



**AgEcon** SEARCH  
RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL & APPLIED ECONOMICS

*The World's Largest Open Access Agricultural & Applied Economics Digital Library*

**This document is discoverable and free to researchers across the globe due to the work of AgEcon Search.**

**Help ensure our sustainability.**

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search

<http://ageconsearch.umn.edu>

[aesearch@umn.edu](mailto:aesearch@umn.edu)

*Papers downloaded from **AgEcon Search** may be used for non-commercial purposes and personal study only. No other use, including posting to another Internet site, is permitted without permission from the copyright owner (not AgEcon Search), or as allowed under the provisions of Fair Use, U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.*

California Department of Food and Agriculture

Agricultural Commissioners' Crop Reports

# Contra Costa County

1990-1999

California County Agricultural Commissioners' Reports from the California Department of Food and Agriculture. This collection consists of annual crop and livestock data from each of the 58 California Counties. The collection covers 1915-1981; digitization of the rest of the collection is forthcoming.

This digitization project was funded by the Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics,  
<http://giannini.ucop.edu/>.

The work was completed by the staff of the Giannini Foundation Library, University of California, Berkeley, <http://are.berkeley.edu/library/>. **Please contact the Library to consult the originals.**

# 1990 AGRICULTURAL REPORT



*Agricultural Commissioner*

**Contra Costa County, CA**  
**Department of Agriculture**

# Department of Agriculture

161 John Glenn Drive  
Concord, California 94520  
(415) 646-5250

## Branch Office

724 - 3rd Street  
Brentwood California 94513  
(415) 634-5682

# Contra Costa County



**John H. de Fremery**  
Agricultural Commissioner -  
Director Weights and Measures

TO: HENRY J. VOSS, DIRECTOR  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
and  
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

I am pleased to submit the 1990 Annual Crop and Livestock Report for Contra Costa County in accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 and 2272 of the California Food and Agriculture Code. Included as a new entry in our report is information on organic farming and biological control activities pursuant to Section 2272.

The 1990 gross value of agricultural crops and products was \$66,384,560 -- a gain of \$1,199,340 over 1989. This two percent rise is attributed to a \$3.3 million increase in value of Livestock and Poultry, Nursery Products, Field Crops, and Livestock Products. Offsetting this gain was a \$2.1 million decrease in Vegetable and Seed Crops and Fruit and Nut Crops.

Crops exceeding \$1 million in value include bedding plants, tomatoes, milk, cattle and calves, roses, rangeland pasture, apples, asparagus, alfalfa hay, apricots, herbaceous perennials, indoor decoratives, field corn, sweet corn, cows and bulls, and walnuts.

It should be emphasized the values stated in this report are gross receipts and do not include the costs of production, transportation, or marketing.

I want to thank all the individuals and organizations who contributed information for this report, and to my staff who obtained and compiled this data.

Respectfully submitted,

*John H de Fremery*  
John H. deFremery  
Agricultural Commissioner

JHdF:tlm

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Agricultural Commissioner - Director of Weights & Measures  
John H. deFremery

**AGRICULTURE**

Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner  
Edward Meyer

Deputy Agricultural Commissioner

Bob Cruickshank  
Vince Guise

Bart Hosman  
Dick Mello

Agricultural Biologist III

Bob Case

Gene Sparkman

Suzanne Ziegler

Agricultural Biologist II

Patty Alavi  
Cathy Roybal

Laurie Stout  
Larry Yost

Agricultural Biologist I

Joe Deviney

Ann McClure

Agricultural Biologist Trainee

Ralph Fonseca

**WEIGHTS and MEASURES**

Chief Deputy Sealer of Weights & Measures

Drex Guinn

Supervising Weights & Measures Inspector

Chuck Maddux

Ken Robinson

Weights & Measures Inspector III

Arthur Mangonon

Weights & Measures Inspector II

Chris Espejo

Dave Wallace

Weights & Measures Inspector Trainee

Tom Pisani

**CLERICAL**

Executive Secretary

Susan Finley

Senior Clerk

Teri Murphy

## FIELD CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Barley	1990		(Included in Miscellaneous)				
	1989	600	.85	510	Ton	\$ 97.60	\$ 49,800
Corn	1990	5,203	2.96	15,400	Ton	101.36	1,561,000
	1989	3,150	4.30	13,500		121.00	1,630,000
Hay-Alfalfa	1990	2,795	6.98	19,500	Ton	108.20	2,110,000
	1989	2,690	6.60	18,000		102.00	1,840,000
Grain	1990	1,472	1.36	2,000	Ton	65.50	131,000
	1989	1,490	1.66	2,470		67.00	165,000
Wild	1990		(Included in Miscellaneous)				
	1989	552	1.55	856	Ton	60.30	51,600
Pasture - Irrigated	1990	6,200			Acre	110.00	682,000
	1989	6,890				101.00	696,000
Pasture - Rangeland	1990	179,000			Acre	20.93	3,746,000
	1989	179,000				19.40	3,473,000
Silage	1990	869	12.08	10,500	Ton	31.81	334,000
	1989	1,030	13.20	13,600		28.80	392,000
Wheat	1990	4,487	1.39	6,220	Ton	110.60	688,000
	1989	3,660	1.78	6,500		124.20	807,000
Miscellaneous Field Crops*	1990	1,770					627,000
	1989	<u>2,530</u>					<u>641,000</u>
Total	1990	201,796					\$9,879,000
	1989	201,592					\$9,745,400

\*Barley, Hay (Volunteer - Wild), Indian Corn, Oats, Oat Straw, Safflower, Sugar Beets, and Sunflower.

## VEGETABLE & SEED CROPS

Crop	Year	Production			Value			
		Harvested Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total	
Asparagus	Total	1990	1,640	1.15	1,878	Ton	\$1,202.00	\$2,258,000
		1989	2,270	1.39	3,160		1,210.00	3,824,000
	Fresh	1990			1,860	Ton	1,207.00	2,245,000
		1989			3,160		1,210.00	3,824,000
	Processing	1990			18	Ton	720.00	13,000
		1989			--		--	--
Beans	1990	245	2.04	500	Ton	702.00	351,000	
	1989	138	2.15	297		1,120.00	333,000	
Corn	1990	1,260	4.04	5,090	Ton	301.36	1,534,000	
	1989	749	8.40	6,290		283.00	1,780,000	
Melons	1990	74	7.01	519	Ton	180.00	93,400	
	1989	61	9.46	577		243.00	140,000	
Onions	1990	32	8.66	277	Ton	394.00	109,000	
	1989	33	8.06	266		425.00	113,000	
Peppers	1990			(Included in Miscellaneous)				
	1989	35	11.70	410	Ton	567.00	232,000	
Squash	1990	241	4.94	1,190	Ton	365.50	435,000	
	1989	197	7.72	1,520		399.00	606,000	
Tomatoes	Total	1990	4,817		130,420	Ton		7,378,000
		1989**	4,607		119,432			6,401,000
	Fresh	1990	17	24.70	420	Ton	481.00	202,000
		1989	17	25.40	432		465.00	201,000
	Processing	1990	4,800	27.10	130,000	Ton	55.20	7,176,000
		1989**	4,590	25.93	119,000		52.10	6,200,000
Miscellaneous Vegetable and Seed Crops*	1990	252					232,000	
	1989	173					518,000	
Total	1990	8,561					\$12,390,400	
	1989**	8,263					\$13,947,000	

\*Broccoli, Cabbage, Cucumbers, Garlic, Gourds, Peas, Peppers, Pumpkins, Sudangrass Seed and various other Mixed Vegetable crops.

\*\*Revised

## FRUIT & NUT CROPS

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Almonds	1990	120	.055	6.6	Ton	\$1,700.00	\$ 11,200
	1989	300	.065	19.5		\$1,930.00	\$ 37,600
Apples Total	1990	883	10.43	9,210	Ton		2,700,000
	1989	868	14.30	12,440			3,142,000
Fresh	1990			5,840	Ton	416.00	2,429,000
	1989			6,380		370.00	2,360,000
Processing	1990			3,370	Ton	80.42	271,000
	1989			6,060		129.00	782,000
Apricots Total	1990	922	6.5	6,000	Ton		2,070,000
	1989	917	6.32	5,800			2,065,000
Fresh	1990			1,790	Ton	470.39	842,000
	1989			4,700		372.00	1,748,000
Processing	1990			4,210	Ton	291.69	1,228,000
	1989			1,100		288.00	317,000
Cherries Total	1990	352	1.30	458	Ton		482,000
	1989	331	2.32	767			637,300
Fresh	1990			459	Ton	1,052.00	482,000
	1989			551		1,070.00	590,000
Processing	1990			--	Ton	--	--
	1989			216		219.00	47,300
Grapes	1990	771	2.76	2,130	Ton	427.70	911,000
	1989	766	2.73	2,091		446.00	933,000
Nectarines	1990	31	3.0	93	Ton	657.00	61,100
	1989	31	4.10	127		735.00	93,400
Peaches	1990	149	4.22	629	Ton	572.00	360,000
	1989	161	4.22	679		570.00	387,000
Pears	1990	268	13.0	3,484	Ton	202.35	705,000
	1989		(Included in Miscellaneous)				
Plums	1990	11	3.43	38	Ton	679.00	25,800
	1989	12	2.92	35		474.00	16,600
Walnuts	1990	1,680	.67	1,130	Ton	944.00	1,067,000
	1989	1,680	.9	1,510		1,070.00	1,620,000



Miscellaneous Fruit & Nut Crops*	1990	339	3,580	842,000
	1989	<u>327</u>		<u>890,000</u>
Total	1990	5,476		\$9,235,100
	1989	5,393		\$9,821,900

\*Berries, Figs, Persimmons, Pistachios, Pomegranites, and other miscellaneous tree crops.

## NURSERY PRODUCTS

Crop	Year	Production Area		Quantity Sold by Producers	Unit	Value	
		House Sq. Ft.	Field Acres			Per Unit	Total
Nursery Crops							
Ornamental Tree and Shrubs	1990			(Included in Miscellaneous)			
	1989	20,000	9.30			\$	207,000
Bedding Plants**	1990	1,999,000	132.00				12,196,000
	1989	1,808,000	117.00				10,519,000
Herbaceous Perennials**	1990	706,000	44.00				2,030,000
	1989	688,000	42.00				1,690,000
Indoor Decoratives	1990	1,051,000	5.00				1,627,000
	1989	1,122,000	1.00				1,773,000
Vegetable Plants	1990	169,000	11.00				691,000
	1989	64,000	9.00				805,000
Christmas Trees	1990		88.00	8,080	Tree	24.38	197,000
	1989		82.00	8,070		25.03	202,000
Cut Flowers Roses, Std.	1990	1,069,000	2.00	16,779,000	Bloom	.262	4,404,000
	1989	1,015,000	1.20	16,330,000		.275	4,484,000
Roses, Min.	1990	120,000		2,523,000	Bloom	.180	455,000
	1989	112,000		2,342,000		.172	403,000
Miscellaneous Nursery Crops*	1990	146,000	47.80				939,000
	1989	<u>255,000</u>	<u>49.60</u>				<u>1,511,000</u>
Total	1990	5,260,000	329.80				\$22,539,000
	1989	3,454,000	254.10				\$21,594,000

\*Alstromeria, Bulbs, Carnations, Caspia, Dish Gardens, Dried Roses, Eucalyptus, Freesias, Fruit Trees, Ground Covers, Gypsophila, Herbs & Flowers, Iris, Ornamental Peppers, Ornamental Trees/Shrubs, Pussy Willows, Snapdragon, Statice, Stephanotis, Sweetpeas, and Yarrow.

\*\*Revised

## LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Value	
		No. of Head	Total Liveweight		Per Unit	Total
Cattle & Calves						
Beef	1990	11,400	65,800	cwt.	\$76.50	\$5,033,000
	1989	8,160	44,900		73.70	3,308,000
Cows & Bulls						
Beef & Dairy	1990	2,990	29,900	cwt.	50.60	1,513,000
	1989	2,380	23,800		46.90	1,118,000
Hogs & Pigs						
	1990	700	2,100	cwt.	56.20	118,000
	1989**	800	2,400		44.16	106,000
Miscellaneous Livestock & Poultry*						
	1990					40,000
	1989					120,000
Total						
	1990					\$6,704,000
	1989**					\$4,652,000

\*Chickens, Ducks, Fish, Goats, Rabbits and Sheep.

\*\*Revised.

## LIVESTOCK, APIARY & POULTRY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Milk - Market					
	1990	454,000	cwt.	\$11.96	\$5,430,000
	1989*	424,000		12.34	5,243,000
Manufacturing					
	1990	3,670	cwt.	\$12.02	\$ 44,100
	1989	--		--	--
Honey					
	1990	40,000	lbs.	.95	38,000
	1989	36,000		.95	34,200
Beeswax					
	1990	800	lbs	.95	760
	1989	800		.90	720
Pollination					
	1990	350	colonies	12.00	4,200
	1989	300		10.00	3,000
Miscellaneous Livestock & Poultry Products					
	1990				120,000
	1989				144,000
Total					
	1990				\$5,637,060
	1989*				\$5,424,920

\*Revised

## RECAPITULATION

	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>Change</u>
Field Crops	\$ 9,745,400	\$ 9,879,000	+ \$ 133,600
Vegetable & Seed Crops	13,947,000*	12,390,400	- 1,556,600
Fruit & Nut Crop	9,821,900	9,235,900	- 586,800
Nursery Crops	21,594,000	22,539,000	+ 945,000
Livestock & Poultry	4,652,000*	6,704,000	+ 2,052,000
Livestock, Apiary & Poultry Products	5,424,920*	5,637,060	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$65,185,220*</b>	<b>\$66,384,560</b>	<b>+ \$1,199,340</b>

-----

## THIRTY-FIVE YEAR GROSS AGRICULTURAL VALUE

1990	\$66,384,560	1972	\$32,061,566
1989	65,185,220*	1971	34,464,035
1988	61,492,102	1970	30,448,086
1987	60,303,962	1969	31,940,103
1986	61,791,850	1968	31,292,296
1985	59,653,080	1967	29,578,950
1984	66,076,892	1966	37,595,572
1983	61,124,820	1965	30,454,498
1982	64,385,760	1964	29,401,529
1981	60,640,050	1963	28,382,021
1980	61,606,870	1962	30,504,178
1979	65,160,320	1961	22,616,997
1978	55,961,960	1960	23,298,380
1977	49,513,890	1959	21,683,117
1976	48,678,020	1958	20,851,373
1975	53,374,650	1957	21,243,062
1974	54,395,914	1956	25,739,105
1973	40,953,986		

\*Revised

## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

<u>CROP</u>	<u>GROSS VALUE/MILLION DOLLARS</u>		<u>RANK</u>	
	<u>1990</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1989</u>
Bedding Plants	\$12.2	\$10.5	1	1
Tomatoes (All)	7.4	6.4	2	2
Milk (All)	5.4	5.2	3	3
Cattle & Calves	5.0	3.3	4	7
Roses (Cut) All	4.9	4.9	5	4
Pasture, Rangeland	3.7	3.5	6	6
Apples	2.7	3.1	7	8
Asparagus	2.3	3.8	8	5
Alfalfa Hay	2.1	1.8	9	10
Apricots	2.1	2.1	10	9
Herbaceous Perennials	2.0	1.7	11	13
Indoor Decoratives	1.6	1.8	12	12
Field Corn	1.6	1.6	13	14
Sweet Corn	1.5	1.8	14	11
Cows & Bulls	1.5	1.1	15	17
Walnuts	1.1	1.6	16	15
Misc. Nursery & Cut Flowers	.9	1.5	17	16

### CATEGORY

	<u>1990</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1989</u>
Nursery Products	\$22.5	\$21.6	1	1
Vegetable/Seed	12.4	13.9	2	2
Field Crops	9.9	9.7	3	4
Fruit and Nut Crops	9.2	9.8	4	3
Livestock and Poultry	6.7	4.7	5	6
Livestock Products	5.6	5.4	6	5

---

Total Acres in County	470,400
Population in County	804,000
Land in Farms - Acres**	200,262
Harvested Cropland - Acres**	30,267

\*\*1987 Census

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY  
ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL  
REPORTING**

<u>Pest</u>	<u>Agent/Mechanism</u>	<u>Scope Of Program</u>
<b><u>COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL</u></b>		
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	<u>Bangasternus</u> <u>Orientalis</u> (Weevil)	2 Sites
Walnut Husk Fly <u>Rhagoletis completa</u>	<u>Biosteres sublaevis</u>	1 Site
	<u>Coptera evensi</u>	1 Site

**PEST ERADICATION** - None

<u>PEST EXCLUSION</u>	<u>Type of Shipment</u>	<u>Number Rejected</u>
Live Pests	Mail	1
Citrus Pests	Mail	4
Apple/Blueberry Maggot	Mail	4
Pecan Pests	Mail	1
Persimmon Root Borer	Mail	3
Japanese Beetle	Mail	2
Imported Fire Ant	Mail	1
European Corn Borer	Mail	1
Cedar Apple Rust	Mail	1
Dutch Elm Disease	Mail	1
Gypsophila (Baby's Breath)	Mail	2
Label Violations	Mail	11
Dutch Elm Disease	Truck	2
Quackgrass	Truck	4
Gypsy Moth	Household Goods	5
Citrus Canker	Retail Inspections	5
	<b><u>TOTAL SHIPMENTS INSPECTED</u></b>	<b><u>REJECTED</u></b>
Mail =	15,838	32
Truck =	322	6
Household Goods =	903	5
Retail Inspection =	41	5

**ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS**

<u>Crop</u>	<u>No. of Farms</u>	<u>Estimated Acres</u>
Pears	2	2.6
Cherries	2	1.6
Figs	2	1.0
Peaches	2	10.7
Nectarines	2	5.6
Apricots	1	.8
Plums	1	.4
Grapes	1	6.0
Garlic	1	1.0
Tomatoes	1	1.0
Herbs/Flowers	1	1.0

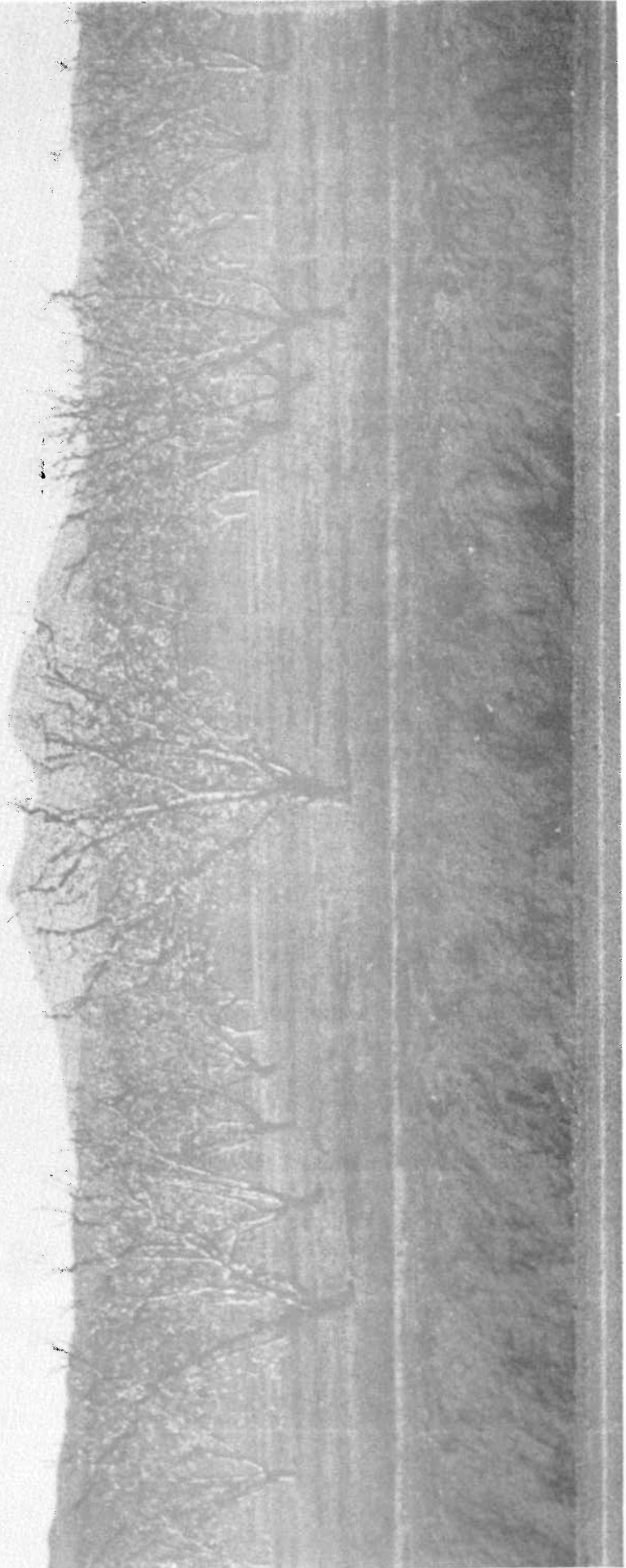
*Contra Costa County, Calif. Agricultural Commissioner*

1991

Agricultural  
Report

GIULIOTTI FOUNDATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
LIBRARY

MAY 16 1992



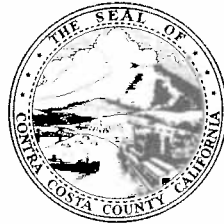
# Department of Agriculture

161 John Glenn Drive  
Concord, California 94520-5666  
(510) 646-5250

## Branch Office

724 - 3rd Street  
Brentwood, California 94513-1360  
(510) 634-5682

# Contra Costa County



**John H. de Fremery**  
Agricultural Commissioner -  
Director Weights and Measures

TO: HENRY J. VOSS, DIRECTOR  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
and  
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

I am pleased to submit the 1991 Annual Crop and Livestock Report for Contra Costa County in accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 and 2272 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. Pursuant to Section 2272, this report includes information on Organic Farming and Biological Control Activities in our county.

The 1991 gross value of agricultural crops and products was \$69,992,433 -- a gain of \$4,924,873 over 1990. This seven percent rise is attributed to an increase in value of Vegetable and Seed Crops, Fruit and Nut Crops, and Nursery Crops of 9.5 million. Offsetting this gain was a decrease in Field Crops, Livestock and Poultry, and Livestock Products totaling 4.5 million.

Several crop categories exceeded \$1 million in value. They included bedding plants, tomatoes, apples, milk, roses, cattle and calves, asparagus, sweet corn, rangeland pasture, alfalfa hay, cows and bulls, indoor decoratives, apricots and walnuts.

It should be emphasized the values stated in this report are gross receipts and do not include the costs of production, transportation, or marketing.

I want to thank all the individuals and organizations who contributed information for this report, and my staff who obtained and compiled this data.

