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California Department of Food and Agriculture

Agricultural Commissioners' Crop Reports

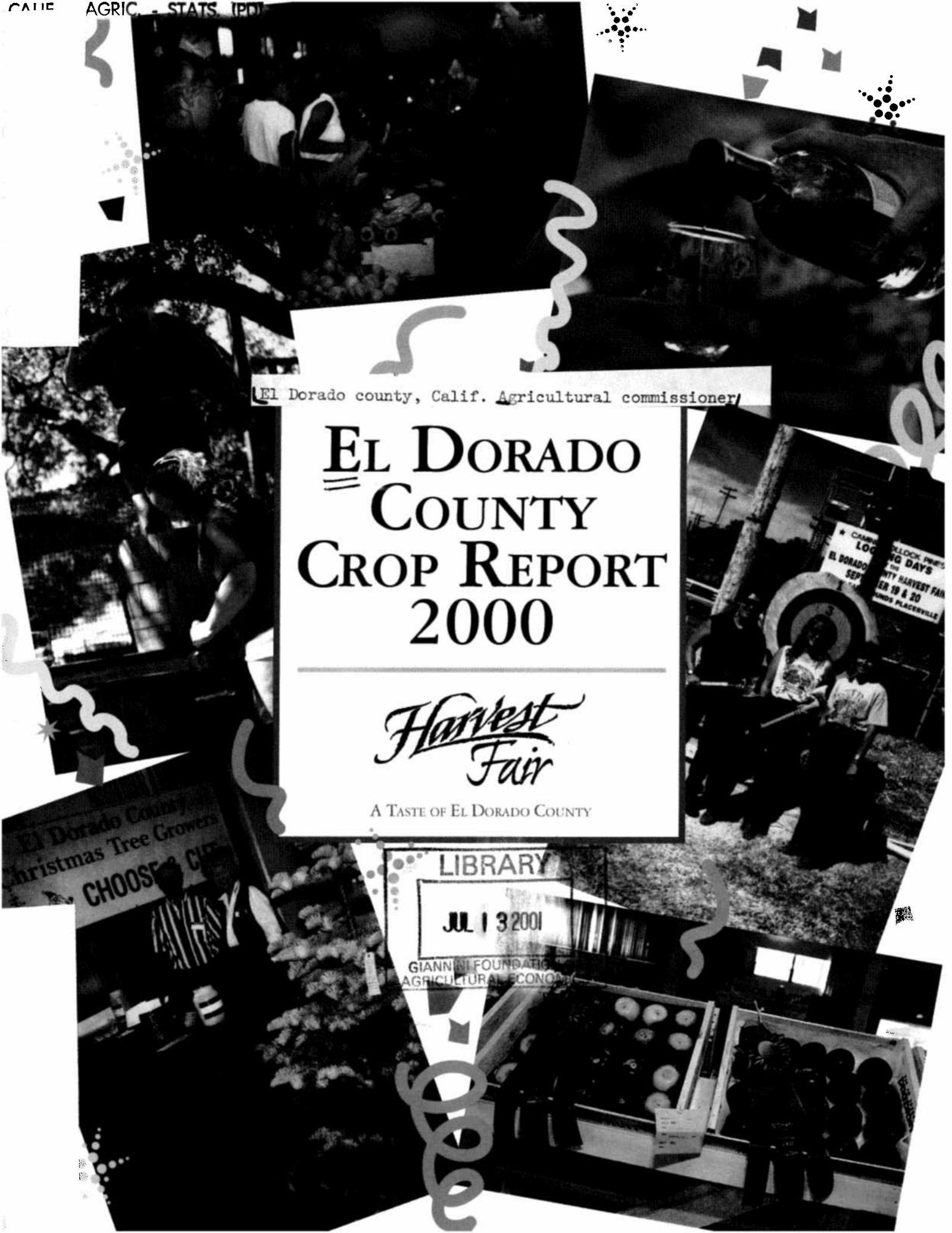
El Dorado County

2000-2003

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.**



El Dorado county, Calif. Agricultural commissioner/

EL DORADO COUNTY CROP REPORT 2000

*Harvest
Fair*

A TASTE OF EL DORADO COUNTY

El Dorado County
Christmas Tree Growers
CHOOSE A TREE

LIBRARY
JUL 13 2001
GIANNINI FOUNDATION
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY

CASH PRIZES
LOCK PINE
EL DORADO COUNTY
HARVEST FAIR
SEPTEMBER 19 & 20
PLACERVILLE

HARVEST FAIR 2000

SEED PACKET ART CONTEST WINNERS

Harvest Fair 2000



Ariana Bye • 6th Grade



Nicole Bernardo • 8th Grade



Shane Wise • 1st Grade



Eva McLaughlin • 3rd Grade



Agricultural exhibits, growing "how-tos", logging exhibition, wine tasting, art and craft demonstrations, farm and ranch supplies and equipment, family entertainment----all at the El Dorado County Harvest Fair! This annual event, held the third weekend of September, has become a golden opportunity to enjoy "A Taste of El Dorado"!

This traditional, family-oriented agricultural fair links the community to the sources of our most basic needs--food, fiber and shelter. A stroll through the Main Hall allows attendees a chance to view agricultural exhibits and demonstrations. The Farmer's Market, hosted by El Dorado County Farm Trails Association, provides an opportunity to purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables and talk "one-on-one" with area farmers. Educational exhibits include weed control, irrigation systems and water conservation, wine grape growing, forestry and timber resources, fruit tree varieties and pest problem diagnosis. The educational booths always feature great "hands-on" activities for kids and parents alike, including making "Ice Cream in a Bag" at the El Dorado County Farm Bureau booth!

Livestock demonstrations include sheep shearing, cutting horses, goats (pack animals and weed control) and sheep dogs trials. Other demonstrations featured throughout the two-day event include gardening and food preservation by the Master Gardeners and Master Food Preservers. The annual Grape Stomp, with prizes in both adult and youth competitions, is always a real crowd pleaser. Teams of spinners and weavers compete in the "Sheep to Shawl" contest, producing a shawl in only a few hours. The commercial fruit grower's events have become very competitive over the past three-years----prizes include cash and the coveted "Best of Show" ribbons! "Logging Days" at the Harvest Fair includes competitions celebrating the lifestyle of folks involved in the timber industry. El Dorado County wines are featured at the wine tasting event---samples of the fruits of our local vintner's labor are available in a relaxed atmosphere.

Enjoy the bounty of our agricultural heritage, listen to a fiddle tune, learn something new, taste a sun-ripened tomato, have a warm Apple Hill pastry----all at the Harvest Fair!



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

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Rusty Dupray – District 1

Helen Baumann – District 2
Carl Borelli – District 3
David Solaro – District 5

In accordance with Section 2279 of the California Agricultural Code, I hereby submit the 2000 El Dorado County Crop Report.

The 2000 gross agricultural value equaled \$52,395,500, representing an increase of 2% over the 1999 figures. The value of wine grapes produced in El Dorado County continued to increase (up 5%) even with production losses due to a frost in May. The amount of acreage planted in wine grapes also increased by 16% over 1999. Other crop value increases included: a rebound in the apple production after extensive hail damage in 1999; Christmas tree values posted a 33% increase due to high demand for “Choose and Cut” trees and excellent December weather; cattle prices continued to increase, with a 34% increase in value. It should be noted that while California wine grape prices dropped an average of 3.5% per ton, El Dorado County wine grape prices increased by 3% per ton. This significant statistic is attributed to the recognition of the excellent grape quality, which continues to yield award-winning wines from the El Dorado Appellation.

It is estimated that the impact of agriculture on El Dorado County's economy totaled approximately \$320 million in 2000. Of that, the wine industry has an estimated \$87 million effect on the economy and Apple Hill has a \$58 million impact.

The monetary value records in this report are F.O.B. (Freight on Board) and do not reflect net returns or profits realized by growers. Neither do they reflect the total economic impact of agricultural byproducts produced (such as wines, apple pies, cider, etc.), tourism, nor the standard economic multiplying factor.

This report was compiled by Wendy West, Agricultural Biologist/Standards Inspector. I wish to express my appreciation to the many individuals and organizations that contributed information to make this report possible.

Bill Snodgrass

Bill Snodgrass
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

El Dorado County

2000 Crop Report

Departmental Staff

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Cover Photos:
Fruit - William A. Scales/Mountain Democrat
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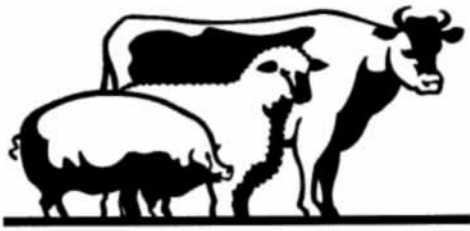




Fruit and Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Acreage	Per Acre	Total Production	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value	
Pears-Bartlett								
Fresh	2000			513	Tons	\$ 560	\$ 287,300	
	1999			766	Tons	\$ 640	\$ 490,200	
Cannery	2000			914	Tons	\$ 196	\$ 179,100	
	1999			1,137	Tons	\$ 220	\$ 250,100	
Juice	2000			803	Tons	\$ 10	\$ 8,000	
	1999			568	Tons	\$ 15	\$ 8,500	
Total	2000	385	5.80	2,230	Tons	\$ 213	\$ 474,700	
Bartlett	1999	405	6.10	2,471	Tons	\$ 303	\$ 748,800	
Bosc/Asian								
	2000	66	4.00	264	Tons	\$ 467	\$ 123,300	
	1999	66	3.11	205	Tons	\$ 418	\$ 85,700	
Total	2000	451	5.53	2,494	Tons	\$ 240	\$ 598,000	
Pears	1999	471	5.68	2,676	Tons	\$ 312	\$ 834,500	
Apples								
Fresh	2000			5,580	Tons	\$ 750	\$ 4,185,000	
	1999			3,147	Tons	\$ 740	\$ 2,328,800	
Cannery/Apple	2000			2,790	Tons	\$ 80	\$ 223,200	
Hill Products	1999			2,633	Tons	\$ 80	\$ 210,600	
Cider	2000			930	Tons	\$ 45	\$ 41,900	
	1999			642	Tons	\$ 50	\$ 32,100	
Total	2000	838	11.10	9,300	Tons	\$ 479	\$ 4,450,100	
Apples	1999	845	7.60	6,422	Tons	\$ 400	\$ 2,571,500	
Cherries	2000	116	1.80	209	Tons	\$ 3,800	\$ 794,200	
	1999	126	1.50	189	Tons	\$ 3,800	\$ 718,200	
Peaches	2000	110	3.50	385	Tons	\$ 1,540	\$ 592,900	
	1999	110	0.50	55	Tons	\$ 1,600	\$ 88,000	
Plums	2000	58	2.00	116	Tons	\$ 800	\$ 92,800	
	1999	60	1.82	109	Tons	\$ 800	\$ 87,200	
Wine	Bearing	2000	1165	2.92	3,400	Tons	\$ 1,194	\$ 4,059,600
Grapes	Vines	1999	981	3.41	3,345	Tons	\$ 1,160	\$ 3,880,200
	Non-Bearing	2000	400	Total Acreage = 1565 ac.				
		1999	368	Total Acreage = 1349 ac.				
Walnuts	2000	216	0.40	86	Tons	\$ 1,200	\$ 103,200	
	1999	216	0.61	132	Tons	\$ 1,000	\$ 132,000	
Total Fruit	2000	2954		15,990	Tons		\$ 10,690,800	
Nut Crops	1999	2809		12,928	Tons		\$ 8,311,600	
Minor and Misc. Crops*	2000						\$ 289,700	
	1999						\$ 339,700	

