



**NEWS** from the DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Carol N. Hafner, Agricultural Commissioner/ Sealer  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Reported by the Fresno County Department of Agriculture  
Crop Report for the Month Ending Monday, November 30, 2009**

**SMALL GRAINS:** Aerial applications of wheat and barley seed continued. Fields of small grain crops, including barley, oats, wheat and forage mixes, had emerged and appeared to be growing well. Some small grain fields were being fertilized and/or treated for weed control. Growers continued to cultivate the fields in preparation for winter crops.

**FIELD CROPS:** Some alfalfa hay fields were receiving the last cut for the season; most were in a semi-dormant state by the end of the month. New alfalfa hay fields were being prepared, seeded, irrigated and some fields were emerging. Cotton harvest was essentially complete. Approximately 82% of the cotton fields were in compliance with pink bollworm plow down activities. Plow down activities included, shredding the cotton stalks and discing. Growers continued to cultivate beds in preparation for next years crop and were applying pre-emergent herbicides. Seed onions were being planted and growing rapidly. Seed alfalfa harvest was over along with seed corn. Harvesting of corn for silage was nearly complete. Alfalfa seed was exported to Saudi Arabia and Mexico.

**GRAPES, DECIDUOUS TREE FRUIT AND NUTS:** Traditional and DOV raisin grape harvests were completed at the beginning of the month. Herbicide applications to berms in grape vineyards and almond orchards continued as weather permits; fertilizer applications also continued in preparation of a winter resting period. A few growers had begun to prune grape vineyards. Almond trees are being pruned with young trees being shaped. Pruned branches were being shredded in orchard rows. Asian pears were re-packed and exported. Orchard operators were pruning, shredding brush, irrigating, and cultivating. Growers continued to pull out vineyards and orchards prior to fumigating acreage for replanting. Pomegranate harvest was winding down; growers on the west side reported a higher than average percentage of cracks in fruit and weaker trees due to the water shortage. Almonds, Asian pears, dried apricots, figs, grapes, kiwifruit, persimmons, pistachios, plums, pomegranates, quince, raisins, and walnuts were exported to Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Barbados, Brazil, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ecuador, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, South Africa, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Venezuela, and Vietnam.

**VEGETABLES AND BERRIES:** The fall green bean harvest had started to slow down. Squash, zucchini, eggplant, long bean, tomato, and pepper harvests were mostly complete. Herbs, green house cucumbers, potatoes, bitter melon, radishes and the last of the cherry tomatoes continued to be picked. Winter vegetables such as beets, turnips, daikon, the choys, chards, and kales were improving in quality and quantity. Fall head lettuce continued to be harvested, although most companies were finished by the second week. Previously harvested fields were being disced, cultivated, and fumigated in preparation of fall planting. Growers continued to plant their winter rotational vegetable crops. Pumpkin fields have been disced. Fall broccoli harvest continued. Some garlic has already been planted. Garlic and lettuce were exported to Mexico, Panama, Kuwait, and Japan.

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**CITRUS:** Navel oranges, lemons, pummelos, mandarins, and tangerines were being packed. Citrus trees were treated with fungicides as needed. Tangerines were breaking color. Lemons, navel oranges, pummelos, and tangerines were exported to Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

**APIARY, LIVESTOCK AND RANGELAND:** Sheep were grazing in some established and idle alfalfa fields. Range conditions were improving with recent rains.

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: November 30, 2009

**Hardip Dhillon**

Agricultural Standards Specialist 1