Respectfully submitted,

*John H. de Fremery*  
John H. deFremery  
Agricultural Commissioner

JHdF:tlm

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Agricultural Commissioner - Director of Weights & Measures**  
John H. deFremery

**AGRICULTURE**

**Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**  
Edward Meyer

**Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**

Bob Cruickshank  
Vince Guise

Bart Hosman  
Dick Mello

**Agricultural Biologist III**

Bob Case

Gene Sparkman

Suzanne Ziegler

**Agricultural Biologist II**

Patty Alavi  
Ann McClure

Cathy Roybal

Laurie Stout  
Larry Yost

**Agricultural Biologist I**

Joe Deviney

Ralph Fonseca

**WEIGHTS and MEASURES**

**Chief Deputy Sealer of Weights & Measures**  
Drex Guinn

**Supervising Weights & Measures Inspector**

Chuck Maddux

Ken Robinson

**Weights & Measures Inspector III**

Arthur Mangonon

**Weights & Measures Inspector II**

Cris Espejo

Dave Wallace

**Weights & Measures Inspector I**

Tom Pisani

**CLERICAL**

**Executive Secretary**  
Susan Finley

**Senior Clerk**  
Teri Murphy



## FIELD CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Barley	1991	409	.81	331	Ton	\$ 86.40	\$ 28,6
	1990		(Included in Miscellaneous)				
Corn, <del>Sweet</del>	1991	1,878	4.04	7,590	Ton	109.22	829,0
	1990	5,203	2.96	15,400	Ton	101.36	1,561,0
Hay-Alfalfa	1991	2,871	6.58	18,900	Ton	87.57	1,655,0
	1990	2,795	6.98	19,500	Ton	108.20	2,110,0
Grain	1991	950	1.46	1,390	Ton	53.80	74,8
	1990	1,472	1.36	2,000	Ton	65.50	131,0
Wild	1991	330	1.05	347	Ton	52.20	18,1
	1990		(Included in Miscellaneous)				
Pasture - Irrigated	1991	6,030			Acre	108.60	655,0
	1990	6,200			Acre	110.00	682,0
Pasture - Rangeland	1991	179,000			Acre	10.28	1,840,0
	1990**	179,000			Acre	15.40	2,757,0
Silage	1991	704	14.77	10,400	Ton	32.21	335,0
	1990	869	12.08	10,500	Ton	31.81	334,0
Wheat	1991	4,268	1.43	6,100	Ton	99.50	607,0
	1990	4,487	1.39	6,220	Ton	110.60	688,0
Miscellaneous Field Crops*	1991	1,103					342,0
	1990	<u>1,770</u>					<u>627,0</u>
Total	1991	197,543					\$6,385,0
	1990**	201,796					\$8,890,0

\*Barley, Hay (Other Tame), Hay (Volunteer - Wild), Oats, Safflower, Sorghum, Sugar Beets, and Sunflower

\*\*Revised

## VEGETABLE & SEED CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Asparagus							
Total	1991	1,510	1.51	2,280	Ton	\$1,548.00	\$3,529,000
	1990	1,640	1.15	1,878	Ton	1,202.00	\$2,258,000
Fresh	1991			2,280	Ton	1,548.00	3,529,000
	1990			1,860	Ton	1,207.00	2,245,000
Processing	1991			--	Ton	--	--
	1990			18	Ton	720.00	13,000
Beans	1991	117	3.47	406	Ton	839.00	341,000
	1990	245	2.04	500	Ton	702.00	351,000
Corn	1991	1,370	7.04	9,640	Ton	283.00	2,730,000
	1990	1,260	4.04	5,090	Ton	301.36	1,534,000
Melons	1991	331	2.15	712	Ton	176.00	125,000
	1990	74	7.01	519	Ton	180.00	93,400
Onions	1991	53	16.06	851	Ton	402.00	342,000
	1990	32	8.66	277	Ton	394.00	109,000
Peppers	1991	242	8.72	2,110	Ton	404.00	852,000
	1990			(Included in Miscellaneous)			
Squash	1991	198	8.03	1,590	Ton	331.00	526,000
	1990	241	4.94	1,190	Ton	365.50	435,000
Tomatoes							
Total	1991	4,163		142,553	Ton	--	7,926,000
	1990	4,817		130,420	Ton	--	7,378,000
Fresh	1991	63	8.77	553	Ton	476.00	263,000
	1990	17	24.70	420	Ton	481.00	202,000
Processing	1991	4,100	34.60	142,000	Ton	53.96	7,663,000
	1990	4,800	27.10	130,000	Ton	55.20	7,176,000
Miscellaneous Vegetable and Seed Crops*	1991	159					351,000
	1990	<u>252</u>					<u>232,000</u>
Total	1991	8,143					\$16,722,000
	1990	8,561					\$12,390,400

\*Assorted Vegetables, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cucumbers, Garlic, Gourds, Indian Corn, Lettuce, Peppers, Potatoes, Pumpkins, and Sudangrass Seed.

## FRUIT & NUT CROPS

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production		Unit	Value		
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total	
Almonds	1991	80	.038	3	Ton	\$2,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	
	1990	120	.055	6.6	Ton	1,700.00	11,220.00	
Apples	Total	1991	1,020	16.44	16,770	Ton		7,298,000
		1990	883	10.43	9,210	Ton		2,700,000
	Fresh	1991			12,100	Ton	556.00	6,730,000
		1990			5,840	Ton	416.00	2,429,000
	Processing	1991			4,670	Ton	121.60	568,000
		1990			3,370	Ton	80.42	271,000
Apricots	Total	1991	777	4.14	3,220	Ton		1,328,000
		1990	922	6.5	6,000	Ton		2,070,000
	Fresh	1991			1,520	Ton	536.00	815,000
		1990			1,790	Ton	470.39	842,000
	Processing	1991			1,700	Ton	302.00	513,000
		1990			4,210	Ton	291.69	1,228,000
Cherries	1991	421	1.22	514	Ton	1,267.00	651,000	
	1990	352	1.30	458	Ton	1,052.00	482,000	
Grapes	1991	786	2.71	2,130	Ton	435.00	927,000	
	1990	771	2.76	2,130	Ton	427.70	911,000	
Nectarines	1991	22	4.9	108	Ton	815.00	88,000	
	1990	31	3.0	93	Ton	657.00	61,100	
Peaches	1991	205	3.31	678	Ton	611.00	414,000	
	1990	149	4.22	629	Ton	572.00	360,000	
Pears	1991	256	9.26	2,370	Ton	285.00	675,000	
	1990	268	13.0	3,484	Ton	202.35	705,000	
Pistachios	1991	55	.395	21.7	Ton	1,806.00	39,200	
	1990				(Included in Miscellaneous)			
Plums	1991	19	1.68	32	Ton	537.00	17,200	
	1990	11	3.43	38	Ton	679.00	25,800	
Walnuts	1991	1,430	.80	1,140	Ton	1105.00	1,260,000	
	1990	1,680	.67	1,130	Ton	944.00	1,067,000	

Miscellaneous				
Fruit & Nut	1991	18		58,700
Crops*	1990**	<u>74</u>		<u>173,000</u>
Total	1991	5,069		\$12,756,100
	1990**	5,211		\$ 8,566,100

\*Asian Pears, Berries, Figs, Kiwis, Pears, Persimmons, Pistachios, Pomegranates, Strawberries, and other Miscellaneous Tree Crops.

\*\*Revised

## NURSERY PRODUCTS

Crop	Year	Production Area		Quantity Sold by Producers	Unit	Value	
		House Sq. Ft.	Field Acres			Per Unit	Total
Nursery Crops							
Ornamental Tree and Shrubs	1991		10.50				\$253,000
	1990		(Included in Miscellaneous)				
Bedding Plants	1991	1,892,000	149.00				14,589,000
	1990	1,999,000	132.00				12,196,000
Herbaceous Perennials	1991	662,000	42.20				768,000
	1990	706,000	44.00				2,030,000
Indoor Decoratives	1991	1,040,000					1,434,000
	1990	1,051,000	5.00				1,627,000
Vegetable Plants	1991	118,000	43.00				908,000
	1990	169,000	11.00				691,000
Christmas Trees	1991		118.00	11,100	Tree	24.50	272,000
	1990		88.00	8,080	Tree	24.38	197,000
Cut Flowers							
Roses, Std.	1991	1,010,000	6.50	13,641,000	Bloom	.290	3,962,000
	1990	1,069,000	2.00	16,779,000	Bloom	.262	4,404,000
Roses, Min.	1991	107,000		3,207,000	Bloom	.130	423,000
	1990	120,000		2,523,000	Bloom	.180	455,000
Miscellaneous Nursery Crops*	1991	146,000	45.30				855,000
	1990	<u>146,000</u>	47.80				<u>939,000</u>
Total	1991	4,974,000	414.50				\$23,464,000
	1990	5,260,000	329.80				\$22,539,000

\*Alstromeria, Bulbs, Carnations, Caspia, Dish Gardens, Dried Roses, Eucalyptus, Freesias, Fruit Trees, Ground Covers, Gypsophila, Herbs & Flowers, Iris, Ornamental Peppers, Ornamental Trees/Shrubs, Pussy Willows, Snapdragon, Statice, Stephanotis, Sweetpeas, and Yarrow.

## LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Value	
		No. of Head	Total Liveweight		Per Unit	Total
Cattle & Calves						
Beef	1991	8,700	48,700	cwt.	\$76.30	\$3,718,000
	1990**	12,081	70,346	cwt.	76.40	5,374,000
Cows & Bulls						
Beef & Dairy	1991	3,110	31,100	cwt.	48.20	1,500,000
	1990	2,990	29,900	cwt.	50.60	1,513,000
Hogs & Pigs	1991	500	1,500	cwt.	55.70	83,500
	1990	700	2,100	cwt.	56.20	118,000
Miscellaneous Livestock & Poultry*	1991					35,000
	1990					40,000
Total	1991					\$5,336,500
	1990**					\$7,045,000

\*Chickens, Ducks, Fish, Goats, Rabbits and Sheep.

\*\*Revised

## LIVESTOCK, APIARY & POULTRY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Milk - Market	1991	463,000	cwt.	\$11.18	\$5,176,000
	1990	454,000	cwt.	11.96	5,430,000
Manufacturing	1991	--	cwt.	--	--
	1990	3,670	cwt.	12.02	44,100
Honey	1991	35,000	lbs	.95	33,250
	1990	40,000	lbs	.95	38,000
Beeswax	1991	583	lbs	1.00	580
	1990	800	lbs	.95	760
Pollination	1991	900	colonies	10.00	9,000
	1990	350	colonies	12.00	4,200
Miscellaneous Livestock & Poultry Products	1991				110,000
	1990				120,000
Total	1991				\$5,328,830
	1990				\$5,637,060

**MILLION DOLLAR CROPS  
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

<u>CROP</u>	<u>GROSS VALUE/MILLION DOLLARS</u>		<u>RANK</u>	
	<u>1991</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1990</u>
Bedding Plants	\$14.6	\$12.2	1	1
Tomatoes (All)	7.9	7.4	2	2
Milk (All)	7.3	2.7	3	7
Cattle & Calves	5.2	5.4	4	3
Roses (Cut) All	4.4	4.9	5	5
Cattle & Calves	3.7	5.4	6	4
Asparagus	3.5	2.3	7	8
Sweet Corn	2.7	1.5	8	14
Pasture, Rangeland	1.8	2.8	9	6
Alfalfa	1.7	2.1	10	9
Cows & Bulls	1.5	1.5	11	15
Indoor Decoratives	1.4	1.6	12	12
Apricots	1.3	2.1	13	10
Walnuts	1.3	1.1	14	16
Field Corn	0.8	1.6	15	13
Herbaceous Perennials	0.8	2.0	16	11

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1990</u>
	Nursery Products	\$23.5	\$22.5	1
Vegetable & Seed Crops	16.7	12.4	2	2
Fruit & Nut Crops	12.8	8.6	3	4
Field Crops	6.4	8.9	4	3
Livestock and Poultry	5.3	7.0	5	5
Livestock Products	5.3	5.6	6	6

- - - - -

<b>Total Acres in County</b>	470,400
<b>Population in County</b>	810,000
<b>Land in Farms - Acres**</b>	200,262
<b>Harvested Cropland - Acres**</b>	30,267

\*\*1987 Census

## RECAPITULATION

	1990	1991	Change
Field Crops	\$ 8,890,000*	\$ 6,385,000	- \$2,505,000
Vegetable & Seed Crops	12,390,400	16,722,000	+ 4,331,600
Fruit & Nut Crop	8,566,100*	12,756,100	+ 4,190,000
Nursery Crops	22,539,000	23,464,000	+ 925,000
Livestock & Poultry	7,045,000*	5,336,500	- 1,708,500
Livestock, Apiary & Poultry Products	5,637,060	5,328,833	- 308,227
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$65,067,560*</b>	<b>\$69,992,433</b>	<b>+ \$4,924,873</b>

\*Revised

-----

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL REPORTING

<u>Pest</u>	<u>Agent/Mechanism</u>	<u>Scope Of Program</u>
<b><u>COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL</u></b>		
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Seedhead fly <u>Urophora sirunaseva</u>	1 release by USDA-ARS
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Seedhead weevil <u>Bangasternus orientalis</u>	2 releases by Contra Costa Ag & CDFA
Puncture Vine <u>Tribulus terrestris</u>	Seed and stem borers <u>Microlarinus lareynii</u> <u>M. lypriformis</u>	3 releases by Contra Costa Ag & CDFA
Ash Whitefly <u>Siphoninus phillyreae</u>	Parasitoid wasp <u>Encarsia inaron</u>	4 official releases by CDFA; 15 CDFA trees in Contra Costa Ag 100 leaf litter releases by Contra Costa Ag
Codling Moth <u>Cydia pomonella</u>	Parasitic wasp <u>Liotryphon caudatus</u>	1 research release by UCB BioControl

**PEST ERADICATION** - None

PEST EXCLUSIONType of ShipmentNumber Rejected

	<u>MAIL</u>	
Live Pests	"	6
Citrus Pests	"	3
Imported Fire Ant	"	20
Japanese Beetle	"	2
Apple Blueberry Maggot	"	9
Carribbean Fruit Fly	"	21
Burrowing Nematode	"	2
European Corn Borer	"	5
Cedar Apple Rust	"	3
Soybean Cyst Nematode	"	4
Ozonium Root Rot	"	21
Pecan Pests	"	2
Oak Wilt Disease	"	1
Gypsophila (Baby's Breath)	"	6
Label Violations	"	52

	<u>TRUCK</u>	
Live Pests	"	3
Quackgrass	"	1
Wild Garlic	"	1
Dutch Elm Disease	"	1

	<u>HOUSEHOLD GOODS</u>	
Gypsy Moth	"	6

	<u>RETAIL</u>	
Citrus Canker	"	2

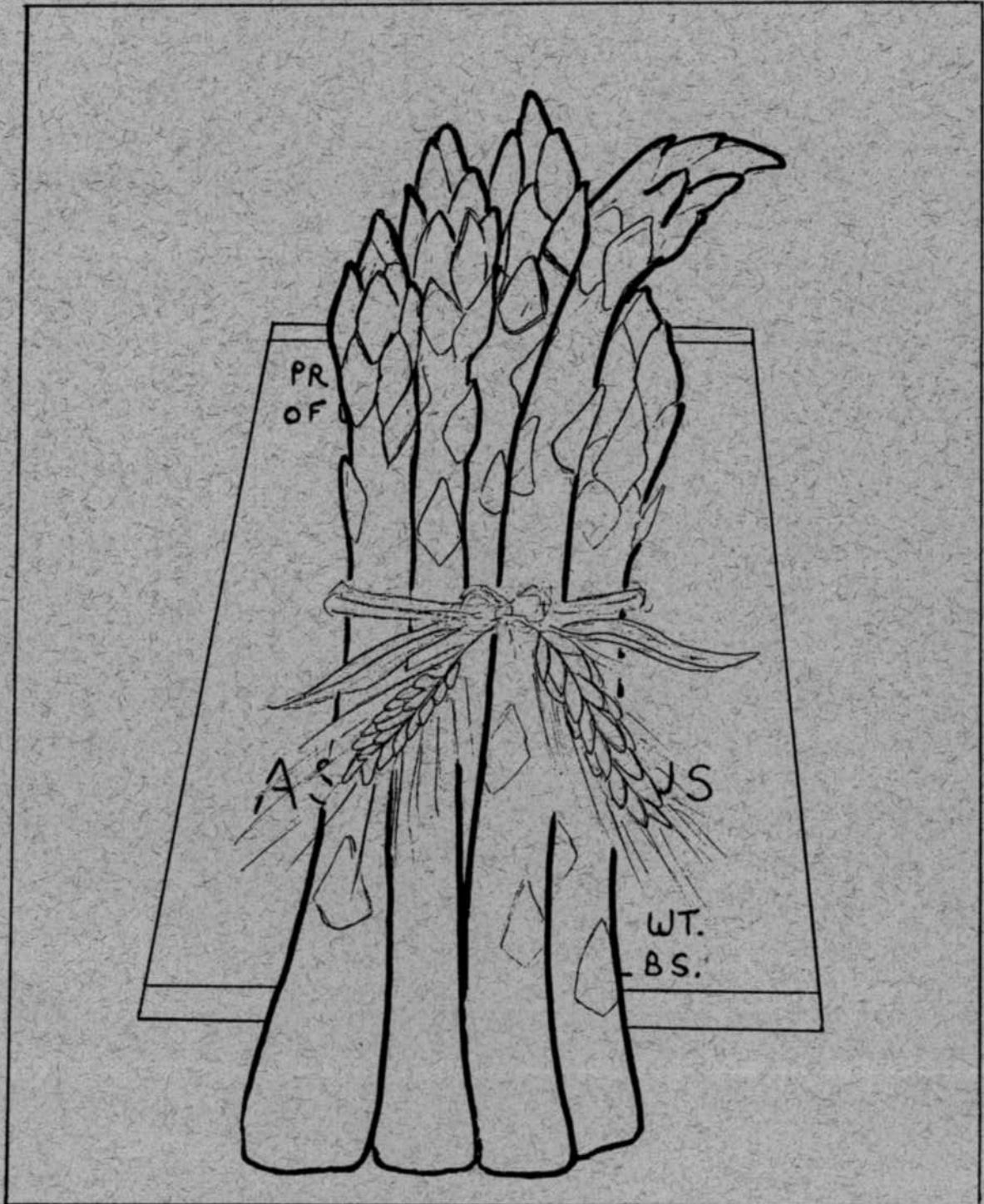
		<u>TOTAL SHIPMENTS INSPECTED</u>	<u>REJECTED</u>
Mail	=	12,083	140
Truck	=	279	6
Household Goods	=	908	6
Retail Inspection	=	23	2

ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS

<u>Crop</u>	<u>No. of Farms</u>	<u>Estimated Acres</u>
Apples	1	11.0
Apricots	2	14.6
Artichokes	1	.5
Asian Pears	1	2.0
Cherries	1	1.0
Figs	1	.75
Garlic	1	1.0
Herbs	1	.5
Nectarines	1	6.0
Peaches	1	10.0
Pistachios	1	39.0
Plums	1	.4
Table Grapes	1	6.0
Tomatoes	2	1.5
Vegetable Plants	1	.5



**Contra Costa County**, *Calif. Agricultural Commission*  
**Department of Agriculture**



**1992 Agricultural Report**

# Department of Agriculture

2366 A Stanwell Circle  
Concord, California 94520-4807  
(510) 646-5250  
FAX (510) 646-5732

## Branch Office

724 - 3rd Street  
Brentwood, California 94513-1360  
(510) 634-5682

# Contra Costa County



John H. de Fremery  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Director Weights and Measures

TO: HENRY J. VOSS, DIRECTOR  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
and  
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

I am pleased to submit the 1992 Annual Crop and Livestock Report for Contra Costa County in accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 and 2272 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. Pursuant to Section 2272, this report includes information on Organic Farming and Biological Control Activities in our county.

The 1992 gross value of agricultural crops and products was \$67,008,020 -- a drop of 4 percent over 1991. This loss of \$2,910,413 is attributed to a decrease in value of Nursery Crops, Livestock and Poultry, and Vegetable and Seed Crops of 7.3 million. Offsetting this loss was a gain in Field Crops, Fruit and Nut Crops, and Livestock Products totaling 4.4 million.

Several crop categories exceeded \$1 million in value. They included bedding plants, tomatoes, apples, milk, roses, asparagus, sweet corn, cattle and calves, rangeland pasture, field corn, alfalfa hay, apricots, walnuts and wheat.

It should be emphasized the values stated in this report are gross receipts and do not include the costs of production, transportation, or marketing.

I want to thank all the individuals and organizations who contributed information for this report, and my staff who obtained and compiled this data.

Respectfully submitted,

*John H. de Fremery*  
John H. deFremery  
Agricultural Commissioner

JHdF:tlm

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Agricultural Commissioner - Director of Weights & Measures**

John H. deFremery

**AGRICULTURE**

**Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**

Edward Meyer

**Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**

Bob Cruickshank

Vince Guise

Bart Hosman

**Agricultural Biologist III**

Bob Case

Gene Sparkman

Suzanne Ziegler

**Agricultural Biologist II**

Patty Alavi

Ralph Fonseca

Laurie Stout

Joe Deviney

Ann McClure

Larry Yost

Cathy Roybal

**WEIGHTS and MEASURES**

**Supervising Weights & Measures Inspector**

Chuck Maddux

Ken Robinson

**Weights & Measures Inspector III**

Arthur Mangonon

**Weights & Measures Inspector II**

Cris Espejo

Tom Pisani

Dave Wallace

**CLERICAL**

**Executive Secretary**

Susan Finley

**Senior Clerk**

Teri Murphy

# FIELD CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE		
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$	
Barley	1992	437	1.53	668	Ton	103.00	69,100	
	1991	409	0.81	331	Ton	86.40	28,600	
Field Corn	1992	6,410	3.73	23,900	Ton	94.35	2,255,000	
	1991	1,878	4.04	7,590	Ton	109.22	829,000	
Hay	Alfalfa	1992	3,260	6.23	20,300	Ton	78.42	1,592,000
		1991	2,871	6.58	18,900	Ton	87.57	1,655,000
	Grain	1992	1,530	1.89	2,890	Ton	58.80	170,000
		1991	950	1.46	1,390	Ton	53.80	74,800
	Wild	1992	577	1.18	681	Ton	51.50	35,100
		1991	330	1.05	347	Ton	52.20	18,100
Pasture	Irrigated				Grazed	Acre		
		1992	6,610					
		1991	6,030			Acre	108.60	655,000
Pasture -	Rangeland					Acre		
		1992	179,000					
		1991	179,000			Acre	10.28	1,840,000
Silage		1992	846	13.50	11,400	Ton	31.40	358,000
		1991	704	14.77	10,400	Ton	32.21	335,000
Wheat		1992	6,460	2.00	13,000	Ton	94.77	1,232,000
		1991	4,268	1.43	6,100	Ton	99.50	607,000
Miscellaneous Field Crops*		1992	2,320					905,000
		1991	1,103					342,000
Total		1992	207,450					\$10,064,200
		1991	197,543					\$6,385,000

\*Hay (Other Tame), Oats, Safflower, Sorghum, and Sugar Beets

## VEGETABLE & SEED CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Asparagus</b>							
Fresh	1992	1,650	1.26	2,080	Ton	1,566.00	3,258,000
	1991	1,510	1.51	2,280	Ton	1,548.00	3,529,000
<b>Beans</b>							
	1992	132	3.66	483	Ton	878.00	424,000
	1991	117	3.47	406	Ton	839.00	341,000
<b>Cucumbers</b>							
	1992	8	1.75	14	Ton	612.00	8,570
	1991		(Included in Miscellaneous)			-	
<b>Melons</b>							
	1992	274	9.53	2,610	Ton	186.00	485,000
	1991	331	2.15	712	Ton	176.00	125,000
<b>Onions</b>							
	1992	57	13.51	770	Ton	314.00	242,000
	1991	53	16.06	851	Ton	402.00	342,000
<b>Peppers</b>							
	1992	278	5.90	1,640	Ton	367.00	602,000
	1991	242	8.72	2,110	Ton	404.00	852,000
<b>Squash</b>							
	1992	136	7.43	1,010	Ton	320.00	323,000
	1991	198	8.03	1,590	Ton	331.00	526,000
<b>Sweet Corn</b>							
	1992	1,550	6.90	10,700	Ton	294.50	3,151,000
	1991	1,370	7.04	9,640	Ton	283.00	2,730,000
<b>Tomatoes</b>							
Total	1992	4,454		163,441	Ton		7,666,000
	1991	4,163		142,553	Ton		7,926,000
Fresh	1992	34	12.97	441	Ton	512.00	226,000
	1991	63	8.77	553	Ton	476.00	263,000
Processing	1992	4,420	36.88	163,000	Ton	46.13	7,440,000
	1991	4,100	34.60	142,000	Ton	53.96	7,663,000
<b>Miscellaneous Vegetable and Seed Crops*</b>							
	1992	44					74,700
	1991	159					351,000
<b>Total</b>							
	1992	8,583					\$16,234,270
	1991	8,143					\$16,722,000

\*Assorted Vegetables, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cucumbers, Garlic, Greens, Herbs, Indian Corn, Lettuce, Misc. Seed Crops, Potatoes, and Pumpkins.



