



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

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

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

**Help ensure our sustainability.**

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search  
<http://ageconsearch.umn.edu>  
[aesearch@umn.edu](mailto:aesearch@umn.edu)

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

California Department of Food and Agriculture

Agricultural Commissioners' Crop Reports

# Fresno County

1974-1977

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

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

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

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1974 (continued)

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Grapes (continued)							
Wine Varieties							
Fresh	1974			12,500	ton	\$ 224	\$ 2,800,000
	1973			15,800	ton	303.92	4,802,000
Lemons	1974	614	6.2				
	1973	515	8.97				
Fresh	1974			2,540	ton	280	711,000
	1973			620	ton	210	130,000
Processed	1974			1,270	ton	60	76,000
	1973			4,000	ton	40	160,000
Nectarines	1974	5,715	7.27	41,500	ton	341	14,152,000
	1973	5,680	7.84	44,500	ton	341	15,174,000
Olives	1974	1,089	2.07	2,250	ton	421	947,000
	1973	940	2.10	1,970	ton	358	705,000
Oranges	1974	19,188					
	1973	18,147					
Navel	1974	15,703	9.2				
	1973	14,857	3.37				
Fresh	1974			108,350	ton	195	21,128,000
	1973			24,800	ton	167	4,142,000
Processed	1974			36,100	ton	15	542,000
	1973			25,300	ton	10	253,000
Valencia	1974	3,421	14.00				
	1973	3,226	2.17				
Fresh	1974			33,530	ton	169	5,667,000
	1973			2,680	ton	160	429,000
Processed	1974			14,370	ton	25	359,000
	1973			4,320	ton	18	77,800
Miscellaneous	1974	64	11.00	704	ton	145	102,000
	1973	64	3.00	192	ton	134	25,700

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1974 (continued)

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Peaches	1974	9,703					
	1973	9,102					
Clingstone	1974	1,888	15.39				
	1973	1,855	13.00				
Processed	1974			29,100	ton	\$ 132	\$ 3,841,000
	1973			24,100	ton	112	2,699,000
Freestone	1974	7,815	9.48				
	1973	7,247	9.43				
Fresh	1974			57,000	ton	325	18,525,000
	1973			52,600	ton	309	16,253,000
Processed	1974			17,000	ton	135	2,295,000
	1973			15,700	ton	125	1,962,000
Persimmons	1974	63	5.46	344	ton	543	187,000
	1973	63	4.75	300	ton	500	150,000
Plums	1974	8,304	7.68	63,800	ton	344	21,947,000
	1973	7,925	7.00	55,500	ton	473	26,252,000
Pomegranates	1974	520	4.43	2,300	ton	500	1,150,000
	1973	420	4.70	1,970	ton	320	630,000
Strawberries	1974	202	15.60	3,150	ton	541	1,704,000
	1973	203	13.80	2,800	ton	531	1,487,000
Walnuts	1974	3,698	.96	3,550	ton	400	1,420,000
	1973	3,398	.92	3,130	ton	580	1,815,000
Miscellaneous <sup>b/</sup>	1974	1,372					2,416,000
	1973	1,159					1,268,000
Total	1974	246,310					294,634,000
	1973	236,772					326,235,000

a/ Dry tons

b/ Includes almond hulls, apples, dried apricots, processed apricots, avocados, fresh figs, substandard figs, grapefruit, dried and processed nectarines, dried peaches, olives (oil), pears, pecans, pistachio nuts, processed plums, prunes, quince, damaged raisins, tangelos, tangerines.

NURSERY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AREA, SALES AND VALUE - 1974

Item	Year	Production Area Acres	Quantity Sold by Producers	Value
General Ornamentals <sup>a/</sup>	1974	49.00	1,377,934 <sup>b/</sup>	696,000
	1973	30.00	674,063	616,000
Citrus	1974	3.50	15,350 <sup>c/</sup>	39,000
	1973	2.50	18,125	44,000
Grapevines	1974	4.00	77,000	6,000
	1973	18.00	2,603,430	964,000
Vegetable Plants	1974	80.00	28,716,600 <sup>b/</sup>	653,000
	1973	<u>11.00</u>	35,855,000	<u>621,000</u>
Total	1974	136.50		\$1,394,000
	1973	61.50		2,245,000

a/ Includes cut flowers.

b/ Includes flats, dozens, cans and single plants.

c/ Includes citrus buds.

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1974

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Per Unit	Total
		No.of Head	Total Liveweight			
Cattle and Calves						
Beef						
Breeding Stock						
Common	1974	4,000		head	\$ 350.00	\$ 1,400,000
	1973	4,500		head	375.00	1,688,000
Registered	1974	450		head	550.00	248,000
	1973	500		head	600.00	300,000
Feeders	1974	75,000	142,000	cwt.	47.89	6,800,000
	1973	79,000	150,000	cwt.	49.53	7,430,000
Calves	1974	36,000	162,000	cwt.	40.33	6,533,000
	1973	33,000	148,000	cwt.	54.89	8,124,000
Slaughter Stock						
From Feed Lots	1974	276,000	1,049,000	cwt.	41.20	43,219,000
	1973	236,000	897,000	cwt.	42.00	37,674,000
From Other Sources	1974	9,000	90,000	cwt.	37.00	3,330,000
	1973	11,000	110,000	cwt.	39.00	4,290,000
Dairy						
Breeding Stock	1974	8,000		head	526.00	4,208,000
	1973	10,000		head	573.00	5,730,000
Cull Stock	1974	12,500	150,000	cwt.	24.36	3,654,000
	1973	7,000	84,000	cwt.	30.48	2,560,000
Calves	1974	32,000	80,000	cwt.	36.75	2,940,000
	1973	30,000	75,000	cwt.	50.00	3,750,000
Sheep and Lambs						
Slaughter Stock						
Lambs	1974	42,800	34,200	cwt.	39.26	1,343,000
	1973	46,000	36,800	cwt.	35.33	1,300,000
Sheep	1974	5,500	7,700	cwt.	12.43	95,700
	1973	6,000	8,400	cwt.	14.10	118,000

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1974 (continued)

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Per Unit	Total
		No.of Head	Total Liveweight			
Hogs and Pigs						
Breeding Stock	1974	250		head	\$118.00	\$ 29,500
	1973	50		head	120.00	6,000
Slaughter Stock	1974	13,213	25,414	cwt.	37.00	940,000
	1973	10,500	21,000	cwt.	39.00	819,000
Horses and Mules						
Recreational Stock	1974	700		head	300.00	210,000
	1973	925		head	300.00	278,000
Broilers and Fryers	1974	11,078,000	38,800,000	lb.	.28	10,864,000
	1973	9,079,500	31,778,000	lb.	.248	7,881,000
Other Chickens	1974	423,000	1,690,000	lb.	.061	103,000
	1973	453,000	1,812,000	lb.	.134	243,000
Turkeys	1974	3,280,000	59,040,000	lb.	.28	16,531,000
	1973	4,350,880	78,316,000	lb.	.34	26,627,000
Turkey Poults	1974	9,631,000		each	.736	7,083,000
	1973	10,511,000		each	.585	6,149,000
Pigeons	1974	23,200	29,000	lb.	1.00	29,000
	1973	23,900	29,875	lb.	1.00	29,900
Miscellaneous <sup>a/</sup>	1974					2,654,000
	1973					1,958,000
Total	1974					\$112,219,000
	1973					116,955,000

<sup>a/</sup> Includes chicks, ducks, geese, pheasants, feeder pigs.

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1974

Crop	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Milk					
Manufacturing	1974	182,000	cwt.	\$ 6.88	\$ 1,252,000
	1973	316,000	cwt.	5.64	1,782,000
Market	1974	5,729,000	cwt.	7.81	44,743,000
	1973	5,219,000	cwt.	6.42	33,506,000
Wool	1974	753,400	lb.	.68	512,000
	1973	810,000	lb.	1.15	932,000
Eggs					
Chicken Hatching	1974	2,159,895	dozen	1.00	2,160,000
	1973	4,595,000	dozen	.782	3,593,000
Market	1974	8,958,333	dozen	.464	4,157,000
	1973	7,768,387	dozen	.512	3,977,000
Turkey Hatching	1974	2,410,000	each	.32	771,000
	1973	3,852,000	each	.26	1,002,000
Total	1974				53,595,000
	1973				44,792,000

JANUARY 1 INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY (In Number of Head)

<u>Item</u>	<u>January 1, 1975</u>	<u>January 1, 1974</u>
Cattle and Calves		
All	319,000	322,000
Milk Cows 2 years and over	48,500	47,000
Cattle and Calves on feed	104,300	137,400
Stock Sheep and Lambs	96,600	103,800
Hogs and Pigs	8,000	9,400
Horses	15,200	15,000
Hens and Pullets of laying age	430,000	407,000
Turkey Breeder Hens	34,300	67,000

APIARY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1974

Item	Year	Production Total	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Honey	1974	1,179,300	lb.	\$ .488	\$ 575,000
	1973	1,689,000	lb.	.448	757,000
Beeswax	1974	23,680	lb.	1.25	29,600
	1973	28,000	lb.	.85	24,000
Pollination <sup>a/</sup>					
Alfalfa Seed	1974	25,350	colony	9.70	246,000
	1973	29,600	colony	6.30	186,000
Tree Fruit <sup>b/</sup>	1974	24,920	colony	9.70	242,000
	1973	25,400	colony	6.70	170,000
Cantaloupes	1974	7,030	colony	8.75	61,500
	1973	6,110	colony	5.85	35,700
Total	1974				\$1,154,000
	1973				1,173,000

<sup>a/</sup> Reflects only the bees registered in Fresno County by commercial and semi-commercial beekeepers. Approximately 151,650 colonies were estimated to be in Fresno County at the peak of the pollination season.

<sup>b/</sup> Almond, peaches, plums.

# APIARY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1974

The following table reflects gross income from approximately 151,650 colonies of bees located in Fresno County during the peak of the 1974 pollination season. (Shown for interest value only. Not included in Crop Report values.)

Item	Year	Production Total	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Honey	1974	5,914,350	lb.	\$ .488	\$ 2,886,000
	1973	7,133,000	lb	.448	3,196,000
Beeswax	1974	118,750	lb.	1.25	148,000
	1973	119,000	lb.	.85	101,200
Pollination					
Alfalfa Seed	1974	136,000	colony	9.70	1,319,000
	1973	125,000	colony	6.30	788,000
Tree Fruit	1974	27,200	colony	9.70	264,000
	1973	10,700	colony	6.70	71,700
Cantaloupes	1974	27,000	colony	8.75	236,000
	1973	25,800	colony	5.85	151,000
Total	1974				\$4,853,000
	1973				4,308,000

Growth of Fresno County Agriculture as Indicated by Gross Value  
of Agricultural Products Over a Span of Twenty Years

1955 - \$325,844,210  
1956 - 330,096,960  
1957 - 359,569,750  
1958 - 370,997,930  
1959 - 390,211,120  
1960 - 388,802,520  
1961 - 385,091,740  
1962 - 413,572,210  
1963 - 423,206,000  
1964 - 443,088,000

1965 - \$438,253,000  
1966 - 452,926,000  
1967 - 438,753,000\*  
1968 - 462,659,000  
1969 - 458,014,000  
1970 - 474,706,000\*  
1971 - 507,930,000  
1972 - 559,307,000\*  
1973 - 828,682,000\*  
1974 - 967,350,000

SIX YEAR COMPARISON STUDY OF GROSS CROP VALUES IN FRESNO COUNTY

	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Field Crops	\$119,648,000	\$139,484,000	\$137,467,000	\$173,727,000	\$248,562,000	\$347,460,000
Seed Crops	8,968,000	17,550,000	15,216,000	13,214,000	15,708,000*	27,116,000
Vegetable Crops	41,613,000	39,713,000	47,585,000	59,725,000	73,012,000	129,778,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	186,000,000	173,469,000*	195,375,000	193,032,000	326,235,000	294,634,000
Nursery Products	762,000	740,000	1,167,000	1,181,000	2,245,000	1,394,000
Livestock and Poultry	100,544,000	103,353,000	110,494,000	117,620,000	161,747,000	165,814,000
Apiary	479,000	397,000	626,000	808,000	1,173,000	1,154,000
Grand Total	\$458,014,000	\$474,706,000*	\$507,930,000	\$559,307,000*	\$828,682,000*	\$967,350,000