*Minor and Miscellaneous includes: Truck Gardens, Berries, Nectarines, Oranges, Chestnuts, Avocados, Pumpkins, Tomatoes and Persimmons



Livestock

Crop	Year	Number of Head	Total Live Weight	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value
Cattle and Calves	2000	4300	36,600	cwt.**	\$ 71.50	\$ 2,616,900
	1999	4235	30,477	cwt.	\$ 64.07	\$ 1,952,400
Sheep and Lambs	2000	530	619	cwt.	\$ 62.61	\$ 38,800
	1999	555	771	cwt.	\$ 64.73	\$ 49,900
Hogs/Pigs	2000	860	1,892	cwt.	\$ 44.10	\$ 83,400
	1999	945	2,079	cwt.	\$ 35.10	\$ 73,000
Misc.*	2000					\$ 1,260,000
	1999					\$ 1,150,000
Total Livestock	2000					\$ 3,999,100
	1999					\$ 3,225,300

*Misc. Includes: Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Chickens, Hatching Eggs, Llamas, Goats, Emu, Ostrich and Wool

**cwt. = hundredweight = 100 pounds

Apiary Products

Year	Total Value
2000	\$ 238,000
1999	\$ 265,500

Includes: Honey, Bees Wax, Pollen and Pollination

Hay and Pasture

Crop	Year	Acres	Units	Value	Total Value
Hay, Tame	2000	350	610 Tons	\$ 97.00	\$ 59,200
	1999	380	560 Tons	\$ 110.00	\$ 61,600
Irrigated Pasture	2000	1,100	Acres	\$ 125.00	\$ 137,500
	1999	1,350	Acres	\$ 125.00	\$ 168,700
Rangeland (Dryland)	2000	245,000	Acres	\$ 12.00	\$ 2,940,000
	1999	245,000	Acres	\$ 10.00	\$ 2,450,000
Total Hay	2000				\$ 3,136,700
And Pasture	1999				\$ 2,680,300

Nursery Products

Crop	Year	Acreage	Production	Unit	Unit	Value
Nursery	2000	32				\$ 2,043,000
Stock	1999	30				\$ 1,792,000
Trees, Shrubs,	2000	15				\$ 836,000
Greenhouse	1999	17				\$ 854,700
Total	2000	47				\$ 2,879,000
Nursery	1999	47				\$ 2,646,700



Christmas Trees

	Year	Production	Unit	Unit	Value
Wholesale	2000	12,600	Each	\$ 15.00	\$ 189,000
	1999	11,100	Each	\$ 13.00	\$ 144,300
Choose and Cut	2000	78,400	Each	\$ 35.00	\$ 2,744,000
	1999	68,800	Each	\$ 30.00	\$ 2,064,000
Total	2000	91,000	Each		\$ 2,933,000
Christmas Trees	1999	79,900	Each		\$ 2,208,300

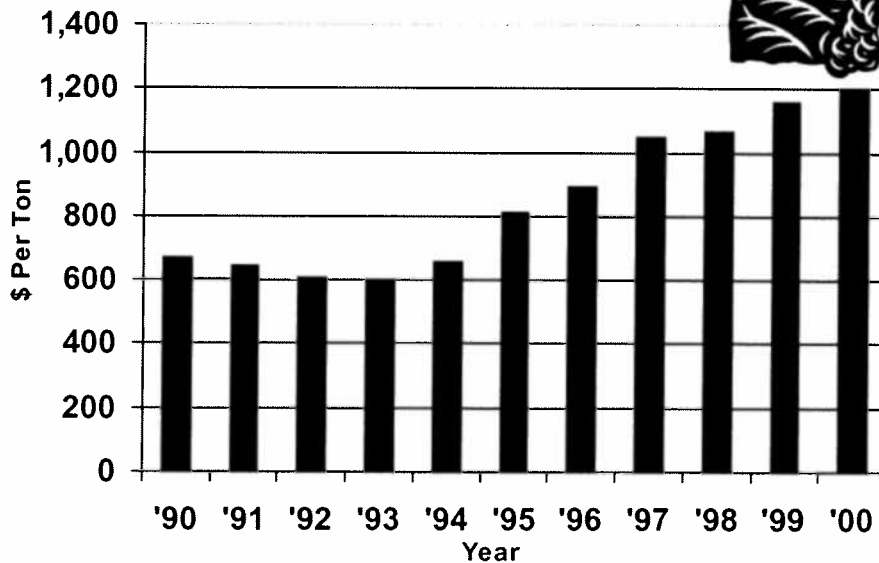
Timber Harvested and By-Products

	Year	Production	Unit	Value
Private and Public Forest	2000	107,500	Million Board Feet	\$ 28,207,600
	1999	126,000	Million Board Feet	\$ 31,761,000
Wood Sales and Permits	2000			\$ 21,600
	1999			\$ 24,200
Total	2000			\$ 28,229,200
Timber	1999			\$ 31,785,200

Total Values - All Categories

Crop	Year	Value
Fruit And Nut	2000	\$ 10,690,800
	1999	\$ 8,311,600
Minor and Misc. Crops	2000	\$ 289,700
	1999	\$ 339,700
Apiary Products	2000	\$ 238,000
	1999	\$ 265,500
Livestock	2000	\$ 3,999,100
	1999	\$ 3,225,300
Hay and Pasture	2000	\$ 3,136,700
	1999	\$ 2,680,300
Nursery Products	2000	\$ 2,879,000
	1999	\$ 2,646,700
Christmas Trees	2000	\$ 2,933,000
	1999	\$ 2,208,300
Timber	2000	\$ 28,229,200
	1999	\$ 31,785,200
Grand Total	2000	\$ 52,395,500
	1999	\$ 51,462,600

Increase in El Dorado County Wine Grape Price 1990-2000



El Dorado County

Agriculture Programs

The El Dorado County Department of Agriculture conducts programs to safeguard public health and the environment and to promote and protect the county's agriculture industry. The following is a summary of the departmental activities.



PEST PREVENTION

The **Pest Exclusion Program** prevents the introduction of detrimental pests that are not of common occurrence in California. Over 3100 inspections were made during 2000 by department staff at parcel shipping locations (United Parcel Service and U.S. Postal Service), retail nurseries and of nursery stock upon arrival for planting at local farms.

The **Pest Detection Program** consisted of over 800 insect traps in 2000, which were placed throughout the county and monitored weekly to detect pests that may have entered the county despite pest exclusion efforts. Each year, traps are placed in both rural and urban areas to detect Gypsy Moths, Japanese Beetles, Mediterranean Fruit Flies, Melon Flies, Apple Maggots and Oriental Fruit Flies.

The **Pest Eradication Program** efforts include chemical and hand-pulling treatments of Dalmation Toadflax, Diffuse Knapweed, Tall Whitetop, Canada Thistle and Diffuse and Spotted Knapweeds in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the Nevada Cooperative Extension.

PEST MANAGEMENT

The **El Dorado County Noxious Weed Management Group**, formed in 1998, has continued educational efforts in the control of Yellow Starthistle, Tall Whitetop, Scotch Broom and Knapweeds. Grant funds were secured for cooperative projects including: treating over 800 acres of rangeland to control Yellow starthistle allowing for increased forage and grazing capacity; educational workshops conducted to encourage landowners to utilize Integrated Pest Management weed control techniques; funding cost-share programs to eradicate Yellow starthistle in the Ice House/Cleveland Burn area; providing a site advisor to recommend weed control measures to landowners; and publishing a weed identification brochure to assist the public in surveying and documenting noxious/invasive weed infestations.

The **Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) Pest Management Program** was initiated in 1999 to prevent the introduction of this insect to El Dorado County. The GWSS is known to spread Pierce's Disease, which can devastate vineyard plantings. The pest monitoring program includes inspections of all nursery stock shipped into the county from known infested areas. In addition, over 400 insect traps are deployed in nurseries, vineyards and in urban and rural locations throughout the county.

The **Biological Control Program** consists of releases of insects that act as natural predators against noxious pests present in the county. Biocontrol projects include use of the following insects: leaf beetle, *Chrysolina quadrigemina*, to control Klamath Weed; seed weevil (*Eustenopus villosus*) and

the Peacock Fly (*Chaetorellia australis*) to reduce the spread of Yellow Starthistle. In addition, a parasitic wasp (*Encarsia partneopea*) is being utilized in the control of Ash Whiteflies. The El Dorado County Department of Agriculture monitors and relocates the insects in cooperation with CDFA.

The **Vertebrate Pest Management Program** staff assists growers and homeowners in the control of deprecating vertebrate pests such as gophers, ground squirrels, mice, rats and other rodents.

The **Wildlife Management Program** provides management of wildlife within the county that are deprecating livestock and property and presenting a hazard to public health and safety. Efforts are made to reduce, terminate and prevent damage to livestock, crops and other property caused by wild animals.

PESTICIDE MONITORING

The Agriculture Department conducts the **Pesticide Monitoring Program** in cooperation with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. Pesticide use is monitored to protect public health, the environment and to insure worker safety. Department staff enforces state regulations, issues use permits, compiles use data and investigates complaints. Education concerning the safe use of pesticides is also an integral part of the program.

COMMODITY EVALUATION AND MARKETING PROGRAMS

The **Certified Farmer's Market Program** allows farmers to market directly to consumers at area Certified Farmer's Markets. The **Organic Program** includes registration by growers in order to market farm products as organically grown. In 2000, seventeen growers were registered as organic, representing 116 acres under production. Both the organic and certified producers programs include annual grower inspections by department staff to validate the registrations.

The **Standardization Program** protects consumers and the fresh fruit, nut and vegetable industry from distribution of substandard products. Standardization laws establish minimum specifications for maturity, quality, and size of commodities (i.e., apples, pears) plus standard container pack and labeling. **Quality Control** inspections are also conducted on nursery stock, eggs and seeds.