## FRUIT & NUT CROPS

CROP	YEAR	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Almonds</b>	<b>1992</b>						
	1991	80	0.04	3	Ton	2,000.00	6,000
							(Included in Miscellaneous)
<b>Apples</b>							
Total	<b>1992</b>	<b>1180</b>	<b>13.21</b>	<b>15,590</b>	<b>Ton</b>		<b>7,228,000</b>
	1991	1,020	16.44	16,770	Ton		7,298,000
Fresh	<b>1992</b>			<b>11,070</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>606.00</b>	<b>6,710,000</b>
	1991			12,100	Ton	556.00	6,730,000
Processing	<b>1992</b>			<b>4,520</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>114.60</b>	<b>518,000</b>
	1991			4,670	Ton	121.60	568,000
<b>Apricots</b>							
Total	<b>1992</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>4.98</b>	<b>4,530</b>	<b>Ton</b>		<b>1,544,000</b>
	1991	777	4.14	3,220	Ton		1,328,000
Fresh	<b>1992</b>			<b>2,200</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>376.40</b>	<b>828,000</b>
	1991			1,520	Ton	536.00	815,000
Processing	<b>1992</b>			<b>2,330</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>307.30</b>	<b>716,000</b>
	1991			1,700	Ton	302.00	513,000
<b>Cherries</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>1.43</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>1,390.00</b>	<b>717,000</b>
	1991	421	1.22	514	Ton	1,267.00	651,000
<b>Grapes</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>2.55</b>	<b>1,990</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>470.00</b>	<b>935,000</b>
	1991	786	2.71	2,130	Ton	435.00	927,000
<b>Nectarines</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>3.89</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>1,023.00</b>	<b>179,000</b>
	1991	22	4.90	108	Ton	815.00	88,000
<b>Peaches</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>3.56</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>564.00</b>	<b>408,000</b>
	1991	205	3.31	678	Ton	611.00	414,000
<b>Pears</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>9.13</b>	<b>2,090</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>253.00</b>	<b>529,000</b>
	1991	256	9.26	2,370	Ton	285.00	675,000
<b>Pistachios</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>25.1</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>4,861.00</b>	<b>122,000</b>
	1991	55	0.40	21.7	Ton	1,806.00	39,200
<b>Plums</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1.42</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>374.00</b>	<b>10,100</b>
	1991	19	1.68	32	Ton	537.00	17,200
<b>Walnuts</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>0.74</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>1,293.00</b>	<b>1,384,000</b>
	1991	1,430	0.80	1,140	Ton	1,105.00	1,260,000

<b>Miscellaneous Fruit &amp; Nut Crops*</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>135,000</b>
	1991	<u>18</u>	<u>58,700</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>5,348</b>	<b>\$13,191,100</b>
	1991	5,069	\$12,756,100

\*Almonds, Berries, Figs, Kiwis, Oranges, Pecans, Persimmons, Pomegranates, Strawberries, and other Miscellaneous Tree Crops.

## NURSERY PRODUCTS

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION AREA		QUANTITY SOLD BY PRODUCERS	UNIT	VALUE	
		HOUSE SQ. FT.	FIELD ACRES			PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Nursery Stock</b>							
<b>Ornamental Tree and Shrubs</b>	<b>1992</b>		<b>31.00</b>				<b>599,000</b>
	1991		10.50				253,000
<b>Bedding Plants</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1,841,000</b>	<b>72.00</b>				<b>10,465,000</b>
	1991	1,892,000	149.00				14,589,000
<b>Herbaceous Perennials</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>344,000</b>	<b>10.40</b>				<b>373,000</b>
	1991	662,000	42.20				768,000
<b>Indoor Decoratives</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>830,000</b>	<b>1.00</b>				<b>716,000</b>
	1991	1,040,000					1,434,000
<b>Vegetable Plants</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>181,000</b>	<b>42.50</b>				<b>664,000</b>
	1991	118,000	43.00				908,000
<b>Christmas Trees</b>	<b>1992</b>		<b>83.50</b>	<b>7,660</b>	<b>Trees</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>198,000</b>
	1991		118.00	11,100	Trees	24.5	272,000
<b>Cut Flowers Roses, Std.</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1,014,000</b>		<b>16,676,000</b>	<b>Blooms</b>	<b>0.228</b>	<b>3,809,000</b>
	1991	1,010,000	6.50	13,641,000	Blooms	0.290	3,962,000
<b>Roses, Min.</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>107,000</b>		<b>2,263,000</b>	<b>Blooms</b>	<b>0.163</b>	<b>368,000</b>
	1991	107,000		3,207,000	Blooms	0.130	423,000
<b>Miscellaneous Nursery Crops*</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>144,000</b>	<b>39.50</b>				<b>692,000</b>
	1991	<u>146,000</u>	<u>45.30</u>				<u>855,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>4,461,000</b>	<b>280.00</b>				<b>\$17,884,000</b>
	1991	4,974,000	414.50				\$23,464,000

\*Alstromeria, Camations, Dish Gardens, Dried Roses, Eucalyptus, Freesias, Gypsophila, Herbs & Cut Flowers, Ornamental Peppers, Statice, and Stephanotis

## LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
		NO. OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Cattle &amp; Calves</b>						
<b>Beef**</b>	1992	7,450	41,000	cwt.	74.50	3,053,000
	1991	8,500	47,600	cwt.	76.50	3,643,000
<b>Cows &amp; Bulls</b>						
<b>Beef &amp; Dairy</b>	1992	1,860	18,600	cwt.	45.70	850,000
	1991	3,110	31,100	cwt.	48.20	1,500,000
<b>Hogs &amp; Pigs**</b>	1992	500	1,500	cwt.	44.70	67,100
	1991	500	1,500	cwt.	56.30	84,500
<b>Miscellaneous Livestock &amp; Poultry</b>	1992					95,000
	1991					35,000
<b>Total</b>	1992					\$4,065,100
	1991					\$5,262,500

\*Chickens, Ducks, Fish, Goats, Ostriches, Rabbits and Sheep.

\*\*1991 Revised

## LIVESTOCK, APIARY & POULTRY PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Milk - Market</b>	1992	466,000	cwt.	11.61	5,414,000
	1991	463,000	cwt.	11.18	5,176,000
<b>Honey</b>	1992	43,000	lbs.	0.95	40,850
	1991	35,000	lbs.	0.95	33,250
<b>Beeswax</b>	1992	700	lbs.	1.00	700
	1991	583	lbs.	1.00	583
<b>Pollination</b>	1992	800	colonies	11.00	8,800
	1991	900	colonies	10.00	9,000
<b>Miscellaneous Livestock &amp; Poultry Products</b>	1992				105,000
	1991				110,000
<b>Total</b>	1992				\$5,569,350
	1991				\$5,328,833



## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

<u>CROP</u>	<u>GROSS VALUE/MILLION DOLLARS</u>		<u>RANK</u>	
	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>
Bedding Plants	\$10.5	\$14.6	1	1
Tomatoes, all	7.7	7.9	2	2
Apples, all	7.2	7.3	3	3
Milk, all	5.4	5.2	4	4
Roses, (cut) all	4.2	4.4	5	5
Asparagus	3.3	3.5	6	7
Sweet Corn	3.2	2.7	7	8
Cattle & Calves	3.1	3.6	8	6
Rangeland Pasture	2.7	1.8	9	9
Field Corn	2.3	0.8	10	
Alfalfa	1.6	1.7	11	10
Apricots	1.5	1.3	12	13
Walnuts	1.4	1.3	13	14
Wheat	1.2	0.6	14	

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>
	Nursery Products	\$17.9	\$23.5	1
Vegetable & Seed Crops	16.2	16.7	2	2
Fruit & Nut Crops	13.2	12.8	3	3
Field Crops	10.0	6.4	4	4
Livestock Products	5.6	5.3	5	6
Livestock & Poultry	4.1	5.3	6	5

---

Total Acres in County	470,400
Population in County	837,000
Land in Farms - Acres **	200,262
Harvested Cropland - Acres**	30,267

\*\*1987 Census

# RECAPITULATION

	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>Change</u>
Field Crops	6,385,000	10,064,200	+3,679,200
Vegetable & Seed Crops	16,722,000	16,234,270	-487,730
Fruit & Nut Crops	12,756,100	13,191,100	+435,000
Nursery Crops	23,464,000	17,884,000	-5,580,000
Livestock & Poultry	* 5,262,500	4,065,100	-1,197,400
Livestock, Apiary & Poultry Products	5,328,833	5,569,350	+240,517
Total	*69,918,433	67,008,020	-2,910,413

\*Revised

-----

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL REPORTING

<u>Pest</u>	<u>Agent/Mechanism</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u>
<b><u>COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL</u></b>		
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Seedhead weevil <u>Bangasternus orientalis</u>	2 releases by Contra Costa Ag & CDFA
Ash Whitefly <u>Siphoninus phillyreae</u>	Parasitoid wasp <u>Encarsia inaron</u>	1 release by UCD
Waterhyacinth <u>Eichhornia crassipes</u>	Mottled waterhyacinth weevil <u>Neochetina eichhorniae</u>	1 release by CDFA
<b><u>PEST ERADICATION</u></b>		
Chrysanthemum White Rust <u>Puccinia horiana</u>	host destruction	1 action on Nursery stock by Contra Costa Ag

**PEST EXCLUSION****TYPE OF SHIPMENT****NUMBER REJECTED**

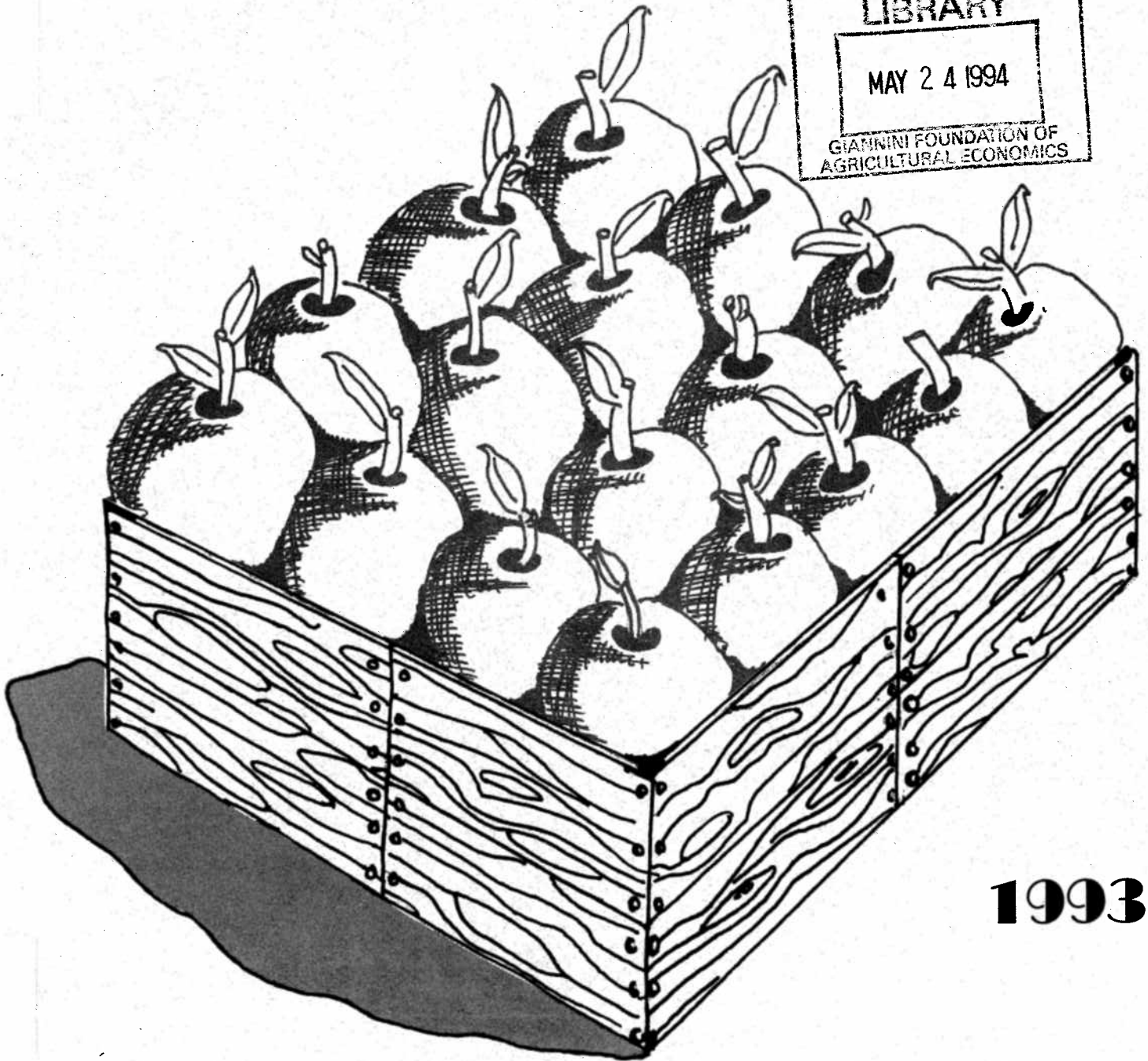
	<u>MAIL - UPS</u>	
Apple Blueberry Maggot	"	20
Burrowing Nematode	"	3
Caribbean Fruit Fly	"	3
Cedar Apple Rust	"	2
Cereal Leaf Beetle	"	1
Chestnut Blight & Oak Wilt Disease	"	2
Citrus Pest	"	17
Colorado Potato Beetle	"	2
Dutch Elm Disease	"	2
European Corn Borer	"	2
European Pine Shoot Moth	"	1
Golden Nematode	"	1
Gypsophila (Baby's Breath)	"	2
Imported Fire Ant	"	6
Japanese Beetle	"	8
Labeling	"	79
Live Pests	"	4
Mexican Fruit Fly	"	1
Ozonium Root Rot	"	6
Peach Mosaic	"	1
Soybean Cyst Nematode	"	2
Walnut & Pecan Pests	"	4
	<u>TRUCK</u>	
Chrysanthemum White Rust	"	4
Japanese Beetle	"	1
Live Pests	"	1
Quackgrass	"	2
	<u>HOUSEHOLD GOODS</u>	
Gypsy Moth	"	9
	<u>RETAIL</u>	
Citrus Canker	"	1
	<u>TOTAL SHIPMENTS INSPECTED</u>	
Household Goods	755	9
Mail/UPS	16,788	169
Retail Inspection	8	1
Truck	332	8

**ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS**

<u>Crop</u>	<u>No. of Farms</u>	<u>Estimated Acres</u>
Apples	1	11.0
Apricots	2	14.6
Artichokes	1	0.5
Cherries	1	1.0
Figs	1	0.8
Flowers	1	1.0
Garlic	1	1.0
Kiwi	1	1.0
Herbs	1	0.5
Nectarines	1	6.0
Onions	1	8.0
Peaches	1	14.0
Pears	2	6.6
Pistachios	1	19.0
Plums	1	0.4
Table Grapes	1	7.0
Tomatoes	3	4.0
Vegetables, Misc.	3	2.0

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LIBRARY  
MAY 24 1994  
GIANNINI FOUNDATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS



1993

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY <sup>Calif.</sup> *Agricultural Commissioners* AGRICULTURAL REPORT

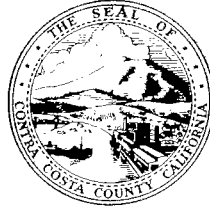
# Department of Agriculture

2366 A Stanwell Circle  
Concord, California 94520-4807  
(510) 646-5250  
FAX (510) 646-5732

## Branch Office

724 - 3rd Street  
Brentwood, California 94513-1360  
(510) 634-5682  
FAX (510) 634-2201

# Contra Costa County



**John H. de Fremery**  
Agricultural Commissioner -  
Director Weights and Measures

TO: HENRY J. VOSS, SECRETARY  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
and  
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

It is my pleasure to submit the 1993 Annual Crop and Livestock Report for Contra Costa County in accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 and 2272 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. Pursuant to Section 2272, this report includes information on Organic Farming and Biological Control Activities in our county.

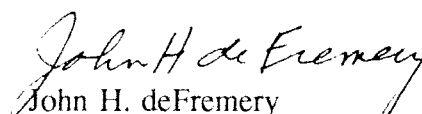
The total gross value of agricultural crops and products in 1993 was \$74,802,550 -- the highest value recorded for Contra Costa and a gain of \$7,703,530 over 1992. This gain is attributed to a resurgence in Nursery Crops (a \$7 million gain) along with a modest gain in Livestock and Livestock Products of almost \$1 million in the combined categories.

Several crop categories exceeded \$1 million in value, including some crops for the first time. They are bedding plants, tomatoes, apples, milk, sweet corn, roses (cut), cattle and calves, asparagus, rangeland pasture, field corn, alfalfa hay, apricots, walnuts, miscellaneous nursery crops, indoor decoratives, vegetable plants, cows and bulls, and grapes.

It should be emphasized the values stated in this report are gross receipts and do not include the costs of production, transportation, or marketing.

I would like to thank all the individuals and organizations who contributed information for this report, and my staff who obtained and compiled this data. I extend a special thanks to Patty Alavi for all her efforts in coordinating this project and taking responsibility for its completion.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John H. deFremery  
Agricultural Commissioner

JHdF:tlm

Special thanks to Brad Miller, Liberty High School Student (Brentwood, CA) for designing the cover of our report.

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Agricultural Commissioner - Director of Weights & Measures**  
John H. deFremery

**Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer**  
Edward Meyer

**AGRICULTURE**

**Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**

Bob Cruickshank

Vince Guise

Bart Hosman

**Agricultural Biologist III**

Bob Case

Gene Sparkman

Suzanne Ziegler

**Agricultural Biologist II**

Patty Alavi  
Joe Deviney

Ralph Fonseca  
Ann McClure  
Cathy Roybal

Laurie Stout  
Larry Yost

**WEIGHTS and MEASURES**

**Supervising Weights & Measures Inspector**

Chuck Maddux

Ken Robinson

**Weights & Measures Inspector III**

Arthur Mangonon

**Weights & Measures Inspector II**

Cris Espejo

Tom Pisani

Dave Wallace

**CLERICAL**

**Executive Secretary**  
Susan Finley

**Senior Clerk**  
Teri Murphy

# FIELD CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
Barley	1993	482	1.02	493	Ton	100.60	49,600
	1992	437	1.53	668	Ton	103.00	69,100
Field Corn	1993	6,770	3.62	24,500	Ton	104.10	2,550,000
	1992	6,410	3.73	23,900	Ton	94.35	2,255,000
Hay     Alfalfa	1993	3,060	6.21	19,000	Ton	99.30	1,887,000
	1992	3,260	6.23	20,300	Ton	78.42	1,592,000
Grain	1993	1,860	1.73	3,220	Ton	58.40	188,000
	1992	1,530	1.89	2,890	Ton	58.80	170,000
Wild	1993	344	1.65	568	Ton	56.00	31,800
	1992	577	1.18	681	Ton	51.50	35,100
Pasture     Irrigated	1993	4,650		Grazed	Acre	108.80	506,000
	1992	6,610		Grazed	Acre	110.00	727,000
Pasture     Rangeland	1993	177,000			Acre	17.30	3,062,000
	1992	179,000			Acre	15.20	2,721,000
Safflower	1993	2,770	0.76	2,090	Ton	269.00	562,000
	1992			(Included in Miscellaneous)			
Silage	1993	900	16.70	15,000	Ton	17.60	264,000
	1992	846	13.50	11,400	Ton	31.40	358,000
Wheat	1993	3,650	1.69	6,160	Ton	95.60	589,000
	1992	6,460	2.00	13,000	Ton	94.77	1,232,000
Miscellaneous Field Crops*	1993	1,023					426,200
	1992	2,320					905,000
Total	1993	202,509					\$10,115,600
	1992	207,450					\$10,064,200

\*Hay (Other Tame), Oats, Safflower, Sorghum, and Sugar Beets

## VEGETABLE & SEED CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Asparagus</b>							
Fresh	1993	1,390	1.44	2,000	Ton	1,745.00	3,490,000
	1992	1,650	1.26	2,080	Ton	1,566.00	3,258,000
<b>Beans</b>	1993	114	5.94	677	Ton	456.00	309,000
	1992	132	3.66	483	Ton	878.00	424,000
<b>Cabbage</b>	1993	10	19.20	192	Ton	184.00	35,300
	1992		(Included in Miscellaneous)				
<b>Cucumbers</b>	1993		(Included in Miscellaneous)				
	1992	8	1.75	14	Ton	612.00	8,570
<b>Melons</b>	1993		(Included in Miscellaneous)				
	1992	274	9.53	2,610	Ton	186.00	485,000
<b>Onions</b>	1993	65	12.40	805	Ton	338.00	272,000
	1992	57	13.51	770	Ton	314.00	242,000
<b>Peppers</b>	1993	309	1.18	364	Ton	731.00	266,000
	1992	278	5.90	1,640	Ton	367.00	602,000
<b>Squash</b>	1993	124	4.65	577	Ton	367.00	212,000
	1992	136	7.43	1,010	Ton	320.00	323,000
<b>Sweet Corn</b>	1993	1,920	7.97	15,300	Ton	283.00	4,330,000
	1992	1,550	6.90	10,700	Ton	294.50	3,151,000
<b>Tomatoes</b>							
Total	1993	3,837		146,541	Ton		7,036,200
	1992	4,454		163,441	Ton		7,666,000
Fresh	1993	37	14.60	541	Ton	399.60	216,200
	1992	34	12.97	441	Ton	512.00	226,000
Processing	1993	3,800	38.40	146,000	Ton	46.70	6,820,000
	1992	4,420	36.88	163,000	Ton	46.13	7,440,000
<b>Miscellaneous Vegetable and Seed Crops*</b>	1993	87					117,000
	1992	44					74,700
<b>Total</b>	1993	7,856					\$16,067,500
	1992	8,583					\$16,234,270

\*Assorted Vegetables, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cucumbers, Garlic, Herbs, Melons, Miscellaneous Seed Crops, and Pumpkins.



## FRUIT & NUT CROPS

CROP	YEAR	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
Apples							
Total	1993	1,110	17.90	19,860	Ton		6,826,000
	1992	1,180	13.21	15,590	Ton		7,228,000
Fresh	1993			13,800	Ton	473.00	6,530,000
	1992			11,070	Ton	606.00	6,710,000
Processing	1993			6,060	Ton	48.80	296,000
	1992			4,520	Ton	114.60	518,000
Apricots							
Total	1993	932	4.64	4,320	Ton		1,641,000
	1992	910	4.98	4,530	Ton		1,544,000
Fresh	1993			2,650	Ton	425.30	1,127,000
	1992			2,200	Ton	376.40	828,000
Processing	1993			1,670	Ton	307.80	514,000
	1992			2,330	Ton	307.30	716,000
Cherries	1993	338	0.79	267	Ton	2,064.00	551,000
	1992	362	1.43	516	Ton	1,390.00	717,000
Grapes	1993	980	2.34	2,290	Ton	422.00	966,000
	1992	779	2.55	1,990	Ton	470.00	935,000
Nectarines	1993	46	3.37	155	Ton	768.00	119,000
	1992	45	3.89	175	Ton	1,023.00	179,000
Peaches	1993	198	3.61	715	Ton	676.00	483,000
	1992	203	3.56	723	Ton	564.00	408,000
Pears	1993	233	11.70	2,730	Ton	243.00	663,000
	1992	229	9.13	2,090	Ton	253.00	529,000
Pistachios	1993	60	0.683	41.0	Ton	5,830.00	239,000
	1992	59	0.425	25.1	Ton	4,861.00	122,000
Plums	1993	19	1.84	35	Ton	563.00	19,700
	1992	19	1.42	27	Ton	374.00	10,100
Walnuts	1993	1,440	0.74	1,070	Ton	1,320.00	1,415,000
	1992	1,450	0.74	1,070	Ton	1,293.00	1,384,000

Miscellaneous			
Fruit & Nut	1993	106	209,000
Crops*	1992	112	135,000
			<hr/>
Total	1993	5,462	\$13,131,700
	1992	5,348	\$13,191,100

\*Almonds, Berries, Figs, Kiwis, Oranges, Pecans, Persimmons, Pomegranates, Strawberries, and other Miscellaneous Tree Crops.

