

Today is _____, _____ the _____. This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about _____ when we return

Mexico Won't Negotiate NAFTA Via Twitter

Mexico declared over the weekend the nation would not negotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement via social media. The announcement followed another post on Twitter by President Donald Trump calling NAFTA the "worst deal ever made." Trump wrote on Twitter that Canada and Mexico were being "very difficult" and suggested he "may have to terminate" the trade agreement. Many dismissed Trump's latest Twitter barrage as a negotiating ploy in advance of the second round of NAFTA talks, which are scheduled to take place in Mexico City next week, according to the Los Angeles Times. Agriculture is among several industries that benefit from NAFTA and have expressed concerns about the prospect of terminating the trade deal.

China, India, Call for End of Farm Subsidies by U.S., Others

China and India are calling for an end to farm subsidies by others, including the European Union and the United States. India-based newspaper Live Mint, a collaboration with the Wall Street Journal, reports China and India have jointly proposed the elimination of \$160 billion of farm subsidies in the U.S., European Union and other wealthy nations. The move comes months before the World Trade Organization is set for annual ministerial meetings in December. At issue is the Aggregate Measurement of Support, which China and India call the "most trade distorting element in the global trade in agriculture," referring to allowable domestic support measures.

WEEK ENDING: August 27, 2017

RELEASED: August 28, 2017

WEATHER

Another relatively uneventful week across the State, with mostly dry conditions and increasing temperatures at the end of the week. This was primarily due to a strengthening mid-level ridge over the western United States.

A mostly dry week with only very localized scattered showers across parts of the Sierras Monday and Tuesday. These showers were generally very light, with most areas receiving less than a quarter inch of rainfall. Shower coverage was approximately 30 percent in the Sierras, with all other reliable locations reporting no measurable precipitation this week. Patchy snow continued at elevated, sheltered areas in the Lassen Volcanic Park, with a maximum depth of two feet in places. In addition, there were still two to four feet of snow on the peak of Shasta.

Temperature highs were in the 50s to 60s along the coast, 70s to 90s in the mountains, 80s to 100s in the valley, and highs in the 90s to 110s in the desert. Temperature lows were in the 40s to 50s in the mountains, 50s to 60s along the coast, and 60s to 80s in the valley and the desert.

FIELD CROPS

Alfalfa continued to be cut and baled. **Safflower** was drying in the field. **Sorghum** for silage was cultivated and irrigated. **Cotton** was blooming and forming bolls, and continued to be irrigated. **Corn** for silage was harvested. Black-eyed **beans** were maturing and nearing harvest. **Rice** was heading ahead of schedule.

FRUIT CROPS

Peach, **nectarine**, **pear**, **fig**, and **plum** harvest continued. Harvested stone fruit orchards were pruned and topped. Table **grape** harvest continued as wine grape harvest began. Valencia **orange** and finger **lime** harvest were ongoing. Irrigation and repair of irrigation systems continued. **Olives** were developing well.

NUT CROPS

Almond harvest was underway. **Walnut** and **pistachio** orchards continued to be irrigated. Both mechanical and chemical weed control continued in orchards.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In San Mateo County, acres of beans and peas were in full bloom ready to set pods. In Colusa, Sacramento, Solano, and Yolo Counties, processing tomatoes were being harvested. In Tulare County, certified producers were picking tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, and peppers for sale at local Farmer's Markets. Yellow squash, zucchini, eggplant, Bell peppers, green chili peppers, and cucumbers continued to be harvested, packed, and shipped domestically. Sweet corn harvest continued and was available for sale at roadside stands and local Farmer's Markets.

LIVESTOCK

Low elevation non-irrigated pasture and rangeland quality continued to deteriorate. Range conditions were reported to be fair to very poor. As the nutritional quality of range grasses diminished supplemental feeding increased. Some cattle were moved to higher elevations. Sheep grazed retired pasture and dormant alfalfa.