\*Revised



1975

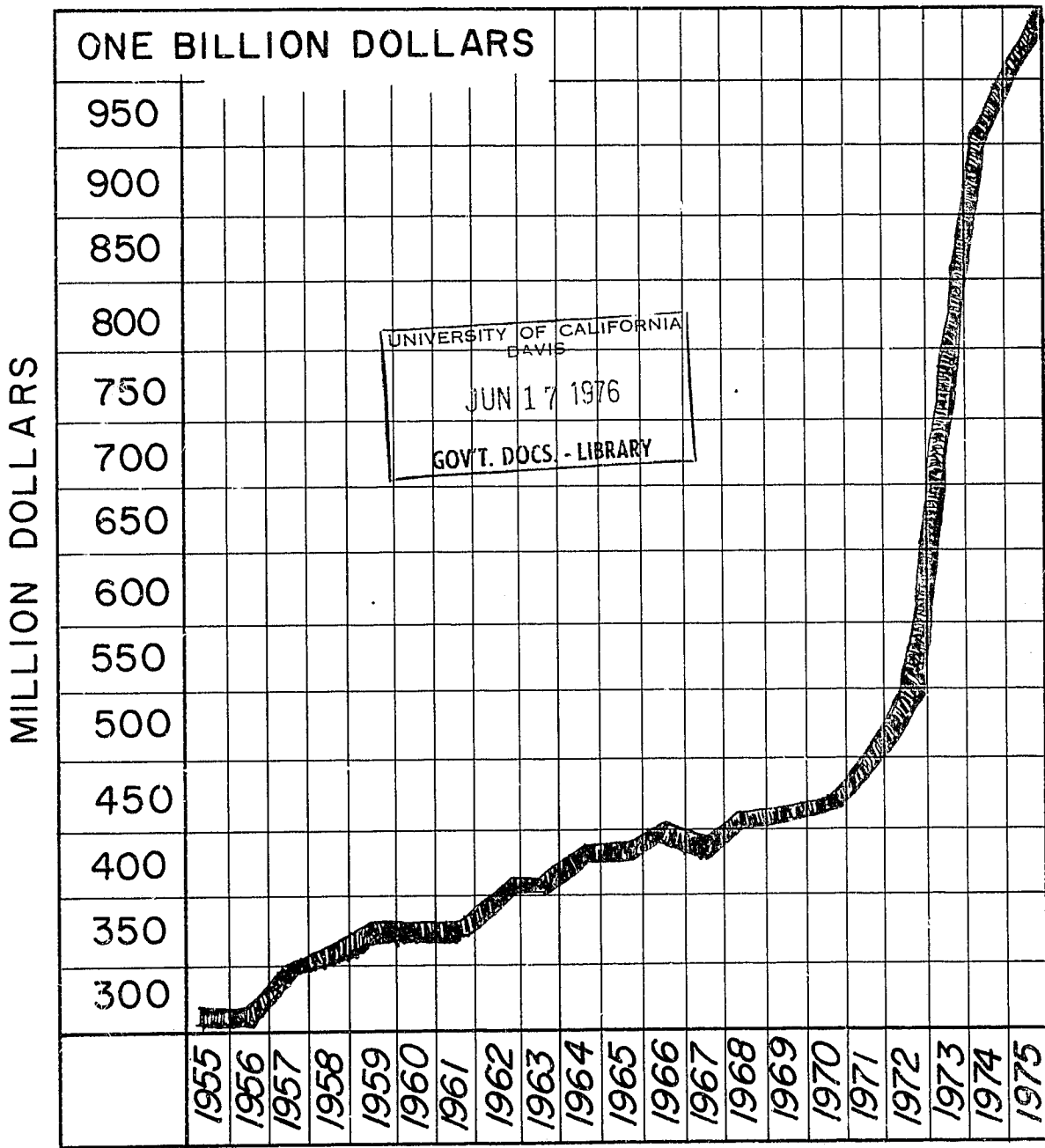
160.04

1975

# FRESNO COUNTY, *California*

## Agricultural Crop Report

### 1975



# county of fresno



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Thomas E. Corn

Agricultural Commissioner

Ronald Atmajian

Assistant Agricultural Commissioner

L. T. Wallace, Director  
California Department of Food and Agriculture

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Fresno

John Ventura, Chairman  
Sharon Levy Willard H. "Bill" Johnson  
Bruce Bronzan John R. Donaldson  
Melvyrn G. Wingett  
County Administrative Officer

As required under provisions of Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I herewith submit the Fresno County Agricultural Crop and Livestock Report for 1975. The values shown in this report represent gross figures and not net income to growers.

The gross value of agricultural products and crops produced in Fresno County totaled \$1,024,853,000 an increase of \$57,503,000 over the previous year.

This is the first year that Fresno County has exceeded the one billion dollar figure.

Members of the staff under the direction of Conrad Schilling, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner; and Paul Cook, Senior Agricultural Inspector, spent many hours compiling this report. I wish to express my deep appreciation.

We especially wish to acknowledge the very helpful cooperation of many producers, grower associations, food processors, Extension Service personnel, U.S.D.A., California Department of Food and Agriculture, beekeepers, packing house managers, and many other persons and agencies. Each contributor played an important part in the issuance of this publication.

Respectfully submitted,

*Thomas E. Corn*  
Thomas E. Corn  
Agricultural Commissioner

# FRESNO COUNTY AGRI-LITES 1975

COTTON - - - - - Gross value down due to a large reduction in acreage. Yields and prices were up.

ALFALFA HAY - - - - Increased yields resulted in a slight gross value increase despite a decline in price.

SMALL GRAINS - - - Gross value up sharply due to a large increase in acreage.

SUGAR BEETS - - - - Sharp increase in acreage and yields resulted in much higher gross value despite a significant price decline.

ALFALFA SEED - - - Lower yields with lower gross value.

LETTUCE - - - - - Acreage up but lower prices caused a decrease in gross value.

CANTALOUPEs - - - - Gross value up due to an increase in acreage.

PROCESSING TOMATOES - - - A large increase in acreage along with a slight yield increase produced a substantial increase in gross value.

ALMONDS - - - - - Gross value down due to lower yield and price.

FIGS - - - - - Gross value down due to a significant yield decline and decreased acreage.

GRAPES - - - - - A slight reduction in acreage along with generally lower prices caused a moderate decline in gross value.

ORANGES - - - - - Gross value down due to lower yields with a much higher percentage going to by-products.

PEACHES - - - - - Gross value down slightly due to heavy cullage.

PLUMS - - - - - Higher prices and increased acreage resulted in a higher gross value.

SLAUGHTER STOCK - - - - Increased slaughter accounted for an increase in gross feed lot returns.

BROILERS AND FRYERS - - - - Gross value up due to an increase in numbers and higher weights per bird.

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS - Gross value up due to increased production and increase in the value of milk, market eggs and turkey hatching eggs.

## AGRICULTURAL ROUNDUP OF 1975

1975 was a year with many weather problems for the farmers of Fresno County. Adverse weather resulted in direct crop loss in some commodities, late maturity in others, as well as poor sets for some almonds and deciduous fruit varieties. Deciduous fruit cullage was high due to misshapen fruit. Rainfall was below normal for December and rangelands were getting very dry. Many growers were expressing deep concern over the range feed situation. However, a long dry Fall permitted the harvest of most of the cotton with yields reported good and quality in many instances reported excellent.

Low temperatures during January and February ranging down to an unofficial low of 22°F. caused additional freeze damage to the 1974-75 Navel orange crop. Crop loss was estimated at 31%.

Almond growers made good progress with planting mostly complete by January 11. Harvesting started the week of May 18 and was reported in full swing by June 14. Most yields were reported as good.

The cotton roundup was very satisfactory during 1975. A few growers started planting during the week ending March 29. By June 9 cotton was reported growing rapidly. Windfall loss was observed by field personnel the week of August 17, and some hail damage was reported by October 1. Yields and quality were good.

Alfalfa was made generally good progress with some loss reported to new stands from frost damage and low temperatures. Some cutting was reported by March 29. Harvesting was reported mostly complete by November 8. Most yields were good. Some loss was reported from spotted alfalfa aphid and other pests.

Leafy greens made satisfactory progress during the early Spring and harvesting started April 10. Quality throughout the harvest was good. Fall lettuce made good progress during the Summer and Fall. Cutting crews moved into the fields the week ending October 11. Quality was reported fair to good. Harvest was mostly completed by December 20.

Planting of both fresh market and cannery tomatoes was active during March. Cannery tomatoes were emerging by March 15. Some wind and frost damage was reported during April, but most of the plants recovered. The cannery tomato harvest started the week of July 10 and moved ahead rapidly. Harvesting crews were out of the fields by the end of September. Yields and quality were very good despite some early September rain loss.

Grape pruning was 90% complete by February 15 and generally complete by the end of February. By March 15 Thompson seedless leaves were starting to show in a few vineyards. Low temperatures during March resulted in some frost damage to an occasional vineyard. The Perlette grape harvest started the week of July 13 and the Thompson table packing operation opened up the first week of August. A few Thompsons were being placed on trays on August 26. Heavy rains during September resulted in damage to the raisin crop ranging from light to moderate. Average crop loss was estimated at 7%. By September 27 the wine grape picking was gaining momentum with considerable loss reported from bunch rot. By November 8 the wine grape harvest was near completion.

Dormant spraying of deciduous fruit was winding up by February 15 while pruning was generally complete by the end of the month. Bees were placed in almond orchards for pollination during February.

Fewer reports were filed for losses to bees from pesticides; a cooler year that required the use of less pesticides is credited for this. There was a substantial increase in hive certifications for both almond and seed alfalfa growers. One or two hives of American Foulbrood Disease were found in most apiaries, but no large breakdown with disease was found. Honey production was very low.

Frost seriously damaged the almond and deciduous fruit crops in some areas. Early varieties of peaches and plums were harvested the week of May 25 and cullage was reported high. Substantial cullage was reported throughout the season, but most returns were good.

Livestock were reported in good condition throughout the year. Cattle inventories increased, but heavy slaughter of breeding cows brought the breeding female population down to acceptable levels. Cattle slaughter prices were reported up the last half of 1975, but feeder cattle prices remained depressed until December.

Sheepmen reported difficulty in locating feed supplies such as alfalfa and small grain stubble. Prices were good.

Although Spring range conditions were below those of 1974, they were considered better than average. Fall range conditions were very poor with supplemental feeding required.

The dairy cattle industry remained stable in both population and production levels. Dairy populations may have increased slightly while production was about the same as 1974. Rain damage to hay during the Spring and Fall may have had a slight impact on production. Feed costs were down slightly.

Egg prices were below production costs for most of the year; however, improvements were reported in October and November. Fresno County continues to be a heavy egg import area with most of the large chain stores receiving their eggs from Northern and Southern California producers.

One of the most important insects collected during the year was the Pink Bollworm, Pectinophora gossypiella (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae), which is an "A" rated pest. Five collections of these non-sterile adult moths from Gossypure traps were made on July 2, July 7, September 22, September 30, and October 7. July 2 is considered a very early emergence date for this insect in the San Joaquin Valley.

An insect new to Fresno County in 1975 was the Blue Alfalfa Aphid, Acyrtosiphon kondoi, Shinji, (Homoptera: Aphididae). This is a "C" rated pest. The first alate specimen was collected by a county detection crew on May 8 from Lupinus sp. (Lupine). Other hosts from which the aphid was collected were alfalfa, Vicia sp. (Vetch), grape, and Rosa sp. Besides the initial collections in May, others were made during the months of September, October and November.

