California Department of Food and Agriculture

Agricultural Commissioners' Crop Reports

Merced County

2010-2014

MERCED COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

2010 Report on Agriculture

Cover painting by Dorrie Thurber, Morro Bay, California • dorrie.thurber@gmail.com

Cotton in Merced County

In Merced County, cotton is grown from Merced south to the county border. However, the primary growing area is on the Westside. The Dos Palos and Los Banos regions have warm daytime temperatures with cool nights, a good water supply and deep soils that are excellent for growing cotton. This area has had some of the best cotton yields in the San Joaquin Valley.

Merced produces two types or species of cotton. One is the Upland or Acala type and the other is the extra long staple or Pima type. Merced County is in the northern part of the climate zone for growing cotton, thus acreages of Upland or Acala type are usually double that of Pima due to their shorter season growth characteristics.

Merced's cotton production varies from year to year depending on acres planted and yields per acre. Acreage trends have been downward over the past several years for various reasons, including: low cotton prices, competing crops, and water shortages. Over the last 7 years we've seen acres decline from 69,000 acres in 2004 to 23,000 acres in 2009, the lowest since the 1960s. In 2010 Merced's cotton acreage rebounded to 39,265 acres due to an improvement in prices and water availability.

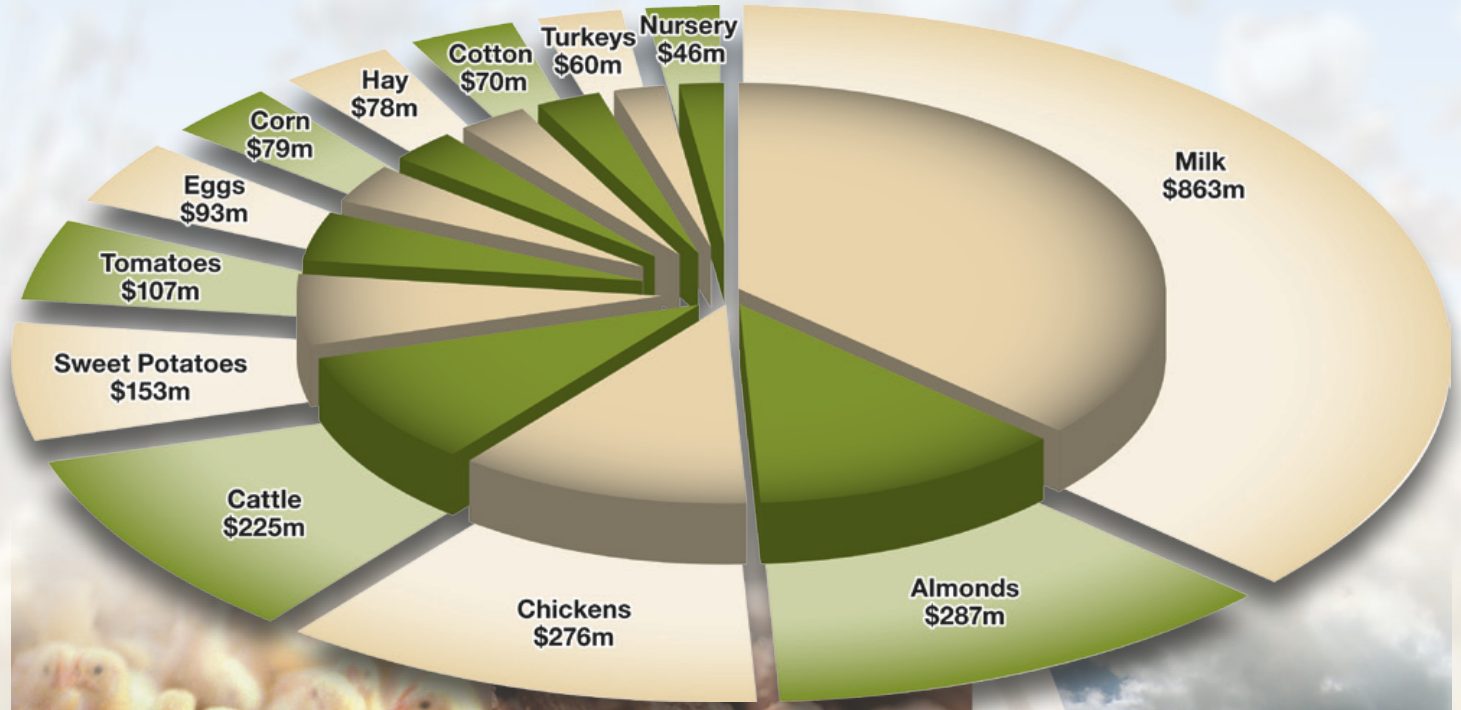
A full size bale of cotton lint weighs approximately 500 pounds and stands about 4½ ft. high. A typical bale can produce as many as 8000 handkerchiefs, or 3400 pairs of socks, or 750 shirts, or 325 pairs of jeans, or 200 full size bed sheets to name a few examples. In addition, cottonseed is used as a supplement for dairy feed and is also processed into oil.

Our thanks go to Bill Weir, University of California, Farm Advisor Emeritus and the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association for their contributions to this article on cotton production in Merced County.

Top Twelve Leading Farm Commodities 2010

RANK	CROP	VALUE	2009 RANK
1	Milk *	$862,819,000	(1)
2	Almonds (Kernel Basis)	$286,600,000	(3) ↑
3	Chickens **	$275,536,000	(2) ↓
4	Cattle and Calves	$225,408,000	(4)
5	Sweet Potatoes	$152,863,000	(5)
6	Tomatoes ***	$107,297,000	(6)
7	Eggs, Chicken (Market)	$93,251,000	(7)
8	Silage (Corn)	$79,164,000	(9) ↑
9	Hay (Alfalfa)	$77,922,000	(8) ↓
10	Cotton ****	$69,804,000	(13) ↑↑
11	Turkeys	$59,970,000	(10) ↓
12	All Nursery Products	$45,855,000	(12)

* Includes Market and Manufacturing.
** Includes Fryers and Other Chickens.
*** Includes Market and Processing Tomatoes.
**** Includes Acala and Pima Cotton.



MERCED COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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California Department of Food and Agriculture

and

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Jerry O'Banion **Hubert "Hub" Walsh**

Larry T. Combs
County Executive Officer

In accordance with the provisions of Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I am pleased to submit the 2010 Merced County Report on Agriculture. This report summarizes the acreage, production, and gross value of Merced County's agricultural commodities.

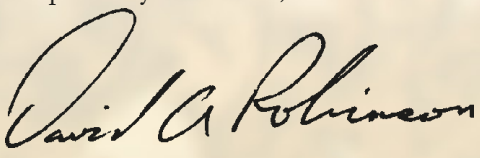
Overall, the 2010 growing season was quite good for most crops. Merced County agriculture commodities grossed $2,733,492,000, and for the sixth consecutive year surpassed the 2 billion dollar mark in gross production value. This represents an increase of $273,017,000 over the 2009 values. These figures represent gross returns to the producer and do not take into account the costs of production, marketing, or transportation. Net income of the producer is not reflected in this report.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OF THE 2010 CROP YEAR:

- Milk remains the county's number one commodity with an overall value of $862,819,000, an increase of $201,779,000 (30.5%) over the 2009 crop year. Much of this increase is due to the increase in price and a modest increase in production. Prices increased approximately 28% for market milk and approximately 20% for milk used in manufacturing.
- Almonds regained status as the second leading commodity with a gross production value of $286,600,000. An increase in both acreage and price provided for a 16.9% increase in overall value.
- Chickens remained steady in 2010 experiencing a slight drop in both production and price. Total production value was down 10% for a total of $275,536,000 making chickens our third leading commodity.
- Cattle & calves, held steady as the fourth leading commodity, posting an increase in value of 4.9% for a total of $225,408,000 in 2010. Although cattle numbers were down, prices increased 16.0%.
- Sweet potatoes remained the number five commodity despite the slight decrease in both production and price. Total production value was $152,863,000, down 11.1% from 2009.
- Tomatoes, both market and processing, experienced a decrease in acreage, production and price yet remained our sixth leading commodity.
- In 2010, cotton regained its top twelve status. Overall cotton acreage increased nearly 68.0% and combined with record high prices came in at number ten. Prices rose 48.0% and the total value of $69,804,000, increased by 125.0% over last year's value.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to our growers and ranchers, industry representatives and the members of my staff who assisted in the gathering of data for this report.

Respectfully submitted,



David A. Robinson, *Agricultural Commissioner*

Field Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Barley	2010	4,065	1.97	7,993	Ton	$154.32	$1,233,000
	2009	3,185	2.77	8,823		$153.75	$1,357,000
Beans (Dry Lima)	2010	1,823	1.36	2,476	Ton	$972.53	$2,408,000
	2009	2,259	1.19	2,697		$1,122.12	$3,027,000
Corn (Grain) [1]	2010	12,088	5.88	71,133	Ton	$196.46	$13,975,000
	2009	10,826	5.94	64,338		$186.09	$11,973,000
Cotton (Acala)	2010	25,915	2.88	74,566	500 Lb Bale	$553.63	$41,282,000
	2009	14,467	2.98	43,099		$387.80	$16,714,000
Cotton (Pima)	2010	13,350	2.40	32,081	500 Lb Bale	$889.09	$28,522,000
	2009	8,918	2.74	24,401		$587.09	$14,326,000
Cotton (Seed)	2010	—	0.98	38,595	Ton	$291.84	$11,264,000
	2009	—	0.99	23,262		$270.00	$6,281,000
Hay (Alfalfa)	2010	84,186	6.47	544,262	Ton	$143.17	$77,922,000
	2009	90,551	6.90	625,204		$118.85	$74,306,000
Hay (Grain) [2]	2010	36,074	3.12	112,721	Ton	$78.14	$8,808,000
	2009	40,461	3.62	146,430		$70.26	$10,288,000
Hay (Sudan)	2010	9,708	4.63	44,922	Ton	$123.75	$5,559,000
	2009	10,104	2.29	23,123		$82.60	$1,910,000
Misc. Field Crops [3]	2010	3,219	—	—	—	—	$1,518,000
	2009	3,040	—	—		—	$1,326,000
Pasture (Irrigated)	2010	30,719	—	30,719	Acre	$160.00	$4,915,000
	2009	30,719	—	30,719		$157.50	$4,838,000
Pasture (Other)	2010	567,391	—	567,391	Acre	$25.00	$14,185,000
	2009	569,828	—	569,828		$21.00	$11,966,000
Rice	2010	2,499	4.05	10,125	Ton	$293.43	$2,971,000
	2009	2,455	3.84	9,432		$364.63	$3,439,000
Silage (Alfalfa)	2010	—	0.84	70,598	Ton	$33.36	$2,355,000
	2009	—	1.94	175,271		$35.83	$6,279,000
Silage (Corn)	2010	90,119	27.74	2,499,530	Ton	$31.67	$79,164,000
	2009	97,880	26.27	2,571,215		$27.04	$69,528,000
Silage (Other) [4]	2010	70,647	15.57	1,100,045	Ton	$21.27	$23,392,000
	2009	78,311	12.85	1,006,109		$19.20	$19,315,000
Straw [5]	2010	—	—	3,779	Ton	$32.64	$123,000
	2009	—	—	4,410		$33.68	$149,000
Stubble (Pasture)	2010	—	—	15,153	Acre	$20.00	$303,000
	2009	—	—	14,488		$18.00	$261,000
Wheat [6]	2010	11,940	2.89	34,474	Ton	$175.15	$6,038,000
	2009	11,420	3.50	39,996		$268.46	$10,737,000
TOTAL	2010	963,745					$325,939,000
	2009	974,421					$268,019,000

[1] For 2010: Includes Human Consumption Corn (but not Fresh Market Corn).
For 2009: Includes Human Consumption Corn (but not Fresh Market Corn), and grain for Feed.

[2] For 2010: Includes Oat, Wheat, and Winter Forage Hay.
For 2009: Includes Forage, Oat, and Wheat Hay.

[3] For 2010: Includes Beans (Dry Other), Corn Stalks and Earledge, Milo, Oat Grain, and Safflower.
For 2009: Includes Beans (Dry Other), Cotton Mote, Oat Grain, Milo, and Safflower.

[4] For 2010: Includes Oat, Sorghum, Sudan, Triticale, Wheat, and Winter Forage.
For 2009: Includes Oat, Sorghum, Sudan, Wheat, and Winter Forage

[5] For 2010: Includes Straw from Barley. Bean (Dry), Oat, Rice, and Wheat.
For 2009: Includes Straw from Barley, Bean (Dry), Oat, Rice and Wheat.

[6] For 2010: Includes Dryland farming

Vegetable Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Beans, Lima (Freezer)	2010	992	1.80	1,789	Ton	$599.38	$1,073,000
	2009	1,479	1.80	2,659		$601.90	$1,600,000
Melons (Cantaloupe) [1]	2010	6,353	599.38	3,807,831	40lb Ctn	$4.73	$18,021,000
	2009	5,678	678.27	3,851,234		$5.68	$21,875,000
Melons (Other) [2]	2010	3,401	21.16	71,970	Ton	$244.45	$17,593,000
	2009	2,084	39.37	82,043		$258.54	$21,211,000
Misc. Vegetables [3]	2010	3,422	—	—	—	—	$20,946,000
	2009	3,615	—	—		—	$20,014,000
Sweet Potatoes [4]	2010	16,548	15.39	254,674	Ton	$600.23	$152,863,000
	2009	16,361	16.28	266,357		$645.48	$171,928,000
Tomatoes (Market) [5]	2010	8,612	1,069.88	9,214,183	25lb Ctn	$4.99	$45,971,000
	2009	10,987	1,282.63	14,092,000		$5.81	$81,862,000
Tomatoes (Processing)	2010	20,582	44.71	920,164	Ton	$66.65	$61,326,000
	2009	21,000	45.51	955,807		$80.89	$77,318,000
TOTAL	2010	59,910					$317,794,000
	2009	61,204					$395,809,000

[1] For 2010, 2009: Price reflects wholesale after packing and shipping.

[2] For 2010, 2009: Includes Honeydew, Mixed Melons, and Watermelon.

[3] For 2010: Includes Asparagus, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage (Napa), Cantaloupe (Organic), Cilantro, Corn (Fresh), Cucumber, Dill, Garlic, Leek, Onion, Parsley, Pepper (Bell, Spice), Pumpkin, Radicchio, Radish, Sage, Spice/Herb, and Squash.
For 2009: Includes Asparagus, Arrugula, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage (Napa), Cantaloupe (Organic & Processing, Cilantro, Corn (Sweet), Cucumber, Cucumber (Pickle), Dill, Garlic, Honeydew (Organic), Leek, Onion (Dry, Fresh, Green), Oregano, Pepper (Bell, Chili Dried, Spice), Pumpkin, Radicchio (Organic, Spring, Winter), Radish, Sage, Squash, Squash (Winter, Summer), Sunflower, Tomatillo, and Tomato (Processing Organic).

[4] For 2010, 2009: Price reflects wholesale after packing and shipping.

[5] For 2010, 2009: Price reflects wholesale after packing and shipping.

Bee Industry

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Beeswax	2010	57,420	Lb	$2.37	$136,000
	2009	22,203		$2.06	$46,000
Bulk Bees [1]	2010	67,492	Lb	$12.00	$810,000
	2009	69,586		$11.00	$765,000
Honey [2]	2010	3,732,326	Lb	$1.49	$5,561,000
	2009	1,443,207		$1.37	$1,977,000
Pollination [3]	2010	169,624	Colony	$121.59	$20,625,000
	2009	151,242		$133.59	$20,205,000
Queens [4]	2010	25,867	Each	$17.94	$464,000
	2009	37,147		$10.53	$391,000
TOTAL	2010				$27,596,000
	2009				$23,384,000

[1] For 2010, 2009: Includes Bees Sold as Bulk Bees, Nuclei, and Packaged Bees.

[2] For 2010: Honey produced by 44,180 resident colonies.
For 2009: Honey produced by 42,076 resident colonies.

[3] For 2010, 2009: Pollination colonies include all required to pollinate crops grown in Merced County.

[4] For 2010, 2009: Includes Mated Queens and Queen Cells.

Seed Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Seed Crops [1]	2010	5,072	—	—	—	—	$3,175,000
	2009	5,626	—	—		—	$3,746,000
TOTAL	2010	5,072					$3,175,000
	2009	5,626					$3,746,000

[1] For 2010: Includes Certified, Common, and Phytosanitary Seed from Barley, Bean (Lima), Cotton, Lettuce, Oat, Radish, Rice, Rye, and Wheat.
For 2009: Includes Certified, Common, and Phytosanitary Seed from Barley, Bean (Lima), Cauliflower, Lettuce, Mustard, Oat, Rye, Turnip, and Wheat.

Fruit and Nut Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Almonds (Hulls)	2010	—	—	157,513	Ton	$100.88	$15,890,000
	2009	—	—	157,245		$84.37	$13,267,000
Almonds (Kernel Basis)	2010	98,895	0.78	77,460	Ton	$3,699.98	$286,600,000
	2009	94,635	0.82	77,600		$3,160.00	$245,217,000
Apricots	2010	413	14.24	5,884	Ton	$381.52	$2,245,000
	2009	807	5.71	4,611		$316.30	$1,458,000
Figs (Dry)	2010	980	1.26	1,235	Ton	$1,339.19	$1,653,000
	2009	1,572	1.25	1,972		$1,487.98	$2,934,000
Grapes (Raisin)	2010	551	1.50	826	Ton	$1,486.11	$1,227,000
	2009	569	2.53	1,439		$978.71	$1,408,000
Grapes (Wine)	2010	11,186	9.03	101,004	Ton	$334.27	$33,763,000
	2009	11,317	11.36	128,596		$325.21	$41,821,000
Miscellaneous [1]	2010	2,179	—	—	—	—	$30,983,000
	2009	1,959	—	—		—	$23,253,000
Peaches (Clingstone)	2010	2,631	21.04	55,352	Ton	$285.95	$15,828,000
	2009	2,749	19.75	54,281		$317.14	$17,215,000
Peaches (Freestone)	2010	1,875	23.71	44,453	Ton	$268.71	$11,945,000
	2009	1,836	18.13	33,283		$268.55	$8,938,000
Pistachios	2010	4,446	1.86	8,265	Ton	$4,949.71	$40,912,000
	2009	4,411	0.87	3,841		$3,474.60	$13,345,000
Plums, Dried	2010	1,706	2.20	3,752	Ton	$1,523.06	$5,714,000
	2009	1,753	1.56	2,743		$1,399.81	$3,839,000
Strawberries	2010	74	7.13	527	Ton	$1,516.09	$800,000
	2009	70	8.10	563		$868.69	$489,000
Walnuts (English)	2010	5,326	1.64	8,741	Ton	$2,069.46	$18,088,000
	2009	5,612	1.58	8,858		$1,724.37	$15,275,000
TOTAL	2010	130,261					$465,648,000
	2009	127,289					$388,459,000

[1] For 2010: Includes Apple, Blueberry, Cherry, Fig (Fresh), Fruit Juice, Grape (Raisin to Wine), Kiwi, Nectarine, Olives, Orange (Mandarin), Organic Fruit and Nut, Pear (Asian), Pecan, Persimmon, Plum, Pluot, and Pomegranate.
For 2009: Includes Apple, Apricot (Fresh), Blueberry, Cherry, Fig (Fresh), Fruit Juice, Grape (Raisin to Wine), Kiwi, Nectarine, Olives (Processed), Orange (Mandarin), Organic Fruit and Nut, Pear (Asian), Pecan, Persimmon, Plum, Pluot, and Pomegranate.

Fruit and Nut Acreage Planting

CROPS	BEARING 2010	NON-BEARING 2010	BEARING 2005	NON-BEARING 2005
Almonds	98,895	2,799	87,159	8,558
Apples	1	0	203	0
Apricots	441	0	1,272	0
Berries	189	0	283	0
Cherries	365	41	338	2
Figs	1,226	194	3,022	0
Grapes (Raisin)	612	0	771	0
Grapes (Table)	0	0	124	0
Grapes (Wine)	11,186	622	11,542	301
Jujube	0	0	20	0
Kiwi	26	0	33	0
Mandarins	16	0	9	1
Nectarines	99	0	112	25
Olives	7	0	12	0
Oranges	6	0	4	1
Peaches (Clingstone)	2,631	48	3,649	72
Peaches (Freestone)	1,875	32	1,790	173
Pears	7	0	13	0
Pecans	0	0	32	5
Persimmon	16	20	2	0
Pistachios	5,006	490	4,584	241
Plums	86	28	78	12
Plums (Dried)	1,706	250	1,902	38
Pluot	38	0	72	0
Pomegranate	202	108	12	0
Walnuts (English)	5,326	210	5,948	474
TOTAL	129,962	4,842	122,986	9,903

Nursery Products

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
All Nursery Products [1]	2010	1,316	—	—	—	—	$45,855,000
	2009	1,428	—	—	—	—	$38,661,000
TOTAL	2010	1,316					$45,855,000
	2009	1,428					$38,661,000

[1] For 2010: Includes Bud Wood, Cane Berries, Christmas Trees, Crowns and Cuttings, Deciduous Fruit and Nut Trees, Decorative Plants, Dried Flowers, Greenhouse Plants, Ornamental Plants, Ornamental and Shade Trees, Transplants (Strawberry and Vegetables) and Turf. The Separate production and value are not shown to avoid disclosing individual operations.
For 2009: Includes Bud Wood, Cane Berries, Christmas Trees, Crowns and Cuttings, Deciduous Fruit and Nut Trees, Decorative Plants, Dried Flowers, Greenhouse Plants, Ornamental Plants, Ornamental and Shade Trees, Transplants (Strawberry and Vegetable), and Turf. The separate production and value are not shown to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Countries of Export

Algeria
Albania
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Bahrain
Bangladesh
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Brazil
Bulgaria
Canada
Canary Islands
Chile
China
Costa Rica
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Egypt
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hong Kong
India
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Japan
Jordan
Republic of Korea
Kuwait
Latvia
Lebanon
Lithuania
Malaysia
Mexico
Morocco
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Pakistan
Panama
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Serbia
Singapore
South Africa
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Taiwan
Thailand
Tunisia
Turkey
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
Venezuela
Vietnam

Commodities of Export

Almond
Alfalfa
Alfalfa Hay
Broccoli
Fennel
Fig
Oats
Onion
Pecan
Pistachio nut
Plum
Prune
Radicchio
Raspberry
Strawberry
Sudan Hay
Sudan Grass
Sudan Hay
Tomato
Walnut

Livestock and Poultry Production

CROP	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	PRODUCTION PER HEAD	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Cattle and Calves [1]	2010	320,884	8.41	2,698,761	Cwt	$83.52	$225,408,000
	2009	367,080	8.13	2,982,947		$72.02	$214,832,000
Chickens (Fryers and Broilers)	2010	77,744,725	5.72	444,699,827	Lb	$0.62	$275,536,000
	2009	82,354,694	5.65	465,304,021		$0.66	$306,200,000
Livestock (Miscellaneous) [2]	2010	38,735	—	—	—	—	$5,324,000
	2009	30,771	—	—		—	$4,029,000
Poultry (Miscellaneous) [3]	2010	78,000	—	—	—	—	$727,000
	2009	61,000	—	—		—	$583,000
Sheep and Lambs	2010	29,650	1.00	29,650	Cwt	$121.97	$3,616,000
	2009	21,474	1.60	34,318		$79.09	$2,714,000
Turkeys	2010	2,306,709	31.18	71,923,187	Lb	$0.83	$59,970,000
	2009	2,701,196	29.98	80,981,856		$0.66	$53,408,000
TOTAL	2010	80,518,703					$570,580,000
	2009	85,536,215					$581,766,000

[1] For 2010: Includes Calves, Cull Bulls (Dairy and Beef), Cull Cows (Dairy and Beef), Replacement Heifers (Dairy and Beef) and Stocker Cattle.
For 2009: Includes Calves, Cull Bulls (Dairy and Beef),Culls Cows (Dairy and Beef), Replacement Heifers (Dairy and Beef) and Stocker Cattle.

[2] For 2010, 2009: Includes Dairy and Meat Goats sold for meat.

[3] For 2010, 2009: Includes Chukar, Pheasant, and Squab.

Livestock and Poultry Products

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Eggs (Other) [1]	2010	1,460,000	Each	$0.37	$540,000
	2009	2,390,363		$1.01	$2,407,000
Eggs, Chicken (Market)	2010	112,351,020	Dozn	$0.83	$93,251,000
	2009	112,184,190		$0.72	$80,885,000
Milk (Goat)	2010	86,884	Cwt	$42.83	$3,721,000
	2009	48,987		$36.00	$1,764,000
Milk (Manufacturing)	2010	8,702,438	Cwt	$14.55	$126,627,000
	2009	7,858,120		$12.10	$95,083,000
Milk (Market)	2010	50,048,038	Cwt	$14.71	$736,192,000
	2009	49,249,930		$11.49	$565,957,000
Wool	2010	116,983	Lb	$1.15	$135,000
	2009	178,050		$0.85	$151,000
TOTAL	2010				$960,466,000
	2009				$746,247,000

[1] For 2010, 2009: Includes Eggs other than Chicken Eggs.

Aquaculture

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Fish [1]	2010	832,100	Lb	$2.52	$2,098,000
	2009	831,500		$2.63	$2,183,000
TOTAL	2010				$2,098,000
	2009				$2,183,000

[1] For 2010: Includes Black Bass, Bluegill, Catfish, Silver Carp, Sturgeon, and Trout.
For 2009: Includes Black Bass, Bluegill, Catfish, Perch, Silver Carp, Sturgeon, and Trout.

Other Agriculture

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Almond (Shells) [1]	2010	49,756	Ton	$19.94	$992,000
	2009	65,174		$12.10	$788,000
Firewood [2]	2010	24,991	Cord	$166.55	$4,162,000
	2009	20,796		$163.32	$3,396,000
Fuel (Cogeneration) [3]	2010	62,325	Ton	$40.00	$2,493,000
	2009	43,900		$40.00	$1,756,000
Manure [4]	2010	1,003,570	Ton	$6.67	$6,694,000
	2009	992,019		$6.31	$6,260,000
TOTAL	2010				$14,341,000
	2009				$12,201,000

[1] For 2010, 2009: For Animal Bedding.
[2] For 2010, 2009: Includes Orchard Prunings and Removal for Firewood (Recorded in Cords).
[3] For 2010, 2009: Includes Orchard Prunings and Orchard Removal for Fuel (Recorded in Dry Tons).
[4] For 2010, 2009: Includes Livestock and Poultry Manure.