## NURSERY PRODUCTS

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION AREA		QUANTITY		VALUE	
		HOUSE SQ. FT.	FIELD ACRES	SOLD BY PRODUCERS	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Nursery Stock</b>							
Ornamental Tree and Shrubs	1993			(Included in Miscellaneous)			
	1992		31.00				599,000
Bedding Plants	1993	36,165,000					17,220,000
	** 1992	28,813,000					10,465,000
Herbaceous Perennials	1993	214,000	0.25				304,000
	1992	344,000	10.40				373,000
Indoor Decoratives	1993	849,000					1,107,000
	1992	830,000	1.00				716,000
Vegetable Plants	1993	218,000	2.50				1,101,000
	1992	181,000	42.50				664,000
Christmas Trees	1993		75.00	9,910	Trees	26.60	264,000
	1992		83.50	7,660	Trees	25.80	198,000
Cut Flowers Roses, Std.	1993	1,032,000		15,255,000	Blooms	0.223	3,398,000
	1992	1,014,000		16,676,000	Blooms	0.228	3,809,000
Roses, Min.	1993	102,000		2,110,000	Blooms	0.136	288,000
	1992	107,000		2,263,000	Blooms	0.163	368,000
Miscellaneous Nursery Crops*	1993	239,000	59.50				1,258,000
	1992	144,000	39.50				692,000
							<hr/>
Total	1993	38,819,000	137.00				\$24,940,000
	** 1992	31,433,000	208.00				\$17,884,001

\*Alstromeria, Carnations, Dianthus, Dish Gardens, Eucalyptus, Flowers & Vegetables, Freesias, Gypsophila, Hanging Baskets, Herbs & Cut Flowers, Lisianthus, Ornamental Trees & Shrubs, and Statice

\*\*Revised

## LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
		NO. OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Cattle &amp; Calves</b>						
Beef	1993	8,050	44,300	cwt.	79.50	3,520,000
	1992	7,450	41,000	cwt.	74.50	3,053,000
<b>Cows &amp; Bulls</b>						
Beef & Dairy**	1993	2,430	24,300	cwt.	45.40	1,099,000
	1992	2,060	20,600	cwt.	45.70	941,000
<b>Hogs &amp; Pigs</b>						
	1993	500	1,500	cwt.	47.90	71,800
	1992	500	1,500	cwt.	44.70	67,100
<b>Miscellaneous Livestock &amp; Poultry*</b>						
	1993					96,000
	1992					95,000
<b>Total**</b>						
	1993					\$4,786,800
	1992					\$4,156,100

\*Chickens, Ducks, Fish, Goats, Ostriches, Rabbits and Sheep.

\*\*1992 Revised

## LIVESTOCK, APIARY & POULTRY PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Milk - Market</b>					
	1993	483,000	cwt.	11.44	5,524,000
	1992	466,000	cwt.	11.61	5,414,000
<b>Honey</b>					
	1993	104,000	lbs.	0.95	98,800
	1992	43,000	lbs.	0.95	40,850
<b>Beeswax</b>					
	1993	1,000	lbs.	1.25	1,250
	1992	700	lbs.	1.00	700
<b>Pollination</b>					
	1993	2,900	colonies	11.00	31,900
	1992	800	colonies	11.00	8,800
<b>Miscellaneous Livestock &amp; Poultry Products</b>					
	1993				105,000
	1992				105,000
<b>Total</b>					
	1993				\$5,760,950
	1992				\$5,569,350

## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

<u>CROP</u>	<u>GROSS VALUE/MILLION DOLLARS</u>		<u>RANK</u>	
	<u>1993</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1992</u>
Bedding Plants	\$17.2	\$10.5	1	1
Tomatoes, all	7	7.7	2	2
Apples, all	6.8	7.2	3	3
Milk, all	5.5	5.4	4	4
Sweet Corn	4.3	3.2	5	7
Roses, (cut) all	3.7	4.2	6	5
Cattle & Calves	3.5	3.1	7	8
Asparagus	3.5	3.3	8	6
Rangeland Pasture	3.1	2.7	9	9
Field Corn	2.6	2.3	10	10
Hay - Alfalfa	1.9	1.6	11	11
Apricots	1.6	1.5	12	12
Walnuts	1.4	1.4	13	13
Miscellaneous Nursery	1.3	0.9	14	
Indoor Decoratives	1.1	0.7	15	
Vegetable Plants	1.1	0.7	16	
Cows & Bulls	1.1	0.9	17	
Grapes	1	0.9	18	

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1992</u>
Nursery Products	\$24.9	\$17.9	1	1
Vegetable & Seed Crops	16.1	16.2	2	2
Fruit & Nut Crops	13.1	13.2	3	3
Field Crops	10.1	10.1	4	4
Livestock Products	5.8	5.6	5	5
Livestock & Poultry	4.8	4.2	6	6

---

Total Acres in County	470,400
Population in County	855,000
Land in Farms - Acres **	200,262
Harvested Cropland - Acres**	30,267

\*\*1987 Census

# RECAPITULATION

	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>Change</u>
Field Crops	10,064,200	10,115,600	+51,400
Vegetable & Seed Crops	16,234,270	16,067,500	-166,770
Fruit & Nut Crops	13,191,100	13,131,700	-59,400
Nursery Crops	17,884,000	24,940,000	+7,056,000
Livestock & Poultry	* 4,156,100	4,786,800	+630,700
Livestock, Apiary & Poultry Products	5,569,350	5,760,950	+191,600
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	*67,099,020	74,802,550	+7,703,530

\*Revised

-----

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL REPORTING

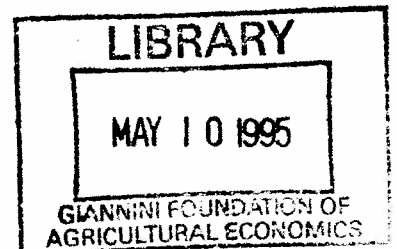
<u>Pest</u>	<u>Agent/Mechanism</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u>
<u>COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL</u>		
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Seedhead weevil <u>Bangasternus orientalis</u>	7 releases by Contra Costa Ag & CDFA
	Hairy weevil <u>Eustenopus villosus</u>	1 release by USDA, EBRP & Contra Costa Ag
	Gall fly <u>Urophora sirunaseva</u>	5 releases by Contra Costa Ag & CDFA
Eugenia psyllid <u>Trioza eugeniae</u>	Parasitoid wasp <u>Tamarixia sp.</u>	1 release by UCB
Elm leaf beetle <u>Xanthogaleruca luteola</u>	Parasitoid wasp <u>Conyzus gallerucae</u>	3 releases by UCB

<u>PEST EXCLUSION</u>	<u>TYPE OF SHIPMENT</u>	<u>NUMBER REJECTED</u>
	<u>MAIL - UPS</u>	
Apple Blueberry Maggot	"	5
Burrowing Nematode	"	4
Cedar Apple Rust	"	1
Chestnut Bark & Oak Wilt Disease	"	1
Citrus Pest	"	11
European Corn Borer	"	2
Japanese Beetle	"	3
Labeling	"	28
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	"	1
Ozonium Root Rot	"	1
Witchweed	"	1
	<u>TRUCK</u>	
Chestnut Bark Disease	"	2
Chrysanthemum White Rust	"	5
Japanese Beetle	"	1
	<u>HOUSEHOLD GOODS</u>	
Gypsy Moth	"	8
	<u>RETAIL</u>	
Citrus Canker	"	1
	<u>TOTAL SHIPMENTS INSPECTED</u>	
Household Goods	486	8
Mail/UPS	19,737	58
Retail Inspection	13	1
Truck	353	8

### ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS

<u>Crop</u>	<u>No. of Farms</u>	<u>Estimated Acres</u>
Apples	1	11.0
Apricots	2	14.6
Artichokes	1	0.5
Cherries	1	1.0
Figs	1	0.8
Flowers	1	1.0
Garlic	1	1.0
Kiwi	1	1.0
Herbs	1	0.5
Nectarines	1	6.0
Onions	1	8.0
Peaches	1	14.0
Pears	2	6.6
Pistachios	1	40.0
Plums	1	0.4
Table Grapes	1	7.0
Tomatoes	3	4.0
Vegetables, Misc.	3	2.0

# 1994 *Agricultural Report*



*Contra Costa County, Calif.*  
*Agricultural Commissioner*  
*Department of Agriculture*

# Department of Agriculture

2366A Stanwell Circle  
Concord, California 94520-4807  
(510) 646-5250  
FAX (510) 646-5732

## Branch Office

724 - 3rd Street  
Brentwood, California 94513-1360  
(510) 634-5682  
FAX (510) 634-2201

# Contra Costa County



**John H. de Fremery**  
Agricultural Commissioner -  
Director Weights and Measures

TO: HENRY J. VOSS, SECRETARY  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
and  
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

I am pleased to submit the 1994 Annual Crop and Livestock Report for Contra Costa County in accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 and 2272 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. Pursuant to Section 2272, this report includes information on Organic Farming and Biological Control Activities in our county.

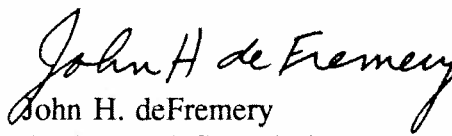
The total gross value of agricultural crops and products in 1994 was \$80,118,080. Once again the total value reached an all-time high for our county. Using the revised figure for the 1993 total value, (\$77,060,850), there was a gain in 1994 of \$3,057,230 over the 1993 figure. This gain is attributed to a sizeable gain in Vegetable and Seed Crops (\$4 million) and Field Crops (\$1 million), along with a combined gain in Fruit & Nut, Nursery, and Livestock Products (over \$1 million). This value was offset by a significant reduction in value of Livestock (over \$3 million).

Several crop categories exceeded \$1 million in value. These categories include bedding plants, tomatoes, apples, milk, sweet corn, roses (cut), asparagus, field corn, cattle and calves, rangeland pasture, apricots, alfalfa hay, vegetable plants, grapes, indoor decoratives, walnuts, and miscellaneous nursery stock.

It should be emphasized the values stated in this report are gross receipts and do not include the cost of production, transportation, or marketing of the products.

I would like to extend a sincere thanks to the numerous individuals and organizations who supplied us with the information to complete this report. Your cooperation is much appreciated. I also thank my staff for their contribution to obtaining, compiling, and coordinating of efforts to work as a team in the culmination of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John H. deFremery  
Agricultural Commissioner

JHdF:tlm



**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Agricultural Commissioner - Director of Weights & Measures**

John H. deFremery

**Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer**

Edward Meyer

**AGRICULTURE**

**Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**

Bob Cruickshank

Vince Guise

Bart Hosman

**Agricultural Biologist III**

Bob Case

Gene Sparkman

Suzanne Ziegler

**Agricultural Biologist II**

Patty Alavi  
Joe Deviney

Ralph Fonseca  
Ann McClure  
Cathy Roybal

Laurie Stout  
Larry Yost

**WEIGHTS and MEASURES**

**Supervising Weights & Measures Inspector**

Chuck Maddux

Ken Robinson

**Weights & Measures Inspector III**

Arthur Mangonon

**Weights & Measures Inspector II**

Cris Espejo  
Estella Harris

Tom Pisani  
Dave Wallace

**CLERICAL**

**Executive Secretary**

Susan Finley

**Senior Clerk**

Teri Murphy

## FIELD CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE		
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$	
Barley	1994	580	1.33	774	Ton	110.00	85,000	
	1993	482	1.02	493	Ton	100.60	49,600	
Field Corn	1994	7,560	3.89	29,400	Ton	101.40	2,981,000	
	1993	6,770	3.62	24,500	Ton	104.10	2,550,000	
Hay	Alfalfa	1994	3,200	6.47	20,700	Ton	113.60	2,352,000
		1993	3,060	6.21	19,000	Ton	99.30	1,887,000
	Grain	1994	2,700	2.58	6,970	Ton	74.00	516,000
		1993	1,860	1.73	3,220	Ton	58.40	188,000
	Wild	1994	Included in Miscellaneous					
		1993	344	1.65	568	Ton	56.00	31,800
Pasture	Irrigated	1994	4,600		Grazed	Acre	140.90	648,000
		1993	4,650		Grazed	Acre	108.80	506,000
Pasture	Rangeland	1994	177,000			Acre	14.90	2,637,000
		1993	177,000			Acre	17.30	3,062,000
Safflower	1994	1,560	0.67	1,040	Ton	281.00	292,000	
	1993	2,770	0.76	2,090	Ton	269.00	562,000	
Silage	1994	823	8.89	7,320	Ton	31.20	228,000	
	1993	900	16.70	15,000	Ton	17.60	264,000	
Wheat	1994	3,890	1.93	7,490	Ton	111.00	831,000	
	1993	3,650	1.69	6,160	Ton	95.60	589,000	
Miscellaneous Field Crops*	1994	1,300					552,000	
	1993	1,023					426,200	
Total	1994	203,213					\$11,122,000	
	1993	202,509					\$10,115,600	

\*Hay (Other Tame), Hay (Wild), Indian Corn, Oats, and Sugar Beets

## VEGETABLE & SEED CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Asparagus</b>							
Fresh	1994	1,240	1.32	1,629	Ton	2,090.00	3,404,000
	1993	1,390	1.44	2,000	Ton	1,745.00	3,490,000
<b>Beans</b>	1994	223	4.84	1,080	Ton	470.80	508,500
	1993	114	5.94	677	Ton	456.00	309,000
<b>Cabbage</b>	1994		(Included in Miscellaneous)				
	1993	10	19.20	192	Ton	184.00	35,300
<b>Onions</b>	1994	53	17.70	938	Ton	254.00	238,000
	1993	65	12.40	805	Ton	338.00	272,000
<b>Peppers</b>	1994		(Included in Miscellaneous)				
	1993	309	1.18	364	Ton	731.00	266,000
<b>Squash</b>	1994	116	9.90	1,150	Ton	378.00	435,000
	1993	124	4.65	577	Ton	367.00	212,000
<b>Sweet Corn</b>	1994	2,220	7.84	17,400	Ton	294.80	5,130,000
	1993	1,920	7.97	15,300	Ton	283.00	4,330,000
<b>Tomatoes</b>							
Total	1994	4,165		154,542	Ton		9,736,000
	1993	3,837		146,541	Ton		7,036,200
Fresh	1994	65	12.95	842	Ton	428.00	360,000
	1993	37	14.60	541	Ton	399.60	216,200
Processing	1994	4,100	37.49	153,700	Ton	61.00	9,376,000
	1993	3,800	38.40	146,000	Ton	46.70	6,820,000
<b>Miscellaneous Vegetable and Seed Crops*</b>	1994	661					791,000
	1993	87					117,000
<b>Total</b>	1994	8,678					\$20,242,500
	1993	7,856					\$16,067,500

\*Assorted Vegetables, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cucumbers, Garlic, Herbs, Melons, Miscellaneous Seed Crops, Peppers and Pumpkins.

## FRUIT & NUT CROPS

CROP	YEAR	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Apples</b>							
Total	<b>1994</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>13.08</b>	<b>18,310</b>	<b>Ton</b>		<b>6,565,000</b>
	1993	1,110	17.90	19,860	Ton		6,826,000
Fresh	<b>1994</b>			<b>10,100</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>602.20</b>	<b>6,082,000</b>
	1993			13,800	Ton	473.00	6,530,000
Processing	<b>1994</b>			<b>8,210</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>58.80</b>	<b>483,000</b>
	1993			6,060	Ton	48.80	296,000
<b>Apricots</b>							
Total	<b>1994</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>8.57</b>	<b>8,340</b>	<b>Ton</b>		<b>2,570,000</b>
	1993	932	4.64	4,320	Ton		1,641,000
Fresh	<b>1994</b>			<b>4,300</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>315.30</b>	<b>1,356,000</b>
	1993			2,650	Ton	425.30	1,127,000
Processing	<b>1994</b>			<b>4,040</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>300.50</b>	<b>1,214,000</b>
	1993			1,670	Ton	307.80	514,000
<b>Cherries</b>							
	<b>1994</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>1.15</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>1,262.00</b>	<b>563,000</b>
	1993	338	0.79	267	Ton	2,064.00	551,000
<b>Grapes</b>							
	<b>1994</b>	<b>995</b>	<b>2.29</b>	<b>2,280</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>517.00</b>	<b>1,179,000</b>
	1993	980	2.34	2,290	Ton	422.00	966,000
<b>Nectarines</b>							
	<b>1994</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>2.66</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>1,020.00</b>	<b>103,000</b>
	1993	46	3.37	155	Ton	768.00	119,000
<b>Peaches</b>							
	<b>1994</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>3.57</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>681.00</b>	<b>494,000</b>
	1993	198	3.61	715	Ton	676.00	483,000
<b>Pears</b>							
	<b>1994</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>10.33</b>	<b>2,220</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>229.00</b>	<b>508,000</b>
	1993	233	11.70	2,730	Ton	243.00	663,000
<b>Pistachios</b>							
	<b>1994</b>			<b>Included in Miscellaneous</b>			
	1993	60	0.683	41.0	Ton	5,830.00	239,000
<b>Plums</b>							
	<b>1994</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1.15</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>604.00</b>	<b>13,900</b>
	1993	19	1.84	35	Ton	563.00	19,700
<b>Walnuts</b>							
	<b>1994</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>Ton</b>	<b>960.00</b>	<b>1,171,000</b>
	1993	1,440	0.74	1,070	Ton	1,320.00	1,415,000

<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
<b>Fruit &amp; Nut Crops*</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>350,000</b>
	1993	106	209,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>5,739</b>	<b>\$13,516,900</b>
	1993	5,462	\$13,131,700

\*Almonds, Berries, Figs, Kiwis, Oranges, Pecans, Persimmons, Pistachios, Pomegranates, Strawberries, and other Miscellaneous Tree Crops.

## NURSERY PRODUCTS

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION AREA		QUANTITY SOLD BY PRODUCERS		VALUE	
		HOUSE SQ. FT.	FIELD ACRES		UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Nursery Stock</b>							
<b>Bedding</b>							
Plants	1994	36,320,000	11.00				17,545,000
	1993	36,165,000					17,220,000
<b>Herbaceous</b>							
Perennials	1994	499,000	0.25				735,000
	1993	214,000	0.25				304,000
<b>Indoor</b>							
Decoratives	1994	750,000					1,172,000
	1993	849,000					1,107,000
<b>Vegetable</b>							
Plants	1994	82,800	2.00				1,270,000
	1993	218,000	2.50				1,101,000
<b>Christmas</b>							
Trees	1994		99.00	7,690	Trees	24.06	185,000
	1993		75.00	9,910	Trees	26.60	264,000
<b>Cut Flowers</b>							
Roses, Std.	1994	837,000		12,988,000	Blooms	0.255	3,319,000
	1993	1,032,000		15,255,000	Blooms	0.223	3,398,000
Roses, Min.	1994	44,000		1,187,000	Blooms	0.131	155,000
	1993	102,000		2,110,000	Blooms	0.136	288,000
<b>Miscellaneous</b>							
Nursery Crops*	1994	198,000	37.50				1,028,000
	1993	239,000	59.50				1,258,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>38,731,000</b>	<b>149.75</b>				<b>\$25,409,000</b>
	1993	38,819,000	137.00				\$24,940,000

\*Alstromeria, Carnations, Dianthus, Eucalyptus, Potted Flowers & Vegetables, Freesias, Geraniums Hanging Baskets, Cut Flowers, Lisianthus, Mums, Ornamental Trees & Shrubs, Statice and Willow Foliage

## LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
		NO. OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Cattle &amp; Calves</b>						
<b>Beef**</b>	1994	7,710	42,000	cwt.	69.90	2,936,000
	1993	11,700	68,100	cwt.	79.40	5,407,000
<b>Cows &amp; Bulls</b>						
<b>Beef &amp; Dairy**</b>	1994	323	3,230	cwt.	41.10	133,000
	1993	2,420	24,200	cwt.	45.40	1,099,000
<b>Hogs &amp; Pigs**</b>	1994	300	900	cwt.	44.50	40,000
	1993	300	900	cwt.	47.90	43,100
<b>Miscellaneous Livestock &amp; Poultry**</b>	1994					547,000
	1993					496,000
<b>Total**</b>	1994					\$3,656,000
	1993					\$7,045,100

\*Chickens, Ducks, Fish, Goats, Ostriches, Pheasants, Rabbits, Sheep and Turkeys.

\*\*1993 Revised

## LIVESTOCK, APIARY & POULTRY PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Milk - Market</b>	1994	520,000	cwt.	11.51	5,990,000
	1993	483,000	cwt.	11.44	5,524,000
<b>Honey</b>	1994	56,000	lbs.	1.02	57,100
	1993	104,000	lbs.	0.95	98,800
<b>Beeswax</b>	1994	700	lbs.	1.54	1,080
	1993	1,000	lbs.	1.25	1,250
<b>Pollination</b>	1994	2,950	colonies	11.36	33,500
	1993	2,900	colonies	11.00	31,900
<b>Miscellaneous Livestock &amp; Poultry Products</b>	1994				90,000
	1993				105,000
<b>Total</b>	1994				\$6,171,680
	1993				\$5,760,950

# RECAPITULATION

	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>Change</u>
Field Crops	10,115,600	11,122,000	+1,006,400
Vegetable & Seed Crops	16,067,500	20,242,500	+4,175,000
Fruit & Nut Crops	13,131,700	13,516,900	+385,200
Nursery Crops	24,940,000	25,409,000	+469,000
Livestock & Poultry	*7,045,100	3,656,000	-3,389,100
Livestock, Apiary & Poultry Products	5,760,950	6,171,680	+410,730
Total	*77,060,850	80,118,080	+3,057,230

\*Revised

-----

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL REPORTING

<u>Pest</u>	<u>Agent/Mechanism</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u>
<b><u>COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL</u></b>		
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Seedhead weevil <u>Bangasternus orientalis</u>	9 releases by Contra Costa Ag & CDFA
	Hairy weevil <u>Eustenopus villosus</u>	1 release by CDFA and Contra Costa Ag
	Gall fly <u>Urophora sirunaseva</u>	2 releases by Contra Costa Ag & CDFA
Elm leaf beetle <u>Xanthogaleruca luteola</u>	Parasitoid wasp <u>Oonyzus gallerucae</u>	2 releases by UCB

## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

CROP	GROSS VALUE/MILLION DOLLARS		RANK	
	1994	1993	1994	1993
Bedding Plants	\$17.5	\$17.2	1	1
Tomatoes, all	9.7	7.0	2	2
Apples, all	6.6	6.8	3	3
Milk, all	6.0	5.5	4	4
Sweet Corn	5.1	4.3	5	*6
Roses, (cut) all	3.5	3.7	6	*7
Asparagus	3.4	3.5	7	8
Field Corn	3.0	2.6	8	10
Cattle & Calves	2.9	*5.4	9	*5
Rangeland Pasture	2.6	3.1	10	9
Apricots	2.6	1.6	11	12
Hay - Alfalfa	2.4	1.9	12	11
Vegetable Plants	1.3	1.1	13	16
Grapes	1.2	1.0	14	18
Indoor Decoratives	1.2	1.1	15	15
Walnuts	1.2	1.4	16	13
Miscellaneous Nursery	1.0	1.3	17	14

\*Revised

CATEGORY				
	1994	1993	1994	1993
Nursery Products	\$25.4	\$24.9	1	1
Vegetable & Seed Crops	20.2	16.1	2	2
Fruit & Nut Crops	13.5	13.1	3	3
Field Crops	11.1	10.1	4	4
Livestock Products	3.7	7.0	6	5
Livestock & Poultry	6.2	5.8	5	6

---

Total Acres in County	470,400
Population in County	868,600
Land in Farms - Acres	217,630
Harvested Cropland - Acres	40,630



**PEST EXCLUSION****TYPE OF SHIPMENT****NUMBER REJECTED**

<u>PEST EXCLUSION</u>	<u>TYPE OF SHIPMENT</u>	<u>NUMBER REJECTED</u>
	<u>MAIL - UPS</u>	
Apple Maggot	"	3
Burrowing Nematode	"	8
Caribbean Fruit Fly	"	2
Citrus Pests	"	21
Colorado Potato Beetle	"	1
European Pine Shoot Moth	"	1
Imported Fire Ant	"	3
Japanese Beetle	"	4
Labeling	"	64
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	"	1
Peach Yellow	"	1
Pecan Pests	"	1
Persimmon Root Borer	"	1
Plum Curculio	"	8
Sweet Potato Weevil	"	1
Toad Flax	"	1
Witchweed	"	2
	<u>TRUCK</u>	
Japanese Beetle	"	3
Oak Wilt	"	6
Quack Grass	"	3
	<u>HOUSEHOLD GOODS</u>	
Gypsy Moth	"	13
	<u>RETAIL</u>	
Citrus Canker	"	1
	<u>TOTAL SHIPMENTS INSPECTED</u>	
Household Goods	374	13
Mail/UPS	16,746	123
Retail Inspection	12	1
Truck	330	12

**ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS**

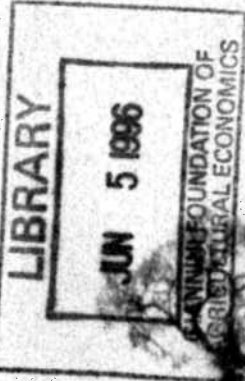
<u>Crop</u>	<u>No. of Farms</u>	<u>Estimated Acres</u>
Apples	1	25.8
Apricots	3	14.8
Artichokes	1	0.5
Cherries	2	3.0
Figs	2	3.0
Flowers	1	2.0
Garlic	1	1.0
Kiwi	1	0.5
Herbs	2	0.7
Nectarines	2	6.0
Onions	1	8.0
Peaches	2	13.0
Pears	2	3.0
Pistachios	1	40.0
Plums	2	1.2
Table Grapes	1	7.0
Tomatoes	3	4.0
Vegetables, Misc.	4	3.0

*Contra Costa County, Calif. Agricultural Commissioner*

**Department of Agriculture**

**1995**

**Crop Report**



*Agricultural report*



# Department of Agriculture

2366A Stanwell Circle  
Concord, California 94520-4807  
(510) 646-5250  
FAX (510) 646-5732

## Branch Office

724 - 3rd Street  
Brentwood, California 94513-1360  
(510) 634-5682  
FAX (510) 634-2201

# Contra Costa County



**John H. de Fremery**  
Agricultural Commissioner -  
Director Weights and Measures

TO: ANN M. VENEMAN, SECRETARY  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
and  
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

I am pleased to submit the 1995 Annual Crop and Livestock Report for Contra Costa County in accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 and 2272 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. Pursuant to Section 2272, this report includes information on Organic Farming and Biological Control Activities in our county.