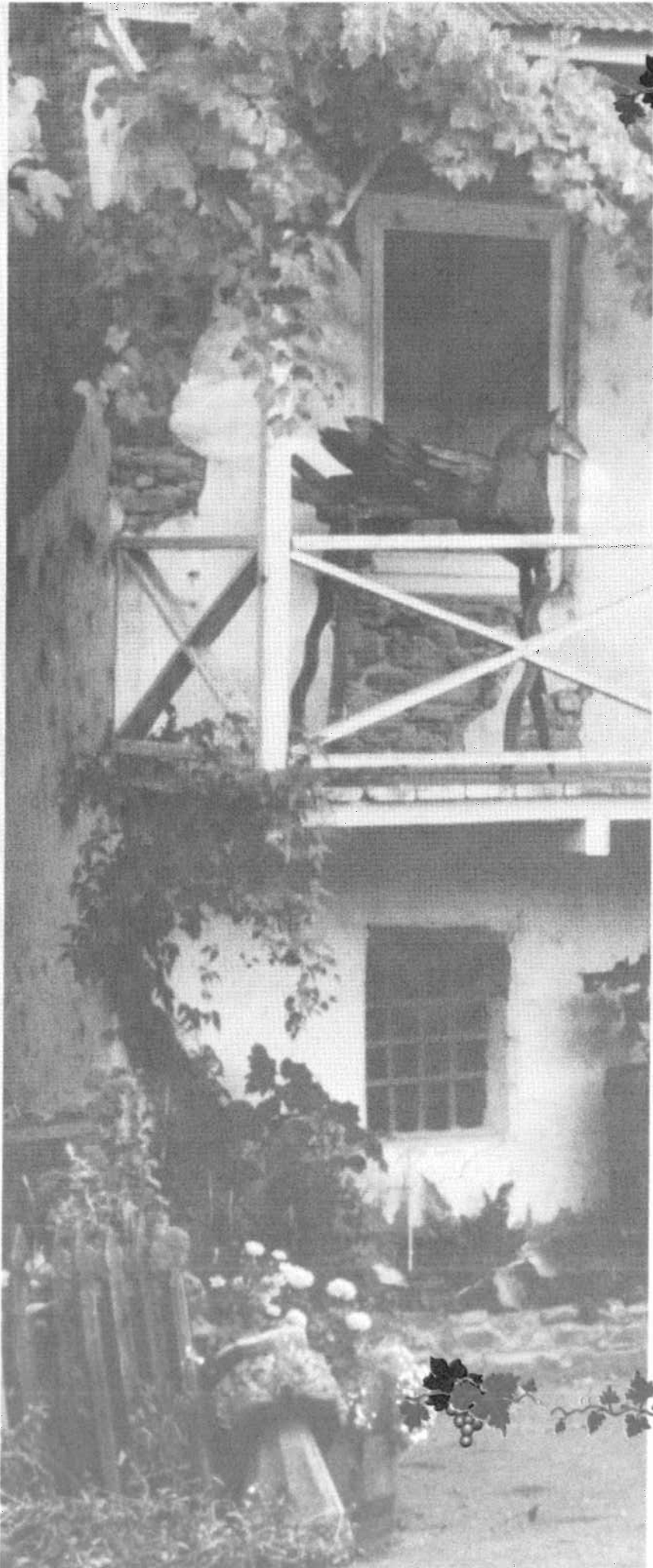
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

The Department of Agriculture conducts a variety of programs to protect and promote agriculture including **land use planning**, which is administered by the El Dorado County Agricultural Commission. The department also provides **technical resources** to a variety of committees and boards, including verification for the El Dorado Irrigation District Small Farms Irrigation Rate Program. Agricultural statistics and land use information is also compiled for the **Annual Crop Report**. The department is actively involved in promoting agri-tourism and the annual **Harvest Fair** held the third week of September each year.



Calif. Agricultural Commissioner

El Dorado County Eldorado county 2001 Crop Report



The wine industry in El Dorado County developed immediately following the discovery of gold in Coloma. During the early gold rush days, the mining communities of the county were pressed to create their own food and spirits. Lack of transportation, except horse-drawn wagons over primitive roads, dictated a need to develop vineyards and wineries close to the early mining settlements. Early El Dorado County history shows that the wine industry was firmly established as early as 1855. Of the 8,000 acres of cultivated agricultural lands, about 3,000 acres were planted with wine grapes. The wine grape industry continued to flourish throughout the late 1800's with 4,300 acres recorded in 1898. Around the early 1900's a general decline in county population caused many of these early vineyards to be abandoned.

During the 1920's, prohibition and the accompanying demand for grapes for home wine making again stimulated the county's wine industry. Historical data indicates that wine grape acreage peaked at approximately 5,000 acres during this time. Poor wine prices after the repeal of prohibition coupled with grape phylloxera forced a general decline of grape acreage during the 1930's. Low grape prices at the end of World War II forced the abandonment of the remaining vineyards and only a few acres of grapes were recorded in the county by 1950.

A resurgence in appreciation for fine table wines stimulated a statewide search for new growing areas capable of producing top quality wines. Several trial plantings were established in El Dorado County by 1965. By studying the experimental vineyards, it was determined that the area's topography, soils and climate could support the production of quality wine grapes. Wine grape acreage increased from just 11 acres in the early 1960's to over 1,700 acres in 2001.

The 2001 El Dorado County Crop Report cover photo depicts the Boeger Winery tasting room. The vineyard and winery sit on an 1850's ranch and winery homesteaded by the Fossati-Lombardo family. During prohibition, the original winery was allowed to continue to produce wine for the local churches and the family. In fact, if you look at the door to the tasting room, you will see the Federal stamp that served as license to distill during that time. The house, cellar and distillery are still in use today. Boeger Winery opened in 1974, the first post-prohibition winery in El Dorado County.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

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David Solaro – District 5

In accordance with Section 2279 of the California Agricultural Code, I hereby submit the 2001 El Dorado County Crop Report.

The El Dorado County gross crop value for 2001 was \$49.2 million, a 6% decrease from 2000 values. The decline was due to a 16% decrease in timber sales to \$23.7 million. This figure represented the lowest annual timber value in over 11 years.

Other agricultural production, excluding timber value, actually increased 6% in 2001 when compared to the 2000 figures. Commodities posting an increase included: wine grapes up 7%, due to an increase in the price per ton; apples up 29%, following a rebound after two years of poor spring growing conditions and Christmas trees up 3%, with demand exceeding supply at most local farms. Livestock value also increase (up 7%) due to cattle prices remaining strong.

It is estimated that the impact of agriculture on El Dorado County's economy totaled approximately \$380 million in 2001. Of that, the wine industry had an estimated \$145 million effect on the economy and Apple Hill had an \$84 million impact.

The monetary value records in this report are F.O.B. (Freight on Board) and do not reflect net returns or profits realized by growers. Neither do they reflect the total economic impact of agricultural byproducts produced (such as wines, apple pies, cider, etc.), tourism, nor the standard economic multiplying factor.

This report was compiled by Wendy West, Agricultural Biologist/Standards Inspector. I wish to express my appreciation to the many individuals and organizations that contributed information to make this report possible.

Bill Snodgrass
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

El Dorado County

2001 Crop Report

Departmental Staff

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Cover Photo – Carolyn Fox





Fruit and Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Acreage	Per Acre	Total Production	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value	
Pears-Bartlett								
Fresh	2001			292	Tons	\$ 600	\$ 175,200	
	2000			513	Tons	\$ 560	\$ 287,300	
Cannery	2001			438	Tons	\$ 178	\$ 78,000	
	2000			914	Tons	\$ 196	\$ 179,100	
Juice	2001			730	Tons	\$ 10	\$ 7,300	
	2000			803	Tons	\$ 10	\$ 8,000	
Total	2001	355	4.10	1460	Tons	\$ 178	\$ 260,500	
Bartlett	2000	385	5.80	2230	Tons	\$ 213	\$ 474,700	
Bosc/Asian								
	2001	66	6.25	413	Tons	\$ 570	\$ 235,400	
	2000	66	4.00	264	Tons	\$ 467	\$ 123,300	
Total	2001	421		1873	Tons	\$	\$ 495,900	
Pears	2000	451		2494	Tons	\$	\$ 598,000	
Apples								
Fresh	2001			7114	Tons	\$ 755	\$ 5,371,100	
	2000			5580	Tons	\$ 750	\$ 4,185,000	
Cannery/Apple	2001			3557	Tons	\$ 80	\$ 284,600	
Hill Products	2000			2790	Tons	\$ 80	\$ 223,200	
Cider	2001			1186	Tons	\$ 50	\$ 59,300	
	2000			930	Tons	\$ 45	\$ 41,900	
Total	2001	835	14.20	11857	Tons	\$ 482	\$ 5,715,000	
Apples	2000	838	11.10	9300	Tons	\$ 479	\$ 4,450,100	
Cherries	2001	112	0.85	95	Tons	\$ 3,900	\$ 370,500	
	2000	116	1.80	209	Tons	\$ 3,800	\$ 794,200	
Peaches	2001	110	2.50	275	Tons	\$ 1,600	\$ 440,000	
	2000	110	3.50	385	Tons	\$ 1,540	\$ 592,900	
Plums	2001	58	2.90	168	Tons	\$ 960	\$ 161,300	
	2000	58	2.00	116	Tons	\$ 800	\$ 92,800	
Wine	Bearing	2001	1244	2.88	3570	Tons	\$ 1,209	\$ 4,317,300
Grapes		2000	1165	2.92	3400	Tons	\$ 1,194	\$ 4,059,600
	Non-Bearing	2001	500					
		2000	400	Total Acreage = 1744 ac.				
Walnuts	2001	216	0.62	134	Tons	\$ 1,020	\$ 136,700	
	2000	216	0.40	86	Tons	\$ 1,200	\$ 103,200	
Total Fruit	2001	2996		17972	Tons	\$	\$ 11,636,700	
Nut Crops	2000	2954		15990	Tons	\$	\$ 10,690,800	
Minor and Misc. Crops*	2001					\$	\$ 334,600	
	2000					\$	\$ 289,700	

*Minor and Miscellaneous includes: Truck Gardens, Berries, Nectarines, Oranges, Chestnuts, Avocados, Pumpkins, Tomatoes and Persimmons



Livestock

Crop	Year	Number of Head	Total Live Weight	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value
Cattle and Calves	2001	4530	39,900	cwt.**	\$ 74.00	\$ 2,952,600
	2000	4300	36,600	cwt.	\$ 71.50	\$ 2,616,900
Sheep and Lambs	2001	510	550	cwt.	\$ 64.42	\$ 35,400
	2000	530	619	cwt.	\$ 62.61	\$ 38,800
Hogs/Pigs	2001	730	1,670	cwt.	\$ 45.00	\$ 75,200
	2000	860	1,890	cwt.	\$ 44.10	\$ 83,400
Misc.*	2001					\$ 1,190,000
	2000					\$ 1,260,000
Total Livestock	2001					\$ 4,253,200
	2000					\$ 3,999,100

*Misc. Includes: Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Chickens, Hatching Eggs, Llamas, Goats, Emu, Ostrich and Wool

**cwt. = hundredweight = 100 pounds

Apiary Products

	Year		Total Value
Apiary	2001	2,400 Colonies	\$ 192,000
Products	2000	2,800 Colonies	\$ 238,000

Includes: Honey, Bees Wax, Pollen and Pollination

Hay and Pasture

Crop	Year	Acres	Units	Value	Total Value
Hay, Tame	2001	350	634 Tons	\$ 119.00	\$ 75,400
	2000	350	610 Tons	\$ 97.00	\$ 59,200
Irrigated Pasture	2001	995	Acres	\$ 125.00	\$ 124,400
	2000	1,100	Acres	\$ 125.00	\$ 137,500
Rangeland (Dryland)	2001	245,000	Acres	\$ 12.00	\$ 2,940,000
	2000	245,000	Acres	\$ 12.00	\$ 2,940,000
Total Hay And Pasture	2001				\$ 3,139,800
	2000				\$ 3,136,700

Nursery Products

Crop	Year	Acreage	Production	Unit	Unit	Value
Nursery	2001	30				\$ 2,226,900
Stock	2000	32				\$ 2,043,000
Trees, Shrubs, Greenhouse	2001	12				\$ 742,100
	2000	15				\$ 836,000
Total	2001	42				\$ 2,969,000
Nursery	2000	47				\$ 2,879,000



Christmas Trees

	Year	Production	Unit	Unit	Value
Wholesale	2001	11,500	Each	\$ 17.00	\$ 195,500
	2000	12,600	Each	\$ 15.00	\$ 189,000
Choose and Cut	2001	74,300	Each	\$ 38.00	\$ 2,823,400
	2000	78,400	Each	\$ 35.00	\$ 2,744,000
Total	2001	85,800	Each		\$ 3,018,900
Christmas Trees	2000	88,200	Each		\$ 2,933,000

