



IN THIS ISSUE, YOU'LL FIND:

- [Goleta Water District Drought Surcharge Public Hearing, June 16th](#)
- [Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer Approaches Ventura County Border](#)
- [Irrigation Efficiency Field Day Event June 30th at Pine Tree Ranch](#)
- [Two Important California Agricultural Surveys Underway](#)
- [NRCS Provides Additional \\$21 Million in EQIP Funding](#)
- [Reed Avocado Release Dates](#)
- [Santa Barbara Foodie Retreat Results in More Than 300,000 Impressions](#)
- [CAC Launches the California Avocado Sandwich Campaign Online](#)
- [Online Cinco de Mayo Campaign Generates Second-highest Web Traffic of the Year](#)
- [Summertime LTO Menus Showcase California Avocados Across the Nation](#)
- [CAC Showcases California Avocado Menu Items at Three Chicago Events](#)
- [Market Trends](#)
- [Weather Outlook](#)

Calendar

For a listing of industry events and dates for the coming year, please visit:

<http://www.californiaavocadogrowers.com/commission/calendar>

Pest Management Seminar and PSHB Update

The California Association of Pest Control Advisers (CAPCA) is offering a six-hour seminar for PCAs, QALs, QACs, CCAs, private applicators, arborists and other license and certificate holders. Registration required. More information [here](#).

June 17

Time: 7:30 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Location: Burbank Elks Lodge #1497, 2232 North Hollywood Way, Burbank, CA

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Workshop

Ventura County avocado growers are invited to attend a free groundwater workshop to learn more about the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and its implications for growers in the Ventura County area. Registration required. More information [here](#).

June 19

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Courtyard Marriott, 600 E. Esplanade Drive, Oxnard, CA

Irrigation Efficiency Field Day Event

Dr. Styles, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, will be the guest speaker at the event. Dr. Styles is an expert in principles of irrigation and specializes in irrigation and project efficiency improvement, management, design and evaluation. More information [here](#).

June 30

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: Pine Tree Ranch, 19455 E. Telegraph Road, Santa Paula, CA

Goleta Water District Drought Surcharge Public Hearing, June 16th

As previously reported, the Goleta Water District has approved a \$2.60 per HCF drought surcharge on all customers to begin July 1, 2015. A public hearing is set for June 16, 2015, 5:30 pm at the Goleta Union School, 401 N. Fairview Ave., Goleta. Members of the public will be allowed to provide comments. If you are a Goleta Water District customer we urge you to provide comments at the public hearing or write a letter opposing (information below) the level of the proposed drought surcharge on agriculture.

[Here is a letter](#) that was sent to each of the Goleta Water District board members outlining what the Commission believes to be a more reasonable approach. We are suggesting a drought surcharge on agricultural customers of \$1.21 per HCF, an amount which is more proportionate to existing rates. Considering the very bleak supply situation we fully understand and support the District's mandatory 35% reduction in use.

If you are planning to provide comments we'd ask that you acknowledge the dire supply situation, your willingness to conserve, and support of the Commission's proposed \$1.21 per HCF. Agriculture's position is made stronger if we speak with one voice. We cannot just show up and say "what you've proposed won't work!" It's important that we offer some middle ground.

HOW TO PROTEST:

1. A public hearing has been scheduled for June 16, 2015, 5:30 pm at the Goleta Union School, 401 N. Fairview Ave., Goleta. Members of the public will be allowed to provide comments.
2. Deliver your protest signed and in writing, including your name and service address (or parcel number) to the Goleta Water District at 4699 Hollister Avenue, Goleta, CA 93110 prior to the District's consideration of this item June 16, 2015.
3. Protests may also be mailed to the District at P.O. Box 3370, Santa Barbara, CA 93130 or submitted at the June 16, 2015 public hearing. Faxed or e-mailed protests cannot be accepted. Protests are public records.

The following points may be incorporated into your protest:

- The proposed drought surcharge of \$2.60 will seriously jeopardize the future of avocado farming in Goleta;
- A loss of agriculture will go beyond the immediate economic impacts on farmers, their employees, and the businesses they support;
- Avocado groves in Goleta are a hedge against fire and urban expansion;
- Farms generate local taxes while placing low demands on city services;
- Avocado groves provide open space, environmental benefits, and add aesthetic qualities to the landscape;
- Crops do not require treated water so the agricultural sector is not driving needed capital improvements for water treatment or system expansion;
- A recent Southern California Public Opinion Poll found that nearly 75 percent of residents believe that farmers should receive reduced water rates;
- Those surveyed showed an overwhelming support for paying higher water rates in order to keep agriculture as part of the economy;

- It is my view that Goleta residents understand and appreciate the benefits that result from the presence of agriculture in the community;
- Public policy decisions should take into consideration the value of maintaining an agricultural base.

Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer Approaches Ventura County Border

On June 11, 2015, the Commission learned from UC Researchers Drs. Akif Eskalen and Richard Stouthamer, that the Los Angeles population of the polyphagous shot hole borer (PSHB) had been detected near the Los Angeles / Ventura County border. Specifically, two traps near Sylmar and Granada Hills along the I-5 corridor had three and four beetles each, respectively. A third trap near Woodland Hills along the 101-Freeway corridor had 10 beetles, but the samples were too degraded for DNA verification, thus this determination is based on physical characteristics of the beetles. In addition, beetle attacks were found on sycamore trees near the Granada Hills trap.

These finds are each approximately 10 miles from the previously known limit of the beetle, and place the beetle within about 4 to 7 miles of the Ventura County border. Each of these new finds has been identified on the PSHB interactive map available on Dr. Akif Eskalen's website (<http://eskalenlab.ucr.edu/distribution.html>) and can be seen in the image below. To see a larger version on the image, click [here](#).

Growers are reminded to continue to be vigilant about surveying their trees and other known host species on or near their property for signs of the beetle. Although these recent finds were discovered in detection traps, the traps and lures are not perfect and there have been instances of infested trees being found by visual symptoms prior to trap detections.

If you find a suspected attack you should contact your PCA or Farm Advisor. Samples can be submitted to UC Riverside for confirmation using the form available on Dr. Eskalen's website (<http://eskalenlab.ucr.edu/specimen.html>). However, the submission protocols must be followed as outlined on the website. For beetle sample submission the following are provided as guidelines to ensure sample integrity for proper identification:

1. Separate the insects from plant material and dirt.
2. Place specimens in vials with some preservative (preferred preservative 95% ethanol, rubbing alcohol is ok).
3. Keep vials in refrigerator or freezer until they are shipped (if shipped by mail, pour out most of the preservative before shipping).
4. Give detailed information on who collected the specimens, their contact information, and where the specimens were collected (county, town, location within town, if possible gps coordinates, host plant or other method of collecting the specimens).

CAC Staff visit CDFA and DPR

On Thursday June 11, 2015, Ken Melban, CAC's VP of Industry Affairs, and Tim Spann, CAC's Research Program Director, met with Nick Condos, CDFA Director of Plant Protection and Plant Health, and Jill Townzen, Department of Pesticide Regulation Senior Environmental Scientist. Both meetings were related to PSHB. With CDFA, we continued to stress the urgency of the PSHB issue and the need for additional support to supplement CAC's major investment. We learned that there will be a small surplus of funds in the current fiscal year that will carry into the new fiscal year. These funds can be used to support research and are allocated at the discretion of Secretary Ross. We requested that a previous proposal submitted to CDFA by CAC be put back in the queue for these funds. There will likely be a meeting in August or September to discuss allocation of these funds and CAC will continue to monitor the situation and return to Sacramento if needed.

In our meeting with DPR, we laid the ground work for the submission of two Section 18 emergency exemption requests to be submitted in the coming months. We are targeting submitting section 18s for Hero, a pesticide, and Tilt, a fungicide, both to assist growers in the fight against PSHB and Fusarium dieback. We learned there has only ever been one previous instance for two section 18s simultaneously for a pest complex. It was important for CAC to have face-to-face communications with those who will be reviewing our applications so they understand the urgency of the situation and the reasons for our requests. Likewise, it was beneficial for us to hear from them where the potential sticking points are so we can refine our requests and have the best possible chance for success. As a reminder, the Section 18 process will take several months once the final packet is submitted. Realistically, any materials that we receive a Section 18 for will not be available for grower use until the end of the year.

Irrigation Efficiency Field Day Event June 30th at Pine Tree Ranch

The California Avocado Commission (CAC) will host an Irrigation Efficiency Field Day on June 30 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m at the Pine Tree Ranch Demonstration Grove. The seminar will focus on:

- Reducing agricultural water use
- Measuring the efficiency of an irrigation system
- Improving irrigation system efficiency

Dr. Styles, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, will be the guest speaker at the event. Dr. Styles is an expert in principles of irrigation and specializes in irrigation and project efficiency improvement, management, design and evaluation.

