United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

California Crop Progress & Condition

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture
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WEEK ENDING: April 9, 2023 **FREQUENCY: Weekly**
RELEASED: April 10, 2023 **VOL. 44 NO. 2**

WEATHER

Average lows for California ranged from 15 to 44 in the mountains, 23 to 64 in the desert, 31 to 55 along the coast, and 32 to 56 in the Central Valley. Average highs for the state ranged from 26 to 72 in the mountains, 47 to 82 along the coast, 50 to 93 in the desert, and 53 to 79 in the Central Valley. From the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), snowpack water content in the Northern Sierra was 57.50 inches compared to 4.10 inches this date last year; Central Sierra was 62.50 inches compared to 7.90 inches this date last year; Southern Sierra was 61.50 inches compared to 6.30 inches this date last year. California DWR CIMIS stations recorded 1,715 chill hours at Gerber; 1,553 chill hours at Williams; 1,547 chill hours at Holt; 1,742 chill hours at Merced; 1,501 chill hours at Fresno; and 1,388 chill hours at Arvin.

FIELD CROPS

Planting conditions remained unfavorable throughout the state due to wet fields. In Stanislaus County, winter **wheat** and **oats** continued to grow well and were heading out. Wheat and oat fields for silage were sprayed for weeds. **Alfalfa** fields were out of dormancy and were sprayed for weeds and weevils. 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 rains have caused some delay in cutting and drying for hay. When conditions allowed, fields were being prepared for **corn** and cotton. Some **cotton** growers were considering planting other crops and prevented planting in place of cotton as the planting deadline approaches. Alfalfa and **triticale** were growing in wet fields while other fields remained unplanted. Winter grain and forage crops were being treated for pests.

FRUIT CROPS

Early **stone fruit** varieties were leafing out while later varieties continued to bloom. **Grape** buds continued to open, and some were leafing out. Navel **oranges** and **mandarins** were being picked and packed. Some **olive** trees were being trimmed while other mature trees were being dug for ornamental use. **Cherry** bloom was complete. **Blueberries** and **blackberries** were blooming. Ongoing rain and more recent hail have hindered the typical **strawberry** harvest time.

NUT CROPS

Almond growers applied herbicides and pesticides during the break from the rain and were preparing to apply fertilizers. Fungicides were applied in some areas where the rain has caused standing water to collect near tree roots. Many almond orchards have completed bee pollination. However, the surplus of rain early in the season had a negative impact on the pollination process which could lead to limited yields. **Pistachios** may begin to bloom soon as temperatures rise. Catkins were beginning to show on early variety **walnuts**.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In the Sacramento Valley**,** wet weather delayed the transplant of **tomato** crops. Planting will begin as soon as fields are ready. **Asparagus** was harvested in the Capay Valley. **Broccoli** and **garlic** continued to grow well in Stanislaus County. Some Tulare County farmers reported falling behind in the planting of summer vegetables. **Squash, cucumbers**, and tomato transplants await drier field conditions before being planted. **Sweet potato** fields were sprayed for weeds. In San Mateo County, lower lying fields were still saturated from heavy rains.

LIVESTOCK

Rising temperatures stimulated grass growth on rangeland and non-irrigated pasture. Muddy conditions began to diminish in the southern half of the state. Irrigated pasture was in good to excellent condition. Some hives were being moved out of almond orchards as field conditions permitted. Bees were active in late fruit orchards. Cattle grazed on lower elevation range.