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Barley	1975	217,000	1.62	352,000	ton	\$104.00	\$ 36,608,000
	1974	170,000	1.42	241,000	ton	118.75	28,619,000
Beans, dry	1975	8,060	.88	7,090	ton	361.00	2,559,000
	1974	11,794	.71	8,370	ton	289.00	2,419,000
Corn	1975	18,500	2.38	44,000	ton	112.00	4,928,000
	1974	18,000	2.52	45,360	ton	142.00	6,441,000
Cotton Lint	1975	247,000	1100 <sup>a</sup> /	566,000 <sup>b</sup> /	bale	.53 <sup>c</sup> /	143,990,000
	1974	371,225	990	766,000	bale	.45	165,456,000
Cotton Seed	1975			230,000	ton	106.00	24,380,000
	1974			297,000	ton	158.00	46,926,000
Hay							
Alfalfa	1975	90,000	7.00	630,000	ton	59.00	37,170,000
	1974	90,000	5.90	531,000	ton	64.50	34,250,000
Other	1975	9,500	1.88	17,900	ton	63.00	1,128,000
	1974	5,000	1.46	7,300	ton	69.50	507,000
Pasture and Range							
Alfalfa stubble <sup>d</sup> /	1975	80,000			acre	7.50	600,000
	1974	80,000			acre	5.00	400,000
Barley and Wheat stubble <sup>d</sup> /	1975	124,000			acre	3.50	434,000
	1974	80,000			acre	3.00	240,000
Cantaloupe <sup>d</sup> /	1975	14,000			acre	3.00	42,000
	1974	9,000			acre	3.00	27,000
Irrigated Pasture	1975	40,000			acre	95.00	3,800,000
	1974	50,000			acre	90.00	4,500,000
Native Range	1975	1,300,000			acre	4.25	5,525,000
	1974	1,300,000			acre	4.25	5,525,000
Rice	1975	22,300	2.86	63,800	ton	170.00	10,846,000
	1974	19,250	2.38	45,800	ton	240.00	10,992,000
Safflower	1975	19,000	1.20	22,800	ton	263.00	5,996,000
	1974	10,000	1.00	10,000	ton	310.00	3,100,000
Screenings	1975			2,280	ton	45.00	103,000
	1974			1,500	ton	45.00	68,000

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975 (continued)

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Silage							
Corn	1975	12,500	19.00	238,000	ton	\$ 14.00	\$ 3,332,000
	1974	13,000	18.50	240,000	ton	14.00	3,360,000
Sorghum	1975	2,000	18.00	36,000	ton	14.00	504,000
	1974	2,000	18.00	36,000	ton	14.00	504,000
Other	1975	2,400	15.00	36,000	ton	14.00	504,000
	1974	350	15.00	5,250	ton	14.00	74,000
Sorghum Grain	1975	12,000	2.04	24,500	ton	100.00	2,450,000
	1974	12,000	2.02	24,200	ton	131.00	3,170,000
Straw	1975			6,800	ton	19.50	133,000
	1974			6,000	ton	20.00	120,000
Sugar Beets	1975	35,400	32.69	1,157,000	ton	29.85	34,536,000
	1974	23,158	20.38	472,000	ton	48.40	22,845,000
Wheat	1975	102,000	1.92	196,000	ton	107.00	20,972,000
	1974	35,000	1.74	60,900	ton	130.00	7,917,000
Total	1975	2,138,000					\$340,540,000
	1974	2,150,777					347,460,000
	1955	2,725,948					158,386,508

a/ Pounds of lint per acre

b/ 480 pounds net weight bales

c/ Price per pound

d/ Not included in total acreage figures

SEED CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Alfalfa Certified <sup>a/</sup>	1975	26,400	548	14,467,000	lb.	\$ .76	\$10,995,000
	1974	22,860	579	13,236,000	lb.	1.08	14,295,000
Alfalfa Non-Certified							
Public Varieties	1975	2,260	543	1,227,000	lb.	.73	896,000
	1974	3,165	564	1,785,000	lb.	.94	1,678,000
Export Varieties	1975	228	408	93,000	lb.	.80	74,400
	1974	856	636	544,000 <sup>b/</sup>	lb.	.90	490,000
Proprietary Varieties	1975	12,100	428	5,179,000	lb.	.86	4,454,000
	1974	10,772	600	6,463,000	lb.	1.09	7,045,000
Total All Alfalfa Seed	1975	41,000		20,966,000	lb.		16,419,000
	1974	37,653		22,028,000	lb.		23,508,000
Barley Certified	1975	4,490	3,550	15,940,000	lb.	.09	1,435,000
	1974	3,977	3,600	14,317,000	lb.	.07	1,002,000
Barley Non-Certified	1975	1,080	3,540	3,823,000	lb.	.053	203,000
	1974	2,166	3,100	6,715,000	lb.	.060	403,000
Cotton <sup>c/</sup>	1975	13,600		17,504,000	lb.	.058	1,246,000 <sup>d/</sup>
	1974	12,340		11,427,000	lb.	.082	1,085,000
Vegetable <sup>e/</sup>	1975	1,430					1,357,000
	1974	952					428,000
Other <sup>f/</sup>	1975	4,560					1,558,000
	1974	2,308					690,000
Total	1975	52,600					\$22,218,000
	1974	47,056					27,116,000
	1955	41,483					5,486,626

a/ Includes public, proprietary and export varieties

b/ Includes certified export varieties

c/ Not included in total acreage for "Seed Crops"

d/ Includes acreage approved @ \$17 per acre

e/ Cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, collard, endive, lettuce, onion, eggplant, okra, and tomatoes

f/ Certified wheat, non-certified wheat, non-certified oats, certified rice, certified blackeye cowpeas, non-certified flax, non-certified white corn, non-certified blackeye cowpeas, non-certified beans, non-certified safflower, non-certified vetch

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Beans, snap	1975	400	4.5	1,800	ton	\$ 440	\$ 792,000
	1974	600	5.1	3,060	ton	384	1,175,000
Cabbage	1975	60	10.5	630	ton	95	59,800
	1974	50	11.2	560	ton	85	47,600
Chinese Vegetables	1975	310	20.9	6,200	ton	118	732,000
	1974	500	13.0	6,500	ton	200	1,300,000
Corn Sweet fresh	1975	250	4.1	1,020	ton	189	193,000
	1974	300	3.8	1,140	ton	186	212,000
Cucumbers	1975	400	12.8	5,120	ton	222	1,137,000
	1974	350	12.8	4,480	ton	195	874,000
Lettuce	1975	7,700	11.4	87,800	ton	128	11,238,000
	1974	5,550	11.8	65,500	ton	232	15,196,000
<b>Melons</b>							
Cantaloupes	1975	28,200	3.5	240,000	ton	166	39,840,000
	1974	18,000	8.6	155,000	ton	189	29,295,000
Casaba	1975	164	5.5	900	ton	96	86,400
	1974	162	6.0	970	ton	174	169,000
Cranshaw	1975	315	6.0	1,890	ton	198	374,000
	1974	310	7.0	2,170	ton	303	658,000
Honeydew	1975	305	9.5	2,900	ton	147	426,000
	1974	375	8.5	3,190	ton	161	514,000
Persian	1975	36	5.0	430	ton	166	71,400
	1974	68	6.0	410	ton	234	95,900
Watermelons	1975	780	8.8	6,860	ton	67	460,000
	1974	600	8.5	5,100	ton	102	520,000
<b>Onions</b>							
Dry	1975	600	17.20	10,300	ton	234	2,410,000
	1974	1,000	16.75	16,800	ton	80	1,344,000
Green	1975	350	18.0	6,300	ton	377	2,375,000
	1974	350	18.0	6,300	ton	133	838,000
<b>Peppers</b>							
Bell	1975	500	8.8	4,400	ton	232	1,021,000
	1974	500	8.8	4,400	ton	229	1,008,000
Chili	1975	235	3.00	705	ton	530	374,000
	1974	635	2.10	1,330	ton	520	692,000

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975 (continued)

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Radishes	1975	800	6.0	4,800	ton	\$ 200	\$ 960,000
	1974	800	5.0	4,000	ton	171	684,000
Romaine	1975	250	6.0	1,500	ton	171	256,000
	1974	200	6.0	1,200	ton	162	194,000
Squash							
Summer	1975	400	7.4	2,960	ton	285	844,000
	1974	400	7.5	3,000	ton	160	480,000
Winter	1975	150	9.5	1,420	ton	160	227,000
	1974	200	10.0	2,000	ton	65	130,000
Sweet Potatoes	1975	620	8.0	4,960	ton	200	992,000
	1974	450	7.0	3,150	ton	220	693,000
Tomatoes							
Fresh							
Cherry	1975	300	11.0	3,300	ton	532	1,756,000
	1974	200	11.0	2,200	ton	500	1,100,000
Regular	1975	2,230	13.2	29,400	ton	312	9,173,000
	1974	1,870	12.0	22,400	ton	333	7,459,000
Processed	1975	61,400	26.4	1,621,000	ton	55.60	90,128,000
	1974	37,110	24.9	924,000	ton	56.80	52,483,000
Turnips	1975	150	15.0	2,250	ton	168	378,000
	1974	300	15.0	4,500	ton	133	598,000
Other Vegetables <sup>a/</sup>	1975	14,800					15,960,000
	1974	10,884					12,018,000
Total	1975	122,000					182,264,000
	1974	81,764					129,778,000
	1955	32,567					15,966,860

<sup>a/</sup> Includes asparagus, beets, broccoli (frozen), cantaloupes (frozen), carrots, cauliflower (frozen), chili peppers (processed), cucumbers (hothouse grown) (processed), eggplant, garlic, honeydew melons (frozen), loose lettuce, shredding lettuce, mustard greens, onions (processed), peas (processed), potatoes, snap beans (processed), spinach (processed), sweet potatoes (cannery), Swiss chard, tomatoes (hothouse grown)

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Almonds	1975	13,867	.58	8,040	ton	\$ 725	\$ 5,829,000
	1974	13,614	.92	12,500	ton	920	11,500,000
Apricots	1975	228	5.00	1,140	ton	312	356,000
	1974	230	3.22	740	ton	268	198,000
Bushberries	1975	115	4.56				
	1974	123	5.07				
Fresh	1975			4	ton	608	2,430
	1974			6	ton	703	4,000
Processed	1975			520	ton	419	218,000
	1974			620	ton	550	341,000
Figs, dried	1975	9,890	.49	4,850	ton	770	3,734,000
	1974	10,271	.75	7,703	ton	705	5,431,000
Grapes	1975	170,213	8.71				
	1974	171,604	8.26				
Raisin Varieties	1975	143,300					
	1974	144,375					
Canned	1975			11,500	ton	120	1,380,000
	1974			11,600	ton	120	1,392,000
Crushed	1975			360,000	ton	60	21,600,000
	1974			436,000	ton	74	32,264,000
Dried	1975			189,000	ton <sup>a/</sup>	531	100,359,000
	1974			164,000	ton	639	104,796,000
Fresh	1975			43,400	ton	348	15,103,000
	1974			39,100	ton	316	12,356,000
Table Varieties	1975	7,013					
	1974	7,091					
Crushed	1975			34,200	ton	55	1,881,000
	1974			35,100	ton	57	2,001,000
Fresh	1975			24,000	ton	370	8,880,000
	1974			24,100	ton	338	8,146,000
Wine Varieties	1975	19,900					
	1974	20,138					
Crushed	1975			156,000	ton	84	13,104,000
	1974			164,000	ton	99	16,236,000

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975 (continued)

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Grapes (continued)							
Wine Varieties							
Fresh	1975			12,500	ton	\$ 246	\$ 3,075,000
	1974			12,500	ton	224	2,800,000
Lemons	1975	614	9.30				
	1974	614	6.20				
Fresh	1975			3,810	ton	271	1,033,000
	1974			2,540	ton	280	711,000
Processed	1975			1,900	ton	20	38,000
	1974			1,270	ton	60	76,000
Nectarines	1975	6,177	7.43	45,900	ton	441	20,242,000
	1974	5,715	7.27	41,500	ton	341	14,152,000
Olives	1975	1,285	2.50	3,210	ton	331	1,063,000
	1974	1,089	2.07	2,250	ton	421	947,000
Oranges	1975	19,328					
	1974	19,188					
Navel	1975	15,801	9.02				
	1974	15,703	9.20				
Fresh	1975			88,400	ton	208	18,387,000
	1974			108,350	ton	195	21,128,000
Processed	1975			54,100	ton	6	325,000
	1974			36,100	ton	15	542,000
Valencia	1975	3,448	9.48				
	1974	3,421	14.00				
Fresh	1975			19,900	ton	191	3,801,000
	1974			33,530	ton	169	5,667,000
Processed	1975			12,800	ton	14	179,000
	1974			14,370	ton	25	359,000
Miscellaneous	1975	79	10.00	790	ton	158	125,000
	1974	64	11.00	704	ton	145	102,000

