California Department of Food and Agriculture

Agricultural Commissioners' Crop Reports

Fresno County

1951-1954

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/ .

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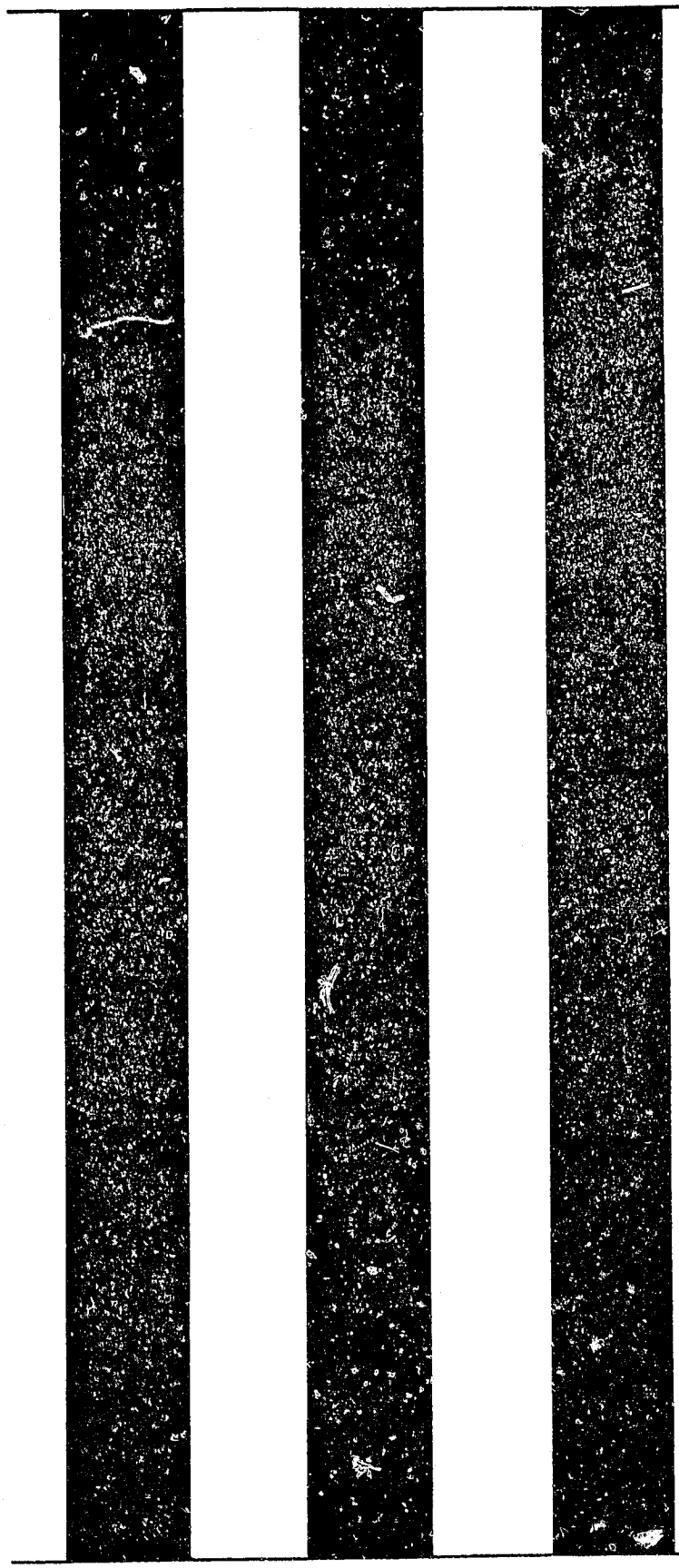

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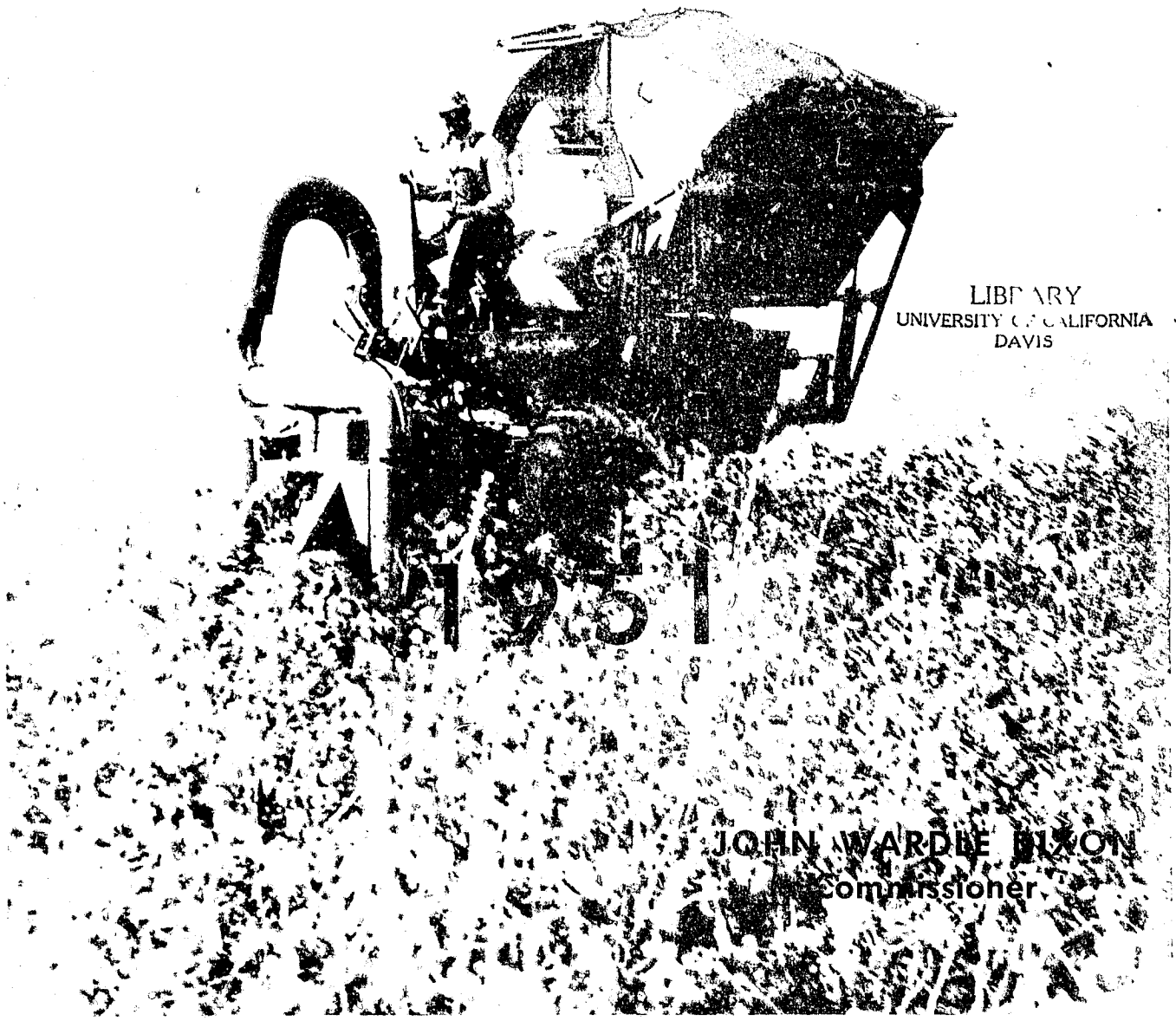
AGRICULTURAL FRESNO 1951



JOHN WARDLE DIXON
Commissioner

FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

John Wardle Dixon
Agricultural Commissioner

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ANNUAL REPORT

For the

Year ending December 31, 1951

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Sidney L. Cruff, District 4, Chairman

George E. Malm, District 1 E. M. Peckinpah, District 2

J. M. Cadwallader, District 3 Lew W. Clark, District 5

EMPLOYEES

COMMISSIONER

Dixon, John Wardle

DEPUTY

Polson, John I. - - - - - - - - - - - Chief Inspector

SENIOR INSPECTORS

Cowan, Roy M. - - - - - - - - - - -	Quarantine & Seed
Cox, L. M. - - - - - - - - - - - - -	Surveys & Pest Control
Hatfield, Russell T. - - - - - - - -	Standardization & Egg Inspection
Jones, Ralph M. - - - - - - - - - -	Standardization
Rose, Edward M. - - - - - - - - - -	Standardization & Quarantine
Sherwood, Harold Y. - - - - - - - -	Standardization

INSPECTORS (Permanent)

Brown, George J. - - - - - - - - - -	Apiary
Corn, T. E. - - - - - - - - - - - - -	Pest Control & Surveys
Cotton, Wm. E. - - - - - - - - - - -	Standardization & Apiary Inspection
Coughlin, Thomas - - - - - - - - - -	Rodent Control
Dunnegan, Harry Verle - - - - - - -	Survey & Quarantine
Fannuchi, Constantino - - - - - - -	Rodent Control
Hughes, Carl C. - - - - - - - - - -	Rodent & Weed Control
Mercer, John - - - - - - - - - - - -	Rodent Control
Poduska, Bernard E. - - - - - - - -	Rodent & Weed Control
Poole, Earl - - - - - - - - - - - -	Rodent Control
Pruett, Joe E. - - - - - - - - - - -	Rodent & Weed Control
Ray, John - - - - - - - - - - - - -	Predatory Animal Control
Schilling, Conrad - - - - - - - - -	Quarantine & Seed
Tellyer, James - - - - - - - - - - -	Predatory Animal Control
Ward, Eulas - - - - - - - - - - - -	Rodent & Weed Control

CLERKS

Douglas, Irene
Smith, Lucille

On Military Leave - Thomas Sharer

IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 1 OF THE AGRICULTURAL CODE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Article 1 - COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

Section 50 - COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - There shall be the office of County Agricultural Commissioner in each county. Such Commissioner shall be in charge of the county department of agriculture.

Section 65 - RECORDS - The commissioner shall keep a record of his official acts and make an annual report to the Director of Agriculture on the condition of the agricultural interests in his county as to what is being done to eradicate or to control or to destroy pests and also as to quarantine against pests, and shall furnish from time to time to the director such information as he may require.

Section 65 - REPORT - The commissioner shall also make a monthly report to the Board of Supervisors if and when so required by said Board.

Section 65.5 - STATISTICS - The commissioner shall compile reports of the condition, acreage, production and value of the agricultural products in his county. The commissioner may publish such reports and shall transmit a copy thereof to the director.

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
COUNTY OF FRESNO

Gentlemen:

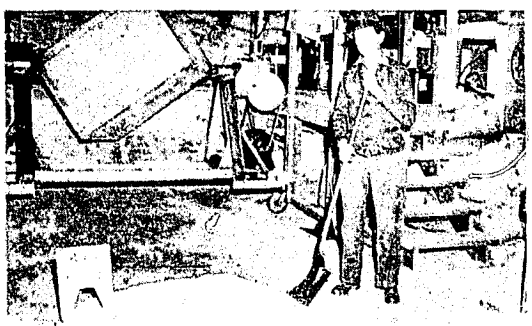
The following is a brief report of the activities of the Fresno County Agricultural Commissioner's office, for the year 1951. The work of this office is handled by divisions headed by Senior Inspectors, a specialist is always in charge of each item of work.

John I. Polson, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner, has direct charge of all the weed, rodent and predatory animal work. Helping Mr. Polson, there are seven permanent men, also seasonal employees. The number of the latter varies with the time of year. In 1950, this division took on additional duties in the Knapweed eradication program which the Supervisors decided to undertake. During 1951, this program was continued and increased. The results were good in places where farmers cooperated to the full

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER POLSON WITH
WEED AND SPRAY TRUCKS

extent in the care of their fields after the weedicide had been applied. Results would have been even better had rain come at more opportune times. The more rain that comes after application, the better the penetration of the chemical, and the better the weed kill. Briefly stated, Fresno County's Russian Knapweed policy is that the County will furnish one-half the cost of the material, and all the cost of application of approved weedicides up to two acres, and the cost of application only, from two acres to ten acres. In this method of approach, the Department hopes to clean up the smaller infestations first. Later, it is hoped we can attack the larger patches. In this work we have used 136,118 pounds of chlorates, 100,495 gallons of dinitro and oil spray, and 6,465 pounds of carbon bisulphide. On wild morning glory and hoary cress control, the Department used 1,652 pounds of chlorate, and for puncture vine along the roads we used 88,789 gallons of oil dinitro spray on 5,233 miles of roadsides.

In Rodent control work, 217,945 acres were treated, using 1,657 pounds of Strychnine, 17,692 pounds of Sodium fluro acetate ("1080") poisoned grain, 12,496 pounds of carbon bisulphide, and 47,325 waste balls.



WEED AND RODENT FOREMAN POOLE MIXING POISON GRAIN

Several properties were treated for rats, using zinc phosphide and warfarin. The Bureau of Reclamation and Fresno Irrigation District treated 7,600 acres of ditch banks under our supervision, for the control of gophers.

INSPECTOR HUGHES AND CREW GASSING SQUIRRELS

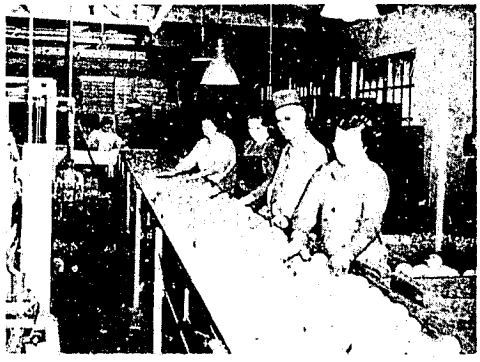
Predatory animal control accounted for the following:

118 coyotes,
52 wildcats,
33 badgers,
116 skunks,
16 raccoons
27 opossums,
4 weasels,
18 sheep killing dogs (west side),
and 37 lamb killing civet foxes (west side).

TRAPPER TELLYER

Plague area project, also under the direction of Deputy Commissioner John I. Polson, placed 250 traps, baited with warfarin, in and around the mountain recreation centers. These were kept serviced for weeks. The State and Federal government surveys showed that the rodent population in these areas was too high for safety. This is a County, State and Federal project.

Standardization work, headed by Senior Inspector Harold Y. Sherwood, assisted by Senior Inspectors Ralph M. Jones and Edward M. Rose, is the next largest division. They watch and enforce the proper grading of fruits, nuts and vegetables, which are going to market. The Agricultural Code has defined the grades and packs of practically all the fruits, nuts and vegetables being sold, and it is the duty of this Department to make the inspections to see that the law is properly enforced. A total of 2,404 man days were spent in this work. 10,533,180 containers of fruits, nuts and vegetables were inspected during 1951. Of this number, 17,566 containers failed to meet the requirements demanded by the law. There were two citations and one court case. No record was made of the number of times packing was stopped and corrections made in the pack of fruits or vegetables, nor of the number of containers repacked on such occasions. The latter would run into large figures.



SENIOR INSPECTOR SHERWOOD INSPECTING CANTALOUPES

Egg Inspection work, under the direction of Senior Inspector Russell T. Hatfield, has expanded again this season. There were 827 premises visited, 171,939 dozen eggs were inspected. 63 violation notices were issued, involving 4,344 dozen eggs. There were two citations issued. No court cases developed. Most of the violations were for improper markings. However, we did find one large packer who had difficulty with eggs infected with Pseudomonas bacteria, but after the installation of ultra violet lights for the detection

of this infection, the trouble disappeared. 1,033 dozen eggs were condemned for containing inedibles.

The Division of Plant Quarantine and Nursery Inspection is under the supervision of Senior Inspector Roy M. Cowan. Inspector Dunnegan of this division, has twice this year inspected each nursery in Fresno County. Whenever disease or insect pests were found, the plants so infested or infected were treated or destroyed under the supervision of the inspectors. All plants sent into Fresno County from nurseries in other areas were also inspected. In all, these numbered 3,532,260 plants. All these were individually examined. 1,430 plants were found to be infected or infested, and were either sent back out of the County or were destroyed. All plants, trees, shrubs or vines coming into Fresno County by mail, express, freight or truck were required to be inspected by this Department before they were delivered to the consignee. We believe we saw them all. All cars of grain coming from out of State were checked for weed seeds by Inspector Conrad Schilling.

INSPECTOR DUNNEGAN, NURSERY INSPECTION

INSPECTOR SCHILLING, POST OFFICE INSPECTION

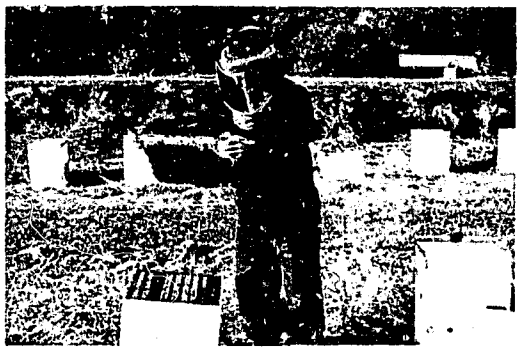
In Fresno County, we have a rapidly growing industry with the growing of seed. It comes within the work of this Department to do the inspection work in the harvesting of these crops. We must inspect the fields, check the harvesters, inspect the seed after it has been cleaned, in order that the State give a California Crop Improvement Association Certificate. We are re-embursed for our expenses in this work.

There were 6,335 acres producing 8,182,099 pounds of Certified alfalfa seed, with an FOB value of $2,335,381. Of common field seed (all kinds) there were grown 4,008 acres, which produced 3,625,083 pounds, with a value of $427,015.

SENIOR INSPECTOR COWAN TAKING AN OFFICIAL SAMPLE FOR CERTIFIED SEED

886 acres of vegetable seeds (all kinds) produced 371,938 pounds, with a value of $327,060. 213,575 pounds of seed were condemned and were forced to be recleaned. Mr. Cowan forced the cleaning of 5,200 tons of barley infested with Russian Knapweed. He quarantined 893 tons of alfalfa hay, which then was ground to a fineness that would kill any seed. He also compelled the grinding of 441 tons of seed screenings to a 3/64 inch, in order to destroy the viability of the Russian Knapweed and hoary cress seed which it contained.

