

# the Outlook

As we continue the transition to Coastal California fields, weather patterns look to remain problematic for growers across the state. The unsettled weather pattern continues to bring periods of rain, strong winds and cooler temperatures to much of the state. This fairly wet pattern looks to continue through April impacting field preparations, plantings, growth rates and harvests. This has limited many growers ability to bring workers and equipment to work the ground in a timely manner to combat pathogen and insect populations.

These rains have also provided ample moisture and ideal conditions for the growth of weeds and grasses across the region. This, in turn, will provide an ample food supply for pathogens, insects and other pests to thrive. Insect populations are on the rise and look to remain problematic as we move through spring. As we complete the transition from the desert regions in the southwest and Mexico insect populations are also on the rise in the warm weather pattern in these regions. With spring storm systems forecast to continue to roll into California through April, we can expect to see lesser yields and quality for the near term, possibly well beyond.

As always upcoming weather patterns will play a crucial role in supplies a quality going forward.