4.08	4.23
Thermal AP	76	-3	99	56	649	864	0.00	3.75	3.55	3.61
Blythe	--	--	--	--	767	931	0.00	4.70	4.04	4.08
Imperial	76	-2	101	57	764	896	0.00	3.72	2.99	3.02
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	45	-6	64	24	0	0	0.34	8.55	11.14	12.26
Mt. Shasta	46	-8	61	27	0	0	0.50	44.83	38.19	39.99
Blue Canyon	--	--	55	25	0	0	0.36	45.77	64.28	65.90
Yosemite	--	--	76	25	5	0	0.00	17.69	37.10	38.41

Normal is defined as average over the 30-year period 1961 through 1990. Dashes (- -) in Average Week Ending and Departure from Normal columns mean less than five days reporting, while in High and Low columns mean no days reporting.

Asterisks (*) indicate missing data.

Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data are quality controlled by the National Climatic Data Center, the accumulated growing degree day and precipitation values are updated.