The bee inspection work is under the direction of Inspector George J. Brown. The bees are far more important to the agriculture of Fresno County than the amount of revenue which they bring directly to the Apiarist or that is paid in taxes to the County. If it were not for bees, our crops would go unpollenated, and therefore, the crops could not set. Our seed industry is directly dependemt on such pollenization. American Foulbrood disease is the biggest problem that the Apiarist has to face. Constant vigil must be maintained in order that this bee disease does not gain a foothold, for it would soon wipe out all the hives of bees in the County. In our inspection work, our Inspector William Cotton has endeavored to search out and check especially the small back yard apiaries and those which are neglected or abandoned. In Fresno County there are 16,495 colonies of bees. We individually inspected in 1951, 6,139 hives. Of these, we found thirty-nine of them to be diseased with American Foulbrood. These were destroyed, but the wax was saved, as beeswax is one of the war strategic materials which is in short supply.



INSPECTOR COTTON, BEE INSPECTION

We joined with the State again this year, in bringing up to date the figures on the acreage of all the permanent plantings of trees and vines. This is of great value in arriving at the crop estimation each year. Senior Inspector L. M. Cox is in charge of this work.

We continued our pest survey work, also under the direction of Senior Inspector Cox. It is most important that we find new infestations as soon as possible. We have surveyed the commercial citrus orchards and all the small plantings within three or four miles, looking for Red and Yellow Scale. Both these pests are threatening the citrus industry in all parts of the State. We found for the first time, Citrus White Fly, established on the host plants in eight city blocks of Fresno. We also searched for, but found no evidence of, Oriental Fruit Fly, European Corn Borer, Colorado Potato Beetle, Japanese Beetle, Pink Bollworm, Cotton Boll Weevil and Quick Decline of Citrus. We continued our weed survey, finding nine additional small infestations of Russian Knapweed, but we found no Halogetin or other new weeds. We helped the State on their Beetleaf Hopper check.

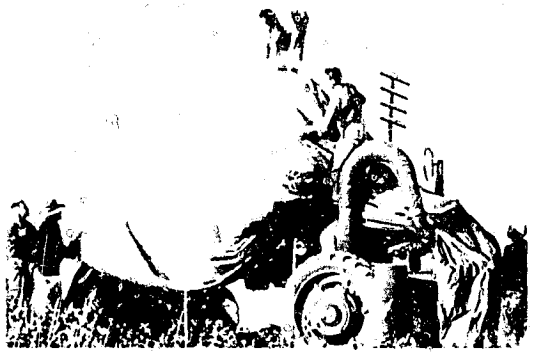
Twelve wineries used the sugar point method of buying grapes. In each case, we furnished an inspector. These inspectors made tests on 391,560 tons of grapes. Two citations were issued. This winery inspection work was under the supervision of Senior Inspector Russell T. Hatfield.

Pest control work, also under Senior Inspector Cox, has been very active. It is mandatory that any applications of 2,4-D, 2,4,5-T, Parathion, Arsenicals in dust form, and EPN, or TEPP when applied by thermal aerosol, may be applied only when a permit has been granted by this office after our examination of the premises. We made 591 such examinations, refusing 14, and granting 577.

Pest control applicators working under our inspection applied.

750 lbs.	Aldrin
48,534,675 lbs.	Sulphur
223,303 lbs.	Toxaphene & Chlordane compounds
39,000,000 lbs.	Lindane, BHC & other Chlorinated Hydrocarbons
154,726 lbs.	TEPP & HETP
12,924,000 lbs.	Parathion
18,553 lbs.	2,4-D & 2,4-5-T
1,735,000 lbs.	Other Phosphate sprays
121,620 gals.	Oils
608,100 lbs.	Copper
60,528 lbs.	Lead
2,642,060 lbs.	Defoliant

The above figures include the addition of proper commercial materials necessary for application. One conviction was obtained on a case where the operator refused to properly apply materials. Four citations were made, but on the whole, the cooperation was very good. With the finding of Pink Bollworm in cotton picking machines in a nearby county, Fresno County made a complete inspection of all the cotton picking machines which had come into the county, and those which were found here, which had come from outside California were fumigated. Inspector Thomas E. Corn supervised this work.



INSPECTORS, COX, CORN AND LANDFORD FUMIGATING MECHANICAL COTTON PICKERS

Respectfully submitted,

John Wardle Dixon

JOHN WARDLE DIXON,
Agricultural Commissioner

1951 ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR FRESNO COUNTY
CROP ACREAGE - PRODUCTION AND VALUE
Compiled by
THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S STAFF

CROP	ACREAGE Bearing	ACREAGE Non Bearing	PRODUCTION	F O B VALUE
DECIDUOUS FRUITS & NUTS				
Apples	140	7	12,880 bxs.	$ 22,540.00
Apricots	776	43	1,552 ton	620,800.00
Berries Bush	288	13	1,152 ton	322,560.00
Citrus	3,020	377	667,420 bxs.	1,501,695.00
Figs				
Dry	13,959	885	19,543 ton	7,328,625.00
Fresh			125 ton	12,500.00
Nectarines	1,051	459	346,800 crts.	1,248,480.00
Olives	1,004	119	4,016 ton	261,040.00
Peaches				
Clingstone	460	46	8,610 ton	602,700.00
Freestone	6,981	2,981		
Fresh			57,035 ton	6,273,850.00
Dry			715 ton	214,500.00
Persimmons	49		343 ton	40,474.00
Pomegranates	186	3	558 ton	82,584.00
Plums	3,560	858	1,068,000 crts.	2,830,200.00
Prunes	270	45	135 ton	45,900.00
Almonds	701	671	501,215 lbs.	105,255.00
Pecans	24	4	16,320 lbs.	29,377.00
Walnuts	1,324	522	1,668,240 lbs.	400,378.00
				$ 21,943,458.00
GRAPES				
Raisin Varieties	131,257	4,767		
Fresh			1,249,600 lgs.	$ 1,874,400.00
Crush			353,488 ton	9,720,920.00
Dry			155,100 ton	25,746,600.00
Table Varieties	15,375	962		
Fresh			2,621,069 lgs.	3,931,603.00
Crush			88,406 ton	2,431,165.00
Wine Varieties	10,819	559	98,189 ton	3,436,615.00
				$ 47,141,303.00

TRUCK CROPS

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	UNIT	F O B VALUE
Asparagus	320	380	ton	$ 85,800.00
Beans - snap	75	8,750	hamper	22,313.00
Broccoli	275	2,200,000	lbs.	154,000.00
Cantaloupe	10,243	2,048,600	jumbo crts.	8,194,400.00
Carrots				
Spring	100	24,600	6 doz. crts.	61,500.00
Fall	200	44,400	6 doz. crts.	210,900.00
Cauliflower	60	15,000	pony crates	18,750.00
Celery	70	31,500	sturdy crates	102,375.00
Corn - sweet	200	28,000	crates	63,000.00
Cucumbers	150	56,250	lugs	98,437.00
Garlic	90	8,100	100 # sack	70,875.00
Lettuce	405	85,050	crates	425,250.00
Onions				
Spring	25	12,000	50 # bags	21,000.00
Summer	60	30,000	50 # bags	52,500.00
Peas	790	78,200	30 # hamper	215,050.00
Persian Melons	180	60,840	flats	152,100.00
Peppers - bell	50	21,250	lugs	43,562.00
Peppers - chili (Fresno)	175	111,475	lugs	222,950.00
Potatoes	2,410	421,750	100 # sacks	1,201,987.00
Potatoes - sweet	660	115,500	30# hampers	462,000.00
Spinach	50	15,000	crates	26,250.00
Strawberries	180			
Fresh		123,454	12 bskt. crts.	362,954.00
Processed		1,044,477	fresh lb.	184,083.00
Taro	11	37,500	lbs.	16,125.00
Tomatoes	500	175,000	lugs.	393,750.00
Watermelons	1,400	9,800	ton	392,000.00
				$13,253,911.00

FIELD CROPS

Alfalfa	119,419	656,804	ton	$19,704,120.00
Barley	445,383	13,361,490	100 # sk.	40,752,544.00
Cotton	334,500	468,000	500 # bales	91,260,000.00
Cotton - seed		182,520	ton	12,776,400.00
Corn				
White	100	2,400	100 # sks.	9,000.00
Yellow	1,500	36,000	100 # sks.	135,000.00
Grain				
Hay	14,976	22,464	ton	449,680.00
Stubble	49,922			119,688.00
Milo	1,200	30,000	100 # sks.	105,000.00
Pasture				
Range	1,856,600		acres	5,569,800.00
Permanent	65,625		acres	643,125.00
Rice	12,716	534,072	100 # bags	2,483,435.00
Safflower	3,900	81,900	100 # bags	429,975.00
Sugar Beets	406	4,466	ton	64,757.00
Wheat	53,839	1,076,780	100 # bags	4,242,513.00
				$178,745,037.00

NURSERY STOCK AND PRODUCTION

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	UNIT	F O B VALUE
CERTIFIED FIELD CROP SEED				
Alfalfa				
Ranger	3,466	2,426,200	lbs.	$ 1,455,720.00
Buffalo	1,464	1,171,200	lbs.	673,440.00
Calif. Comm # 49	60	24,000	lbs.	12,000.00
Barley				
Arrivat	105	3,675	100 lbs.	15,068.00
Calif. Mariout	1,052	36,820	100 lbs.	150,962.00
Wheat				
Ramona	28	1,120	100 lb. sacks	4,592.00
Milo				
Double Dwarf # 38	160	4,000	100 lb. sacks	15,400.00
				$ 2,327,182.00
COMMON FIELD CROP SEED				
Alfalfa				
Common	3,000	975,000	lbs.	$ 234,878.00
Common African	238	77,350	lbs.	19,260.00
Fenugreek	160	240,000	lbs.	14,400.00
Ladino Clover	40	8,742	lbs.	7,431.00
Melilotus Indica		268,333	lbs.	25,599.00
Mustard		13,110	lbs.	721.00
Rice	470	19,740	100 lb. bags	128,310.00
Sudan	80	45,760	lbs.	3,203.00
Sunflower	20	19,640	lbs.	4,124.00
				$ 437,926.00
COMMON VEGETABLE SEED				
Cabbage	2	3,600	lbs.	$ 2,160.00
Carrots	90	34,256	lbs.	25,692.00
Coriander	20	15,000	lbs.	4,500.00
Dill	15	15,000	lbs.	4,500.00
Lettuce	685	242,921	lbs.	250,937.00
Onions	59	44,661	lbs.	33,496.00
Parsnips	15	16,500	lbs.	5,775.00
				$ 327,060.00
FLOWER SEED				
Sweet Pea	7	1,100	lbs.	$ 385.00
Zinnia	4	321	lbs.	321.00
				$ 706.00

	NO. BREEDING STOCK	POUNDS PROD.	DOZEN PROD.	F O B VALUE
LIVE STOCK				
Beef cattle & calves	116,640	55,987,000		$ 17,915,840.00
Milk cows & two year old heifers	57,908	16,779,000		4,697,920.00
Butter Fat		8,493,840		6,116,565.00
Hogs	24,772	39,835,200		7,967,040.00
Sheep & lambs	171,849	6,873,920		2,062,176.00
Wool		954,720		544,190.00
Rabbits	2,480	180,000		93,600.00
				$ 39,397,331.00
POULTRY				
Hens	1,438,548	5,754,192		$ 1,668,754.00
Fryers & roasters	3,875,333	10,348,300		2,794,041.00
Eggs			14,040,000	6,598,800.00
Consumers			397,282	357,554.00
Hatchery				354,710.00
Baby chicks	4,433,876			7,316,843.00
Turkeys	1,451,755	26,131,581		819,830.00
Turkey hatch eggs	47,527		237,632	1,842,123.00
Poults	2,423,847			$ 21,752,655.00

	COLONIES	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE
APIARY				
Bees	16,495			
Alfalfa Pollenation	7,295			$ 18,000.00
Plum, Almond & Peach Pollenation	2,000			1,000.00
Honey Production		1,154,650		115,465.00
				$ 134,465.00

CROP	PRODUCTION	UNIT	F O B VALUE
NURSERY STOCK			
Citrus	20,000	trees	$ 50,000.00
Grape Vines			
1613	227,100	rootings	10,219.50
Naturals	147,500	rootings	6,637.50
Trees			
Deciduous fruit	2,000	trees	800.00
Figs	3,000	trees	900.00
Bedding & vegetable plants	18,173	flats	27,259.00
Iris Rhizones	2,200	plants	1,100.00
Gladiolus bulbs	2,000	dozen	1,200.00
Cut flowers	1,250,000	dozen	12,500.00
Potted house plants	1,875	plants	7,500.00
			$ 118,176.00

R E C A P I T U L A T I O N

DECIDUOUS FRUITS, CITRUS & NUTS	$ 21,943,458.00
GRAPES	47,141,303.00
TRUCK CROPS	13,253,911.00
FIELD CROPS	178,745,037.00
CERTIFIED FIELD CROP SEED	2,327,182.00
COMMON FIELD CROP SEED	437,926.00
COMMON VEGETABLE SEED	327,060.00
FLOWER SEED	706.00
LIVE STOCK	39,397,331.00
POULTRY	21,752,655.00
APIARY	134,465.00
NURSERY STOCK	118,116.00

TOTAL 1951 FRESNO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL VALUE REPORT $325,579,150.00

This is a report of what the farms in Fresno have contributed to the County's economy, also it reports the work which this office has undertaken in directing and policing the Agricultural activities as directed in the California Agricultural Code. We have endeavored to give an account of the pests, diseases and weeds which affect our production.

The figures used in this report are the best which our department could obtain and it is our hope that they are substantially correct. In each case where estimates were made we have contacted several sources whom we consider qualified in giving us a true picture of the crops and their value.

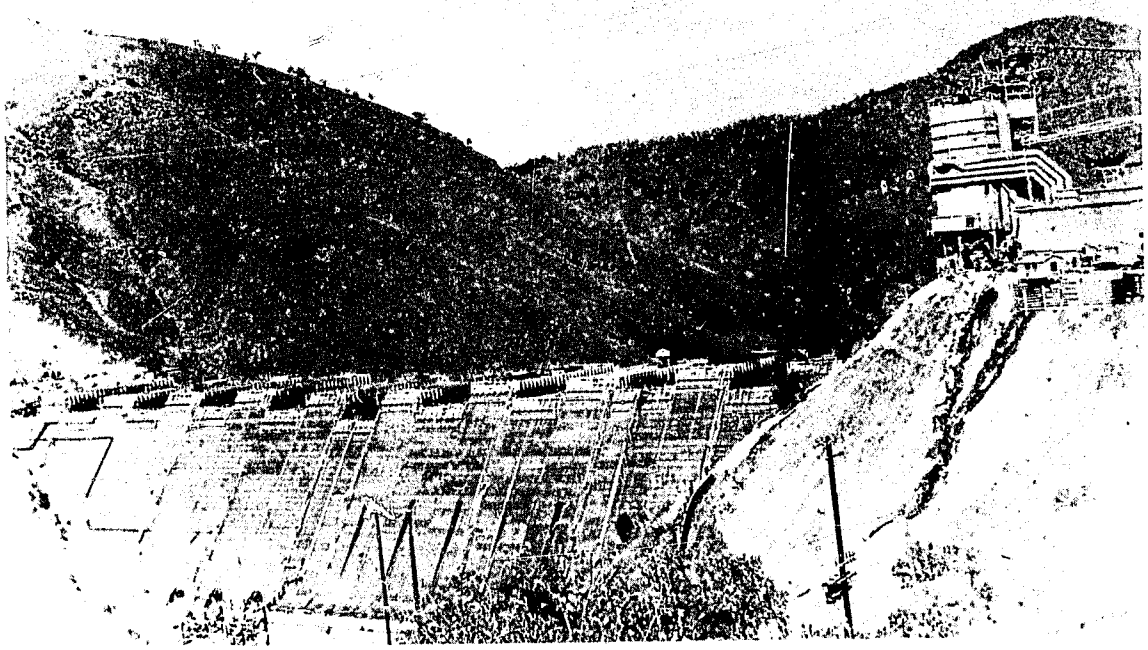
In 1951 the State made a resurvey of acreage of crops. The results are materially different from records made in 1948 and even though we have kept track of all pull outs, yet we cannot reconcile the new figures. They cannot be reconciled with the old figures nor with the production of fruits which were marketed from this area. But because they are State figures and new, the acreage figures for trees and vines are given as they were recorded by the State in this survey.

