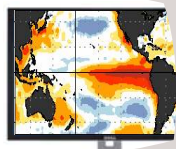
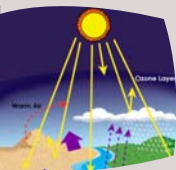




▶ CLEANING RAIN GAUGE..... 1



▶ No El Nino Through 2008 1



▶ WILD FIRES AND SOLAR RADIATION 2

Weather focus

ADDRESSING WEATHER RISKS AND PROVIDING PRODUCT SOLUTIONS

What's In Your Rain Gauge?

It has been a long, warm summer and besides a few thundershowers that have only periodically affected parts of California, it's likely that not much thought has been given to measuring precipitation. After two below normal precipitation years hopefully Mother Nature will bring us at least a normal rainfall year and the rain gauges around the state will once again get a good workout; after harvest is complete of course.

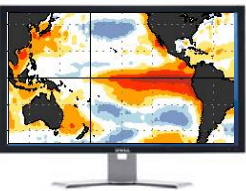
Climatologically, over the past 30 years, there is a 66% probability of receiving measurable precipitation in Chico during the month of September. This probability increases to the north and decreases as you move to the south. With this in mind, it is time to go out and check your rain gauge. During the long, dry summer many things can take up residence in the rain gauge funnel that will have a detrimental effect



Baby Mynah bird found in rain gauge.

when it comes to rainfall measurements. If an accurate reading of the "first" fall storm is desired then now is the time to check and clean your rain gauge.

No El Nino → 2008 from the Weather Desk...



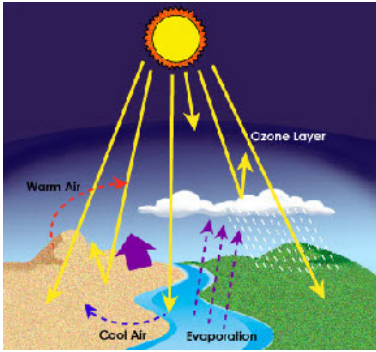
Last year was a moderate La Nina year & California ended up with roughly 60% of normal rainfall. This was the 2nd consecutive "dry" year & some of the state's reservoirs are as low as they've ever been. Another dry year would be disastrous for the state. Forecasters are closely monitoring sea surface temps along the equatorial Pacific, looking for any sign of an El Nino pattern developing. We're out of the La Nina now, as sea surface temps returned to near normal over the summer. Long range models suggest sea surface temps will remain near normal through the end of '08, so for now there's equal chances for above or below normal rainfall this winter (forecasts will say "near normal"). We are due for a weak to moderate El Nino within the next year, based on historical records.

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Wildfires and Solar Radiation



On June 21 a series of thunderstorms produced approximately 6,000 lightning strikes which started an estimated 1,000 wildfires across Northern California. Generally light and variable winds kept the smoke over the region producing lower visibilities and numerous health warnings.

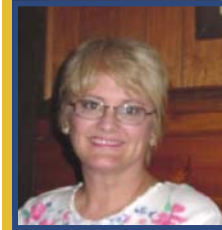
A comparison of solar measurements taken by the automated weather station at Chico State Farm between June 21 and August 1, 2008 and those recorded during the same period last year showed a substantial difference in incoming total solar radiation. Readings taken this year were 13.6% lower than those recorded last year. While differences in cloud cover could account for some of this difference the smoky conditions were likely the major contributor to the reduction in solar energy.

Depending on the concentration of smoke, afternoon temperatures were generally cooler around the north state than what they were forecasted to be because of the solar radiation being scattered away and not reaching the earth's surface.

Solar energy also plays a significant roll in plant transpiration. A comparison of the reference evapotranspiration (ET_o) values during the same period showed a reduction of 12.9% or 1.23 inch of water compared to last year. The actual amount of water used by crops was likely less than what we would have expected had the skies been clear.

EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT

Irene Holmes



Irene is the Business Administrator, or shall we say she is the "jack of all trades".

Accounting, human resources, marketing, customer service, sales and whatever else that is needed to make the office run smoothly and efficiently. Irene received her B.Sci from CSU, Chico in Business Administration.

When asked what she has learned about the weather business she replied, "I am amazed at how much the weather effects businesses on a daily basis".

We're amazed at the positive effect she has on us and our customers!

Current Weather

Western Weather Group
Chico, CA

Temperature: 73.1°F
Humidity: 64% Dew Point: 60.4°F
Rainfall: 0.00in Pressure: 29.83in
Updated: 10 seconds ago

WWG Chico station graphics [Page 1](#) [Page 2](#)

Displaying Your Weather Data

Information from your Campbell Scientific weather station can now be displayed on the Weather Underground or on your own weather page. Visit <http://www.westernwx.com/public/>

to view data from the Campbell Scientific weather station at the Western Weather Group office in Chico, CA.

*If you saw a heat wave,
would you wave back?*

-Steven Wright

Campbell Scientific Manuals— Now On CD

The manuals for Campbell Scientific instrumentation are now provided on CD. You can also access manuals on any of the instrumentation at www.campbellsci.com/manuals

Upcoming Events

Unified Wine & Grape Symposium

January 28-29 2009, Sacramento Convention Center
Sacramento, CA

World Ag Expo

Feb 10-12, 2009, Tulare, CA



California Sales Rep.

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