PEST PREVENTION

The California Food and Agricultural Code mandates pest prevention programs to prevent the introduction and spread of pests in California. Pest prevention involves Pest Exclusion, Pest Detection, Pierce's Disease Control, and the Federal Phytosanitary Certification Program.

PEST EXCLUSION PROGRAM

Pest Exclusion is the first line of defense to prevent the introduction of pests, injurious to agriculture, that are not of common occurrence in Merced County.

A total of 8,286 shipments of incoming plant material were inspected in 2010. Shipments are inspected at United Parcel Service, United States Post Offices, Federal Express and trucking terminals. Ten shipments were rejected. The 10 rejections were for live pests, material not properly certified, or improperly marked containers.

PIERCE'S DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM

To prevent the introduction of the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) into Merced County, which is the main insect vector of Pierce's Disease, all shipments of nursery stock from infested counties are inspected. GWSS has the ability to spread Pierce's Disease rapidly among grape vines with devastating results. Five hundred and sixty-nine shipments of nursery stock from infested counties were inspected in 2010.

In addition, all nurseries receiving nursery stock from GWSS infested areas plus 2,094 residential yards were visually inspected for GWSS presence during 2010. Merced County continues to be free from GWSS.

FEDERAL PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

This program ensures that plants and plant commodities exported to foreign countries from Merced County are free from injurious pests. In 2010, the Merced County staff inspected and issued Phytosanitary Certificates for 5,305 export shipments.

PEST DETECTION PROGRAM

Pest Detection uses visual inspection and insect traps that target specific exotic insects of high agricultural and economic importance.

The trapping program in Merced County targeted the following pests:

Asian Citrus Psyllid *(Diaphorina citri Kuwayama)* *
Apple Maggot *(Rhagoletis pomonella)*
European Pine Shoot Moth *(Rhyacionia buoliana)*
Glassy-winged Sharpshooter *(Homalodisca coagulate)*
Light Brown Apple Moth *(Epiphyas postvittana)*
Khapra Beetle *(Trogoderma granarium)*
Melon Fly *(Dacus cucurbitae)*
Oriental Fruit Fly *(Dacus dorsalis)*
European Grape Vine Moth *(Lobesia botana)* *
Vine Mealy Bug *(Planococcus ficus)*
European Corn Borer *(Ostrinia nubilalus)*
Gypsy Moth *(Lymantria dispar)*
Japanese Beetle *(Popillia japonica)*
Mediterranean Fruit Fly *(Ceratitis capitata)*
Mexican Fruit Fly *(Anastrepha ludens)*
Sweet Potato Weevil *(Cylas formicarius elegantulus)*

* New for 2010

A total of 2,502 pest detection traps were placed in Merced County and inspected 24,414 times during the 2010 trapping season.

PEST ERADICATION PROGRAM

The Pest Eradication Program endeavors to eliminate infestations of significant agricultural pests with limited distribution before they are able to cause an on-going economic cost to California Agriculture.

Successful eradication projects include Sweet Potato Weevil, Banana Waterlily, and Japanese Dodder.

Detection and eradication efforts for the invasive weeds; South American Sponge Plant ("A" Rated), Capeweed ("A" Rated), Purple Loosestrife ("B" Rated), and Purple Mustard ("B" Rated) were conducted during 2010.

Detection efforts for Camelthorn, Carolina Horse Nettle, and Hydrilla are continuing.

Detection and eradication efforts for insect pests Pink Bollworm and Red Imported Fire Ant are continuing.

Three native Pink Bollworm moths were trapped on the Westside of Merced County in 2010.

The Pink Bollworm is a major cotton pest. Eradication efforts included a State operated trapping program of 39,265 acres in conjunction with County enforcement of the host - free period from January 1 through March 10, also known as cotton plow down. Treatment is accomplished by disrupting mating, utilizing pheromones and sterile moths.

Merced County's Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) eradication program started in November 2001. Since that time, 41,000 plus acres have been surveyed for RIFA; 12,022 acres have been found to be infested with RIFA. During 2010, there were additional finds made in several areas of the County. At the end of 2010, acres under treatment totaled 8,711. A total of 557 acres were declared eradicated, and 5,846 acres are being monitored for re-infestations of RIFA with post treatment surveys. CDFA personnel in conjunction with County personnel conducted these surveys.

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

The Biological Control (Biocontrol) Program uses natural enemies to suppress pest populations to economically and environmentally acceptable levels. Once the biocontrol agent becomes established it is self-perpetuating, reducing the need to use pesticides. The following are pests found in Merced County and their Biocontrol Agents.

PEST	ORGANISM
Ash Whitefly *(Siphoninus phillyreae)*	Parasitoid Wasp *(Encarsia inaron)*
Grapeleaf Skeletonizer *(Harrisina brillians)*	Parasitic Fly *(Ametadoria misella)* Virus *(WGLS Granulosis)* Parasitic Wasp *(Apanteles harrisinae)*
Itallian Thistle *(Carduus sp.)*	Seed-Head Weevil *(Rhinocllyus conicus)*
Klamath Weed *(Hypericum perforatum)*	Leaf Beetle *(Chrysolina quadrigemina)*
Milk Thistle *(Silybum marianum)*	Seed-Head Weevil *(Rhinocyllus conicus)*
Puncture Vine *(Tribulus terrestris)*	Seed Weevil *(Microlarinus lareynii)* Stem Weevil *(Microlarinus lypriformis)*
Red Gum Lerp Psyllid *(Glycaspis brimblecombei)*	Parasitoid Wasp *(Psyllaephagus bliteus)*
Russian Thistle *(Salsola sp.)*	Case-bearer Moth *(Coleophora klimeschiella)* Russian Thistle Borer *(Coleophora parthenica)*
Yellowstar Thistle *(Centaurea solstitialis)*	Seed-Head Weevil *(Bangasternus orientalis)* Seed-Head Gall Fly *(Urophora sirunaseva)* Hairy Weevil *(Eustenopus villosus)* False Peacock Fly *(Chaetorellia succinea)* Rust Fungus *(Puccinia jaceae var. solstitialis)*

ORGANIC FARMING

Merced County had 51 growers of organic commodities, four organic processors, and four organic handlers in 2010. These growers farmed a total of 45,037 acres to produce assorted organic field crops, berries, fruits, nuts, vegetables, irrigated, and non-irrigated pastureland. Organic eggs, livestock, milk, and poultry were also produced.

EUROPEAN GRAPEVINE MOTH (EGVM)

The European Grapevine Moth (EGVM), also known as Lobesia botrana, is a destructive pest of grapes (wine, table, raisin, and wild grapes); however, it will also feed on a number of other hosts.

The EGVM was originally discovered in the autumn of 2009 in the Napa Valley region of California, the first ever recorded find in the United States, and has already caused considerable crop damage in the Napa Valley. Larvae prefer to feed on flowers and the inside of berries, causing significant damage and possible exposure to fungal infections. By mid-summer 2010, there were EGVM detections in the San Joaquin Valley locations of Fresno, Merced, and San Joaquin counties.

To date, there have been four positive finds for EGVM in Merced County. All of which, were found in the same area and during the same time frame. This resulted in a portion of Merced County being placed under a Federal Quarantine, restricting the movement of host commodities, and the ability to export to some countries.

All of the commercial grapes in Merced County, outside of the quarantine area, are currently being trapped for EGVM at a density of 15 traps per square mile. Within the quarantine area all host commodities are being trapped at a density of 25 traps per square mile.

It is important to detect and eradicate EGVM infestations while the population is still small. Grapes are ranked second among agricultural commodities in California and ranked fourteenth in Merced County. Establishment of this pest can be catastrophic to our vineyards. Places in Europe, the Mediterranean, Africa, the Middle East, Japan, and Chile are already dealing with the negative impacts of this pest.

Your backyard fruit is also at risk if this pest gets established. You can help by not transporting fresh fruits, vegetables, and plants out of the area, especially if you are within a quarantined area.

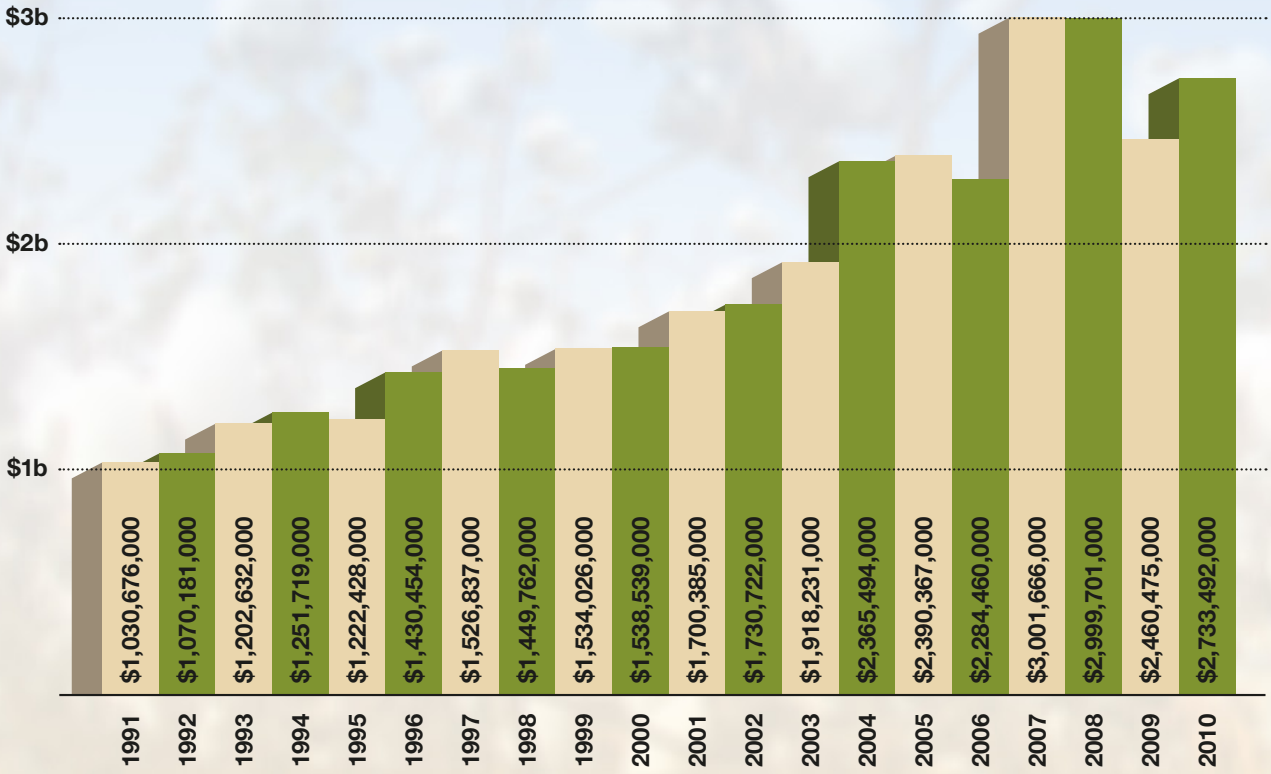
Delta trap, type used for detection of EGVM.

One of the actual specimens trapped in Merced County.

Commodity Value Crop Comparison

COMMODITIES	2010	2000	1990	1980
Aquaculture	$2,098,000	$3,814,000	$2,809,000	---
Bee Industry	$27,596,000	$9,833,000	$4,565,000	$2,923,000
Field Crops	$325,939,000	$230,751,000	$228,475,000	$191,239,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	$465,648,000	$213,310,000	$200,773,000	$152,584,000
Livestock and Poultry Production	$570,580,000	$316,098,000	$231,735,000	$191,226,000
Livestock and Poultry Products	$960,466,000	$524,493,000	$314,963,000	$171,548,000
Nursery Products	$45,855,000	$21,758,000	$12,036,000	$15,734,000
Other Agriculture	$14,341,000	$10,340,000	$8,639,000	---
Seed Crops	$3,175,000	$1,689,000	$1,465,000	$3,012,000
Vegetable Crops	$317,794,000	$206,451,000	$93,625,000	$65,831,000
Total	$2,733,492,000	$1,538,539,000	$1,099,085,000	$794,097,000

Merced County Agricultural Commodity Values 1991–2010



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MERCED COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ORGANIC FARMING & CERTIFIED FARMERS MARKET PROGRAM

2011 REPORT ON AGRICULTURE

Organic Production In Merced County

Consumer demand for organic products has increased dramatically over the past decade, resulting in a corresponding growth in the number of organic producers to meet this growing demand. Merced County is no exception. There have been an increasing number of new producers growing an array of organic products in recent years.

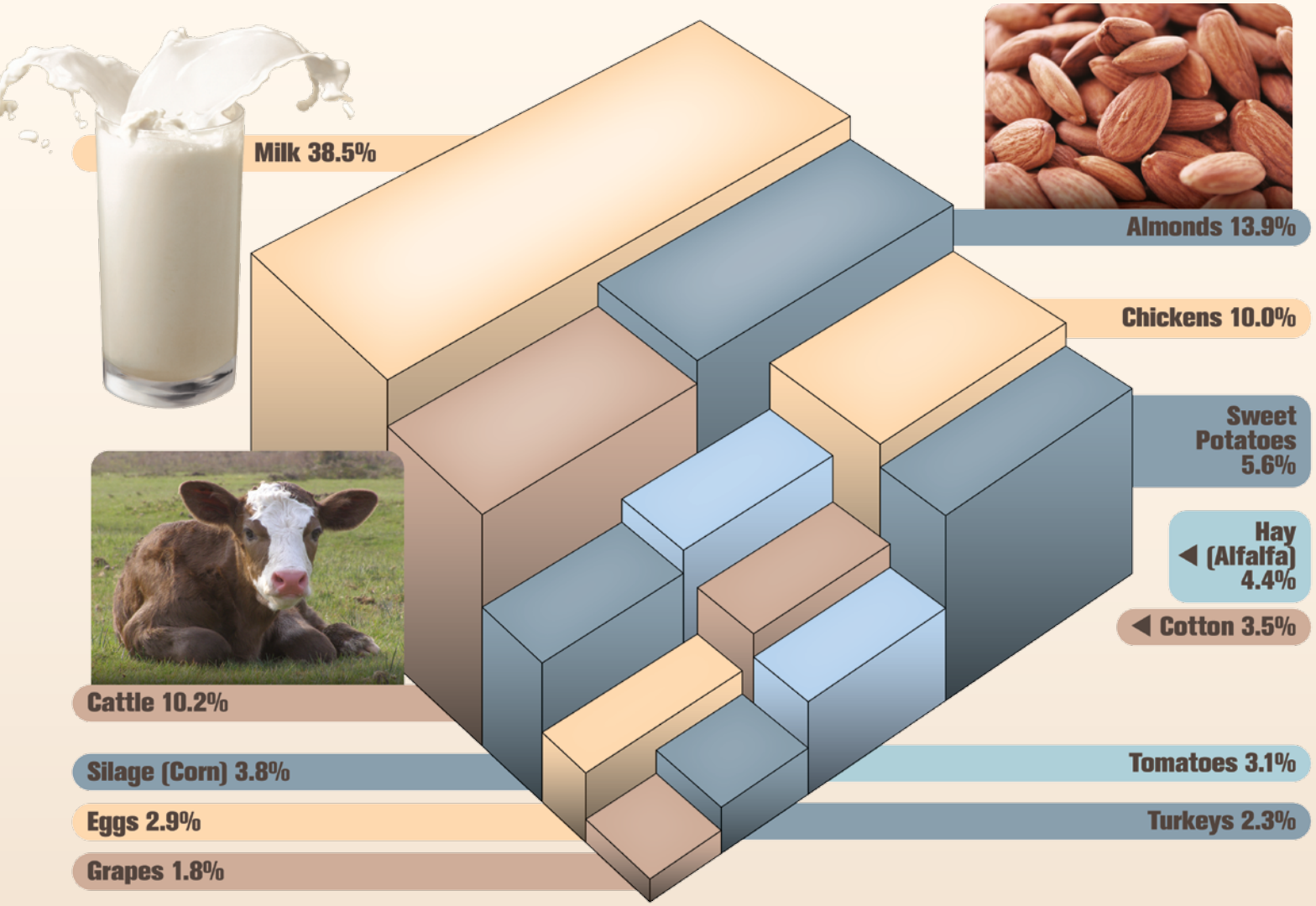
In 2001, Merced County had a total of 47 registered organic producers and three organic livestock and poultry processors. They produced 20 commodities on a total of 2,380 acres along with some milk and egg production.

According to the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) Organic Program, Merced County had 55 growers of organic commodities, three organic processors, and five organic handlers in 2011. These growers farmed a total of 35,170 acres to produce assorted organic field crops, berries, fruits, nuts, vegetables, as well as organic pastureland, fallow farmland, and rangeland. Organic eggs, livestock, milk, and poultry were also produced. In all, over 117 different organic commodities were produced in Merced County during 2011 with a reported value of over $87,000,000.

Anyone interested in learning more information about the Organic Program in California, or in learning the process for registering as an organic producer, processor, or handler, may do so by contacting their local County Agricultural Commissioner's office.

Top Twelve Leading Farm Commodities 2011

RANK	CROP	VALUE	PREVIOUS RANK
1	Milk includes Market and Manufacturing	$1,101,381,000	1
2	Almonds (Kernel Basis)	$397,168,000	2
3	Cattle and Calves	$290,823,000	4 ↑
4	Chickens includes Fryers and Other Chickens.	$285,652,000	3 ↓
5	Sweet Potatoes	$159,094,000	5
6	Hay (Alfalfa)	$124,279,000	9 ↑↑↑
7	Silage (Corn)	$107,475,000	8 ↑
8	Cotton includes Acala and Pima Cotton.	$98,830,000	10 ↑↑
9	Tomatoes includes Market and Processing Tomatoes.	$89,268,000	6 ↓↓↓
10	Eggs, Chicken (Market)	$85,196,000	7 ↓↓↓
11	Turkeys	$65,993,000	11
12	Grapes (Wine)	$50,179,000	14 ↑↑



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California Department of Food and Agriculture
and
The Honorable Board of Supervisors, County of Merced
Hubert "Hub" Walsh, Jr., *Chairman*
Linn Davis **Deidre F. Kelsey**
Jerry O'Banion **John Pedrozo**
James L. Brown
County Executive Officer

In accordance with the provisions of Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I am pleased to submit the 2011 Merced County Report of Agriculture. This report summarizes the acreage, production, and gross value of Merced County's agricultural commodities.

For the second time, Merced County agriculture surpassed the three-billion-dollar mark in gross production value. Overall, the 2011 growing season was again good for most crops. Merced County agricultural commodities grossed $3,259,868,000, an increase of $526,376,000 over 2010 values and a record high. These figures represent gross returns to the producer and do not take into account the costs of production, marketing, or transportation. Net income of the producer is not reflected in this report.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OF THE 2011 CROP YEAR

- Milk remains the county's number one commodity with an overall value of $1,101,381,000, an increase of $238,562,000 (27.6%) over the 2010 crop year. Much of this increase is due to the increase in price and a modest increase in production. Prices increased approximately 28% for market milk and approximately 20% for milk used in manufacturing.
- Almonds remained the second leading commodity with a gross production value of $397,168,000. Increases in acreage, yield and price provided for a 38.6% increase in overall value.
- Cattle & Calves surpassed chickens and took the number three spot with a gross production value of $290,823,000. This is a 29.0% increase over last year. The $65,415,000 can be attributed to a significant increase in cattle prices as well as an increase in production.
- Chickens remained steady in 2011, although there was a slight drop in production and prices increased a modest 3.0%. Total value was up $10,116,000 for a total of $285,652,000 making chickens our fourth leading commodity.
- Sweet potatoes remained the number five commodity despite the slight decrease in production. Prices were up nearly 20%. Total production value was $159,094,000, up 4.1% from 2010.
- Cotton regained top twelve status in 2010 but jumped to number eight in 2011. An increase in cotton acreage, combined with higher prices and production equated to a total production value of $98,830,000.
- Alfalfa hay and corn silage came in as our number six and seven leading crops. Both posted significant gains in prices. Tomatoes and market chicken eggs were both down due to lower acreage and production respectively.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to our growers, ranchers, industry representatives and the members of my staff who assisted in the gathering of data for this report.

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Robinson, *Agricultural Commissioner*

Field Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Barley	2011	2,294	2.37	5,441	Ton	$169.38	$922,000
	2010	4,065	1.97	7,993		$154.32	$1,233,000
Beans (Dry Lima)	2011	1,278	1.34	1,710	Ton	$913.31	$1,561,000
	2010	1,823	1.36	2,476		$972.53	$2,408,000
Corn (Grain) (1)	2011	15,992	6.14	98,121	Ton	$244.89	$24,029,000
	2010	12,088	5.88	71,133		$196.46	$13,975,000
Cotton (Acala)	2011	47,010	2.97	139,804	500-Lb Bale	$576.34	$80,575,000
	2010	25,915	2.88	74,566		$553.63	$41,282,000
Cotton (Pima)	2011	8,595	2.62	22,525	500-Lb Bale	$810.45	$18,255,000
	2010	13,350	2.40	32,081		$889.09	$28,522,000
Cotton (Seed)	2011	—	1.03	57,473	Ton	$200.00	$11,495,000
	2010	—	0.98	38,595		$291.84	$11,264,000
Hay (Alfalfa)	2011	76,682	6.67	511,811	Ton	$242.82	$124,279,000
	2010	84,186	6.47	544,262		$143.17	$77,922,000
Hay (Grain) (2)	2011	32,802	3.62	118,804	Ton	$133.38	$15,846,000
	2010	36,074	3.12	112,721		$78.14	$8,808,000
Hay (Sudan)	2011	9,939	2.17	21,583	Ton	$137.65	$2,971,000
	2010	9,708	4.63	44,922		$123.75	$5,559,000
Misc. Field Crops (3)	2011	2,364	—	—	—	—	$1,253,000
	2010	3,219	—	—		—	$1,518,000
Pasture (Irrigated)	2011	26,597	—	26,597	Acre	$167.34	$4,451,000
	2010	30,719	—	30,719		$160.00	$4,915,000
Pasture (Other)	2011	562,471	—	562,471	Acre	$19.03	$10,704,000
	2010	567,391	—	567,391		$25.00	$14,185,000
Rice	2011	2,261	4.31	9,742	Ton	$359.47	$3,502,000
	2010	2,499	4.05	10,125		$293.43	$2,971,000
Silage (Alfalfa)	2011	—	2.34	179,198	Ton	$64.85	$11,621,000
	2010	—	0.84	70,598		$33.36	$2,355,000
Silage (Corn)	2011	87,768	27.07	2,375,923	Ton	$45.24	$107,475,000
	2010	90,119	27.74	2,499,530		$31.67	$79,164,000
Silage (Other) (4)	2011	66,206	13.63	902,409	Ton	$30.32	$27,361,000
	2010	70,647	15.57	1,100,045		$21.27	$23,392,000
Straw (5)	2011	—	—	3,808	Ton	$43.88	$167,000
	2010	—	—	3,779		$32.64	$123,000
Stubble (Pasture)	2011	—	—	13,803	Acre	$50.00	$690,000
	2010	—	—	15,153		$20.00	$303,000
Wheat (6)	2011	16,675	3.03	50,503	Ton	$245.54	$12,401,000
	2010	11,940	2.89	34,474		$175.15	$6,038,000
Total	2011	958,933					$459,557,000
	2010	963,745					$325,939,000

(1) For 2011: Includes Human Consumption Corn (but not Fresh Market Corn), and grain for feed.
For 2010: Includes Human Consumption Corn (but not Fresh Market Corn).
(2) For 2011: Includes Oat, Rye Grass, and Wheat.
For 2010: Includes Oat, Wheat, and Winter Forage Hay.
(3) For 2011, 2010: Includes Beans (Dry Other), Corn Stalks and Earledge, Milo, Oat Grain, and Safflower.
(4) For 2011: Includes Oat, Sudan, and Wheat.
For 2010: Includes Oat, Sorghum, Sudan, Triticale, Wheat, and Winter Forage.
(5) For 2011, 2010: Includes Straw from Barley, Bean (Dry), Oat, Rice, and Wheat.
(6) For 2010: Includes Dryland farming

Vegetable Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Beans, Lima (Freezer)	2011	524	1.46	766	Ton	$569.00	$436,000
	2010	992	1.80	1,789		$599.38	$1,073,000
Melons (Cantaloupe) (1)	2011	4,527	638.86	2,892,119	40-Lb Ctn	$5.65	$16,326,000
	2010	6,353	599.38	3,807,831		$4.73	$18,021,000
Melons (Other) (2)	2011	2,003	349.50	700,043	Ton	$19.15	$13,404,000
	2010	3,401	21.16	71,970		$244.45	$17,593,000
Misc. Vegetables (3)	2011	2,801	—	—	—	—	$20,237,000
	2010	3,422	—	—		—	$20,946,000
Sweet Potatoes (4)	2011	16,651	13.83	230,220	Ton	$691.05	$159,094,000
	2010	16,548	15.39	254,674		$600.23	$152,863,000
Tomatoes (Market) (5)	2011	6,524	1,255.78	8,192,409	25-Lb Ctn	$5.44	$44,564,000
	2010	8,612	1,069.88	9,214,183		$4.99	$45,971,000
Tomatoes (Processing)	2011	13,000	51.20	665,586	Ton	$67.17	$44,704,000
	2010	20,582	44.71	920,164		$66.65	$61,326,000
Total	2011	46,030					$298,765,000
	2010	59,910					$317,794,000

(1) For 2011, 2010: Price reflects wholesale after packing and shipping.

(2) For 2011, 2010: Includes Honeydew, Mixed Melons, and Watermelon.

(3) For 2011: Includes Asparagus, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage (Napa), Cantaloupe (Organic), Cilantro, Corn (Fresh), Cucumber, Dill, Garlic, Leek, Onion, Parsley, Pepper (Bell, Spice), Pumpkin, Radicchio, Radish, Rosemary, Cage, Spice/Herb, and Squash.