John Wardle Dixon

JOHN WARDLE DIXON
Agricultural Commissioner
County of Fresno
Fresno, California

1952

AGRICULTURAL FRESNO



1952

John Wardle Dixon
Commissioner

FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

John Wardle Dixon
Agricultural Commissioner

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ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year
Ending December 31, 1952

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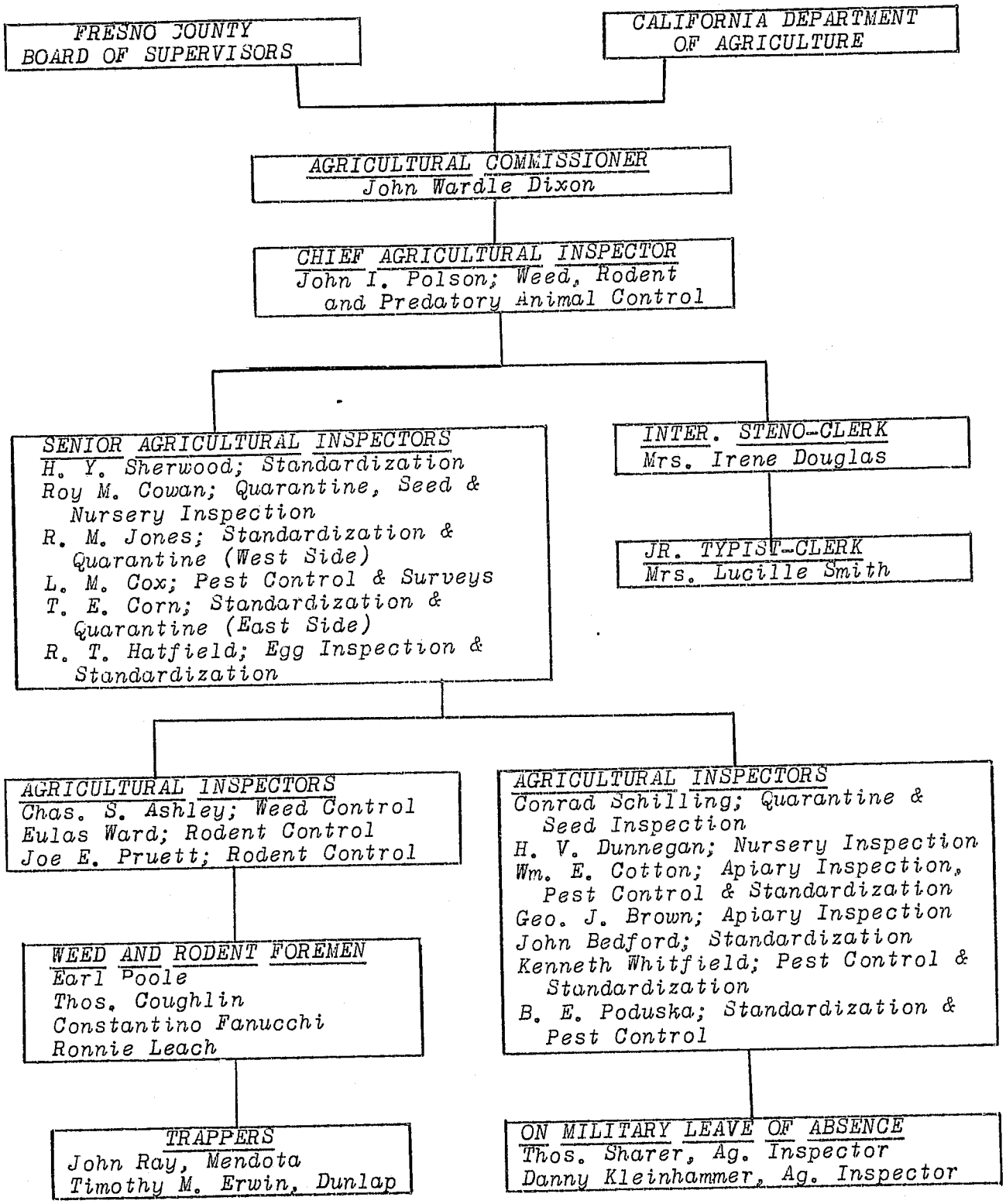
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Sidney L. Cruff, District 4, Chairman

George E. Malm,	District 1	Norman S. Foley,	District 2
Rutter Armey,	District 3	Lew W. Clark,	District 5

Picture on Front
Pine Flat Dam nearing completion
1,110,000 acre feet capacity
Photo by Conrad Schilling

FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER



IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 1, OF THE AGRICULTURAL CODE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Article 1 -- COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

Section 50 -- COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE -- There shall be the office of County Agricultural Commissioner in each county. Such Commissioner shall be in charge of the county department of agriculture.

Section 65 -- RECORDS -- The commissioner shall keep a record of his official acts and make an annual report to the Director of Agriculture on the condition of the agricultural interests in his county as to what is being done to eradicate or to control or to destroy pests and also as to quarantine against pests, and shall furnish from time to time to the director such information as he may require.

Section 65 -- REPORT -- The commissioner shall also make a monthly report to the Board of Supervisors if and when so required by said Board.

Section 65.5 -- STATISTICS -- The commissioner shall compile reports of the condition, acreage, production and value of the agricultural products in his county. The commissioner may publish such reports and shall transmit a copy thereof to the director.

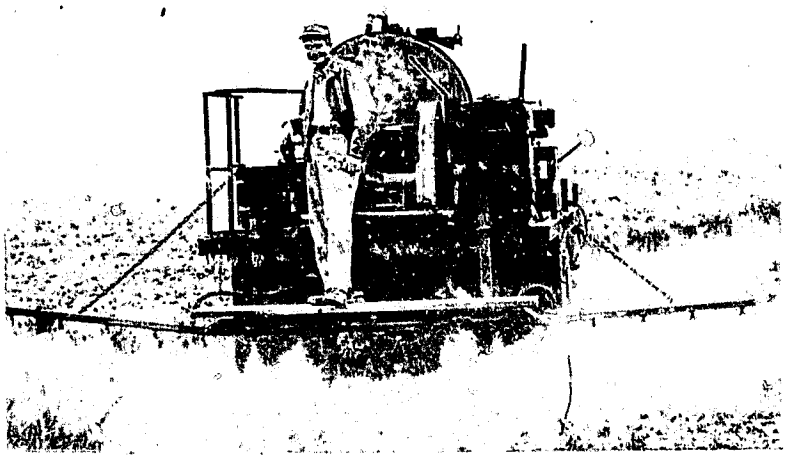
TO: *THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE,*
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
COUNTY OF FRESNO

Gentlemen:

The following is a brief report of the activities of the Fresno County Agricultural Commissioner's office, for the year 1952. The work of this office is handled by divisions headed by Senior Inspectors. A specialist is always in charge of each item of work.

John I. Polson, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner, has direct charge of all the weed, rodent and predatory animal work. Helping Mr. Polson, there are seven permanent men, also seasonal employees. The number of the latter varies with the time of year. In 1950, this division took on additional duties in the Russian Knapweed eradication program which the Supervisors decided to undertake. During 1952, this program was continued and increased. The results were good in places where farmers cooperated to the

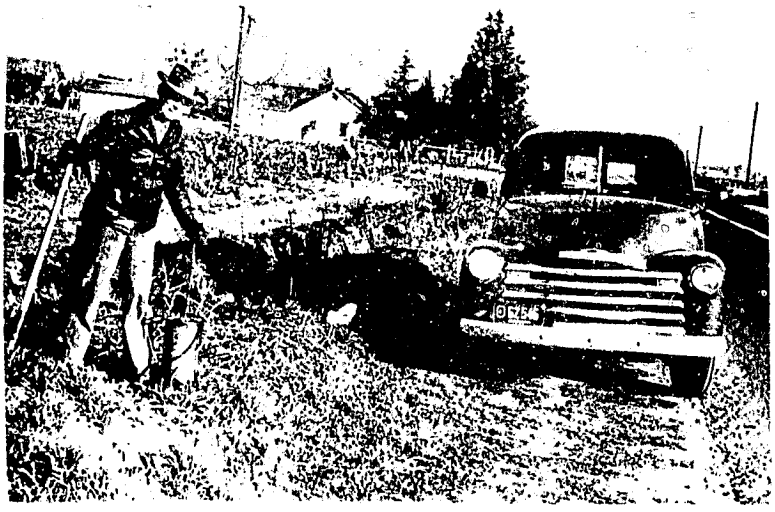


Inspector Eulas Ward, spraying
Russian Knapweed

full extent in the care of their fields after the weedicide had been applied. Rains coming at proper intervals throughout the winter helped our work. The more rain that comes after application, the better the penetration of the chemical, and the better the weed kill. Briefly stated, Fresno County's Russian Knapweed policy is that the County will furnish one-half the cost of the material, and all the cost of application only, from two to ten acres. In this method of approach, the Department hopes to clean up the smaller infestations first. Later, it is hoped we can attack the larger patches. This year, there was included, control work on any and all weeds which have been classed as "Primary noxious weeds" under the State Administrative Code. In this weed work we have used 107,871 pounds of sodium chlorate, 17,502 pounds of Poly-bor chlorate, 36,097 gallons of chlorax liquid, 2,964 pounds of carbon bisulphide and 7,506 gallons of Pentox #2 weed oil, on 152 acres and 382 miles of county roadsides. For puncture vine, we used 24,925 gallons of Pentox #2 weed oil and 330 gallons of Dinitro oil, on 2,228 miles of county roadsides.

In rodent control work, 145,152 acres were treated, using 1,487 baitings of Strychnine, 9,781 baitings of sodium fluro acetate ("1080") poisoned grain, 16,280 pounds of carbon bisulphide, and 94,120 waste balls. Several

properties were treated for rats, using zinc phosphide and warfarin. The Bureau of Reclamation and the Fresno Irrigation District, under our supervision, treated 7,800 acres of ditch banks for the control of gophers.



Weed & Rodent Foreman Thomas Coughlin, Gassing Ground Squirrels

Predatory animal control accounted for the following:

144 coyotes,
57 wildcats,
57 badgers,
81 skunks,
34 raccoons,
14 opossums,
8 bears,
61 sheep killing dogs (west side)
and 86 lamb killing civet foxes,
making a total of 542 animals trapped.

Trapper John Ray with a days catch of coyotes, fox, and bobcats

Standardization work, headed by Senior Inspector Harold Y. Sherwood, assisted by Senior Inspectors Ralph M. Jones and Thomas E. Corn, is the next largest division. They watch and enforce the proper grading of fruits, nuts and vegetables, which are going to market. The Agricultural Code has defined the grades and packs of practically all the fruits, nuts and vegetables being sold, and it is the duty of this Department to make the inspections to see that the law is properly enforced. A total of 2,404 man days were spent in this work. 16,519,187 containers of fruits, nuts and vegetables were inspected during 1952. Of this number, 10,711 containers failed to meet the requirements demanded by the law. There were three citations and one court case. No record was made of the number of times packing was stopped and corrections made in the pack of fruits or vegetables, nor of the number of containers repacked on such occasions. The latter would run into large figures.

Egg inspection work, under the direction of Senior Inspector Russell T. Hatfield, has expanded again this season. There were 533 premises visited, 175,086 dozen eggs were inspected.

Senior Inspector Russell T. Hatfield, Explaining Egg Grades.

The division of Plant Quarantine and Nursery Inspection is under the supervision of Senior Inspector Roy M. Cowan. Inspector Dunnegan of this division, has twice this year inspected each nursery in Fresno County. Whenever disease or insect pests were found, the plants so infested or infected were, under the supervision of the inspectors, treated or destroyed. All plants sent into Fresno County from nurseries in other areas were also inspected. In all, these numbered 3,014,034 plants. All these were individually examined. 5,207 plants were found to be infected or infested, and were either sent back out of the County or were destroyed. All plants, trees, shrubs or vines coming into Fresno County by mail, express, freight or truck were required to be inspected by this department before they were delivered to the consignee. We believe we saw them all. All cars of grain coming from out of State were checked for weed seeds by Inspector Conrad Schilling.

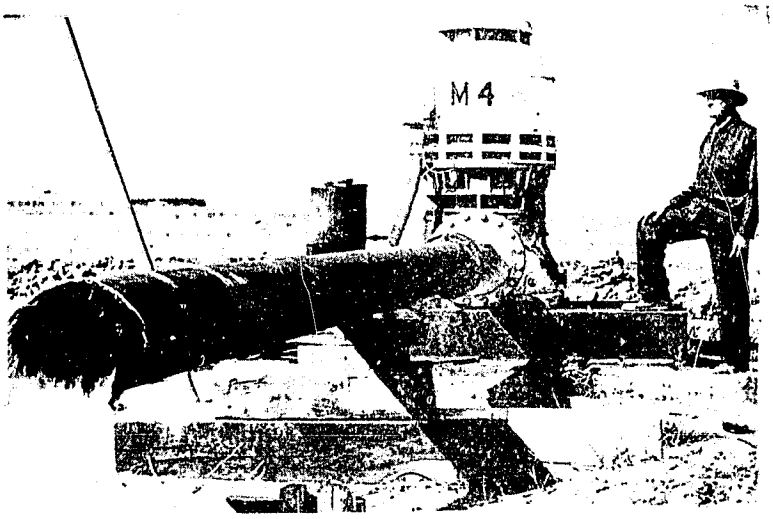
Inspector Conrad Schilling
Inspecting a Nursery

In Fresno County, we have a rapidly growing industry with the growing of seed. It comes within the duties of this Department to do the inspection work in the harvesting of these crops. We must inspect the fields, check the harvesters, inspect the seed after it has been cleaned, in order that the State give a California Crop Improvement Association Certificate. We are reembursed for our expenses in this work. There were 8,042 acres producing 8,577,478 pounds of Certified alfalfa seed, with an FOB value of $2,701,244.00; 337 acres of Certified barley with a production of 1,445,000 pounds and value of $75,822.00; 80 acres of wheat with a production of 91,240 pounds and value of $5,018.00; and 160 acres of milo with a production of 320,000 pounds and value of $14,400.00. Of common field seed (all kinds) there were grown 2,486 acres which produced 2,555,069 pounds, with a value of $366,448.00. 905 acres of vegetable seeds (all kinds) produced 429,391 pounds, with a value of $261,709.00. 50,600 pounds of seed were condemned, to be recleaned. Mr. Cowan enforced the cleaning of 400 tons of barley infested with Russian Knapweed. He also compelled the grinding of 783 tons of seed screenings to a 3/64 inch, in order to destroy the viability of the Russian Knapweed and hoary cress and other noxious weed seeds which it contained.

The bee inspection work is under the direction of Inspector George J. Brown. The bees are far more important to the agriculture of Fresno County than the amount of revenue which they bring directly to the apiarist or that is paid in taxes to the County. If it were not for bees, our crops would go unpollenated, and therefore; the crops could not set. Our seed industry is directly dependent on such pollenization. American Foulbrood disease is the biggest problem that the apiarist has to face. Constant vigil must be maintained in order that this bee disease does not gain a foothold, for it would soon wipe out all the hives of bees in the County. In our inspection work, Inspector William E. Cotton has endeavored to search out and check especially the small back yard apiaries and those which are neglected or abandoned. In Fresno County there are 18,834 colonies of bees. We individually inspected in 1952, 7,932 hives. Of these, we found 186 of them to be diseased with American Foulbrood. These were destroyed, but the wax was saved, as beeswax is one of the war strategic materials which is in short supply. One case of failure to register, also transporting diseased bees, was brought to trial. This resulted in a fine for the violation.

Inspector George J. Brown, searching for American Foulbrood in an apiary

We joined with the State again this year, in bringing up to date the figures on the acreage of all the permanent plantings of trees and vines. This is of great value in arriving at the crop estimation each year. Senior Inspector L.M. Cox is in charge of this work. We continued our pest survey work, also under the direction of Senior Inspector Cox. It is most important that we find new infestations as soon as possible. We have surveyed the citrus orchards and all the small plantings within three or four miles, looking for Red and Yellow Scale. Both these pests are threatening the citrus industry in all parts of the State. Again we made a survey for Pink Bollworm throughout the County. We found no evidence of it. We took samples of 100 bolls each on every square mile of cotton in the County. Also with the aid of a Federal gin trash machine and some State help, we examined much trash from gins throughout



Inspector Lanford, gathering crop statistics, stops by big pump

Inspector Bedford, checking citrus trees for Red and Yellow Scale

the County. A few gins were constructed so that suitable trash could not be obtained. We have promise that improved conditions will be facilitated in obtaining trash from all gins next year. At the request of the State Department of Agriculture, this County made a survey of all the peach trees, inspecting for Yellow Leaf Roll, Western-X and other virus peach diseases. We found none. Our trapping survey for Oriental Fruit Fly continued this year. This also was negative. A recheck for Citrus Whitefly showed that the spray work done by the State had been successful. No Citrus Whitefly was found.

Pest control work, also under Senior Inspector Cox, has been very active. It is mandatory that any applications of 2,4-D, 2,4,5-T, Parathion, Arsenicals in dust form, EPN, Systox or OMPA, or TEPP (when applied by thermal aerosol), may be applied only when a permit has been granted by this office after our examination of the premises. We made 720 such examinations, refusing 3, and granting 717.

Senior Inspector Cox, writing permits for application of pesticides by aircraft

Commercial pest control operators, working under our inspection, applied the following:

1,500 pounds	containing	Aldrin
245,633 pounds	"	Toxaphene, Chlordane compounds
49,020,022 pounds	"	Sulphur
59,390,000 pounds	"	DDT, Lindane, BHC and other Chlor-Hydros
232,089 pounds	"	TEPP and HETP
906,075 pounds	"	Parathion
504,880 gallons	"	Systox
6,934,000 pounds	"	Other miticides
17,626 gallons	"	2,4-D
127,701 gallons	"	Oil
638,606 pounds	"	Coppers
61,733 pounds	"	Lead
2,668,480 pounds	"	Defoliant

The above figures include the addition of proper materials necessary for applications.

Eleven wineries used the sugar point method of buying grapes. In each case, we furnished an inspector. These inspectors made tests on 246,500 tons of grapes. Winery inspection work was under the supervision of Senior Inspector Russell T. Hatfield.

The figures given in this report have been gathered from sources which we believe to be the best obtainable. Also we believe them to be as accurate as such figures can be reasonably expected. In every case, we have gone to more than one source, often to from five to six sources, before we determined on a statement. The sources for each statement have been recorded and are on file.

There are three ways of gathering crop reporting data:

1. To ask each and every person how much they produced of every commodity. This is the way the Federal census is taken. Too often these figures are given distorted for fear that the data given will be reflected in the income tax or County tax. Often the grower only has a vague memory of what he produced months before.
2. Another way to get a crop report is to take the known acreage of each commodity, then to multiply these figures by a determined percent of crop, which has been thought to represent the condition of the crop for that year. The State Crop Reporting Service uses this method. Its weakness is in the fact that the condition of the crop which is used, if it be off a small part of one percent, will make a large difference in the report results.
3. The third, and the one which we believe to be the most accurate way of obtaining a crop report, is to go to every packing house, every processing company, every cotton gin and every dealer and obtain their figures of the amount which they marketed. We check this against our inspection records. These figures as to production are then multiplied by the amount which the commodity brought to the farmer at the car door, here in Fresno.