For more information, contact Dr. Tim Spann, CAC research program director, at tspann@avocado.org or 949.341.1955.

Two Important California Agricultural Surveys Underway

Two surveys critical to gathering California agricultural data concerning crops, stocks, inventories and values are being conducted in June. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is conducting the surveys. The first is the June Agricultural Survey (Crops/Stocks Survey); the second is the June Area Survey.

NASS will survey more than 2,600 agricultural operations across California and Nevada. Surveys are conducted via mail, online or phone. California avocado growers who receive the surveys, or are contacted by NASS, are encouraged to complete the surveys. All information collected will be kept confidential, and will provide important data concerning crop production and supply levels.

Survey data will be compiled and shared in a number of reports, including the annual Acreage report, annual Crop Production reports and the USDA's monthly World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates. These reports will be available [online](#).

NRCS Provides Additional \$21 Million in EQIP Funding

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will provide an additional \$21 million in technical and financial assistance for agricultural producers experiencing exceptional or extreme drought conditions through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Eligible EQIP program participants receive help implementing conservation practices and conservation planning that address natural resource concerns on their land. Payments are made to participants after conservation practices and activities identified in an EQIP plan of operations are implemented. Contracts can last up to ten years.

Applicants must:

- Control or own eligible land
- Comply with adjusted gross income limitation provisions
- Be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation requirements
- Develop a NRCS EQIP plan of operations

For more information, visit the [California EQIP page](#). This website includes an [EQIP Fact Sheet](#), [eligibility requirements](#) and a “[Get Started](#)” tool that helps growers locate a service center, receive technical assistance, determine eligibility and complete the application.

Applications are accepted year-round.

Reed Avocado Release Dates

The California Department of Food and Agriculture’s Avocado Inspection Program (AIP) has announced the release date for Reed avocados, for the 2014/2015 season. As of June 5, 2015, Reed avocados, sizes 20, 24 and 28, have been released.

The official announcement is available [here](#).

For further questions regarding avocado maturity release dates please contact AIP at 760.743.4712.

Santa Barbara Foodie Retreat Results in More Than 300,000 Impressions

Participants at the weekend-long Santa Barbara Foodie Escape Retreat savored avocado-centric meals courtesy of the California Avocado Commission (CAC). The retreat presented an opportunity to showcase the versatility of California avocados to food bloggers from Beyond Frosting; Life Love and Sugar; Crazy for Crust; Joyful Healthy Eats; The Domestic Rebel; Chocolate, Chocolate and More; Taste and Tell; and Yummy, Healthy, Easy.

The food bloggers reacted enthusiastically to the meals featuring California avocados — sharing recipes and photos with their fans and generating 307,189 impressions on Facebook, Instagram and foodie blog posts.



Our first meal together was a grilled cheese bar for lunch. We made our own grilled cheese sandwiches with a selection of items like Cabot cheese, bacon, and California Avocados.



Crazy for Crust shared menu ideas that included California avocados on grilled cheese sandwiches.

CAC Launches the California Avocado Sandwich Campaign Online

The California Avocado Commission (CAC) has launched a California [sandwich page](#) on CaliforniaAvocado.com and its associated social media channels. The California avocado sandwich page showcases California sandwich recipes — dovetailing the Commission’s sandwich campaign with the ongoing “Distinctly Californian” campaign. A key message is educating consumers that California sandwiches are those that feature fresh California avocados.

A variety of sandwich recipes are featured on the landing page, including one created by the Axell family — a family of California avocado growers. To build awareness around the campaign, the Commission is utilizing its social media channels to drive traffic to the landing page.

Timing for this initiative coincides with June’s California Avocado Month. Look for more information about CAC’s sandwich campaign and California Avocado Month in upcoming editions of the GreenSheet.

RECIPES

Home / Recipes / Avocados for Breakfast

All Categories Our Favorites Guacamole & Dips Sandwiches, Burgers & Wraps Quick & Easy

WITHOUT CALIFORNIA AVOCADOS, IT'S JUST A TURKEY SANDWICH
Take a bite of freshness.