For 2010: Includes Asparagus, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage (Napa), Cantaloupe (Organic), Cilantro, Corn (Fresh), Cucumber, Dill, Garlic, Leek, Onion, Parsley, Pepper (Bell, Spice), Pumpkin, Radicchio, Radish, Sage, Spice/Herb, and Squash.

(4, 5) For 2011, 2010: Price reflects wholesale after packing and shipping.

Apiary Industry

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Beeswax	2011	34,070	Lb	$2.62	$89,000
	2010	57,420		$2.37	$136,000
Bulk Bees (1)	2011	81,465	Lb	$13.43	$1,094,000
	2010	67,492		$12.00	$810,000
Honey (2)	2011	2,214,523	Lb	$1.66	$3,676,000
	2010	3,732,326		$1.49	$5,561,000
Pollination (3)	2011	147,756	Colony	$144.19	$21,305,000
	2010	169,624		$121.59	$20,625,000
Queens (4)	2011	28,725	Each	$14.63	$420,000
	2010	25,867		$17.94	$464,000
Total	2011				$26,585,000
	2010				$27,596,000

(1) For 2011, 2010: Includes Bees Sold as Bulk Bees, Nuclei, and Packaged Bees.

(2) For 2011: Honey produced by 48,598 resident colonies.
For 2010: Honey produced by 44,180 resident colonies.

(3) For 2011, 2010: Pollination colonies include all required to pollinate crops grown in Merced County.

(4) For 2011, 2010: Includes Mated Queens and Queen Cells.

Seed Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Seed Crops [1]	2011	3,613	—	—	—	—	$2,113,000
	2010	5,072	—	—	—	—	$3,175,000
Total	2011	3,613					$2,113,000
	2010	5,072					$3,175,000

[1] For 2011: Includes Certified, Common, and Phytosanitary Seed from Barley, Cotton, Kohlrabi, Mustard, Oat, Radish, Triticale, Tomato, and Wheat,
For 2010: Includes Certified, Common, and Phytosanitary Seed from Barley, Bean (Lima), Cotton, Lettuce, Oat, Radish, Rice, Rye, and Wheat.

Fruit and Nut Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Almonds (Hulls)	2011	—	—	206,858	Ton	$129.46	$26,780,000
	2010	—	—	157,513		$100.88	$15,890,000
Almonds (Kernel Basis)	2011	98,504	1.05	103,429	Ton	$3,840.00	$397,168,000
	2010	98,895	0.78	77,460		$3,699.98	$286,600,000
Apricots	2011	349	12.54	4,378	Ton	$390.00	$1,707,000
	2010	413	14.24	5,884		$381.52	$2,245,000
Figs (Dry)	2011	950	1.19	1,127	Ton	$1,795.35	$2,024,000
	2010	980	1.26	1,235		$1,339.19	$1,653,000
Grapes (Raisin)	2011	544	1.96	1,067	Ton	$1,682.23	$1,794,000
	2010	551	1.50	826		$1,486.11	$1,227,000
Grapes (Wine)	2011	11,617	10.05	116,771	Ton	$429.72	$50,179,000
	2010	11,186	9.03	101,004		$334.27	$33,763,000
Miscellaneous [1]	2011	2,209	—	—	—	—	$19,578,000
	2010	2,179	—	—		—	$30,983,000
Peaches (Clingstone)	2011	2,412	18.90	45,578	Ton	$292.07	$13,312,000
	2010	2,631	21.04	55,352		$285.95	$15,828,000
Peaches (Freestone)	2011	1,756	21.76	38,209	Ton	$258.29	$9,869,000
	2010	1,875	23.71	44,453		$268.71	$11,945,000
Pistachios	2011	5,162	0.65	3,373	Ton	$4,175.51	$14,082,000
	2010	4,446	1.86	8,265		$4,949.71	$40,912,000
Plums, Dried	2011	1,646	2.61	4,295	Ton	$1,439.38	$6,182,000
	2010	1,706	2.20	3,752		$1,523.06	$5,714,000
Strawberries	2011	82	5.01	408	Ton	$1,274.24	$520,000
	2010	74	7.13	527		$1,516.09	$800,000
Walnuts (English)	2011	5,147	1.63	8,372	Ton	$2,980.68	$24,954,000
	2010	5,326	1.64	8,741		$2,069.46	$18,088,000
Total	2011	130,377					$568,151,000
	2010	130,261					$465,648,000

[1] For 2011: Includes Apple, Blueberry, Cherry, Fig (Fresh), Fruit Juice, Grape (Raisin to Wine), Kiwi, Nectarine, Olives, Orange, Organic Fruit and Nut, Pear (Asian), Pecan Persimmon, Plum, Pluot, and Pomegranate.
For 2010: Includes Apple, Blueberry, Cherry, Fig (Fresh), Fruit Juice, Grape (Raisin to Wine), Kiwi, Nectarine, Olives, Orange (Madarin), Organic Fruit and Nut, Pear (Asian), Pecan, Persimmon, Plum, Pluot, and Pomegranate.

Fruit and Nut Acreage Planting

CROPS	BEARING 2011	NON-BEARING 2011	BEARING 2006	NON-BEARING 2006
Almonds	98,504	2,178	87,771	7,247
Apples	1	0	145	0
Apricots	349	0	1,201	0
Berries	114	0	109	0
Cherries	316	91	340	3
Figs	965	381	2,507	0
Grapes (Raisin)	544	0	736	1
Grapes (Table)	0	0	124	0
Grapes (Wine)	11,617	1,266	11,397	225
Jujubes	0	0	20	0
Kiwis	26	0	33	0
Mandarins	16	0	9	0
Nectarines	41	0	121	3
Olives	55	22	2	0
Oranges	16	0	8	0
Peaches (Clingstone)	2,412	48	3,427	47
Peaches (Freestone)	1,756	40	1,848	214
Pears	7	0	6	0
Pecans	26	0	32	5
Persimmons	16	19	17	0
Pistachios	5,162	475	4,861	284
Plums	74	0	90	0
Plums (Dried)	1,646	249	1,853	38
Pluots	15	0	72	0
Pomegranates	313	54	12	0
Walnuts (English)	5,147	524	5,877	426
Total	129,138	5,347	122,618	8,493

Nursery Products

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
All Nursery Products [1]	2011	1,392	—	—	—	—	$41,828,000
	2010	1,316	—	—		—	$45,855,000
Total	2011	1,392					$41,828,000
	2010	1,316					$45,855,000

[1] For 2011: Includes Cane Berries, Christmas Trees, Crowns and Cuttings, Deciduous Fruit and Nut Trees, Decorative Plants. Dried Flowers, Greenhouse Plants, Ornamental Plants, Ornamental and Shade Trees, Transplants (Strawberry and Vegetable), and Turf. The separate production and value are not shown to avoid disclosing individual operations.

For 2010: Includes Bud Wood, Cane Berries, Christmas Trees, Crowns and Cuttings, Deciduous Fruit and Nut Trees, Decorative Plants, Dried Flowers, Greenhouse Plants, Ornamental Plants, Ornamental and Shade Trees, Transplants (Strawberry and Vegetable) and Turf. The separate production and value are not shown to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Countries Of Export

Albania
Algeria
Australia
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Canary Islands
Chile
China
Costa Rica
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
England
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hong Kong
Hungary
India
Indonesia
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Japan
Jordan
Kingdom of Bahrain
Kuwait
Latvia
Lebanon
Lithuania
Lybia
Malaysia
Mexico
Montenegro
Morroco
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Pakistan
Panama
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
Republic of Armenia
Republic of Kazakhstan
Republic of Kenya
Republic of Korea
Republic of Latvia
Republic of Macedonia
Romania
Russia
Saudi Arabia
Serbia
Singapore
Slovenia
South Africa
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Taiwan
Thailand
Tunisia
Turkey
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
Venezuela
Vietnam

Products Of Export

Alfalfa Hay
Almond
Blackberry
Blueberry
Broccoli
Celery
Chicory
Endive
Fennel
Fig
Garlic
Lettuce
Oat Hay
Onion
Pecan
Pistachio Nut
Prune
Radicchio
Raisin
Raspberry
Strawberry
Sudan Hay
Sweet Potato
Timothy Hay
Tomato
Treviso
Walnut

Livestock and Poultry Production

CROP	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	PRODUCTION PER HEAD	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Cattle and Calves (1)	2011	337,231	8.48	2,859,517	Cwt	$101.70	$290,823,000
	2010	320,884	8.41	2,698,761		$83.52	$225,408,000
Chickens (Fryers & Broilers)	2011	77,622,697	5.75	446,330,508	Lb	$0.64	$285,652,000
	2010	77,744,725	5.72	444,699,827		$0.62	$275,536,000
Livestock (Misc.) (2)	2011	43,351	—	—	—	—	$6,203,000
	2010	38,735	—	—		—	$5,324,000
Poultry (Misc.) (3)	2011	61,000	—	—	—	—	$535,000
	2010	78,000	—	—		—	$727,000
Sheep and Lambs	2011	27,553	1.41	38,987	Cwt	$167.22	$6,519,000
	2010	29,650	1.00	29,650		$121.97	$3,616,000
Turkeys	2011	2,627,453	28.87	75,854,568	Lb	$0.87	$65,993,000
	2010	2,306,709	31.18	71,923,187		$0.83	$59,970,000
Total	2011	80,719,285					$655,726,000
	2010	80,518,703					$570,580,000

(1) For 2011, 2010: Includes Calves, Cull Bulls (Dairy and Beef), Cull Cows (Dairy and Beef), Replacement Heifers (Dairy and Beef) and Stocker Cattle.
(2) For 2011, 2010: Includes Dairy and Meat Goats sold for meat.
(3) For 2011, 2010: Includes Chukar, Pheasant, and Squab.

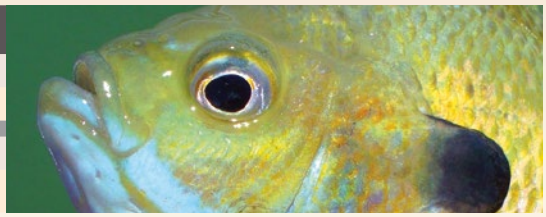
Livestock and Poultry Products

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Eggs (Other) (1)	2011	1,825,000	Each	$0.45	$821,000
	2010	1,460,000		$0.37	$540,000
Eggs, Chicken (Market)	2011	107,030,520	Dozen	$0.80	$85,196,000
	2010	112,351,020		$0.83	$93,251,000
Milk (Goat)	2011	119,840	Cwt	$36.46	$4,369,000
	2010	86,884		$42.83	$3,721,000
Milk (Manufacturing)	2011	3,521,729	Cwt	$18.71	$65,892,000
	2010	8,702,438		$14.55	$126,627,000
Milk (Market)	2011	55,581,797	Cwt	$18.63	$1,035,489,000
	2010	50,048,038		$14.71	$736,192,000
Wool	2011	128,684	Lb	$1.15	$148,000
	2010	116,983		$1.15	$135,000
Total	2011				$1,191,915,000
	2010				$960,466,000

(1) For 2011, 2010: Includes Eggs other than Chicken Eggs.

Aquaculture

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Fish (1)	2011	759,598	Lb	$2.83	$2,149,000
	2010	832,100		$2.52	$2,098,000
Total	2011				$2,149,000
	2010				$2,098,000



(1) For 2011: Includes Catfish, Mosquito Fish, Perch, Silver Carp, Sturgeon, and Trout.
For 2010: Includes Black Bass, Bluegill, Catfish, Silver Carp, Sturgeon, and Trout.

Other Agriculture

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Almond (Shells) (1)	2011	70,115	Ton	$20.40	$1,430,000
	2010	49,756		$19.94	$992,000
Firewood (2)	2011	17,067	Cord	$175.78	$3,000,000
	2010	24,991		$166.55	$4,162,000
Fuel (Cogeneration) (3)	2011	85,633	Ton	$40.00	$3,425,000
	2010	62,325		$40.00	$2,493,000
Manure (4)	2011	956,252	Ton	$5.46	$5,224,000
	2010	1,003,570		$6.67	$6,694,000
Total	2011				$13,080,000
	2010				$14,341,000

(1) For 2011, 2010: For Animal Bedding.
(2) For 2011, 2010: Includes Orchard Prunings and Removals for Firewood (Recorded in Cords).
(3) For 2011, 2010: Includes Orchard Prunings and Orchard Removals for Fuel (Recorded in Dry Tons).
(4) For 2011, 2010: Includes Livestock and Poultry Manure.

Pest Prevention

The California Food and Agricultural Code mandates pest prevention programs to prevent the introduction and spread of pests in California. Pest prevention involves Pest Exclusion, Pest Detection, Pierce's Disease Control, and the Federal Phytosanitary Certification Program.

PEST EXCLUSION PROGRAM

Pest Exclusion is the first line of defense to prevent the introduction of pests, injurious to agriculture, that are not of common occurrence in Merced County.

A total of 8,286 shipments of incoming plant material were inspected in 2011. Shipments are inspected at United Parcel Service, United States Post Offices, Federal Express and trucking terminals. Twenty-five shipments were rejected. The 25 rejections were for live pests, material not properly certified, or improper container markings.

PIERCE'S DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM

To prevent the introduction of the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) *(left)* into Merced County, which is the main insect vector of Pierce's Disease, all shipments of nursery stock from infested counties, shipped by nurseries under a Master Compliance Agreement, are inspected. GWSS has the ability to spread Pierce's Disease rapidly among grape vines with devastating results. Five hundred eighty-nine shipments of nursery stock from infested counties were inspected in 2011.

In addition, all nurseries receiving nursery stock from GWSS infested areas plus 1,539 residential yards were visually inspected for GWSS presence during 2011. No GWSS were detected.

FEDERAL PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

This program ensures that plants and plant commodities exported to foreign countries from Merced County are free from injurious pests. In 2011, the Merced County staff inspected and issued Phytosanitary Certificates for 6,022 export shipments.

PEST DETECTION PROGRAM

Pest Detection uses visual inspections and insect traps that target specific exotic insects of high agricultural and economic importance.

The trapping program in Merced County targeted the following pests:

- Asian Citrus Psyllid *(Diaphorina citri Kuwayama)*
- Apple Maggot *(Rhagoletis pomonella)*
- European Pine Shoot Moth *(Rhyacionia buoliana)*
- Glassy-winged Sharpshooter *(Homalodisca coagulate)*
- Light Brown Apple Moth *(Epiphyas postvittana)*
- Khapra Beetle *(Trogoderma granarium)*
- Melon Fly *(Dacus cucurbitae)*
- Oriental Fruit Fly *(Dacus dorsalis)*
- European Grape Vine Moth *(Lobesia botana)*
- Vine Mealy Bug *(Planococcus ficus)*
- European Corn Borer *(Ostrinia nubilalus)*
- Gypsy Moth *(Lymantria dispar)*
- Japanese Beetle *(Popillia japonica)*
- Mediterranean Fruit Fly *(Ceratitis capitata)*
- Mexican Fruit Fly *(Anastrepha ludens)*
- Sweet Potato Weevil *(Cylas formicarius elegantulus)*

A total of 2,827 pest detection traps were placed in Merced County and inspected a total of 35,874 times during the 2011 trapping season.

PEST ERADICATION PROGRAM

The Pest Eradication Program endeavors to eliminate infestations of significant agricultural pests with limited distribution before they are able to cause on-going economic cost to California Agriculture.

Successful eradication projects include Sweet Potato Weevil *(left)*, Banana Waterlily, and Japanese Dodder.

Detection and eradication efforts for the invasive weeds South American Sponge Plant ("A" Rated), Purple Loosestrife ("B Rated), and Purple Mustard ("B Rated") were conducted during 2011. Due to budget constraints, little or no work is anticipated to be done in 2012.

Detection and eradication efforts for the insect pest Pink Bollworm *(right)* continues. One native Pink Bollworm moth was trapped on the Westside of Merced County in 2011. The Pink Bollworm is a major cotton pest. Eradication efforts included a State operated trapping program of 55,605 acres in conjunction with County enforcement of the host-free period from January 1 through March 10, also known as cotton plowdown. Treatment is accomplished through mating disruptions utilizing pheromones and sterile moths.

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

The Biological Control (Biocontrol) Program uses natural enemies to suppress pest populations to economically and environmentally acceptable levels. Once the biocontrol agent becomes established it is self-perpetuating, reducing the need to use pesticides. The following are pests found in Merced County and their Biocontrol Agents.

PEST	ORGANISM
Ash Whitefly *(Siphoninus phillyreae)*	Parasitoid Wasp *(Encarsia inaron)*
Grapeleaf Skeletonizer *(Harrisina brillians)*	Parasitic Fly *(Ametadoria misella)* Virus *(WGLS Granulosis)* Parasitic Wasp *(Apanteles harrisinae)*
Italian Thistle *(Carduus sp.)*	Seed-Head Weevil *(Rhinocllyus conicus)*
Klamath Weed *(Hypericum perforatum)*	Leaf Beetle *(Chrysolina quadrigemina)*
Milk Thistle *(Silybum marianum)*	Seed-Head Weevil *(Rhinocyllus conicus)*
Puncture Vine *(Tribulus terrestris)*	Seed Weevil *(Microlarinus lareynii)* Stem Weevil *(Microlarinus lypriformis)*
Red Gum Lerp Psyllid *(Glycaspis brimblecombei)*	Parasitoid Wasp *(Psyllaephagus bliteus)*
Russian Thistle *(Salsola sp.)*	Case-Bearer Moth *(Coleophora klimeschiella)* Russian Thistle Borer *(Coleophora parthenica)*
Yellowstar Thistle *(Centaurea solstitialis)*	Seed-Head Weevil *(Bangasternus orientalis)* Seed-Head Gall Fly *(Urophora sirunaseva)* Hairy Weevil *(Eustenopus villosus)* False Peacock Fly *(Chaetorellia succinea)* Rust Fungus *(Puccinia jaceae var. solstitialis)*

Organic Farming

Merced County had 55 growers of organic commodities, three organic processors, and five organic handlers in 2011. These growers farmed a total of 35,170 acres to produce assorted organic field crops, berries, fruits, nuts, vegetables, as well as, organic pastureland, fallow farmland, and rangeland. Organic eggs, livestock, milk, and poultry were also produced.

Certified Farmers Market Program

Prior to the adoption of Certified Farmers Markets (CFM) regulations in 1977, by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), farmers were required to properly pack, size, and label their fresh fruits, nuts, and vegetables in standard containers for transport and sale anywhere other than the site where they were grown. These regulations exempt farmers who sell their products at a CFM from packing, sizing, and labeling requirements.

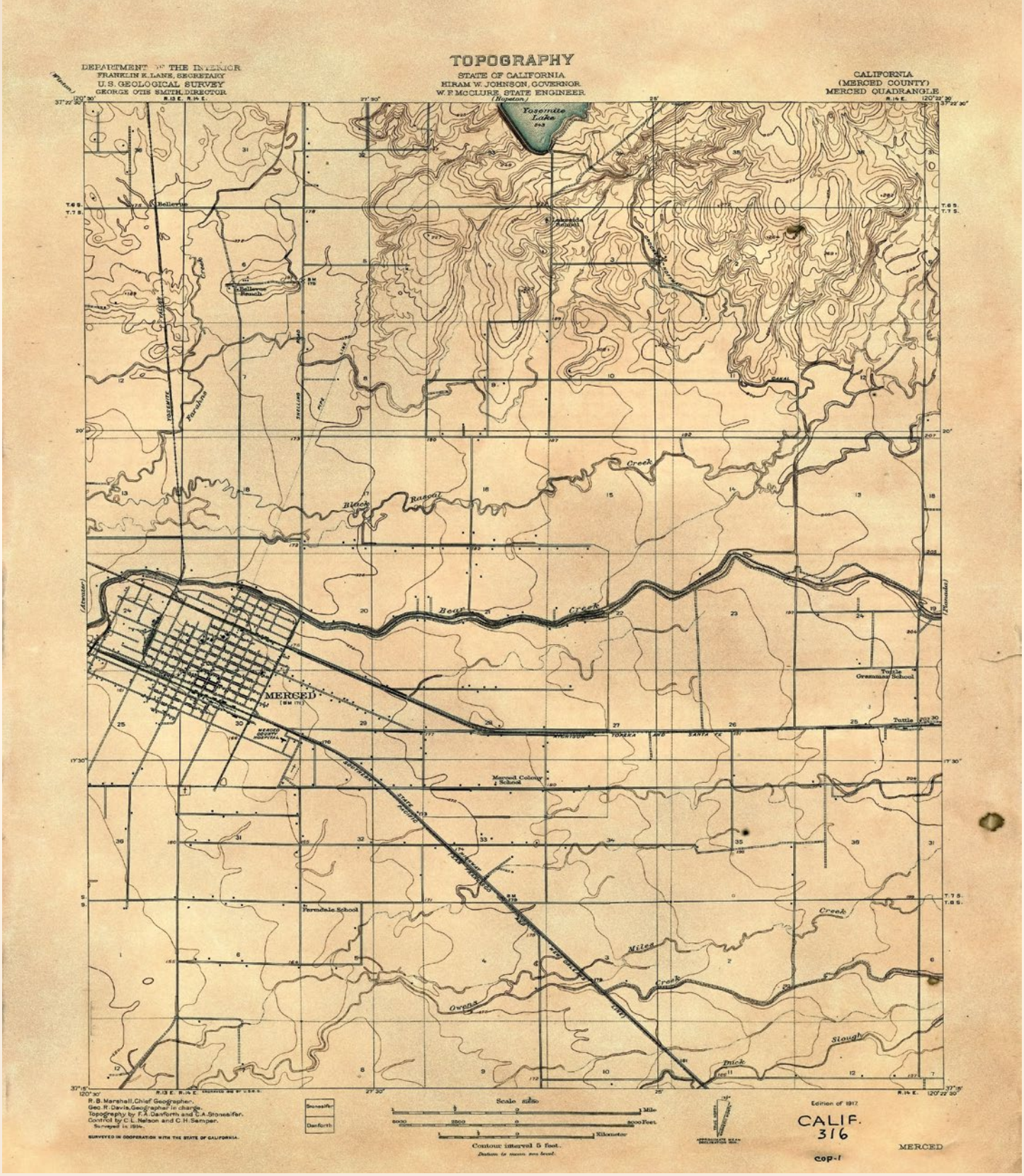
The direct marketing through CFMs provides benefits for both the farming community and the consumer. By selling direct to the public, the grower is able to cut his costs by eliminating the middleman, and is able to bring field and tree ripened fruits and vegetables, which are too delicate for traditional food distribution systems to market. The consumer also benefits from the elimination of the middleman with reduced prices, but more importantly they are assured of getting only California grown fruits and vegetables, fresh and in season.

CFMs have also become social gathering places where the farming community and the urban community can come together to communicate, learn, and relate to each other. This type of relationship will go a long way to re-establishing the link between farmers and consumers here in California.

In Merced County, we are fortunate to have six CFMs located throughout the county. Below is a table listing their locations, season, and hours of operation.

If you are interested in opening a Certified Farmers Market, or in becoming a Certified Producer, contact the County Agricultural Commissioner in the county in which you grow your commodities.

CITY	MARKET	LOCATION	SEASON	DAY	HOURS
Merced	Original Merced County Farmers Market, # 2	The "Promenade" *w*/ Paulson, *n*/ East Yosemite Avenue	May–Dec	Wed	8:00am–12:00pm
Gustine	Gustine Certified Market	Schmidt Park Linden Avenue/Hwy 33/140	June–Aug	Tue	4:00pm–7:00pm
Los Banos	Los Banos CFM	H St. & 7th St.	June–Sep	Sat	7:00am–12:00pm
Merced	Original Merced Co. Farmers Market	Parking lot, southwest corner of 19th & N Street	Year-Round	Sat	8:00am–12:00pm
Le Grand	Le Grand CFM	Madison Street, between Le Grand Rd. & Washington Ave.	May–Oct	Tue	6:00pm–8:00pm
Merced	Market on Main	Main Street from M-K Streets & Bob Hart Square	June–Oct	Thu	5:30pm–10:00pm



General County of Merced Information

County Seat ..... City of Merced
County Population ..... 259,898 (per 2011 Census estimate)
Incorporated Cities (6) ... Atwater, Dos Palos, Gustine, Livingston, Los Banos, Merced

Farmland:

Total County Acreage	1,265,617 acres	of Statewide Importance ...	151,340 acres
Grazing Land	562,461 acres	Unique ...	109,030 acres
Nonagricultural & Natural Vegetation	12,737 acres	of Local Importance	65,057 acres

Commodity Value Crop Comparison

COMMODITIES	2011	2001	1991	1981
Aquaculture	$2,149,000	$2,974,000	$1,459,000	—
Apiary Industry	$26,585,000	$10,350,000	$4,672,000	$2,812,000
Field Crops	$459,557,000	$251,202,000	$195,816,000	$179,656,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	$568,151,000	$224,351,000	$174,984,000	$113,098,000
Livestock and Poultry Production	$655,726,000	$352,817,000	$213,823,000	$184,181,000
Livestock and Poultry Products	$1,191,915,000	$658,853,000	$307,960,000	$200,733,000
Nursery Products	$41,828,000	$22,233,000	$12,288,000	$9,932,000
Other Agriculture	$13,080,000	$9,438,000	$10,048,000	—
Seed Crops	$2,113,000	$1,963,000	$1,679,000	$2,539,000
Vegetable Crops	$298,765,000	$166,203,000	$107,947,000	$66,438,000
Total	$3,259,868,000	$1,700,385,000	$1,030,676,000	$759,389,000

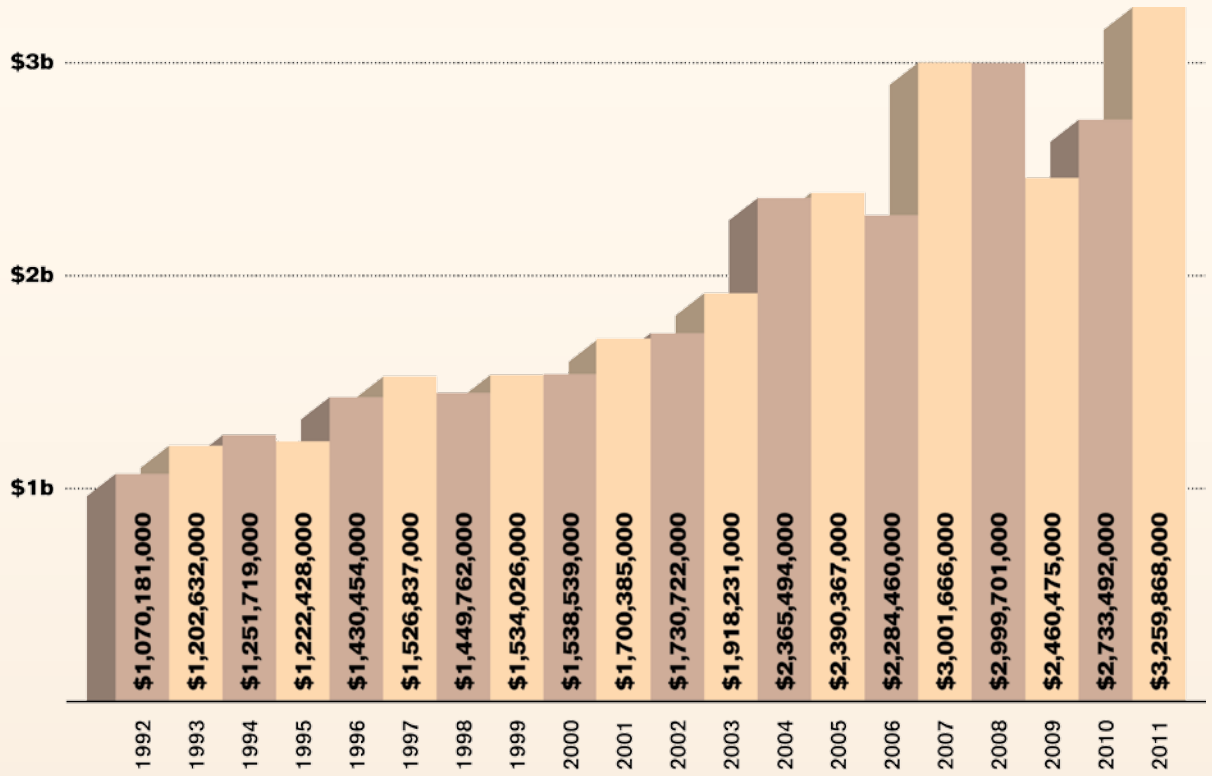


PHOTO: PAUL & LUCIA MARTIN

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MERCED COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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2012 REPORT ON AGRICULTURE

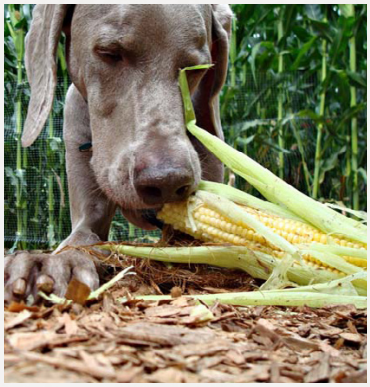
Contents

Merced County Corn

Most of the corn grown in Merced County is grown for cattle feed. Of the roughly 100,000 acres of corn grown in Merced County in 2012, 90 percent was grown as a feed for dairy cows known as silage. When corn is used for silage, the entire plant is green chopped and stored in covered piles for later feeding.