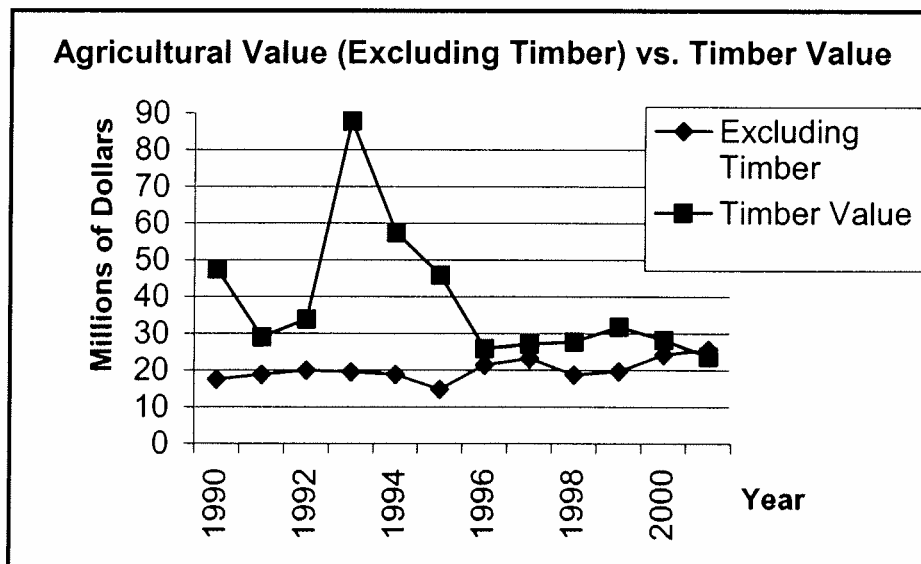
Timber Harvested and By-Products

	Year	Production	Unit	Value
Private and Public Forest	2001	96,800	Million Board Feet	\$ 23,665,200
	2000	107,500	Million Board Feet	\$ 28,207,600
Wood Sales and Permits	2001	3,200	Million Board Feet	\$ 27,200
	2000	2,600	Million Board Feet	\$ 21,600
Total	2001			\$ 23,692,400
Timber	2000			\$ 28,229,200

Total Values



<u>Crop</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Value</u>
Fruit And Nut	2001	\$ 11,636,700
	2000	\$ 10,690,800
Minor and Misc. Crops	2001	\$ 334,600
	2000	\$ 289,700
Apiary Products	2001	\$ 192,000
	2000	\$ 238,000
Livestock	2001	\$ 4,253,200
	2000	\$ 3,999,100
Hay and Pasture	2001	\$ 3,139,800
	2000	\$ 3,136,700
Nursery Products	2001	\$ 2,969,000
	2000	\$ 2,879,000
Christmas Trees	2001	\$ 3,018,900
	2000	\$ 2,933,000
Timber	2001	\$ 23,692,400
	2000	\$ 28,229,200
Grand Total	2001	\$ 49,236,600
	2000	\$ 52,395,500



El Dorado County Agriculture Programs



The El Dorado County Department of Agriculture conducts programs to safeguard public health and the environment and to promote and protect the county's agriculture industry. The following is a summary of the departmental activities.

PEST PREVENTION

The **Pest Exclusion Program** prevents the introduction of detrimental pests that are not of common occurrence in California. Over 3100 inspections were made during 2001 by department staff at parcel shipping locations (United Parcel Service and U.S. Postal Service), retail nurseries and of nursery stock upon arrival for planting at local farms.

The **Pest Detection Program** consisted of over 800 insect traps in 2001, which were placed throughout the county and monitored weekly to detect pests that may have entered the county despite pest exclusion efforts. Each year, traps are placed in both rural and urban areas to detect Gypsy Moths, Japanese Beetles, Mediterranean Fruit Flies, Melon Flies, Apple Maggots and Oriental Fruit Flies.

The **Pest Eradication Program** efforts include chemical and hand-pulling treatments of Dalmation toadflax, Diffuse knapweed, Tall whitetop, Oblong spurge, Canada thistle and Spotted knapweeds in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the Nevada Cooperative Extension.

PEST MANAGEMENT

The **El Dorado County Noxious Weed Management Group**, formed in 1998, has continued educational efforts in the control of Yellow Starthistle, Tall Whitetop, Scotch Broom and Knapweeds. Grant funds were secured for cooperative projects including: treating over 800 acres of rangeland to control Yellow starthistle allowing for increased forage and grazing capacity; educational workshops conducted to encourage landowners to utilize Integrated Pest Management weed control techniques; funding cost-share programs to eradicate Yellow starthistle and Spotted knapweed in the Ice House/Cleveland Burn area; providing a site advisor to recommend weed control measures to landowners; and publishing a weed identification brochure to assist the public in surveying and documenting noxious/invasive weed infestations.

The **Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) Pest Management Program** was initiated in 1999 to prevent the introduction of this insect to El Dorado County. The GWSS is known to spread Pierce's Disease, which can devastate vineyard plantings. The pest monitoring program includes inspections of all nursery stock shipped into the county from known infested areas. In addition, over 400 insect traps are deployed in nurseries, vineyards and in urban and rural locations throughout the county.

The **Biological Control Program** consists of releases of insects that act as natural predators against noxious pests present in the county. Biocontrol projects include use of the following insects: leaf beetle, *Chrysolina quadrigemina*, to control Klamath Weed; seed weevil (*Eustenopus villosus*) and

the Peacock Fly (*Chaetorellia australis*) to reduce the spread of Yellow Starthistle. In addition, parasitic wasp (*Encarsia partneopea*) is being utilized in the control of Ash Whiteflies. The El Dorado County Department of Agriculture monitors and relocates the insects in cooperation with CDFA.

The **Vertebrate Pest Management Program** staff assists growers and homeowners in the control deprecating vertebrate pests such as gophers, ground squirrels, mice, rats and other rodents.

The **Wildlife Management Program** provides management of wildlife within the county that a deprecating livestock and property and presenting a hazard to public health and safety. Efforts a made to reduce, terminate and prevent damage to livestock, crops and other property caused by wi animals.

PESTICIDE MONITORING

The Agriculture Department conducts the **Pesticide Monitoring Program** in cooperation with th California Department of Pesticide Regulation. Pesticide use is monitored to protect public health, th environment and to insure worker safety. Department staff enforces state regulations, issues us permits, compiles use data and investigates complaints. Education concerning the safe use (pesticides is also an integral part of the program.

COMMODITY EVALUATION AND MARKETING PROGRAMS

The **Certified Farmer's Market Program** allows farmers to market directly to consumers at are Certified Farmer's Markets. The **Organic Program** includes registration by growers in order t market farm products as organically grown. In 2001, 18 growers were registered as organic representing 120 acres under production. Both the organic and certified producers programs includ grower inspections by department staff to validate the registrations.

The **Standardization Program** protects consumers and the fresh fruit, nut and vegetable industr from distribution of substandard products. Standardization laws establish minimum specifications fc maturity, quality, and size of commodities (i.e., apples, pears) plus standard container pack an labeling. **Quality Control** inspections are also conducted on nursery stock, eggs and seeds.

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

The Department of Agriculture conducts a variety of programs to protect and promote agricultur including **land use planning**, which is administered by the El Dorado County Agriculture Commission. The department also provides **technical resources** to a variety of committees and boards, including verification for the El Dorado Irrigation District Small Farms Irrigation Rate Program Agricultural statistics and land use information is also compiled for the **Annual Crop Report**. The department is actively involved in promoting agri-tourism and the annual **Harvest Fair** held the thir weekend of September each year.

El Dorado County, Calif. Agricultural Commissioner

**EL DORADO
COUNTY
CROP
REPORT
2002**

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Sunset In Apple Hill

Ms. Joanne McCubrey took the cover photograph in March of 2001. The photographer is looking to the east from the area just north of Barkley Road in Camino. The clouds are building as they meet the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range. A typical El Dorado County small family farm can be seen in the lower portion of the photograph. Multiple commodities such as apples, Christmas trees, pears, peaches and wine grapes can be seen growing next to one another which increases the diversity of the farm. With this increased diversity comes increased complexity due to the different management practices required to bring each commodity to harvest.

Many residents of El Dorado County originally moved to the area because of the rural lifestyle. These rural features provide a haven from the hectic pace of urban life. The wildlife habitat, open space and rural qualities provided by privately owned agricultural lands add to the quality of life that we treasure in El Dorado County. In addition, over one-half of our lands are publicly owned as forest and wilderness areas. These natural resources provide us with recreational opportunities and timber products, which are vital to the local economy and quality of life. El Dorado County has realized the importance of agriculture to the county, and has implemented a number of programs to protect agriculture.

*This Crop Report is dedicated to
El Dorado County Supervisor Carl Borelli (1937 – 2003),
A friend of agriculture.*

Christmas Tree Growers of El Dorado County

El Dorado County choose and cut Christmas tree operations started in the early 1950's by three pioneers in the field; the Harris, Roberts and McGee Christmas tree farms which harvested natural stands of trees. Encouraged by the response the three growers began to plant trees in order to replenish their natural stock thereby developing the plantation system used by the growers of today. Currently there are over 30 Christmas tree growers in El Dorado County.

Due to the right soils, climate and rainfall for rapid tree production, El Dorado County has become the Christmas tree capitol of California. The Christmas tree plantations are spread throughout the county at elevations ranging from 1,500 to 4,000 feet. Trees harvested include the native species such as White Fir, Douglas Fir, Silver Tip, Ponderosa Pine, Incense Cedar, and Knobcone Pine. New species of Christmas trees introduced to El Dorado County include Scotch Pine, Monterey Pine, Noble Fir and the fast growing Sierra Redwood.

Even more varied than the species of Christmas trees are the growers themselves. Fifty percent of the El Dorado County growers are retired from other fields, but all have discovered that growing trees for commercial harvest is a full time job. Planting of nursery stock takes place in the winter and spring. After planting the ground must be treated for weed control; rarely, the trees are treated to control insect infestations; in the

summer the young trees may require irrigation; and shearing to maintain the desired conical shape for the perfect holiday tree is an art in itself. It takes a minimum of 3 years for a fast growing species such as the Sierra Redwood to develop into a marketable tree, while slow

growing species such as the Silver Tip can require 12 years before they can be harvested. Therefore each tree receives a great deal of individual attention before it arrives in a family's living room.

The efforts of the El Dorado County Christmas Tree Growers Association have not gone unnoticed. In 1971 the Christmas Tree Lane was established along Highway 50 in downtown Placerville with the trees being donated by the growers. Every year since then various growers have donated over 75 trees per year for individuals and

groups to decorate for public display during the holiday season.

The choosing and harvesting of the perfect tree is a "Family Affair." Most families turn the day into a day of celebration that may include a picnic and/or a leisurely drive around El Dorado County to find the "best" plantation from which to harvest the special tree. Whether the choice of your tree is left to the youngest member in the family, or is a matter of solemn majority decision, you'll find the perfect size, shape, and type of tree to grace your holiday season at one of the choose and cut Christmas tree plantations in El Dorado County.





DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Bill Snodgrass
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures

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William J. Lyons, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors:
Helen Baumann, Chairperson – District 2
Charles Paine – District 4

Rusty Dupray – District 1
Carl Borelli – District 3
David Solaro – District 5

In accordance with Section 2279 of the California Agricultural Code, I hereby submit the 2002 El Dorado County Crop Report.

