



California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture
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WEEK ENDING: April 15, 2018
RELEASED: April 16, 2018

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 38 NO. 33

WEATHER

At Midweek, a passing cold front brought in cooler temperatures and a moderate amount of rainfall to northern California. In the mountains, snow levels fell to around 2,500 feet with the passing front. Dry conditions were observed across the state on Friday and into the weekend. Wet conditions returned on Sunday for parts of California.

Temperature highs for the week ranged in the 60s to 70s in the mountains, 70s to 80s in the valley, 60s to 90s along the coast, and 80s to 100s in the desert. Temperature lows for the week ranged from the 20s and 30s in the mountains, the 30s to 40s in the valley, 30s to 50s along the coast, and 30s to 50s in the desert region.

FIELD CROPS

The warm temperatures and recent precipitation helped winter forage crops' maturation. **Alfalfa** cutting began in the Central Valley. **Cotton** field preparation and planting was ongoing. **Corn** fields were prepared and planted as weather and soil conditions permitted. Ground preparation continued for spring forage. **Rice** fields were being prepared for planting.

FRUIT CROPS

Vineyards were leafing out and some were in the early stages of flowering. Stone fruit orchards continued to leaf out as the bloom period came to a close. New orchards were being planted. **Cherries** were sizing and some were beginning to show color. **Pomegranates** and **persimmons** continued to leaf out. Petal fall occurred in some citrus groves. The harvest of late variety Navel **oranges** continued and fruit was showing some grading issues. Citrus packing houses were starting to pack **Valencia** oranges. Seedless **tangerine** groves remained netted for the bloom. **Lemons** continued to be harvested and packed for the domestic market. Some citrus trees were being planted.

NUT CROPS

Walnuts and **pistachios** bloomed, and some orchards were pruned. This season's **almonds** were developing nicely. A good set was reported for almonds in many orchards in the San Joaquin Valley. Pistachio leaf out began. Catkins were developing on Chandler walnuts.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Artichokes were harvested in San Mateo County. **Parsley**, **spinach**, **fennel**, and **radicchio** continued to grow well in Fresno, with fields being prepared for fresh market **tomatoes**, **carrots**, and bell **peppers**. The **blueberry** bloom finished, and the fields were treated for weeds. A freeze damaged **strawberries** in Fresno County but regrowth has been good. Strawberries continued to be planted in Tulare County, and summer vegetable fields were prepared for planting. Carrots continued to be harvested in Imperial County.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and non-irrigated pasture quality continued to improve with the spring rains. Sheep grazed on retired crop land. Some beehives were stacked and moved to citrus and plum orchards. Out of state hives brought in for the almond bloom were beginning to be moved out of California. Some hives were moved into alfalfa to build up colony numbers. Branding of spring calves was reported in Fresno County.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 04/15/2018