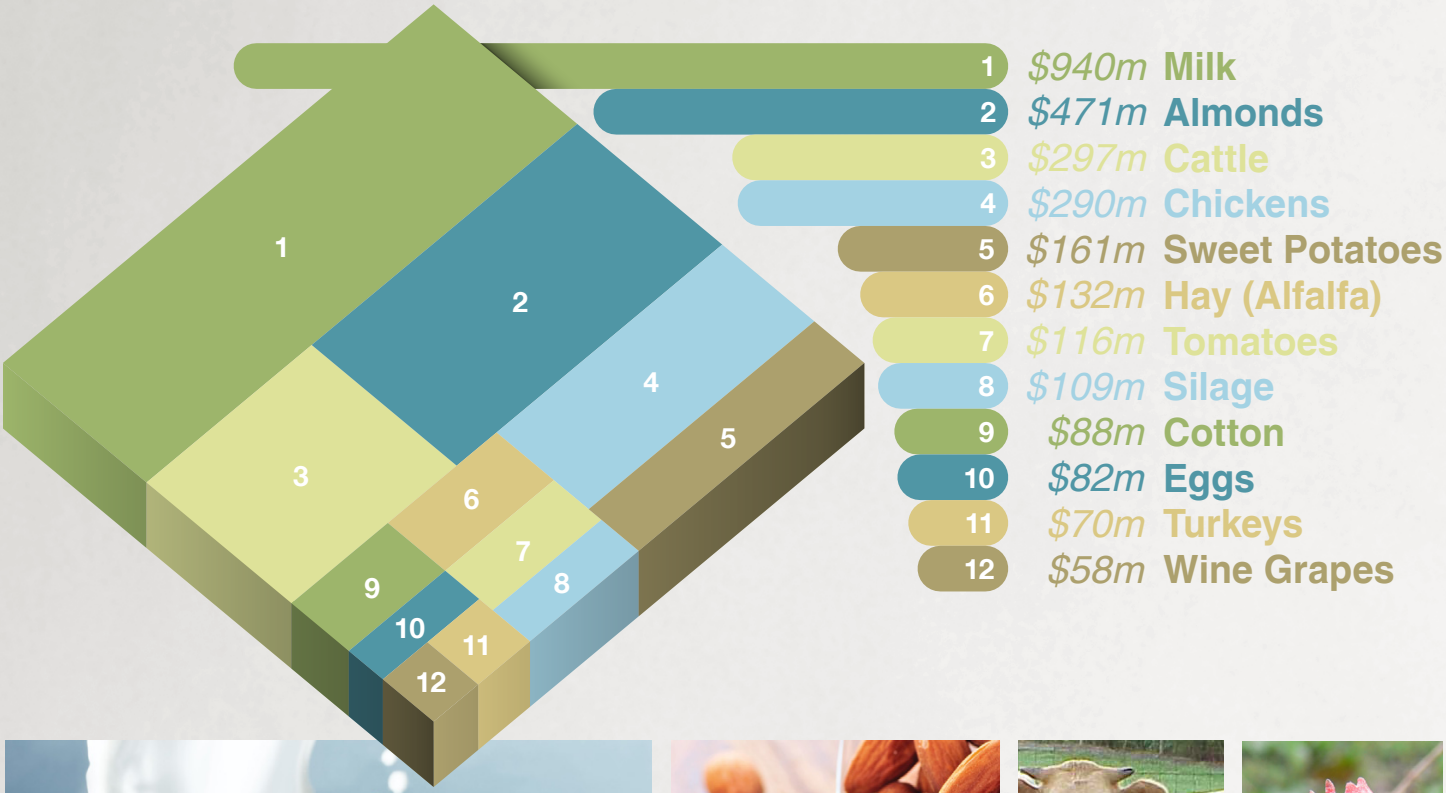
Grain corn production of 14,144 acres is small when compared to silage corn. Grain corn can be used for multiple purposes; it is used for human consumption in products like corn chips, masa, or tortillas, used as grain feed for livestock, or used to produce ethanol for use as a gasoline additive.

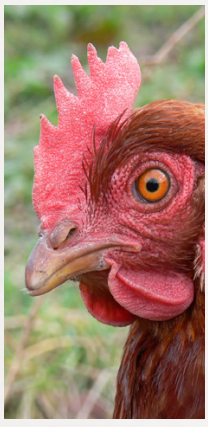
Found at farmers markets and farm stands throughout the county, sweet corn is available throughout the summer. Consumed fresh on the cob, sweet corn is picked when immature (milk stage) and prepared and eaten as a vegetable, rather than a grain. Less than a hundred acres were grown in 2012, making it the smallest portion of the corn acreage in the county.



Top Twelve Leading Farm Commodities

RANK	CROP	VALUE	2011 RANK	
1	**Milk** *(includes Market & Manufacturing)*	$940,236,000	1	
2	**Almonds** *(Kernel Basis)*	$471,363,000	2	
3	**Cattle & Calves**	$296,891,000	3	
4	**Chickens** *(includes Fryers & Other Chickens)*	$290,180,000	4	
5	**Sweet Potatoes**	$160,543,000	5	
6	**Hay** *(Alfalfa)*	$131,885,000	6	
7	**Tomatoes** *(includes Market & Processing Tomatoes)*	$115,710,000	9	⬆⬆
8	**Silage** *(Corn)*	$109,221,000	7	⬇
9	**Cotton** *(includes Acala & Pima Cotton)*	$88,372,000	8	⬇
10	**Chicken Eggs** *(Market)*	$81,726,000	10	
11	**Turkeys**	$69,843,000	11	
12	**Wine Grapes**	$57,787,000	12	
		$2,813,757,000		





MERCED COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

David A. Robinson
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures
Director of Animal Control

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Animal Control (209) 385-7436

Equal Opportunity Employer

Karen Ross, *Secretary*
California Department of Food and Agriculture

and

The Honorable Board of Supervisors, County of Merced
Deidre F. Kelsey, *Chairman*
Linn Davis **Jerry O'Banion**
John Pedrozo **Hubert "Hub" Walsh**
James L. Brown, *County Executive Officer*

In accordance with the provisions of Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I am pleased to submit the 2012 Merced County Report of Agriculture. This report summarizes the acreage, production, and gross value of Merced County's agricultural commodities.

Merced County agriculture commodities grossed $3,280,206,000, in 2012 for a record high. This is the third time that Merced County agriculture has surpassed the three-billion-dollar mark in gross production value. Overall, the 2012 growing season was again good for most crops. These figures represent gross returns to the producer and do not take into account the costs of production, marketing, or transportation. Net income of the producer is not reflected in this report.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OF THE 2012 CROP YEAR

- In spite of a 14.6% drop in value of $161,145,000, milk remains the county's number one commodity with an overall value of $940,236,000. Much of the decrease is due to the decrease in price for both market milk and milk used in manufacturing and a 40% drop in production of milk used in manufacturing.
- Almonds held steady as the second leading commodity with a gross production value of $471,363,000. A significant increase in price and a modest increase in acreage contributed to a 18.68% increase in overall value.
- Cattle & Calves remain the number three commodity with a gross production value of $296,891,000. Cattle prices and production remained steady with an overall increase in value of 2.1%
- Chickens remained the number four commodity. Although there was a slight drop in production and prices increased a modest 4.69% for a total of $290,180,000, gross production value was achieved.
- Sweet potatoes remained the number five commodity despite the slight decrease in production and slight increase in prices. Total production value was $160,543,000, up 0.9% from 2011.
- Alfalfa hay remained the number six leading crop where Corn silage dropped from the number seven spot to number eight. Although prices were down for alfalfa hay, an increase in both acreage and production provided for an overall increase production value.
- Tomatoes jumped from number nine in 2011 to number seven in 2012. An increase in acreage for both market and manufacturing combined with higher prices and production equated to a total production value of $115,710,000. This is an increase of$26,442,000 (29.6%).

I wish to express my sincere thanks to our growers and ranchers, industry representatives and the members of my staff who assisted in the gathering of data for this report.

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Robinson, *Agricultural Commissioner*

Field Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Barley	2012	1,349	1.98	2,671	Ton	$175.59	$469,000
	2011	2,294	2.37	5,441		$169.38	$922,000
Beans (Dry Lima)	2012	872	1.38	1,203	Ton	$900.01	$1,083,000
	2011	1,278	1.34	1,710		$913.31	$1,561,000
Corn (Grain) (1)	2012	14,144	6.04	85,425	Ton	$245.21	$20,947,000
	2011	15,992	6.14	98,121		$244.89	$24,029,000
Cotton (Acala)	2012	43,860	3.50	153,299	500 Lb Bale	$469.36	$71,952,000
	2011	47,010	2.97	139,804		$576.34	$80,575,000
Cotton (Pima)	2012	8,265	3.03	25,041	500 Lb Bale	$655.73	$16,420,000
	2011	8,595	2.62	22,525		$810.45	$18,255,000
Cotton (Seed)	2012	—	1.28	66,582	Ton	$378.77	$25,220,000
	2011	—	1.03	57,473		$200.00	$11,495,000
Hay (Alfalfa)	2012	83,930	7.09	595,351	Ton	$221.52	$131,885,000
	2011	76,682	6.67	511,811		$242.82	$124,279,000
Hay (Grain) (2)	2012	35,365	4.31	152,492	Ton	$149.18	$22,748,000
	2011	32,802	3.62	118,804		$133.38	$15,846,000
Hay (Sudan)	2012	10,170	4.03	41,022	Ton	$162.83	$6,679,000
	2011	9,939	2.17	21,583		$137.65	$2,971,000
Misc. Field Crops (3)	2012	2,540	—	—	—	—	$2,882,000
	2011	2,364	—	—		—	$1,253,000
Pasture (Irrigated)	2012	26,597	—	26,597	Acre	$161.91	$4,306,000
	2011	26,597	—	26,597		$167.34	$4,451,000
Pasture (Other)	2012	562,461	—	562,461	Acre	$20.33	$11,435,000
	2011	562,471	—	562,471		$19.03	$10,704,000
Rice	2012	2,408	3.78	9,111	Ton	$377.59	$3,440,000
	2011	2,261	4.31	9,742		$359.47	$3,502,000
Silage (Alfalfa)	2012	—	2.37	198,774	Ton	$62.98	$12,519,000
	2011	—	2.34	179,198		$64.85	$11,621,000
Silage (Corn)	2012	89,555	26.96	2,414,844	Ton	$45.23	$109,221,000
	2011	87,768	27.07	2,375,923		$45.24	$107,475,000
Silage (Other) (4)	2012	73,143	14.62	1,069,052	Ton	$33.11	$35,397,000
	2011	66,206	13.63	902,409		$30.32	$27,361,000
Straw (5)	2012	—	—	3,473	Ton	$59.02	$205,000
	2011	—	—	3,808		$43.88	$167,000
Stubble (Pasture)	2012	—	—	15,107	Acre	$50.00	$755,000
	2011	—	—	13,803		$50.00	$690,000
Wheat	2012	14,943	3.51	52,499	Ton	$242.49	$12,730,000
	2011	16,675	3.03	50,503		$245.54	$12,401,000
Total	2012	969,601					$490,294,000
	2011	958,933					$459,557,000

(1) For 2012 & 2011: Includes Human Consumption Corn (but not Fresh Market Corn) & grain for feed.
(2) For 2012: Includes Barley, Oat, Rye Grass & Wheat.
For 2011: Includes Oat, Rye Grass & Wheat.
(3) For 2012 & 2011: Includes Beans (Dry Other), Corn Stalks & Earledge, Milo, Oat Grain & Safflower.
(4) For 2012: Includes Oat, Sorghum, Sudan, Triticale, Wheat & Winter forage.
For 2011: Includes Oat, Sudan & Wheat.
(5) For 2012 & 2011: Includes Straw from Barley, Bean (Dry), Oat, Rice & Wheat.

Disclaimer: Numbers will not compute exactly due to computer rounding of production and value rates.

Livestock & Poultry Products

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Eggs (Other) (1)	2012	29,673,330	Each	$0.45	$11,402,000
	2011	1,825,000		$0.45	$821,000
Eggs, Chicken (Market)	2012	97,875,270	Dozen	$0.83	$81,726,000
	2011	107,030,520		$0.80	$85,196,000
Milk (Goat)	2012	120,002	Cwt	$36.57	$4,388,000
	2011	119,840		$36.46	$4,369,000
Milk (Manufacturing)	2012	2,101,725	Cwt	$17.84	$37,501,000
	2011	3,521,729		$18.71	$65,892,000
Milk (Market)	2012	58,722,098	Cwt	$15.37	$902,735,000
	2011	55,581,797		$18.63	$1,035,489,000
Wool	2012	158,652	Lb	$1.65	$262,000
	2011	128,684		$1.15	$148,000
Total	2012				$1,038,014,000
	2011				$1,191,915,000

(1) For 2012: Includes Eggs other than Chicken Eggs and Organic Chicken Eggs.
For 2011: Includes Eggs other than Chicken Eggs.

Livestock & Poultry Production

CROP	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	PRODUCTION PER HEAD	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Cattle & Calves (1)	2012	308,813	8.96	2,767,953	Cwt	$107.26	$296,891,000
	2011	337,231	8.48	2,859,517		$101.70	$290,823,000
Chickens (Fryers & Broilers)	2012	74,730,693	5.78	431,943,406	Lb	$0.67	$290,180,000
	2011	77,622,697	5.75	446,330,508		$0.64	$285,652,000
Livestock (Miscellaneous) (2)	2012	46,978	—	—	—	—	$5,198,000
	2011	43,351	—	—		—	$6,203,000
Poultry (Miscellaneous) (3)	2012	66,000	—	—	—	—	$639,000
	2011	61,000	—	—		—	$535,000
Sheep & Lambs	2012	36,566	1.35	49,517	Cwt	$135.37	$6,703,000
	2011	27,553	1.41	38,987		$167.22	$6,519,000
Turkeys	2012	2,630,479	30.09	79,151,113	Lb	$0.88	$69,843,000
	2011	2,627,453	28.87	75,854,568		$0.87	$65,993,000
Total	2012	77,819,529					$669,453,000
	2011	80,719,285					$655,726,000

(1) For 2012 & 2011: Includes Calves, Cull Bulls (Dairy & Beef), Cull Cows (Dairy & Beef), Replacement Heifers (Dairy & Beef) & Stocker Cattle.
(2) For 2012 & 2011: Includes Dairy & Meat Goats sold for meat.
(3) For 2012 & 2011: Includes Chukar, Pheasant & Squab.

Seed Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	VALUE TOTAL
Seed Crops (1)	2012	4,756	$5,929,000
	2011	3,613	$2,113,000
Total	2012	4,756	$5,929,000
	2011	3,613	$2,113,000

(1) For 2012: Includes Certified, Common & Phytosanitary Seed from Alfalfa, Barley, Oat, Triticale & Wheat.
For 2011: Includes Certified, Common & Phytosanitary Seed from Barley, Cotton, Kohlrabi, Mustard, Oat, Radish, Triticale, Tomato,and Wheat,

Fruit & Nut Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Almonds (Hulls)	2012	—	—	198,286	Ton	$132.72	$26,316,000
	2011	—	—	206,858		$129.46	$26,780,000
Almonds (Kernel Basis)	2012	97,647	0.98	96,133	Ton	$4,903.22	$471,363,000
	2011	98,504	1.05	103,429		$3,840.00	$397,168,000
Apricots	2012	389	16.55	6,441	Ton	$400.00	$2,576,000
	2011	349	12.54	4,378		$390.00	$1,707,000
Figs (Dry)	2012	946	1.00	946	Ton	$1,500.00	$1,419,000
	2011	950	1.19	1,127		$1,795.35	$2,024,000
Grapes (Raisin)	2012	420	2.44	1,025	Ton	$1,708.82	$1,752,000
	2011	544	1.96	1,067		$1,682.23	$1,794,000
Grapes (Wine)	2012	12,243	11.18	136,873	Ton	$422.20	$57,787,000
	2011	11,617	10.05	116,771		$429.72	$50,179,000
Miscellaneous [1]	2012	3,403	—	—	—	—	$19,054,000
	2011	2,209	—	—		—	$19,578,000
Peaches (Clingstone)	2012	2,222	15.67	34,820	Ton	$311.30	$10,840,000
	2011	2,412	18.90	45,578		$292.07	$13,312,000
Peaches (Freestone)	2012	1,728	18.36	31,713	Ton	$271.69	$8,616,000
	2011	1,756	21.76	38,209		$258.29	$9,869,000
Pistachios	2012	5,016	1.33	6,648	Ton	$5,290.79	$35,171,000
	2011	5,162	0.65	3,373		$4,175.51	$14,082,000
Plums, Dried	2012	1,681	3.74	6,282	Ton	$1,334.64	$8,385,000
	2011	1,646	2.61	4,295		$1,439.38	$6,182,000
Strawberries	2012	91	3.03	276	Ton	$988.45	$272,000
	2011	82	5.01	408		$1,274.24	$520,000
Walnuts (English)	2012	5,049	1.47	7,427	Ton	$2,821.57	$20,957,000
	2011	5,147	1.63	8,372		$2,980.68	$24,954,000
Total	2012	130,835					$664,510,000
	2011	130,377					$568,151,000

[1] For 2012 & 2011: Includes Apple, Blueberry, Cherry, Fig (Fresh), Grape (Raisin to Wine), Kiwi, Nectarine, Olives, Orange, Organic Fruit & Nut, Pear (Asian), Pecan, Persimmon, Plum, Pluot & Pomegranate.
For 2011: Also includes Fruit Juice.

Nursery Products

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	VALUE TOTAL
All Nursery Products [1]	2012	1,554	$47,736,000
	2011	1,392	$41,828,000
Total	2012	1,554	$47,736,000
	2011	1,392	$41,828,000

[1] For 2012: Includes Cane Berries, Christmas Trees, Crown & Cuttings, Decorative Plants, Ornamental Plants, Ornamental & Shade Trees, Transplant (Strawberry & Vegetable) & Turf. The separate production & value are not shown to avoid disclosing individual operations.
For 2011: Includes Cane Berries, Christmas Trees, Crowns & Cuttings, Deciduous Fruit & Nut Tress, Decorative Plants. Dried Flowers, Greenhouse Plants, Ornamental Plants, Ornamental & Shade Trees, Transplants (Strawberry & Vegetable) & Turf. The separate production and value are not shown to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Fruit & Nut Acreage Planting

CROPS	BEARING 2012	NON-BEARING 2012	BEARING 2007	NON-BEARING 2007
Almonds	98,522	2,002	88,131	3,616
Apples	2	0	121	0
Apricots	389	0	1,124	0
Berries	25	0	145	0
Cherries	366	42	458	3
Figs	946	381	2,177	0
Grapes (Raisin)	420	0	711	1
Grapes (Table)	5	0	124	0
Grapes (Wine)	12,243	920	9,818	0
Jujubes	0	0	20	0
Kiwis	26	0	33	0
Mandarins	16	0	9	0
Nectarines	41	0	124	3
Olives	55	22	2	0
Oranges	9	0	6	0
Peaches (Clingstone)	2,222	36	3,248	10
Peaches (Freestone)	1,728	9	1,821	154
Pears	7	0	6	0
Pecans	26	0	37	0
Persimmons	35	0	17	0
Pistachios	5,577	77	4,527	229
Plums	74	0	90	0
Plums (Dried)	1,681	205	1,737	49
Pluots	15	0	71	0
Pomegranates	355	12	12	0
Walnuts (English)	5,257	510	5,773	329
Total	130,042	4,216	120,342	4,394

Vegetable Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Beans, Lima (Freezer)	2012	356	1.25	445	Ton	$900.00	$400,000
	2011	524	1.46	766		$569.00	$436,000
Melons (Cantaloupe) (1)	2012	2,699	745.64	2,012,173	40lb Ctn	$6.61	$13,291,000
	2011	4,527	638.86	2,892,119		$5.65	$16,326,000
Melons (Other) (2)	2012	974	51.79	50,422	Ton	$244.78	$12,342,000
	2011	2,003	29.62	59,335		$225.91	$13,404,000
Misc. Vegetables (3)	2012	3,240	—	—	—	—	$21,098,000
	2011	2,801	—	—		—	$20,237,000
Sweet Potatoes (4)	2012	15,059	15.04	226,487	Ton	$708.84	$160,543,000
	2011	16,651	13.83	230,220		$691.05	$159,094,000
Tomatoes (Market) (5)	2012	7,954	1,418.98	11,287,049	25lb Ctn	$5.58	$63,009,000
	2011	6,524	1,255.78	8,192,409		$5.44	$44,564,000
Tomatoes (Processing)	2012	15,046	51.39	773,177	Ton	$68.16	$52,701,000
	2011	13,000	51.20	665,586		$67.17	$44,704,000
Total	2012	45,327					$323,386,000
	2011	46,030					$298,765,000

(1) For 2012 & 2011: Price reflects wholesale after packing & shipping.
(2) For 2012 & 2011: Includes Honeydew, Mixed Melons & Watermelon.
(3) For 2012: Includes Asparagus, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrot, Cilantro, Cucumber, Fennel, Garlic, Leek, Melons (Organic), Onion, Parsley, Pepper (Bell, Spice), Radicchio, Spice/Herb, Squash & Tomatillo,
For 2011: Includes Asparagus, Basil, Broccoli, Cabbage (Napa), Cantaloupe (Organic), Cilantro, Corn (Fresh), Cucumber, Dill, Garlic, Leek Majoram, Onion, Parsley, Pepper (Bell, Spice), Pumpkin, Radicchio, Radish, Rosemary, Sage, Spice/Herb & Squash.
(4) (5) For 2012 & 2011: Price reflects wholesale after packing & shipping.

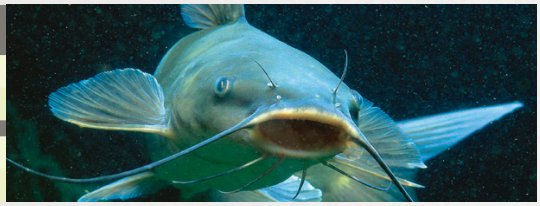
Bee Industry

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Beeswax	2012	17,925	Lb	$2.25	$40,000
	2011	34,070		$2.62	$89,000
Bulk Bees (1)	2012	57,710	Lb	$13.40	$773,000
	2011	81,465		$13.43	$1,094,000
Honey (2)	2012	1,165,109	Lb	$1.88	$2,190,000
	2011	2,214,523		$1.66	$3,676,000
Pollination (3)	2012	152,222	Colony	$145.97	$22,220,000
	2011	147,756		$144.19	$21,305,000
Queens (4)	2012	17,742	Each	$14.05	$249,000
	2011	28,725		$14.63	$420,000
Total	2012				$25,473,000
	2011				$26,585,000

(1) For 2012 & 2011: Includes Bees sold as Bulk Bees, Nuclei & Packaged Bees.
(2) For 2012: Honey produced by 46,168 resident colonies.
For 2011: Honey produced by 48,598 resident colonies.
(3) For 2012 & 2011: Pollination colonies include all required to pollinate crops grown in Merced County.
(4) For 2012 & 2011: Includes Mated Queens & Queen Cells.

