



California Crop Progress & Condition

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture
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WEEK ENDING: April 2, 2023
RELEASED: April 3, 2023

FREQUENCY: Weekly
VOL. 44 NO. 1

WEATHER

From the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), snowpack water content in the Northern Sierra was 57.70 inches compared to 6.40 inches this date last year; Central Sierra was 62.60 inches compared to 11.40 inches this date last year; Southern Sierra was 61.80 inches compared to 9.30 inches this date last year. California DWR CIMIS stations recorded 1,671 chill hours at Gerber; 1,507 chill hours at Williams; 1,503 chill hours at Holt; 1,698 chill hours at Merced; 1,467 chill hours at Fresno; and 1,355 chill hours at Arvin.

FIELD CROPS

In the Sacramento Valley, early planted winter **wheat** began to head. In Stanislaus County, field crops were being flooded along the rivers. Winter wheat and **oats** continued to grow well and were 30% headed out. Fields of **alfalfa** were coming out of dormancy. Alfalfa was being sprayed for weeds and weevil. In San Joaquin Valley, **cotton** planting was delayed by rain, flooding, and cool temperatures. In Tulare County, winter wheat, oats, and **barley** continued to grow. Numerous fields were damaged due to excess rain. Alfalfa was doing well but the recent rain caused some delay in cutting and drying for hay. Alfalfa and **triticale** were growing in deep puddles from recent rains while other fields remained unplanted. The continuous rains were great for all the dry land farming. Winter grain and forage crops were being treated for pests.

FRUIT CROPS

Persistent rain and low temperatures have impacted fruit crops in various ways. **Citrus** harvest was slow and significant puff presence decreased the amount of quality fruit. Some later **stone fruit** varieties, that were not appropriately treated with fungicide early in the season, have been affected by the high moisture. Early variety **grape** buds have started opening but later variety vines remained dormant. Early **plum** and **peach** orchards were in full bloom and **cherry** orchards started to bloom as well. Unlike many fruit crops, **strawberries** have benefitted from the surplus of rain. **Blackberries** and **blueberries** are currently blooming.

NUT CROPS

Later **almond** varieties continued to bloom while early varieties have started to leaf out. However, the surplus of rain early in the season had a negative impact on the pollination process which could lead to limited yields. Last season's almonds, **pistachios**, **walnuts**, and **pecans** were still being processed and exported in large quantities around the world.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In the Sacramento Valley, wet weather delayed the transplant of **tomato** crops and harvest of **asparagus**. **Broccoli** and **garlic** continued to grow well in Stanislaus County. Tulare County **lettuce**, **onions**, **cabbage**, and broccoli continued to grow despite recent rains.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and non-irrigated pasture were green with new growth of grasses and forbs as rising temperatures stimulated development that had been stalled for weeks with the cool spring. Recent rains brought more than sufficient moisture to the state, causing flooding, muddy conditions, and impacting access to some locations. Irrigated pasture was in good to excellent condition. When weather permitted, bees were active in stone fruit orchards. Cattle grazed on lower elevation range. Some dairy cows have been relocated temporarily due to localized flooding in the San Joaquin Valley.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING APRIL 2, 2023