The total gross value of agricultural crops and products in 1995 was \$75,817,830. This represents a 5% reduction in value from our 1994 figure. Bedding plants, roses and apricots represented the largest reductions in value. Bedding plant reductions were due to clearing stock. Rose production was down due to international competition and crop changes. Apricot production was impacted by heavy rains during the bloom which resulted in poor fruit set. Crops which showed substantial gains were apples and cherries. Both categories increased due to higher prices.

Several crop categories exceeded \$1 million in value. These categories in decreasing order include bedding plants, apples, tomatoes, milk, sweet corn, asparagus, field corn, rangeland pasture, cattle and calves, roses, alfalfa hay, grapes, cherries, walnuts, and miscellaneous vegetables.

It should be emphasized the values stated in this report are gross receipts and do not include the cost of production, transportation, or marketing of the products.

I wish to thank the many individuals and organizations who supplied us with the information to complete this report. Your cooperation is truly appreciated. I also would like to thank my staff for their diligent work in obtaining, compiling, and coordinating their efforts to put this information together for our annual report.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Edward P. Meyer in cursive script.

Edward P. Meyer  
Acting Agricultural Commissioner

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Agricultural Commissioner - Director of Weights & Measures**

John H. deFremery

**Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer**

Edward Meyer

**AGRICULTURE**

**Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**

Bob Cruickshank

Vince Guise

Bart Hosman

**Agricultural Biologist III**

Bob Case

Gene Sparkman

Suzanne Maddux

**Agricultural Biologist II**

Patty Alavi

Ralph Fonseca

Laurie Stout

Joe Deviney

Ann McClure

Larry Yost

Cathy Roybal

**Agricultural Biologist I**

Gene Mangini

**WEIGHTS and MEASURES**

**Supervising Weights & Measures Inspector**

Chuck Maddux

Ken Robinson

**Weights & Measures Inspector III**

Arthur Mangonon

**Weights & Measures Inspector II**

Cris Espejo

Tom Pisani

Estella Harris

Dave Wallace

**CLERICAL**

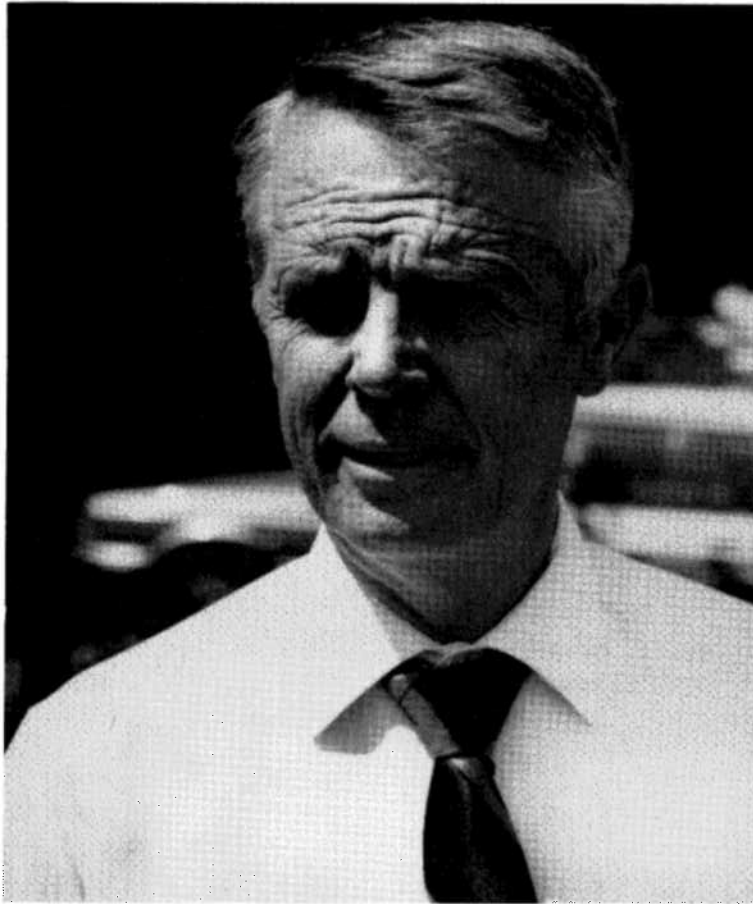
**Executive Secretary**

Susan Finley

**Senior Clerk**

Teri Murphy

***John H. deFremery***  
***Retired Contra Costa County Agricultural Commissioner***  
***Director of Weights and Measures***



On March 25, 1996, John H. deFremery, Contra Costa County Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures, retired after 30 years of service with the County. Born and raised in Contra Costa County, "Jack" graduated from Liberty Union High School in Brentwood and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Pomology from the University of California at Davis.

Jack has been active in the community his entire life and has been a respected leader at both the county and state level. During his seventeen years as this county's Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer, Jack has served terms as Executive Secretary, Vice President, and President of the California County Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer Association. In 1992 the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors honored him and his staff by presenting his department with their Award of Excellence.

Jack is looking forward to spending more time with his family and traveling with his wife, Margie. We suspect that his grandchildren: Aimie, Samuel, Danielle, Emily, Katelyn, and Louis will keep him very busy. The entire staff at the Department of Agriculture would like to thank Jack for the leadership and guidance he has provided. We wish him and Margie a long and happy retirement!

## FRUIT & NUT CROPS

CROP	YEAR	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Apples</b>							
Total	1995	1,550	11.50	17,830	Ton		8,621,000
	1994	1,400	13.08	18,310	Ton		6,565,000
Fresh	1995			11,100	Ton	685.50	7,609,000
	1994			10,100	Ton	602.20	6,082,000
Processing	1995			6,730	Ton	150.20	1,011,000
	1994			8,210	Ton	58.80	483,000
<b>Apricots</b>							
Total	1995	918	1.50	1,374	Ton		558,000
	1994	973	8.57	8,340	Ton		2,570,000
Fresh	1995			675	Ton	495.00	334,000
	1994			4,300	Ton	315.30	1,356,000
Processing	1995			699	Ton	320.00	224,000
	1994			4,040	Ton	300.50	1,214,000
<b>Cherries</b>							
Total	1995	448	1.68	753	Ton	2,024.00	1,524,000
	1994	388	1.15	446	Ton	1,262.00	563,000
<b>Grapes</b>							
Total	1995	999	2.56	2,557	Ton	620.50	1,587,000
	1994	995	2.29	2,280	Ton	517.00	1,179,000
<b>Nectarines</b>							
Total	1995	45	1.60	72	Ton	950.00	68,400
	1994	38	2.66	101	Ton	1,020.00	103,000
<b>Peaches</b>							
Total	1995	211	1.23	259	Ton	795.00	206,000
	1994	203	3.57	725	Ton	681.00	494,000
<b>Pears</b>							
Total	1995	113	11.90	1,350	Ton	305.00	412,000
	1994	215	10.33	2,220	Ton	229.00	508,000
<b>Plums</b>							
Total	1995	13	0.99	13	Ton	776.90	10,100
	1994	20	1.15	23	Ton	604.00	13,900
<b>Walnuts</b>							
Total	1995	1,400	0.81	1,130	Ton	1,310.00	1,480,000
	1994	1,400	0.87	1,220	Ton	960.00	1,171,000

<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
<b>Fruit &amp; Nut</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>502,000</b>
<b>Crops*</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>350,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>5,795</b>	<b>\$14,967,500</b>
	<b>1994</b>	<b>5,739</b>	<b>\$13,516,900</b>

\*Almonds, Berries, Figs, Kiwis, Oranges, Pecans, Persimmons, Pistachios, Pomegranates, Strawberries, and other Miscellaneous Tree Crops.

## NURSERY PRODUCTS

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION AREA**		QUANTITY SOLD BY PRODUCERS		VALUE	
		HOUSE SQ. FT.	FIELD ACRES	UNIT	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Nursery Stock</b>							
<b>Bedding</b>							
Plants	1995	5,039,000	301.00				15,804,000
	1994^	5,243,000	293.00				17,545,000
<b>Herbaceous</b>							
Perennials	1995	371,000	13.00				898,000
	1994^	499,000	12.30				735,000
<b>Indoor</b>							
Decoratives	1995	643,000					994,000
	1994	750,000					1,172,000
<b>Vegetable</b>							
Plants	1995	100,000	2.00				600,000
	1994	82,800	2.00				1,270,000
<b>Christmas</b>							
Trees	1995		75.00	5,815	Trees	25.60	149,000
	1994		99.00	7,690	Trees	24.06	185,000
<b>Cut Flowers</b>							
Roses, Std.	1995	950,000		8,031,000	Blooms	\$0.27	2,172,000
	1994	837,000		12,988,000	Blooms	0.255	3,319,000
Roses, Min.	1995	77,000		1,459,000	Blooms	\$0.18	268,000
	1994	44,000		1,187,000	Blooms	0.131	155,000
<b>Miscellaneous</b>							
Nursery Crops*	1995	122,000	28.30				897,000
	1994	198,000	37.50				1,028,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>7,302,000</b>	<b>419.30</b>				<b>\$21,782,000</b>
	<b>1994^</b>	<b>7,653,800</b>	<b>443.80</b>				<b>\$25,409,000</b>

\*Alstromeria, Carnations, Dianthus, Eucalyptus, Potted Flowers & Vegetables, Floral Fruit Twigs, Freesias, Geraniums, Hanging Baskets, Cut Flowers, Lisianthus, Mums, Ornamental Trees & Shrubs, Statice and Willow Foliage

\*\*Gross Area

^Revised

## VEGETABLE & SEED CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Asparagus</b> Fresh	1995	1,420	1.08	1,530	Ton	2,405.00	3,680,000
	1994	1,240	1.32	1,629	Ton	2,090.00	3,404,000
<b>Beans</b>	1995	323	2.73	882	Ton	819.00	722,000
	1994	223	4.84	1,080	Ton	470.80	508,500
<b>Onions</b>	1995	73	14.80	1080	Ton	266.00	287,000
	1994	53	17.70	938	Ton	254.00	238,000
<b>Squash</b>	1995	109	10.55	1,150	Ton	382.00	439,000
	1994	116	9.90	1,150	Ton	378.00	435,000
<b>Sweet Corn</b>	1995	2,340	7.48	17,500	Ton	299.00	5,232,000
	1994	2,220	7.84	17,400	Ton	294.80	5,130,000
<b>Tomatoes</b> Total	1995	4,108		138,905	Ton		7,579,000
	1994	4,165		154,542	Ton		9,736,000
Fresh	1995	58	15.60	905	Ton	640.00	579,000
	1994	65	12.95	842	Ton	428.00	360,000
Processing	1995	4,050	34.10	138,000	Ton	50.72	7,000,000
	1994	4,100	37.49	153,700	Ton	61.00	9,376,000
<b>Miscellaneous Vegetable and Seed Crops*</b>	1995	366					1,098,000
	1994	661					791,000
<b>Total</b>	1995	8,739					\$19,037,000
	1994	8,678					\$20,242,500

\*Assorted Vegetables, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cucumbers, Garlic, Herbs, Melons, Miscellaneous Seed Crops, Peppers, Pumpkins and Spices.



## LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
		NO. OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Cattle &amp; Calves</b>						
<b>Beef</b>	1995	7,600	40,300	cwt.	67.00	2,700,000
	1994	7,710	42,000	cwt.	69.90	2,936,000
<b>Cows &amp; Bulls</b>						
<b>Beef &amp; Dairy</b>	1995	600	6,000	cwt.	35.00	210,000
	1994	323	3,230	cwt.	41.10	133,000
<b>Hogs &amp; Pigs</b>						
	1995	300	900	cwt.	37.80	34,000
	1994	300	900	cwt.	47.90	43,100
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>						
<b>Livestock &amp; Poultry**</b>	1995					500,000
	1994					547,000
<b>Total</b>	1995					\$3,444,000
	1994					\$3,656,000

\*Chickens, Ducks, Fish, Goats, Ostriches, Pheasants, Rabbits, Sheep and Turkeys.

## LIVESTOCK, APIARY & POULTRY PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Milk - Market</b>	1995	496,000	cwt.	11.71	5,808,000
	1994	520,000	cwt.	11.51	5,990,000
<b>Honey</b>	1995	58,500	lbs.	0.95	55,600
	1994	56,000	lbs.	1.02	57,100
<b>Beeswax</b>	1995	990	lbs.	2.25	2,230
	1994	700	lbs.	1.54	1,080
<b>Pollination</b>	1995	2,050	colonies	12.00	24,600
	1994	2,950	colonies	11.36	33,500
<b>Miscellaneous Livestock &amp; Poultry Products</b>	1995				80,000
	1994				90,000
<b>Total</b>	1995				\$5,970,430
	1994				\$6,171,680

# RECAPITULATION

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>Change</u>
Field Crops	11,122,000	10,616,900	-505,100
Vegetable & Seed Crops	20,242,500	19,037,000	-1,205,500
Fruit & Nut Crops	13,516,900	14,967,500	+1,450,600
Nursery Crops	25,409,000	21,782,000	-3,627,000
Livestock & Poultry	3,656,000	3,444,000	-212,000
Livestock, Apiary & Poultry Products	6,171,680	5,970,430	-201,250
	80,118,080	75,817,830	-4,300,250
Total			

\*Revised

-----

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL REPORTING

<u>Pest</u>	<u>Agent/Mechanism</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u>
<b><u>COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL</u></b>		
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Seedhead weevil <u>Bangasternus orientalis</u>	3 releases by Contra Costa Ag & CDFA
	Hairy weevil <u>Eustenopus villosus</u>	3 release by CDFA and Contra Costa Ag
	Gall fly <u>Urophora sirunaseva</u>	4 releases by Contra Costa Ag & CDFA
Elm leaf beetle <u>Xanthogaleruca luteola</u>	Parasitoid wasp <u>Oonyzus gallerucae</u>	3 releases by UCB

## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

<u>CROP</u>	<u>GROSS VALUE/MILLION DOLLARS</u>		<u>RANK</u>	
	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
Bedding Plants	\$15.8	\$17.5	1	1
Apples, all	8.6	6.6	2	3
Tomatoes, all	7.6	9.7	3	2
Milk, all	5.8	6.0	4	4
Sweet Corn	5.2	5.1	5	5
Asparagus	3.7	3.4	6	7
Field Corn	2.8	3.0	7	8
Rangeland Pasture	2.7	2.6	8	10
Cattle & Calves	2.7	2.9	9	9
Roses, (cut) all	2.4	3.5	10	6
Hay - Alfalfa	1.9	2.4	11	12
Grapes	1.6	1.2	12	14
Cherries	1.5	0.6	13	
Walnuts	1.5	1.2	14	16
Miscellaneous Vegetables	1.1	0.8	15	

\*Revised

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>
Nursery Products	\$21.8	\$25.4	1	1
Vegetable & Seed Crops	18.9	20.2	2	2
Fruit & Nut Crops	15.0	13.5	3	3
Field Crops	10.6	11.1	4	4
Livestock Products	6.0	6.2	5	5
Livestock & Poultry	3.4	3.7	6	6

---

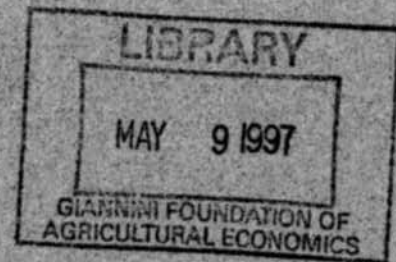
Total Acres in County	470,400
Population in County *	883,400
Land in Farms - Acres	215,630
Harvested Cropland - Acres	38,815

\* Jan. 1995

<u>PEST EXCLUSION</u>	<u>TYPE OF SHIPMENT</u>	<u>NUMBER REJECTED</u>
	<u>MAIL - UPS</u>	
Burrowing Nematode	"	8
Caribbean Fruit Fly	"	6
Cedar-Apple Rust	"	1
Cherry Fruit Fly	"	8
Citrus Pests	"	17
European Corn Borer	"	1
European Pine Shoot Moth	"	2
Golden Nematode	"	4
Gypsy Moth	"	2
Imported Fire Ant	"	3
Japanese Beetle	"	8
Labeling	"	89
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	"	5
Miscellaneous Pest (A and Q)	"	11
Ozonium Root Rot	"	1
Plum Curculio	"	10
West Indian Sugar Cane Borer	"	1
Witchweed	"	1
	<u>TRUCK</u>	
Japanese Beetle	"	4
Quack Grass	"	2
	<u>HOUSEHOLD GOODS</u>	
Gypsy Moth	"	15
	<u>TOTAL SHIPMENTS INSPECTED</u>	
Household Goods	308	15
Mail/UPS	17,571	178
Truck	232	6

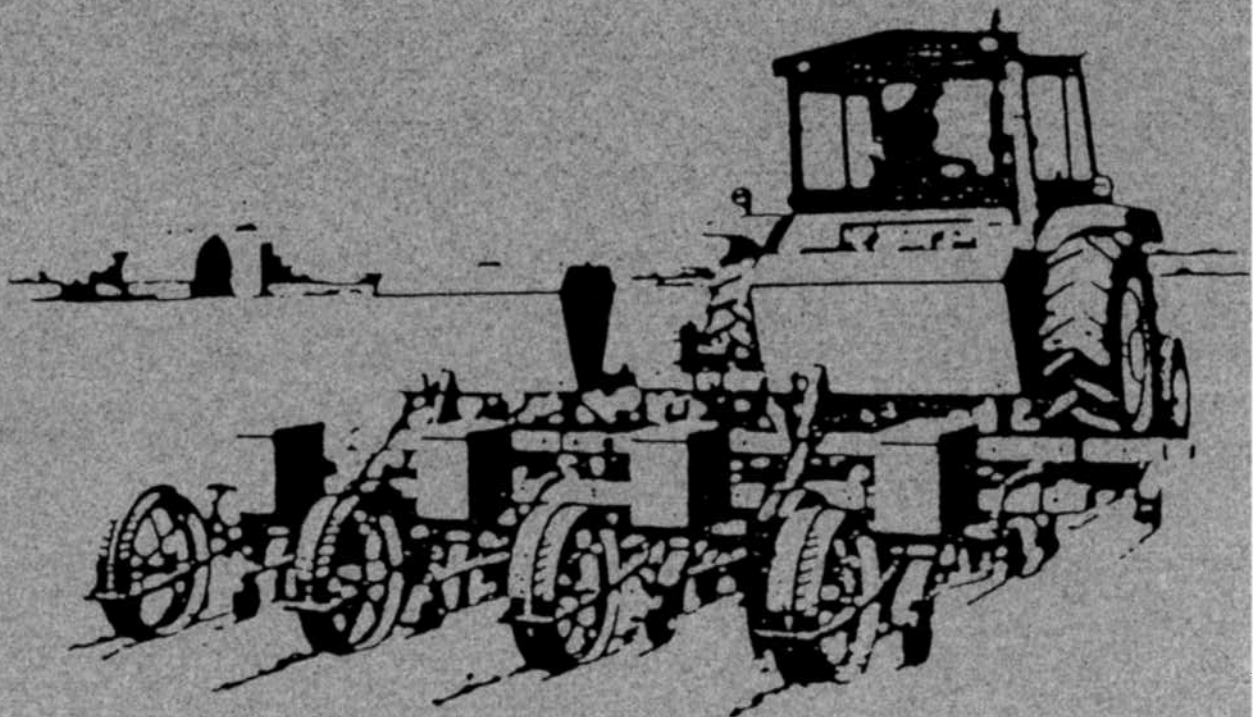
### ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS

<u>Crop</u>	<u>No. of Farms</u>	<u>Estimated Acres</u>
Apples	2	25.8
Apricots	3	14.8
Artichokes	1	0.5
Cherries	2	3.0
Figs	2	3.0
Flowers	1	2.0
Garlic	1	1.0
Kiwi	1	0.5
Herbs	2	0.7
Nectarines	2	6.0
Onions	1	8.0
Peaches	2	13.0
Pears	2	3.0
Pistachios	1	40.0
Plums	2	1.2
Table Grapes	1	7.0
Tomatoes	3	4.0
Vegetables, Misc.	5	3.3



1996  
*Agricultural report*  
**Crop Report**

*Contra Costa County, Calif. Agricultural Commission*  
**Department of Agriculture**



# Department of Agriculture

2366 A Stanwell Circle  
Concord, California 94520-4807  
(510) 646-5250  
FAX (510) 646-5732

## Branch Office

724 - 3rd Street  
Brentwood, California 94513-1360  
(510) 634-5682  
FAX (510) 634-2201

# Contra Costa County

**Edward P. Meyer**  
Agricultural Commissioner -  
Director of Weights and Measures



To: ANN M. VENEMAN, SECRETARY  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
and  
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

I am pleased to submit the 1996 Annual Crop and Livestock Report for Contra Costa County in accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 and 2272 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. Pursuant to Section 2272, this report includes information on Organic Farming and Biological Control Activities in our county.

The total gross value of agricultural crops and products in 1996 was \$85,622,690. The value increased from 1995 by more than 9.8 million dollars. This change was primarily from an increase in production of bedding plants, a price increase combined with more normal apricot production, and an increase in production and price of milk. In addition, there was an increase in acreage, production, and price of sweet corn. To offset the increases, there was a significant decline in the production of cherry fruit combined with price decreases in asparagus. The increase in the value of the cattle and calves category reflects activities by cattlemen to reduce the impact of a very depressed market.

