

Who uses CIMIS?



CIMIS information is used for irrigation, agriculture, air quality, pest management, forestry, hydrologic studies, renewable energy generation, natural resources management, weather forecasting and modeling, litigation, and more.



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www.cimis.water.ca.gov

CALIFORNIA IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

CIMIS

Quality Data for Efficient Irrigation



What is CIMIS?

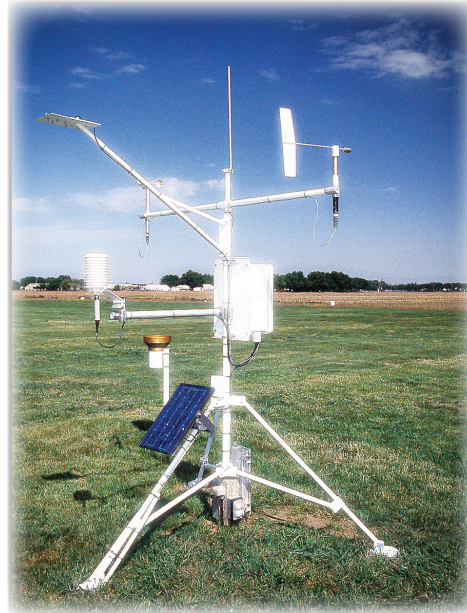
The California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) is a network of over 145 weather stations that helps growers and landscape managers determine when to irrigate and how much water to apply.

The Department of Water Resources operates CIMIS as a **FREE** resource to help irrigators increase irrigation efficiency.

Each station collects the following weather parameters:

- Solar radiation
- Soil temperature
- Air temperature
- Relative humidity
- Wind direction
- Wind speed
- Precipitation

Data from CIMIS helps managers develop water budgets. Improvements in agricultural and landscape irrigation efficiency can mean the difference between profit and loss to many irrigation managers. These improvements can also save water, energy, time, and capital outlay costs for water purveyors.



How can CIMIS benefit me?

- Adapt irrigation to specific climates and locations
- Save water, energy, and money
- Reduce labor, pesticide, and fertilizer costs
- Improve crop yields (quantity and quality)
- Improve landscape appearance and health
- Reduce drainage and runoff
- Prevent groundwater contamination

How Does CIMIS Work?

Around-the-clock, CIMIS weather stations are collecting local weather data such as solar radiation, air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, wind direction, soil temperature, and precipitation. Data is stored temporarily in a data-logger.

The stored data is regularly retrieved by the central computer and processed to provide hourly and daily averages of reference evapotranspiration (ET_o) and weather data.

ET_o is the combined value of pasture grass water use and soil evaporation. The daily water needs of plants can be estimated by using ET_o and crop or landscape coefficients (K_c, factors which adjust ET_o for specific types of plants).



How do I use CIMIS?

Go to www.cimis.water.ca.gov and register as a user. Registration allows users to access current and archived data and to schedule data delivery through email. After finding ET_o values for your area and the crop or landscape coefficients for your plants, use a water budget method to develop an efficient irrigation schedule.

Automated access to the data is also available via ftpcimis.water.ca.gov/pub2/.