The El Dorado County gross crop value for 2002 was \$48.2 million, a 2% decrease from the 2001 values. The decline was due to an 8.5% decrease in timber sales to \$21.7 million. This is the lowest reported timber value since 1989.

Other agricultural production, excluding timber value, actually increased 4% in 2002 when compared to the 2001 figures. This was due to the strong sales of the fruits and nuts that increased approximately 11% over the 2001 values. This increase was due to increased sales of the following commodities: Pears, apples, peaches, wine grapes, walnuts and Christmas trees.

Reported wine grape acreage was over 2000 acres. This is the largest amount of land utilized for wine grape production in El Dorado County since the early 1900's.

The monetary values in this report are F.O.B. (Freight On Board) and do not reflect net returns or profits realized by the growers. Neither do they reflect the total economic impact of agricultural byproducts produced (such as wines, apple pies, cider, etc.), tourism, nor the standard economic multiplying factor.

It is estimated that the impact of agriculture on El Dorado County's economy totaled approximately \$391 million in 2002. This is an increase of 4% over the 2001 value. The wine industry had an estimated \$163 million impact on the El Dorado County economy and Apple Hill had a \$84 million impact.

Kirk Taylor, Senior Agricultural Biologist/Standards Inspector compiled this report. I wish to express my appreciation to the many individuals and organizations that contributed information to make this report possible.

Bill Snodgrass
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer.

El Dorado County

2002 Crop Report

Departmental Staff

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Cover Photo – Joanne McCubrey

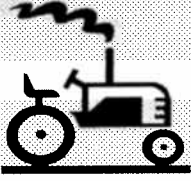
Website

<http://www.atasteofeldorado.com>





Fruit and Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Acreage	Production Per Acre	Total Production	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value	
Pears-Bartlett								
Fresh	2002			453	Tons	\$ 492	\$ 222,900	
	2001			292	Tons	\$ 600	\$ 175,200	
Cannery	2002			729	Tons	\$ 192	\$ 140,000	
	2001			438	Tons	\$ 178	\$ 78,000	
Juice	2002			788	Tons	\$ 14	\$ 11,000	
	2001			730	Tons	\$ 10	\$ 7,300	
Total	2002	303	6.50	1,970	Tons	\$ 190	\$ 373,900	
Bartlett	2001	355	4.10	1,460	Tons	\$ 178	\$ 260,500	
Bosc/Asian								
	2002	63	8.90	560	Tons	\$ 560	\$ 313,600	
	2001	66	6.25	413	Tons	\$ 570	\$ 235,400	
Total	2002	366	6.91	2,530	Tons		\$ 687,500	
Pears	2001	421	4.45	1,873	Tons		\$ 495,900	
Apples								
Fresh	2002			7,064	Tons	\$ 825	\$ 5,827,800	
	2001			7,114	Tons	\$ 755	\$ 5,371,100	
Cannery/Apple	2002			3,532	Tons	\$ 205	\$ 724,100	
Hill Products	2001			3,557	Tons	\$ 80	\$ 284,600	
Cider	2002			1,178	Tons	\$ 90	\$ 106,000	
	2001			1,186	Tons	\$ 50	\$ 59,300	
Total	2002	835	14.10	11,774	Tons	\$ 565	\$ 6,657,900	
Apples	2001	835	14.20	11,857	Tons	\$ 482	\$ 5,715,000	
Cherries	2002	108	0.28	30	Tons	\$ 3,000	\$ 90,000	
	2001	112	0.85	95	Tons	\$ 3,900	\$ 370,500	
Peaches	2002	97	2.75	267	Tons	\$ 2,200	\$ 587,400	
	2001	110	2.50	275	Tons	\$ 1,600	\$ 440,000	
Plums	2002	61	1.60	98	Tons	\$ 1,100	\$ 107,800	
	2001	58	2.90	168	Tons	\$ 960	\$ 161,472	
Wine	Bearing	2002	1464	2.77	4,060	Tons	\$ 1,199	\$ 4,680,000
Grapes	Vines	2001	1244	2.88	3,570	Tons	\$ 1,209	\$ 4,317,300
	Non-Bearing	2002	663					
		2001	500					
				Total Acreage = 2127 ac.				
Walnuts	2002	253	0.55	139	Tons	\$ 1,060	\$ 147,300	
	2001	216	0.60	134	Tons	\$ 1,020	\$ 136,700	
Total Fruit	2002	3184		18,898	Tons		\$ 12,957,900	
Nut Crops	2001	2996		17,972	Tons		\$ 11,636,872	
								
Minor and Misc. Crops*	2002						\$ 343,200	
	2001						\$ 334,600	

*Minor and Miscellaneous includes: Truck Gardens, Berries, Nectarines, Oranges, Chestnuts, Avocados, Pumpkins, Tomatoes and Persimmons



Livestock

Crop	Year	Number of Head	Total Live Weight	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value
Cattle and Calves	2002	4450	37,200	cwt. **	\$ 83.75	\$ 3,115,500
	2001	4530	39,900	cwt.	\$ 74.00	\$ 2,952,600
Sheep and Lambs	2002	495	480	cwt.	\$ 69.40	\$ 33,300
	2001	510	550	cwt.	\$ 64.42	\$ 35,432
Hogs/Pigs	2002	635	1,365	cwt.	\$ 34.20	\$ 46,700
	2001	730	1,679	cwt.	\$ 45.00	\$ 75,200
Misc.*	2002					\$ 1,070,000
	2001					\$ 1,190,000
Total Livestock	2002					\$ 4,265,500
	2001					\$ 4,253,200

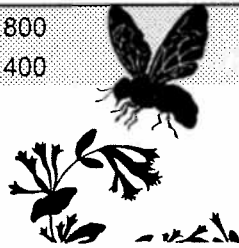
*Misc. Includes: Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Chickens, Hatching Eggs, Llamas, Goats, Emu, Ostrich and Wool

**cwt. = hundredweight = 100 pounds

Apiary Products

	Year	Units	Total Value
Apiary Products	2002	1,800 Colonies	\$ 180,000
	2001	2,400 Colonies	\$ 192,000

Includes: Honey, Bees Wax, Pollen and Pollination



Hay and Pasture

Crop	Year	Acres	Units	Value Per Unit	Total Value
Hay, Tame	2002	354	673 Tons	\$ 105.00	\$ 70,700
	2001	350	634 Tons	\$ 119.00	\$ 75,400
Irrigated Pasture	2002	995	Acres	\$ 125.00	\$ 124,400
	2001	995	Acres	\$ 125.00	\$ 124,400
Rangeland (Dryland)	2002	245,000	Acres	\$ 12.00	\$ 2,940,000
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Total Hay And Pasture	2002				\$ 3,135,100
	2001				\$ 3,139,800

Nursery Products



Crop	Year	Acreage		Value
Nursery	2002	27	\$	1,876,500
Stock	2001	30	\$	2,226,900
Trees, Shrubs, Greenhouse	2002	23	\$	679,200
	2001	12	\$	742,100
Total	2002	50	\$	2,555,700
Nursery	2001	42	\$	2,969,000

Christmas Trees

	Year	Production	Unit	Value Per Unit	Value
Wholesale	2002	11,200	Each	\$ 18.50	\$ 207,200
	2001	11,500	Each	\$ 17.00	\$ 195,500
Choose and Cut	2002	72,930	Each	\$ 39.75	\$ 2,899,000
	2001	74,300	Each	\$ 38.00	\$ 2,823,400
Total	2002	84,130	Each	\$	\$ 3,106,200
Christmas Trees	2001	85,800	Each	\$	\$ 3,018,900

Timber Harvested and By-Products

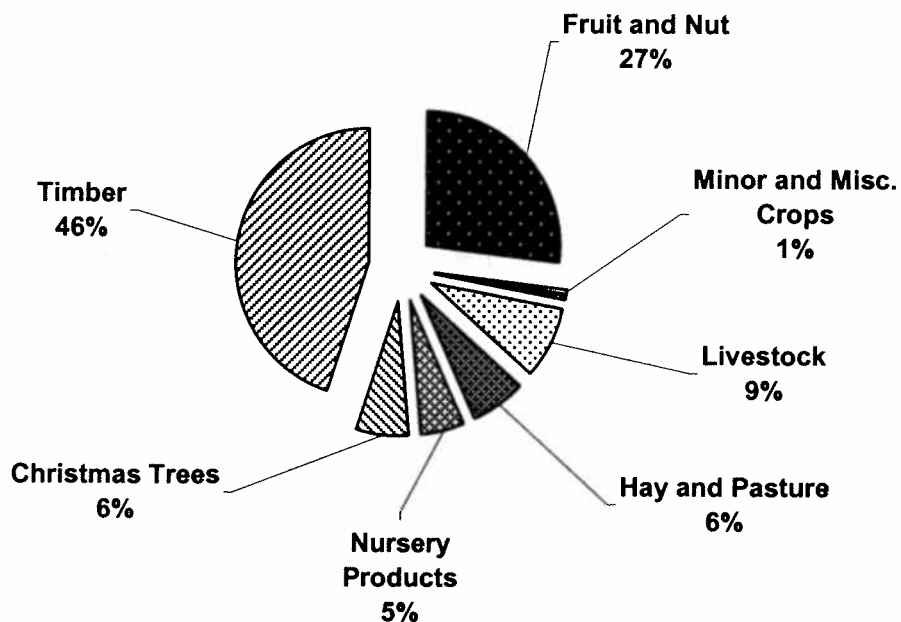
	Year	Production	Unit	Value
Private and Public Forest	2002	145,250	Million Board Feet	\$ 21,664,700
	2001	96,800	Million Board Feet	\$ 23,665,200
Wood Sales and Permits	2002	2,870	Million Board Feet	\$ 28,900
	2001	2,600	Million Board Feet	\$ 27,200
Total	2002			\$ 21,693,600
Timber	2001			\$ 23,692,400

Total Values - All Categories

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Value</u>
Fruit And Nut	2002	\$ 12,957,900
	2001	\$ 11,636,700
Minor and Misc. Crops	2002	\$ 343,200
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Apiary Products	2002	\$ 180,000
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Grand Total	2002	\$ 48,237,200
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Agricultural Commodities of El Dorado County



El Dorado County

Agriculture Programs

The El Dorado County Department of Agriculture conducts programs to safeguard the public, the environment, and to promote and protect the county's agricultural industry. The following is a summary of the departmental activities.

Pest Prevention

The **Pest Exclusion Program** prevents the introduction of detrimental pests that are not of common occurrence in California. Over 3,350 inspections were made during 2002 by department staff at parcel shipping locations (United Parcel Service and U.S. Postal Service), retail nurseries, equipment originating from high-risk areas, and of nursery stock upon arrival for planting at local farms. During the month of November the Vine Mealybug (VMB) was discovered in the county. An action plan for dealing with the pest is being developed.

The **Pest Detection Program** consisted of over 800 insect traps in 2002, which were placed throughout the county and monitored to detect pests that may have entered El Dorado County despite pest exclusion efforts. Each year, traps are placed in both rural and urban areas to detect Gypsy Moth, Japanese Beetles, Mediterranean Fruit Flies, Melon Flies, Apple Maggots and Oriental Fruit Flies. In addition 20 McPhails traps were monitored for Mediterranean Fruit Flies due to the discovery of larvae in Spanish clementines during the winter of 2001-2002. Further, Olive Fruit Fly was discovered in the county for the first time. This fly was found on a Glassy-winged Sharpshooter panel trap. Currently there are no commercially producing olive orchards in the county so no action is planned at this time.