To the many friends who helped us with this report, we wish to express our thanks.

Fresno has grown during the years gone by. Each year sees more and more land come under cultivation. This year, 53,740 acres of new land have been added to our cultivated area. Most of this new land has been growth on our "West Side". With this growth has come increased revenue to Fresno County. Our records show:

1942.....	$ 88,545,544.00
1943.....	127,719,086.00
1944.....	144,932,101.00
1945.....	142,455,593.00
1946.....	188,519,304.00
1947.....	165,446,034.00
1948.....	209,911,487.00
1949.....	223,733,963.00
1950.....	285,169,167.00
1951.....	325,579,150.00
1952.....	~~351,646,317.00~~ 349,903,721.00

Respectfully submitted,

John Wardle Dixon

JOHN WARDLE DIXON,
Agricultural Commissioner.

JWD/id

1952 ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR FRESNO COUNTY
CROP ACREAGE - PRODUCTION AND VALUE
Compiled by
THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS' STAFF

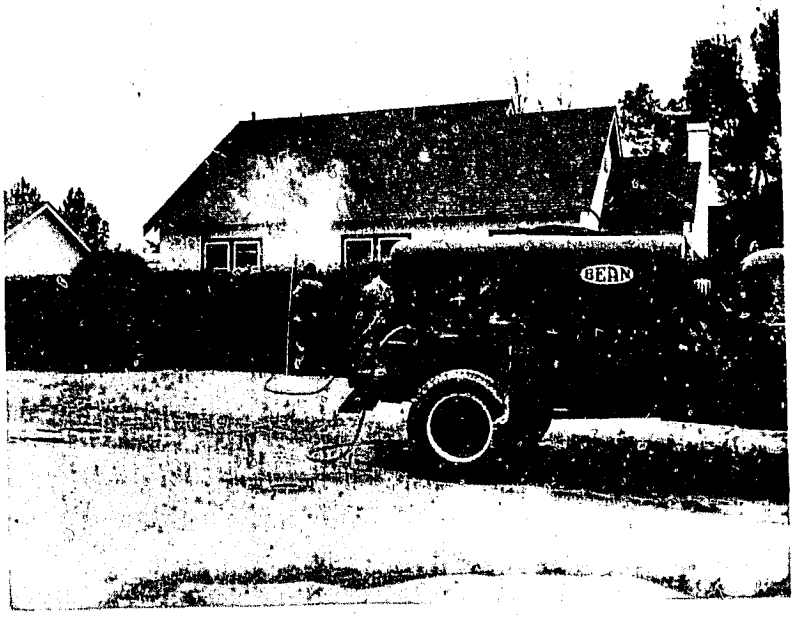
CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	F. O. B. VALUE
DECIDUOUS FRUITS & NUTS			
Apples	142	14,800 bxs.	$ 44,400.00
Apricots	817		
Dry		180 ton	162,000.00
Fresh		2,633 lug	5,266.00
Berries - bush	280	1,120 ton	403,200.00
Citrus	3,275	720,500 bxs.	1,801,250.00
Figs	16,200		
Dry		12,670 ton	1,900,500.00
Fresh		5,500 flats	11,000.00
Nectarines	846	288,778 lugs	960,868.00
Olives	1,021		
Pickled		2,600 ton	182,000.00
Oil		91,800 gals.	252,450.00
Peaches			
Clingstone	470	5,640 ton	310,200.00
Freestone	7,239		
Canning		3,950 ton	197,500.00
Dry		1,780 ton	676,400.00
Fresh		3,736,309 lugs	4,819,176.00
Persimmons	49	20,642 lugs	41,284.00
Pomegranates	168	46,888 lugs	117,220.00
Plums	3,140	535,615 lugs	2,088,898.00
Prunes - Dry	289	185 ton	40,700.00
Almonds	826	~~2,801 tons~~ 560 Ton	~~1,417,306.00~~ 283,360.00
Pecans	24	37,300 lbs.	6,341.00
Pistacchio	12	2,400 lbs.	480.00
Walnuts	1,402	~~2,486 ton~~ 841 Ton	~~919,820.00~~ 311,170.00
TOTAL.			~~$16,358,259.00~~ 14,615,663.00
GRAPES			
Raisin varieties	132,785		
Crush		125,474 ton	$ 2,823,165.00
Dry		185,735 ton	29,717,600.00
Fresh		2,819,713 lugs	6,344,354.00
Wine varieties	10,970		
Crush		117,177 ton	2,636,483.00
Fresh		1,162,980 lugs	1,860,768.00
Table varieties	15,976		
Crush		97,675 ton	1,758,150.00
Fresh		3,562,961 lugs	9,263,699.00
TOTAL.			$54,404,219.00

TRUCK CROPS

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	F. O. B. VALUE
Beans - snap	75	16,250 hmprs.	$ 58,500.00
Beans - Fava	60	6,006 "	15,315.00
Broccoli	450	3,400,000 "	238,000.00
Carrots	280	70,000	227,500.00
Cantaloupes	13,600	1,922,634 J. crt.	6,665,948.00
Cauliflower	45	20,250 P. crt.	30,375.00
Celery	40	7,284 S. crt.	18,210.00
Casaba Melons	20	10,035 flat	22,579.00
Corn - sweet	100	16,000 crt.	40,000.00
Cucumbers	150	90,750 lugs	204,187.00
Garlic	60	9,920-70# bags	104,160.00
Honey dew melons	62	37,265 flats	74,530.00
Lettuce			
Spring	893	145,680 crts.	466,176.00
Fall	200	25,985 crt.	72,758.00
Onions			
Early	45	18,225 bag	33,716.00
Green	100	400,000 doz.	180,000.00
Late	30	15,000-50# bags	33,000.00
Peas	140	64,539 hmprs.	129,078.00
Persian melons	440	264,380 flats	674,169.00
Peppers - Bell	60	26,000 crts.	52,000.00
Peppers - Fresno - chili	190	197,600 lugs	359,200.00
Potatoes	3,400	960,793 sks.-100#	3,843,172.00
Potatoes - sweet	410	122,450 hmprs.	489,812.00
For seed		4,500-100# sks.	22,500.00
Romain lettuce	105	21,000 crts.	26,250.00
Spinach	75	28,000 crts.	58,800.00
Strawberries	250		
Fresh		155,125 crts.-12 bskt.	407,325.00
Processed		900,995 lbs.	189,209.00
Taro	24	60,000 lugs	420,000.00
"		7,200-100# sks.	50,400.00
Tomatoes	300	200,000 lugs	452,239.00
Watermelons	1,120	13,440 ton	537,600.00
Misc. Vegetables	1,000		750,000.00
TOTAL.			$16,946,708.00

FIELD CROPS

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE
Alfalfa	123,001	738,006	tons	$ 22,140,180.00
Barley	489,921	17,637,156	100# sks.	55,027,927.00
Castor Beans	800	960,000	pounds	100,320.00
Cotton	358,000	501,200	Bales	85,204,000.00
Cotton seed		192,974	Tons	12,736,284.00
Linters		40,138,592	Pounds	2,809,701.00
Grain				
Hay	16,474	24,706	Tons	617,650.00
Stubble	48,992			61,240.00
Milo	2,400	60,000	100# sks.	210,000.00
Pasture				
Range	1,766,600			2,208,250.00
Permanent	62,344			2,680,792.00
Rice	20,000	800,000	100# sks.	4,480,000.00
Safflower	3,200	310	Tons	30,225.00
Sugar Beets	900	21,150	Tons	268,605.00
Wheat	26,919	619,137	100# sks.	2,321,764.00
TOTAL.				$190,896,938.00



. Spraying for Citrus White Fly

NURSERY STOCK AND PRODUCTION

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	F. O. B. VALUE
CERTIFIED FIELD CROP SEED			
Alfalfa			
Buffalo	2,109	1,998,958 lbs.	$ 799,583.00
Ranger	5,710	4,606,013 lbs.	1,842,405.00
Calif. Comm. # 49	60	27,414 lbs.	10,965.00
Caliverde	117	55,384 lbs.	33,230.00
Atlantic	46	33,469 lbs.	15,061.00
Barley			
Calif. Mariout	337	1,445,000 lbs.	75,862.00
Wheat			
Ramona # 44	80	91,240 lbs.	5,018.00
Milo			
Double Dwarf	160	320,000 lbs.	14,400.00
TOTAL.			$2,796,524.00
COMMON FIELD CROP SEED			
Alfalfa	2,206	1,323,600 lbs.	$ 304,428.00
Canadian Field Peas	80	129,500 lbs.	4,532.00
Melilotus		431,969 lbs.	21,598.00
Purple Vetch		280,000 lbs.	14,000.00
Sunflowers	20	40,000 lbs.	8,400.00
Sudan	20	30,000 lbs.	1,650.00
Milo	160	320,000 lbs.	11,840.00
TOTAL.			$ 366,448.00
COMMON VEGETABLE SEED			
Carrots	81	29,979 lbs.	$ 11,992.00
Corriander	25	45,000 lbs.	3,600.00
Dill	15	32,000 lbs.	4,800.00
Mustard	19	13,300 lbs.	1,995.00
Onion	67 3/4	47,998 lbs.	33,599.00
Lettuce			
Head	170	42,500 lbs.	46,750.00
Loose Leaf	94	37,600 lbs.	16,920.00
Misc. varieties	412	166,866 lbs.	137,552.00
Parsnips	10	9,000 lbs.	2,700.00
Peas	6	2,423 lbs.	848.00
Sweet Corn	6	2,725 lbs.	953.00
TOTAL.			$ 261,709.00

NURSERY STOCK	PRODUCTION	UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE
Grape Vines	326,000	Rootings	$ 15,070.00
Fruit Trees			
Deciduous	30,249	Rootings	11,952.00
Citrus	8,000	Rootings	20,000.00
TOTAL.			$ 47,022.00
Bulbs & rhizones			
Gladiolus bulbs	56,000		$ 1,680.00
Dahlia tubers	200		100.00
Iris rhizones	8,400		2,100.00
Chrysanthemum	250	Rootings	62.00
TOTAL.			$ 3,942.00
Bedding Plants			
Pansies (full grown)	250,000	Plants	$ 5,000.00
Cut flowers			
Gladiolus	8,000	Doz.	6,000.00
Chrysanthemums	6,000	Doz.	3,000.00
Orchids	300		450.00
Dahlias	40,000		1,200.00
TOTAL.			$ 15,650.00
Vegetable plants	18,000	Flats	$ 27,000.00
Ornamentals	60,000		12,000.00
Ramie roots	28,500		570.00
Miscellaneous	25,000		25,000.00
TOTAL.			$ 64,570.00
TOTAL NURSERY STOCK.			$131,184.00

	NO. BREEDING STOCK	POUNDS PROD.	DOZEN PROD.	F. O. B. VALUE
LIVE STOCK				
Beef cattle & calves	128,304	71,208,720		$ 18,514,267.00
Milk cows & two year old heifers	46,900	22,000,000		5,280,000.00
Butter fat & milk		8,788,000		10,985,000.00
Hogs	21,800	39,240,000		7,455,600.00
Sheep & lambs	180,441	16,239,690		4,222,319.00
Wool		1,623,969		974,381.00
Rabbits	3,224	309,504		83,566.00
TOTAL.				$ 47,515,133.00
POULTRY				
Hens		4,485,872		$ 897,174.00
Fryers & roasters		10,928,442		3,059,963.00
Eggs				
Consumers (sold for food)			15,074,365	6,632,720.00
Hatchery			368,426	294,740.00
Baby chicks	3,864,240			618,278.00
Turkeys		23,793,600		7,376,016.00
Turkey hatch eggs			286,420	773,334.00
Poults	3,438,040			2,062,824.00
TOTAL.				$ 21,715,049.00

	COLONIES	PRODUCTION	UNIT	F. O. B. VALUE
APIARY				
Bees	21,602			
Alfalfa Pollenation	12,040			$ 64,400.00
Plum, Almond & Melon Pollenation	1,100			1,700.00
Honey production		1,684,000 lbs.		176,820.00
Wax production		28,066 lbs.		11,226.00
TOTAL.				$ 254,146.00

RECAPITULATION

DECIDUOUS FRUITS AND NUTS	$ ~~16,358,259.00~~ 14,615,663.00
GRAPES	54,404,219.00
TRUCK CROPS	16,946,708.00
FIELD CROPS	190,896,938.00
CERTIFIED FIELD CROP SEED	2,796,524.00
COMMON FIELD CROP SEED	366,448.00
COMMON VEGETABLE SEED	261,709.00
NURSERY STOCK	131,184.00
LIVESTOCK	47,515,133.00
POULTRY	21,715,049.00
APIARY	254,146.00

TOTAL 1952 FRESNO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL VALUE REPORT... ~~$351,646,317.00~~ 349,903,721.00

Office staff: Irene Douglas and Lucille Smith
Proof reading Annual Report

1953

AGRICULTURAL FRESNO

1953

John Wardle Dixon
Agricultural Commissioner

FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

JOHN WARDLE DIXON
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

****

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR
ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1953

****

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

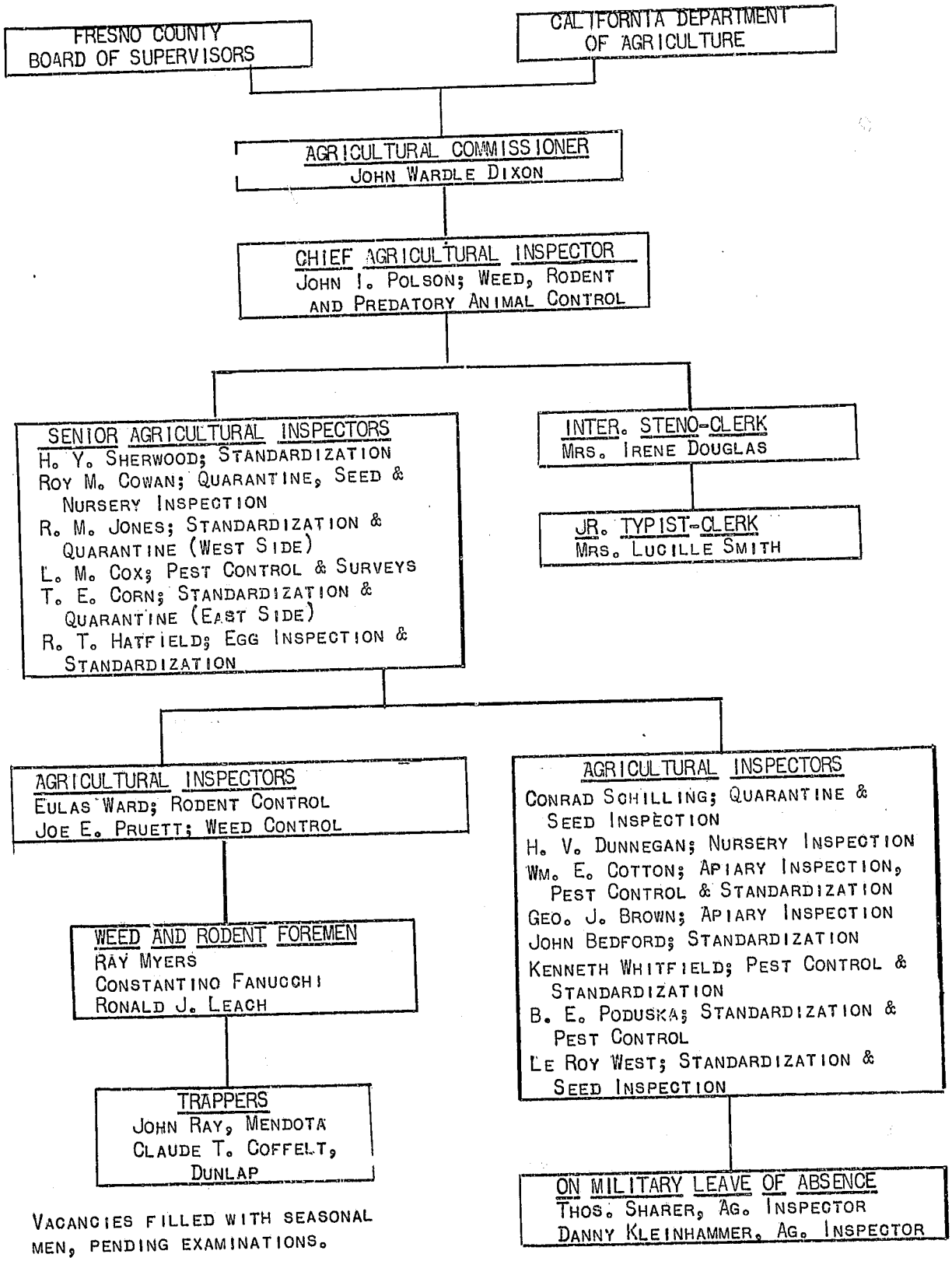
SIDNEY L. CRUFF, DISTRICT 4, CHAIRMAN

GEORGE E. MALM,	DISTRICT 1	NORMAN S. FOLEY,	DISTRICT 2
RUTTER ARMEY,	DISTRICT 3	LEW W. CLARK,	DISTRICT 5

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
CONRAD SCHILLING

PICTURE ON FRONT COVER
A VINEYARD AT HARVEST TIME
FEATURING PATSY SCHILLING

FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER



VACANCIES FILLED WITH SEASONAL MEN, PENDING EXAMINATIONS.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 1, OF THE AGRICULTURAL CODE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ARTICLE 1 - COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

SECTION 50 - COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - THERE SHALL BE THE OFFICE OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER IN EACH COUNTY. SUCH COMMISSIONER SHALL BE IN CHARGE OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

SECTION 65 - RECORDS - THE COMMISSIONER SHALL KEEP A RECORD OF HIS OFFICIAL ACTS AND MAKE AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE ON THE CONDITION OF THE AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS IN HIS COUNTY AS TO WHAT IS BEING DONE TO ERADICATE OR TO CONTROL OR TO DESTROY PESTS AND ALSO AS TO QUARANTINE AGAINST PESTS, AND SHALL FURNISH FROM TIME TO TIME TO THE DIRECTOR SUCH INFORMATION AS HE MAY REQUIRE.