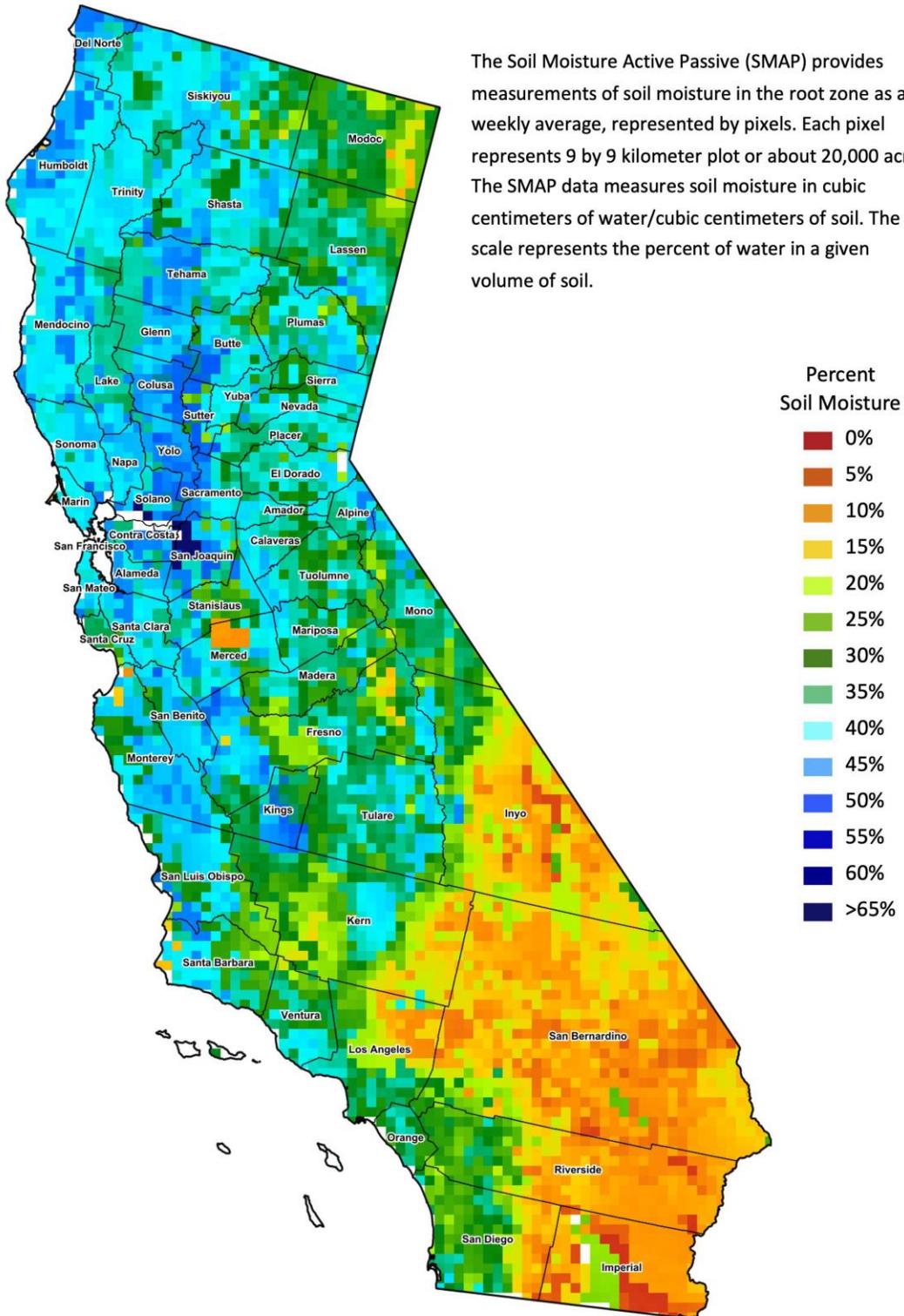
STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 50 °F BASE ¹		RAIN DAYS ²	PRECIPITATION ³			
	Average for Week Ending Apr 2, 2023	Departure from Normal ⁴	High	Low	This Year	Normal Year ⁴	This Season	This Week	This Season	Normal Season ⁴	Normal Year ⁴
					Jan 1 - Apr 2, 2023	Jan 1 - Apr 2, 2023	Oct 1 - Apr 2, 2023	Week Ending Apr 2, 2023	Oct 1 - Apr 2, 2023	Oct 1 - Apr 2	Oct 1 - Sept 30
	-- Degrees Fahrenheit --				-- Number --		-- Days --	-- Inches of Precipitation --			

No temperature and precipitation data is available this week.

Reservoir Data from the California Department of Water Resources

Reservoir	Capacity	April 2, 2023			This Date Last Year	
		Storage	Percent of Capacity	Percent of Average	Storage	Percent of Capacity
	<i>Acre Feet</i>	<i>Acre Feet</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Acre Feet</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Shasta Lake	4,547,300	3,821,986	84	106	1,737,004	38
Lake Oroville	3,537,400	2,922,067	83	116	1,681,470	48
Trinity Lake	2,443,800	914,320	37	51	808,429	33
New Melones Reservoir	2,413,000	1,402,220	58	94	932,619	39
San Luis Reservoir	2,057,200	2,008,806	98	114	925,652	45
Don Pedro Reservoir ¹	4,547,300	1,744,402	86	114	1,253,785	62

Source: cdec.water.ca.gov/reportapp/javareports?name=DLYHYDRO



Drought Conditions from the U.S. Drought Monitor

Time	Percent of Land in Drought Rating						Drought Severity (DSCI)
	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4	
Current	55.34	16.55	26.17	1.95	0.00	0.00	75
Last Week	48.51	15.61	27.39	8.49	0.00	0.00	96
3 Months Ago	0.00	2.06	17.38	45.06	28.33	7.16	321
One Year Ago	0.00	0.00	6.35	53.40	40.25	0.00	334

The U.S. Drought Monitor is jointly produced by the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA