

2025 Quick Guide to Drought Resources

Prolonged dry weather can lead to water shortages, crop damage, and other challenges. The following resources can help producers prepare for and adapt to drought conditions.

DROUGHT IN AGRICULTURE WEBPAGE

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food's [Drought in Agriculture](#) webpage is a hub for B.C.'s agricultural water resources. It features factsheets, videos, tools, financial supports, and workshop listings to help producers make water-wise management decisions for their farms. Key drought-related resources include:

- [Key Drought Management Tips](#)
- [Forage Crops and Irrigation Management in Drought Conditions](#)
- [Irrigation Decisions with Limited Water](#)
- [B.C. Livestock Watering Handbook](#)
- [Farm Water Fix video series](#)

Scan the QR codes or
type the link into your
browser



gov.bc.ca/AgDrought

ONLINE TOOLS

Visit the Tools section of our [Drought in Agriculture](#) webpage for the following water management tools:



NEW [BC AgriWeather and Evapotranspiration Calculator](#)

Access real-time weather data from over 230 stations across B.C. and use the Evapotranspiration (ET) calculator to estimate irrigation needs and optimize water management.



[Agricultural Irrigation Scheduling Calculator](#)

Optimize water use and improve crop and soil health by generating customized, five-day irrigation schedules using real-time data from BC AgriWeather and weather forecasts.



[B.C. Irrigation Water Use Calculator](#)

Track actual irrigation water use without a flow meter by inputting system run times or pump energy data, generating reports for better water management and drought planning.



[B.C. Agriculture Water Calculator](#)

Estimate irrigation and livestock water needs based on location, climate, soils, crop/livestock type, and irrigation system. ***NEW*** Dugout Calculator to help producers plan water storage.

FUNDING PROGRAMS - WATER

The [Agriculture Water Infrastructure Program](#) provides cost-share funding for water infrastructure investments to producers, conservation groups, water purveyors, and Indigenous communities.

The [Beneficial Management Practices](#) program offers funding for on-farm water infrastructure planning and implementation (e.g., irrigation systems, water storage systems). With water-related intakes expected to reopen in 2026, position yourself well for upcoming funding opportunities by completing your free and confidential [Environmental Farm Plan](#).



These programs and
others are delivered
by the Investment
Agriculture
Foundation. Visit
www.iafbc.ca for
more information.

NEW [B.C. Crop and Livestock Reporter Program](#)
Contribute to B.C.'s agriculture network by sharing
local insights about crop and livestock conditions



Visit AgriService BC for
more information:
gov.bc.ca/agriservicebc

FUNDING PROGRAMS – WATER (CONT.)

In addition to these programs, extreme weather preparedness projects have also been supported in the past to advance related priorities such as extreme heat, flooding and wildfire. Funding programs and their availability can change. Visit the [Investment Agriculture Foundation](#) website for details on current program delivery and stay connected with [AgriService BC](#) for announcements on funding programs and intake timelines.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food's Business Risk Management Branch administers a suite of insurance and income stability programs that are designed to work together to enable B.C.'s agricultural producers to manage business risks that are beyond their control (production losses, severe market volatility, extreme weather events or disasters). For example:

- [Production Insurance \(crop insurance\)](#): Affordable insurance program that supports agricultural producers to manage the risk of crop losses caused by weather perils.
- [AgriStability](#): Helps stabilize farm income by managing the risk of large income declines.



Links are on our
Drought in Agriculture
webpage:
gov.bc.ca/AgDrought

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROGRAM

The [Climate Change Adaptation Program](#) operated from 2008 to 2023 and developed several resources to support producers in understanding their water use and increasing irrigation efficiencies. Resources consist of irrigation workshops (including webinar recordings) and regional adaptation strategies; visit www.bcclimatechangeadaptation.ca.

B.C. DROUGHT INFORMATION FROM OTHER MINISTRIES

The [B.C. Drought Preparation and Response](#) webpage provides information on drought preparedness, water conservation, and strategies to help individuals, farmers, and communities manage water use.

Provincial drought levels are posted on the [B.C. Drought Information Portal](#), which is updated regularly during the drought season. The portal also contains information on watershed conditions and other information related to drought monitoring.



gov.bc.ca/drought



[droughtportal.
gov.bc.ca](http://droughtportal.gov.bc.ca)

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