SECTION 65 - REPORT - THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ALSO MAKE A MONTHLY REPORT TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IF AND WHEN SO REQUIRED BY SAID BOARD.

SECTION 65.5 - STATISTICS - THE COMMISSIONER SHALL COMPILE REPORTS OF THE CONDITION, ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS IN HIS COUNTY. THE COMMISSIONER MAY PUBLISH SUCH REPORTS AND SHALL TRANSMIT A COPY THEREOF TO THE DIRECTOR.

TO: THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF FRESNO

GENTLEMEN:

THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FRESNO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, FOR THE YEAR 1953. THE WORK OF THIS OFFICE IS HANDLED BY DIVISIONS HEADED BY SENIOR INSPECTORS. A SPECIALIST IS ALWAYS IN CHARGE OF EACH ITEM OF WORK.

JOHN I. POLSON, DEPUTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER HAS DIRECT CHARGE OF ALL THE WEED, RODENT AND PREDATORY ANIMAL WORK. HELPING MR. POLSON, THERE ARE SEVEN PERMANENT MEN, ALSO SEASONAL EMPLOYEES. THE NUMBER OF THE LATTER VARIES WITH THE TIME OF YEAR. IN 1950 THIS DIVISION TOOK ON THE ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF AN ERADICATION PROGRAM FOR THE EVENTUAL ERADICATION OF RUSSIAN KNAPWEED. IN 1951, THIS WAS ENLARGED TO ALL VARIETIES OF WEEDS, SPECIFIED IN THE AGRICULTURAL ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AS BEING "PRIMARY NOXIOUS WEEDS". EACH YEAR THE WEED WORK HAS INCREASED, AND THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN GOOD, ESPECIALLY

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER POLSON INSPECTING A PLOT STERILIZED WITH C.M.U.

IN THOSE FIELDS WHERE THE FARMERS COOPERATED TO THE FULL EXTENT IN THE CARE OF THEIR FIELDS AFTER THE WEEDICIDES HAD BEEN APPLIED. RAINS CAME AT OPPORTUNE TIMES THROUGHOUT THE WINTER. THIS HELPED OUR WORK. THE MORE RAIN THAT COMES AFTER THE APPLICATION, THE BETTER THE PENETRATION OF THE CHEMICALS AND THE BETTER THE KILL. BRIEFLY STATED, FRESNO COUNTY'S PRIMARY NOXIOUS WEED POLICY IS THAT THE COUNTY WILL FURNISH ONE-HALF OF THE COST OF THE MATERIAL AND ALL THE COST OF THE APPLICATION, ON PLOTS UP TO TWO ACRES, AND THE COST OF APPLICATION ONLY ON PLOTS OF FROM TWO TO TEN ACRES. BY THIS METHOD OF APPROACH THE DEPARTMENT HOPES TO CLEAN UP THE SMALLER INFESTATIONS FIRST. LATER IT IS HOPED WE CAN ATTACK THE LARGER PATCHES. IN THIS WEED WORK, WE HAVE USED 538,922 POUNDS OF SODIUM CHLORATE, 5,700 POUNDS OF POLY-BOR CHLORATE, 20,735 GALLONS OF CHLORAX LIQUID, 26,170 POUNDS OF CARBON BISULPHIDE AND 20,613 GALLONS OF WEED OIL ON 470 ACRES AND 416.4 MILES OF COUNTY ROADSIDES. FOR PUNCTURE VINE WE USED 1,480 GALLONS OF WEED OIL AND 20 GALLONS OF DINITRO ON 214 MILES OF COUNTY ROADSIDES. AN ADDITIONAL METHOD OF WEED CONTROL WHICH SEEMS TO GIVE PROMISE IN LOCATIONS WHERE WATER IS EASILY AVAILABLE IS THE PLANTING OF RICE ON THE INFESTED PATCHES. THE INUNDATION NECESSARY FOR THE GROWING OF RICE ROTS THE DEEP SEATED ROOT SYSTEMS OF KNAPWEED, MORNING GLORY, ETC. THE USE OF 2,4-D HAS PROVEN A VALUABLE MATERIAL FOR THE CONTROL OF ANNUAL WEEDS BUT THE RESULTS IN ITS USE FOR SUCH WEEDS AS RUSSIAN KNAPWEED, MORNING GLORY, ETC. HAVE LEFT MUCH TO BE DESIRED.

In rodent control work, 179,710 acres were treated with poison grain, using 1,593 pounds of baitings of strychnine, 13,067 pounds of baitings of sodium fluro acetate ("1080"), 135 pounds of baitings using zing phosphide, 12,541 pounds of carbon bisulphide and 56,380 waste balls. 51 properties were treated for rats, using 28 pounds of zinc phosphide baitings and 169½ pounds of warfarin. The U. S. Bureau of Reclamation and the irrigation districts under our supervision, treated 30 miles of ditch banks for the control of ground squirrels. At the request of the State Health Department, we entered into a working agreement to reduce rodents in the resort areas where these rodents had been found to be infected with rodent borne human diseases. In this work we used 6,050 pounds of warfarin.

Weed & Rodent Foreman Leach mixing poison baits for Rodent Control

Predatory animal control accounted for the following:

177 coyotes,
47 wildcats,
60 badgers,
102 skunks,
12 raccoons,
7 opposums,

A big wildcat which was caught by Trapper Coffelt, father of Larry, age 8 and Bonnie, age 7

107 SHEEP KILLING DOGS, AND 156 LAMB KILLING CIVET FOXES; MAKING A TOTAL OF 668 ANIMALS TRAPPED.

STANDARDIZATION WORK, HEADED BY SENIOR INSPECTOR HAROLD Y. SHERWOOD, ASSISTED BY SENIOR INSPECTORS RALPH M. JONES AND THOMAS E. CORN, IS THE NEXT LARGEST DIVISION. THEY WATCH AND ENFORCE THE PROPER GRADING OF FRUITS, NUTS AND VEGETABLES, WHICH ARE GOING TO MARKET. THE AGRICULTURAL CODE HAD DEFINED THE GRADES AND PACKS OF PRACTICALLY ALL THE FRUITS, NUTS AND VEGETABLES BEING SOLD, AND IT IS THE DUTY OF THIS DEPARTMENT TO MAKE THE INSPECTIONS TO SEE THAT THE LAW IS PROPERLY ENFORCED. A TOTAL OF 1,880 MAN DAYS WERE SPENT IN THIS WORK. 11,740,616 CONTAINERS OF FRUITS, NUTS AND VEGETABLES WERE INSPECTED DURING 1953.

INSPECTOR WHITFIELD MAKING ORANGE MATURITY TESTS

OF THIS NUMBER, 43,084 CONTAINERS FAILED TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS DEMANDED BY THE LAW. THERE WERE 2 CITATIONS AND 2 COURT CASES. NO RECORD WAS MADE OF THE NUMBER OF TIMES PACKING WAS STOPPED AND CORRECTIONS MADE IN THE PACK OF FRUITS OR VEGETABLES, NOR OF THE NUMBER OF CONTAINERS REPACKED ON SUCH OCCASIONS. THE LATTER WOULD RUN INTO LARGE FIGURES. THE AGRICULTURAL CODE DELEGATES THE DUTY OF INSPECTING ALL WINE GRAPES THAT ARE PURCHASED BY SUGAR CONTENT TO OUR DEPARTMENT. THIS ENTAILS A HEAVY AND AN EXACTING DUTY, AS

WE MUST MAKE A TEST OF EVERY LOAD THAT COMES INTO EVERY WINERY, EXCEPT COOPERATIVES, WHICH PURCHASES UNDER THIS SYSTEM. DURING 1953, WE INSPECTED 23,922 LOADS. THE INDUSTRY PAYS BACK TO THE COUNTY THE COST OF THIS WORK. SENIOR INSPECTOR RUSSELL T. HATFIELD HAS CHARGE OF THIS WORK. EGG INSPECTION WORK, ALSO UNDER THE DIRECTION OF SENIOR INSPECTOR HATFIELD, HAS EXPANDED AGAIN THIS SEASON. THERE WERE 880 PREMISES VISITED, 187,687 DOZEN EGGS WERE INSPECTED.

INSPECTOR PODUSKA TAKING GRAPE SAMPLE AT A WINERY. NOTICE THE MANY TRUCKS WAITING FOR INSPECTION.

THE DIVISION OF PLANT QUARANTINE AND NURSERY INSPECTION IS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF SENIOR INSPECTOR ROY M. COWAN. INSPECTOR H. V. DUNNEGAN OF THIS DIVISION, HAS TWICE THIS YEAR INSPECTED EACH NURSERY IN FRESNO COUNTY. WHENEVER DISEASE OR INSECT PESTS WERE FOUND, THE PLANTS SO INFESTED OR INFECTED WERE, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE INSPECTORS, TREATED OR DESTROYED. ALL PLANTS SENT INTO FRESNO COUNTY FROM NURSERIES IN OTHER AREAS WERE ALSO INSPECTED. IN ALL, THESE NUMBERED 2,801,304 PLANTS. ALL THESE WERE INDIVIDUALLY EXAMINED. 1,212 PLANTS WERE FOUND TO BE INFECTED OR INFESTED,

SENIOR INSPECTOR CORN INSPECTING NURSERY STOCK

AND WERE EITHER SENT BACK OUT OF THE COUNTY OR WERE DESTROYED. ALL PLANTS, TREES, SHRUBS OR VINES COMING INTO FRESNO COUNTY BY MAIL, EXPRESS, FREIGHT OR TRUCK WERE REQUIRED TO BE INSPECTED BY THIS DEPARTMENT BEFORE THEY WERE DELIVERED TO THE CONSIGNEE. WE BELIEVE WE SAW THEM ALL. ALL CARS OF GRAIN COMING FROM OUT OF STATE WERE CHECKED FOR WEED SEEDS BY INSPECTOR CONRAD SCHILLING.

IN FRESNO COUNTY, WE HAVE A RAPIDLY GROWING INDUSTRY WITH THE GROWING OF SEED. IT COMES WITHIN THE DUTIES OF THIS DEPARTMENT TO DO THE INSPECTION WORK IN THE HARVESTING OF THESE CROPS. WE MUST INSPECT THE FIELDS, CHECK THE HARVESTERS, INSPECT THE SEED AFTER IT HAS BEEN CLEANED, IN ORDER THAT THE STATE GIVE A CALIFORNIA CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION CERTIFICATE. WE ARE REIMBURSED FOR OUR EXPENSES IN THIS WORK. THERE WERE 13,656 ACRES PRODUCING 8,804,553 POUNDS OF CERTIFIED ALFALFA SEED, WITH AN FOB VALUE OF $2,436,014; 966 ACRES OF CERTIFIED BARLEY WITH A PRODUCTION OF 1,684,762 POUNDS AND VALUE OF $58,966.00; 1,046 ACRES OF COWPEAS WITH A PRODUCTION OF 664,495 POUNDS AND VALUE OF $66,449.00; AND 100 ACRES OF SUDAN GRASS WITH A PRODUCTION OF 166,495 POUNDS AND A VALUE OF $13,304.00. OF COMMON FIELD SEED (ALL KINDS) THERE WERE GROWN 3,170 ACRES WHICH PRODUCED 4,210,900 POUNDS, WITH A VALUE OF $317,176.00. 1,087 ACRES

SENIOR INSPECTOR COWAN INSPECTING SEED IN A WAREHOUSE

OF VEGETABLE SEEDS (ALL KINDS) PRODUCED 474,084 POUNDS, WITH A VALUE OF $257,695.00. 240,000 POUNDS OF SEED WERE CONDEMNED, TO BE RECLEANED. MR. COWAN ENFORCED THE CLEANING OF 1,200,000 POUNDS OF BARLEY INFESTED WITH RUSSIAN KNAPWEED. HE ALSO COMPELLED THE GRINDING OF 667 TONS OF SEED SCREENINGS TO A 3/64 INCH, IN ORDER TO DESTROY THE VIABILITY OF THE RUSSIAN KNAPWEED, HOARY CRESS AND OTHER NOXIOUS WEED SEEDS WHICH IT CONTAINED. WITH THE HARVESTING OF OUR GRAIN CROP THERE COMES THE PROBLEM OF KEEPING THE GRAIN FREE FROM THE SEED OF THE WEEDS WHICH WE ARE TRYING TO ERADICATE. SENIOR INSPECTOR COWAN, WITH THE HELP OF INSPECTORS LE ROY WEST AND BERNARD PODUSKA, HAS SEARCHED OUT THE WEED INFESTED SPOTS, AND THEY HAVE SEEN THAT HARVESTING MACHINES WERE CLEANED BEFORE GOING TO CLEAN FARMS, AND THAT THE INFESTED GRAIN WAS CLEANED OF WEED SEEDS BEFORE IT WENT TO MARKET. WE HAD ONE CONVICTION THIS YEAR IN THE FIREBAUGH COURT OF A MAN WHO FAILED TO CLEAN A HARVESTER BEFORE GOING INTO A CLEAN FIELD.

BEE INSPECTION WORK IS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF INSPECTORS GEORGE J. BROWN AND WM. E. COTTON. THE BEES ARE FAR MORE IMPORTANT TO THE AGRICULTURE OF FRESNO COUNTY THAN THE AMOUNT OF REVENUE WHICH THEY BRING DIRECTLY TO THE APIARIST OR THAT IS PAID IN TAXES TO THE COUNTY. IF IT WERE NOT FOR BEES, OUR CROPS WOULD GO UNPOLLENATED, AND THEREFORE, THE CROPS COULD NOT SET. OUR SEED INDUSTRY IS DIRECTLY DEPENDENT ON

INSPECTOR WEST INSPECTING BROOD FRAME FOR FOUL BROOD DISEASE

SUCH POLLENIZATION. AMERICAN FOULBROOD DISEASE IS THE BIGGEST PROBLEM THAT THE APIARIST HAS TO FACE. CONSTANT VIGIL MUST BE MAINTAINED IN ORDER THAT THIS BEE DISEASE DOES NOT GAIN A FOOTHOLD, FOR IT WOULD SOON WIPE OUT ALL THE HIVES OF BEES IN THE COUNTY. IN OUR INSPECTION WORK MR. COTTON HAS ENDEAVORED TO SEARCH OUT AND CHECK THE APIARIES WHICH ARE BROUGHT INTO FRESNO FOR ALFALFA SEED POLLENATION. THE FACT THAT THE BEE MEN ARE PAID FOR THIS SERVICE AT A SPECIFIED PRICE PER HIVE, CAUSED MANY WEAK AND DISEASED HIVES OF BEES TO BE OFFERED FOR THIS SERVICE. OUR INSPECTION IN 1953 STRESSED THE INSPECTION OF THESE APIARIES. THERE WERE 20,719 COLONIES OF BEES IN THE COUNTY. WE INDIVIDUALLY INSPECTED IN 1953, 7,384 HIVES. OF THESE, WE FOUND 383 HIVES TO BE DISEASED WITH AMERICAN FOULBROOD. THESE WERE DESTROYED BY BURNING.

WE SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME IN 1953, IN BRINGING UP TO DATE THE FIGURES ON THE ACREAGE OF ALL THE PERMANENT PLANTINGS OF TREES AND VINES. OUR RECORDS SHOW THE PLANTINGS OF EACH INDIVIDUAL FARMER AND THE AGE OF HIS PLANTINGS. THIS IS OF GREAT VALUE IN ARRIVING AT THE CROP ESTIMATION EACH YEAR. SENIOR INSPECTOR L. M. COX IS IN CHARGE OF THIS WORK. WE CONTINUED OUR PEST SURVEY WORK, ALSO UNDER THE DIRECTION OF SENIOR INSPECTOR. COX. IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT WE FIND NEW INFESTATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE HAVE SURVEYED THE CITRUS ORCHARDS AND ALL THE SMALL PLANTINGS WITHIN THREE OR FOUR MILES, LOOKING FOR RED AND YELLOW SCALE. BOTH THESE PESTS ARE THREATENING THE CITRUS INDUSTRY IN ALL PARTS OF THE STATE. AGAIN WE MADE A SURVEY FOR PINK

BOLLWORM THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY. WE FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF IT. WE TOOK SAMPLES OF 50 BOLLS EACH ON EVERY SQUARE MILE OF COTTON IN THE COUNTY. ALSO WITH THE AID OF A FEDERAL GIN TRASH MACHINE AND SOME STATE HELP, WE EXAMINED MUCH TRASH FROM GINS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY. ANGULAR LEAF SPOT SHOWED A BIG INCREASE IN 1953, OVER WHAT IT HAD BEEN IN 1951 AND 1952. A SURVEY WAS MADE BY THIS DEPARTMENT. WE FOUND 22 INFESTED FIELDS, ALL OF WHICH WERE UNDER SPRINKLER IRRIGATION. WE QUARANTINED THESE FIELDS, SEEING THAT THE COTTON PICKING MACHINES AND COTTON TRAILERS WERE THOROUGHLY CLEANED OF INFECTED MATERIAL BEFORE THEY WERE MOVED TO CLEAN FIELDS, ALSO THAT THE TRASH FROM THE GINNING OF THIS COTTON BE KEPT FROM GOING BACK TO THE LAND THAT WAS TO BE PLANTED IN 1954 TO COTTON. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED BY HAVING THE TRASH BURNED. OUR TRAPPING SURVEY FOR ORIENTAL FRUIT FLY CONTINUED THIS YEAR. THIS AGAIN WAS NEGATIVE. A RECHECK FOR CITRUS WHITEFLY SHOWED THAT THE SPRAY WORK DONE BY THE STATE HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL. NO CITRUS WHITEFLY WAS FOUND.