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975 (continued)

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Peaches	1975	10,195					
	1974	9,703					
Clingstone	1975	2,221	12.34				
	1974	1,888	15.39				
Processed	1975			27,400	ton	\$ 131	\$ 3,589,000
	1974			29,100	ton	132	3,841,000
Freestone	1975	7,974	8.45				
	1974	7,815	9.48				
Fresh	1975			51,800	ton	371	19,218,000
	1974			57,000	ton	325	18,525,000
Processed	1975			15,600	ton	100	1,560,000
	1974			17,000	ton	135	2,295,000
Persimmons	1975	65	4.65	300	ton	681	204,000
	1974	63	5.46	344	ton	543	187,000
Plums	1975	8,609	7.33	63,100	ton	456	28,774,000
	1974	8,304	7.68	63,800	ton	344	21,947,000
Pomegranates	1975	596	4.09	2,440	ton	455	1,110,000
	1974	520	4.43	2,300	ton	500	1,150,000
Strawberries	1975	183	12.19	2,230	ton	575	1,282,000
	1974	202	15.60	3,150	ton	541	1,704,000
Walnuts	1975	4,121	1.17	4,820	ton	450	2,169,000
	1974	3,693	.96	3,550	ton	400	1,420,000
Miscellaneous <sup>b/</sup>	1975	1,608					3,700,000
	1974	1,372					2,415,000
Total	1975	247,094					\$282,320,000
	1974	246,310					294,634,000
	1955	179,157					89,702,439

a/ Dry tons

b/ Includes almond hulls, apples, dried apricots, processed apricots, avocados, fresh figs, substandard figs, grapefruit, dried nectarines, dried peaches, olives (oil), pears, pecans, pistachio nuts, processed plums, prunes, quince, damaged raisins, tangelos, tangerines

NURSERY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AREA, SALES AND VALUE - 1975

Item	Year	Production Area Acres	Quantity Sold by Producers	Unit	Value
Herbaceous Ornamentals <sup>a/</sup>	1975	6.0	1,083,000	<u>b/</u>	\$ 211,000
Ornamental Trees and Shrubs <sup>c/</sup>	1975	78.0	342,000	plants	347,000
General Ornamentals <sup>d/</sup>	1974	49.0	1,377,934	<u>b/</u>	696,000
Flower Seeds <sup>e/</sup>	1975	250.0	60,000	lbs.	150,000
Nursery Other than Ornamentals	1975	15.0	44,870,000	plants	884,000
	1974	87.5	28,809,000	<u>f/</u>	<u>698,000</u>
Total	1975	349.0			\$1,592,000
	1974	136.5			1,394,000
	1955	N/A			160,495

a/ Includes cut flowers and cut greens, bedding plants and herbaceous perennials

b/ Includes flats, dozens, cans and single plants

c/ Includes Christmas trees

d/ Includes cut flowers and cut greens, ornamental trees and shrubs, Christmas trees, bedding plants, and herbaceous perennials

e/ Previously reported with Seed Crops

f/ Includes flats, dozens, cans, single plants and citrus buds

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Per Unit	Total
		No.of Head	Total Liveweight			
Cattle and Calves						
Beef						
Breeding Stock						
Common	1975	4,250		head	\$ 325.00	\$ 1,381,000
	1974	4,000		head	350.00	1,400,000
Registered	1975	475		head	500.00	238,000
	1974	450		head	550.00	248,000
Feeders	1975	82,000	156,000	cwt.	31.25	4,875,000
	1974	75,000	142,000	cwt.	47.89	6,800,000
Calves	1975	36,000	162,000	cwt.	24.33	3,941,000
	1974	36,000	162,000	cwt.	40.33	6,533,000
Slaughter Stock						
From Feed Lots	1975	368,000	1,398,000	cwt.	41.06	57,402,000
	1974	276,000	1,049,000	cwt.	41.20	43,219,000
From Other Sources	1975	12,000	120,000	cwt.	37.00	4,440,000
	1974	9,000	90,000	cwt.	37.00	3,330,000
Dairy						
Breeding Stock	1975	8,300		head	445.00	3,694,000
	1974	8,000		head	526.00	4,208,000
Cull Stock	1975	13,000	156,000	cwt.	17.86	2,786,000
	1974	12,500	150,000	cwt.	24.36	3,654,000
Calves	1975	31,700	79,200	cwt.	28.00	2,218,000
	1974	32,000	80,000	cwt.	36.75	2,940,000
Sheep and Lambs						
Slaughter Stock						
Lambs	1975	38,000	30,400	cwt.	42.94	1,305,000
	1974	42,800	34,200	cwt.	39.26	1,343,000
Sheep	1975	5,100	7,140	cwt.	10.78	77,000
	1974	5,500	7,700	cwt.	12.43	95,700

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975 (continued)

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Per Unit	Total
		No.of Head	Total Liveweight			
Hogs and Pigs						
Breeding Stock	1975	150		head	\$125.00	\$ 19,000
	1974	250		head	118.00	29,500
Slaughter Stock	1975	11,810	26,000	cwt.	45.76	1,190,000
	1974	13,213	25,414	cwt.	37.00	940,000
Horses and Mules						
Recreational Stock	1975	750		head	300.00	225,000
	1974	700		head	300.00	210,000
Poultry						
Broilers and Fryers	1975	11,172,000	50,274,000	lb.	.28	14,077,000
	1974	11,078,000	38,800,000	lb.	.28	10,864,000
Other Chickens	1975	326,000	1,514,000	lb.	.079	120,000
	1974	423,000	1,690,000	lb.	.061	103,000
Turkeys	1975	3,532,000	70,632,000	lb.	.32	22,602,000
	1974	3,280,000	59,040,000	lb.	.28	16,531,000
Turkey Poults	1975	9,723,000		each	.766	7,448,000
	1974	9,631,000		each	.736	7,088,000
Miscellaneous <sup>a/</sup>	1975					3,012,000
	1974					2,683,000*
Total	1975					\$131,050,000
	1974					112,219,000
	1955					34,763,630

<sup>a/</sup> Includes chicks, chuckars, ducks, pheasants, pigeons, and feeder pigs

\*Revised

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975

Crop	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Milk					
Manufacturing	1975	186,000	cwt.	\$ 7.33	\$ 1,363,000
	1974	182,000	cwt.	6.88	1,252,000
Market	1975	6,247,000	cwt.	8.63	53,912,000
	1974	5,729,000	cwt.	7.81	44,743,000
Wool	1975	700,000	lb.	.55	385,000
	1974	753,400	lb.	.68	512,000
Eggs					
Chicken Hatching	1975	2,140,000	dozen	.95	2,033,000
	1974	2,159,895	dozen	1.00	2,160,000
Market	1975	9,496,000	dozen	.484	4,596,000
	1974	8,958,333	dozen	.464	4,157,000
Turkey Hatching	1975	4,404,000	each	.35	1,541,000
	1974	2,410,000	each	.32	771,000
Total	1975				\$63,830,000
	1974				53,595,000
	1955				20,945,893

JANUARY 1 INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY (In Number of Head)

Item	January 1, 1976	January 1, 1975
Cattle and Calves		
All	339,000	319,000
Milk Cows 2 years and over	48,000	48,500
Cattle and Calves on feed	172,900	104,300
Stock Sheep and Lambs	87,800	96,600
Hogs and Pigs	6,000	8,000
Horses	15,500	15,200
Hens and Pullets of laying age	418,600	430,000
Turkey and Breeder Hens	73,400	34,300

APIARY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975

Item	Year	Production Total	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Honey	1975	951,000	lb.	\$ .390	\$ 371,000
	1974	1,179,300	lb.	.488	575,000
Beeswax	1975	15,800	lb.	1.25	19,800
	1974	23,680	lb.	1.25	29,600
<u>Pollination<sup>a/</sup></u>					
Seed Crops					
Alfalfa	1975	27,450	colony	11.00	302,000
	1974	25,350	colony	9.70	246,000
Other <sup>b/</sup>	1975	660	colony	10.00	6,600
Tree Fruit <sup>c/</sup>	1975	30,220	colony	10.00	302,000
	1974	24,920	colony	9.70	242,000
Cantaloupes	1975	3,770	colony	10.00	37,700
	1974	7,030	colony	8.75	61,500
Total	1975				\$1,039,000
	1974				1,154,000
	1955				451,732

a/ Reflects only the bees registered in Fresno County by commercial and semi-commercial beekeepers: 1975 - 35,797 colonies; 1974 - 30,239 colonies. Approximately 168,200 colonies were estimated to be in Fresno County at the peak of the pollination season.

b/ Cucumbers, onion seed, carrot seed, vegetable seed, and other truck crops

c/ Almond, cherries, peaches and plums

# APIARY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1975

The following table reflects gross income from approximately 168,200 colonies of bees located in Fresno County during the peak of the 1975 pollination season. (Shown for interest value only. Not included in Crop Report values.)

Item	Year	Production Total	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Honey	1975	4,375,000	lb.	\$ .390	\$1,705,000
	1974	7,514,200	lb.	.488	2,886,000
Beeswax	1975	72,900	lb.	1.25	91,100
	1974	160,700	lb.	1.25	148,000
Pollination					
Seed Crops					
Alfalfa	1975	126,000	colony	11.00	1,386,000
	1974	146,000	colony	9.70	1,319,000
Other <sup>a/</sup>	1975	3,040	colony	10.00	30,400
Tree Fruit	1975	31,200	colony	10.00	312,000
	1974	27,200	colony	9.70	264,000
Cantaloupes	1975	42,300	colony	10.00	423,000
	1974	27,000	colony	8.75	236,000
Total	1975				\$3,948,000
	1974				4,853,000

<sup>a/</sup> Includes cucumbers, onion seed, carrot seed, and other vegetable seeds

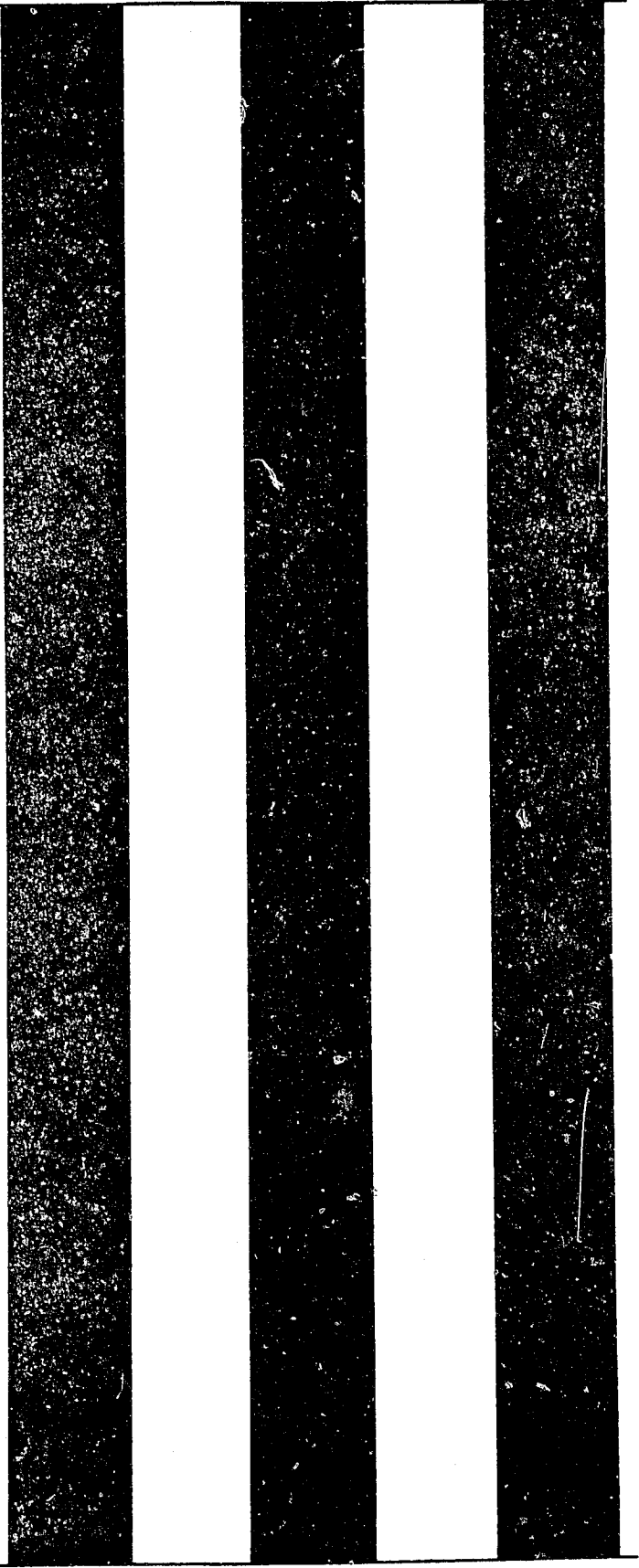
Growth of Fresno County Agriculture as Indicated by Gross Value  
of Agricultural Products Over a Span of Twenty-One Years