MAKE YOUR SANDWICH DISTINCTLY CALIFORNIAN WITH FRESH AVOCADOS

Ever notice when a restaurant offers a "California" sandwich it often has avocado on it? Co...
avocados grown in the USA are from California, and putting fresh, creamy California Avocados...
second nature here. Whether you artfully slice them for a tasty topping or smash them into a super creamy alternative
to mayo, California Avocados take your sandwich-making to the next level. Add the color. Add the flavor. Add the
texture. Add the California. Here are a few things to consider when creating your next sandwich:

- You can feel good about adding California Avocados to your sandwich. Avocados contribute nearly 20 vitamins, minerals and beneficial plant compounds that can enhance the nutrient quality of your diet.
- Make your sandwich a superhero. Because avocado is a superfood, adding it to your sandwiches makes them super, too—capes are optional, of course.
- More sandwich recipes. Or follow along as we feature a new sandwich for every day of the month of June in celebration of California Avocado Month!
- Enter to win! June is California Avocado Month and you're invited to celebrate by entering to win a shipment of free California grown avocados. Get the details.
- Get "inspired" with our California Avocado Sandwich board. From the Chicken, Bacon, and Avocado Panini to the Brio and Avocado toast, the possibilities are endless.

Extra California, Please: 7 Delectable Sandwich Recipes

California Lobster Roll Sandwich
Hunks of lobster and California Avocados make a sumptuous sandwich.

California Chicken Salad Sandwich
Serve the salad on flaky croissants for a sandwich with sophistication.

California Pulled Pork Sandwiches
California Avocados give this trusty fare a uniquely flavorful spin.

California Avocado Egg Salad Sandwich
Yogurt, mustard, and California Avocados make these eggs extraordinary.

AXELL FAMILY CALIFORNIA AVOCADO GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH
A California grower's take on a gloriously gooey grilled cheese.

California Avocado Chickpea Salad Sandwich
A vegan's dream, this mayo-free sandwich is refreshingly delicious.

California Roast Beef Sandwich
Roast beef, whipped cream cheese, horseradish, and California Avocados on a toasty togeth'er, please.

SHOW MORE RECIPES

CAC will utilize its social media channels to drive traffic to the new California avocado sandwich page in celebration of California Avocado Month.

Online Cinco de Mayo Campaign Generates Second-highest Web Traffic of the Year

On April 21, the California Avocado Commission (CAC) launched an integrated online Cinco de Mayo campaign including a Cinco de Mayo landing page, social media posts and email blasts. As a result, traffic to Californiaavocado.com peaked on Cinco de Mayo with 18,000 sessions — the second-highest web traffic day of the year. The Commission’s email marketing campaign was a key component of driving traffic to the website, accounting for 56 percent of the traffic to the Cinco de Mayo landing page. The campaign, which ended May 5, resulted in approximately 7,000 views of the Cinco de Mayo page.

In addition, the Commission reached 48,268 people with one promoted Facebook post and four posts that were not promoted. Avocado fans shared these posts 438 times and submitted 89 comments. The posts generated 2,174 likes and resulted in 258 link clicks. The Commission also reached out to its Twitter followers with seven Cinco de Mayo tweets.

The Commission’s integrated online Cinco de Mayo campaign clearly generated significant awareness and interest around an avocado consumption event in which nearly 93 MM pounds of avocados were consumed.

RECIPES Home / Recipes / Cinco de Mayo

All Categories Our Favorites Guacamole & Dips Sandwiches, Burgers & Wraps Quick & Easy

CALIFORNIA-FY YOUR CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION

Start the party with Margarita Guacamole >

A FRESH FIESTA WITH CALIFORNIA AVOCADOS

They say that California knows how to party – we have a feeling it starts when local, hand-grown California Avocados are on the menu. Why not throw a California-style Cinco de Mayo fiesta? From zesty guacamole to savory seven layer dip, California Avocados are on the menu of any Cinco de Mayo party worth its grain of (Margarita) salt. Here are a few ideas to refresh your fiesta:

- **Start with (p)inspiration!** Check out our [Pinterest board](#) for Cinco de Mayo party-planning tips, décor and recipes
- **Look at the produce labels** while grocery shopping – make sure you buy California-grown avocados. No ripe ones available? [Here's](#) how to ripen your California Avocado in time for the party
- **Consider your guests' dietary preferences.** Browse [Gluten Free](#), [Paleo Friendly](#) and [Diabetic Friendly](#) recipes. Have a vegetarian on your guest list? Check out these [vegetarian recipes](#).

If you are preparing guacamole, we want to see your best recipe! Show us your California Avocado guacamole on Instagram or Twitter – just tag with #CAGuacO!