INSPECTING COTTON BOLLS FOR PINK BOLL WORM

PEST CONTROL WORK, ALSO UNDER THE DIRECTION OF SENIOR INSPECTOR COX, HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE. IT IS MANDATORY THAT ANY APPLICATIONS OF 2,4-D, 2,4,5-T, PARATHION, ARSENICALS IN DUST FORM,

EPN, SYSTOX OF OMPA, OR TEPP (WHEN APPLIED BY THERMAL AEROSOL), MAY BE APPLIED ONLY WHEN A PERMIT HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THIS OFFICE AFTER OUR EXAMINATION OF THE PREMISES. WE MADE 624 SUCH EXAMINATIONS, REFUSING 9 AND GRANTING 615.

INSPECTORS WARD AND HUTCHINSON SPRAYING TREES ON COUNTY PROPERTY.

COMMERCIAL PEST CONTROL OPERATORS AND FARMERS USING THEIR OWN EQUIPMENT, WORKING UNDER OUR INSPECTION, APPLIED THE FOLLOWING:

2,010	POUNDS	CONTAINING	ALDRIN & DIELDRIN
110,535	POUNDS	"	TOXAPHENE & CHLORDANE COMPOUNDS
46,579,021	POUNDS	"	SULPHUR
44,542,500	POUNDS	"	DDT, LINDANE, BHC & OTHER CHLOR-HYDROS
116,045	POUNDS	"	TEPP & HETP
679,557	POUNDS	"	PARATHION
266,480	GALLONS	"	SYSTOX & OMPA
850,000	POUNDS	"	MALATHON
3,744,360	POUNDS	"	OTHER MITICIDES
18,760	GALLONS	"	2,4-D
132,809	GALLONS	"	OIL
664,105	POUNDS	"	COPPERS
64,202	POUNDS	"	LEAD
3,148,806	POUNDS	"	DEFOLIANT

THE ABOVE FIGURES INCLUDE THE ADDITION OF PROPER MATERIALS NECESSARY FOR APPLICATIONS.

THE FIGURES GIVEN IN THIS REPORT HAVE BEEN GATHERED FROM SOURCES WHICH WE BELIEVE TO BE THE BEST OBTAINABLE. ALSO WE BELIEVE THEM TO BE AS ACCURATE AS SUCH FIGURES CAN BE REASONABLY EXPECTED. IN EVERY CASE, WE HAVE GONE TO MORE THAN ONE SOURCE, OFTEN TO FROM FIVE TO SIX SOURCES, BEFORE WE DETERMINED ON A STATEMENT. THE SOURCES FOR EACH STATEMENT HAVE BEEN RECORDED AND ARE ON FILE.

THERE ARE THREE WAYS OF GATHERING CROP REPORTING DATA:

1. TO ASK EACH AND EVERY PERSON HOW MUCH THEY PRODUCED OF EVERY COMMODITY. THIS IS THE WAY THE FEDERAL CENSUS IS TAKEN. TOO OFTEN THESE FIGURES ARE GIVEN DISTORTED FOR FEAR THAT THE DATA GIVEN WILL BE REFLECTED IN THE INCOME TAX OR COUNTY TAX. OFTEN THE GROWER ONLY HAS A VAGUE MEMORY OF WHAT HE PRODUCED MONTHS BEFORE.

2. ANOTHER WAY TO GET A CROP REPORT IS TO TAKE THE KNOWN ACREAGE OF EACH COMMODITY, THEN TO MULTIPLY THESE FIGURES BY A DETERMINED PERCENT OF CROP, WHICH HAS BEEN THOUGHT TO REPRESENT THE CONDITION OF THE CROP FOR THAT YEAR. THE STATE CROP REPORTING SERVICE USES THIS METHOD. ITS WEAKNESS IS IN THE FACT THAT THE CONDITION OF THE CROP WHICH IS USED, IF IT BE OFF A SMALL PART OF ONE PERCENT, WILL MAKE A LARGE DIFFERENCE IN THE REPORT RESULTS.

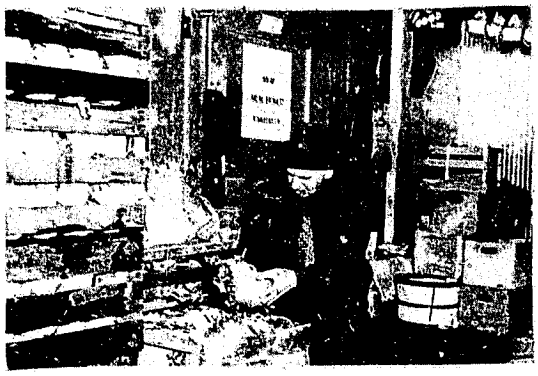
3. THE THIRD, AND THE ONE WHICH WE BELIEVE TO BE THE MOST ACCURATE WAY OF OBTAINING A CROP REPORT, IS TO GO TO EVERY PACKING HOUSE, EVERY PROCESSING COMPANY, EVERY COTTON GIN AND EVERY DEALER AND OBTAIN THEIR FIGURES OF THE AMOUNT WHICH THEY MARKETED. WE CHECK THIS AGAINST OUR INSPECTION RECORDS. THESE FIGURES AS TO PRODUCTION ARE THEN MULTIPLIED BY THE AMOUT WHICH THE COMMODITY BROUGHT TO THE FARMER AT THE CAR DOOR, HERE IN FRESNO.

TO THE MANY FRIENDS WHO HELPED US WITH THIS REPORT, WE WISH TO EXPRESS OUR THANKS.

FRESNO HAS GROWN DURING THE YEARS GONE BY. EACH YEAR SEES MORE AND MORE LAND COME UNDER CULTIVATION. THIS YEAR, 17,240 ACRES OF NEW LAND HAVE BEEN ADDED TO OUR CULTIVATED AREA. MOST OF THIS NEW LAND HAS BEEN GROWTH ON OUR "WEST SIDE". WITH THIS GROWTH HAS COME INCREASED REVENUE TO FRESNO COUNTY.

OUR RECORDS SHOW:

1942.	$ 88,545,544.00
1943.	127,719,086.00
1944.	144,932,101.00
1945.	142,455,593.00
1946.	188,519,304.00
1947.	165,446,034.00
1948.	209,911,487.00
1949.	223,733,963.00
1950.	285,169,167.00
1951.	325,579,150.00
1952.	349,903,721.00
1953.	313,661,398.00



SENIOR INSPECTOR JONES INSPECTING VEGETABLES

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

John Wardle Dixon

JOHN WARDLE DIXON,
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER.

1953 ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR
FRESNO COUNTY CROP ACREAGE - PRODUCTION AND VALUE
COMPILED BY
THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS' STAFF

CROP	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	F. O. B. VALUE
APPLES	144	6,731 BXS.	$ 20,193.00
APRICOTS	1,215		
DRY		500,000 LBS.	140,000.00
FRESH		5,000 LUGS	9,750.00
BERRIES - BUSH	320	1,190,713 LBS.	166,700.00
CITRUS	4,004	805,872 BXS.	2,865,405.00
FIGS	16,871		
DRY		33,682,750 LBS.	3,614,878.00
FRESH		5,000 FLATS	15,000.00
NECTARINES	1,179	696,640 LUGS	2,006,403.00
OLIVES	1,307		
PICKLED		900 TONS	225,000.00
OIL		1,307 TONS	107,828.00
PEACHES			
CLINGSTONE	511	70,070 TONS	424,200.00
FREESTONE	9,582		
CANNING		12,500 TONS	625,000.00
DRY		1,900 DRY T.	684,000.00
FRESH		4,945,005 LUGS	6,995,349.00
PERSIMMONS	55	16,025 FLATS	48,075.00
POMEGRANATES	186	53,916 LUGS	161,748.00
PLUMS	3,300	1,372,062 LUGS	3,862,774.00
PRUNES - DRY	330	250,000 LBS.	20,000.00
ALMONDS	1,178	824,600 LBS.	247,380.00
PECANS	42	22,650 LBS.	6,795.00
PISTACCHIO	2.5	500 LBS.	100.00
WALNUTS	1,298	1,948 TONS	974,000.00
			$ 23,220,578.00

GRAPES			
RAISIN VARIETIES	132,812		
CRUSH		202,855 TONS	$ 5,679,940.00
DRY		165,584 TONS	25,235,085.00
FRESH		2,799,247 LUGS	7,226,649.00
WINE VARIETIES	11,431		
CRUSH		85,233 TONS	2,130,825.00
FRESH		555,530 LUGS	1,505,486.00
TABLE VARIETIES	17,760		
CRUSH		53,523 TONS	1,070,460.00
FRESH		5,540,628 LUGS	13,724,408.00
			$ 56,572,853.00

TRUCK CROPS

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		F. O. B. VALUE
BEANS - SNAP	50	400,000	POUNDS	$ 57,120.00
BEANS - FAVA	30	3,600	RAMPERS	9,900.00
BROCCOLI	440	680,240	POUNDS	47,617.00
CARROTS	165	30,210	CRATES	100,099.00
CANTALOUPES	14,054	2,309,566	JUMBO CRATES	8,083,446.00
CAULIFLOWER	50	22,500	PONY CRATES	21,375.00
CELERY	30	25,500	CRATES	57,375.00
CRANSHAW MELONS	300	75,000	FLATS	131,250.00
CORN - SWEET	135	27,000	CRATES	54,000.00
CUCUMBERS	200	115,400	LUGS	501,990.00
GARLIC	15	2,475	POUNDS	34,650.00
HONEYDEW MELONS	160	141,464	FLATS	473,904.00
LETTUCE				
SPRING	430	107,823	CRATES	296,513.00
FALL	225	56,250	CRATES	180,000.00
ONIONS				
DRY	475	308,750	50# SACKS	154,375.00
GREEN	110	275,000	DOZEN	123,750.00
PEAS	50	12,800	TUBS	38,400.00
PERSIAN MELONS	390	147,030	FLATS	308,763.00
PEPPERS - BELL	75	32,475	55# CRATES	142,890.00
PEPPERS - FRESNO - CHILI	190	19,760	25# LUGS	39,520.00
POTATOES	6,480	986,328	100# SACKS	1,595,047.00
POTATOES - SWEET	884	198,900	BUSHELS	897,050.00
ROMAIN LETTUCE	50	10,000	CRATES	15,000.00
STRAWBERRIES	190			
FRESH		155,610	CRATES	431,040.00
PROCESSED		1,800,680	POUNDS	34,329.00
SUGAR CANE	2	40	TONS	2,000.00
TARO	35	3,500	LUGS	24,500.00
		63,000	POUNDS	3,780.00
TOMATOES	313	469,500	LUGS	1,262,955.00
WATERMELONS	955	12,415	TONS	496,600.00
MISC. VEGETABLES	1,500			1,200,000.00
TOTAL				$ 16,819,238.00

FIELD CROPS

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	UNIT	F.O.B. VALUE
ALFALFA	123,124	677,172	TONS	$ 13,543,440.00
BARLEY	464,550	13,471,950	100# SKS.	37,721,460.00
CASTOR BEANS	65	64,700	POUNDS	5,823.00
COTTON	350,000	455,000	BALES	72,572,500.00
COTTON SEED		180,200	TONS	9,721,790.00
LINTERS		41,265,800	POUNDS	2,372,784.00
GRAIN				
HAY	14,677	29,354	TONS	381,602.00
STUBBLE	92,910			46,455.00
MILO	400	12,000	100# SKS.	48,000.00
PASTURE				
RANGE	1,801,932			4,955,313.00
PERMANENT	61,098			3,655,880.00
RICE	30,009	810,000	100# SKS.	4,050,000.00
SAFFLOWER	617	750	TONS	63,750.00
SUGAR BEETS	3,465	68,239	TONS	895,978.00
WHEAT	24,700	518,700	100# SKS.	1,841,385.00
TOTAL.				$ 151,876,160.00

NURSERY STOCK	PRODUCTION	UNIT		F. O. B. VALUE
GRAPE VINES	310,000	ROOTINGS	$	155,000.00
FRUIT TREES				
DECIDUOUS	38,000	ROOTINGS		13,300.00
CITRUS	20,000	ROOTINGS		50,000.00
TOTAL			$	218,300.00
BULBS	1,000	DOZEN		500.00
RHIZOMES	8,200	DOZEN		2,050.00
TOTAL			$	2,550.00
BEDDING PLANTS				
PANSIES	250,000	PLANTS	$	7,500.00
CUT FLOWERS	15,000	DOZEN		7,500.00
POTTED FLOWERS	10,000	PLANTS		5,000.00
TOTAL			$	20,000.00
GARDEN PLANTS	25,000	FLATS	$	50,000.00
ORNAMENTALS	38,000			3,800.00
STRAWBERRY	300,000	PLANTS		4,500.00
TOTAL			$	58,300.00
TOTAL NURSERY STOCK			$	299,150.00

	COL'S.	PRODUCTION	UNIT		F. O. B. VALUE
APIARY					
BEES	41,000				
SEED POLLENATION	37,700				154,800.00
HONEY PRODUCTION	41,000	2,081,200	POUNDS	$	198,350.00
WAX PRODUCTION		40,300	POUNDS		16,120.00
TOTAL				$	369,270.00

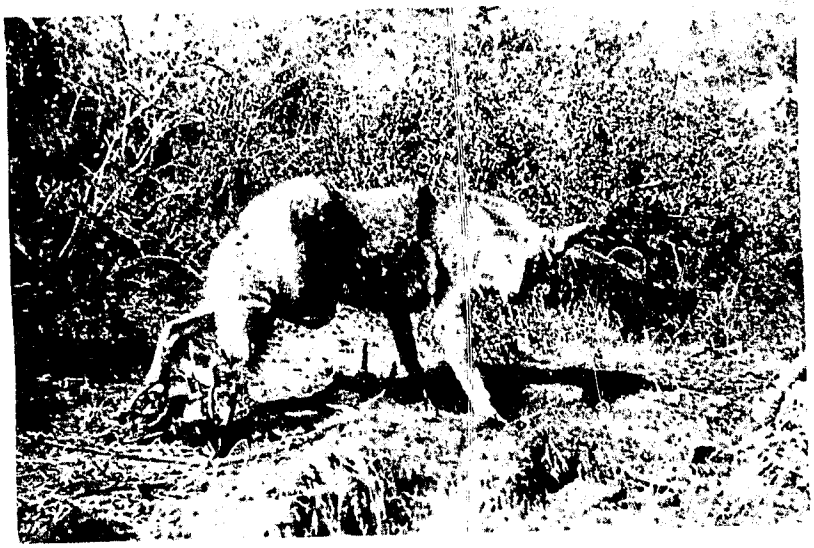
CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		F. O. B. VALUE
CERTIFIED FIELD CROP SEED				
ALFALFA				
BUFFALO	3,403	2,705,876	LBS.	$ 730,586.00
RANGER	9,161	5,534,069	LBS.	1,549,539.00
CALIF. COMM. # 49	60	33,400	LBS.	9,018.00
CALIVERDE	820	342,663	LBS.	95,945.00
ATLANTIC	212	188,545	LBS.	50,926.00
BARLEY				
CALIF. MARIOUT	966	1,684,762	LBS.	58,966.00
CALIF. BLACKEYE # 5 COWPEAS	1,046	664,495	LBS.	66,449.00
PIPER SUDAN GRASS	100	166,495	LBS.	13,304.00
TOTAL				$ 2,574,733.00
COMMON FIELD CROP SEED				
ALFALFA	2,000	800,000	LBS.	$ 176,000.00
BARLEY				
ARRIVAT	20	34,880	LBS.	1,220.00
ATLAS	40	67,760	LBS.	2,401.00
CANADIAN FIELD PEAS	70	113,260	LBS.	19,125.00
CASTOR BEANS	320	800,000	LBS.	72,000.00
MELILOTUS		425,000	LBS.	19,125.00
MILO	400	1,200,000	LBS.	48,000.00
PURPLE VETCH		300,000	LBS.	15,000.00
SUNFLOWER	20	20,000	LBS.	4,400.00
SWEET SUDAN	300	450,000	LBS.	22,500.00
TOTAL				$ 379,771.00
COMMON VEGETABLE SEED				
BEETS	20	20,000	LBS.	$ 4,000.00
CARROTS	313	115,736	LBS.	46,294.00
DILL	10	20,000	LBS.	3,600.00
LETTUCE				
HEAD	124	31,000	LBS.	31,000.00
L. LEAF (MISC. VARIETIES)	528	211,170	LBS.	105,585.00
OKRA	4½	3,907	LBS.	976.00
ONION	86	61,901	LBS.	61,901.00
PEAS	6	1,800	LBS.	210.00
POPPY	2	370	LBS.	129.00
SWISS CHARD	30	10,000	LBS.	4,000.00
TOTAL				$ 257,695.00

	NO. BREEDING STOCK	POUNDS PROD.	F. O. B. VALUE
LIVE STOCK			
Beef cattle & calves	128,540	71,982,400	$ 13,676,656.00
Milk cows & two year old heifers	43,165	21,582,500	3,884,850.00
Butter Fat & Milk		10,176,960	11,703,504.00
Hogs	18,530	22,236,000	4,891,920.00
Sheep & lambs	193,072	16,411,120	3,282,224.00
Wool		1,393,200	766,260.00
Rabbits	4,892	587,040	152,630.00
Total.			$ 38,358,044.00
POULTRY			
Hens (roasters)		4,631,728	$ 1,018,980.00
Fryers & broilers		14,602,458	4,088,688.00
Eggs			
Consumers (sold for food)	1,157,932	15,225,108 doz.	7,612,554.00
Hatchery		360,987 doz.	379,036.00
Baby chicks	6,768,540		1,082,966.00
Turkeys	1,459,341	21,890,115	6,129,232.00
Turkey Hatch eggs		252,050 doz.	705,740.00
Poults	3,162,997		1,897,798.00
Goose Eggs Hatch		2,137 doz.	6,411.00
Goslings & Geese	5,000		12,500.00
Total.			$ 22,933,905.00