1955 - \$325,864,180*	1966 - \$452,926,000
1956 - 330,096,960	1967 - 438,753,000*
1957 - 359,569,750	1968 - 462,659,000
1958 - 370,997,930	1969 - 458,014,000
1959 - 390,211,120	1970 - 474,706,000*
1960 - 388,802,520	1971 - 507,930,000
1961 - 385,091,740	1972 - 559,307,000*
1962 - 413,572,210	1973 - 828,682,000*
1963 - 423,206,000	1974 - 967,350,000
1964 - 443,088,000	1975 - 1,024,853,000
1965 - 438,253,000	

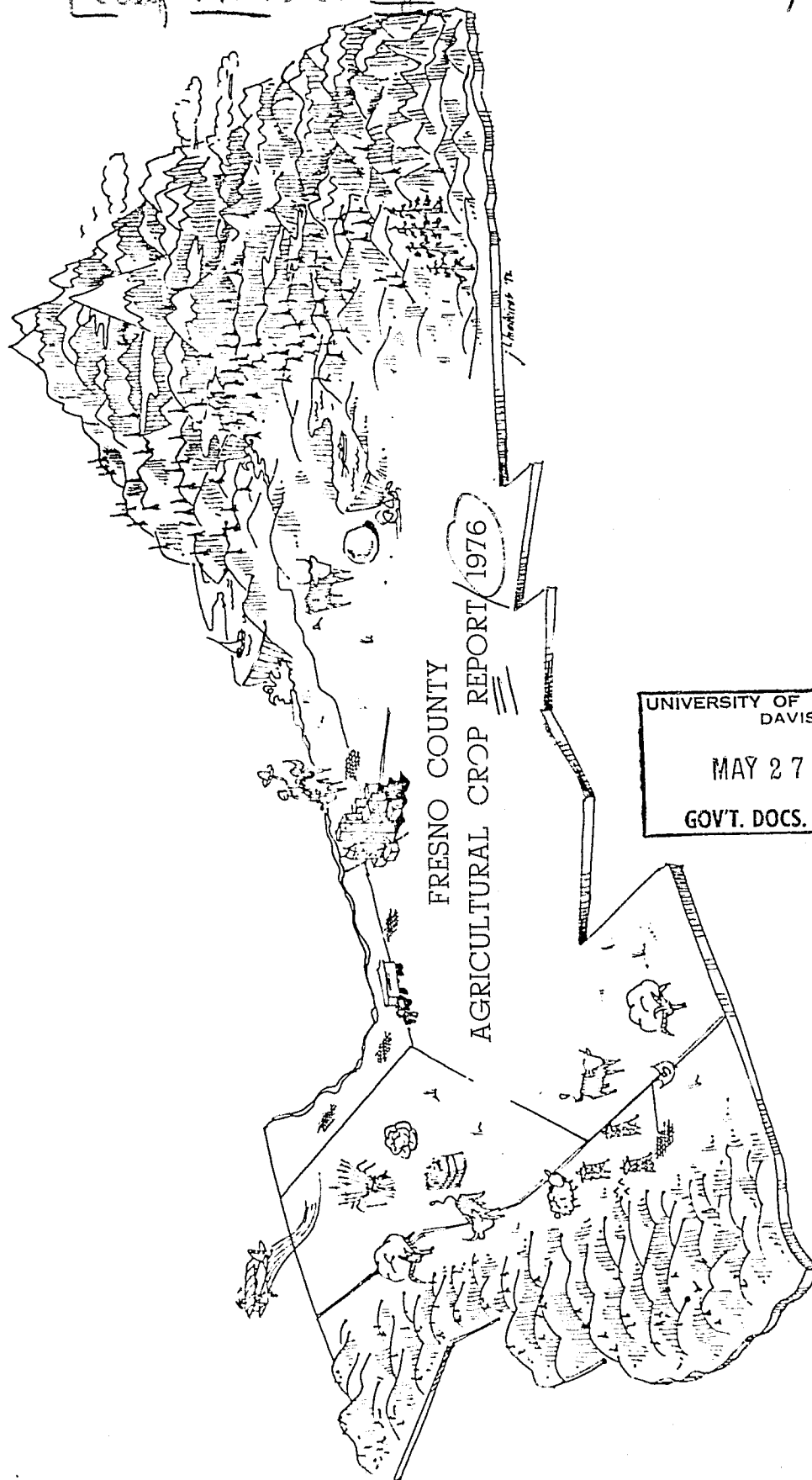
SIX YEAR COMPARISON STUDY OF GROSS CROP VALUES IN FRESNO COUNTY

	1955	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Field Crops	\$158,368,508	\$137,467,000	\$173,727,000	\$248,562,000	\$347,460,000	\$340,540,000
Seed Crops	5,486,626	15,216,000	13,214,000	15,705,000*	27,116,000	22,218,000
Vegetable Crops	15,966,860	47,598,000	59,725,000	73,912,000	129,778,000	182,264,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	89,702,433	195,375,000	193,032,000	325,235,000	294,634,000	282,320,000
Nursery Products	160,905	1,117,000	1,181,000	2,245,000	1,394,000	1,592,000
Livestock and Poultry	45,700,000	114,000,000	117,620,000	167,247,000	165,814,000	194,880,000
Apilary	451,200	625,000	808,000	1,173,000	1,154,000	1,039,000
	339,180	\$557,724,000	\$689,507,000*	\$826,541,000*	\$967,350,000	\$1,024,853,000

\*Revised

Three vertical black bars of equal width and height, positioned side-by-side. They have a grainy, textured appearance.

1976



FRESNO COUNTY  
AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT / 1976

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
DAVIS  
MAY 27 1977  
GOVT. DOCS. - LIBRARY

# county of fresno



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Thomas E. Corn

Agricultural Commissioner

Ronald Atmajian

Assistant Agricultural Commissioner

Richard E. Rominger, Director  
California Department of Food and Agriculture

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Fresno

John R. Donaldson, Chairman  
John Ventura      Bruce Bronzan  
Sharon Levy      Willard H. "Bill" Johnson  
Melvyrn G. Wingett  
County Administrative Officer

I am pleased to submit the 1976 Fresno County Agricultural Crop Report showing acreage, production and value of agricultural crops and products produced in Fresno County as required by Section 2279 of the Food and Agricultural Code. The values presented in this report reflect gross figures and not net income to growers.

Despite heavy losses from low temperatures ranging down to 24°F., during January, drought during both the spring and winter months, plus heavy early fall rains; the gross value of agricultural products and crops totaled \$1,170,800,000 an increase of 14 per cent over the previous year.

This is the second year that Fresno County has exceeded the one billion dollar figure. Many field crops such as alfalfa, barley and cotton showed significant increases in value. Lettuce, melons, sweet potatoes, and pole tomatoes reflect substantial increases while most fruit and nut crops report higher values.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the staff under the direction of Conrad Schilling, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner; and L. V. Hawley, Senior Agricultural Inspector, for the many hours spent compiling this report.

We particularly wish to acknowledge the helpful cooperation of many producers, grower associations, food processors, beekeepers, packing house managers, Extension Service personnel, United States Department of Agriculture, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and many other persons and agencies. Each person played an important part in finalizing this publication.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Corn  
Agricultural Commissioner

## 1976 CROP REPORT OVERVIEW

### JANUARY

WEATHER: Cold and dry! The year started with record low temperatures recorded on the first three days in January causing additional damage to the county's citrus crop. The month was the third driest January on record with only 0.04" of rain being recorded in Fresno.

FIELD CROPS: Planting of wheat and barley was completed. Growth of emerged stands was slow due to the cold dry weather with dry-land barley especially showing stress. Irrigation occurred where water was available. Rice field preparation was active. Final picking operations for 1975 crop cotton were completed during the first part of the month. Shredding and disking of fields was completed. Land preparation for the 1976 crop was active. Increased cotton acreage was anticipated. Some emergence of new alfalfa was noted. Established stands remained dormant with many fields being irrigated. Sugar beets continued to be harvested with new fields being planted.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Pruning and irrigation were active in tree fruit orchards. Some pre-emergence herbicides were applied but generally ineffective due to a lack of rainfall. Dormant spray applications increased near the end of the month. Pruning and irrigation were active in almonds early in the month. Toward the end of the month, buds began to swell as bloom stage neared. Vineyard activity included pruning, shredding, wrapping and tying of vines, and irrigating. Some pesticides were applied. The last of the 1975 crop table grapes were removed from storage with quality fair to good. Packing of Navel oranges continued as damage permitted. The harvest was approximately 25% complete by the end of the month. Freeze damage was recorded as follows: 17% serious damage; 22% non-serious damage; 61% no apparent damage. Lemons were packed in moderate volume with quality reported good.

VEGETABLES: Harvesting and packing of cauliflower, Oriental vegetables, green onions, radishes and turnips occurred throughout the month. Transplanting of lettuce was started and completed, and tomato transplanting was started toward the end of the month.

LIVESTOCK: Lack of rain and cold weather caused serious loss of much needed range-land feed. Irrigation of permanent pasture occurred. Critical conditions set in by the end of the month with some rangeland a fire hazard. Much supplemental feeding was necessary.

### FEBRUARY

WEATHER: Rain at the first of the month relieved the drought situation. February ended with a monthly rainfall total about three inches above normal in Fresno.

FIELD CROPS: Barley and wheat fields greened up with improved soil moisture. Dry-land barley made good growth near month's end. Applications of 2,4-D were made for broadleaf weed control in most districts. Some fields were green chopped for cattle feed. Preparation of rice fields continued as conditions permitted.

Cotton field preparation continued as conditions improved with preirrigation, bed preparation and herbicide applications active. Alfalfa fields showed improvement with the increased moisture. Growth was slow but increased by month's end. Preparation for spring planting continued. Planting of new crop sugar beets neared completion with early planted fields showing good growth. Harvest of sugar beets neared completion.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Pruning and irrigating of tree fruit continued; dormant spraying increased as weather conditions permitted. Apricots and plums bloomed near the end of the month. Bees were moved into almonds for pollination activities. Various stages of bloom were apparent by the end of the month with some delay noted due to cool weather. Grape pruning was completed; wrapping and tying of vines continued. Fertilization, post-emergence herbicide applications and pest control became active. Packing of citrus picked up after rain caused a slump early in the month. Harvest was about 30% complete at month's end with considerable drying due to freeze damage reported.

VEGETABLES: Harvest of Napa cabbage neared completion. Harvest of hothouse vegetables was active. Generally good growth of spring and some summer vegetables was noted. Processing tomatoes were planted late in the month while tomato and bell pepper transplanting continued. Early planted fields of processing tomatoes began to emerge.

LIVESTOCK: Rain greatly benefited the parched rangeland, but supplemental feeding was still required. Full recovery of native range did not occur.

### MARCH

WEATHER: Light to moderate rain occurred on the first and second with the rest of the month dry. Temperatures averaged slightly below normal.