Several crop categories exceeded \$1 million in value. These categories in decreasing order include bedding plants, apples, tomatoes, milk, sweet corn, cattle and calves, field corn, roses, rangeland pastures, asparagus, alfalfa hay, apricots, walnuts, grapes, miscellaneous vegetables, wheat and indoor decoratives.

It should be emphasized the values stated in this report are gross receipts and do not include the cost of production, transportation, or marketing of the products.

I wish to thank the many individuals and organizations who supplied us with the information to complete this report. Their cooperation is truly appreciated. I also would like to thank my staff for their diligent work in obtaining, compiling, and coordinating their efforts to put this information together for our annual report.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward P. Meyer".

Edward P. Meyer  
Agricultural Commissioner

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Agricultural Commissioner - Director of Weights & Measures**  
Edward Meyer

**Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer**  
Bob Cruickshank

**AGRICULTURE**

**Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**

Vince Guise

Bart Hosman

**Agricultural Biologist III**

Bob Case

Gene Sparkman

Suzanne Ziegler

**Agricultural Biologist II**

Patty Alavi  
Joe Deviney

Ralph Fonseca  
Ann McClure  
Cathy Roybal

Laurie Stout  
Larry Yost

**Agricultural Biologist I**

Gene Mangini

**WEIGHTS and MEASURES**

**Supervising Weights & Measures Inspector**

Chuck Maddux

Ken Robinson

**Weights & Measures Inspector III**

Arthur Mangonon

**Weights & Measures Inspector II**

Cris Espejo

Dave Wallace

Tom Pisani

**CLERICAL**

**Executive Secretary**  
Susan Finley

**Senior Clerk**  
Teri Murphy

# FIELD CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			VALUE		
			PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL \$	
Field Corn	1996	6,480	3.96	25,700	Ton	133.00	3,417,000	
	1995	5,540	4.93	27,300	Ton	103.90	2,836,000	
Hay	Alfalfa	1996	3,320	6.04	20,100	Ton	118.00	2,372,000
		1995	3,080	5.26	16,200	Ton	116.50	1,887,000
	Grain	1996	1,450	2.12	3,100	Ton	69.30	213,000
		1995	1,500	2.45	3,680	Ton	75.50	278,000
	Wild	1996		(Included in Miscellaneous)				
		1995	1,120	1.44	1,610		54.60	87,900
Pasture	Irrigated	1996	4,490		Grazed	Acre	99.00	445,000
		1995	4,490		Grazed	Acre	97.10	436,000
Pasture	Rangeland	1996	175,000			Acre	17.00	2,975,000
		1995	175,000			Acre	15.58	2,727,000
Safflower	1996	2,590	1.20	2,520	Ton	377.00	1,142,000	
	1995	2,510	1.00	2,520	Ton	273.00	688,000	
Silage	1996		(Included in Miscellaneous)					
	1995	980	9.32	9,130	Ton	53.00	484,000	
Wheat	1996	5,050	1.99	10,100	Ton	141.00	1,421,000	
	1995	3,870	1.78	6,880	Ton	127.60	878,000	
Miscellaneous Field Crops*	1996	1,009					296,800	
	1995	1,220					315,000	
Total	1996	199,389					\$12,281,800	
	1995	199,310					\$10,616,900	

\*Barley, Hay (Other Tame), Hay (Wild), Indian Corn, Oats, Oat Seed, Sudan Grass, and Sugar Beets



## VEGETABLE & SEED CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Asparagus</b>							
Fresh	1996	1,260	1.22	1,535	Ton	1,876.00	2,879,000
	1995	1,420	1.08	1,530	Ton	2,405.00	3,680,000
<b>Beans</b>							
	1996	393	2.24	882	Ton	841.00	742,000
	1995	323	2.73	882	Ton	819.00	722,000
<b>Onions</b>							
	1996	65	13.30	864	Ton	485.00	419,000
	1995	73	14.80	1080	Ton	266.00	287,000
<b>Squash</b>							
	1996	84	7.21	606	Ton	358.00	217,000
	1995	109	10.55	1,150	Ton	382.00	439,000
<b>Sweet Corn</b>							
	1996	2,430	8.23	20,000	Ton	314.00	6,277,000
	1995	2,340	7.48	17,500	Ton	299.00	5,232,000
<b>Tomatoes</b>							
Total	1996	3,922		126,177	Ton		7,844,000
	1995	4,108		138,905	Ton		7,579,000
Fresh	1996	92	12.80	1,177	Ton	1,012.00	1,191,000
	1995	58	15.60	905	Ton	640.00	579,000
Processing	1996	3,830	32.60	125,000	Ton	53.23	6,653,000
	1995	4,050	34.10	138,000	Ton	50.72	7,000,000
<b>Miscellaneous Vegetable and Seed Crops*</b>							
	1996	618					1,521,000
	1995	366					1,098,000
<b>Total</b>	1996	8,772					\$19,899,000
	1995	8,739					\$19,037,000

\*Assorted Vegetables, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Garlic, Organic Greens, Herbs, Melons, Miscellaneous Seed Crops, Peppers, Pumpkins and Spices.

## FRUIT & NUT CROPS

CROP	YEAR	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
Apples	1996	1,530	12.60	19,388	Ton	432.00	8,376,000
	1995	1,550	11.50	17,830	Ton	483.50	8,621,000
Apricots Total	1996	888	5.03	4,470	Ton		1,981,000
	1995	918	1.50	1,374	Ton		558,000
Fresh	1996			3,150	Ton	491.00	1,548,000
	1995			675	Ton	495.00	334,000
Processing	1996			1,320	Ton	329.00	433,000
	1995			699	Ton	320.00	224,000
Cherries	1996	446	0.42	186	Ton	2,293.00	427,000
	1995	448	1.68	753	Ton	2,024.00	1,524,000
Grapes	1996	975	2.33	2,275	Ton	713.00	1,622,000
	1995	999	2.56	2,557	Ton	620.50	1,587,000
Nectarines	1996	39	1.91	74	Ton	1,118.00	83,000
	1995	45	1.60	72	Ton	950.00	68,400
Peaches	1996	199	2.16	431	Ton	866.00	373,000
	1995	211	1.23	259	Ton	795.00	206,000
Pears	1996	106	12.00	1,280	Ton	235.00	300,000
	1995	113	11.90	1,350	Ton	305.00	300,000
Plums	1996	14	1.27	18	Ton	780.00	14,000
	1995	13	0.99	13	Ton	776.90	10,100
Walnuts	1996	1,420	0.77	1,100	Ton	1,556.00	1,714,000
	1995	1,400	0.81	1,130	Ton	1,310.00	1,480,000
Miscellaneous Fruit & Nut Crops*	1996	99					404,000
	1995	98					502,000
Total	1996	5,716					\$15,294,000
	1995	5,795					\$14,967,000

\*Almonds, Asian Pears, Berries, Figs, Kiwis, Pecans, Persimmons, Pistachios, Pomegranates, Strawberries, and other Miscellaneous Tree Crops.

## NURSERY PRODUCTS

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION AREA**		QUANTITY SOLD BY PRODUCERS	UNIT	VALUE		
		HOUSE SQ. FT.	FIELD ACRES			PER UNIT	TOTAL \$	
<b>Nursery Stock</b>								
<b>Bedding</b>								
Plants	1996	5,037,000	302.00					19,387,000
	1995	5,039,000	301.00					15,804,000
<b>Herbaceous</b>								
<b>Perennials</b>								
	1996	371,000	13.00					973,000
	1995	371,000	13.00					898,000
<b>Indoor</b>								
<b>Decoratives</b>								
	1996	642,000						1,166,000
	1995	643,000						994,000
<b>Vegetable</b>								
<b>Plants</b>								
	1996	99,800	2.00					657,000
	1995	100,000	2.00					600,000
<b>Christmas</b>								
<b>Trees</b>								
	1996		77.00	3,685	Trees	25.00		100,000
	1995		75.00	5,815	Trees	25.60		149,000
<b>Cut Flowers</b>								
<b>Roses, Std.</b>								
	1996	871,000		12,295,000	Blooms	0.24		2,956,000
	1995	950,000		8,031,000	Blooms	0.27		2,172,000
<b>Roses, Min.</b>								
	1996	51,000		1,052,000	Blooms	0.14		146,000
	1995	77,000		1,459,000	Blooms	0.18		268,000
<b>Miscellaneous</b>								
<b>Nursery Crops*</b>								
	1996	130,000	32.00					834,000
	1995	122,000	28.30					897,000
<b>Total</b>								
	1996	7,201,800	426.00					\$26,219,000
	1995	7,302,000	419.30					\$21,782,000

\*Alstromeria, Carnations, Dianthus, Eucalyptus, Potted Flowers & Vegetables, Floral Fruit Twigs, Freesias, Geraniums, Hanging Baskets, Cut Flowers, Lisianthus, Mums, Ornamental Trees & Shrubs, Statice and Willow Foliage

\*\*Gross Area

## LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
		NO. OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Cattle &amp; Calves</b>						
<b>Beef**</b>	1996	11,900	68,900	cwt.	53.70	3,700,000
	1995	7,600	40,300	cwt.	67.00	2,700,000
<b>Cows &amp; Bulls</b>						
<b>Beef &amp; Dairy**</b>	1996	1,340	11,800	cwt.	36.20	427,000
	1995	600	6,000	cwt.	35.00	210,000
<b>Hogs &amp; Pigs</b>						
	1996	300	900	cwt.	46.00	41,400
	1995	300	900	cwt.	37.80	34,000
<b>Miscellaneous Livestock &amp; Poultry*</b>						
	1996					500,000
	1995					500,000
<b>Total</b>						
	1996					\$4,668,400
	1995					\$3,444,000

\*Chickens, Ducks, Fish, Goats, Ostriches, Pheasants, Rabbits, Sheep and Turkeys.

\*\* 1996 Figures reflect a new method used to obtain statistics from previous years.

## LIVESTOCK, APIARY & POULTRY PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Milk - Market</b>					
	1996	532,000	cwt.	13.28	7,064,000
	1995	496,000	cwt.	11.71	5,808,000
<b>Honey</b>					
	1996	80,000	lbs.	1.00	76,000
	1995	58,500	lbs.	0.95	55,600
<b>Beeswax</b>					
	1996	1,300	lbs.	2.15	2,790
	1995	990	lbs.	2.25	2,230
<b>Pollination</b>					
	1996	2,900	colonies	13.00	37,700
	1995	2,050	colonies	12.00	24,600
<b>Miscellaneous Livestock &amp; Poultry Products</b>					
	1996				80,000
	1995				80,000
<b>Total</b>					
	1996				\$7,260,490
	1995				\$5,970,430

## RECAPITULATION

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>Change</u>
Field Crops	10,616,900	12,281,800	+1,664,900
Vegetable & Seed Crops	19,037,000	19,899,000	+862,000
Fruit & Nut Crops	14,967,500	15,294,000	+326,500
Nursery Crops	21,782,000	26,219,000	+4,437,000
Livestock & Poultry	3,444,000	4,668,400	+1,224,400
Livestock, Apiary & Poultry Products	5,970,430	7,260,490	+1,290,060
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$75,817,830</b>	<b>\$85,622,690</b>	<b>+9,804,860</b>

-----

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORTING

<u>Pest</u>	<u>Agent/Mechanism</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u>
<b><u>COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL</u></b>		
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Seedhead weevil <u>Bangasternus orientalis</u>	Incidental releases by Contra Costa Ag & CDFA*
	Peacock fly <u>Chaetorellia australis</u>	Two releases by CDFA*, Contra Costa Ag
	Hairy weevil <u>Eustenopus villosus</u>	Sixteen releases by CDFA*, NPS** and Contra Costa Ag
	Gall fly <u>Urophora sirunaseva</u>	Two releases by CDFA*, Contra Costa Ag & NPS**
Elm leaf beetle <u>Xanthogaleruca luteola</u>	Parasitoid wasp <u>Onyzaus gallerucae</u>	One release by UC Berkeley - Center for Biological Control
Codling Moth <u>Cydia pomonella</u>	Parasitic moth <u>Mastrus ridibundus</u>	Three releases by UC Berkeley - Center for Biological Control
	Parasitic moth <u>Liotrypton caudatus</u>	Three releases by UC Berkeley - Center for Biological Control

\* CDFA is the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Biological Control Program, Sacramento, California.

\*\* NPS is the National Park Service, John Muir National Historic Site, Martinez, California.

## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

<u>CROP</u>	<u>GROSS VALUE/MILLION DOLLARS</u>		<u>RANK</u>	
	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>
Bedding Plants	\$19.4	\$15.8	1	1
Apples, all	8.4	8.6	2	2
Tomatoes, all	7.8	7.6	3	3
Milk, all	7.1	5.8	4	4
Sweet Corn	6.3	5.2	5	5
Cattle & Calves	3.7	2.7	6	9
Field Corn	3.4	2.8	7	7
Roses, (cut) all	3.1	2.4	8	10
Rangeland Pasture	3.0	2.7	9	8
Asparagus	2.9	3.7	10	6
Hay - Alfalfa	2.4	1.9	11	11
Apricots	2.0	0.6	12	
Walnuts	1.7	1.5	13	14
Grapes	1.6	1.6	14	12
Miscellaneous Vegetables	1.5	1.1	15	15
Wheat	1.4	0.9	16	
Indoor Decoratives	1.2	0.9	17	

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>
	Nursery Products	\$26.2	\$21.8	1
Vegetable & Seed Crops	19.9	19.0	2	2
Fruit & Nut Crops	15.3	15.0	3	3
Field Crops	12.3	10.6	4	4
Livestock Products	7.3	6.0	5	5
Livestock & Poultry	4.7	3.4	6	6

---

Total Acres in County	470,400
Population in County *	870,700
Land in Farms - Acres	215,630
Harvested Cropland - Acres	39,203

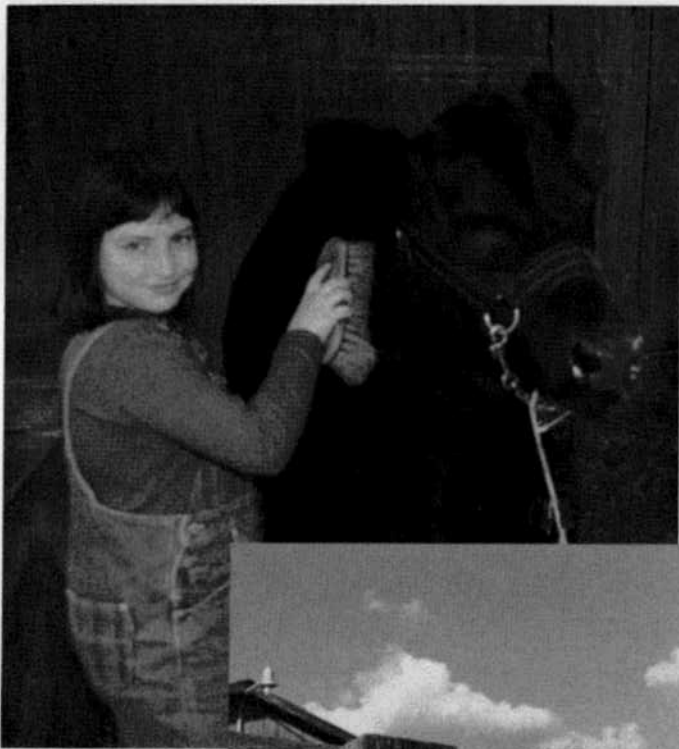
\*Jan. 1996

<u>PEST EXCLUSION</u>	<u>TYPE OF SHIPMENT</u>	<u>NUMBER REJECTED</u>
	<u>MAIL - UPS</u>	
Burrowing Nematode	"	28
Caribbean Fruit Fly	"	1
Cedar-Apple Rust	"	9
Cherry Fruit Fly	"	2
Citrus Pests	"	29
Colorado Potato Beetle	"	5
European Corn Borer	"	2
European Pine Shoot Moth	"	6
Golden Nematode	"	1
Gypsy Moth	"	10
Imported Fire Ant	"	1
Japanese Beetle	"	6
Labeling	"	85
Live Pests	"	6
Plum Curculio	"	6
Walnut Pests	"	2
	<u>TRUCK</u>	
Japanese Beetle	"	5
Quack Grass	"	3
	<u>HOUSEHOLD GOODS</u>	
Gypsy Moth	"	11
	<u>TOTAL SHIPMENTS INSPECTED</u>	
Household Goods	343	16
Mail/UPS	21,445	199
Truck	203	9

### ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS

<u>Crop</u>	<u>No. of Farms</u>	<u>Estimated Acres</u>
Apples	1	88.3
Apricots	3	14.8
Artichokes	1	0.5
Cherries	2	4.0
Figs	2	3.0
Flowers	1	3.0
Garlic	3	2.0
Kiwi	1	0.5
Herbs	6	1.3
Nectarines	2	9.5
Onions	2	7.0
Peaches	2	23.5
Pears	2	3.0
Pistachios	1	36.0
Plums	2	1.5
Table Grapes	1	3.0
Tomatoes	5	7.2
Vegetables, nuts, misc.	7	20.6





Contra Costa County, Ca.  
Agricultural Commissioner



Department of Agriculture



**LIBRARY**  
**APR 29 1998**  
GIANNINI FOUNDATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

1997

Agricultural Report  
Crop Report





# Department of Agriculture

2366 A Stanwell Circle  
Concord, California 94520-4807  
(925) 646-5250  
FAX (925) 646-5732

## Branch Office

724 - 3rd Street  
Brentwood, California 94513-1360  
(925) 634-5682  
FAX (925) 634-2201

# Contra Costa County

Edward P. Meyer  
Agricultural Commissioner-  
Director Of Weights and Measures



To: ANN M. VENEMAN, SECRETARY  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
and  
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

I am pleased to submit the 1997 Annual Crop and Livestock Report for Contra Costa County in accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 and 2272 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. Pursuant to Section 2272, this report includes information on Organic Farming and Biological Control Activities in our county.

The total gross value of agricultural crops and products in 1997 was a record \$95,175,220, up 11% from 1996. After the January rains subsided, the nursery industry flourished. Production of bedding plants, herbaceous perennials, and vegetable plants lead the way to a nursery production value increase of over five million dollars from 1996. The dry spring resulted in significant production and price increases for stone fruits, particularly peaches, nectarines, and plums. Cherry production increased as well, however prices were lower than in 1996. Apple yields were higher as the orchards in production are maturing and producing more fruit. Wine grape prices were higher and quality was good in 1997. Squash yields were also higher than 1996.

The rains preceding the start of 1997 had a negative impact on some of the agricultural industry. Early flooding caused a loss in grain crops. Safflower and wheat were particularly hard hit when after loss of the initial seeding, subsequent plantings did not germinate due to lack of rain. Alfalfa, on the other hand, did well with higher prices and yield. Poor rangeland conditions resulted in the increased sale and relocation of cattle. Prices however were better in 1997 than 1996 for cattle (beef and dairy).

Several crop categories exceeded \$1 million in value. These categories in decreasing order include bedding plants, apples, milk, tomatoes, sweet corn, alfalfa hay, cattle and calves, field corn, cut roses, rangeland pasture, asparagus, grapes, apricots, walnuts, herbaceous perennials, miscellaneous vegetables, indoor decoratives, and miscellaneous nursery crops.

It should be emphasized the values stated in this report are gross receipts and do not include the cost of production, transportation, or marketing of the products.

I wish to thank the many individuals and organizations who supplied us with the information to complete this report. Their cooperation is truly appreciated. I also would like to thank my staff for their diligent work in obtaining, compiling, and coordinating their efforts to put this information together for our annual report.

Respectfully submitted,

*Edward P. Meyer*  
Edward P. Meyer  
Agricultural Commissioner

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Agricultural Commissioner - Director of Weights & Measures**  
Edward P. Meyer

**Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer**  
Bob Cruickshank

**AGRICULTURE**

**Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**

Vince Guise

Bart Hosman

Suzanne Maddux

**Agricultural Biologist III**

Bob Case

Gene Sparkman

**Agricultural Biologist II**

Patty Alavi  
Joe Deviney

Ralph Fonseca  
Ann McClure  
Cathy Roybal

Laurie Stout  
Larry Yost

**Agricultural Biologist I**  
Gene Mangini

**WEIGHTS and MEASURES**

**Supervising Weights & Measures Inspector**

Chuck Maddux

Ken Robinson

**Weights & Measures Inspector III**  
Arthur Mangonon

**Weights & Measures Inspector II**

Cris Espejo

Tom Pisani

**Weights & Measures Inspector I**

Becky Schwenger

Marcin Tokarzewski

**CLERICAL**

**Executive Secretary**  
Susan Finley

**Senior Clerk**  
Teri Murphy

On the cover: Hundreds of youth, kindergarten through twelfth grade, participate in 4-H programs sponsored in this county by the University of California Cooperative Extension. Their pledge: *My Head to clearer thinking, My Heart to greater loyalty, my Hands to larger service, my Health to better living, for my club, my community and my world.* Top to bottom, Morgan Cooksey, Mary Borges and Dolf Cooksey are among the many preparing for activities at this year's Contra Costa County Fair, to be held July 29 through August 2, 1998.

## FIELD CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE		
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$	
Field Corn	1997	7,890	4.65	36,700	Ton	99.50	3,651,000	
	1996	6,480	3.96	25,700	Ton	133.00	3,417,000	
Hay	Alfalfa	1997	4,530	6.99	31,700	Ton	124.00	3,933,000
		1996	3,320	6.04	20,100	Ton	118.00	2,372,000
	Grain	1997	1,792	3.39	6,070	Ton	60.80	369,000
		1996	1,450	2.12	3,100	Ton	69.30	213,000
Pasture	Irrigated				Grazed			
		1997	4,540		Grazed	Acre	91.90	385,000
		1996	4,490		Grazed	Acre	99.00	445,000
Pasture	Rangeland							
		1997	173,000			Acre	15.60	2,699,000
		1996	175,000			Acre	17.00	2,975,000
Safflower		1997	920	1.07	983	Ton	338.00	332,000
		1996	2,590	1.20	2,520	Ton	377.00	1,142,000
Wheat		1997	4,355	1.71	7,450	Ton	126.00	935,000
		1996	5,050	1.99	10,100	Ton	141.00	1,421,000
Miscellaneous Field Crops*		1997	1,681					392,000
		1996	1,009					296,800
Total		1997	198,708					\$12,696,000
		1996	199,389					\$12,281,800

\*Barley, Hay (Other Tame), Hay (Wild), Indian Corn, Oats, Silage, Sudan Grass

## VEGETABLE & SEED CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Asparagus</b>							
Fresh	1997	1,080	1.25	1,350	Ton	1,800.00	2,430,000
	1996	1,260	1.22	1,535	Ton	1,876.00	2,879,000
<b>Beans</b>	1997	268	3.47	931	Ton	928.00	864,000
	1996	393	2.24	882	Ton	841.00	742,000
<b>Onions</b>	1997	78	10.60	826	Ton	489.00	404,000
	1996	65	13.30	864	Ton	485.00	419,000
<b>Squash</b>	1997	113	9.03	1,020	Ton	336.00	343,000
	1996	84	7.21	606	Ton	358.00	217,000
<b>Sweet Corn</b>	1997	2,620	8.66	22,700	Ton	317.00	7,199,000
	1996	2,430	8.23	20,000	Ton	314.00	6,277,000
<b>Tomatoes</b>							
Total	1997	3,421		127,000	Ton		7,314,000
	1996	3,922		126,177	Ton		7,844,000
Fresh	1997	111	9.40	1,040	Ton	945.00	980,000
	1996	92	12.80	1,177	Ton	1,012.00	1,191,000
Processing	1997	3,310	37.90	126,000	Ton	50.50	6,334,000
	1996	3,830	32.60	125,000	Ton	53.23	6,653,000
<b>Miscellaneous Vegetable and Seed Crops*</b>	1997	404					1,479,000
	1996	618					1,521,000
<b>Total</b>	1997	7,984					\$20,033,000
	1996	8,772					\$19,899,000

\*Assorted Vegetables, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Garlic, Organic Greens, Herbs, Melons, Miscellaneous Seed Crops, Peppers, Pumpkins and Spices.