RECAPITULATION

DECIDUOUS FRUITS AND NUTS	$ 23,220,579.00
GRAPES	56,572,853.00
TRUCK CROPS	16,819,238.00
FIELD CROPS	151,876,160.00
NURSERY STOCK	299,150.00
APIARY	369,270.00
CERTIFIED FIELD CROP SEED	2,574,733.00
COMMON FIELD CROP SEED	379,771.00
COMMON VEGETABLE SEED	257,695.00
LIVESTOCK	38,358,044.00
POULTRY	22,933,905.00

TOTAL 1953 FRESNO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL VALUE REPORT $313,661,398.00



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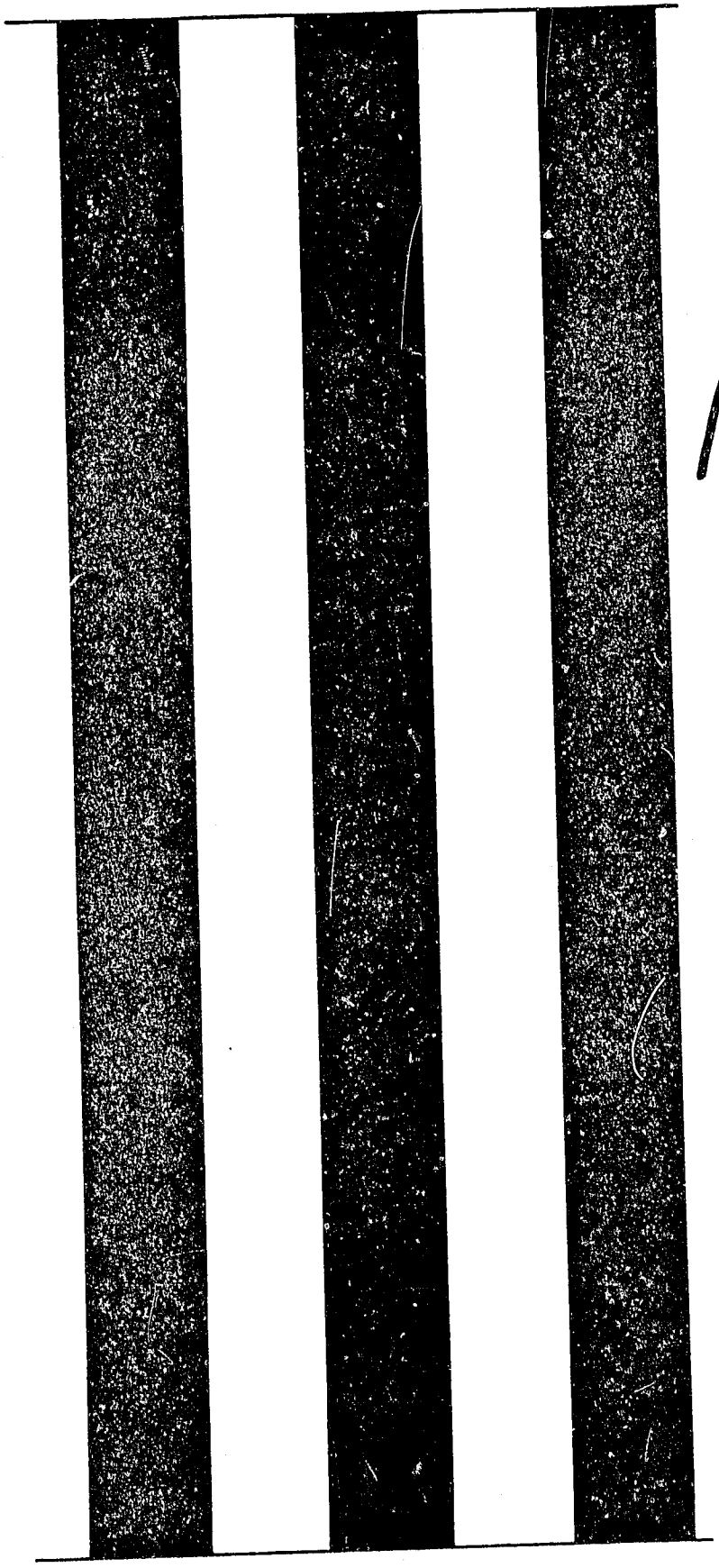

1954

AGRICULTURAL FRESNO

1954

John Wardle Dixon
Commissioner

FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

JOHN WARBLE DIXON
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

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ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR
ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1954

****

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

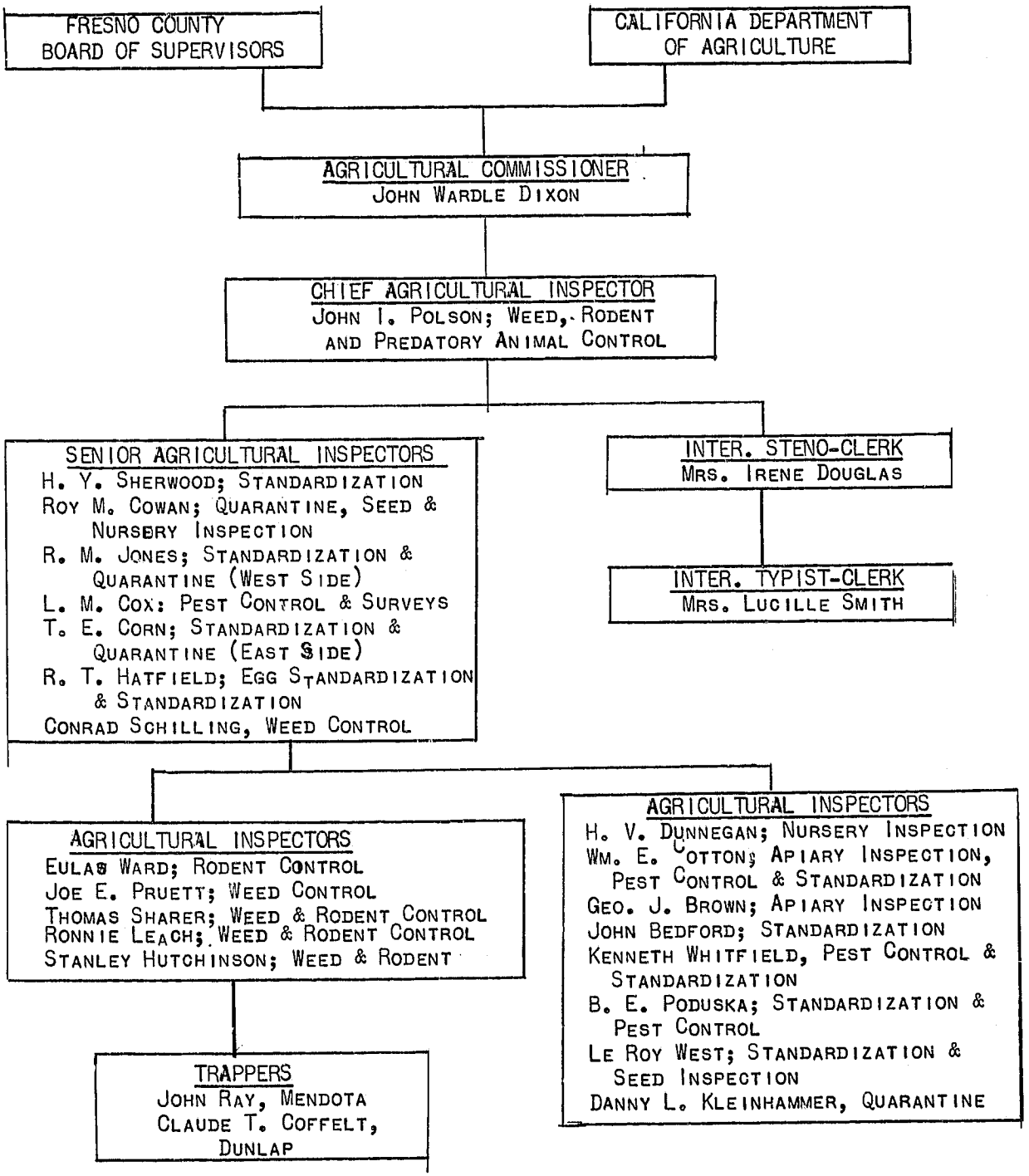
LEW W. CLARK, DIST. 5, CHAIRMAN

BERT DE LOTTO, DISTRICT 1 NORMAN S. FOLEY, DISTRICT 2

RUTTER ARMEY, DISTRICT 3 SIDNEY L. CRUFF, DISTRICT 4

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
CONRAD SCHILLING &
JOHN BEDFORD, FEATURING
RUTH SMITH

FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER



IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 1, OF THE AGRICULTURAL CODE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

ARTICLE 1 - COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

SECTION 50 - COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - THERE SHALL BE THE OFFICE OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER IN EACH COUNTY. SUCH COMMISSIONER SHALL BE IN CHARGE OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

SECTION 65 - RECORDS - THE COMMISSIONER SHALL KEEP A RECORD OF HIS OFFICIAL ACTS AND MAKE AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE ON THE CONDITION OF THE AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS IN HIS COUNTY AS TO WHAT IS BEING DONE TO ERADICATE OR TO CONTROL OR TO DESTROY PESTS AND ALSO AS TO QUARANTINE AGAINST PESTS, AND SHALL FURNISH FROM TIME TO TIME TO THE DIRECTOR SUCH INFORMATION AS HE MAY REQUIRE.

SECTION 65 - REPORT - THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ALSO MAKE A MONTHLY REPORT TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IF AND WHEN SO REQUIRED BY SAID BOARD.

SECTION 65.5 - STATISTICS - THE COMMISSIONER SHALL COMPILE REPORTS OF THE CONDITION, ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS IN HIS COUNTY. THE COMMISSIONER MAY PUBLISH SUCH REPORTS AND SHALL TRANSMIT A COPY THEREOF TO THE DIRECTOR.

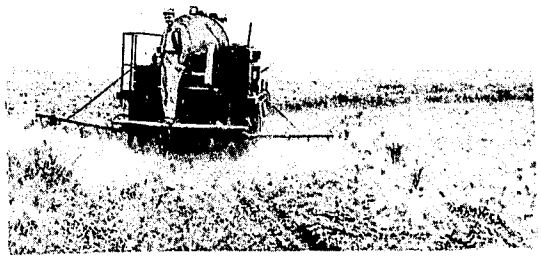
TO: THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF FRESNO.

Gentlemen:

The following is a brief report of the activities of the Fresno County Agricultural Commissioner's office, for the year 1954. The work of this office is handled by divisions headed by senior inspectors. A specialist is always in charge of each item of work.

John I. Polson, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner, has direct charge of all the weed, rodent and predatory animal work. Helping Mr. Polson, are ten permanent men, also seasonal employees. The number of the latter varies with the time of year. In 1950 this division took on the additional duties of an eradication program for the eventual eradication of Russian Knapweed. In 1951, this was enlarged to all varieties of weeds specified in the Agricultural Administrative Code as being "Primary Noxious weeds". Each year the weed work has increased, and the results have been good,



SPRAYING FOR RUSSIAN KNAPWEED

especially in those fields where the farmers cooperated to the full extent in the care of their fields after the weedicides had been applied. Rains came at opportune times throughout the winter. This helped our work. The more rain that comes after the application, the better the penetration of the chemicals and the better the kill. Briefly stated, Fresno County's primary noxious weed policy is that the County will furnish one-half of the cost of the material and all the cost of the application, on plots up to two acres; and the cost of application only on plots of from two to ten acres. By this method of approach, the Department hopes to clean up the smaller infestations first. Later it is hoped we can attack the larger patches. In this weed work, we have used 303,990 pounds of sodium chlorate, 2,400 pounds of poly-bor chlorate, 38,698 gallons of chlorax liquid, 216,910 pounds of carbon bisulphide, 1,892 pounds of CMU, and 31,045 gallons of weed oil. An additional method of weed control which seems to give promise in

SR. INSPECTOR SCHILLING CHECKING RESULTS OF WEED CONTROL ALONG CULVERTS

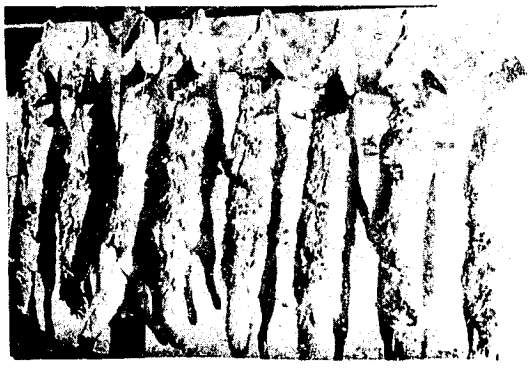
locations where water is easily available is the planting of rice on the infested patches. The inundation necessary for the growing of rice rots the deep seated root systems of Knapweed, morning glory, etc. The use of 2,4-D has proven a valuable material for the control of annual weeds but the results in its use for such weeds as Russian knapweed, morning glory, etc., have left much to be desired.

In rodent control work, 179,356 acres were treated with poison grain, using 1,220 pounds of baitings of stychnine, 12,743 pounds of baitings of sodium fluro acetate ("1080"), 12 pounds of baitings using zinc phosphide, 17,455 pounds of carbon bisulphide and 93,330 waste balls, 88 properties were treated for rats, using 84 pounds of zinc phosphide baitings and 1,329 pounds of warfarin and Pival. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the irrigation districts, under our supervision, treated 280 miles of ditch banks for the control of ground squirrels.

INSPECTOR WARD WITH RATS OUT OF THE FRESNO CITY DUMP

Predatory animal control accounted for the following:

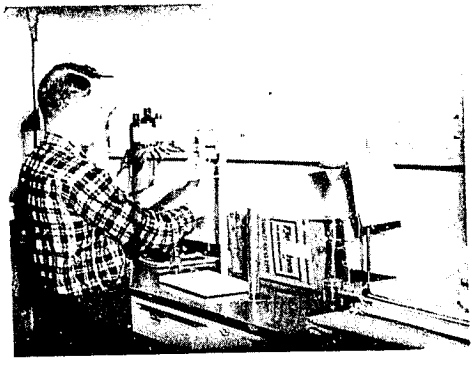
105 Coyotes,
59 Wildcats,
47 Badgers,
152 Skunks,
35 Raccoons,
32 Oppossums,
2 Porcupines,
56 Sheep killing dogs,



A DAYS CATCH OF COYOTES

and 112 lamb killing Civet foxes; making a total of 600 animals trapped.

Standardization work, headed by Senior Inspector Harold Y. Sherwood, assisted by Senior Inspectors Ralph M. Jones and Thomas E. Corn, is the next largest division. They watch and enforce the proper grading of fruits, nuts and vegetables, which are going to market. The Agricultural Code has defined the grades and packs of practically all the fruits, nuts and vegetables being sold, and it is the duty of this Department to make the inspections to see that the



SR. INSPECTOR CORN TESTING FOR THE MATURITY OF ORANGES

law is properly enforced. A total of 2,091 man days were spent in this work. 17,620,419 containers plus 9,235 tons of bulk loads of fruits, nuts and vegetables were inspected during 1954. Of this number, 8,536 containers failed to meet the requirements demanded by the law. There were two citations but no court cases. 121 Violation Notices were issued to repack. No record was made of the number of times packing was stopped and corrections made in the pack of fruits or vegetables, nor of the number of containers repacked on such occasions. The latter would run into large figures. The Agricultural Code delegates the duty of inspecting all wine grapes that are purchased by sugar content to our Department. This entails a heavy and an exacting duty, as we must make a test of every load that comes into every winery, (except cooperatives) which purchases under this system. During 1954, we inspected 23,950 loads. The industry pays back to the County the cost of this work. Senior Inspector Russell T. Hatfield has charge of this work. Egg inspection work, also under the direction of Mr. Hatfield, has expanded again this season. There were 1,069 premises visited, 305,240 dozen eggs were inspected.

SR. INSPECTOR HATFIELD INSPECTING EGGS AT A POULTRY RANCH

The division of plant quarantine and nursery inspection is under the supervision of Senior Inspector Roy M. Cowan. Inspector H. V. Dunnegan of this division, has twice this year inspected each nursery in Fresno County. Whenever disease or insect pests were found, the plants so infested or infecied were, under the supervision of the inspectors, treated or destroyed. All plants sent into Fresno County from nurseries in other areas were also inspected. In all, these numbered 2,069,180 plants. All these were individually examined. 438 plants were found to be infected or infested, and were either sent back out of the County or were destroyed. All plants, trees, shrubs or vines coming into Fresno County by mail, express, freight or truck were required to be inspected by this Department before they were delivered to the consignee. We believe we saw them all. All cars of grain coming from out of State were checked for weed seeds and insect pests by Inspector Le Roy W. West.