The **Pest Eradication Program** efforts include chemical and mechanical treatments of Dalmatian toadflax, Diffuse knapweed, Russian knapweed, Spotted knapweed, Tall whitetop, Oblong spurge, Canada thistle, and Purple loosestrife in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the Nevada Cooperative Extension. An eradication program for VMB is being scheduled for the 2003-growing season.

Pest Management

The **El Dorado County Noxious Weed Management Group**, formed in 1998, has continued educational efforts in the control of Yellow starthistle, Tall whitetop, Scotch broom, Dalmatian toadflax and knapweeds. The department is also a member of the recently formed Lake Tahoe Basin Weed Coordinating Group. The purpose of this group is to coordinate invasive weed control, education and eradication among the federal, state, county and private agencies within the Lake Tahoe Basin.

The **Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) Pest Management Program** was initiated in 1999 to prevent the introduction of this insect to El Dorado County. GWSS is known to spread Pierce's Disease which can devastate vineyard plantings. The pest-monitoring program includes inspections of all nursery stock shipped into the county from known infested areas. In addition, over 400 insect traps were deployed and monitored in nurseries, vineyards and in urban and rural locations throughout the county.

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Commodity Evaluation and Marketing Programs

The **Certified Farmer's Market Program** allows farmers to market directly to consumers at area Certified Farmer's Markets. There were 52 growers registered as certified growers with production areas within the county. The **Organic Program** includes registration by growers in order to market farm products as organically grown. In 2002, 14 growers were registered as organic, representing 105 acres under production. Both the organic and certified producer programs include grower inspections by department staff to validate the registrations.

The **Standardization Program** protects consumers and the fresh fruit, nut and vegetable industry from distribution of substandard products. Standardization laws establish minimum specifications for maturity, quality and size of commodities (i.e., apples, pears) plus standard container pack and labeling. **Quality Control** inspections are also conducted on nursery stock, eggs and seeds.

Agricultural Resources

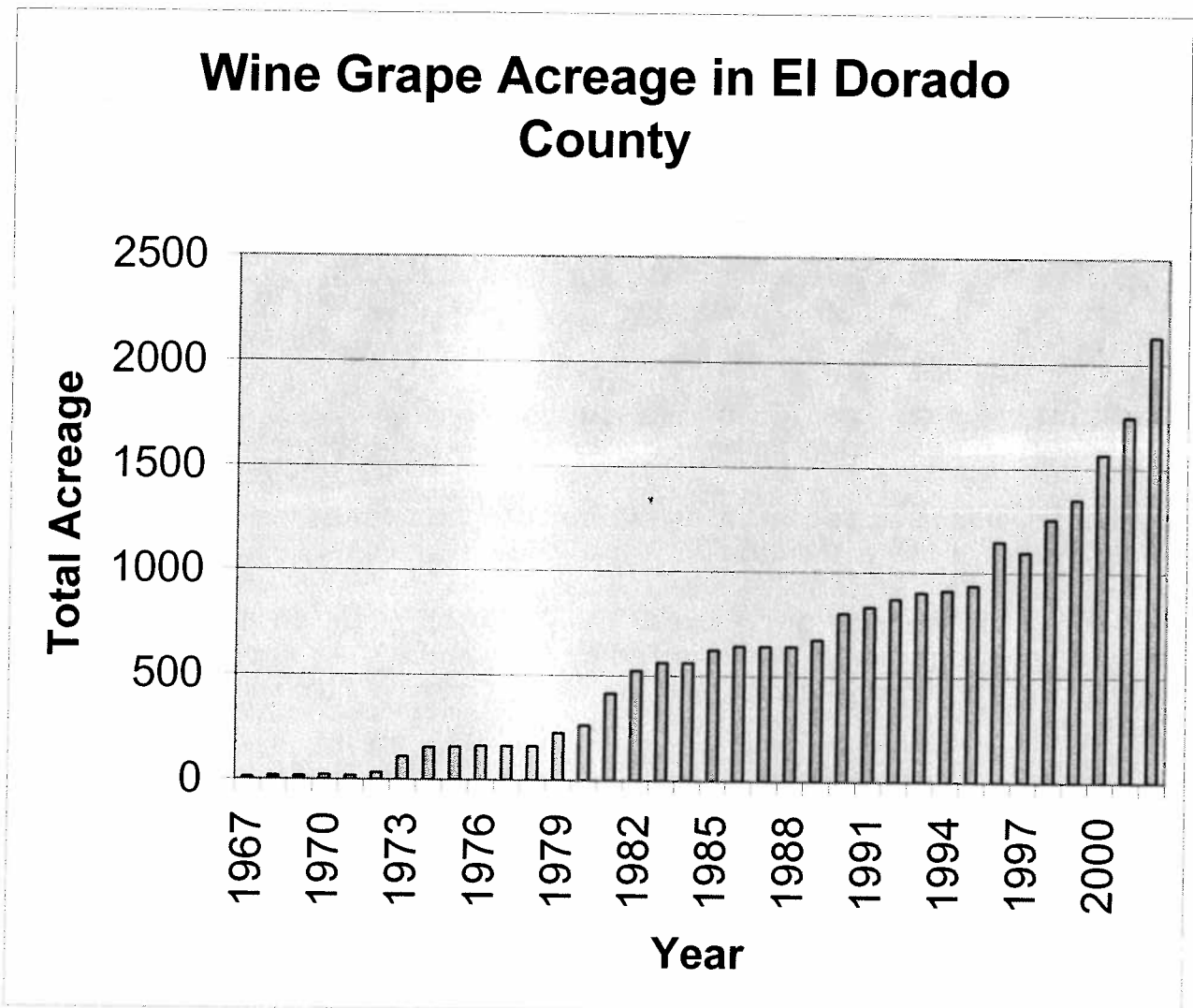
The Department of Agriculture conducts a variety of programs to protect and promote agriculture including **land use planning**, which is administered by the El Dorado County Agricultural Commission. The department also provides **technical resources** to a variety of committees and boards, including verification for the El Dorado Irrigation District Small Farms Irrigation Rate Program. Recently, the soils information for the western half of the county has been digitized. The Department of Agriculture can provide information pertaining to the soils found on a particular parcel. This information can be used by the land owner/buyer to determine which crops, if any, can be grown on that parcel. Agricultural statistics and land use information is also compiled for the **Annual Crop Report**. The department is actively involved in promoting agri-tourism and the annual **Harvest Fair** held the third weekend of September each year.

Weights and Measures

The Department of Agriculture is also responsible for protecting the buyer and seller of agricultural commodities. This includes verifying that a cord of firewood has 128 cubic feet of well-stacked wood, a bushel of apples has a volume of 8 dry gallons and a bottle of wine contains 750 mL. In addition this department yearly certifies all scales so that the consumer is truly receiving the appropriate amount at the time of purchase. Scales certified include the seasonal scales utilized at Certified Farmers markets and direct ranch marketing programs as well as the scales used at permanent locations such as retail grocery stores.

Top Ten Planted Wine Grape Varietals of El Dorado County

<u>Variety</u>	<u>2002 Value</u>	<u>Acres Planted</u>
1. Cabernet Sauvignon	\$1,072,300	420
2. Zinfandel	\$ 759,300	362
3. Syrah	\$ 510,600	294
4. Merlot	\$ 842,500	240
5. Chardonnay	\$ 465,900	143
6. Petite Sirah	\$ 139,500	89
7. Cabernet Franc	\$ 131,400	86
8. Barbera	\$ 168,800	70
9. Sangiovese	\$ 95,700	45
10. Sauvignon Blanc	\$ 81,300	42



Agriculture In El Dorado County

With the increase in El Dorado County population, agricultural lands have been lost. Since 1960, production acreage has decreased by 58%. To protect the remaining agricultural lands and support their economic viability, land use planning and ordinances have been developed to recognize and enhance the quality of life that agriculture brings to El Dorado County. These programs include the El Dorado County Agricultural Commission, the Right to Farm ordinance and direct marketing programs.

Created in 1967 by the Board of Supervisors, the Agricultural Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the Board and the Planning Commission on all matters related to agriculture. The Commission's scope of interest includes a wide variety of agricultural, timber and land use issues such as agricultural land preservation, agricultural production, forestland preservation and forest production. The Agricultural Commission also advises the Board of procedures and techniques requiring legislative or policy actions that would encourage and promote agricultural activities that are conducive to the continued well being of El Dorado County. The Commission is made up of seven individuals representing the various commodity groups of El Dorado County. The Agricultural Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:00 PM in the El Dorado County Agriculture Department conference room.

In 1988, El Dorado County approved an ordinance to protect ranchers and farmers from nuisance complaints by adjoining property owners. The Right to Farm ordinance protects producers when conducting normal agricultural operations including cultivation, burning, spraying, fertilizing, irrigation, harvesting, processing plus activities associated with raising livestock (cow bells ringing, flies, manure and other conditions). Prior to the implementation of the ordinance, producers were sometimes forced to curtail or cease operations, or were discouraged from making investments in farm improvements because of nuisance complaints. This ordinance helps to protect the economic viability of individual farms and of the county's agricultural industry as a whole.

Additionally, El Dorado County has adopted specific sections to the County Ordinance that protects the winery and direct ranch marketing programs. The purpose of the regulations is to provide for the direct marketing and winery development to encourage the economic development of the agricultural and tourism industries while regulating such uses to protect the public health, safety and welfare, and the enjoyment of property by adjacent landowners. The regulations make sure that agricultural production is the main focus of the parcel owners with the marketing of the commodities as an accessory component. This is to prevent individuals from selling the commodities from agriculturally zoned parcels without the capitol investment for the agricultural production.

What is a noxious pest? What are the Noxious Pest Ratings?

A noxious pest is an animal, insect, or plant that has been defined as a pest by law or regulation. California maintains a list of pests that are considered threats to the well being of the state.

In California, biologists of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) recommend pest for listing, after consultation with outside experts and the Agricultural commissioners of California's counties (CACs). If the pest is found to probably be "troublesome, aggressive, intrusive, detrimental, or destructive to agriculture, silviculture, or important native species, and difficult to control or eradicate", the Department will designate the organism as a noxious pest.

At the time that CDFA lists a species, it also receives a rating of A, B, C, D, or Q. These ratings reflect CDFA's view of the statewide importance of the pest, the likelihood that eradication or control efforts would be successful, and the present distribution of the pest within the state. The ratings are not laws, but are policy guidelines that indicate the most appropriate action to take against a pest under general circumstances. Local conditions may dictate more stringent actions at the discretion of the CAC, and the rating may change as circumstances change.

The precise policy language is given below. This system has been in place since at least 1977, with revision of the language. The term "commissioners" refers to the CAC.

ACTION ORIENTED RATING SYSTEM

PURPOSE: To advise commissioners as to the Department's policy regarding any pest action.

DEFINITIONS:

"A"; An organism of known economic importance subject to state (or commissioner when acting as a state agent) enforced action involving: eradication, quarantine, containment, rejection, or other holding action.

"B"; An organism of known economic importance subject to: eradication, containment, control or other holding action at the discretion of the individual county agricultural commission. **OR** An organism of known economic importance subject to state endorsed holding action and eradication only when found in a nursery.

"C"; An organism subject to no state enforced action outside of nurseries except to retard spread. At the discretion of the commissioner. **OR** An organism subject to no state enforced action except to provide for pest cleanliness in nurseries.

"D"; No action. (Parasites, predators, and organisms of little or no economic importance.)

