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

• <u>Perdue Talks with California Farmers</u>

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue has been in California (Sunday and Monday) meeting with farmers and listening to their concerns. (Gary Crawford and Sec'y Sonny Perdue)

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER WEEK ENDING: November 5, 2017 RELEASED: November 6, 2017

WEATHER

The northern portion of the State received about three inches of precipitation last week. Some stations along the north and central coast reported about a quarter inch of precipitation.

Temperature highs were in the 60s to 70s in the mountains and along the coast, and 70s to 80s in the valley and in the desert. Temperature lows were in the 20s to 30s in the mountains, 20s to 50s in the desert, 30s to 50s along the coast, and 40s to 50s in the valley.

FIELD CROPS

Rice harvest neared completion. Cotton continued to be harvested for lint and seed, and farmers were expecting a decent yield. Alfalfa fields were still going strong, and continued to be irrigated, cut and baled. Corn and sudan grass for silage was being cut and chopped. Black-eyed beans were being harvested and processed. Most summer crops have been harvested, and fields were being prepared for winter planting. Winter wheat was planted.

FRUIT CROPS

Apple harvest has been completed. Wine grape harvest was almost completed. Plums in cold storage were being packed and exported to foreign markets. Pruning has started in some stone fruit orchards. Some old orchards were being removed and prepared for replanting. Quince, pomegranates, kiwifruit, and some persimmons were being packed and exported for foreign and domestic marketplaces. Persimmon harvest was well underway, with cooler weather helping external color. Thompson seedless grapes were being rolled and picked up for raisins. Table grape harvest was nearing completion and grapes were being exported to foreign markets. Navel oranges were being picked and tested for maturity. Citrus orchards were being skirted and trimmed for the coming season. Melogold grapefruit, lemons, and limes were harvested. Olive harvest neared completion.

NUT CROPS

Almond harvest was complete, with orchard pruning being done and planting of new orchards ongoing. Walnuts and pistachio nuts continued to be harvested and exported.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Squash, carrots, asparagus, cauliflower, tomatoes, yams, turnips, and fall vegetables were in season. Onion planting was ongoing for next year. Yellow bell peppers and green chili peppers were being harvested, and yields were adequate. Weed control in carrot fields was ongoing. In Monterey County, many late-season lettuces, broccoli and cauliflower were growing. Strawberry fields were being planted and prepped for next year's production. In San Joaquin County, cantaloupe harvest neared completion.

LIVESTOCK

Non-irrigated and foothill rangeland forage was primarily in poor to very poor condition. Despite the first rains of the season, more precipitation will be needed before the grasses will germinate and rangelands will be flush with new green. Supplemental feeding of cattle was ongoing. Cattle were moved down from high elevation range. Sheep continued to graze harvested grain fields.