INSPECTOR DUNNEGAN INSPECTING A NURSERY

In Fresno County we have a rapidly growing industry with the growing of seed. It comes within the duties of this Department to do the inspection work in the harvesting of these crops. We must inspect the fields, check the harvesters, inspect the seed after it has been cleaned, in order that the State gives a California Crop Improvement Association certificate. We are reimbursed for our expenses in this work. There were 16,045 acres producing 10,415,980 pounds of certified alfalfa seed, with an FOB value of $4,259,736.00; 2,569 acres of certified barley with a production of 6,934,300 pounds and value of $225,495.00; 92 acres of wheat with a production of 297,000 pounds and value of $14,850.00; 48 acres of cowpeas with a production of 58,200 pounds and value of $4,656.00; 305 acres of sudan grass with a production of 453,997 pounds and a value of $45,400.00; 876 acres of rice with a production of 3,822,400 pounds and a value of $267,568.00; and 277 acres of milo with a production of 831,000 pounds and a value of $33,240.00. Of common field seed (all kinds) there were

SR. INSPECTOR COWAN AND INSPECTOR WEST TAKING A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF CERTIFIED SEED

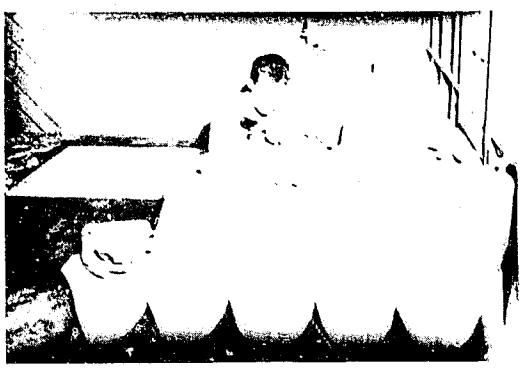
grown 6,660 acres which produced 9,001,221 pounds, with a value of $875,916.00. 1,217 acres of vegetable seeds (all kinds) produced 719,291 pounds, with a value of $348,060.00. With the harvesting of our grain crop there comes the problem of keeping the grain free from the seed of the weeds which we are trying to eradicate. Senior Inspector Cowan, with the help of Inspectors Le Roy West and Danny Kleinhammer, has searched out the weed infested spots, and they have seen that harvesting machines were cleaned before going to clean farms, and that the infested grain was cleaned of weed seeds before it went to market.

Bee inspection work is under the direction of Inspectors George J. Brown and Wm. E. Cotton. The bees are far more important to the agriculture of Fresno County than the amount of revenue which they bring directly to the apiaries or that is paid in taxes to the County. If it were not for bees, our crops would go unpollenated, and therefore, the crops could not set. Our seed industry is directly dependent on such pollenization. American Foulbrood disease is the biggest problem that the apiarist has to face. Constant vigil must be maintained in order that

INSPECTOR MICHELS WITH AN ILLEGAL BEE HIVE

this bee disease does not gain a foothold, for it would soon wipe out all the hives of bees in the County. In our inspection work, Mr. Cotton has endeavored to search out and check the apiaries which are brought into Fresno for alfalfa seed pollenation. The fact that the beemen are paid for this service at a specified price per hive, caused many weak and diseased hives of bees to be offered for this service. Our work in 1953 stressed the inspection of these apiaries. We individually inspected in 1954, 10,099 hives of bees. Of these, we found 386 hives to be diseased with American foulbrood. These were destroyed by burning. We found an itenerant "beeman" exposing and extracting foulbrood honey. We burned his honey, arrested him and obtained a $100 fine as penalty for this infraction of the law.

We spent considerable time in 1954, in bringing up to date the figures on the acreage of all the permanent plantings of trees and vines. Our records show the plantings of each individual farmer and the age of his plantings. This is of great value in arriving at the crop estimation each year. Senior Inspector L. M. Cox is in charge of this work, He is assisted by Inspector John A. Bedford. We continued



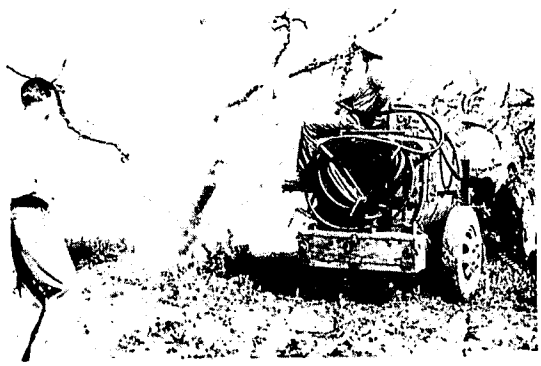
INSPECTOR KLEINHAMMER INSPECTING A WAREHOUSE FOR KHAPRA BEETLE

our pest survey work, also under the direction of Senior Inspector Cox. It is most important that we find new infestations as soon as possible. We have surveyed the citrus orchards and all the small plantings within three or four miles, looking for red and yellow scale. Both these pests are threatening the citrus industry in all parts of the State. A cleanup campaign was conducted in Sanger and Parlier. The results were good, but the work will need to be done again in 1955. Again we made a survey for pink bollworm throughout the County. We found no evidence of it. We examined samples of bolls, 50 taken from each square mile of cotton in the County. Angular leaf spot showed a decrease in 1954. The survey was made by this Department. We found that all infested fields were under sprinkler irrigation. We quarantined these fields, seeing that the cotton picking machines and trailers were thoroughly cleaned of infected material before they were moved to clean fields. Our trapping survey for Oriental Fruitfly and Oriental Fruit Moth was continued this year. A heavy infestation of Oriental Fruit Moth was found in peach orchards south of Kingsburg. Recheck for citrus whitefly

SR. INSPECTOR SHERWOOD INSPECTING FOR CITRUS PESTS

showed that the spray work done by the State had been successful. No citrus whitefly was found. The latter part of 1954, Khapra beetle was discovered in Fresno County. A survey was made to determine the extent of the infestation. We found 12 infested properties, none of which the population was heavy. We immediately started cleanup procedure. Inspections were made of 74 warehouses.

Pest control work, also under the direction of Senior Inspector Cox, has been very active. It is mandatory that any applications of 2,4-D, 2,4,5-T, Parathion, Arsenicles in dust form, EPN, Systox, OMPA, or TEPP (when applied by thermal aerosol), may be applied only when a permit has been granted by this office after our examination of the premises. We made 761 such examinations, refusing 13 and granting 748. Commercial pest control operators and farmers using their own equipment, working under our inspection, applied the following:



SR. INSPECTOR COX SUPERVISING DORMANT TREE SPRAYING

2,111	pounds containing Aldrin & Dieldrin
178,702	pounds containing Toxaphene & Chlordane compounds
47,510,601	pounds containing Sulphur
49,442,170	pounds containing DDT, Lindane, BHC & other Chlor-hydros
112,564	pounds containing TEPP & HETP
686,353	pounds containing Parathion
287,798	gallons containing Systox & OMPA
1,207,000	pounds containing Malathon
3,706,916	pounds containing Other miticides
18,572	gallons containing 2,4-D

131,481 gallons containi g oil
670,746 pounds containi.g coppers
77,006 pounds containing lead
3,018,854 pounds containing Defoliant

The above figures include the addition of proper materials necessary for applications.

The figures given in the statistical part of this report, which follows, have been gathered from sources which we believe to be the best obtainable. Also we believe them to be as accurate as such figures can be reasonably expected. In every case, we have gone to more than one source, often to from five to six sources, before we determined on a statement. The sources for each statement have been recorded and are on file.

There are three ways of gathering crop reporting data:

1. To ask each and every person how much they produced of every commodity. This is the way the Federal census is taken. Too often these figures are given distorted for fear that the data given will be reflected in the income tax or County tax. Often the grower only has a vague memory of what he produced months before.
2. Another way to get a crop report is to take the known acreage of each commodity, then to multiply these figures by a determined percent of crop, which has been thought to represent the condition of the crop for that year. The State Crop Reporting Service uses this method. Its weakness is in the fact that the condition of the crop which is used, if it be off a small part of one percent, will make a large difference in the report results.

3. The third, and the one which we believe to be the most accurate way of obtaining a crop report, is to go to every packing house, every processing company, every cotton gin and every dealer and obtain their figures of the amount which they marketed. We check this against our inspection records. These figures as to production are then multiplied by the amount which the commodity brought to the farmer at the car door, here in Fresno.

To the many friends who helped us with this report, we wish to express our thanks.

Fresno has grown during the years gone by. Each year sees more and more land come under cultivation. Most of this new land has been growth on our "West side". With this growth has come increased revenue to Fresno County.

The cutback in cotton acreage in 1954 caused a diversion to other crops and many of the new crops cost more to raise than cotton and perhaps were not as renumerative, yet they brought in as much or more income to Fresno County.

Our records show:

1943.	$127,719,086.00
1944.	144,932,101.00
1945.	142,455,593.00
1946.	188,519,304.00
1947.	165,446,034.00
1948.	209,911,487.00

1949.	$ 223,733,963.00
1950.	285,169,167.00
1951.	325,579,150.00
1952.	349,903,721.00
1953.	313,521,898.00
1954.	317,683,314.00

Respectfully submitted

John Wardle Dixon
JOHN WARDLE DIXON
Agricultural Commissioner

1954 ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR
FRESNO COUNTY CROP ACREAGE - PRODUCTION AND VALUE
COMPILED BY
THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS' STAFF

CROP	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		F. O. B. VALUE
POME FRUITS				
APPLES	74	9,848 Bxs.	$	29,544.00
PEARS	12	1,500 Lugs		2,925.00
STONE FRUITS				
APRICOTS	663			
DRY		280,000 Lbs.		92,400.00
FROZEN AND CANNED		1,650 Tons		82,500.00
FRESH		1,760 Lugs		3,432.00
NECTARINES	1,179	835,840 Lugs		2,240,051.00
PEACHES				
CLINGSTONES	902	12,628 Tons		631,400.00
FREESTONE	9,780			
CANNING		13,030 Tons		651,500.00
DRY		2,500 Tons		900,000.00
FRESH		6,243,076 Lugs		7,803,845.00
FROZEN		12,975 Tons		648,750.00
PLUMS & PRUNES	4,350	1,149,763 Lugs		4,093,156.00
PRUNES DRY		20,000 Lbs.		2,500.00
			$	17,182,003.00
BERRIES				
BUSH BERRIES	469			
FRESH		1,125,000 Lbs.	$	202,500.00
FROZEN		2,627,000 Lbs.		472,860.00
STRAWBERRIES	307			
FRESH		160,500 Crates		454,215.00
FROZEN		1,228,757 Lbs.		208,889.00
			$	1,338,464.00
CITRUS				
GRAPEFRUIT	37	14,800 Bxs.		22,200.00
LEMONS	193	25,332 Bxs.		113,994.00
ORANGES	3,779	944,750 Bxs.		3,306,625.00
			$	3,442,819.00

CROP	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	F. O. B. FARM VALUE
OTHER FRUITS			
FIGS	15,961		
FRESH		5,000 FLATS	$ 14,750.00
CANNED		200 TONS	31,600.00
DRY		14,400 TONS	2,275,200.00
OLIVES	1,300		
PROCESSED		3,120 TONS	748,800.00
OIL		780 TONS	54,600.00
PERSIMMONS	55	44,990 LUGS	112,475.00
POMEGRANATES	120	70,200 LUGS	210,600.00
NUTS			
ALMONDS	1,178	1,178 TONS	530,100.00
PECANS	42	22,638 LBS.	4,527.00
PISTACCHIOS	2.5	500 LBS.	100.00
WALNUTS	1,443	866 TONS	303,100.00
			$ 4,285,852.00
GRAPES			
RAISIN VARIETIES	132,812		
CRUSH		203,000 TONS	$ 8,120,000.00
DRY		103,114 TONS	17,863,190.00
FRESH		3,463,795 LUGS	8,659,488.00
WINE VARIETIES	11,431		
CRUSH		85,300 TONS	3,241,414.00
FRESH		718,636 LUGS	2,155,909.00
TABLE VARIETIES	17,760		
CRUSH		53,600 TONS	2,144,000.00
FRESH		3,149,809 LUGS	7,874,522.00
			$ 50,058,523.00

TRUCK CROPS

CROP	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		F. O. B. VALUE
Beans - Snap	23	184,000 Lbs.	$	25,760.00
Beans - Fava	127	165,100 Lbs.		14,859.00
Broccoli	170	262,820 Lbs.		18,397.00
Cabbage	45	495 Tons		29,700.00
Carrots	460	147,200 Crates		471,400.00
Cauliflower	55	24,750 Crates		28,462.00
Celery	45	15,750 Crates		39,375.00
Corn - Sweet	150	27,000 Crates		56,700.00
Cucumbers	195	112,515 Crates		281,287.00
Garlic	15	2,476 Lbs.		34,650.00
Lettuce	324	64,800 Crates		210,600.00
Onions				
Dry	210	128,100 Sacks		269,010.00
Green	45	112,500 Crates		50,625.00
Peas	160	18,400 Bushels		46,000.00
Peppers - Bell	85	36,805 Bushels		147,220.00
Peppers - Fresno Chili	190	19,760 Crates		39,520.00
Potatoes	4,200	869,400 Sacks		2,173,500.00
Potatoes - Sweet	860	215,000 Lugs		645,000.00
Romain Lettuce	55	11,000 Crates		16,500.00
Sugar Cane	2	40 Tons		2,000.00
Squash	450	157,500 Lugs		236,250.00
Taro	45	4,500 Lugs		31,500.00
Tomatoes	750	738,750 Flats		1,477,500.00
Misc. Vegetables	1,212			979,296.00
			$	7,406,036.00

MELONS				
Cantaloupes	20,107	3,645,409 Crates	$	9,113,522.00
Cranshaws	330	75,750 Crates		143,925.00
Honeydew	800	160,000 Flats		304,000.00
Persians	350	63,500 Crates		121,456.00
Watermelons	1,100	13,200 Tons		396,000.00
			$	10,079,003.00

APIARY	COLONIES			
Bees				
Honey Production	49,875	2,992,500 Pounds	$	314,212.00
Wax Production		49,875 Pounds		22,443.00
			$	336,655.00

FIELD CROPS

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	F. O. B. VALUE
GRAIN			
BARLEY	497,069	16,100,065 - 100 # SKS.	$ 41,538,168.00
FIELD CORN	3,998	169,920 - 100 # SKS.	532,534.00
MILO	17,987	521,623 - 100 # SKS.	1,330,139.00
RICE	43,651	1,309,530 - 100 # SKS.	4,386,926.00
WHEAT	17,346	478,420 - 100 # SKS.	1,846,701.00
FORAGE CROPS			
ALFALFA	146,125	949,813 - TONS	19,024,754.00
ALFALFA STRAW	22,804	19,810 - TONS	217,910.00
HAY	9,941	19,882 - TONS	178,938.00
STUBBLE	99,414		99,414.00
PERMANENT PASTURE	64,153		3,849,180.00
RANGE	1,711,835		4,707,546.00
SUGAR BEETS	10,924	275,831 - TONS	3,034,141.00
COTTON	235,000	387,750 - BALES	65,917,500.00
SEED		155,010 - TONS	7,750,500.00
LINTERS		32,242,080 - POUNDS	1,934,525.00
SEED OIL CROPS			
CASTOR BEANS	35	31,500 - 100 # SKS.	1,890.00
SAFFLOWER	160	384,000 - 100 # SKS.	14,592.00
			$ 158,624,279.00
NURSERY STOCK			
VINES			
THOMPSON SEEDLESS & ASSORTED VARIETIES		400,000 - ROOTINGS	$ 20,000.00
1613		55,000 - ROOTINGS	2,200.00
DECIDUOUS FRUIT & NUT TREES		25,000 - TREES	7,500.00
CITRUS TREES		25,000 - TREES	62,500.00
BERRY PLANTS			
BLACKBERRY		20,000 - PLANTS	2,000.00
STRAWBERRY		200,000 - PLANTS	16,000.00
TOMATO PLANTS			
FLATS		12,000 - FLATS	18,000.00
FIELD GROWN		250,000	20,000.00
ORNAMENTALS		25,000 - PLANTS	7,500.00
IRIS RHIZOMES		2,000	1,000.00
HOUSE PLANTS		40,000	20,000.00
			$ 176,700.00

CERTIFIED FIELD CROP SEED

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		F. C. B. VALUE
Narragansette Alfalfa	429	196,310	Pounds	$ 92,266.00
Ranger Alfalfa	9,799	5,521,434	Pounds	2,098,145.00
Vernal Alfalfa	1,791	1,858,299	Pounds	1,022,064.00
Caliverde Alfalfa	1,559	572,234	Pounds	160,226.00
Buffalo Alfalfa	1,961	1,845,903	Pounds	701,443.00
Atlantic Alfalfa	446	401,400	Pounds	176,616.00
Calif. Common 49 Alfalfa	60	20,400	Pounds	8,976.00
Pennescott Red Clover	60	17,644	Pounds	8,822.00
Calif. # 5 Cowpeas	48 ½	582	100# Bags	4,656.00
Piper Sudan	305	453,997	Pounds	45,400.00
Calros Rice	80	3,200	100# Bags	22,400.00
Caloro Rice	796	35,024	100# Bags	245,168.00
Ramona 50 Wheat	65	2,275	100# Bags	11,375.00
Onas 53 Wheat	27.5	695	100# Bags	3,475.00
Arrivat Barley	20	520	100# Bags	1,820.00
Calif. Mariout	2,549	68,823	100# Bags	223,675.00
Double Dwarf Milo	277	8,310	100# Bags	33,240.00
				$ 4,859,767.00

COMMON SEED

Calorose Rice	100	5,000	100# Bags	$ 32,500.00
Buffalo Alfalfa	314	235,000	Pounds	82,250.00
Ranger Alfalfa	695	330,125	Pounds	115,543.00
Common Alfalfa	2,500	1,250,000	Pounds	312,500.00
Caliverde Alfalfa	360	144,000	Pounds	37,440.00
Calif. # 5 Blackeye Cowpeas	320	3,840	100# Bags	28,800.00
Arrivat Barley	550	16,500	100# Bags	53,625.00
Calif. Mariout	750	19,500	100# Bags	63,375.00
Atlas Barley	330	9,240	100# Bags	30,030.00
Melilotus Indica		350,000	Pounds	10,500.00
Purple Vetch		275,000	Pounds	13,750.00
Sweet Sudan	500	750,000	Pounds	67,500.00
Fenugreek	160	128,000	Pounds	7,680.00
Sweet Pea	6	596	Pounds	173.00
Zinnia Seed	35	10,500	Pounds	15,750.00
Tennessee Winter Barley	40	1,200	100# Bags	4,200.00
				$ 875,616.00

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