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING APRIL 9, 2023

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 50 ºF BASE [1]		RAIN DAYS [2]	PRECIPITATION [3]			
	Average for Week Ending Apr 9, 2023	Departure from Normal [4]	High	Low	This Year Jan 1 - Apr 9, 2023	Normal Year [4] Jan 1 - Apr 9, 2023	This Season Oct 1 - Apr 9, 2023	This Week Ending Apr 9, 2023	This Season Oct 1 - Apr 9, 2023	Normal Season [4] Oct 1 - Apr 9	Normal Year [4] Oct 1 - Sept 30
	- - Degrees Fahrenheit - -				- - Number - -		- - Days - -	- - Inches of Precipitation - -			
North Coast											
Eureka WFO	46	-4	60	31	50	7	92	0.70	36.70	34.74	40.61
Ukiah	52	-2	78	33	94	158	74	0.40	37.27	31.61	35.07
Santa Rosa	52	-3	74	36	111	193	66	0.44	40.96	30.79	34.00
Napa State Hospital	52	-3	66	35	161	177	62	0.05	28.73	18.38	20.36
Central Coast											
San Francisco	54	-3	71	42	307	409	66	0.06	30.62	18.13	19.77
San Jose	55	-3	74	40	252	417	56	0.02	14.72	12.15	13.58
Salinas	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	406	NA	NA	NA	11.50	12.66
Monterey	51	-4	63	40	189	405	57	0.03	23.05	14.91	16.36
Paso Robles	52	-4	76	33	148	196	59	0.00	20.54	11.34	12.24
Sacramento Valley											
Redding	52	-5	75	34	160	250	68	0.90	36.32	28.81	33.70
Red Bluff	52	-5	75	35	144	268	63	0.68	25.89	20.15	23.25
Orland	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	281	NA	NA	NA	18.69	21.52
Oroville	54	-4	76	34	205	320	64	0.38	26.11	22.97	25.84
Marysville	53	-4	76	36	169	270	52	0.23	21.49	17.86	20.21
Sacramento	55	-2	77	38	223	244	57	0.22	23.53	16.25	18.10
San Joaquin Valley											
Stockton	54	-5	76	39	207	367	56	0.14	22.89	12.03	13.53
Modesto	54	-5	75	38	154	375	60	0.05	19.31	10.80	12.34
Merced Macready	54	-4	77	35	189	282	51	0.03	18.61	10.39	11.87
Madera	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	344	NA	NA	NA	9.58	10.86
Fresno	57	-3	78	39	288	415	45	0.00	16.02	9.63	11.05
Lemoore	54	-5	78	32	217	326	37	0.00	7.40	6.43	7.23
Visalia	56	-3	78	33	270	340	53	0.03	15.58	9.20	10.37
Bakersfield	56	-5	79	36	324	513	46	0.00	8.86	5.65	6.40
Cascade Sierra											
Alturas	39	-3	72	21	0	0	68	0.08	9.44	7.77	11.72
Mount Shasta	40	-5	68	23	1	0	80	1.09	42.37	31.71	37.86
Blue Canyon	37	-6	62	20	5	0	82	0.84	85.97	53.08	62.80
Yosemite Valley	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	NA	NA	NA	33.97	40.65
South Coast											
Santa Maria	52	-4	73	35	187	463	51	0.00	23.18	12.28	13.42
Santa Barbara	55	-2	68	42	412	482	45	0.00	27.85	16.14	17.38
Oxnard	53	-5	66	41	344	713	49	0.00	21.22	12.01	13.05
Riverside	57	-5	82	36	406	788	45	0.00	12.82	8.52	9.48
Los Angeles	57	-3	69	47	574	873	48	0.01	23.48	11.39	12.33
San Diego	57	-5	70	46	642	999	49	0.00	13.63	8.88	9.87
Southeast Interior											
Bishop	46	-7	78	23	14	52	32	0.00	13.67	4.00	4.87
Daggett	56	-7	84	35	274	513	18	0.00	2.69	2.92	3.80
Lancaster	52	-5	82	30	92	191	29	0.00	6.93	6.18	6.86
Thermal	64	-5	93	38	689	1,078	14	0.00	1.21	2.33	2.98
Blythe	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,144	NA	NA	NA	2.48	3.58
Imperial	62	-7	89	41	827	1,144	11	0.00	0.84	1.82	2.39

