

Map Shows 2021 Farm Water Supply Cuts

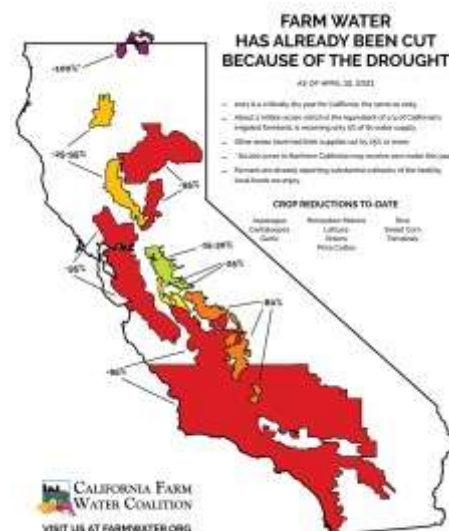
 farmwater.org/farm-water-news/map-2021-farm-water-supply-cuts/

April 12, 2021

California farms are bearing the brunt of this year's short water supply and have been forced to reduce the acreage of popular California crops, such as asparagus, melons, lettuce, rice, tomatoes, sweet corn, and others.

Water supply reductions mean fewer fresh fruits and vegetables for consumers, massive farm-related job losses, and billions in lost economic activity, impacts that go beyond rural and disadvantaged communities. View the map [here](#).

About 2 million acres of California's irrigated farmland, or one out of every four acres, has already had its water supply cut by 95 percent. Another million acres has lost 80 percent of its water supply this year with much of the remaining farmland experiencing cuts of 25 percent or more.



Conditions are similar to those that occurred in 2015.

According to a 2015 drought report issued by UC Davis, ERA Economics, and the UC Agricultural issues Center, water supply cuts led to the fallowing of 540,000 acres of farmland, 21,000 lost jobs, and an economic loss of \$2.7 billion.

Critical reservoirs, including Shasta, Oroville, Folsom, Millerton, and San Luis combined have 1.1 million acre-feet less water in storage today than they had at the end of March in 2015, California's last critically dry year. Levels in these reservoirs are currently at 56 percent of average, compared to 72 percent of average at this time in 2015. They are essential to supplying rural communities with drinking water, irrigating farms, supplying water to wildlife refuges, and recharging aquifers in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys where a majority of California-grown food products originate.

It is a distressing time for farmers, farm workers, and businesses that depend on agriculture all across California and illustrates the need to invest in infrastructure that will increase our ability to capture more water during wet years when it is abundant to save for dry years like this. It also puts a strain on consumers who want local, California-grown fresh food choices for their families.

Learn more:

What 2015 can tell us about the impacts of a DROUGHT in 2021?



2015 DROUGHT FOOD SUPPLY IMPACTS

642,000 acres affected
 10% of California's total cropland
 10% of California's total population



WATER SUPPLY IMPACTS

Many farms have already lost their water supply (up to 50-90%)
 70% of crop water in California is supplied from groundwater. 20% of that is in the Central Valley, where 80% of the population lives.
 80% of the population in CA are using 100% of the groundwater for 100% of the population, leaving 20% of the population in the ground water.

FEWER FRESH, HEALTHY, LOCALLY GROWN FOODS

Water supply restrictions forced 140,000 acres were taken out of production.



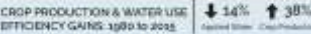
HOW DOES DROUGHT AFFECT OUR COMMUNITIES?

Economic loss of 200 million and 2,000 jobs

WATER AFFECTED	QUALITY OF LIFE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drinking Swimming Recreation Washing Water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic Water Supply Recreation Swimming Washing Water

HOW ARE FARMS BEING MORE EFFICIENT?

Investment in water efficient technology and infrastructure, including drip and micro-irrigation systems, soil moisture monitoring, and more.



California Farm Water Coalition | LEARN MORE: FARMWATER.ORG

LONG TERM IMPACTS ON CALIFORNIA FROM FARM WATER SUPPLY CUTS

Economy + Jobs + Food Supply

WHAT IS CAUSING THE WATER CUTS?
 - Reduced groundwater pumping
 - Surface water restrictions
 - Regulatory Compliance
 - Lack of Storage to Fight Climate Change

ONE MILLION ACRES of farmland permanently lost in the fastest growing region
 1/5 OF THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY'S FARMLAND
 LARGER THAN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

EDIBLE HEALTHY CA FOODS	100% of the population	100% of the population	100% of the population
100% of the population	100% of the population	100% of the population	100% of the population

\$535,000,000 lost for farmers in total revenue each in drought, another \$100 million in more

COMMUNITY IMPACTS
 Disadvantaged communities are some of the first to lose water in a drought. Once the water goes, so do the jobs and quality of life.

STATEWIDE IMPACTS
 85,000 jobs lost in all impacted and water-stressed areas
 \$2.3 BILLION lost in lost wages

California Farm Water Coalition | LEARN MORE: FARMWATER.ORG