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## Four days of rain for Calif. strawberries; Christmas cold snap in Mexico

December 17, 2019

Production out of California could be affected all next week due to rain. The forecast is for back-to-back storms to move into California starting Sunday and remain at least through Christmas day. Look for daily rain totals to range between 0.25 inches to half an inch.



If the growing areas of Oxnard, Santa Maria and Irvine do receive the predicted rain, look for production to be curtailed and potential quality issues on product harvested next week.

Besides strawberries, these regions are currently producing celery, broccoli, cauliflower, lettuces and other berries. You may want to load up on product later this week or over the weekend to avoid any quality issues after Christmas.

### **COOLDOWN FOR MEXICAN PERSIAN LIME REGION**

Martinez de la Torre, Veracruz, the lime capital of the world, may see a decrease in production this week. A storm will come through the region today bringing up to 0.25 inches of rain and cooler temps for the remainder of the week.

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Max temps, which have been in the mid-80s, will cool to 71 today and will be 65 tomorrow. These cooler temps in the 60s will remain through Saturday. Minimum temps, which were in the 70s yesterday, will cool to the mid-50s starting today and last through next Tuesday, Christmas Eve. These temps would be considered a cold snap for this part of the world.

These cooler temps as well as timing -- the Christmas season is notoriously a tough time for farm labor in Mexico -- may lead to a further reduction of supply of limes out of this region.

### **FLORIDA COOLDOWN STARTS TOMORROW**

Florida temps the last week have seen highs in the upper 80s and lows in the upper 60s. This will change starting tomorrow as showers come through the area bring cooler temps. Expect max temps only in the mid-70s through at least Christmas and min temps in the mid-50s to lower 60s. There is more chance of rain for Saturday through Monday.

These cooler temps will hit the growing regions of Plant City, Immokalee and Belle Glade. These are your major winter growing areas for everything from strawberries, veg and tomatoes.

The [Weathermelon app](#) offers consolidated lists of global growing regions for each commodity; a 10-day detail forecast for each region; current radar maps (U.S. only); estimated harvest start/end dates for each commodity; monthly average high/low temps for each region; and custom daily alerts for temperature, precipitation and severe weather based on 10-day forecasts.

*(David Robidoux is a co-founder Weathermelon)*

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