## FRUIT & NUT CROPS

CROP	YEAR	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
Apples	1997	1,538	15.20	23,400	Ton	437.00	10,217,000
	1996	1,530	12.60	19,388	Ton	432.00	8,376,000
Apricots	1997	868	5.92	5,140	Ton		1,608,000
	1996	888	5.03	4,470	Ton		1,981,000
Fresh	1997			2,360	Ton	396.00	934,000
	1996			3,150	Ton	491.00	1,548,000
Processing	1997			2,770	Ton	243.00	673,000
	1996			1,320	Ton	329.00	433,000
Cherries	1997	470	0.86	406	Ton	1,900.00	772,000
	1996	446	0.42	186	Ton	2,293.00	427,000
Grapes	1997	988	2.57	2,540	Ton	957.00	2,432,000
	1996	975	2.33	2,275	Ton	713.00	1,622,000
Nectarines	1997	35	2.51	88	Ton	1,680.00	148,000
	1996	39	1.91	74	Ton	1,118.00	83,000
Peaches	1997	190	3.36	639	Ton	1130.00	725,000
	1996	199	2.16	431	Ton	866.00	373,000
Pears	1997	109	11.30	1,230	Ton	221.00	272,000
	1996	106	12.00	1,280	Ton	235.00	300,000
Plums	1997	15	1.68	25	Ton	1040.00	26,200
	1996	14	1.27	18	Ton	780.00	14,000
Walnuts	1997	1,448	0.93	1,340	Ton	1,220.00	1,636,000
	1996	1,420	0.77	1,100	Ton	1,556.00	1,714,000
Miscellaneous Fruit & Nut Crops*	1997	95					684,000
	1996	99					404,000
Total	1997	5,756					\$18,520,200
	1996	5,716					\$15,294,000

\*Almonds, Asian Pears, Berries, Figs, Kiwis, Pecans, Persimmons, Pistachios, Pomegranates, Strawberries and other Miscellaneous Tree Crops.

## NURSERY PRODUCTS

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION AREA**		QUANTITY SOLD BY PRODUCERS	UNIT	VALUE	
		HOUSE SQ. FT.	FIELD ACRES			PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Nursery Stock</b>							
<b>Bedding</b>							
Plants	1997	5,102,177	307.00				23,742,000
	1996	5,037,000	302.00				19,387,000
<b>Herbaceous</b>							
Perennials	1997	532,000	11.00				1,574,000
	1996	371,000	13.00				973,000
<b>Indoor</b>							
Decoratives	1997	680,000					1,181,000
	1996	642,000					1,166,000
<b>Vegetable</b>							
Plants	1997	126,000	7.00				835,000
	1996	99,800	2.00				657,000
<b>Christmas</b>							
Trees	1997		73.00	2,560	Trees	30.40	77,800
	1996		77.00	3,685	Trees	25.00	100,000
<b>Cut Flowers</b>							
Roses, Std.	1997	893,000		11,376,000	Blooms	0.23	2,658,000
	1996	871,000		12,295,000	Blooms	0.24	2,956,000
Roses, Min.	1997	61,000		1,311,000	Blooms	0.12	163,000
	1996	51,000		1,052,000	Blooms	0.14	146,000
<b>Miscellaneous</b>							
Nursery Crops*	1997	168,000	27.30				1,057,000
	1996	130,000	32.00				834,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>7,562,177</b>	<b>425.30</b>				<b>\$31,287,800</b>
	1996	7,201,800	426.00				\$26,219,000

\*Alstromeria, Carnations, Dianthus, Eucalyptus, Potted Flowers & Vegetables, Floral Fruit Twigs, Freesias, Geraniums, Hanging Baskets, Cut Flowers, Lisianthus, Mums, Ornamental Trees & Shrubs, Statice and Willow Foliage

\*\*Gross Area

## LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
		NO. OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Cattle &amp; Calves</b>						
Beef	1997	15,620	55,300	cwt.	70.00	3,870,000
	1996	11,900	68,900	cwt.	53.70	3,700,000
<b>Cows &amp; Bulls</b>						
Beef & Dairy**	1997	1,620	14,500	cwt.	48.30	701,000
	1996	1,340	11,800	cwt.	36.20	427,000
<b>Hogs &amp; Pigs</b>						
	1997	300	900	cwt.	48.70	43,800
	1996	300	900	cwt.	46.00	41,400
<b>Miscellaneous Livestock &amp; Poultry*</b>						
	1997					426,000
	1996					500,000
<b>Total</b>						
	1997					\$5,040,800
	1996					\$4,668,400

\*Chickens, Ducks, Fish, Goats, Ostriches, Pheasants, Rabbits, Sheep and Turkeys.

## LIVESTOCK, APIARY & POULTRY PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Milk - Market</b>					
	1997	587,000	cwt.	12.53	7,357,000
	1996	532,000	cwt.	13.28	7,064,000
<b>Honey</b>					
	1997	80,000	lbs.	1.40	112,000
	1996	80,000	lbs.	1.00	76,000
<b>Beeswax</b>					
	1997	1,800	lbs.	1.90	3,420
	1996	1,300	lbs.	2.15	2,790
<b>Pollination</b>					
	1997	3,000	colonies	15.00	45,000
	1996	2,900	colonies	13.00	37,700
<b>Miscellaneous Livestock &amp; Poultry Products</b>					
	1997				80,000
	1996				80,000
<b>Total</b>					
	1997				\$7,597,420
	1996				\$7,260,490

## RECAPITULATION

	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>Change</u>
Field Crops	12,281,800	12,696,000	+414,200
Vegetable & Seed Crops	19,899,000	20,033,000	+134,000
Fruit & Nut Crops	15,294,000	18,520,200	+3,226,200
Nursery Crops	26,219,000	31,287,800	+5,068,800
Livestock & Poultry	4,668,400	5,040,800	+372,400
Livestock, Apiary & Poultry Products	7,260,490	7,597,420	+336,930
	\$85,622,690	\$95,175,220	+9,552,530

-----

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORTING

### COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

<u>Pest</u>	<u>Agent/Mechanism</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u>
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Seedhead weevil <u>Bangasternus orientalis</u>	Incidental releases by Contra Costa County Ag Dept
	Hairy weevil <u>Eustenopus villosus</u>	Nine releases by CDFA*, and Contra Costa County Ag Dept
	Gall fly <u>Urophora sirunaseva</u>	Incidental releases by Contra Costa County Ag Dept

\* CDFA is the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Biological Control Program, Sacramento, California.



## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

<u>CROP</u>	<u>GROSS VALUE/MILLION DOLLARS</u>		<u>RANK</u>	
	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Bedding Plants	\$23.7	\$19.4	1	1
Apples, all	10.2	8.4	2	2
Milk, all	7.4	7.1	3	4
Tomatoes, all	7.3	7.8	4	3
Sweet Corn	7.2	6.3	5	5
Hay - Alfalfa	3.9	2.4	6	11
Cattle & Calves	3.9	3.7	7	6
Field Corn	3.7	3.4	8	7
Roses, (cut) all	2.8	3.1	9	8
Rangeland Pasture	2.7	3.0	10	9
Asparagus	2.4	2.9	11	10
Grapes	2.4	1.6	12	14
Apricots	1.6	2.0	13	12
Walnuts	1.6	1.7	14	13
Herbaceous Perennials	1.6		15	
Miscellaneous Vegetables	1.5	1.1	16	15
Indoor Decoratives	1.2	1.2	17	17
Miscellaneous Nursery	1.1		18	

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Nursery Products	\$31.3	\$26.2	1	1
Vegetable & Seed Crops	20.0	19.9	2	2
Fruit & Nut Crops	18.2	15.3	3	3
Field Crops	12.7	12.3	4	4
Livestock Products	7.6	7.3	5	5
Livestock & Poultry	5.1	4.7	6	6

---

Total Acres in County	470,400
Population in County *	879,206
Land in Farms - Acres**	163,036
Harvested Cropland - Acres**	28,867

\*Jan. 1998

\*\*1992 census

**PEST EXCLUSION****TYPE OF SHIPMENT****NUMBER REJECTED**

	<u>UPS/FEDEX/P.O.</u>	
Burrowing Nematode/Reniform Nematode	"	29
Caribbean Fruit Fly	"	8
Cedar-Apple Rust	"	35
Cereal Leaf Beetle	"	1
Cherry Fruit Fly	"	2
Citrus Pests	"	31
Colorado Potato Beetle	"	4
European Corn Borer	"	1
Gypsy Moth	"	3
Japanese Beetle	"	28
Labeling, Origin	"	203
Live Pests	"	14
Ozonium Root Rot	"	1
Plum Curculio	"	5
Walnut Pests	"	3

**TRUCK**

Quack Grass	"	6
Zebra Mussel	"	1

**HOUSEHOLD GOODS**

Gypsy Moth	"	9
Japanese Beetle	"	8

**TOTAL SHIPMENTS INSPECTED**

Household Goods	296	13
UPS/Fedex/P.O.	28,514	346
Truck	347	14

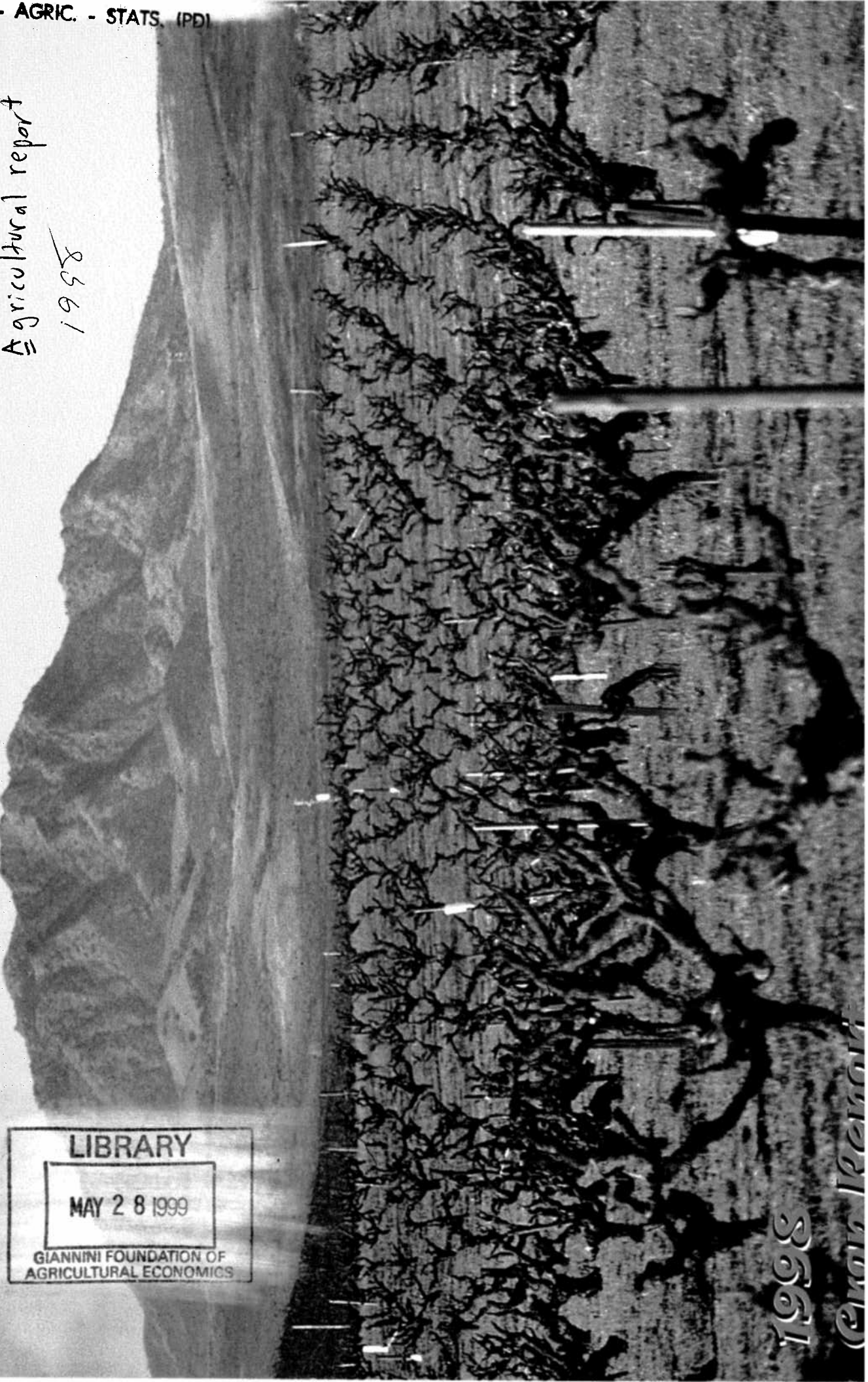
**ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS**

<u>Crop</u>	<u>No. of Farms</u>	<u>Estimated Acres</u>
Apples	3	89.6
Apricots	2	3.0
Artichokes	1	0.1
Cherries	2	5.1
Figs	1	1.0
Flowers	2	3.3
Garlic	3	0.8
Kiwi	1	0.1
Herbs	2	0.7
Nectarines	2	8.5
Onions	2	0.5
Peaches	1	24.0
Pears	2	2.8
Pistachios	1	36.8
Plums	3	1.6
Table Grapes	1	2.0
Tomatoes	2	26.1
Vegetables, Misc.	4	6.1
Walnuts	1	10.8
Total		222.9 Acres

LIF. - AGRIC. - STATS. (PDI)

# Contra Costa Calif. Agricultural Department of Agriculture

Agricultural report  
1998



LIBRARY  
MAY 28 1999  
GIANNINI FOUNDATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

1998  
Contra Costa

# Department of Agriculture

2366 A Stanwell Circle  
Concord, California 94520-4807  
(925) 646-5250  
FAX (925) 646-5732

## Branch Office

724 - 3rd Street  
Brentwood, California 94513-1360  
(925) 634-5682  
FAX (925) 634-2201

# Contra Costa County

Edward P. Meyer  
Agricultural Commissioner-  
Director Of Weights and Measures



To: WILLIAM LYONS, JR., SECRETARY  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
and  
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

I am pleased to submit the 1998 Annual Crop and Livestock Report for Contra Costa County in accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 and 2272 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. Pursuant to Section 2272, this report includes information on Organic Farming and Biological Control Activities in our county.

The total gross value of agricultural crops and products in 1998 was \$87,253,250, down 7.9 million dollars from 1997. In spite of El Nino, wine grape values in Contra Costa County rose to a record of \$6.8 million. This rise can be attributed to increased bearing acreage, maturing new vineyards, and higher prices in 1998. Previously, in 1997, the wine grape value was \$2.4 million, which means there was an increase of 4.4 million dollars.

Hit with the fury of El Nino, hay crops suffered in quality and price. Many crops were planted late in the season and the harvests were shortened and overlapped with other counties in California. Sweet corn prices dropped very early in the season and harvest was late. Apple prices dropped as the market was flooded at the same time with early Washington apples. Delayed plantings of processing tomatoes were hit with Late Blight, causing the collapse of young plants and severely stunting fruit. Cherries were hit by rain and production levels were low. Some orchards were not harvested. Apricots were devastated by a market collapse from foreign competition. The value of bedding plants dropped in 1998 by approximately \$600,000. Constant rains during the spring impacted sales.

Several crop categories exceeded \$1 million in value. These categories in decreasing order include bedding plants, milk, grapes, apples, sweet corn, tomatoes, miscellaneous vegetables, cattle and calves, roses, rangeland pasture, alfalfa, field corn, walnuts, herbaceous perennials, miscellaneous nursery, apricots, and indoor decoratives.

It should be emphasized the values stated in this report are gross receipts and do not include the cost of production, transportation, or marketing of the products.

I wish to thank the many individuals and organizations who supplied us with the information to complete this report. Their cooperation is truly appreciated. I also would like to thank Nancy Niemeyer and the rest of my staff for their diligent work in obtaining, compiling, and coordinating their efforts to put together our annual report.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward P. Meyer".

Edward P. Meyer  
Agricultural Commissioner

# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**Agricultural Commissioner - Director of Weights & Measures**  
Edward P. Meyer

**Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer**  
Bob Cruickshank

## AGRICULTURE

**Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**  
Cathleen M. Roybal

Vince Guise

Suzanne Maddux

**Agricultural Biologist III**

Bob Case

Ann McClure

Gene Sparkman

**Agricultural Biologist II**

Patty Whitlock  
Joe Deviney

Ralph Fonseca

Laurie Stout

Gene Mangini

Larry Yost

Nancy Niemeyer

**Agricultural Biologist I**

Jorge Vargas

## WEIGHTS and MEASURES

**Supervising Weights & Measures Inspector**

Patrick J. Roof

Ken Robinson

**Weights & Measures Inspector III**

Arthur Mangonon

**Weights & Measures Inspector II**

Cris Espejo

Marcin Tokarzewski

**Weights & Measures Inspector I**

Becky Schwenger

Gil Rocha

## CLERICAL

**Executive Secretary**  
Susan Finley

**Senior Clerk**  
Teri Murphy

**Experienced Clerk**  
Jacqueline Dixon

***On the cover:*** The Pato vineyard in east Contra Costa County with Mount Diablo in the background. This vineyard is representative of many in Oakley, which are near, or over 100 years old. These historical vines, on their own rootstock, are non-irrigated and not as vigorous as younger vines. As a result, they produce a grape with an intense flavor that has generated a resurgence of interest from award-winning vintners. Oakley's century old plantings of Zinfandel, Mataro (Mouvedre), and Carigne are rare. They have survived prohibition and Oakley's sandy soils have also made it possible for them to survive the grape phylloxera that destroyed vineyards in most other regions.

## FIELD CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE		
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$	
Field Corn	1998	7,500	3.38	25,300	Ton	86.10	2,182,000	
	1997	7,890	4.65	36,700	Ton	99.50	3,651,000	
Hay	Alfalfa	1998	4,090	5.68	23,200	Ton	101.00	2,350,000
		1997	4,530	6.99	31,700	Ton	124.00	3,933,000
	Grain	1998	2,180	2.63	5,730	Ton	43.00	246,000
		1997	1,792	3.39	6,070	Ton	60.80	369,000
Pasture	Irrigated	1998	7,315		Grazed	Acre	90.00	658,000
		1997	4,540		Grazed	Acre	91.90	385,000
Pasture	Rangeland	1998	173,000			Acre	14.90	2,578,000
		1997	173,000			Acre	15.60	2,699,000
Safflower	1998	1,460	1.27	1,850	Ton	325.00	601,000	
	1997	920	1.07	983	Ton	338.00	332,000	
Wheat	1998	3,540	1.02	3,600	Ton	102.00	367,000	
	1997	4,355	1.71	7,450	Ton	126.00	935,000	
Miscellaneous Field Crops*	1998	1,430					309,000	
	1997	1,681					392,000	
Total	1998	200,515					\$9,291,000	
	1997	198,708					\$12,696,000	

\*Barley, Clover, Hay (Other Tame), Hay (Wild), Indian Corn, Rye, Silage, Sorghum, Straw, Sudan Grass

## VEGETABLE & SEED CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
Beans	1998	299	2.77	827	Ton	973.00	805,000
	1997	268	3.47	931	Ton	928.00	864,000
Onions	1998	78	12.9	1,010	Ton	283.00	285,000
	1997	78	10.6	826	Ton	489.00	440,400
Squash	1998	65	7.65	497	Ton	293.00	146,000
	1997	113	9.03	1,020	Ton	336.00	343,000
Sweet Corn	1998	2,620	9.01	23,600	Ton	255.00	6,012,000
	1997	2,620	8.66	22,700	Ton	317.00	7,199,000
Tomatoes Total	1998	3,130		101,000	Ton		5,884,000
	1997	3,421		127,000	Ton		7,314,000
Fresh	1998	64	10.40	667	Ton	922.00	615,000
	1997	111	9.40	1,040	Ton	945.00	980,000
Processing	1998	3,070	32.60	100,000	Ton	52.60	5,269,000
	1997	3,310	37.90	126,000	Ton	50.50	6,334,000
Miscellaneous Vegetable and Seed Crops*	1998	1,522					3,624,000
	1997	1,484					3,909,000
Total	1998	7,714					\$16,756,000
	1997	7,984					\$20,033,000

\* Asparagus, Artichokes, Assorted Vegetables, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cardoon, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Garlic, Organic Greens, Herbs, Melons, Peppers, Pumpkins.

## FRUIT & NUT CROPS

CROP	YEAR	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
Apples	1998	1,590	12.90	20,500	Ton	311.00	6,378,000
	1997	1,538	15.20	23,400	Ton	437.00	10,217,000
Apricots Total	1998	591	5.99	3,540	Ton		1,087,000
	1997	868	5.92	5,140	Ton		1,608,000
Fresh	1998			1,020	Ton	354.00	362,000
	1997			2,360	Ton	396.00	934,000
Processing	1998			2,520	Ton	287.00	725,000
	1997			2,770	Ton	243.00	673,000
Cherries	1998	241	0.67	162	Ton	1,860.00	300,000
	1997	470	0.86	406	Ton	1,900.00	772,000
Grapes	1998	1,740	3.72	6,480	Ton	1,050.00	6,793,000
	1997	988	2.57	2,540	Ton	957.00	2,432,000
Nectarines	1998	38	2.32	88	Ton	1,570.00	139,000
	1997	35	2.51	88	Ton	1,680.00	148,000
Peaches	1998	175	3.25	568	Ton	1,140.00	646,000
	1997	190	3.36	639	Ton	1,130.00	725,000
Pears	1998	108	10.30	1,120	Ton	201.00	224,000
	1997	109	11.30	1,230	Ton	221.00	272,000
Plums	1998	14	1.47	21	Ton	1,090.00	22,400
	1997	15	1.68	25	Ton	1,040.00	26,200
Walnuts	1998	1,470	0.92	1,340	Ton	1,390.00	1,863,000
	1997	1,448	0.93	1,340	Ton	1,220.00	1,636,000
Miscellaneous Fruit & Nut Crops*	1998	79					319,000
	1997	95					684,000
Total	1998	6,046					\$17,771,400
	1997	5,756					\$18,520,200

\* Almonds, Asian Pears, Berries, Figs, Kiwis, Pecans, Persimmons, Pistachios, Pomegranates, Strawberries and other Miscellaneous Tree Crops.



## NURSERY PRODUCTS

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION AREA**		QUANTITY SOLD BY PRODUCERS		VALUE	
		HOUSE SQ. FT.	FIELD ACRES		UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
<b>Nursery Stock</b>							
<b>Bedding</b>							
Plants	1998	5,848,000	305.00				23,143,000
	1997	5,102,177	307.00				23,742,000
<b>Herbaceous</b>							
Perennials	1998	612,000	12.80				1,730,000
	1997	532,000	11.00				1,574,000
<b>Indoor</b>							
Decoratives	1998	546,000					1,109,000
	1997	680,000					1,181,000
<b>Vegetable</b>							
Plants	1998	100,000	8.30				816,000
	1997	126,000	7.00				835,000
<b>Christmas</b>							
Trees	1998		62.00	2,650	Trees	28.80	76,300
	1997		73.00	2,560	Trees	30.40	77,800
<b>Cut Flowers</b>							
Roses, Std.	1998	857,000		10,523,000	Blooms	0.24	2,540,000
	1997	893,000		11,376,000	Blooms	0.23	2,658,000
Roses, Min.	1998	57,800		1,225,000	Blooms	0.12	152,000
	1997	61,000		1,311,000	Blooms	0.12	163,000
<b>Miscellaneous</b>							
Nursery Crops*	1998	203,000	36.30				1,097,000
	1997	168,000	27.30				1,057,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>8,223,800</b>	<b>424.40</b>				<b>\$30,663,300</b>
	<b>1997</b>	<b>7,562,177</b>	<b>425.30</b>				<b>\$31,287,800</b>

\*Carnations, Eucalyptus, Potted Flowers & Vegetables, Floral Fruit Twigs, Cut Flowers, Gerberas, Ground Covers, Hanging Baskets, Lavender, Lisianthus, Mums, Ornamental Trees & Shrubs, Fruit Trees, and Willow Foliage.

