



# California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture  
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**WEEK ENDING: October 17, 2021**  
**RELEASED: October 18, 2021**

**FREQUENCY: Weekly**  
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## WEATHER

Temperature lows for California ranged from mid 10s to low 50s in the mountains, mid 20s to low 60s in the desert, mid 30s to low 60s along the coast, and mid 30s to high 50s in the valley. Temperature highs for the state ranged from low 40s to low 80s in the mountains, mid 50s to low 90s along the coast, high 50s to low 90s in the desert, and high 60s to low 90s in the valley.

## FIELD CROPS

Across the Central Valley, **alfalfa** hay production was winding down and quality test results were variable. **Corn** silage harvest neared completion. Groundwork continued in preparation for fall and winter plantings. In the Sacramento Valley, **rice** harvest continued. Some growers reported they did not purchase water for their final cutting of alfalfa due to high water costs. In the San Joaquin Valley, **cotton** defoliation was ramping up. Cotton harvest was slow as producers waited for the top bolls to open. Modules were stored in fields and trucked to gin yards. A few gins were operating and a couple gin breakdowns were reported. In Stanislaus County, **dry beans** continued to be cut and dried. In Tulare County, some corn fields for silage and some alfalfa fields remained to be harvested. Fields were leveled and prepped for winter grain planting. In Imperial County, strong winds dried some hay on the ground.

## FRUIT CROPS

Stone fruit harvest was nearing completion. Hand pruning continued where necessary. **Prune**, **pear**, and **nectarine** harvests continued to wind down for the season. Late-variety **peach** and **plum** harvests were ongoing in Tulare County. **Kiwifruit** and **pomegranate** harvests were steady. **Grape** harvest was still taking place by a few producers. Grapes that weren't harvested were covered with plastic to protect against the heavy winds. Valencia **orange** and **grapefruit** harvests continued. **Lemon** and **lime** harvest began. Citrus groves were pruned, fertilized, and sprayed to control weeds. **Olive** harvest was ongoing. **Strawberries** were harvested.

## NUT CROPS

**Walnut** and **pistachio** harvests were strong and steady.

## VEGETABLE CROPS

Across the state, **winter squash** were harvested. In San Mateo County, **brussels sprouts**, **tomatoes**, **lettuce**, and **peppers** were harvested. **Pumpkin** harvest continued. In Siskiyou County, **carrots** and **onions** were harvested. In Tulare County, pumpkins were harvested and sold at roadside stands. Some heirloom tomatoes, **eggplants**, and hot peppers were harvested. Harvest of summer vegetables neared completion.

## LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and non-irrigated pasture continued to be in very poor condition, despite light rains in some locations. Irrigated pasture remained in good to excellent condition. Supplemental feeding and watering of cattle was ongoing. As the first snow fell in the mountains, cattle continued to be moved down from higher elevation range in preparation for winter. Sheep grazed on retired cropland and harvested grain fields. Beekeepers provided supplemental pollen and began preparing hives for overwintering.