FIELD CROPS: Barley and wheat showed improvement throughout the month. Applications of 2,4-D were completed by the cut-off date of March 15. Many fields were heading out by month's end. Land preparation for rice continued. Cotton bed preparation continued with some planting noted by mid-month. Alfalfa fields were growing well and being treated for insect control. By mid-month many fields were being green chopped for dairy feed. Sugar beets continued to make good progress.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Tree fruits were in full bloom during the month. Petal fall was about complete by month's end, with early varieties leafing out. Almond bloom was complete by mid-month and bees were moved to other crops. Irrigation and herbicide applications became active. Walnut and fig trees started leafing out. The Navel orange harvest continued and was about 50% complete by month's end. Freeze damage continued to be a problem. Some improvement in quality was noted but cullage remained high.

VEGETABLES: Harvesting of hothouse vegetables continued active. Onions, radishes, leaf lettuce, and other winter and spring vegetables continued to move in volume. Asparagus harvest was in full swing by mid-month. Most crops showed good growth and quality. Planting of tomatoes continued as well as transplanting of tomatoes, peppers and eggplant.

LIVESTOCK: Eastside rangeland showed marked improvement from February rain. The Westside rangeland did not improve as much as the Eastside. Supplemental feeding was still required in many areas.

#### APRIL

WEATHER: April was with below normal rainfall. Damaging hail storms hit the Eastside and Westside at mid-month necessitating replanting of some crops on the Westside and causing tree fruit loss in isolated areas of the Eastside.

FIELD CROPS: Barley and wheat progressed well and were headed out by mid-month. Lodging occurred in some fields due to high winds. Fertilizing, flooding and planting of rice commenced by mid-month. Cotton planting was curtailed by rainy weather in the early part of the month. Some replanting was necessary. Planting was 95% complete by month's end. Alfalfa was cut and baled with some damage due to rain noted. Green chopping and windrowing continued as weather permitted. Sugar beet plants continued at various stages of growth. Harvest was slowed due to wet field conditions. Hail damaged fields began to show recovery by the end of the month.

FRUIT AND NUTS: Tree fruits and nuts progressed satisfactorily during the month. The almond crop was reported as generally heavy. Thinning of tree fruits was started by mid-month. Vigorous growth with the first signs of bunch development characterized the development of most vineyards. Some wine varieties sustained damage from the mid-month hail storm. The bunch count for Thompsons was determined to be approximately 41.5 clusters per vine. Navel orange harvest continued with heavy volume picked. Quality continued to deteriorate with much drying due to freezing; granulation showed up in larger sizes. Valencia maturity was generally low, but some packing was started by the middle of the month. Citrus bloom began by mid-month.

VEGETABLES: Harvest of head lettuce began and continued through the month. Quality was good with high yields. Processing tomatoes were growing well with the warm weather. Hot caps were removed from fresh market tomatoes. Cantaloupes and other melons began to emerge. Summer vegetables were emerging and growing well by month's end. Strawberry harvest was in full volume by the end of the month with good quality.

LIVESTOCK: Range feed was in very short supply on the Westside due to a lack of soil moisture.

#### MAY

WEATHER: May was warm and dry with only a trace of rain recorded in Fresno.

FIELD CROPS: Irrigation of late barley and wheat ended early in the month. Ripening was rapid and barley harvest was well underway by month's end. The wheat crop neared maturity by the end of the month. Flooding, fertilizing and seeding of rice continued into the first part of the month. Emergence of many fields occurred by mid-month. Herbicide applications were started by month's end. Many

cotton fields were replanted early in the month while thinning, cultivating and irrigation occurred throughout. The crop was showing generally good stands. Hay alfalfa continued to make good progress with the second cutting started by the end of the month. Seed alfalfa fields reached bloom stage by month's end and bees were moved into the fields for pollination. Cutting, raking and baling of grain hay was active throughout the month. Safflower was growing rapidly and began blooming by the end of the month. Field corn emerged and grew rapidly.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Harvesting of early peach, plum and nectarine varieties began about mid-month. Quality was poor. Some orchards were treated for twig borer and scale control. Almonds and figs continued to progress well. Grape vines continued to grow vigorously throughout the month. Table Thompsons were being girdled and gibberelled. Sulphur applications for mildew control were started. Navel orange harvest continued. Cullage was high due to drying and granulation. Valencias were packed. Volume increased as maturity improved. Quality was good. Olives were in full bloom.

VEGETABLES: Harvest of head lettuce ended at mid-month. Quality declined as the season progressed. Processing tomatoes were blooming by mid-month. Melons continued to progress satisfactorily. Harvest of asparagus and strawberries neared completion. Squash, onions, radishes, Oriental vegetables, leaf lettuce and Swiss chard continued to market. Sweet potato planting was completed. Most vegetable crops looked good and were growing well.

LIVESTOCK: Eastside range conditions were fair. The Westside was very short of feed. Foothills were dry by the end of the month and feeders were moved to feed lots. The feed lots were near capacity at month's end.

## JUNE

WEATHER Light to moderate showers fell on Fresno early in the month. The 1975-76 rainfall year ended as one of the driest on record.

FIELD CROPS: Barley harvest peaked and neared completion by month's end in many areas. Yields were good and quality was fair to good. Wheat harvest was also active with good yields reported. Some stubble was burned in preparation for new crops. Rice was treated for weed control and some late rice was seeded. Stands generally looked good. Cultivating, irrigating and fertilizing of cotton was active throughout the month. Fields were treated for mite control. By month's end Westside fields were in bloom and beginning to set squares. Alfalfa hay harvest continued and seed alfalfa progressed satisfactorily. Field corn reached four to five feet by mid-month. Early seeded blackeye beans reached a height of 12 to 14 inches by mid-month. Later fields were seeded and were beginning to emerge. Growth progressed well with warm weather during the last half of the month. Safflower fields were blooming by mid-month. Sugar beets were in various stages and growing well.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Tree fruit harvest picked up with size and quality somewhat improved. Early Red Haven, Royal May, Cardinal, Gem Free and Red Haven peaches were packed in volume. May Grand, June Grand, Early Sun Grand, Red June and Independence nectarines were packed with quality good. Santa Rosa was the main variety of plums being packed. Cullage was high due to small sizes, scarring and highly variable maturity. Grape canes grew vigorously. Bunch size was about normal with

berry size increasing rapidly. Sulfur applications increased after the rains. Irrigation was active and measures were taken to control mites and leaf hoppers. Almonds, walnuts and figs progressed well throughout the month; fruit was sizing well. Walnuts were whitewashed for sunburn control. The Navel orange harvest neared completion with quality running fair to poor. Cullage continued high and increased throughout the month. Valencia oranges continued to be packed with freeze damage showing up in some lots. A small volume of lemons was packed.

VEGETABLES: Preparation for fall head lettuce planting was active. Red onion harvest was 90% complete. Cantaloupes and other melons were blooming and growing well. Carrot and onion seed fields were in bloom and began to dry down. The boysenberry, squash, cucumber, tomato, pole bean, leaf lettuce, bell pepper, chili pepper and eggplant harvest began or continued. Sweet potatoes continued to grow well reaching a height of six to eight inches by mid-month. Preparation for processing tomato harvest began by month's end.

LIVESTOCK: Rangeland conditions deteriorated with the Westside in extremely poor circumstances by the end of the month. Feed lots were full. An outbreak of grasshoppers was reported on the Westside.

#### JULY

WEATHER: July weather was near normal. Temperatures averaged one degree below normal and a trace of precipitation was reported on three days.

FIELD CROPS: Barley and wheat harvest was essentially completed by the end of the month. Rice stands looked good and early varieties were starting to head out by month's end. Grain sorghum fields were growing actively throughout the month. Cotton was progressing well and most fields were in bloom. Alfalfa hay harvest continued with quality good. Seed alfalfa progressed well and bees were starting to be removed by month's end. Emerged blackeyes were doing well. A few late fields were planted early in the month. Early plantings were forming pods. Safflower fields were maturing rapidly. Sugar beets looked good. Harvest began in the early fields. Field corn grew rapidly with tasseling noted by the end of the month.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Harvest of fresh market tree fruits continued with heavy cullage in plums continuing. Picking of cling peaches halted at mid-month when canneries were closed during a labor dispute. Overripe clings dropped to the ground and were lost. Cardinal grape harvest began by mid-month; peak volume was reached by month's end. Quality was generally good throughout. Table Thompsons progressed normally and packing in light volume started by month's end in one district. Cullage was high with maturity a problem. Preharvest preparations for other varieties were made as irrigation and pest control activities continued. Almonds and walnuts were sizing well and almond hulls were starting to split at month's end. Routine cultural operations continued for both crops. Figs were harvested in light volume. Valencia oranges continued to be packed, mostly for export. Freeze damage was somewhat of a problem. Lemons were being packed in light volume. Navel oranges were sizing normally, many reaching about two inches. Routine cultural practices continued.

VEGETABLES: Cantaloupe harvest began on the Westside during the first week and reached its peak by month's end. Honeydews were being packed in good volume, but experienced some maturity problems. Watermelons were running in excellent volume with good quality. Planting of head lettuce started at the end of the month. Packing of

market tomatoes, peppers, squash, onions and head lettuce continued. Processing tomato harvest started at mid-month but halted soon after when cannery facilities closed due to a labor dispute. Overripe tomatoes were being disced under at month's end.

LIVESTOCK: Rangelands continued dry. Most feed lots were reported full. Movement of feed grains to these facilities was heavy. Sheep were grazing on barley and wheat stubble.

## AUGUST

WEATHER: Temperatures averaged nearly 10 degrees below normal for the month. This greatly slowed the maturity of many crops. Showers at mid-month compounded the problems and caused some crop losses.

FIELD CROPS: Barley and wheat harvest was completed early in the month with quality generally good. Rice headed out with some loss reported due to cool, damp weather and rain. Grain sorghum development was slowed. Some fields suffered from a lack of water. Most fields were headed out and harvest started on the West-side in light volume. Cotton development slowed but fields still looked good. Boll development was somewhat delayed. Alfalfa hay harvest continued with weed and worm problems noted. Some green chopping was reported. Seed alfalfa was allowed to dry down and in some cases dessicants were applied. Harvest was delayed by the rains and some crop loss was anticipated. Safflower continued to mature. Harvest started and progressed slowly but steadily. Blackeyes showed varied growth patterns. Some fields suffered from a lack of water. Early fields were windrowed. Sugar beet harvesting continued light. Later beets continued to progress. Field corn continued to mature with normal cultural practices continuing.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Harvesting and packing of tree fruits continued. Cullage in some varieties continued high. Maturity of some late varieties was slowed. Fungicides were used to prevent brown rot in peaches and nectarines. Rot problems reduced the yield of some late peaches. Harvesting of early almonds began but was interrupted by the rains. Walnuts continued to mature well throughout the month. Fig harvest continued. Splitting occurred with significant damage to Calimyrna and Mission varieties. Warm weather at month's end reduced this loss somewhat. Harvesting and packing of table grapes continued. Rains slowed harvest activity of table Thompsons as maturity levels dropped. Cullage was higher than normal due to bunch rot and immaturity. Growers were also plagued with insect problems. Raisin grape growers completed preparations for harvest and began harvest late in the third week of August as drying conditions started to return to normal. Packing of Valencia oranges continued. Navels continued to show good progress.

VEGETABLES: Harvest of fresh market tomatoes declined. Quality remained good. Processing tomatoes were harvested in heavy volume with weather related problems and overmaturity creating difficulties. Some unharvested overripe fields were disced under or sheeped off. Harvest of summer vegetables continued. Freezer cauliflower was doing well and head lettuce was being thinned. Melon harvest slowed with the cool damp weather and internal breakdown was noted in cantaloupes. Garlic harvest was nearly completed and white onions were dug as processing facilities could handle the crop.

LIVESTOCK: Range conditions remained the same. Concern was expressed that the rains would germinate the winter annuals but that they would not survive the balance of the summer without further rain. Most livestock were moved to irrigated pasture or stubble. Feed lots remained full.

### SEPTEMBER

WEATHER: Moderate to very heavy rains around the 10th and again at month's end caused extensive damage to many crops. (Some locations received nearly one-half the seasonal normal amount of rain in these storms).