| STATIONS | TEMPERATURE | | | | GROWING DEGREE HOURS AT 60°F BASE | | RAIN DAYS | PRECIPITATION 1/ | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| | Average Week Ending 04/15/2018 | 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- 04/15/2018 | January 1- 04/15/2018 | July 1- 04/15/2018 | Week Ending 04/15/2018 | July 1- 04/15/2018 | July 1- 04/15/2018 | July 1- June 30 |
| -- Degrees Fahrenheit -- | | | | -- Number -- | | -- Days 3/ -- | -- Inches of Precipitation -- | | | | |
| North Coast | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Eureka WFO | 52 | 1 | 64 | 41 | 6 | 0 | 102 | 156 | 35.01 | 36.37 | 40.33 |
| Ukiah | 54 | 0 | 78 | 37 | 34 | 3 | 69 | 163 | 23.42 | 34.37 | 37.35 |
| Santa Rosa | 54 | -1 | 75 | 35 | 23 | 2 | 59 | 0.57 | 24.20 | 33.79 | 36.28 |
| Napa State Hospital | 61 | 3 | 78 | 42 | 50 | 22 | 41 | 0.00 | 19.30 | 25.86 | 27.71 |
| Central Coast | | | | | | | | | | | |
| San Francisco | 58 | 1 | 73 | 47 | 59 | 10 | 51 | 0.49 | 14.18 | 19.56 | 20.65 |
| San Jose | 59 | 1 | 79 | 46 | 96 | 44 | 45 | 0.17 | 8.95 | 13.95 | 14.90 |
| Salinas | 57 | 1 | 81 | 42 | 62 | 12 | 37 | 0.23 | 6.73 | 12.03 | 12.83 |
| Monterey | 56 | 2 | 78 | 42 | 40 | 0 | 49 | 0.78 | 14.16 | 15.02 | 16.12 |
| King City Ag | 63 | 5 | 86 | 41 | 57 | 44 | 33 | 0.02 | 6.98 | 11.40 | 12.06 |
| Paso Robles | 62 | 6 | 85 | 43 | 36 | 13 | 32 | 0.04 | 9.17 | 14.51 | 15.20 |
| Sacramento Valley | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Redding | 57 | 0 | 80 | 37 | 96 | 43 | 55 | 0.35 | 19.28 | 30.88 | 34.62 |
| Red Bluff | 58 | 0 | 77 | 40 | 120 | 42 | 46 | 0.24 | 13.56 | 22.01 | 24.49 |
| Willows 6W | 58 | -1 | 77 | 40 | 75 | 49 | 26 | 0.00 | 6.89 | 21.34 | 23.53 |
| Oroville | 59 | 1 | 76 | 41 | 86 | 38 | 46 | 0.39 | 15.56 | 29.05 | 31.52 |
| Marysville | 58 | 0 | 74 | 39 | 56 | 24 | 46 | 0.24 | 14.85 | 20.39 | 22.75 |
| Sacramento | 58 | 1 | 75 | 35 | 40 | 15 | 45 | 0.24 | 13.89 | 19.53 | 21.18 |
| San Joaquin Valley | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stockton | 61 | 2 | 78 | 41 | 92 | 20 | 42 | 0.06 | 8.80 | 13.04 | 14.06 |
| Modesto | 61 | 0 | 77 | 45 | 92 | 70 | 36 | 0.02 | 7.58 | 11.94 | 13.11 |
| Merced Macready | 59 | 1 | 77 | 42 | 64 | 21 | 33 | 0.00 | 6.26 | 11.33 | 12.50 |
| Madera | 60 | 2 | 79 | 41 | 84 | 33 | 29 | 0.02 | 7.04 | 10.88 | 12.02 |
| Fresno | 64 | 3 | 85 | 44 | 168 | 68 | 29 | 0.00 | 6.56 | 10.45 | 11.50 |
| Lemoore NAS | 62 | 2 | 87 | 38 | 120 | 49 | 20 | 0.00 | 3.66 | 7.33 | 7.91 |
| Visalia | 60 | -1 | 86 | 41 | 74 | 62 | 32 | 0.05 | 5.77 | 10.06 | 10.93 |
| Bakersfield | 66 | 4 | 93 | 46 | 256 | 92 | 22 | 0.00 | 4.38 | 6.00 | 6.47 |
| Cascade Sierra | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alturas | 45 | 2 | 71 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 76 | 0.47 | 10.29 | 11.08 | 14.17 |
| Mount Shasta | 46 | 0 | 73 | 27 | 0 | 0 | 64 | 0.97 | 18.51 | 38.47 | 43.21 |
| Blue Canyon | 45 | 1 | 67 | 25 | 2 | 0 | 73 | 1.46 | 56.22 | 57.53 | 64.62 |
| Yosemite Valley | 50 | 0 | 73 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 63 | 0.26 | 33.64 | 33.13 | 36.73 |
| South Coast | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Santa Maria | 59 | 4 | 88 | 43 | 84 | 3 | 27 | 0.03 | 6.22 | 13.23 | 13.95 |
| Santa Barbara | 67 | 6 | 92 | 52 | 108 | 80 | 27 | 0.00 | 9.54 | 18.55 | 19.43 |
| Oxnard NWS | 65 | 7 | 93 | 47 | 140 | 105 | 24 | 0.00 | 6.39 | 14.56 | 15.33 |
| Riverside | 70 | 8 | 96 | 52 | 338 | 153 | 21 | 0.00 | 4.59 | 11.56 | 12.40 |
| Los Angeles | 66 | 6 | 82 | 56 | 214 | 106 | 18 | 0.00 | 3.76 | 12.25 | 12.82 |
| San Diego | 67 | 8 | 92 | 50 | 310 | 107 | 13 | 0.00 | 2.16 | 10.60 | 11.16 |
| Southeast Interior | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bishop | 61 | 7 | 86 | 30 | 56 | 4 | 5 | 0.00 | 0.53 | 4.69 | 5.17 |
| Daggett | 67 | 3 | 93 | 41 | 266 | 138 | 14 | 0.00 | 1.25 | 3.89 | 4.06 |
| Lancaster ATC | 61 | 3 | 87 | 35 | 100 | 39 | 17 | 0.00 | 2.77 | 7.11 | 7.38 |
| Thermal | 78 | 8 | 102 | 45 | 692 | 338 | 4 | 0.00 | 1.76 | 3.13 | 3.20 |
| Blythe | 77 | 7 | 98 | 54 | 576 | 364 | 8 | 0.00 | 0.87 | 3.76 | 3.83 |
| Imperial CA | 75 | 6 | 97 | 50 | 628 | 342 | 8 | 0.00 | 0.70 | 3.33 | 3.44 |

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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