**NOTE:** USDA NASS is considering changing the base temperature used to calculate growing degree days (found in the table below) from 60 °F to 50 °F. Your feedback on this change is welcomed. Please contact Sav Moore at [savanna.moore@usda.gov](mailto:savanna.moore@usda.gov) or 916-738-6620 with your comments. Thank you.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 17, 2021											
STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS <sup>1</sup> AT 60 °F BASE		RAIN DAYS	PRECIPITATION <sup>2</sup>			
	Average for Week Ending Oct 17, 2021	Departure from Normal <sup>3</sup>	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year <sup>3</sup>	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season <sup>3</sup>	Normal Year <sup>3</sup>
					Jan 1 - Oct 17, 2021	Jan 1 - Oct 17, 2021	Oct 1 - Oct 17, 2021	Week Ending Oct 17, 2021	Oct 1 - Oct 17, 2021	Oct 1 - Oct 17	Oct 1 - Sept 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days <sup>4</sup> --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			
<b>North Coast</b>											
Eureka WFO	49	-6	63	36	31	0	3	0.77	0.80	0.85	40.53
Ukiah	58	-3	86	35	2281	1492	1	0.21	0.21	0.57	37.61
Santa Rosa	58	-3	85	37	1085	955	1	0.08	0.08	0.71	36.51
Napa State Hospital	58	-1	85	37	892	698	1	0.05	0.05	0.37	20.52
<b>Central Coast</b>											
San Francisco	61	-1	81	50	836	575	1	0.03	0.03	0.36	20.79
San Jose	61	-4	76	43	1412	1505	0	0.00	0.00	0.34	15.02
Salinas	59	-3	77	40	748	507	0	0.00	0.00	0.25	12.91
Monterey	62	3	87	46	648	148	1	0.20	0.20	0.35	16.23
Paso Robles	59	-3	87	34	2112	1617	1	0.00	0.01	0.25	12.87
<b>Sacramento Valley</b>											
Redding	61	-4	83	42	3389	2629	1	0.12	0.12	0.81	34.80
Red Bluff	62	-4	82	44	3386	2638	1	0.06	0.06	0.47	24.63
Willows	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oroville	62	-3	84	43	3223	2429	1	0.12	0.12	0.49	31.72
Marysville	61	-3	83	41	2794	2185	1	0.09	0.09	0.47	22.88
Sacramento	61	-3	82	43	2593	2039	1	0.03	0.03	0.29	21.35
<b>San Joaquin Valley</b>											
Stockton	59	-6	81	38	2251	2146	1	0.02	0.02	0.32	14.14
Modesto	60	-7	81	39	2590	2586	1	0.00	0.01	0.29	13.19
Merced Macready	60	-4	84	39	2885	2236	1	0.00	0.04	0.26	12.59
Madera	61	-4	84	39	2872	2366	1	0.00	0.05	0.27	12.10
Fresno	63	-4	84	46	3782	3012	1	0.00	0.40	0.25	11.57
Lemoore	60	-5	86	36	3183	2389	1	0.00	0.20	0.23	7.95
Visalia	60	-6	84	40	3185	2633	1	0.00	0.03	0.24	10.99
Bakersfield	63	-5	87	45	3966	3136	0	0.00	0.00	0.11	6.51
<b>Cascade Sierra</b>											
Alturas	43	-4	77	16	897	401	4	0.04	0.10	0.42	14.22
Mount Shasta	48	-4	78	31	1344	585	2	0.29	0.29	0.83	43.48
Blue Canyon	49	-6	67	29	1571	800	4	0.66	1.05	1.54	65.00
Yosemite Valley	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>South Coast</b>											
Santa Maria	60	-1	85	39	607	417	0	0.00	0.00	0.22	14.05
Santa Barbara	61	-1	85	43	832	688	3	0.00	0.22	0.34	17.89
Oxnard	63	0	90	47	990	745	3	0.00	0.11	0.31	14.71
Riverside	65	-4	89	46	2998	2625	2	0.00	0.21	0.10	12.50
Los Angeles	66	0	88	53	1436	1299	3	0.00	0.08	0.24	12.92
San Diego	65	-2	86	50	2044	1576	3	0.00	0.97	0.25	10.42
<b>Southeast Interior</b>											
Bishop	51	-6	80	24	2379	1761	0	0.00	0.00	0.15	5.21
Daggett	61	-8	82	40	4628	3898	0	0.00	0.00	0.10	4.08
Lancaster	56	-7	80	31	3361	2680	0	0.00	0.00	0.18	7.43
Thermal	66	-8	90	41	5413	4712	1	0.00	0.01	0.13	3.22
Blythe	69	-6	89	47	5823	5274	1	0.00	0.07	0.10	3.85
Imperial	69	-6	90	47	5414	5008	1	0.00	0.02	0.20	3.46

<sup>1</sup> Previously labeled as growing degree hours. The column title was corrected in the Sept 27, 2021 report.

<sup>2</sup> Rain or melted snow/ice.

<sup>3</sup> Normal periods 1980-2010 used in departure from normal calculations.

<sup>4</sup> Total number of days with precipitation events this season.

Data retrieved from NOAA and NWS. Calculated by USDA NASS.  
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