FIELD CROPS: Field preparation for barley and wheat seeding began. Draining of rice fields was underway as the month started and harvest began about mid-month with good yields reported. Grain sorghum harvest continued as conditions permitted; no serious rain damage was reported. Cotton maturity was slowed and defoliation was active. Maturity of some Eastside fields was extremely retarded. No damage from rains was reported, only apprehension over molding of the bolls and staining of fibers. Quality of alfalfa hay declined greatly with many fields showing extensive mold and rot in windrows. Seed alfalfa harvest continued as conditions permitted, reaching 95% completion by the end of the month. Safflower harvest was completed in greatly reduced acreage. Quality and yields were generally good. Digging of sugar beets continued as conditions permitted. Yields were reported to be good. Blackeye harvest was started and was estimated 15% complete at month's end with 50% on the ground and 35% still standing. Silage and grain corn harvest started with some fields showing a loss due to lodging as a result of winds and rain. Sweet potato digging and packing was started with good yields and quality reported.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Plum and nectarine harvest was completed by mid-month. A few late peaches were packed in light volume. Almond harvest continued throughout the month as field conditions permitted. Yields were good to very good with minimal rain damage. Walnut harvest began about mid-month with minimal rain damage at the start. Increased discoloration was noted by month's end. Fig harvest continued where conditions permitted. Calimyrnas were heavily damaged by the rain. Many growers resorted to hand sorting to try to salvage any figs. Thompson seedless grape harvest finished by month's end. Packing of Emperors and Ribiers continued as field conditions permitted. Cullage of table grapes was high due to slip skins, bunch rot and split skins. Raisin loss was estimated at 35% to 38% in the third week of the month, but was increased to 55% by the month's end. Growers attempted to salvage as much as possible by utilizing every possible means of remedial practices. Harvest of early season pomegranates finished by the second week. Harvest of the Wonderful variety started in the third week with good quality and little splitting; however, some maturity problems were reported. Persimmons were sizing well and picking of early varieties started during the last of the month but stopped with the rain. Valencia orange harvest was about 75% complete by the middle of the month. Navels continued to progress showing sizes of 2-1/2 to 3 inches. Citrus growers were not harmed by the rain.

VEGETABLES: Lettuce was growing well in various stages with frequent pesticide applications being made. Processing tomato harvest wound down by mid-month with quality lowered by weather caused problems. Sweet potato harvest continued but was slowed by the unseasonal rains. Some melons and cantaloupes were packed during the month. Freezer cauliflower progressed well. Late summer and fall vegetables continued to go to market.

LIVESTOCK: Rangeland showed great improvement with up to 3 inches of growth by month's end. Livestock was moved onto the range late in the month.

### OCTOBER

WEATHER: An official total of 2.96 inches of rain (many areas received considerably more) fell on Fresno County in mid-August, early September and the first of October. The rains interrupted field activity and caused significant losses to many crops.

FIELD CROPS: Harvest and other field activities were halted due to heavy rains on October 1, and resumed as field conditions permitted. Seeding of barley and wheat commenced with emergence in some early seeded fields noted by month's end. Rice harvest continued with good yields despite lodging problems after heavy rains. Grain sorghum harvest began with Eastside yield and quality somewhat lower than expected. Cotton defoliation was completed and harvest moved into full swing with gins running on a round-the-clock schedule. Yields were reported to be good. Shredding and discing of stalks to deter possible overwintering by pink bollworm was active. Heavy mold damage was evident in both windrowed and baled alfalfa hay. With the onset of warmer weather, field growth generally recovered. Sugar beet harvest continued with young beets looking good. Blackeye harvest resumed after rains and growers tried all available methods to save windrowed beans from serious damage. Some rain soaked windrows were abandoned due to mold. Harvest neared completion by month's end with reduced yield and quality. Corn harvest picked up as conditions permitted.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Tree fruit harvest was completed by mid-month. Almond harvest resumed as conditions permitted with quality generally good despite some mold in windrows. Some staining in walnuts was noted and navel orangeworm became a problem in almonds and walnuts. Estimated Calimyrna fig loss was near 90% with loss to other varieties set at near 40%. Hand sorting was used extensively to save all fruit possible. Harvesting of pomegranates was active, quality was very good with minimal cracking despite rains. Persimmon movement was slow due to late maturity. Citrus, olives and avocados were generally benefited by the rains. Valencia harvest neared completion with color break noted in some Navels. Olive harvest moved into full swing with good size and quality but reduced yields in some varieties. Avocado harvest commenced with small sizes reported. Grape quality deteriorated rapidly. Juice grape harvest ended early due to poor condition of fruit and table grape harvest also was curtailed. Grapes going to the winery were generally poor with fermentation starting. Raisin loss was estimated at 65% with some trays being disced under in the fields. Growers were using every available salvage method with many thousand tons going to the distilleries. Dehydrators were working around the clock.

VEGETABLES: Head lettuce and leaf lettuce harvest started with quality generally good. Sweet potatoes and tomatoes continued to be harvested. Growth of fall and winter vegetables progressed normally with harvest of late tomatoes, Chinese vegetables, green onions, cauliflower and turnips active.

LIVESTOCK: Rangeland improved greatly, but more rain was needed at month's end to maintain growth.

## NOVEMBER

WEATHER: Rain again returned to Fresno County at midday on November 11, 1976. This ended a five and one-half week dry spell.

FIELD CROPS: Planting of barley and wheat continued as conditions permitted. Earlier plantings were up and mostly looked good. Rice harvest was completed by the end of the month with good yields reported. Grain sorghum harvest continued as conditions permitted with yield and quality mostly good, but with some fields reporting reduced yields. Cotton harvest was reported at 85 to 90% completed at mid-month. Second picking was near completion at month's end with shredding and discing quite active. A small volume of alfalfa was still being baled while some was green chopped or grazed in the field. Alfalfa seed processing was completed by mid-month. Digging of sugar beets continued in light volume with quality and yields good. Blackeye harvest neared completion with some yield reduction noted. Harvest of shell corn and silage corn remained active early in the month.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Dormant activities started for tree fruits with pruning, fertilizing, and herbicide applications progressing normally. Almond and walnut harvest was completed with some rain damage evident. Harvest of persimmons was completed in the second week with quality generally good throughout. Grape harvest was completed early in the month and movement of cold storage grapes was slow with quality fair. A newly developed auger tank method for reconditioning raisins was introduced and immediately accepted by packers. This and other innovative reconditioning methods are expected to increase the marketable tonnage of raisins to at least 100,000 tons, enough to meet anticipated domestic market demands. Picking of lemons started and continued throughout the month. Navel orange harvest started in the early varieties with sizes running on the small side, but with quality good to excellent. Problems of fruit spotting due to damp foggy weather were noted with picking delayed until afternoons in many groves in an effort to minimize the problem. Satsuma harvest continued with quality excellent. Olive harvest was completed by the end of the first week.

VEGETABLES: Head lettuce harvest was essentially complete with a small volume running at the end of the month with fair to good quality. Fresh tomato harvest neared completion by mid-month with quality mostly good. Field preparation for next year's crop active in all districts. Sweet potato harvest was 90% complete by the end of the month. Leaf lettuce, green onions, Swiss chard, spinach, collard greens, turnips and other fall and winter vegetables continued to be harvested in decreasing volume with good quality. Freezer cauliflower harvest continued.

LIVESTOCK: Range conditions were in decline at the beginning of the month, but showed slight improvement after the mid-month rains.

## DECEMBER

WEATHER: Dry weather returned to the county. Early mornings ranged from 26°F. to 32°F. with afternoon temperatures in the mid 60's. Air was very stagnant with pollution levels generally high. No rain was recorded until the end of the month. Lack of moisture caused water stress in many crops. A true drought situation prevailed.

FIELD CROPS: Planting of barley and wheat continued at a reduced rate. Growth of emerged grains was very slow due to the frosty nights and low soil moisture. Supplemental irrigation was active where water was available. Fields not receiving supplemental irrigation displayed definite signs of stress. Some herbicide applications were made for control of broadleaf weeds and wild oats. Cotton harvest neared completion. Shredding and disking of cotton stubble continued in all areas. Ginning of module and ricked cotton continued. Soil preparation for next season's crop was active. Some stands of alfalfa were grazed or green chopped. New plantings were made and some herbicides were applied. New plantings were irrigated. Digging and planting of sugar beets continued in light volume. Most field work was limited to soil preparation for 1977 crops.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Pruning and shredding of brush was very active. About 30% of the trees and 20% of the vines were completed. Dormant spray was delayed due to the dry condition of the trees. Contact and pre-emergent herbicides were applied. The effectiveness of pre-emergent herbicides was doubtful due to lack of moisture. Figs continued to be irrigated as water availability permitted. Movement of cold storage grapes slowed with quality fair to poor. Raisin reconditioning continued at both the grower and packer level. Picking of Navel oranges was very active; maturity was good to excellent. Near Christmas all packing houses started to reduce volume as supply channels were full. Mandarins and lemons continued to be packed with very good quality. The frosty nights were not low enough to adversely affect the citrus crop.

VEGETABLES: Activity continued in all phases. Lettuce continued to be planted with emerged fields being thinned. Harvesting of leaf lettuce, Swiss chard, endive, carrots, green onions, Napa cabbage, Chinese greens, hothouse cucumbers and freezer broccoli continued. Sweet potato packing neared completion. Other spring vegetables continued to be planted.

LIVESTOCK: Quality and quantity of rangeland feed continued to deteriorate. Supplemental feeding of cattle continued at a high level. Hauling of stock water was increasing. Grazing of sheep continued in established alfalfa. There was major concern over the dry trend.

## 1976 in Retrospect

Adverse weather was a significant factor affecting 1976 gross returns. A severe winter with temperatures as low as 24°F., combined with unseasonable summer and fall rains adversely affected many crops. An October estimate of rain-related loss was \$93,031,000. Harvest time labor disputes at processing facilities resulted in reduced harvested acreage of processing tomatoes and cling peaches with resultant loss to some growers. The over-all increase in gross value was due primarily to an increase in the unit price for major commodities, a significant increase in cotton acreage, and new methods of reconditioning rain damaged raisins which reduced the anticipated loss.

FIELD CROPS: Gross value of field crops was up. Wheat and rice acreage declined, but the decline was more than significantly offset by the increase in cotton acreage (28%) and cotton price (22%). Drought caused some individual losses.

SEED CROPS: Acreage and value were substantially unchanged despite the adverse weather effects on some crops.

VEGETABLE CROPS: Total acreage and gross value were down primarily due to a significant drop in harvested tomato acreage. Head lettuce production increased significantly due to drought induced acreage shift. Cantaloupe acreage declined to previous historical levels from the 1975 high. Harvest was extended due to a cool month of August. Dry onion acreage was up 100%; planted acreage was higher, but due to a sharp price decline not all fields were harvested.

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: Gross value was up despite severe weather losses in some commodities. Final figures reflect a 44% raisin crop loss. This loss was less than the anticipated 65% and primarily due to the development of the auger-tank reconditioning process. Over-all grape returns were up 28% due mainly to a 41% price increase and a 5% increase in bearing acreage. Almond returns were up significantly due to a 90% increase in yield reflecting the lack of the damaging frosts in 1976 spring fruit season. Value of other fruits and nuts was generally near 1975 figures.

NURSERY PRODUCTS: Nursery value increased 70% due to increased sales of Christmas trees and specimen plants.

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: The value was higher due to an increased production of broilers and fryers. Livestock and poultry products were up 10% due to increased value of market milk.

APIARY PRODUCTS AND POLLINATION SERVICES: 2.5% increase.