\*\*Gross Area

## LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
		NO. OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVEWEIGHT		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
Cattle & Calves Beef	1998	9,860	45,800	cwt.	66.00	3,024,000
	1997	15,620	55,300	cwt.	70.00	3,870,000
Cows & Bulls Beef & Dairy	1998	1,740	11,100	cwt.	41.60	462,000
	1997	1,620	14,500	cwt.	48.30	701,000
Hogs & Pigs	1998	150	450	cwt.	34.00	15,300
	1997	300	900	cwt.	48.70	43,800
Miscellaneous Livestock & Poultry*	1998					410,000
	1997					426,000
Total	1998					\$3,911,300
	1997					\$5,040,800

\*Chickens, Ducks, Fish, Goats, Llamas, Ostriches, Rabbits, Sheep and Turkeys.

## LIVESTOCK, APIARY & POULTRY PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
Milk - Market	1998	589,000	cwt.	14.79	8,711,000
	1997	587,000	cwt.	12.53	7,357,000
Honey	1998	20,000	lbs.	1.70	34,000
	1997	80,000	lbs.	1.40	112,000
Beeswax	1998	250	lbs.	1.00	250
	1997	1,800	lbs.	1.90	3,420
Pollination	1998	2,000	colonies	20.00	40,000
	1997	3,000	colonies	15.00	45,000
Miscellaneous Livestock & Poultry Products	1998				75,000
	1997				80,000
Total	1998				\$8,860,250
	1997				\$7,597,420

**MILLION DOLLAR CROPS  
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

<b>CROP</b>	<b>GROSS VALUE/MILLION DOLLARS</b>		<b>RANK</b>	
	<b>1998</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1997</b>
Bedding Plants	\$23.1	\$23.7	1	1
Milk, all	8.7	7.4	2	3
Grapes	6.8	2.4	3	12
Apples, all	6.4	10.2	4	2
Sweet Corn	6.0	7.2	5	5
Tomatoes, all	5.9	7.3	6	4
Miscellaneous Vegetables	3.6	3.9 *	7	8
Cattle & Calves	3.0	3.9	8	7
Roses, (cut) all	2.7	2.8	9	10
Rangeland Pasture	2.6	2.7	10	11
Hay - Alfalfa	2.4	3.9	11	6
Field Corn	2.2	3.7	12	9
Walnuts	1.9	1.6	13	14
Herbaceous Perennials	1.7	1.6	14	15
Miscellaneous Nursery	1.1	1.1	15	17
Apricots	1.1	1.6	16	13
Indoor Decoratives	1.1	1.2	17	16

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1997</b>
Nursery Products	\$30.7	\$31.3	1	1
Fruit & Nut Crops	17.8	18.5	2	3
Vegetable & Seed Crops	16.8	20.0	3	2
Field Crops	9.3	12.7	4	4
Livestock Products	8.9	7.6	5	5
Livestock & Poultry	3.9	5.0	6	6

---

Total Acres in County	470,400
Population in County **	900,700
Land in Farms - Acres***	163,036
Harvested Cropland - Acres***	28,867

\*1997 Value adjusted

\*\*Jan. 1998

\*\*\*1992 census

## RECAPITULATION

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>Change</u>
Field Crops	12,696,000	9,291,000	-3,405,000
Vegetable & Seed Crops	20,033,000	16,756,000	-3,277,000
Fruit & Nut Crops	18,520,200	17,771,400	-748,800
Nursery Crops	31,287,800	30,663,300	-624,500
Livestock & Poultry	5,040,800	3,911,300	-1,129,500
Livestock, Apiary & Poultry Products	7,597,420	8,860,250	+1,262,830
	\$95,175,220	\$87,253,250	-7,921,970

-----

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORTING

### COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

<u>Pest</u>	<u>Agent/Mechanism</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u>
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Hairy weevil <u>Eustenopus villosus</u>	Eight releases by CDFA*, and Contra Costa County Ag Dept
Codling Moth <u>Cydia pomonella</u>	Parasitic wasp <u>Matrus ridibundus</u>	2 releases by University of California, Berkeley, Center for Biological Control

\* CDFA is the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Biological Control Program, Sacramento, California.

**PEST EXCLUSION****TYPE OF SHIPMENT****NUMBER REJECTED**

	<u>UPS/FEDEX/P.O.</u>	
Black Stem Rust	"	1
Burrowing Nematode/Reniform Nematode	"	5
Caribbean Fruit Fly	"	1
Cedar-Apple Rust	"	16
Chestnut Bark	"	1
Citrus Pests	"	10
Gypsy Moth	"	3
Japanese Beetle	"	2
Labeling, Origin	"	251
Live Pests	"	177
Balsam Gall Midge, included above	"	160
Ozonium Root Rot	"	1
Pine Shoot Beetle	"	8
Plum Curculio	"	3
Tomato Leaf Curl Virus	"	1
Walnut Pests	"	3

**TRUCK**

Quack Grass	"	9
Imported Fire Ant	"	1

**HOUSEHOLD GOODS**

Gypsy Moth	"	7
Japanese Beetle	"	2

**TOTAL SHIPMENTS INSPECTED**

Household Goods	263	9
UPS/Fedex/P.O.	24,702	483
Truck	311	10

**ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS**

<u>Crop</u>	<u>No. of Farms</u>	<u>Estimated Acres</u>
Apples	4	89.0
Apricots	2	3.0
Artichokes	1	0.1
Cherries	2	5.1
Figs	1	1.0
Flowers	3	3.4
Garlic	3	0.8
Gourds	1	0.1
Kiwi	1	0.1
Herbs	3	2.2
Nectarines	2	8.5
Onions	2	0.5
Peaches	1	24.0
Pears	2	6.8
Pistachios	1	36.8
Plums	4	1.7
Table Grapes	1	2.0
Tomatoes	2	26.1
Vegetables, Misc.	5	6.1
Walnuts	1	11.3
		<u>Total</u> 228.6 Acres

LIBRARY  
MAY 12 2000  
COUNTY OFFICE OF  
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

*Calif. Agricultural Economics*

# Contra Costa County Department of Agriculture 1999 Crop Report

*Calif. Agricultural Economics*

# Department of Agriculture

2366 A Stanwell Circle  
Concord, California 94520-4807  
(925) 646-5250  
FAX (925) 646-5732

Branch Office  
724 - 3rd Street  
Brentwood, California 94513-1360  
(925) 634-5682  
FAX (925) 634-2201

# Contra Costa County

Edward P. Meyer  
Agricultural Commissioner-  
Director Of Weights and Measures



To: BILL LYONS, JR., SECRETARY  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
and  
THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

I am pleased to submit the 1999 Annual Crop and Livestock Report for Contra Costa County in accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 and 2272 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. This report includes information on Organic Farming and Biological Control Activities in our county.

The total gross value of agricultural crops and products in 1999 was \$86,693,780, down \$71,470 dollars from 1998. Yields for many crops such as alfalfa, wheat, tomatoes, cherries and walnuts, rebounded from the effects caused by El Nino in 1998. However, in many cases, the increased production led to lower prices from market competition.

Increased planting of forage crops such as Sudan, silage and clover, accounted for much of the decrease in hay, wheat and field corn. More safflower was planted but prices dropped sharply mid season due to market pressures. Good spring weather allowed an excellent cherry harvest in contrast to that of 1998. Miscellaneous fruit and nut crop production increased as new acreage came into production and yields improved. Contra Costa County lost several nurseries and rose growers in 1999. Cut rose prices remained low due to foreign competition. Consumer demand for nursery plants was high in 1999 after the rains of 1998, leading to an increase in sales of herbaceous perennials and vegetable plants. Miscellaneous nursery crop production also increased.

Several crop categories exceeded \$1 million in value. These categories in decreasing order include bedding plants, milk, tomatoes, grapes, sweet corn, apples, miscellaneous vegetables, cattle and calves, rangeland pasture, miscellaneous nursery, field corn, cherries, alfalfa, herbaceous perennials, roses, vegetable plants, indoor decoratives, walnuts, and apricots.

It should be emphasized the values stated in this report are gross receipts and do not include the cost of production, transportation, or marketing of the products.

I wish to thank the many individuals and organizations who supplied us with the information to complete this report. Their cooperation is truly appreciated. I also would like to thank Nancy Niemeyer and the rest of my staff for their diligent work in obtaining, compiling, and coordinating their efforts to put together our annual report.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward P. Meyer  
Agricultural Commissioner

## THE CONTRA COSTA CUT-ROSE GROWER- an endangered species?

To the untrained eye the photo on the cover of this year's crop report is a beautiful picture of roses blooming in a glasshouse. However, to a cut-rose grower the photo might spark concerns that something may be terribly wrong. Cut-roses need to be pruned on a daily basis to maintain quality and production. The fact that the rosebuds have opened in this picture is an indication that they are no longer being maintained for production. This is a scene that has occurred all too often in this state as the number of rose growers has plummeted from approximately 500 to 50 since the 1970's. Contra Costa County has not been immune to this trend as two of our cut-rose growers closed their doors in 1999. Luckily, the picture we displayed on this crop report reflects a grower who is about to replant his glasshouse with a new variety.

Roses intended for cut flower production are very different from typical garden roses. They require daily maintenance from crews who work year-round. Roses must last at least one week in the vase and produce heavily and quickly. Other important characteristics are color, disease resistance, and stem length. The best time to cut a rose is before the bud is open, when the sepals have turned down. If cut before that point, the bud may never open.

The story of cut-rose growers in our county reflects much of the deep-rooted family traditions that the agricultural industry often represents. Most of the rose growers in Contra Costa County were of Japanese descent. Their grandfathers and great grandfathers came to California around the turn of the century. At first, they worked menial jobs such as house servants and farm workers, but their goal was to buy land and establish their own business. They worked hard and saved their money to buy enough land for a small truck farm or nursery. When they had established themselves, they sent to Japan for their sons to join them in the business. Their sons married and had children who continued to work in the family nursery.

During the 1920's, there were eight flower growers in the Richmond area. In those early days, growers would wrap their flowers in rolls of straw matting and carry them on their backs to the market in San Francisco. There were no bridges across the bay, so the only way to get to the markets was by ferry. It was a long walk to the flower markets from the ferry landing. The prices were often bad at the market and sometimes the flowers wouldn't sell, so the growers would have to carry them back home again.

The stories behind each of these growers are fascinating and often reflect the close ties within the farm community. One of our growers, who started his nursery in 1927, first grew sweet peas under cheesecloth houses, then later began growing roses. He and his family did all the work and put every penny back into the business. During World War II, his family looked after the properties of three of his Japanese American neighbors to keep their nurseries safe until they could return. During this period, Americans of Japanese descent were imprisoned in internment camps. They were forced to leave their businesses and homes unprotected. Other growers returned after the war to find their greenhouses wrecked and their nurseries destroyed.

In the 1950's and 1960's, the rose business boomed. Roses from Contra Costa County were shipped all over the United States. In the mid 1970's, roses imported from South America started to drive the local small growers out of business. The United States government's war on drugs provided money for South American countries to grow



flowers instead of drugs. The government allows these foreign flowers free entry into the United States, providing foreign growers an unfair advantage over our local industry. One of our growers testified before Congress to try and explain the impacts of these foreign policies, but to no avail.

The impacts of regulations and policies are an ongoing issue with the entire agricultural industry, not just cut-rose growers. It is extremely important to understand the dynamics that take place. Even policies specifically designed to protect agriculture can have a negative impact on a segment of the industry. For example, many rose varieties are bred specifically for the flower industry. There are several major rose breeders in California; however, Europe is another major source of new rose varieties. It takes several years for a new European variety to pass the U.S. quarantines that are designed to protect us from the introduction of new plant diseases. Most South American countries do not have these types of quarantine restrictions, so their growers can plant new European varieties immediately and send the cut flowers to American markets. By the time our growers receive them, they are no longer considered new to the consumer. By working with industry to understand this problem, the California Department of Food & Agriculture has developed a post entry quarantine program which provides a means for rose growers to import and market new varieties under strict quarantine provisions.

During the last 100 years our society has changed to the point that few of us have any first-hand knowledge of agricultural activities. It is important to communicate with the agricultural industry to understand their issues. This communication can help us work toward solutions that meet everyone's need. On a local level our County Board of Supervisors has already taken steps by passing a Right to Farm Ordinance. They are also currently exploring other ways to improve communication with our local growers.

There are only three cut-rose nurseries of the original eight left in the Richmond area. All are still operated by the same families that started them. If we were talking about a salamander or butterfly rather than a family industry, we would probably be discussing endangered species status and requiring impact reports on any proposal that would affect their viability. Nevertheless, our growers do have several advantages over the South American rose growers that can help them survive:

- ◆ Local growers are more familiar with changing trends in U.S. consumer's tastes
- ◆ Local nurseries can provide a fresh rose that will last longer in the vase, unlike foreign roses that have been in cold storage and shipped as freight.
- ◆ In addition, good customer service, flexibility, and excellent quality control are benefits that local growers can provide to their customers.

The next time you look for roses, you might want to consider where they are grown.

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Agricultural Commissioner - Director of Weights & Measures**  
Edward P. Meyer

**Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer**  
Vince Guise

**AGRICULTURE**

**Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**  
Cathleen M. Roybal

Larry Yost

Suzanne Maddux

**Agricultural Biologist III**  
Ann McClure

Bob Case

Gene Sparkman

**Agricultural Biologist II**  
Ralph Fonseca  
Gene Mangini

Patty Whitlock  
Joe Deviney

Laurie Stout  
Nancy Niemeyer

**Agricultural Biologist I**  
Jorge Vargas

Beth Slate

Tom Donlon

**WEIGHTS and MEASURES**

**Supervising Weights & Measures Inspector**

Patrick J. Roof

Ken Robinson

**Weights & Measures Inspector III**  
Arthur Mangonon

**Weights & Measures Inspector II**

Cris Espejo

Marcin Tokarzewski

**Weights & Measures Inspector I**

Becky Schwenger

Gil Rocha

**CLERICAL**

**Executive Secretary**  
Susan Finley

**Senior Clerk**  
Teri Murphy

**Experienced Clerk**  
Jacqueline Dixon

## FIELD CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE		
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$	
Field Corn	1999	6,790	3.77	25,600	Ton	87.10	2,227,000	
	1998	7,500	3.38	25,300	Ton	86.10	2,182,000	
Hay	Alfalfa	1999	3,500	6.41	22,400	Ton	88.80	1,992,000
		1998	4,090	5.68	23,200	Ton	101.00	2,350,000
	Grain	1999	1,620	2.42	3,920	Ton	67.60	265,000
		1998	2,180	2.63	5,730	Ton	43.00	246,000
Pasture	Irrigated	1999	5,970		Grazed	Acre	95.00	567,000
		1998	7,315		Grazed	Acre	90.00	658,000
Pasture	Rangeland	1999	168,000			Acre	14.80	2,486,000
		1998	173,000			Acre	14.90	2,578,000
Safflower	1999	2,070	1.05	2,180	Ton	295.00	642,000	
	1998	1,460	1.27	1,850	Ton	325.00	601,000	
Wheat	1999	2,690	2.20	5,930	Ton	92.80	550,000	
	1998	3,540	1.02	3,600	Ton	102.00	367,000	
Miscellaneous Field Crops*	1999	2,660					796,000	
	1998	1,430					309,000	
Total	1999	193,300					\$9,525,000	
	1998	200,515					\$9,291,000	

\*Barley, Clover, Hay (Other Tame), Hay (Wild), Indian Corn, Rye, Silage, Sorghum, Straw, Sudan Grass  
Sugar Beets

## VEGETABLE & SEED CROPS

CROP	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
Beans	1999	304	2.65	805	Ton	998.00	804,000
	1998	299	2.77	827	Ton	973.00	805,000
Onions	1999	45	18.4	831	Ton	309.00	257,000
	1998	78	12.9	1,010	Ton	283.00	285,000
Squash	1999	78	7.61	594	Ton	273.00	162,000
	1998	65	7.65	497	Ton	293.00	146,000
Sweet Corn	1999	2,430	9.50	23,100	Ton	274.00	6,326,000
	1998	2,620	9.01	23,600	Ton	255.00	6,012,000
Tomatoes							
Total	1999	3,089		114,010	Ton		7,177,000
	1998	3,130		101,000	Ton		5,884,000
Fresh	1999	89	11.40	1,010	Ton	726.00	732,000
	1998	64	10.40	667	Ton	922.00	615,000
Processing	1999	3,000	37.50	113,000	Ton	57.20	6,445,000
	1998	3,070	32.60	100,000	Ton	52.60	5,269,000
Miscellaneous Vegetable and Seed Crops*	1999	1,490					3,572,000
	1998	1,522					3,624,000
Total	1999	7,436					\$18,298,000
	1998	7,714					\$16,756,000

\* Asparagus, Artichokes, Assorted Vegetables, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cardoon, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Garlic, Organic Greens, Herbs, Melons, Peppers, Pumpkins.

## FRUIT & NUT CROPS

CROP	YEAR	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL \$
Apples	1999	1,930	7.24	13,900	Ton	371.00	5,165,000
	1998	1,590	12.90	20,500	Ton	311.00	6,378,000
<b>Apricots</b>							
Total	1999	630	6.09	3,838	Ton		1,137,000
	1998	591	5.99	3,540	Ton		1,087,000
Fresh	1999			998	Ton	363.00	362,000
	1998			1,020	Ton	354.00	362,000
Processing	1999			2,840	Ton	273.00	775,000
	1998			2,520	Ton	287.00	725,000
Cherries	1999	372	2.85	1,060	Ton	1,900.00	2,007,000
	1998	241	0.67	162	Ton	1,860.00	300,000
Grapes	1999	1,580	4.07	6,440	Ton	1,080.00	6,978,000
	1998	*1,440	*4.06	*5,850	Ton	*1,060.00	*6,202,000
Nectarines	1999	31	2.78	87	Ton	1,490.00	131,000
	1998	38	2.32	88	Ton	1,570.00	139,000
Peaches	1999	159	3.69	588	Ton	1,240.00	731,000
	1998	175	3.25	568	Ton	1,140.00	646,000
Pears	1999	102	12.70	1,300	Ton	196.00	255,000
	1998	108	10.30	1,120	Ton	201.00	224,000
Plums	1999	17	1.85	31	Ton	990.00	30,300
	1998	14	1.47	21	Ton	1,090.00	22,400
Walnuts	1999	1,138	1.26	1,440	Ton	799.00	1,148,000
	1998	1,470	0.92	1,340	Ton	1,390.00	1,863,000
<b>Miscellaneous</b>							
Fruit & Nut Crops**	1999	111					615,000
	1998	79					319,000
Total	1999	6,070					\$18,197,300
	1998	5,746					*\$17,180,400

\*1998 Value adjusted

\*\*Almonds, Asian Pears, Berries, Figs, Kiwis, Pecans, Persimmons, Pistachios, Pluots, Pomegranates, Strawberries and other Miscellaneous Tree Crops.

## MILLION DOLLAR CROPS CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

<u>CROP</u>	<u>GROSS VALUE/MILLION DOLLARS</u>		<u>RANK</u>	
	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>
Bedding Plants	19.7	\$23.1	1	1
Milk, all	8.3	*7.9	2	2
Tomatoes, all	7.2	5.9	3	6
Grapes	7.0	*6.2	4	4
Sweet Corn	6.3	6.0	5	5
Apples, all	5.2	6.4	6	3
Miscellaneous Vegetables	3.6	3.6	7	7
Cattle & Calves	3.1	3.0	8	8
Rangeland Pasture	2.5	2.6	9	10
Miscellaneous Nursery	2.4	*2.0	10	13
Field Corn	2.2	2.2	11	12
Cherries	2.0	0.3	12	
Hay - Alfalfa	2.0	2.4	13	11
Herbaceous Perennials	2.0	1.7	14	15
Roses, (cut) all	1.6	2.7	15	9
Vegetable Plants	1.3	0.8	16	
Indoor Decoratives	1.2	1.1	17	17
Walnuts	1.1	1.9	18	14
Apricots	1.1	1.1	19	16

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>
Nursery Products	28.2	*31.5	1	1
Vegetable & Seed Crops	18.3	16.8	2	3
Fruit & Nut Crops	18.2	*17.2	3	2
Field Crops	9.5	9.3	4	4
Livestock Products	8.5	*8.1	5	5
Livestock & Poultry	4.0	3.9	6	6

---

Total Acres in County	470,400
Population in County **	916,400
Land in Farms - Acres***	147,859
Harvested Cropland - Acres***	28,391

\*1998 Value adjusted

\*\*Jan. 1999

\*\*\*1997 census

## RECAPITULATION

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>Change</u>
Field Crops	9,291,000	9,525,000	234,000
Vegetable & Seed Crops	16,756,000	18,298,000	1,542,000
Fruit & Nut Crops	*17,180,400	18,197,300	1,016,900
Nursery Crops	*31,543,300	28,202,200	-3,341,100
Livestock & Poultry	3,911,300	3,997,000	85,700
Livestock, Apiary & Poultry Products	*8,083,250	8,474,280	391,030
<b>Total</b>	<b>*\$86,765,250</b>	<b>\$86,693,780</b>	<b>-71,470</b>

-----

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORTING

### COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

<u>Pest</u>	<u>Agent/Mechanism</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u>
Yellow Starthistle <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	Hairy weevil <u>Eustenopus villosus</u>	Five releases by CDFA** and Contra Costa County Ag Dept
	YST flower weevil <u>Larinus curtus</u>	One release by CDFA ** and East Bay Regional Park Dist.
Purple Starthistle <u>Centaurea calcitrapa</u>	Flower weevils <u>Bangastemus faustii</u> <u>Larinus minutus</u>	One release by CDFA** and Contra Costa County Ag Dept

\*1998 Value adjusted

\*\*CDFA is the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Biological Control Program, Sacramento

**PEST EXCLUSION-1999**

**TYPE OF SHIPMENT**

**NUMBER REJECTED**

**FED-EX- UPS**

Burrowing Nematode	"	7
Caribbean Fruit Fly	"	3
Cereal Leaf Beetle	"	4
Cedar-Apple Rust	"	9
Chestnut Bark, Oak Wilt	"	5
Citrus Pests	"	17
Citrus Canker	"	2
Colorado Potatoe Beetle	"	1
European Corn Borer	"	3
European Pine Shoot Moth	"	1
Imported Fire Ant	"	3
Japanese Beetle	"	2
Lethal Yellowing of Palms	"	1
Live Pests	"	17
Balsam Gall Midge, not inc. above	"	655
Mediterranean Fruit Fly Interior Quar.	"	1
Mexican Fruit Fly Interior Quar.	"	1
Nut Tree Pests	"	2
Ozonium Root Rot	"	1
Plum Curculio	"	1
Sweet Potatoe Beetle	"	1
Walnut Pests	"	2
<b>Total Rejections</b>		<b>739</b>

**TRUCK**

Quack Grass		7
Imported Fire Ant		1

**HOUSEHOLD GOODS**

Gypsy Moth		12
Japanese Beetle		5

**TOTAL SHIPMENTS INSPECTED**

Household Goods	257	17
Mail/UPS/FEDEX	29,581	1000
Truck	387	7
A & Q Rated Pests Intercepted		31

**ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS**

<u>Crop</u>	<u>No. of Farms</u>	<u>Estimated Acres</u>
Apples	1	1.0
Apricots	2	3.6
Artichokes	1	0.2
Cherries	3	7.3
Citrus (Lemons, Orange, Tangerine)	4	0.5
Figs	2	2.2
Flowers	3	0.2
Garlic	1	0.5
Kiwi	1	0.5
Herbs	4	2.8
Nectarines	3	9.0
Onions	1	1.0
Peaches	2	25.0
Pears	3	6.2
Pistachios	1	36.8
Plums	4	2.0
Table Grapes	1	2.0
Tomatoes	2	2.6
Vegetables, Misc.	5	9.2
Walnuts	1	0.8
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>113.5</b>