"Q"; An organism or disorder requiring temporary "A" action pending determination of a permanent rating. The organism is suspected to be of economic importance but its status is uncertain because of incomplete identification or inadequate information. In the case of an established infestation, at the discretion of the Assistant Director for Plant Industry, the Department will conduct surveys and will convene the Division Pest Study Team to determine a permanent rating.

El Dorado County

Calif. Agricultural Commissioner

Crop Report 2003

JUL 13 2005
GIANNINI FOUNDATION OF
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

This 2003 Crop Report is dedicated to

~ *Bill Snodgrass* ~

for his exceptional achievements as the Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures of El Dorado County. He devoted his years of service helping agriculture in El Dorado reach its full potential by overseeing the fair enforcement of local and state laws. His visions for ranch marketing will continue to benefit agriculture and the county well into the future. After serving El Dorado County for



ten years, his retirement is well deserved.



1993 ~ 2003

"A True Friend and Servant of Agriculture"



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

William J. Stephans
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures

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A.G. Kawamura, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture

EL DORADO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Rusty Dupray, Chairperson – District 1
Helen Baumann – District 2
James R. (Jack) Sweeney – District 3
Charles Paine – District 4
David Solaro – District 5

In accordance with Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I hereby submit the 2003 El Dorado County Crop Report.

The El Dorado County gross crop value for 2003 was \$42.7 million, a 12.5% decrease from the 2002 values. The decline in value was caused by many factors including an 8% decrease in timber sales and a 22% decrease in fruit and nut sales. Adverse weather conditions during bloom set greatly contributed to the lower fruit and nut value.

Reported wine grape acreage increased by nearly 9% over 2002. The adverse weather in the spring also affected the wine grape crop. This resulted in a 2.5% decrease in production from the previous year. In addition, the average price paid per ton dropped by 4.5%. Even though there was a decrease in the price per ton, El Dorado County wine grapes still received better than twice the State average for all wine grape varieties.

The monetary values in this report are F.O.B. (Freight On Board) and do not reflect net returns or profits realized by the growers. It is estimated that the impact of agriculture on El Dorado County's economy totaled approximately \$396 million in 2003. This is an increase of 1.2% over the 2002 value. The wine industry had an estimated \$170 million impact on the El Dorado County economy and Apple Hill had an \$84 million impact.

I wish to express my appreciation to the many individuals and organizations that contributed information to make this report possible. Kirk Taylor, Senior Agricultural Biologist/Standards Inspector compiled this report.

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLIAM J. STEPHANS
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

El Dorado County

2003 Crop Report

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Cover Photo – Courtesy of the
Historical Museum of El Dorado County

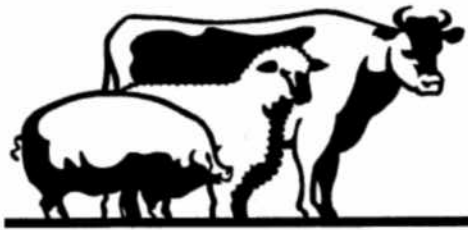




Fruit and Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Acreage	Production Per Acre	Total Production	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value
Pears-Bartlett							
Fresh	2003			244	Tons	\$ 510	\$ 124,440
	2002			453	Tons	\$ 492	\$ 222,900
Cannery	2003			501	Tons	\$ 225	\$ 112,700
	2002			729	Tons	\$ 192	\$ 140,000
Juice	2003			609	Tons	\$ 20	\$ 12,180
	2002			788	Tons	\$ 14	\$ 11,000
Total	2003	285	4.75	1,354	Tons	\$ 184	\$ 249,320
Bartlett	2002	303	6.50	1,970	Tons	\$ 190	\$ 373,900
Bosc/Asian	2003	63	8.00	504	Tons	\$ 573	\$ 288,800
	2002	63	8.90	560	Tons	\$ 560	\$ 313,600
Total	2003	348	5.37	1,858	Tons	\$	\$ 538,120
Pears	2002	366	4.45	2,530	Tons	\$	\$ 687,500
Apples							
Fresh	2003			4,173	Tons	\$ 842	\$ 3,513,670
	2002			7,064	Tons	\$ 825	\$ 5,827,800
Cannery/Apple	2003			2,084	Tons	\$ 235	\$ 489,740
Hill Products	2002			3,532	Tons	\$ 205	\$ 724,100
Cider	2003			1,230	Tons	\$ 100	\$ 123,000
	2002			1,178	Tons	\$ 90	\$ 106,000
Total	2003	835	8.97	7,487	Tons	\$ 551	\$ 4,126,410
Apples	2002	835	14.10	11,774	Tons	\$ 565	\$ 6,657,900
Cherries							
	2003	104	0.31	32	Tons	\$ 3,200	\$ 102,400
	2002	108	0.28	30	Tons	\$ 3,000	\$ 90,000
Peaches							
	2003	102	1.60	163	Tons	\$ 2,300	\$ 374,900
	2002	97	2.75	267	Tons	\$ 2,200	\$ 587,400
Plums							
	2003	57	1.54	88	Tons	\$ 1,235	\$ 108,680
	2002	61	1.60	98	Tons	\$ 1,100	\$ 107,800
Wine Grapes							
Bearing	2003	1676	2.36	3,953	Tons	\$ 1,147	\$ 4,430,000
Vines	2002	1464	2.77	4,060	Tons	\$ 1,199	\$ 4,680,000
Non-Bearing	2003	639					
	2002	663					
Total Acreage = 2315 ac.							
Walnuts							
	2003	249	0.62	154	Tons	\$ 920	\$ 142,030
	2002	253	0.55	139	Tons	\$ 1,060	\$ 147,300
Total Fruit	2003	3371		13,736	Tons	\$	\$ 9,822,540
Nut Crops	2002	3184		18,898	Tons	\$	\$ 12,957,900
Minor and Misc. Crops*							
	2003					\$	\$ 339,500
	2002					\$	\$ 343,200

*Minor and Miscellaneous includes: Truck Gardens, Berries, Nectarines, Citrus, Chestnuts, Avocados, Pumpkins, Tomatoes and Persimmons



Livestock

Crop	Year	Number of Head	Total Live Weight	Unit	Value per Unit	Total Value
Cattle and Calves	2003	4120	36,960	cwt.**	\$ 77.05	\$ 2,847,800
	2002	4450	37,200	cwt.	\$ 83.75	\$ 3,115,500
Sheep and Lambs	2003	505	498	cwt.	\$ 93.50	\$ 46,700
	2002	495	480	cwt.	\$ 69.40	\$ 33,300
Hogs/Pigs	2003	627	1,485	cwt.	\$ 34.90	\$ 51,800
	2002	635	1,365	cwt.	\$ 34.20	\$ 46,700
Misc.*	2003					\$ 998,600
	2002					\$ 1,070,000
Total	2003					\$ 3,944,900
Livestock	2002					\$ 4,265,200

*Misc. Includes: Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Chickens, Hatching Eggs, Llamas, Goats, Emu, Ostrich and Wool

**cwt. = hundredweight = 100 pounds

Apiary Products

	Year	Units	Total Value
Apiary	2003	6,200 Colonies	\$ 418,000
Products	2002	1,800 Colonies	\$ 180,000

Includes: Honey, Bees Wax, Pollen and Pollination



Hay and Pasture

Crop	Year	Acres	Units	Value Per Unit	Total Value
Hay, Tame	2003	348	644 Tons	\$ 91.00	\$ 58,600
	2002	354	673 Tons	\$ 105.00	\$ 70,700
Irrigated Pasture	2003	995	Acres	\$ 125.00	\$ 124,400
	2002	995	Acres	\$ 125.00	\$ 124,400
Rangeland (Dryland)	2003	245,000	Acres	\$ 12.00	\$ 2,940,000
	2002	245,000	Acres	\$ 12.00	\$ 2,940,000
Total Hay And Pasture	2003				\$ 3,123,000
	2002				\$ 3,135,100

Nursery Products



Crop	Year	Acreage		Value
Nursery	2003	25	\$	1,464,800
Stock	2002	27	\$	1,876,500
Trees, Shrubs, Greenhouse	2003	20	\$	590,000
	2002	23	\$	679,200
Total	2003	45	\$	2,054,800
Nursery	2002	50	\$	2,555,700

Christmas Trees

	Year	Production	Unit	Value Per Unit	Value
Wholesale	2003	10,750	Each	\$ 18.75	\$ 201,560
	2002	11,200	Each	\$ 18.50	\$ 207,200
Choose and Cut	2003	70,010	Each	\$ 39.90	\$ 2,793,400
	2002	72,930	Each	\$ 39.75	\$ 2,898,968
Total	2003	80,760	Each	\$	2,994,960
Christmas Trees	2002	84,130	Each	\$	3,018,900

Timber Harvested and By-Products

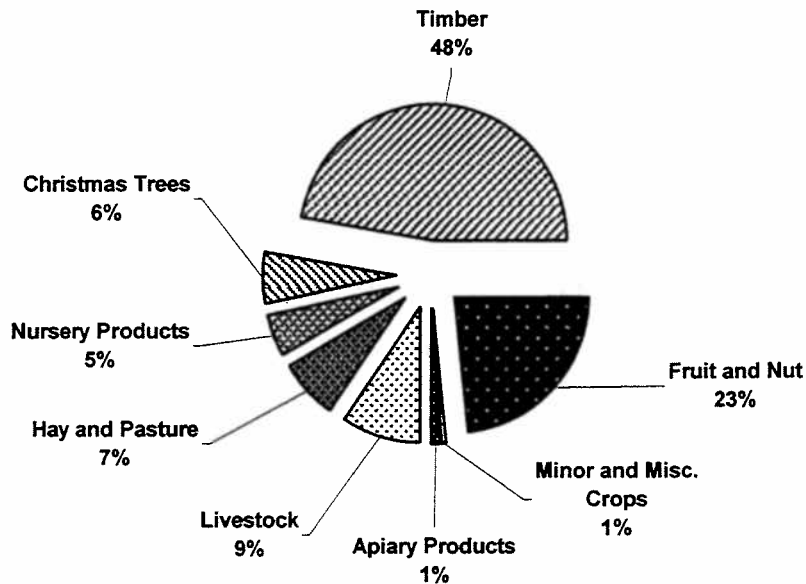
	Year	Production	Unit	Value
Private and Public Forest	2003	113,400	MBF	\$ 19,936,450
	2002	145,250	MBF	\$ 21,664,700
Wood Sales and Permits	2003	2,340	MBF	\$ 24,100
	2002	2,870	MBF	\$ 28,900
Total Timber	2003			\$ 19,960,550
	2002			\$ 21,693,600

Total Values - All Categories

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Value</u>
Fruit And Nut	2003	\$ 9,822,540
	2002	\$ 12,957,900
Minor and Misc. Crops	2003	\$ 339,500
	2002	\$ 343,200
Apiary Products	2003	\$ 418,000
	2002	\$ 180,000
Livestock	2003	\$ 3,944,900
	2002	\$ 4,265,500
Hay and Pasture	2003	\$ 3,123,000
	2002	\$ 3,135,100
Nursery Products	2003	\$ 2,054,800
	2002	\$ 2,555,700
Christmas Trees	2003	\$ 2,994,960
	2002	\$ 3,106,200
Timber	2003	\$ 19,960,550
	2002	\$ 21,693,600
Grand Total	2003	\$ 42,658,250
	2002	\$ 48,237,200



Agricultural Commodities of El Dorado County



El Dorado County

Agriculture Programs

The El Dorado County Department of Agriculture is responsible for programs that safeguard the public, the environment, and to promote and protect the county's agricultural industry. The following is a summary of the departmental activities.