Aquaculture

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Fish (1)	2012	639,878	Lb	$2.98	$1,906,000
	2011	759,598		$2.83	$2,149,000
Total	2012				$1,906,000
	2011				$2,149,000



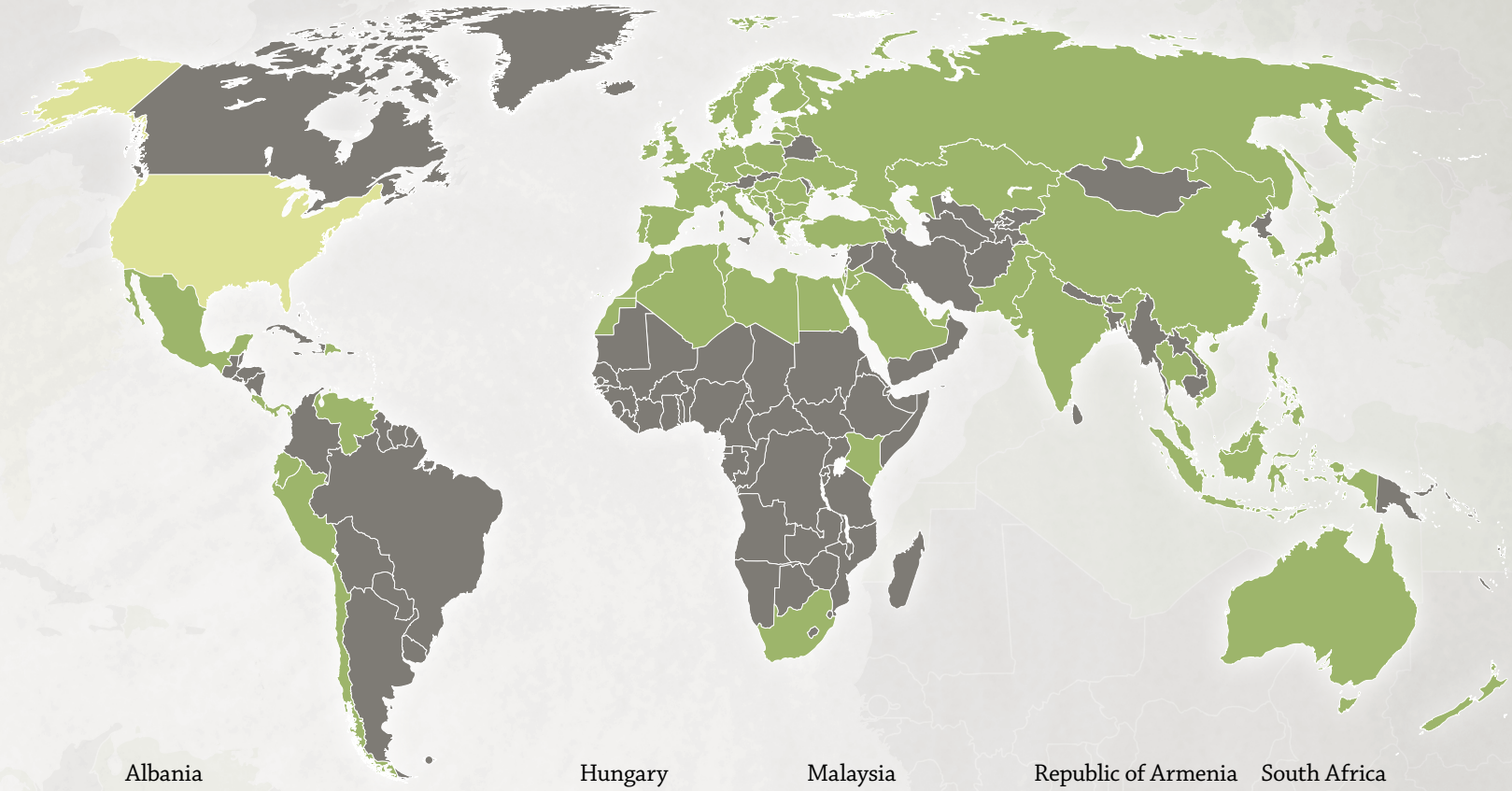
(1) For 2012: Includes Catfish, Goldfish, Striped Bass, Trout & White Sturgeon.
For 2011: Includes Catfish, Mosquito Fish, Perch, Silver Carp, Sturgeon & Trout.

Other Agriculture

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Almond (Shells) (1)	2012	64,417	Ton	$21.49	$1,384,000
	2011	70,115		$20.40	$1,430,000
Firewood (2)	2012	15,993	Cord	$179.21	$2,866,000
	2011	17,067		$175.78	$3,000,000
Fuel (Cogeneration) (3)	2012	69,434	Ton	$40.00	$2,777,000
	2011	85,633		$40.00	$3,425,000
Manure (4)	2012	1,436,261	Ton	$4.51	$6,478,000
	2011	956,252		$5.46	$5,224,000
Total	2012				$13,505,000
	2011				$13,080,000

(1) For 2012 & 2011: For Animal Bedding.
(2) For 2012 & 2011: Includes orchard prunings & removals for firewood (recorded in cords).
(3) For 2012 & 2011: Includes orchard prunings & orchard removals for fuel (recorded in dry tons).
(4) For 2012 & 2011: Includes livestock & poultry manure.

Countries Of Export



Albania
Algeria
Australia
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Canary Islands
Chile
China
Costa Rica
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
England
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hong Kong
Hungary
India
Indonesia
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Japan
Jordan
Kingdom of Bahrain
Kuwait
Latvia
Lebanon
Lithuania
Lybia
Malaysia
Mexico
Montenegro
Morroco
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Pakistan
Panama
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
Republic of Armenia
Republic of Kazakhstan
Republic of Kenya
Republic of Korea
Republic of Latvia
Republic of Macedonia
Romania
Russia
Saudi Arabia
Serbia
Singapore
Slovenia
South Africa
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Taiwan
Thailand
Tunisia
Turkey
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
Venezuela
Vietnam

Products Of Export

Alfalfa Hay
Almond
Blackberry
Blueberry
Broccoli
Celery
Chicory
Endive
Fennel
Fig
Garlic
Lettuce
Oat Hay
Onion
Pecan
Pistachio Nut
Prune
Radicchio
Raisin
Raspberry
Strawberry
Sudan Hay
Sweet Potato
Timothy Hay
Tomato
Treviso
Walnut

Organic Farming

Merced County had 56 growers of organic commodities, 4 organic processors, and 8 organic handlers in 2012. These growers farmed a total of 31,314 acres to produce assorted organic field crops, berries, fruits, nuts, vegetables, as well as, organic pastureland, fallow farmland, and rangeland. Organic eggs, livestock, milk, and poultry were also produced.

Pest Prevention

The California Food and Agricultural Code mandates pest prevention programs to prevent the introduction and spread of pests in California. Pest prevention involves Pest Exclusion, Pest Detection, Pierce's Disease Control, and the Federal Phytosanitary Certification Program.

PEST EXCLUSION PROGRAM

Pest Exclusion is the first line of defense to prevent the introduction of pests, injurious to agriculture, that are not of common occurrence in Merced County.

A total of 5,041 shipments of incoming plant material were inspected in 2012. Shipments are inspected at United Parcel Service, United States Post Offices, Federal Express and trucking terminals. Eight shipments were rejected. The eight rejections were for live pests, material not properly certified, or improper container markings. One rejection was an "A" rated pest (Red Imported Fire Ant).

PIERCE'S DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM

To prevent the introduction of the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) into Merced County, which is the main insect vector of Pierce's Disease, all shipments of nursery stock from infested counties shipped by nurseries under a Master Compliance Agreement, are inspected. GWSS has the ability to spread Pierce's Disease rapidly among grape vines with devastating results. Three hundred and three shipments of nursery stock from infested counties were inspected in 2012.

In addition, all nurseries receiving nursery stock from GWSS infested areas plus 4,134 residential yards were inspected for GWSS presence during 2012. No GWSS were detected.

FEDERAL PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

This program ensures that plants and plant commodities exported to foreign countries from Merced County are free from injurious pests. In 2012, the Merced County staff inspected and issued Phytosanitary Certificates for 6,240 export shipments.

PEST DETECTION PROGRAM

Pest Detection uses visual inspection and insect traps that target specific exotic insects of high agricultural and economic importance.

The trapping program in Merced County targeted the following pests:

- Asian Citrus Psyllid *(Diaphorina citri Kuwayama)*
- Apple Maggot *(Rhagoletis pomonella)*
- European Pine Shoot Moth *(Rhyacionia buoliana)*
- Glassy-winged Sharpshooter *(Homalodisca coagulate)*
- Light Brown Apple Moth (Epiphyas postvittana)
- Khapra Beetle *(Trogoderma granarium)*
- Melon Fly *(Dacus cucurbitae)*
- Oriental Fruit Fly *(Dacus dorsalis)*
- Vine Mealy Bug *(Planococcus ficus)*
- European Corn Borer *(Ostrinia nubilalus)*
- Gypsy Moth *(Lymantria dispar)*
- Japanese Beetle *(Popillia japonica)*
- Mediterranean Fruit Fly *(Ceratitis capitata)*
- Mexican Fruit Fly *(Anastrepha ludens)*
- Sweet Potato Weevil *(Cylas formicarius elegantulus)*

A total of 1,937 pest detection traps were placed in Merced County and inspected a total of 15,816 times during the 2012 trapping season.

Pest Eradication

The Pest Eradication Program endeavors to eliminate infestations of significant agricultural pests with limited distribution before they are able to cause ongoing economic cost to California Agriculture.

Successful eradication projects include Sweet Potato Weevil, Banana Waterlily, Japanese Dodder, and European Grapevine Moth (EGVM)

Only limited detection and eradication efforts for the invasive weeds; South American Sponge Plant ("A" Rated), Purple Loosestrife ("B Rated), and Purple Mustard ("B Rated") were conducted during 2012, due to budget constraints. Little or no work is anticipated to be done in 2013.

Detection and eradication efforts for the insect pest Pink Bollworm continues. *There were no Pink Bollworm moths trapped in Merced County during 2012.* The Pink Bollworm is a major cotton pest. Eradication efforts included a State operated trapping program of 52,125 acres in conjunction with County enforcement of the host-free period from January 1 through March 10, also known as cotton plowdown. Treatment is accomplished by mating disruption utilizing pheromones and sterile moths.

Biological Control

The Biological Control (Biocontrol) Program uses natural enemies to suppress pest populations to economically and environmentally acceptable levels. Once the biocontrol agent becomes established it is self-perpetuating, reducing the need to use pesticides. The following are pests found in Merced County and their Biocontrol Agents.

PEST	ORGANISM
Ash Whitefly *(Siphoninus phillyreae)*	Parasitoid Wasp *(Encarsia inaron)*
Grapeleaf Skeletonizer *(Harrisina brillians)*	Parasitic Fly *(Ametadoria misella)* Virus *(WGLS Granulosis)* Parasitic Wasp *(Apanteles harrisinae)*
Italian Thistle *(Carduus sp.)*	Seed Head Weevil *(Rhinocllyus conicus)*
Klamath Weed *(Hypericum perforatum)*	Leaf Beetle *(Chrysolina quadrigemina)*
Milk Thistle *(Silybum marianum)*	Seed Head Weevil *(Rhinocyllus conicus)*
Puncture Vine *(Tribulus terrestris)*	Seed Weevil *(Microlarinus lareynii)* Stem Weevil *(Microlarinus lypriformis)*
Red Gum Lerp Psyllid *(Glycaspis brimblecombei)*	Parasitoid Wasp *(Psyllaephagus bliteus)*
Russian Thistle *(Salsola sp.)*	Casebearer Moth *(Coleophora klimeschiella)* Russian Thistle Borer *(Coleophora parthenica)*
Yellowstar Thistle *(Centaurea solstitialis)*	Seed Head Weevil *(Bangasternus orientalis)* Seed Head Gall Fly *(Urophora sirunaseva)* Hairy Weevil *(Eustenopus villosus)* False Peacock Fly *(Chaetorellia succinea)* Rust Fungus *(Puccinia jaceae var. solstitialis)*

European Grapevine Moth (EGVM)

The European Grapevine Moth (EGVM), also known as Lobesia botrana, is a destructive pest of grapes (wine, table, raisin, and wild grapes); however, it will also feed on a number of other hosts.

The EGVM was discovered (Fall 2009) in the Napa Valley of California, where it caused considerable crop damage. This was the first ever recorded find in the United States. Larvae prefer to feed on flowers and the inside of berries, causing significant damage and possible exposure to fungal infections. By mid-summer 2010, EGVM detections had been made in Fresno, Merced, and San Joaquin counties in the San Joaquin Valley.

In May of 2010 there were four positive finds for EGVM in Merced County, all of which, were found in the same vineyard and during the same time frame. This resulted in a portion of Merced County being placed under a Federal Quarantine restricting the movement of host commodities and the ability to export to some countries.

Over the past two years a cooperative eradication effort made by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), the Merced County Agriculture Commissioner (MCAC), and affected growers proved to be successful. On March 8, 2012 USDA officially lifted the quarantine in Merced County.

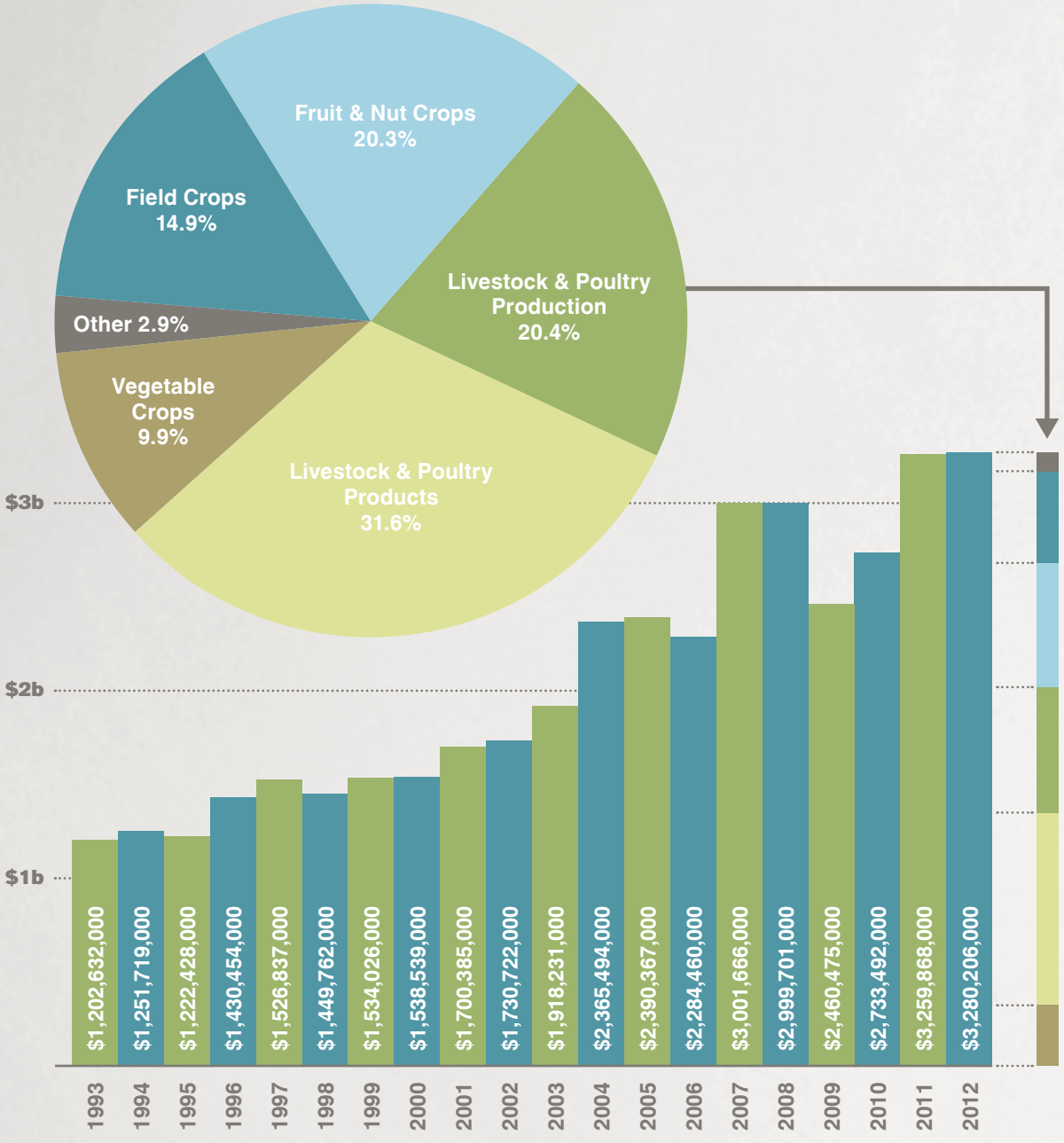
There are still areas in California that remain under quarantine. However, significant progress has been made toward eradicating the pest. The Merced County eradication effort is a perfect example of how industry and government officials can coordinate detection, treatment, and regulatory action to deal with a serious agriculture pest.

It is important to detect and eradicate EGVM infestations while the population is still small. Grapes are ranked second among agricultural commodities in California. Establishment of this pest can be catastrophic to our vineyards. Places in Europe, the Mediterranean, Africa, the Middle East, Japan, and Chile are already dealing with the negative impacts of this pest.

Your backyard fruit is at risk if this pest gets established. You can help by not transporting fresh fruits, vegetables, and plants out of the area, especially if you are within a quarantined area.

Commodity Value Crop Comparison

COMMODITIES	1982	1992	2002	2012
Aquaculture	—	$2,193,000	$3,060,000	$1,906,000
Bee Industry	$3,616,000	$4,631,000	$12,696,000	$25,473,000
Field Crops	$171,140,000	$200,689,000	$257,394,000	$490,294,000
Fruit & Nut Crops	$109,865,000	$209,267,000	$296,063,000	$664,510,000
Livestock & Poultry Production	$170,649,000	$201,835,000	$384,998,000	$669,453,000
Livestock & Poultry Products	$208,651,000	$318,356,000	$559,953,000	$1,038,014,000
Nursery Products	$9,214,000	$11,212,000	$21,991,000	$47,736,000
Other Agriculture	—	$8,901,000	$7,699,000	$13,505,000
Seed Crops	$2,015,000	$1,726,000	$937,000	$5,929,000
Vegetable Crops	$67,880,000	$111,371,000	$185,932,000	$323,386,000
Total	$743,030,000	$1,070,181,000	$1,730,722,000	$3,280,206,000



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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MERCED COUNTY





2013 REPORT ON Agriculture

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Disclaimer: Numbers in this report reflect computer rounding of production and value rates.

MERCED COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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California Department of Food and Agriculture
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The Honorable Board of Supervisors, County of Merced
Jerry O'Banion, *Chairman*
Linn Davis **Deidre F. Kelsey**
John Pedrozo **Hubert "Hub" Walsh**
James L. Brown, *County Executive Officer*

In accordance with the provisions of Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I am pleased to submit the 2013 Merced County Report of Agriculture. This report summarizes the acreage, production, and gross value of Merced County's agricultural commodities.

Merced County agriculture commodities grossed $3,799,070,000 in 2013 for a record high. This is the fourth time that Merced County agriculture has surpassed the 3 billion dollar mark in gross production value. Although challenged with irrigation water allotments, the 2013 growing season was again good for most crops. These figures represent gross returns to the producer and do not take into account the costs of production, marketing, or transportation. Net income of the producer is not reflected in this report.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OF THE 2013 CROP YEAR:

- With a 22.27% increase in value of $209,350,000, Milk remains the county's number one commodity with an overall value of $1,149,586,000. Much of the increase is due to the increase in price for both market milk and milk used in manufacturing and a significant increase in production of milk used in manufacturing. The price for market milk increased 20.88% and the price for milk used in manufacturing increased by 7.4%.
- Almonds held steady as the second leading commodity with a gross production value of $672,768,000. This is an increase of $201,405,000. A significant increase in price and modest increase in acreage and production contributed for a 42.7% increase in overall value.
- Chickens surpassed Cattle & Calves to be the number three commodity in 2013 with a total production value of $330,251,000. A modest increase in the number of chickens harvested, production weight and price per pound resulted in an overall gain of $40,071,000.
- Cattle & Calves fell to the number four commodity with a gross production value of $283,729,000 down $13,162,000 from the previous year. 2012 experienced high sales of dairy cattle due to the drop in milk prices.
- Sweet Potatoes remained the number five commodity up $46,762,000 for a total production value of $207,305,000. Increases were seen in acres harvested, production and price for an overall increase of 29%.
- Alfalfa Hay remained the number six leading crop. Prices, acreage and production remained steady posting a gross production value of $133,538,000.

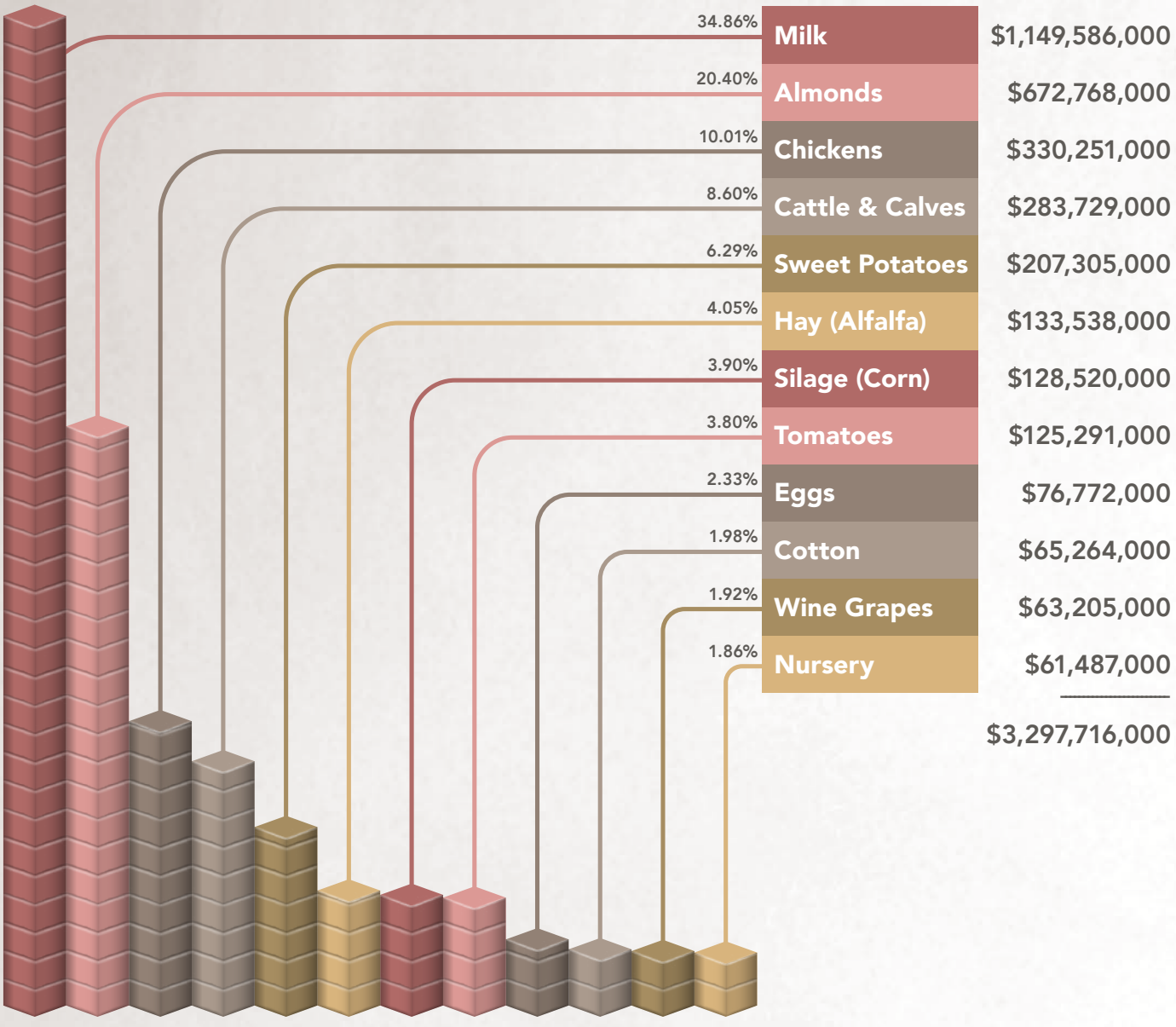
I wish to express my sincere thanks to our growers and ranchers, industry representatives and the members of my staff who assisted in the gathering of data for this report.