Enjoy the 2015 California Avocado season with easy breakfast recipes featuring California Avocados.

- Avocado and Mango Salsa
Salty and sweet, this salsa will satisfy all your guests.
- Chipotle Chicken and California Avocado Quesadillas
Dizzle with Avocado Citrus Crema to dazzle your guests.
- Ultimate Seven-Layer Dip
Seven brightly-colored layers of fresh gratifying goodness.
- Citrus Tilapia with Crunchy California Avocado Fries & Pan-fried fish and Avocado Fries are a match made in culinary heaven.
- CRUNCHY CALIFORNIA AVOCADO FRITTERS**
You'll put this tasty appetizer in regular rotation.
- Avocado Tarts with Toasted Coconut
Guests will love the perfect presentation and creamy texture of this tasty tart.
- Spicy Pulled Pork Baked Taquitos with Cool California Cool Sauce for finger food with an extra zizzle.

SHOW MORE RECIPES...

The Commission’s Cinco de Mayo Landing page was viewed 7,000 times during the campaign.

Summertime LTO Menu Showcase California Avocados Across the Nation

Summer Limited Time Offer (LTO) menu items featuring California avocados provide optimal exposure for the fruit during its peak season. Not only can consumers enjoy unique menu items featuring California avocados, but on-site promotional materials, coupon advertising and social media posts drive additional brand awareness.

The California-based Johnny Rockets chain is celebrating local regional cuisine with a “Flavors of Route 66” promotion. Diners can enjoy the *California BLT Avocado Chicken Sandwich* in 180 units nationwide and 77 units in Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Utah and Washington from May 25 – July 28. The California avocado sandwich also is being promoted to the chain’s 203,000 Facebook fans.

In the mid-Atlantic region, 42 units of the Maryland-based California Tortilla chain are running a “June is Avocado Month” promotion. Throughout the month of June, in-store POS will feature the *Hand Grown in California* logo on menu trays and posters, while the chain’s Facebook page profile photo will feature the California avocado promotion for its more than 25,600 fans.



The Johnny Rockets stanchion sign celebrates the regional flavors of Route 66, including a California avocado sandwich.

CAC Showcases California Avocado Menu Items at Three Chicago Events

The California Avocado Commission (CAC) sponsored and attended three Chicago-area restaurant events in mid-May, networking with both key marketing and culinary research and development decision-makers at chain restaurants, and foodservice trade publication editors. These events helped the Commission broaden its list of chains to target for promotions, confirm new and returning menu items on current chain partner menus, and introduce a high-profile California avocado menu application that resonated with foodservice editors.

The Commission networked with chain marketing decision-makers at the 2015 National Restaurant Association's Marketing Executive Group (MEG) conference; and with chain culinarians and menu developers at the International Corporate Chef Association (ICCA)/Global Culinary Innovators Association (GCIA) Reception. At each event, CAC demonstrated the benefits and value of fresh California avocado menu items by sampling unique dishes featuring California avocado. The Commission also was among the sponsors of the International Foodservice Editorial Council (IFEC) reception, serving foodservice communicators an on-trend version of avocado toast.

During the conference and reception, CAC met one-on-one with 28 new chain and industry contacts. This type of meeting is often the initiation point of a new California avocado menu item or a future limited-time offer. Mid-year meetings with the press lead to new placements for innovative dishes using California avocado.



Grilled California Avocado Toast with Pulled Pork and Oven-Roasted Tomato served during the sponsored afternoon break at the Marketing Executive Group event.

California Market Trends

To view all market trend graphs, including “Weekly Volume Summary,” “Weekly Avocado Prices” and “U.S. Avocado Supply,” please visit: <http://www.californiaavocadogrowers.com/industry/market-statistics>.

California Avocado Commission Weekly Volume Summary (pounds)			
	Week Ending 6/14/2015	Season-to-Date (since 11/1/14)	2015 Year to Date
Hass	8,262,668	191,338,361	191,210,715
Lamb	455,396	723,141	723,141
Other (Greens)	29,316	1,353,195	1,262,751
California Total	8,747,379	193,414,697	193,196,607
Florida	769,395	13,905,430	5,544,990
Chile	0	12,650,552	7,894,439
Mexico	28,015,059	1,031,004,031	787,237,345
Other (Imports)	6,954,394	49,046,124	37,116,124
Import Total	34,969,453	1,092,700,707	832,247,908
USA Total	44,486,227	1,300,020,834	1,030,989,505
Source(s):	California = CAC (AMRIC)		
	Florida = Florida Avocado Admin Committee		
	Chile = Comite de Paltas, Chile		
	Mexico = APEAM		
	Other Imports = USDA AMS website		