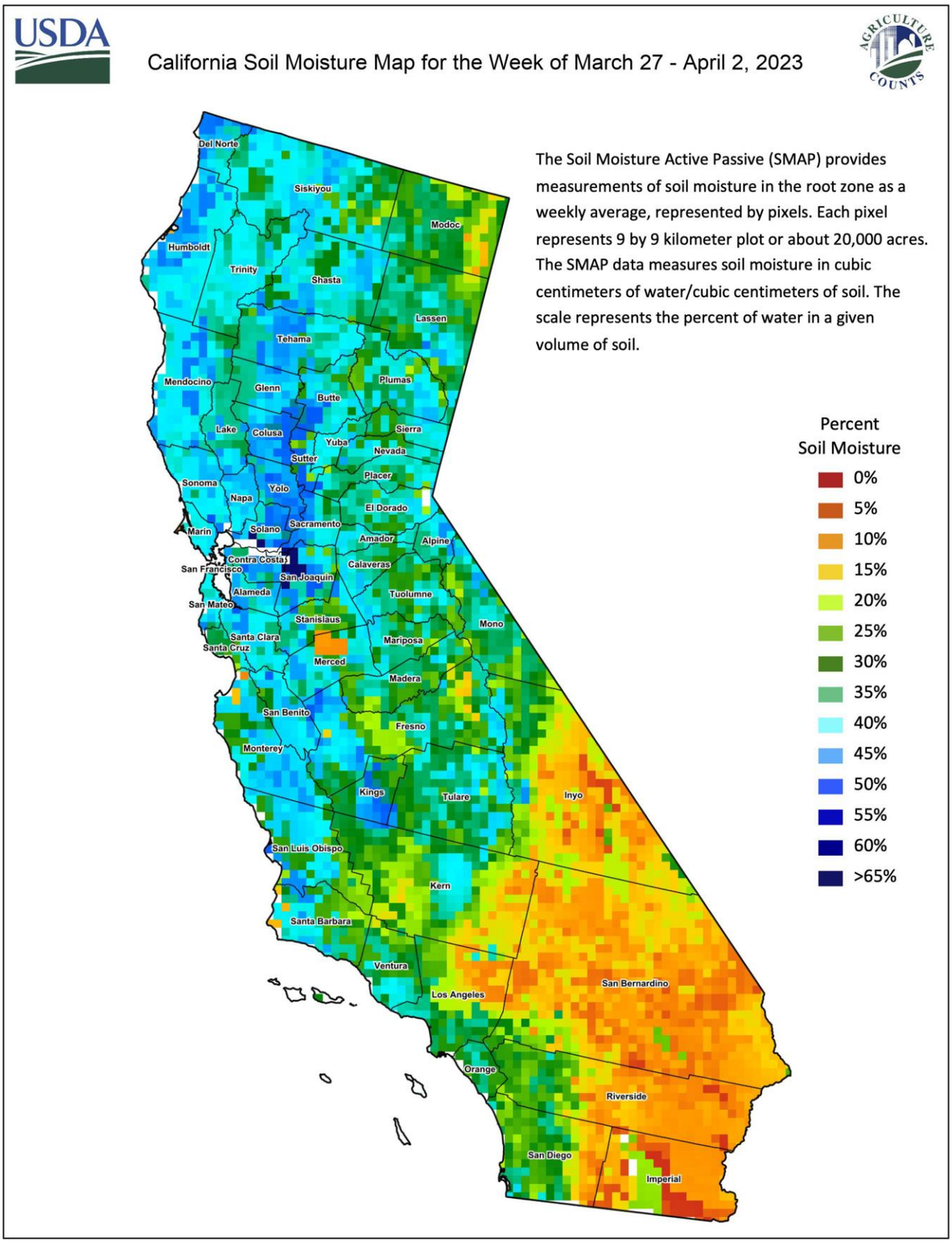
[1] Previously labeled as growing degree hours. The column title was corrected in the Sept 27, 2021 report. Additionally, degree days were previously calculated using a base of 60 degrees. The base temperature was changed to 50 degrees in the April 4, 2022 report.
[2] Total number of days with precipitation events this season.
[3] Rain or melted snow/ice.
[4] Normal periods 1990-2020 used in departure from normal calculations.

Data retrieved from NOAA and NWS. Calculated by USDA NASS.

Reservoir Data from the California Department of Water Resources

Reservoir	Capacity	April 9, 2023			This Date Last Year	
		Storage	Percent of Capacity	Percent of Average	Storage	Percent of Capacity
	Acre Feet	*Acre Feet*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Acre Feet*	*Percent*
Shasta Lake	4,547,300	3,994,555	88	109	1,741,536	38
Lake Oroville	3,537,400	2,978,445	84	116	1,692,427	48
Trinity Lake	2,443,800	916,246	37	50	806,058	33
New Melones Reservoir	2,413,000	1,415,988	59	95	928,007	39
San Luis Reservoir	2,057,200	2,028,344	99	116	929,361	46
Don Pedro Reservoir [1]	4,547,300	1,685,791	83	110	1,268,208	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	56.17	18.97	24.04	0.82	0.00	0.00	70
Last Week	55.34	16.55	26.17	1.95	0.00	0.00	75
3 Months Ago	0.00	2.07	26.79	44.04	27.10	0.00	296
One Year Ago	0.00	0.00	6.35	52.97	40.67	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