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Robinson, *Agricultural Commissioner*

Top Twelve Leading Farm Commodities

RANK	CROP	VALUE	2012 RANK	SHARE
1	**Milk** Includes Market and Manufacturing	$1,149,586,000	1	34.86%
2	**Almonds** Kernel Basis	$672,768,000	2	20.40%
3	**Chickens** Includes Fryers and Other Chickens	$330,251,000	4 ↑	10.01%
4	**Cattle & Calves**	$283,729,000	3 ↓	8.60%
5	**Sweet Potatoes**	$207,305,000	5	6.29%
6	**Hay** (Alfalfa)	$133,538,000	6	4.05%
7	**Silage** (Corn)	$128,520,000	8 ↑	3.90%
8	**Tomatoes** Includes Market and Processing Tomatoes	$125,291,000	7 ↓	3.80%
9	**Eggs** Chicken (Market)	$76,772,000	10 ↑	2.33%
10	**Cotton** Includes Acala and Pima Cotton	$65,264,000	9 ↓	1.98%
11	**Grapes** (Wine)	$63,205,000	12 ↑	1.92%
12	**Nursery** All products	$61,487,000	13 ↑	1.86%
		$3,297,716,000		



Field Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Barley	2013	2,115	2.71	5,732	Ton	$242.22	$1,388,000
	2012	1,349	1.98	2,671		$175.59	$469,000
Beans (Dry Lima)	2013	1,058	1.41	1,487	Ton	$1,023.54	$1,522,000
	2012	872	1.38	1,203		$900.01	$1,083,000
Corn (Grain) (1)	2013	21,563	6.12	131,879	Ton	$247.32	$32,617,000
	2012	14,144	6.04	85,425		$245.21	$20,947,000
Cotton (Acala)	2013	26,545	3.60	95,581	500 Lb Bale	$479.95	$45,874,000
	2012	43,860	3.50	153,299		$469.36	$71,952,000
Cotton (Pima)	2013	9,025	3.18	28,699	500 Lb Bale	$675.64	$19,390,000
	2012	8,265	3.03	25,041		$655.73	$16,420,000
Cotton (Seed)	2013	—	1.17	41,646	Ton	$389.25	$16,211,000
	2012	—	1.28	66,582		$378.77	$25,220,000
Hay (Alfalfa)	2013	84,075	7.10	597,021	Ton	$223.67	$133,538,000
	2012	83,930	7.09	595,351		$221.52	$131,885,000
Hay (Grain) (2)	2013	39,990	3.50	140,001	Ton	$153.56	$21,498,000
	2012	35,365	4.31	152,492		$149.18	$22,748,000
Hay (Sudan)	2013	11,832	4.69	55,540	Ton	$141.29	$7,847,000
	2012	10,170	4.03	41,022		$162.83	$6,679,000
Misc. Field Crops (3)	2013	1,835	—	—	—	—	$676,000
	2012	2,540	—	—		—	$2,882,000
Pasture (Irrigated)	2013	26,578	—	26,578	Acre	$250.00	$6,645,000
	2012	26,597	—	26,597		$161.91	$4,306,000
Pasture (Other)	2013	560,104	—	560,104	Acre	$22.26	$12,468,000
	2012	562,461	—	562,461		$20.33	$11,435,000
Rice	2013	3,377	3.75	12,663	Ton	$400.00	$5,065,000
	2012	2,408	3.78	9,111		$377.59	$3,440,000
Silage (Alfalfa)	2013	—	1.15	96,426	Ton	$64.70	$6,239,000
	2012	—	2.37	198,774		$62.98	$12,519,000
Silage (Corn)	2013	104,024	27.13	2,821,894	Ton	$45.54	$128,520,000
	2012	89,555	26.96	2,414,844		$45.23	$109,221,000
Silage (Other) (4)	2013	83,930	14.96	1,255,795	Ton	$34.63	$43,485,000
	2012	73,143	14.62	1,069,052		$33.11	$35,397,000
Straw (5)	2013	—	—	2,378	Ton	$73.33	$174,000
	2012	—	—	3,473		$59.02	$205,000
Stubble (Pasture)	2013	—	—	15,134	Acre	$50.00	$757,000
	2012	—	—	15,107		$50.00	$755,000
Wheat	2013	20,916	2.97	62,072	Ton	$270.14	$16,768,000
	2012	14,943	3.51	52,499		$242.49	$12,730,000
Total	2013	996,967					$500,681,000
	2012	969,601					$490,294,000

(1) For 2012 & 2013: Includes Human Consumption Corn (but not Fresh Market Corn), and grain for feed.
(2) For 2013: Includes Forage Mix, Oat,Triticale, and Wheat,
For 2012: Includes Barley, Oat, Rye Grass, and Wheat.
(3) For 2013: Includes Beans (Dry Other), Corn Stalks, Oat Grain and Safflower.
For 2012: Includes Beans (Dry Other), Corn Stalks and Earledge, Milo, Oat Grain, Rye (Organic), and Safflower.
(4) For 2013: Includes Oat, Sorghum, Sudan, and Wheat and Winter Forage.
For 2012: Includes Oat, Sorghum, Sudan, Triticale, Wheat, and Winter Forage.
(5) For 2012 & 2013: Includes Straw from Barley, Bean (Dry), Oat, Rice, and Wheat.

Livestock & Poultry Products

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Eggs (Other) [1]	2013	2,542,500	Each	$0.37	$941,000
	2012	29,673,330		$0.38	$11,402,000
Eggs, Chicken (Market)	2013	89,166,240	Dozn	$0.86	$76,772,000
	2012	97,875,270		$0.84	$81,726,000
Milk (Goat)	2013	150,000	Cwt	$36.73	$5,509,000
	2012	120,002		$36.57	$4,388,000
Milk (Manufacturing)	2013	4,359,060	Cwt	$19.16	$83,520,000
	2012	2,101,725		$17.84	$37,501,000
Milk (Market)	2013	57,377,085	Cwt	$18.58	$1,066,066,000
	2012	58,722,098		$15.37	$902,735,000
Wool	2013	92,547	Lb	$1.45	$134,000
	2012	158,652		$1.65	$262,000
Total	2013				$1,232,942,000
	2012				$1,038,014,000

[1] For 2012 & 2013: Includes Eggs other than Chicken Eggs and Organic Chicken Eggs.

Livestock & Poultry Production

CROP	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	PRODUCTION PER HEAD	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Cattle and Calves [1]	2013	317,977	8.61	2,736,312	Cwt	$103.69	$283,729,000
	2012	342,366	8.72	2,986,046		$99.43	$296,891,000
Chickens (Fryers and Broilers)	2013	79,306,738	5.90	467,909,754	Lb	$0.71	$330,251,000
	2012	74,730,693	5.78	431,943,406		$0.67	$290,180,000
Livestock (Miscellaneous) [2]	2013	54,672	—	—	—	—	$6,769,000
	2012	46,978	—	—		—	$5,198,000
Poultry and Fish (Miscellaneous) [3]	2013	393,081	—	—	—	—	$2,159,000
	2012	66,000	—	—		—	$639,000
Sheep and Lambs	2013	28,910	1.39	40,081	Cwt	$136.68	$5,478,000
	2012	36,566	1.35	49,517		$135.37	$6,703,000
Turkeys	2013	2,200,415	29.36	64,604,184	Lb	$0.93	$59,798,000
	2012	2,630,479	30.09	79,151,113		$0.88	$69,843,000
Total	2013	82,301,793					$688,184,000
	2012	77,853,082					$669,453,000

[1] For 2013: Includes Calves, Cull Bulls (Dairy and Beef), Replacement Heifers (Dairy and Beef) and Stocker Cattle.
For 2012: Includes Calves, Cull Bulls (Dairy and Beef), Cull Cows (Dairy and Beef), Replacement Heifers (Dairy and Beef) and Stocker Cattle.
[2] For 2012 & 2013: Includes Dairy and Meat Goats sold for meat.
[3] For 2013: Includes Chukar, Pheasant, Squab, and Fish.
For 2012: Includes Chukar, Pheasant, and Squab.

Seed Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	VALUE TOTAL
Seed Crops [1]	2013	7,148	$7,814,000
	2012	4,756	$5,929,000
Total	2013	7,148	$7,814,000
	2012	4,756	$5,929,000

[1] For 2013: Includes Certified, Common, and Phytosanitary Seed from Alfalfa and Wheat.
For 2012: Includes Certified, Common, and Phytosanitary Seed from Alfalfa, Barley, Oat, Triticale, and Wheat.

Fruit & Nut Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Almonds (Hulls)	2013	—	—	211,170	Ton	$136.60	$28,846,000
	2012	—	—	198,282		$132.72	$26,316,000
Almonds (Kernel Basis)	2013	98,941	1.08	106,451	Ton	$6,320.00	$672,768,000
	2012	97,647	0.98	96,133		$4,903.22	$471,363,000
Apricots	2013	378	5.86	2,216	Ton	$426.81	$946,000
	2012	389	16.55	6,441		$400.00	$2,576,000
Figs (Dry)	2013	629	0.97	613	Ton	$1,571.14	$962,000
	2012	946	1.00	946		$1,500.00	$1,419,000
Grapes (Raisin)	2013	453	2.79	1,263	Ton	$1,650.00	$2,084,000
	2012	420	2.44	1,025		$1,708.82	$1,752,000
Grapes (Wine)	2013	12,372	12.06	149,230	Ton	$423.54	$63,205,000
	2012	12,243	11.18	136,873		$422.20	$57,787,000
Miscellaneous [1]	2013	2,144	—	—	—	—	$14,069,000
	2012	3,403	—	—		—	$19,054,000
Peaches (Clingstone)	2013	2,213	13.90	30,771	Ton	$352.15	$10,836,000
	2012	2,222	15.67	34,820		$311.30	$10,840,000
Peaches (Freestone)	2013	1,692	21.29	36,026	Ton	$308.60	$11,118,000
	2012	1,728	18.36	31,713		$271.69	$8,616,000
Pistachios	2013	5,017	1.21	6,076	Ton	$5,822.03	$35,376,000
	2012	5,016	1.33	6,648		$5,290.79	$35,171,000
Plums, Dried	2013	1,395	2.06	2,876	Ton	$1,124.19	$3,234,000
	2012	1,681	3.74	6,282		$1,334.64	$8,385,000
Strawberries	2013	102	5.04	514	Ton	$886.83	$456,000
	2012	91	3.03	276		$988.45	$272,000
Walnuts (English)	2013	5,455	1.65	8,990	Ton	$4,108.63	$36,937,000
	2012	5,049	1.47	7,427		$2,821.57	$20,957,000
Total	2013	130,792					$880,836,000
	2012	130,835					$664,510,000

[1] For 2013: Includes Apple, Blackberry, Blueberry, Cherry, Fig (Fresh), Grape (Fresh, Raisin to Wine), Kiwi, Nectarine, Olives, Orange, Organic Fruit and Nut, Pear, Pecan, Persimmon, Plum, Pluot and Pomegranate.
For 2012: Includes Apple, Blackberry, Blueberry, Cherry, Chestnut, Fig (Fresh), Grape (Raisin to Wine and Fresh), Kiwi, Nectarine, Olives, Orange, Organic Fruit and Nut, Pear, Pecan, Persimmon, Plum, Pluot, Pomegranate, and Raspberry.

Nursery Products

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	VALUE TOTAL
All Nursery Products [1]	2013	1,576	$61,487,000
	2012	1,554	$47,736,000
Total	2013	1,576	$61,487,000
	2012	1,554	$47,736,000

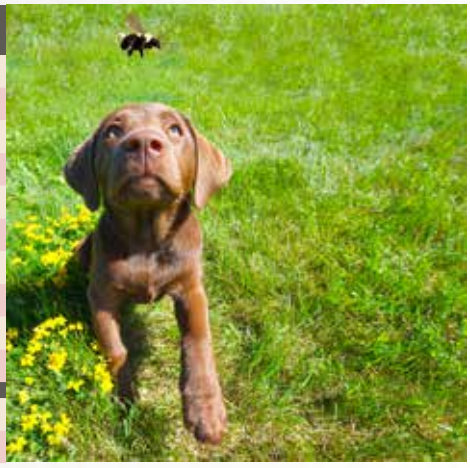
[1] For 2013: Includes Cane Berries, Christmas Trees, Crown and Cuttings, Decorative Plants, Transplants (Vegetable) and Turf. The separate production and value are not shown to avoid disclosing individual operaratiions.
For 2012: Includes Cane Berries, Christmas Trees, Crown and Cuttings, Decorative Plants, Ornamental Plants, Ornamental and Shade Trees, Transplant (Strawberry and Vegetable), and Turf. The separate production and value are not shown to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Fruit & Nut Acreage Planting

CROP	BEARING 2013	NON-BEARING 2013	BEARING 2008	NON-BEARING 2008
Almonds	98,941	2,639	92,612	5,998
Apples	3	0	14	0
Apricots	378	0	1,019	0
Berries	122	0	135	0
Cherries	407	0	457	1
Figs	946	344	1,802	0
Grapes (Raisin)	504	0	675	1
Grapes (Table)	5	0	99	0
Grapes (Wine)	12,372	715	11,075	385
Jujube	0	0	20	0
Kiwi	26	0	29	0
Mandarins	14	0	9	0
Nectarines	41	0	121	3
Olives	55	22	2	0
Oranges	9	0	6	2
Peaches (Clingstone)	2,213	6	3,036	15
Peaches (Freestone)	1,692	9	1,864	158
Pears	7	0	6	0
Pecans	26	0	37	0
Persimmon	20	0	17	0
Pistachios	5,577	142	4,816	2,192
Plums	70	0	86	0
Plums (Dried)	1,395	183	1,753	88
Pluot	15	0	95	0
Pomegranate	306	0	12	202
Walnuts (English)	5,455	335	5,699	357
Total	130,556	4,447	125,496	9,402

Bee Industry

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Beeswax	2013	30,989	Lb	$4.00	$124,000
	2012	17,925		$2.25	$40,000
Bulk Bees (1)	2013	68,785	Lb	$14.97	$1,030,000
	2012	57,710		$13.40	$773,000
Honey (2)	2013	2,014,257	Lb	$1.98	$3,988,000
	2012	1,165,109		$1.88	$2,190,000
Pollination (3)	2013	154,554	Colony	$150.32	$23,233,000
	2012	152,222		$145.97	$22,220,000
Queens (4)	2013	19,957	Each	$15.99	$319,000
	2012	17,742		$14.05	$249,000
Total	2013				$28,694,000
	2012				$25,473,000



(1) For 2012 & 2013: Includes Bees sold as Bulk Bees, Nuclei, and Packaged Bees.
(2) For 2013: Honey produced by 46,500 resident colonies.
For 2012: Honey produced by 46,168 resident colonies.
(3) For 2012 & 2013: Pollination colonies include all required to pollinate crops grown in Merced County.
(4) For 2012 & 2013: Includes Mated Queens and Queen Cells.

Vegetable Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Beans, Lima (Freezer)	2013	—	—	—	Ton	—	—
	2012	356	1.25	445		$900.00	$400,000
Melons (Cantaloupe) (1)	2013	3,586	668.45	2,397,141	40lb Ctn	$6.67	$15,983,000
	2012	2,699	745.64	2,012,173		$6.61	$13,291,000
Melons (Other) (2)	2013	1,498	32.99	49,411	Ton	$234.95	$11,609,000
	2012	974	51.79	50,422		$244.78	$12,342,000
Misc. Vegetables (3)	2013	4,729	—	—	—	—	$24,361,000
	2012	3,240	—	—		—	$21,098,000
Sweet Potatoes (4)	2013	17,261	15.44	266,510	Ton	$777.85	$207,305,000
	2012	15,059	15.04	226,487		$708.84	$160,543,000
Tomatoes (Market) (5)	2013	6,954	1,268.00	8,818,210	25lb Ctn	$7.18	$63,313,000
	2012	7,954	1,418.98	11,287,049		$5.58	$63,009,000
Tomatoes (Processing)	2013	19,046	44.87	854,621	Ton	$72.52	$61,978,000
	2012	15,046	51.39	773,177		$68.16	$52,701,000
Total	2013	53,074					$384,549,000
	2012	45,327					$323,386,000

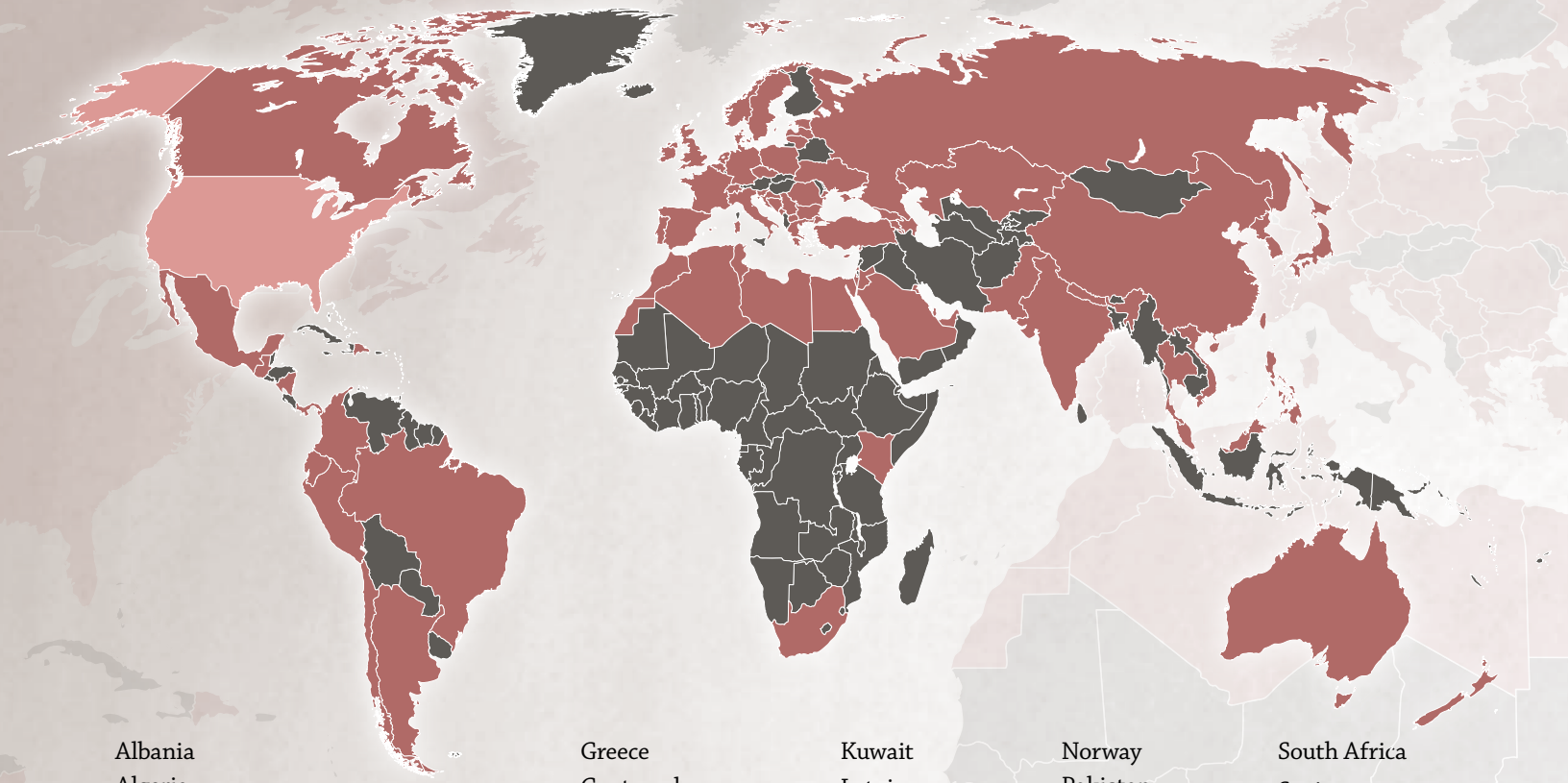
(1) For 2012 & 2013: Price reflects wholesale after packing and shipping.
(2) For 2012 & 2013: Includes Honeydew, Mixed Melons and Watermelon.
(3) For 2013: Includes Asparagus, Basil, Beans (Freezer Lima), Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrot, Cauliflower, Cilantro, Cucumber, Eggplant, Fennel, Garlic, Kale, Leek, Marjoram, Onion, Pepper (Bell) Pumpkin, Radicchio, Spice/Herb, Squash, and Tomatillo.
For 2012: Includes Asparagus, Artichokes, Argula, Basil, Beans (Fresh), Beets, Broccoli, Brussel Sprouts, Cabbage, Carrot, Celery, Chard, Chives, Cilantro, Collard, Corn (Sweet), Cucumber, Eggplant, Fennel, Garlic, Kale, Leek, Melons (Organic), Mustard, Onion, Parsley, Parsnip, Peas, Pepper (Bell, Spice), Potato, Pumpkin, Radicchio, Radish, Shallots, Spice/Herb, Spinach,Squash, Tomatillo,Turnip, and Watercress.
(4) For 2012: Price reflects wholesale after packing and shipping.
(5) For 2012 & 2013: Price reflects wholesale after packing and shipping.

Other Agriculture

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Almond (Shells) (1)	2013	68,452	Ton	$22.91	$1,568,000
	2012	64,417		$21.49	$1,384,000
Firewood (2)	2013	16,756	Cord	$176.98	$2,965,000
	2012	15,993		$179.21	$2,866,000
Fuel (Cogeneration) (3)	2013	79,977	Ton	$40.00	$3,199,000
	2012	69,434		$40.00	$2,777,000
Manure (4)	2013	1,499,689	Ton	$4.10	$6,149,000
	2012	1,436,261		$4.51	$6,478,000
Total	2013				$13,882,000
	2012				$13,505,000

(1) For 2012 & 2013: For Animal Bedding.
(2) For 2012 & 2013: Includes Orchard Prunings and Removals for Firewood (Recorded in Cords).
(3) For 2012 & 2013: Includes Orchard Prunings and Orchard Removals for Fuel (Recorded in Dry Tons).
(4) For 2012 & 2013: Includes Livestock and Poultry Manure.

Countries Of Export



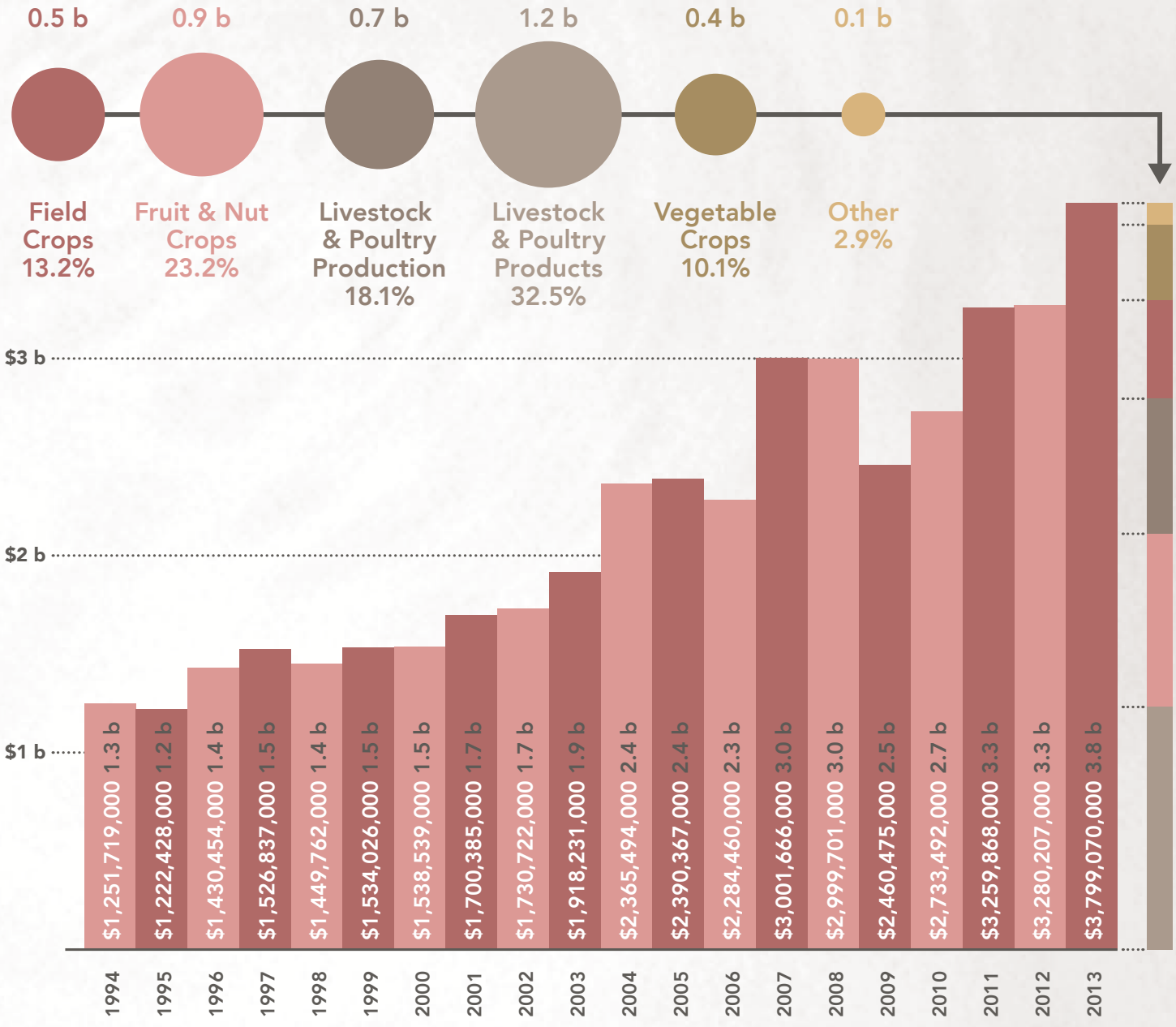
Albania
Algeria
Argentina
Armenia
Australia
Azerbaijan
Bahrain
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Brazil
Bulgaria
Canada
Chile
China
Colombia
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
Estonia
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Guatemala
Hong Kong
India
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Japan
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kenya
Korea, Democratic People's Republic of
Korea, Republic of
Kuwait
Latvia
Lebanon
Libya
Lithuania
Macedonia
Malaysia
Mexico
Montenegro
Morocco
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Norway
Pakistan
Panama
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
Romania
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Serbia
Singapore
Slovenia
South Africa
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Taiwan
Thailand
Tunisia
Turkey
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
Viet Nam
Yemen

Products Of Export

Alfalfa Hay
Almond
Blackberry
Blueberry
Broccoli
Cantaloupe
Chick Pea
Chicory
Edible Fig
Endive
Fennel
Japanese Plum
Melon
Nectarine
Onion
Peach
Pecan
Pistachio
Prune
Radicchio
Raisin
Raspberry
Rice
Strawberry
Sudan Hay
Sweet Potato
Tomato
Treviso
Walnut

Commodity Value Crop Comparison

COMMODITIES	1983	1993	2003	2013
Aquaculture	—	$1,311,000	$2,405,000	—
Bee Industry	$3,031,000	$5,215,000	$14,187,000	$28,694,000
Field Crops	$156,920,000	$224,826,000	$252,345,000	$500,681,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	$93,382,000	$290,211,000	$312,191,000	$880,836,000
Livestock and Poultry Production	$174,255,000	$188,970,000	$454,542,000	$688,184,000
Livestock and Poultry Products	$215,455,000	$337,036,000	$609,610,000	$1,232,942,000
Nursery Products	$8,017,000	$14,603,000	$30,404,000	$61,487,000
Other Agriculture	—	$9,202,000	$7,107,000	$13,882,000
Seed Crops	$1,381,000	$1,209,000	$1,283,000	$7,814,000
Vegetable Crops	$69,309,000	$130,049,000	$234,157,000	$384,549,000
Total	$721,750,000	$1,202,632,000	$1,918,231,000	$3,799,070,000



Organic Farming

Merced County had 43 growers of organic commodities, 1 organic processor, and 7 organic handlers in 2013. These growers farmed a total of 12,175 acres to produce assorted organic field crops, berries, fruits, nuts, vegetables, vegetable transplants, as well as, organic pastureland, and rangeland. Organic eggs, livestock, milk, and poultry were also produced.

Pest Prevention

The California Food and Agricultural Code mandates pest prevention programs to prevent the introduction and spread of pests in California. Pest prevention involves Pest Exclusion, Pest Detection, Pierce's Disease Control, and the Federal Phytosanitary Certification Program.