Pest Prevention

The **Pest Exclusion Program** prevents the introduction of detrimental pests that are not of common occurrence in California. Over 2,700 inspections at 625 locations were made during 2003 by department staff at parcel shipping locations (United Parcel Service and U.S. Postal Service), retail nurseries, equipment originating from high-risk areas, and of nursery stock upon arrival for planting at local farms.

The **Pest Detection Program** consisted of over 800 insect traps in 2003, which were placed throughout the county and monitored to detect pests that may have entered El Dorado County despite pest exclusion efforts. Each year, traps are placed in both rural and urban areas to detect Gypsy Moth, Japanese Beetles, Mediterranean Fruit Flies, Melon Flies, Apple Maggots and Oriental Fruit Flies. An action plan for dealing with the Vine Mealybug was developed and implemented in the county. Components of the plan include detection, monitoring infested vineyards, and treatments.

The **Pest Eradication Program** efforts include chemical and mechanical treatments of Dalmatian toadflax, Diffuse knapweed, Russian knapweed, Spotted knapweed, Tall whitetop, Oblong spurge, Canada thistle, and Purple loosestrife in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the Nevada Cooperative Extension. VMB infected vineyards were treated by the growers in cooperation with this Department during the 2003-growing season.

Pest Management

The **El Dorado County Noxious Weed Management Group**, formed in 1998, has continued educational efforts in the control of Yellow starthistle, Tall whitetop, Scotch broom, Dalmatian toadflax and knapweeds. The department is also a member of the Lake Tahoe Basin Weed Coordinating Group. The purpose of this group is to coordinate invasive weed control, education and eradication among the federal, state, county and private agencies within the Lake Tahoe Basin.

The **Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) Pest Management Program** was initiated in 1999 to prevent the introduction of this insect to El Dorado County. GWSS is known to spread Pierce's Disease, which can devastate vineyard plantings. The pest-monitoring program includes inspections of all nursery stock shipped into the county from known infested areas. In addition, over 400 insect traps were deployed and monitored in nurseries, vineyards and in urban and rural locations throughout the county.

The **Biological Control Program** consists of releases of insects that act as natural predators against noxious pests present in the county. Biocontrol projects include use of the following insects: Leaf beetle *Chrysolina quadrigemina*, to control Klamath Weed; seed weevil (*Eustenopus villosus*) and the Peacock Fly (*Chaetorellia australis*) to reduce the spread of Yellow Starthistle. In addition, a parasitic wasp (*Encarsia partneopea*) is being utilized in the control of Ash Whiteflies. The El Dorado County Department of Agriculture monitors and relocates the insects in cooperation with CDFA.

The **Vertebrate Pest Management Program** assists growers and homeowners in the control of deprecating vertebrate pests such as gophers, ground squirrels, mice, rats and other rodents.

The **Wildlife Management Program** provides management of wildlife within the county that deprecating livestock, property and/or presenting a hazard to public health and safety. Efforts are made to reduce, terminate and prevent damage to livestock, crops and other property caused by wild animal

Pesticide Monitoring

The Agriculture Department conducts the **Pesticide Monitoring Program** in cooperation with California Department of Pesticide Regulation. Pesticide use is monitored to protect public health, environment and agricultural workers. Department staff enforces state regulations, issues use permits, compiles use data and investigates complaints. Education concerning the safe use of pesticides is an integral part of the program. Further, an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach is encouraged to reduce pesticide use.

Commodity Evaluation and Marketing Programs

The **Certified Farmer's Market Program** allows farmers to market directly to consumers at a Certified Farmer's Markets. There were 59 growers registered as certified growers with production areas within the county. The **Organic Program** includes registration by growers in order to market farm products as organically grown. In 2003, 14 growers were registered as organic, representing 125 acres under production. Both the organic and certified producer programs include grower inspections by department staff to validate the registrations.

The **Standardization Program** protects consumers and the fresh fruit, nut and vegetable industry from distribution of substandard products. Standardization laws establish minimum specifications for maturity, quality and size of commodities (i.e., apples, pears) plus standard container pack and labeling. **Quality Control** inspections are also conducted on nursery stock, eggs and seeds.

Agricultural Resources

The Department of Agriculture conducts a variety of programs to protect and promote agriculture including **land use planning**, which is administered by the El Dorado County Agricultural Commission. The department also provides **technical resources** to a variety of committees and boards, including verification for the El Dorado Irrigation District Small Farms Irrigation Rate Program. Recently, the soil information for the western half of the county has been digitized. The Department of Agriculture can provide information pertaining to the soils found on a particular parcel. This information can be used by the land owner/buyer to determine which crops, if any, can be grown on that parcel. Agricultural statistics and land use information is also compiled for the **Annual Crop Report**. The department is actively involved in promoting agri-tourism.

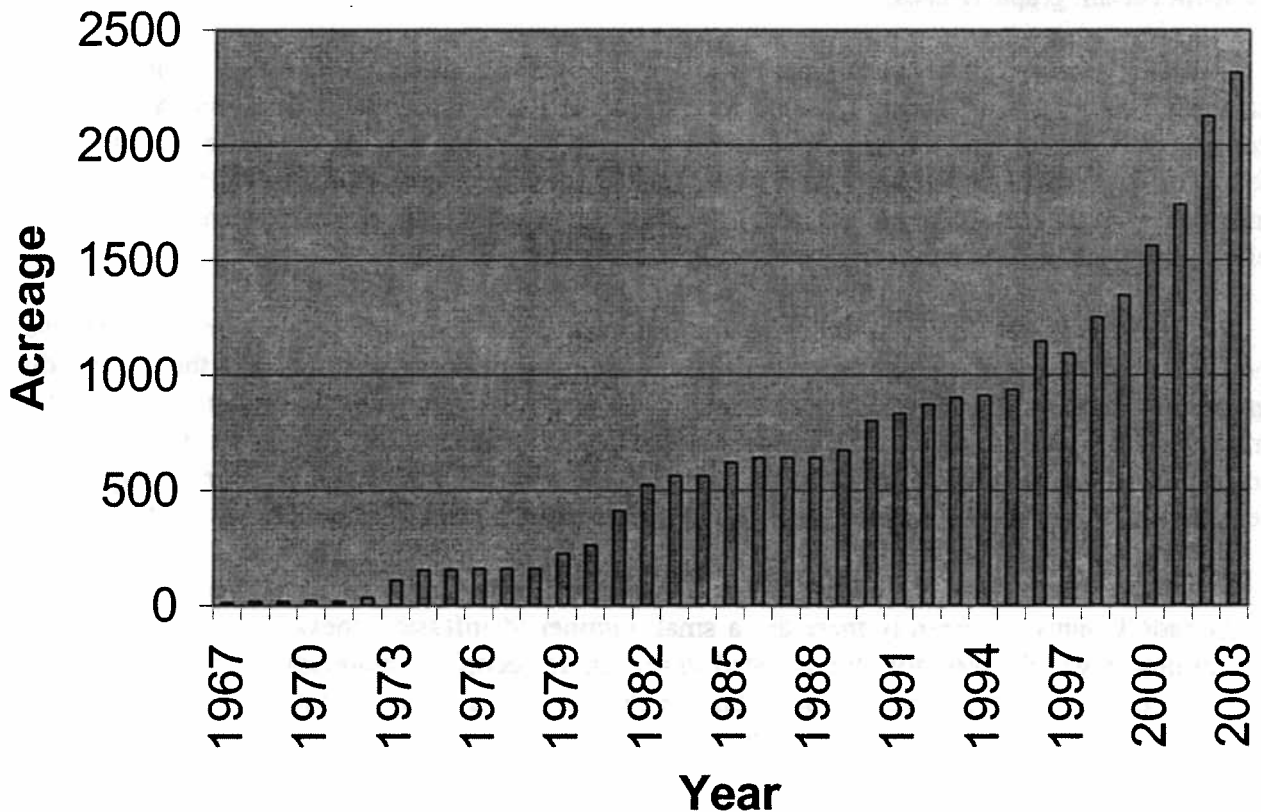
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<u>Variety</u>	<u>2003 Value</u>	<u>2002 Ranking</u>
1. Zinfandel	\$ 906,900	2
2. Cabernet Sauvignon	\$ 818,300	1
3. Merlot	\$ 605,300	4
4. Syrah	\$ 540,500	3
5. Chardonnay	\$ 267,400	5
6. Barbera	\$ 148,700	8
7. Petite Sirah	\$ 138,900	6
8. Cabernet Franc	\$ 118,400	7
9. Viogner	\$ 88,000	---
10. Sangiovese	\$ 80,700	9

Wine Grape Acreage in El Dorado County



Vine Mealybug: What is it and how does it affect El Dorado County?

Vine mealybug (VMB, *Planococcus ficus*) is a serious new insect pest for California vineyards. This pest was first identified in the state in 1994. VMB has since spread to scattered vineyards throughout California's wine-, table- and raisin-grape-growing regions. This insect can only be controlled with expensive, reduced-risk insecticides once a vineyard becomes infested. Although they are newer reduced risk products, none of the insecticides are permitted in organic certified vineyards.

The adult female, at 1/8", is the largest life stage of this insect. All life stages (eggs, crawlers, nymphs and adults) can be present year-round on the infested vine. During the winter the insect is found under the bark, within developing buds, and on the roots. The majority of the VMB are located on the trunk near the soil line or on the roots. Being on the roots protects this pest from most cold weather effects. As the temperature warms, the pest population increases and the insects move up the trunk. Ants often tend VMB on the roots and may transport them to parts above the soil line. This pest is found on all portions of the vine during the growing season. Late in the year VMB moves back down the trunk to the soil line and roots. There can be as many as 6 generations per growing year.

VMB feeds on the vine sap. Heavy infestations will severely stress the vine causing a reduction or elimination of fruit production. Damage by this insect produces honeydew that drops on the grape bunches and serves as a substrate for black sooty mold. Black sooty mold makes the grapes unusable for wine production. Often the honeydew is in such huge quantities that it resembles candle wax. VMB can be found infesting grape bunches making them unfit for consumption. In addition to this, VMB can transmit certain grape viruses.

This mealybug can survive for up to 1 month without feeding. The female does not fly, but it can crawl fairly well. Normal routes for introducing this insect to a new vineyard is by way of contaminated equipment, nursery stock and field workers. Since this insect is found in the soil, any soil found on equipment or workers may be contaminated. Therefore any equipment coming into an uninfested vineyard should be free of dirt. Workers coming from an infested vineyard should have clean clothes, equipment, and shoes before entering another vineyard.

Treatment for this pest includes two options. The first option is to treat the vineyard with pesticides. Pursuant to recognized protocols, the vineyard must be treated two to three times during the growing season at a cost of approximately \$400/acre/year. Further, the infested vineyard must be treated for 2-5 years to significantly reduce or eradicate this pest. The other option is much more severe in that all of the infested vines must be removed, the area left fallow for an appropriate time and then replanted at a later date. For most vineyard owners neither option is economically feasible.

The effects of Vine mealybug could be devastating to the wine-grape industry of El Dorado County. Currently there are a small number of infested vineyards within the county. This department regularly monitors the infested vineyards to record the population density and measure the effectiveness of the treatments. In addition, we also monitor all vineyards surrounding the infested areas to ensure the insect does not expand its presence in the county.