California Avocado Society Weekly Newslines* Avocado Prices				
6/15/2015				
	FOB Price	Field Price	Retail Price	Last Year FOB
California Hass	(25# carton)	(per pound)	(per each)	(25# carton)
#2's	12.00-29.00	0.33-0.96		14.00-31.00
32's-36's	37.00-39.00	1.28-1.36	1.99	35.00-39.00
40's	37.00-39.00	1.28-1.36	2/3.00-1.99	35.00-39.00
48's	37.00-39.00	1.28-1.36	2/2.00-1.69	35.00-39.00
60's	27.00-29.00	0.88-0.96	0.99-4/5.00	35.00-39.00
70's	23.00-24.00	0.72-0.76	4/3.99	29.00-31.00
84's	16.00-17.00	0.50-0.55	4/3.49	22.00-24.00
Mexican Hass				
All Sizes	14.00-35.00	N/A	2/0.99-4/5.00	23.00-35.00
Chilean Hass				
All Sizes	N/A	N/A		
Peruvian Hass				
All Sizes	13.00-31.00	N/A		19.00-34.00

*To subscribe to the Weekly Newslines, please contact the California Avocado Society at (951) 225-9102 or www.CaliforniaAvocadoSociety.org.

Weather: 30-Day Outlook For California's Coastal & Valley Areas

Synopsis - The pattern of sea surface temperature anomalies in the mid-latitude central and east Pacific supports troughing at 155W and to the west and southwest of southern California. This will be a hot period as high pressure covers most of California.

The transition to a summer pattern is mostly on target. We look for primarily dry conditions in western U.S. and California. Our analysis of timing suggests that the next main period of troughing will be around June 28-29 in California. A hot spell will follow for the first 10 days of July before the onset of the summer monsoon.

In the Near-Term – June 17 to July 1... The norm will be night and morning coastal low clouds and fog. Due to the warm sea surface, daily average temperatures will range about 3 to 4 degrees above normal. It will be hot inland for most of the time. The exception will be from the 28th to the 30th when a weak upper low will develop and cause a deep marine layer and a dramatic drop in inland high temperatures. Temperatures may be as much as 20F cooler as the marine inversion raises and the coastal winds push quickly inland. Some coastal drizzle is also possible.

Summary – July 2 to 31... July is expected to be active for thunderstorms. However, August, as per CFS2 guidance, will be inactive for thunderstorms.

El Niño forcing will continue to support weak troughing such as between Baja toward Hawaii. It is important to watch this feature because upper lows to the west of Baja can bring tropical moisture into southern California and also bring tropical cyclones close to southern California. It can also induce hot conditions as upper high pressure builds in Arizona, the Great Basin and into most of southern California.

The CFS2 model continues to suggest plenty of thunderstorm activity in the Sierras during July.

We may see periods of troughing during July 15 to 28. Troughing in this case would consist mostly of upper low pressure forming off southern or south-central California. This would cause an increase in southeastern flow and thunderstorms into southern California and the Sierras.

The avocado areas will have a strange start to summer with tropical cyclone activity in Baja. Then we will settle into the normally dry summer pattern for July but with thunderstorms in the mountains and deserts. The troughing expected from July 15 to 23 will produce an increase in onshore flow and a little deeper marine layer. It will also develop cutoff lows that should bring more thunderstorms into the mountains and deserts.

Seasonal Outlook/*El Niño* Update – August 1 to October 31... News reports mention anomalously warm sea surface temperatures near Baja California and off the Pacific Northwest coast and Gulf of Alaska. We will need to keep an eye on these two ocean temperature anomalies as well as *El Niño*. The *El Niño* contribution, plus the warm ocean in the Gulf of Alaska, may work together to bring a stronger southern storm track into California this fall and winter. They are opposed, however, by the lack of support for storms to the west of California in the 130-145W region, so an upcoming wet winter season still does not have good support.

In the avocado regions, sea surface temperatures will continue to be abnormally warm. In late August, September, and early October we will have the greatest potential for heavy rains from monsoonal thunderstorms. Later in September and October, there may be rain from tropical cyclone remnants and from cutoff lows that draw tropical moisture into southern California.

...Alan Fox, Fox Weather LLC...