PEST EXCLUSION PROGRAM

Pest Exclusion is the first line of defense to prevent the introduction of pests, injurious to agriculture, that are not of common occurrence in Merced County.

A total of 4,740 shipments of incoming plant material were inspected in 2013. Shipments are inspected at United Parcel Service, United States Post Offices, Federal Express and trucking terminals. Three shipments were rejected. The three rejections were for live pests, material not properly certified, or improper container markings.

PEST DETECTION PROGRAM

Pest Detection uses visual inspection and insect traps that target specific exotic insects of high agricultural and economic importance.

The trapping program in Merced County targeted the following pests:

- Asian Citrus Psyllid *(Diaphorina citri Kuwayama)*
- Apple Maggot *(Rhagoletis pomonella)*
- European Pine Shoot Moth *(Rhyacionia buoliana)*
- Glassy-winged Sharpshooter *(Homalodisca coagulate)*
- Light Brown Apple Moth *(Epiphyas postvittana)*
- Khapra Beetle *(Trogoderma granarium)*
- Melon Fly *(Dacus cucurbitae)*
- Oriental Fruit Fly *(Dacus dorsalis)*
- Vine Mealy Bug *(Planococcus ficus)*
- European Corn Borer *(Ostrinia nubilalus)*
- European Grapevine Moth *(Lobesia botrana)*
- Gypsy Moth *(Lymantria dispar)*
- Japanese Beetle *(Popillia japonica)*
- Mediterranean Fruit Fly *(Ceratitis capitata)*
- Mexican Fruit Fly *(Anastrepha ludens)*
- Sweet Potato Weevil *(Cylas formicarius elegantulus)*

A total of 2,699 pest detection traps were placed in Merced County and were inspected a total of 24,373 times during the 2013 trapping season.

PIERCE'S DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM

To prevent the introduction of the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) into Merced County, which is the main insect vector of **Pierce's Disease**, all shipments of nursery stock from infested counties, shipped by nurseries under a Master Compliance Agreement, are inspected. GWSS has the ability to spread Pierce's Disease rapidly among grape vines with devastating results. Three hundred and nineteen shipments of nursery stock from infested counties were inspected in 2013.

In addition, all nurseries receiving nursery stock from GWSS infested areas and residential yards were inspected for GWSS presence, a total of 3,490 inspections during 2013. No GWSS were detected.

FEDERAL PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

This program ensures that plants and plant commodities exported to foreign countries from Merced County are free from injurious pests. In 2013, the Merced County staff inspected and issued Phytosanitary Certificates for 6,400 export shipments.

Pest Eradication Program

The Pest Eradication Program endeavors to eliminate infestations of significant agricultural pests with limited distribution before they are able to cause ongoing economic cost to California Agriculture.

Successful eradication projects include Sweet Potato Weevil, Banana Waterlily, Japanese Dodder, and European Grapevine Moth (EGVM)

Only limited detection and eradication efforts for the invasive weeds; South American Sponge Plant ("A" Rated), Purple Loosestrife ("B Rated), and Perennial Peppercress ("B" Rated) were conducted during 2013, due to budget constraints. Little or no work is anticipated to be done in 2014.

Detection and eradication efforts for the insect pest Pink Bollworm continues.

There were no Pink Bollworm moths trapped in Merced County during 2013.

The Pink Bollworm is a major cotton pest. Eradication efforts included a State operated trapping program of 32,570 acres in conjunction with County enforcement of the host free period from January 1 through March 10, also known as Cotton Plowdown. Treatment is accomplished by mating disruption utilizing pheromones and sterile moths.

Biological Control

The Biological Control (Biocontrol) Program uses natural enemies to suppress pest populations to economically and environmentally acceptable levels. Once the Biocontrol agent becomes established it is self-perpetuating, reducing the need to use pesticides. The following are pests found in Merced County and their Biocontrol Agents.

PEST	CONTROL ORGANISMS
Ash Whitefly *(Siphoninus phillyreae)*	Parasitoid Wasp *(Encarsia inaron)*
Grapeleaf Skeletonizer *(Harrisina brillians)*	Parasitic Fly *(Ametadoria misella)* Virus *(WGLS Granulosis)* Parasitic Wasp *(Apanteles harrisinae)*
Italian Thistle *(Carduus sp.)*	Seed Head Weevil *(Rhinocllyus conicus)*
Klamath Weed *(Hypericum perforatum)*	Leaf Beetle *(Chrysolina quadrigemina)*
Milk Thistle *(Silybum marianum)*	Seed Head Weevil *(Rhinocyllus conicus)*
Puncture Vine *(Tribulus terrestris)*	Seed Weevil *(Microlarinus lareynii)* Stem Weevil *(Microlarinus lypriformis)*
Red Gum Lerp Psyllid *(Glycaspis brimblecombei)*	Parasitoid Wasp *(Psyllaephagus bliteus)*
Russian Thistle *(Salsola sp.)*	Casebearer Moth *(Coleophora klimeschiella)* Russian Thistle Borer *(Coleophora parthenica)*
Yellowstar Thistle *(Centaurea solstitialis)*	Seed Head Weevil *(Bangasternus orientalis)* Seed Head Gall Fly *(Urophora sirunaseva)* Hairy Weevil *(Eustenopus villosus)* False Peacock Fly *(Chaetorellia succinea)* Rust Fungus *(Puccinia jaceae var. solstitialis)*

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Jesus Molina
Ramiro Perez
Carol Rakes
Sheila Worthley
Carl Youngborg

MERCED COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
2139 Wardrobe Avenue
Merced, California 95341-6445

James Alan Simms

MARCH 1, 1954 – AUGUST 10, 2014

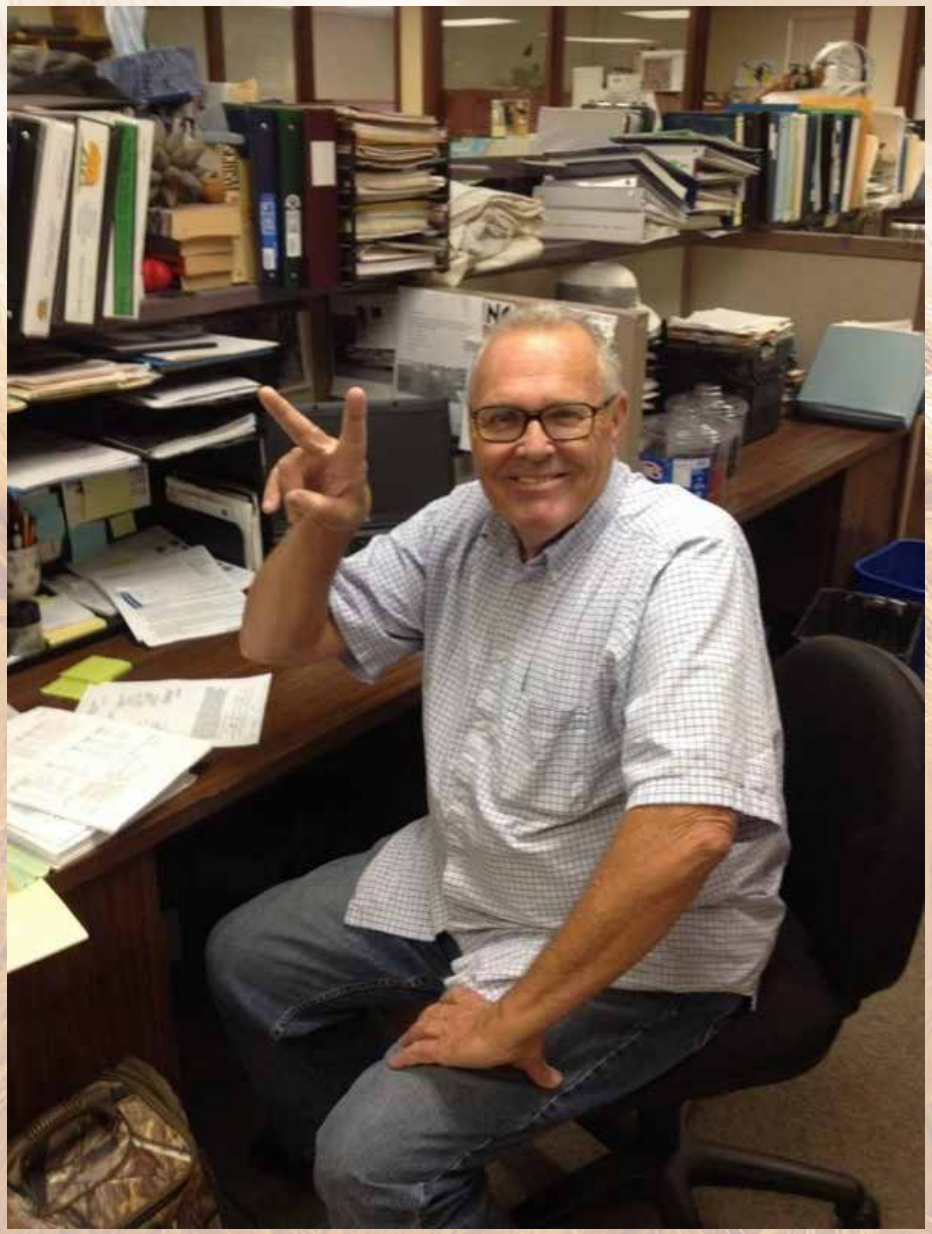
This year, the Agricultural Commissioner's Office lost Jim Simms, a co-worker and friend to all. Jim was a Merced native and was involved in the agricultural community his entire life.

Jim's passion in life was his animals and reaching out to the youth of Merced County. His goal was to get them involved in 4-H and FFA projects. He enjoyed serving kids as a leader of St. Anthony's 4-H club for over 10 years before stepping aside to be a breeder of lambs and goats, and a coach and counselor to the people he provided animals to.

Jim had a degree in Agricultural Science from California State University Fresno, and was hired as an Agricultural Biologist in 1999. He faithfully served the County and the agricultural community for 15 years.

Jim made lifelong friends with the department's staff and customers. He brought life to our office, with his lighthearted demeanor and constant humor. He loved to bring food to share with the office. His breakfast burritos were always in demand.

Jim was taken from us way too soon and he is truly missed.



MERCED
COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
2139 Wardrobe Avenue
Merced, California 95341-6445

2014 REPORT ON Agriculture

MERCED COUNTY
Department of Agriculture

Contents

Numbers in this report reflect computer rounding of production & value rates.

David A. Robinson
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

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Equal Opportunity Employer

Karen Ross, *Secretary,*
California Department of Food and Agriculture
and
The Honorable Board of Supervisors, County of Merced
John Pedrozo, *Chairman*
Deidre F. Kelsey **Daron McDaniel**
Jerry O'Banion **Hubert "Hub" Walsh**
James L. Brown, *County Executive Officer*

In accordance with the provisions of Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I am pleased to submit the 2014 Merced County Report of Agriculture. This report summarizes the acreage, production, and gross value of Merced County's agricultural commodities.

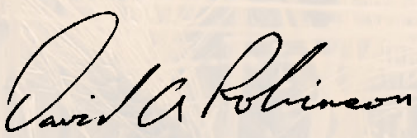
Merced County agriculture commodities grossed $4,429,987,000 in 2014 for a record high. This is the first time that Merced County agriculture surpassed the 4-billion-dollar mark in gross production value. Although challenged by the ongoing drought and increasing production costs, the 2014 growing season was again good for most crops. These figures represent gross returns to the producer and do not take into account the costs of production, marketing, or transportation. Net income of the producer is not reflected in this report.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OF THE 2014 CROP YEAR

- With a 25.5% increase in value of $293,104,000, Milk remains the county's number one commodity with an overall value of $1,442,690,000. Much of the increase is due to the increase in price for both market milk and milk used in manufacturing and an increase in production of market milk. The price for both market and manufacturing milk increased around 21%.
- Almonds held steady as the second leading commodity with a gross production value of $790,754,000. This is an increase of $117,986,000. A significant increase in price and modest increase in acreage contributed for a 17.5% increase in overall value.
- Cattle & Calves surpassed Chickens to be the number three commodity in 2014 with a total production value of $350,092,000. Cattle production decreased while prices increased by 23.4% over the previous year.
- Chickens fell to the number four commodity with a gross production value of $309,133,000 down $21,118,000 from the previous year. A decrease in the number of chickens harvested resulted in an overall reduction of 6.4%.
- Sweet Potatoes remained the number five commodity up $9,698,000 for a total production value of $217,003,000. Increases were seen in acres harvested and price for an overall increase of 4.7%.
- Tomatoes jumped from the number eight ranking in 2013 to number five in 2014. An increase in acreage for both fresh market and processing combined with higher prices and production, equated to a total production value of $183,950,000. This is an increase of $58,659,000 (46.8%).

I wish to express my sincere thanks to our growers and ranchers, industry representatives and the members of my staff who assisted in the gathering of data for this report.

Respectfully submitted,



David A. Robinson, *Agricultural Commissioner*

Top Fifteen Commodities

RANK	CROP	VALUE	2013 RANK
1	Milk including Market & Manufacturing	$1,442,690,000	1
2	Almonds (Kernel Basis)	$790,754,000	2
3	Cattle & Calves	$350,092,000	4 ↑
4	Chickens including Fryers & Other Chickens	$309,133,000	3 ↓
5	Sweet Potatoes	$217,003,000	5
6	Tomatoes including Market & Processing Tomatoes	$183,950,000	8 ↑↑
7	Silage (Corn)	$165,694,000	7
8	Hay (Alfalfa)	$150,036,000	6 ↓↓
9	Eggs, Chicken (Market)	$94,075,000	9
10	Cotton including Acala & Pima Cotton	$80,199,000	10
11	All Nursery Products	$66,299,000	12 ↑
12	Silage (Other)	$56,595,000	14 ↑↑
13	Turkeys	$54,528,000	13
14	Pistachios	$42,536,000	16 ↑↑
15	Grapes (Wine)	$33,402,000	11 ↓↓↓↓
	Total	$4,036,986,000	

Milk and Almonds, the top two commodities, comprise more than half (55 1/3%) of the production value.

Milk	35.8%	$1,443m
Almonds	19.6%	$791m
Cattle & Calves	8.7%	$350m
Chickens	7.7%	$309m
Sweet Potatoes	5.4%	$217m
Tomatoes	4.6%	$184m
Silage (Corn)	4.0%	$166m
Hay	3.7%	$150m
Eggs	2.3%	$94m
Cotton	2.0%	$80m
Nursery	1.6%	$66m
Silage (Other)	1.4%	$57m
Turkeys	1.4%	$55m
Pistachios	1.0%	$43m
Grapes (Wine)	0.8%	$33m
	Total	$4,038m

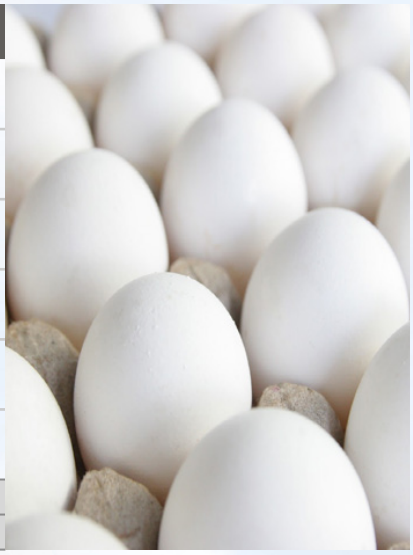
Field Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Barley	2014	1,217	2.63	3,195	Ton	$250.52	$800,000
	2013	2,115	2.71	5,732		$242.22	$1,388,000
Beans (Dry Lima)	2014	720	1.19	858	Ton	$1,182.23	$1,015,000
	2013	1,058	1.41	1,487		$1,023.54	$1,522,000
Corn (Grain) (1)	2014	14,175	6.00	85,047	Ton	$300.00	$25,514,000
	2013	21,563	6.12	131,879		$247.32	$32,617,000
Cotton (Acala)	2014	19,895	3.66	72,848	500 Lb Bale	$514.05	$37,447,000
	2013	26,545	3.60	95,581		$479.95	$45,874,000
Cotton (Pima)	2014	16,190	3.11	50,396	500 Lb Bale	$848.33	$42,752,000
	2013	9,025	3.18	28,699		$675.64	$19,390,000
Cotton (Seed)	2014	—	1.18	42,552	Ton	$363.84	$15,482,000
	2013	—	1.17	41,646		$389.25	$16,211,000
Hay (Alfalfa)	2014	84,731	7.05	597,195	Ton	$251.23	$150,036,000
	2013	84,075	7.10	597,021		$223.67	$133,538,000
Hay (Grain) (2)	2014	39,220	3.16	123,770	Ton	$236.00	$29,209,000
	2013	39,990	3.50	140,001		$153.56	$21,498,000
Hay (Sudan)	2014	11,478	3.99	45,848	Ton	$134.72	$6,177,000
	2013	11,832	4.69	55,540		$141.29	$7,847,000
Misc. Field Crops (3)	2014	2,307	—	—	—	—	$1,758,000
	2013	1,835	—	—		—	$676,000
Pasture (Irrigated)	2014	25,030	—	25,030	Acre	$180.00	$4,505,000
	2013	26,578	—	26,578		$250.00	$6,645,000
Pasture (Other)	2014	556,966	—	556,966	Acre	$23.95	$13,339,000
	2013	560,104	—	560,104		$22.26	$12,468,000
Rice	2014	—	—	—	Ton	—	—
	2013	3,377	3.75	12,663		$400.00	$5,065,000
Silage (Alfalfa)	2014	—	0.41	34,740	Ton	$65.00	$2,258,000
	2013	—	1.15	96,426		$64.70	$6,239,000
Silage (Corn)	2014	100,394	27.02	2,712,645	Ton	$61.08	$165,694,000
	2013	104,024	27.13	2,821,894		$45.54	$128,520,000
Silage (Other) (4)	2014	85,511	15.43	1,319,795	Ton	$42.88	$56,595,000
	2013	83,930	14.96	1,255,795		$34.63	$43,485,000
Straw (5)	2014	—	—	1,993	Ton	$137.79	$275,000
	2013	—	—	2,378		$73.33	$174,000
Stubble (Pasture)	2014	—	—	7,178	Acre	$11.97	$86,000
	2013	—	—	15,134		$50.00	$757,000
Wheat	2014	21,635	2.88	62,309	Ton	$325.00	$20,251,000
	2013	20,916	2.97	62,072		$270.14	$16,768,000
Total	2014	979,469					$573,194,000
	2013	996,967					$500,681,000

(1) For 2014 & 2013: Includes Human Consumption Corn (but not Fresh Market Corn) & Grain for feed.
(2) For 2014: Includes Barley, Oat & Wheat.
For 2013: Includes Forage Mix, Oat, Triticale & Wheat.
(3) For 2014: Includes Beans (Dry Other), Oat Grain, Rice & Safflower.
For 2013: Includes Beans (Dry Other), Corn Stalks, Oat Grain & Safflower.
(4) For 2014: Includes Forge Mix, Oat, Sudan, Wheat & Winter Forage.
For 2013: Includes Oat, Sorghum, Sudan, Wheat & Winter Forage.
(5) For 2014 & 2013: Includes Straw from Barley, Bean (Dry), Oat, Rice & Wheat.

Livestock & Poultry Products

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Eggs (Other) [1]	2014	6,355,965	Dozn	$2.26	$14,342,593
	2013	211,875		$4.44	$941,000
Eggs, Chicken (Market)	2014	84,447,930	Dozn	$1.11	$94,075,000
	2013	89,166,240		$0.86	$76,772,000
Milk (Goat)	2014	126,880	Cwt	$34.99	$4,440,000
	2013	150,000		$36.73	$5,509,000
Milk (Manufacturing)	2014	792,401	Cwt	$23.29	$18,455,000
	2013	4,359,060		$19.16	$83,520,000
Milk (Market)	2014	63,809,803	Cwt	$22.32	$1,424,235,000
	2013	57,377,085		$18.58	$1,066,066,000
Wool	2014	94,395	Lb	$1.95	$184,000
	2013	92,547		$1.45	$134,000
Total	2014				$1,555,731,000
	2013				$1,232,942,000



[1] For 2014 & 2013: Includes Eggs other than Chicken Eggs & Organic Chicken Eggs.

Livestock & Poultry Production

CROP	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	PRODUCTION PER HEAD	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Cattle and Calves [1]	2014	312,752	8.60	2,688,924	Cwt	$130.20	$350,092,000
	2013	317,977	8.61	2,736,312		$103.69	$283,729,000
Chickens (Fryers & Broilers)	2014	67,999,309	6.03	410,225,826	Lb	$0.75	$309,133,000
	2013	79,306,738	5.90	467,909,754		$0.71	$330,251,000
Livestock (Misc.) [2]	2014	54,672	—	—	—	—	$6,635,000
	2013	54,672	—	—		—	$6,769,000
Poultry & Fish (Misc.) [3]	2014	380,000	—	—	—	—	$1,016,000
	2013	393,081	—	—		—	$2,159,000
Sheep and Lambs	2014	30,612	1.40	42,851	Cwt	$114.86	$4,922,000
	2013	28,910	1.39	40,081		$136.68	$5,478,000
Turkeys	2014	1,590,933	31.17	49,589,382	Lb	$1.10	$54,528,000
	2013	2,200,415	29.36	64,604,184		$0.93	$59,798,000
Total	2014	70,368,278					$726,327,000
	2013	82,301,793					$688,184,000

[1] For 2014: Includes Calves, Cull Bulls (Dairy & Beef), Cull Cows (Dairy & Beef), Replacement Heifers (Dairy & Beef) & Stocker Cattle.
For 2013: Includes Calves, Cull Bulls (Dairy & Beef), Replacement Heifers (Dairy & Beef) & Stocker Cattle.
[2] For 2014 & 2013: Includes Dairy & Meat Goats sold for meat.
[3] For 2014 & 2013: Includes Chukar, Pheasant, Squab & Fish.

Seed Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	VALUE TOTAL
Seed Crops [1]	2014	3,730	$3,825,000
	2013	7,148	$7,814,000
Total	2014	3,730	$3,825,000
	2013	7,148	$7,814,000

[1] For 2014: Includes Certified, Common & Phytosanitsary Seed from Alfalfa, Lettuce, Onion, Triticale & Wheat.
For 2013: Includes Certified, Common & Phytosanitary Seed from Alfalfa & Wheat.

Fruit & Nut Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Almonds (Hulls)	2014	—	—	205,013	Ton	$150.79	$30,915,000
	2013	—	—	211,170		$136.60	$28,846,000
Almonds (Kernel Basis)	2014	99,907	0.99	98,598	Ton	$8,020.00	$790,754,000
	2013	98,941	1.08	106,451		$6,320.00	$672,768,000
Apricots	2014	314	4.81	1,510	Ton	$326.88	$494,000
	2013	378	5.86	2,216		$426.81	$946,000
Figs (Dry)	2014	619	1.00	619	Ton	$2,400.00	$1,485,000
	2013	629	0.97	613		$1,571.14	$962,000
Grapes (Raisin)	2014	—	—	—	Ton	—	—
	2013	453	2.79	1,263		$1,650.00	$2,084,000
Grapes (Wine)	2014	12,902	8.63	111,339	Ton	$300.00	$33,402,000
	2013	12,372	12.06	149,230		$423.54	$63,205,000
Miscellaneous [1]	2014	2,271	—	—	—	—	$14,157,000
	2013	2,144	—	—		—	$14,069,000
Peaches (Clingstone)	2014	2,141	16.37	35,039	Ton	$449.91	$15,764,000
	2013	2,213	13.90	30,771		$352.15	$10,836,000
Peaches (Freestone)	2014	1,665	19.98	33,270	Ton	$396.28	$13,184,000
	2013	1,692	21.29	36,026		$308.60	$11,118,000
Pistachios	2014	5,110	1.06	5,402	Ton	$7,873.75	$42,536,000
	2013	5,017	1.21	6,076		$5,822.03	$35,376,000
Plums, Dried	2014	1,408	2.84	3,991	Ton	$1,084.45	$4,328,000
	2013	1,395	2.06	2,876		$1,124.19	$3,234,000
Strawberries	2014	—	—	—	Ton	—	—
	2013	102	5.04	514		$886.83	$456,000
Walnuts (English)	2014	5,909	1.56	9,196	Ton	$3,289.94	$30,253,000
	2013	5,455	1.65	8,990		$4,108.63	$36,937,000
Total	2014	132,245					$977,271,000
	2013	130,792					$880,836,000

[1] For 2014 & 2013: Includes Apple, Blackberry, Blueberry, Cherry, Fig (Fresh), Grape (Fresh, Raisin to Wine), Kiwi, Nectarine, Olives, Orange, Organic Fruit & Nut, Pear, Pecan, Persimmon, Plum, Pluot, Pomegranate & Strawberry.

Nursery Products

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	VALUE TOTAL
All Nursery Products [1]	2014	1,677	$66,299,000
	2013	1,576	$61,487,000
Total	2014	1,677	$66,299,000
	2013	1,576	$61,487,000

[1] For 2014 & 2013: Includes Cane Berries, Christmas Trees, Crown & Cuttings, Decorative Plants, Transplants (Vegetable) & Turf. The separate production & value are shown to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Fruit & Nut Acreage Planting

CROPS	BEARING 2014	NON-BEARING 2014	BEARING 2009	NON-BEARING 2009
Almonds	101,327	3,108	94,670	4,815
Apples	3	0	2	0
Apricots	369	0	856	0
Berries	65	0	135	0
Cherries	410	1	466	55
Figs	936	355	1,702	0
Grapes (Raisin)	237	0	633	0
Grapes (Table)	18	0	0	0
Grapes (Wine)	12,902	836	11,317	4
Jujube	0	0	0	0
Kiwi	24	0	26	0
Mandarins	12	0	5	11
Nectarines	30	0	129	0
Olives	70	74	7	60
Oranges	9	0	6	2
Peaches (Clingstone)	2,141	0	2,749	0
Peaches (Freestone)	1,665	30	1,886	74
Pears	7	0	7	0
Pecans	29	0	26	0
Persimmons	33	0	16	0
Pistachios	5,671	86	4,971	454
Plums	16	0	86	0
Plums (Dried)	1,408	114	1,732	88
Pluots	15	0	94	0
Pomegranates	304	0	18	221
Walnuts (English)	5,932	76	5,612	271
Total	133,633	4,680	127,151	6,055

Bee Industry

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Beeswax	2014	45,727	Lb	$3.86	$177,000
	2013	30,989		$4.00	$124,000
Bulk Bees (1)	2014	67,725	Lb	$18.33	$1,241,000
	2013	68,785		$14.97	$1,030,000
Honey (2)	2014	2,166,019	Lb	$1.96	$4,245,000
	2013	2,014,257		$1.98	$3,988,000
Pollination (3)	2014	158,631	Colony	$162.34	$25,752,000
	2013	154,554		$150.32	$23,233,000
Queens (4)	2014	20,625	Each	$20.00	$413,000
	2013	19,957		$15.99	$319,000
Total	2014				$31,828,000
	2013				$28,694,000

(1) For 2014 & 2013: Includes Bees sold as Bulk Bees, Nuclei & Packaged Bees.
(2) For 2014 & 2013: Honey produced by 46,500 resident colonies.
(3) For 2014 & 2013: Pollination colonies include all required to pollinate crops grown in Merced County.
(4) For 2014 & 2013: Includes Mated Queens & Queen Cells.

