DROUGHT RESOURCES for Farmers & Ranchers in Marin and Sonoma

Table of Contents

MARIN

» Marin Agricultural Land Trust
» Marin County Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures
» Marin County Farm Bureau
» Marin Resource Conservation District
» University Cooperative Extension Marin County

SONOMA

» Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District
» Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner
» Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District
» Sonoma Resource Conservation District
» University Cooperative Extension Sonoma County

MARIN + SONOMA

» USDA Farm Service Agency
» USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
» General Drought Resources
RESOURCES in Marin County

CONTACT: Stefan Parnay, acting agricultural commissioner; sparnay@marincounty.org; (415) 473-3217

WEBSITE: marincounty.org/depts/ag/drought-conditions-and-resources

RESOURCES: Coordinates with water agencies to provide access to non-potable raw water from metered hydrants below Nicasio Reservoir and Stafford Lake and access to other strategically located hydrants.

Communicates with the Board of Supervisors and legislators to explain the severity of the drought, change drought status and provide aid.

Offers a $50,000 cost-share drought-relief program. Working on an additional $150,000 that could be available beginning July 1, 2021.

CONTACT: Eric Rubenstahl, stewardship program manager; erubenstahl@malt.org; (415) 473-3217 ext. 319

WEBSITE: malt.org/stewardship-assistance-draws-initiative

RESOURCES: Helps Marin ranchers and farmers invest in drought-resilient practices and projects through its Drought Resilience & Water Security initiative.

Supports MALT easement properties in the implementation of projects that enhance soil and water quality through its Stewardship Assistance Program (SAP), a small grants program run through the Marin Resource Conservation District.

Provides technical assistance to CDFA Healthy Soils Program applicants.

Communicates available resources via the MALT blog on malt.org, e-newsletters, social media, website and directly to Marin agriculturalists.
**CONTACT:** Nancy Scolari, executive director; nancy@marinrcd.org; (415) 663-1170 ext. 301

**WEBSITE:** marinrcd.org/drought-assistance

**RESOURCES:** Will take names and needs for future grant funding opportunities. Assists with CDFA Healthy Soils Program applications, which supports practices that increase soil-water holding capacity and climate resilience.

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**CONTACT:** Regina Pozzi, manager; manager@marincfb.com; (415) 663-1231

**WEBSITE:** marincountyfarmbureau.org

**RESOURCES:** Communicates to members about current resources available and advocate for members about current drought conditions.

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**CONTACT:** Vince Trotter, sustainable agriculture coordinator & agricultural ombudsman; tvtrotter@ucanr.edu; (415) 473-4204

**WEBSITE:** growninmarin.org

**RESOURCES:** Offers growninmarin.org, a comprehensive resource for farmers and ranchers including best practices during a drought. Educates and provides one-on-one technical assistance with advisors and specialists to producers weathering the drought. In partnership with UCCE, Sonoma County, conducts drought-related workshops including information on financial relief and adaptation measures for agricultural operations.
RESOURCES in Sonoma County

**GOLD RIDGE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**CONTACT:** Brittany Jensen, executive director; 
brittany@goldridgercd.org; (707) 823-5244 ext. 11

**WEBSITE:** goldridgercd.org

**RESOURCES:** Assists with conservation plans, helping producers apply to NRCS programs.

Assists with applications to the CDFA Healthy Soils Program and Zero Food Print, which supports practices that increase soil-water holding capacity and resilience to climate fluctuations.

Supports farmers and ranchers with water development engineering.

**SONOMA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WEIGHTS & MEASURES**

**CONTACT:** Andrew Smith, agriculture commissioner; 
andrew.smith@sonoma-county.org; (707) 565-2371

**WEBSITE:** sonomacounty.ca.gov

**RESOURCES:** Conducts an agricultural loss survey to determine the extent and nature of crop loss due to the drought conditions in Sonoma County during the 2020-21 rainy season. The results of this survey may lead to additional assistance being made available to Sonoma County producers.

Communicates to listserv about current resources available.

**AG + OPEN SPACE SONOMA COUNTY**

**CONTACT:** Sheri Emerson, stewardship manager; 
sheri.emerson@sonoma-county.org; (707) 565-7358

**WEBSITE:** sonomaopenspace.org

**RESOURCES:** Communicates available resources via e-newsletters, social media, website and directly to agriculture easement landowners.
CONTACT: Valerie Quinto, executive director; vminton@sonomarcd.org; (707) 569-1448 ext. 102

WEBSITE: sonomarcd.org/get-involved/drought-resources

RESOURCES: Assists with conservation plans, which helps producers apply to USDA NRCS programs.

Assists with water development engineering.

Gives advice about irrigation systems and scheduling methods.

Assists with applications to the CDFA Healthy Soils Program, which supports practices that increase soil-water holding capacity and resilience to climate fluctuations.

Connects producers with resources via e-newsletter, website and one-on-one referrals.

CONTACT: Stephanie Larson, county director, livestock range management advisor; slarson@ucanr.edu; (707) 565-2621

WEBSITE: ucan.edu/droughtsonoma

RESOURCES: Matchgraze.com increases potential grazing acreage for producers and decreases fire danger.

Provides technical assistance to producers to declare losses.

Provides technical assistance to help producers with the CDFA Healthy Soils Program.

Measures forage production to provide data to drought programs.
RESOURCES in Marin & Sonoma

CONTACT: Lisa Velasquez, county executive director, Ana Cecilia Medina, farm program technician; lisa.velasquez@usda.gov; ana.medina@usda.gov; (707) 794-1242

WEBSITE: farmers.gov

RESOURCES: Two Spanish-speaking staff members can answer questions and help you apply to programs listed below. Dial extension 100 or extension 115 to reach the Spanish-speaking staff members.

Livestock Feed Program (LFP): for losses affecting non-irrigated pasture and forage for grazing only.

Emergency Livestock Assistance Program (ELAP): Water Hauling for Livestock

Noninsured Assistance (NAP): Insurance for cut hay or cut silage, must be purchased prior to disaster crop year. Producers must file a notice of loss to begin the process.


Emergency loans are available for secretarial designated counties. For more info on emergency loans, contact the Ukiah FSA Office at (707) 468-9223.
CONTACT: Andrew Loganbill, district conservationist, Kristan Norman, area rangeland specialist; andrew.loganbill@usda.gov; kristan.norman@usda.gov; (707) 794-1242

WEBSITE: offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app

RESOURCES: Provides technical assistance to farmers and ranchers.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) provides funding for livestock water and water system expansion, getting water to underutilized forage areas. Applications are competitive and accepted in batching periods; the next one is in June 2021.

Also offers a waiver process under EQIP where staff provides technical assistance, designs and specs but the producer is responsible for project implementation without being guaranteed EQIP funding. Environmental and cultural review is required.

nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ca/programs/financial/equip

RESOURCES general

Center for Advanced Land Management Information Technologies (CALMIT): calmit.unl.edu/drought

Current United States Drought Monitor Conditions — California: drought.gov/states/california

United States Drought Monitor Classifications: droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About/AbouttheData/DroughtClassification.aspx