

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



## 2015 DROUGHT FOOD SUPPLY IMPACTS



540,000 acres idled

This is the equivalent of 937 square miles or the size of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego combined.

## WATER SUPPLY IMPACTS

Many farms have already had their water supply cut by up to 95%

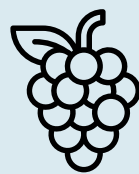
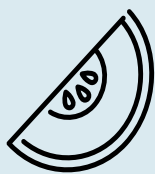
**THEN:** In 2015, half of California's irrigate land had a water supply of 20% or less. Almost one-third of the irrigated land had zero.



**NOW:** Many of the same areas in 2021 are facing a **95% cut**. Early predictions for 2021 indicate reduced acreage, affecting supply and potentially prices at the grocery store.

## FEWER FRESH, HEALTHY, LOCALLY GROWN FOODS

Water supply reductions meant 540,000 acres were idled in 2015. That could have grown:



**8.6 BILLION**  
Heads of Lettuce

**594 MILLION**  
Cartons of Melons

**54 MILLION**  
Tons of Grapes

**27 MILLION**  
Tons of Tomatoes

## HOW DOES DROUGHT AFFECT OUR COMMUNITIES?

Economic Loss of \$2.7 Billion and 21,000 Jobs

### 2015 JOBS AFFECTED

On-farm  
Processing  
Transportation  
Wholesale  
Retail  
Ports

### QUALITY OF LIFE

Domestic Wells Go Dry  
Reduced Air Quality  
Stress & Mental Health  
Loss of State and Local Taxes  
for Local Services like Police,  
Firefighters, Teachers & More



## HOW ARE FARMS BEING MORE EFFICIENT?

Farmers invest in **water efficient technology** and infrastructure, including drip and micro-sprinkler irrigation, soil moisture monitoring, computerized irrigation controls, remote sensing, and more.

**CROP PRODUCTION & WATER USE  
EFFICIENCY GAINS: 1980 to 2015**

↓ **14%**

Applied Water

↑ **38%**

Crop Production



CALIFORNIA FARM  
WATER COALITION

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