Vegetable Crops

CROP	YEAR	ACRES HARVESTED	PRODUCTION PER ACRE	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Melons (Cantaloupe) (1)	2014	5,346	895.28	4,786,183	40lb Ctn	$6.23	$29,799,000
	2013	3,586	668.45	2,397,141		$6.67	$15,983,000
Melons (Other) (2)	2014	2,488	19.95	49,633	Ton	$269.29	$13,366,000
	2013	1,498	32.99	49,411		$234.95	$11,609,000
Misc. Vegetables (3)	2014	5,446	—	—	—	—	$32,166,000
	2013	4,729	—	—		—	$24,361,000
Sweet Potatoes (4)	2014	17,567	15.05	264,383	Ton	$820.79	$217,003,000
	2013	17,261	15.44	266,510		$777.85	$207,305,000
Tomatoes (Market) (5)	2014	8,575	1,406.11	12,057,402	25lb Ctn	$6.64	$80,035,000
	2013	6,954	1,268.00	8,818,210		$7.18	$63,313,000
Tomatoes (Processing)	2014	23,000	53.99	1,241,695	Ton	$83.69	$103,915,000
	2013	19,046	44.87	854,621		$72.52	$61,978,000
Total	2014	62,422					$476,284,000
	2013	53,074					$384,549,000

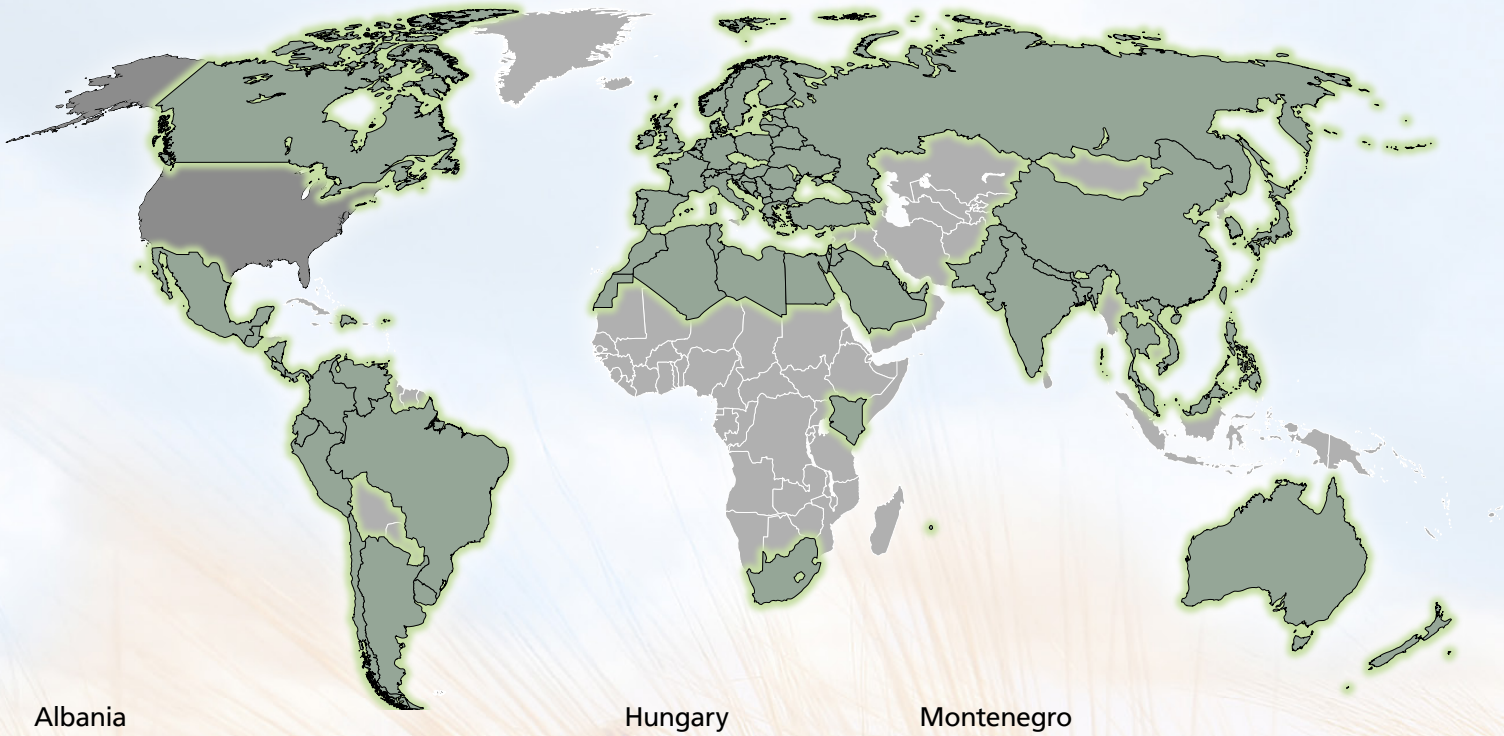
(1) For 2014 & 2013: Price reflects whoesale after packing & shipping.
(2) For 2014 & 2013: Includes Honeydew, Mixed Melons & Watermelon.
(3) For 2014: Includes Asparagus, Basil, Beans (Freezer Lima), Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrot, Cauliflower, Cilantro, Cucumber, Eggplant, Fennel, Garlic, Kale, Leek, Onion, Oregano, Pepper (Bell), Pumpkin, Radicchio, Sage, Spice/Herb, Squash, Tarragon, Thyme & Tomatillo.
For 2013: Includes Asparagus, Basil, Beans (Freezer Lima), Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrot, Cauliflower, Cilantro, Cucumber, Eggplant, Fennel, Garlic, Kale, Leek, Marjoram, Onion, Pepper (Bell), Pumpkin, Radicchio, Spice/Herb, Squash & Tomatillo.
(4) For 2014 & 2013: Price reflects wholesale after packing & shipping.
(5) For 2014 & 2013: Price reflects wholesale after packing & shipping.

Other Agriculture

CROP	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	PRODUCTION UNIT	VALUE PER UNIT	VALUE TOTAL
Almond (Hash) (1)	2014	795	Ton	$5,562.31	$4,424,000
	2013	—		—	—
Almond (Shells) (2)	2014	67,939	Ton	$21.97	$1,493,000
	2013	68,452		$22.91	$1,568,000
Firewood (3)	2014	16,895	Cord	$197.32	$3,334,000
	2013	16,756		$176.98	$2,965,000
Fuel (Cogeneration) (4)	2014	89,244	Ton	$40.00	$3,570,000
	2013	79,977		$40.00	$3,199,000
Manure (5)	2014	1,477,279	Ton	$4.34	$6,407,000
	2013	1,499,689		$4.10	$6,149,000
Total	2014				$19,228,000
	2013				$13,882,000

(1) For 2014: Almond By-Product.
(2) For 2014 & 2013: For Animal Bedding & Cogeneration.
(3) For 2014 & 2013: Includes Orchard Prunings & Removals for Firewood (Recorded in Cords).
(4) For 2014 & 2013: Includes Orchard Prunings & Orchard Removals for Fuel (Recorded in Dry Tons).
(5) For 2014 & 2013: Includes Livestock & Poultry Manure.

Countries Of Export



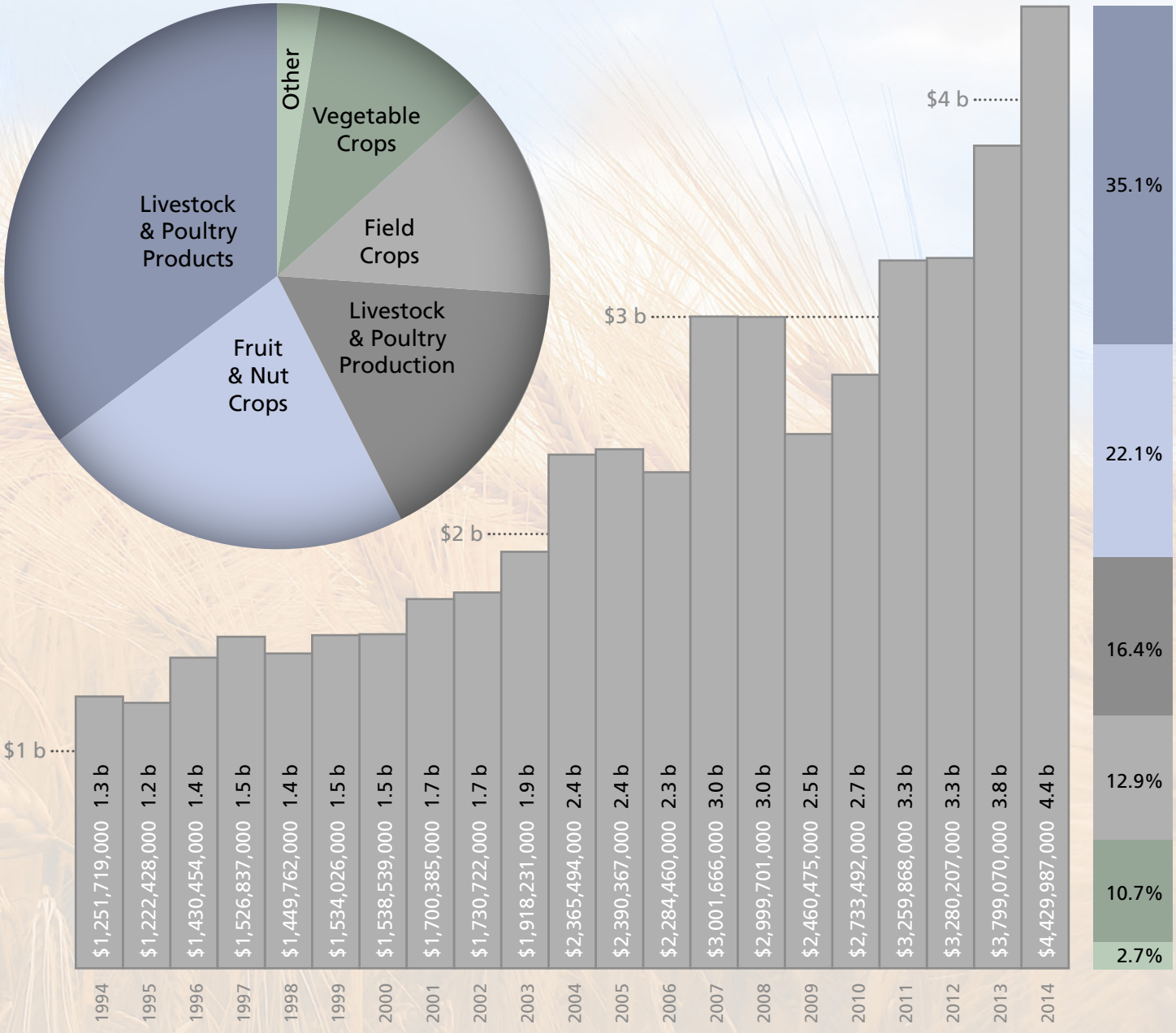
Albania
Algeria
Argentina
Armenia
Australia
Austria
Bahrain
Bangladesh
Belarus
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Brazil
British Virgin Islands
Bulgaria
Canada
Chile
China
Columbia
Costa Rica
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Guatemala
Hong Kong
Hungary
India
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Japan
Jordan
Kenya
Korea, Republic of
Kuwait
Latvia
Lebanon
Libya
Lithuania
Macedonia
Malaysia
Mauritius
Mexico
Montenegro
Morocco
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Norway
Pakistan
Panama
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
Romania
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Serbia
Singapore
Slovenia
South Africa
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Taiwan
Thailand
Tunisia
Turkey
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
Uruguay
Venezuela
Viet Nam

Products Of Export

Alfalfa Hay
Almond
Blackberry
Blueberry
Broccoli
Cantaloupe
Celery
Chicory
Edible Fig
Fennel
Japanese Plum
Melon
Nectarine
Onion
Peach
Pecan
Pistachio
Prune
Radicchio
Raisin
Raspberry
Rice
Strawberry
Sweet Potato
Tomato
Treviso
Walnut
Willow

Commodity Value Crop Comparison

COMMODITIES	1984	1994	2004	2014
Bee Industry	$3,409,000	$5,305,000	11,880,000	$31,828,000
Field Crops	$178,231,000	$245,794,000	286,060,000	$573,194,000
Fruit & Nut Crops	$152,154,000	$257,883,000	427,040,000	$977,271,000
Livestock & Poultry Production	$188,782,000	$204,887,000	$567,663,000	$726,327,000
Livestock & Poultry Products	$228,987,000	$359,410,000	$814,911,000	$1,555,731,000
Nursery Products	$9,039,000	$14,923,000	$30,354,000	$66,299,000
Other Agriculture	—	$8,273,000	$7,660,000	$19,228,000
Seed Crops	$1,473,000	$2,035,000	$873,000	$3,825,000
Vegetable Crops	$77,952,000	$152,024,000	$216,275,000	$476,284,000
Total	$840,027,000	$1,251,719,000	$2,365,494,000	$4,429,987,000



Sustainable Agriculture

Organic Farming

Merced County had 63 growers of organic commodities, 4 organic processors, and 10 organic handlers in 2014. These growers farmed a total of 13,897 acres to produce assorted organic field crops, berries, fruits, nuts, vegetables, and vegetable transplants. In addition, Merced County had over 18,500 acres of organic pastureland and rangeland in 2014. Organic eggs, livestock, milk, and poultry were also produced.

Pest Prevention

The California Food and Agricultural Code mandates pest prevention programs to prevent the introduction and spread of pests in California. Pest prevention involves Pest Exclusion, Pest Detection, Pierce's Disease Control, and the Federal Phytosanitary Certification Program.

PEST EXCLUSION PROGRAM

Pest Exclusion is the first line of defense to prevent the introduction of pests, injurious to agriculture, that are not of common occurrence in Merced County.

A total of 5,056 shipments of incoming plant material were inspected in 2014. Shipments are inspected at United Parcel Service, United States Post Offices, Federal Express and trucking terminals. Ten shipments were rejected. The ten rejections were for live pests, material not properly certified, or improper container markings.

PIERCE'S DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM

To prevent the introduction of the **Glassy-winged Sharp-shooter** (GWSS) into Merced County, which is the main insect vector of **Pierce's Disease**, all shipments of nursery stock from infested counties, shipped by nurseries under a Master Compliance Agreement, are inspected. GWSS has the ability to spread Pierce's Disease rapidly among grapevines with devastating results. Four hundred and five shipments of nursery stock from infested counties were inspected in 2014.

In addition, all nurseries receiving nursery stock from GWSS infested areas and residential yards were inspected for GWSS presence for a total of 3,328 inspections during 2014. No GWSS were detected.

FEDERAL PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

This program ensures that plants and plant commodities exported to foreign countries from Merced County are free from injurious pests. In 2014, the Merced County staff inspected and issued Phytosanitary Certificates for 5,804 export shipments.

PEST DETECTION PROGRAM

Pest Detection uses visual inspection and insect traps that target specific exotic insects of high agricultural and economic importance.

The trapping program in Merced County targeted the following pests:

- Asian Citrus Psyllid *(Diaphorina citri Kuwayama)*
- Apple Maggot *(Rhagoletis pomonella)*
- European Pine Shoot Moth *(Rhyacionia buoliana)*
- Glassy-winged Sharpshooter *(Homalodisca coagulate)*
- Light Brown Apple Moth *(Epiphyas postvittana)*
- Khapra Beetle *(Trogoderma granarium)*
- Melon Fly *(Dacus cucurbitae)*
- Oriental Fruit Fly *(Dacus dorsalis)*
- Vine Mealy Bug *(Planococcus ficus)*
- European Corn Borer *(Ostrinia nubilalus)*
- European Grapevine Moth *(Lobesia botrana)*
- Gypsy Moth *(Lymantria dispar)*
- Japanese Beetle *(Popillia japonica)*
- Mediterranean Fruit Fly *(Ceratitis capitata)*
- Mexican Fruit Fly *(Anastrepha ludens)*
- Sweet Potato Weevil *(Cylas formicarius elegantulus)*

A total of 2,889 Pest Detection traps were placed in Merced County and inspected a total of 27,271 times during the 2014 trapping season.

Pest Eradication Program

The Pest Eradication Program endeavors to eliminate infestations of significant agricultural pests with limited distribution before they are able to cause ongoing economic cost to California Agriculture.

Successful eradication projects include Sweet Potato Weevil, Banana Waterlily, Japanese Dodder, and European Grapevine Moth (EGVM).

Only limited detection and eradication efforts for the invasive weeds South American Sponge Plant ("A" Rated), Purple Loosestrife ("B Rated), and Perennial Peppercress ("B" Rated) were conducted during 2014, due to budget constraints. Little or no work is anticipated to be done in 2015.

Detection and eradication efforts for the insect pest Pink Bollworm continues.

There were no Pink Bollworm moths trapped in Merced County during 2014.

The Pink Bollworm is a major cotton pest. Eradication efforts included a State operated trapping program of 36,085 acres in conjunction with County enforcement of the host free period from January 1 through March 10, also known as cotton plowdown. Treatment is accomplished by mating disruption utilizing pheromones and sterile moths.

Biological Control

The Biological Control (Biocontrol) Program uses natural enemies to suppress pest populations to economically and environmentally acceptable levels. Once the biocontrol agent becomes established it is self-perpetuating, reducing the need to use pesticides. The following are pests found in Merced County and their Biocontrol Agents.

PEST	ORGANISM
Ash Whitefly *(Siphoninus phillyreae)*	Parasitoid Wasp *(Encarsia inaron)*
Grapeleaf Skeletonizer *(Harrisina brillians)*	Parasitic Fly *(Ametadoria misella)* Virus *(WGLS Granulosis)* Parasitic Wasp *(Apanteles harrisinae)*
Italian Thistle *(Carduus sp.)*	Seed Head Weevil *(Rhinocyllus conicus)*
Klamath Weed *(Hypericum perforatum)*	Leaf Beetle *(Chrysolina quadrigemina)*
Milk Thistle *(Silybum marianum)*	Seed Head Weevil *(Rhinocyllus conicus)*
Puncture Vine *(Tribulus terrestris)*	Seed Weevil *(Microlarinus lareynii)* Stem Weevil *(Microlarinus lypriformis)*
Red Gum Lerp Psyllid *(Glycaspis brimblecombei)*	Parasitoid Wasp *(Psyllaephagus bliteus)*
Russian Thistle *(Salsola sp.)*	Casebearer Moth *(Coleophora klimeschiella)* Russian Thistle Borer *(Coleophora parthenica)*
Yellowstar Thistle *(Centaurea solstitialis)*	Seed Head Weevil *(Bangasternus orientalis)* Seed Head Gall Fly *(Urophora sirunaseva)* Hairy Weevil *(Eustenopus villosus)* False Peacock Fly *(Chaetorellia succinea)* Rust Fungus *(Puccinia jaceae var. solstitialis)*

Merced County Rainfall 1963–2014

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1963-64	–	–	0.38	1.5	2.81	0.17	0.91	0.16	1.75	0.4	0.27	0.41	8.76
1964-65	–	0.13	–	1.67	2.18	3.78	1.57	0.53	0.67	2.09	0.01	–	12.63
1965-66	–	0.49	–	0.12	4.12	2.12	1.24	0.38	0.2	0.34	0.19	–	9.2
1966-67	–	–	0.07	–	1.88	2.85	2.78	0.38	2.53	4.6	0.73	0.16	15.98
1967-68	–	–	0.06	0.03	1.34	0.86	1.39	1.93	1.43	0.49	0.01	–	7.54
1968-69	–	–	–	0.92	3.08	3.12	7.07	4.74	0.89	2.08	–	–	21.9
1969-70	0.07	–	–	1.25	2.24	0.96	3.94	1.41	2.52	0.13	–	0.07	12.59
1970-71	–	–	–	0.66	3.19	2.13	0.56	0.31	0.92	1.16	1.22	–	10.15
1971-72	–	–	0.06	0.28	1	2.33	0.6	0.56	–	0.71	–	–	5.54
1972-73	–	–	0.11	0.69	4.91	1.58	3.12	4.72	3.16	0.11	–	–	18.4
1973-74	–	–	–	2.1	1.65	3.15	1.95	0.5	2.37	1.44	–	0.06	13.22
1974-75	0.42	–	–	1.06	0.66	2.14	0.5	3.99	3.11	0.95	–	–	12.83
1975-76	0.1	0.11	0.02	0.92	0.17	0.13	0.14	2.01	0.41	1.14	–	0.07	5.22
1976-77	0.02	0.22	0.97	0.16	1.06	0.57	0.66	0.29	1.05	0.02	0.9	0.44	6.36
1977-78	–	–	–	–	0.44	2.75	4.93	3.78	4.22	3.48	–	–	19.6
1978-79	–	–	0.74	–	2.13	1.06	4.35	3.02	1.73	0.49	0.19	–	13.71
1979-80	0.21	–	–	0.84	1.09	1.79	3.83	3.45	1.19	0.77	0.46	–	13.63
1980-81	–	–	–	0.13	–	0.72	2.83	1.42	3.27	0.75	0.1	–	9.22
1981-82	–	–	–	1.13	3.63	0.59	1.6	2.08	5.39	1.85	–	0.05	16.32
1982-83	–	–	1.14	0.98	2.84	2.7	4.89	3.43	5.47	2.01	0.44	–	23.9
1983-84	–	0.1	2.77	0.43	2.12	2.63	0.12	0.88	0.33	0.08	–	0.02	9.48
1984-85	0.03	0.03	0.17	0.54	1.1	1.65	0.56	0.98	1.91	0.06	–	0.12	7.15
1985-86	–	–	–	0.6	3.28	1.26	0.92	3.72	3.9	0.64	0.25	–	14.57
1986-87	–	–	0.3	–	0.06	1.65	1.7	2.96	2.97	0.08	0.11	–	9.83
1987-88	–	–	–	0.47	0.89	2.46	1.6	0.87	0.29	2.03	0.38	0.01	9
1988-89	–	–	–	–	1.33	2.43	0.62	1.57	2.24	0.1	–	–	8.29
1989-90	–	0.05	1.34	1.55	0.48	0.1	2.08	1.64	0.68	0.59	1.62	–	10.13
1990-91	–	–	–	0.18	0.36	0.64	0.16	1.68	5.15	0.34	0.09	0.01	8.61
1991-92	–	0.11	–	1.59	0.53	1.46	1.56	3.77	2.02	0.02	–	0.06	11.12
1992-93	0.18	–	–	0.9	0.08	2.44	5.7	3.44	2.53	0.33	1.06	0.61	17.27
1993-94	–	–	–	0.18	0.68	1.3	2.29	3.3	0.18	1.1	1.38	–	10.41
1994-95	–	–	0.22	0.58	1.6	0.92	6.71	0.37	4.31	1.35	1.1	0.59	17.75
1995-96	0.02	–	–	–	–	3.25	3.15	3.43	1.84	0.84	1.03	–	13.56
1996-97	–	–	–	1.27	2.37	4.49	4.58	0.26	–	0.14	0.01	0.05	13.17
1997-98	–	–	0.07	0.07	2.44	1.63	4.89	6.1	4.81	0.99	2.13	0.48	23.61
1998-99	–	–	0.02	0.76	1.11	0.85	2	2.59	1.13	1.34	0.19	–	9.99
1999-00	–	–	–	–	0.9	0.27	3.28	4.8	0.95	2.06	0.79	0.18	13.23
2000-01	–	–	0.1	3.52	0.12	0.15	3.14	2.19	1.4	1.7	–	–	12.32
2001-02	–	–	0.14	0.33	2.27	2.59	1.01	0.88	1.47	0.15	0.47	–	9.31
2002-03	–	–	–	–	1.81	3.69	0.75	1.04	0.91	1.28	0.94	–	10.42
2003-04	–	0.1	0.02	–	0.8	3.05	0.89	3.77	0.77	–	0.19	–	9.59
2004-05	–	–	0.11	2.91	1.2	3.37	4.18	2.5	2.87	1.17	1.11	0.02	19.44
2005-06	–	–	0.22	0.11	0.15	2.81	2.75	1.01	3.36	2.47	1.07	–	13.95
2006-07	–	–	–	0.23	0.68	1.75	0.48	1.93	0.31	0.75	0.01	–	6.14
2007-08	0.01	–	0.25	0.85	0.22	1.23	4.26	1.86	0.06	0.01	0.07	–	8.82
2008-09	–	–	–	0.12	0.83	1.25	1.82	2.15	1.02	0.45	0.046	0.01	7.70
2009-10	–	–	0.17	1.68	0.16	2.72	2.73	2.82	1.07	3.36	0.46	–	15.17
2010-11	–	–	–	0.82	2.02	3.33	1.6	1.93	4.11	0.2	0.76	1.16	15.93
2011-12	–	–	–	0.95	0.88	0.06	0.73	0.69	2.02	1.69	0.01	0.37	7.4
2012-13	0.02	–	0.02	0.23	1.6	2.96	1.04	0.38	0.74	0.43	0.1	0.09	7.61
2013-14	–	–	–	0.1	0.62	0.29	0.31	1.65	1.41	0.53	0.06	–	4.97
AVERAGE	0.02	0.03	0.19	0.69	1.43	1.85	2.28	2.08	1.94	1.01	0.39	0.10	12.01

MERCED COUNTY
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