FRESNO COUNTY'S 10 LEADING CROPS

<u>Crop</u>	<u>1976 Rank</u>	<u>1976 Dollar Value</u>	<u>1975 Rank</u>	<u>1974 Rank</u>
COTTON	1	\$ 264,215,000	1	1
GRAPES	2	211,321,000	2	2
CATTLE & CALVES	3	81,372,000	4	3
DAIRY PRODUCTS	4	63,027,000	5	5
TOMATOES	5	61,701,000	3	4
POULTRY	6	56,370,000	6	6
CANTALOUPE	7	54,531,000	7	9
ALFALFA HAY	8	47,196,000	9	7
BARLEY	9	43,939,000	8	8
PLUMS	10	33,152,000	-	-

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Barley	1976	221,000	1.75	387,000	ton	\$108.00	\$ 41,796,000
	1975	217,000	1.62	352,000	ton	104.00	36,608,000
Beans, dry	1976	6,620	.84	5,560	ton	490.00	2,724,000
	1975	8,060	.88	7,090	ton	361.00	2,559,000
Corn	1976	19,700	2.18	42,900	ton	100.00	4,290,000
	1975	18,500	2.38	44,000	ton	112.00	4,928,000
Cotton Lint	1976	315,000	1087 <sup>a/</sup>	713,000 <sup>b/</sup>	bale	.65 <sup>c/</sup>	231,725,000
	1975	247,000	1100	566,000	bale	.53	143,990,000
Cotton Seed	1976			285,000	ton	114.00	32,490,000
	1975			230,000	ton	106.00	24,380,000
Hay							
Alfalfa <sup>d/</sup>	1976	90,000	6.90	621,000	ton	76.00	47,196,000
	1975	90,000	7.00	630,000	ton	59.00	37,170,000
Other	1976	10,200	1.76	18,000	ton	63.50	1,143,000
	1975	9,500	1.88	17,900	ton	63.00	1,128,000
Pasture and Range							
Alfalfa <sup>e/</sup> stubble	1976	80,000			acre	8.00	640,000
	1975	80,000			acre	7.50	600,000
Barley and Wheat stubble <sup>e/</sup>	1976	100,000			acre	3.50	350,000
	1975	124,000			acre	3.50	434,000
Cantaloupe <sup>e/</sup>	1976	9,000			acre	3.25	29,200
	1975	14,000			acre	3.00	42,000
Irrigated Pasture	1976	40,000			acre	100.00	4,000,000
	1975	40,000			acre	95.00	3,800,000
Native Range	1976	1,300,000			acre	4.00	5,200,000
	1975	1,300,000			acre	4.25	5,525,000
Rice	1976	13,100	2.66	34,800	ton	131.00	4,559,000
	1975	22,300	2.86	63,800	ton	170.00	10,846,000
Safflower	1976	5,500	1.35	7,420	ton	297.00	2,204,000
	1975	19,000	1.20	22,800	ton	263.00	5,996,000
Screenings	1976			1,670	ton	53.00	88,500
	1975			2,280	ton	45.00	103,000

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976 (continued)

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Silage							
Corn	1976	13,300	19.00	253,000	ton	\$ 14.00	\$ 3,542,000
	1975	12,500	19.00	238,000	ton	14.00	3,332,000
Sorghum	1976	2,350	18.00	42,300	ton	14.00	592,000
	1975	2,000	18.00	36,000	ton	14.00	504,000
Other	1976	2,400	15.50	37,200	ton	14.00	521,000
	1975	2,400	15.00	36,000	ton	14.00	504,000
Sorghum Grain	1976	14,150	1.86	26,300	ton	92.75	2,439,000
	1975	12,000	2.04	24,500	ton	100.00	2,450,000
Straw	1976			6,000	ton	25.00	150,000
	1975			6,800	ton	19.50	133,000
Sugar Beets	1976	30,300	33.10	1,003,000	ton	20.60	20,662,000
	1975	35,400	32.69	1,157,000	ton	29.85	34,536,000
Wheat	1976	53,000	2.19	116,000	ton	105.00	12,180,000
	1975	102,000	1.92	196,000	ton	107.00	20,972,000
Other <sup>f/</sup>	1976	<u>3,620</u>					<u>269,000</u>
Total	1976	2,140,000					\$418,790,000
	1975	2,138,000					340,540,000
	1956	2,874,476					151,385,953

a/ Pounds of lint per acre

b/ 480 pounds net weight bales

c/ Price per pound, 500 pound bales

d/ Includes bales, cubes and green chop

e/ Not included in total acreage figures

f/ Includes oats, rye and sunflowers, overripe tomatoes for livestock feed

SEED CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Alfalfa	1976	19,800	519	10,276,000	1b.	\$ .96	\$ 9,865,000
Certified <sup>a/</sup>	1975	26,400	548	14,467,000	1b.	.76	10,995,000
Alfalfa Non-Certified							
Public Varieties <sup>b/</sup>	1976	3,660	525	1,922,000	1b.	.85	1,634,000
	1975	2,490	530	1,320,000	1b.	.735	970,000
Proprietary Varieties	1976	10,880	540	5,875,000	1b.	.97	5,699,000
	1975	12,100	428	5,179,000	1b.	.86	4,454,000
Total All Alfalfa Seed	1976	34,340		18,073,000	1b.		17,198,000
	1975	41,000		20,966,000	1b.		16,419,000
Barley	1976	6,850	4,425	30,311,000	1b.	.06	1,819,000
Certified	1975	4,490	3,550	15,940,000	1b.	.09	1,435,000
Barley	1976	1,700	3,400	5,780,000	1b.	.056	324,000
Non-Certified	1975	1,080	3,540	3,823,000	1b.	.053	203,000
Cotton <sup>c/</sup>	1976	8,300		9,706,000	1b.	.060	723,000 <sup>d/</sup>
	1975	13,600		17,504,000	1b.	.058	1,246,000
Vegetable <sup>e/</sup>	1976	1,210					1,125,000
	1975	1,430					1,357,000
Other <sup>f/</sup>	1976	5,320					1,024,000
	1975	<u>4,560</u>					<u>1,558,000</u>
Total	1976	49,400					\$22,213,000
	1975	52,600					22,218,000
	1956	58,757					10,523,879

<sup>a/</sup> Includes public, proprietary and export varieties

<sup>b/</sup> Includes non-certified export varieties

<sup>c/</sup> Not included in total acreage for "Seed Crops"

<sup>d/</sup> Includes acreage approved @ \$17 per acre

<sup>e/</sup> Beets, carrots, cauliflower, endive, lettuce, onion, parsley, peppers, okra and tomatoes

<sup>f/</sup> Certified and non-certified beans, certified and non-certified blackeye cowpeas, non-certified brome grass, non-certified flax, certified and non-certified oats, certified and non-certified rice, certified and non-certified safflower, certified soybeans, certified and non-certified wheat.

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Beans Snap fresh	1976	530	4.2	2,230	ton	\$ 396	\$ 883,000
	1975	400	4.5	1,800	ton	440	792,000
Chinese Vegetables	1976	265	19.0	5,040	ton	110	554,000
	1975	310	20.0	6,200	ton	118	732,000
Corn Sweet fresh	1976	300	3.4	1,020	ton	137	140,000
	1975	250	4.1	1,020	ton	189	193,000
Cucumbers	1976	375	12.6	4,720	ton	192	906,000
	1975	400	12.8	5,120	ton	222	1,137,000
Eggplant	1976	200	11.6	2,320	ton	258	599,000
	1975	200	12.0	2,400	ton	264	634,000
Lettuce	1976	10,200	11.4	116,000	ton	188	21,808,000
	1975	7,700	11.4	87,800	ton	128	11,238,000
Melons							
Cantaloupes	1976	18,900	13.2	249,000	ton	219	54,531,000
	1975	28,200	8.5	240,000	ton	166	39,840,000
Casaba	1976	196	6.4	1,250	ton	168	210,000
	1975	164	5.5	900	ton	96	86,400
Cranshaw	1976	365	7.7	2,810	ton	252	708,000
	1975	315	6.0	1,890	ton	198	374,000
Watermelons	1976	810	9.4	7,610	ton	81	616,000
	1975	780	8.8	6,860	ton	67	460,000
Onions							
Dry	1976	1,200	16.0	19,200	ton	79	1,517,000
	1975	600	17.2	10,300	ton	234	2,410,000
Green	1976	350	18.0	6,300	ton	267	1,682,000
	1975	350	18.0	6,300	ton	377	2,375,000
Peppers							
Bell	1976	300	8.8	2,640	ton	225	594,000
	1975	500	8.8	4,400	ton	232	1,021,000
Chili Fresh	1976	330	6.8	2,240	ton	360	806,000
	1975	235	3.0 <sup>a</sup> /	705	ton	530	374,000

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976 (continued)

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Per	Total
			Per acre	Total		unit	
Radishes	1976	400	5.7	2,280	ton	\$ 192	\$ 438,000
	1975	800	6.0	4,800	ton	200	960,000
Romaine	1976	275	6.0	1,650	ton	176	290,000
	1975	250	6.0	1,500	ton	171	256,000
Squash							
Summer	1976	350	7.2	2,520	ton	305	769,000
	1975	400	7.4	2,960	ton	285	844,000
Winter	1976	200	10.0	2,000	ton	190	380,000
	1975	150	9.5	1,420	ton	160	227,000
Sweet Potatoes	1976	650	9.0	5,850	ton	238	1,392,000
	1975	620	8.0	4,960	ton	200	992,000
Tomatoes							
Fresh							
Cherry	1976	440	11.2	4,930	ton	400	1,972,000
	1975	300	11.0	3,300	ton	532	1,756,000
Regular	1976	2,540	13.0	33,000	ton	365	12,045,000
	1975	2,230	13.2	29,400	ton	312	9,173,000
Processed	1976	38,700	26.0	1,006,000	ton	47.4	47,684,000
	1975	61,400	26.4	1,621,000	ton	55.6	90,128,000
Turnips	1976	100	15.2	1,520	ton	202	307,000
	1975	150	15.0	2,250	ton	168	378,000
Other Vegetables <sup>b/</sup>	1976	17,700					19,273,000
	1975	14,800					15,884,000
Total	1976	95,700					\$170,104,000
	1975	122,000					182,264,000
	1956	26,283					17,834,122

a/ Includes fresh and dried

b/ Includes asparagus, beets, broccoli, cantaloupes (frozen), carrots, cauliflower (frozen), chili peppers (processed), cucumbers (hothouse grown), garlic, honeyball and honeydew melons, lima beans (processed), loose lettuce, shredding lettuce, mustard greens, onions (processed), parsnips, peas, potatoes, snap beans (processed), spinach (processed), sweet potatoes (cannery), Swiss chard, tomatoes (hothouse grown), Persian melons, watermelon (frozen), cabbage

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Almonds	1976	14,143	1.04	14,700	ton	\$ 720	\$ 10,584,000
	1975	13,867	.58	8,040	ton	725	5,829,000
Apricots	1976	217	6.55	1,420	ton	204	290,000
	1975	228	5.00	1,140	ton	312	356,000
Boysenberries Processed	1976	156	4.24	661	ton	500	330,000
	1975	115	4.56	520	ton	419	218,000
Figs Dried	1976	9,772	.47	4,590	ton	1,150	5,278,000
	1975	9,890	.49	4,850	ton	770	3,734,000
Grapes	1976	178,689	8.78				
	1975	170,213	8.71				
Raisin Varieties	1976	143,850					
	1975	143,300					
Canned	1976			12,200	ton	135	1,647,000
	1975			11,500	ton	120	1,380,000
Crushed	1976			513,000 <sup>a/</sup>	ton	79	40,527,000
	1975			360,000	ton	60	21,600,000
Dried	1976			116,000	ton <sup>b/</sup>	1,048	121,568,000
	1975			189,000	ton	531	100,359,000
Fresh	1976			38,000	ton	354	13,452,000
	1975			43,400	ton	348	15,103,000
Table Varieties	1976	6,900					
	1975	7,013					
Crushed	1976			33,500	ton	81	2,714,000
	1975			34,200	ton	55	1,881,000
Fresh	1976			16,000	ton	457	7,312,000
	1975			24,000	ton	370	8,880,000
Wine Varieties	1976	27,939					
	1975	19,900					
Crushed	1976			209,000	ton	99	20,691,000
	1975			156,000	ton	84	13,104,000
Fresh	1976			11,000	ton	310	3,410,000
	1975			12,500	ton	246	3,075,000

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976 (continued)

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Per unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Lemons	1976	790	10.45				
	1975	614	9.30				
Fresh	1976			5,530	ton	\$ 291	\$ 1,609,000
	1975			3,810	ton	271	1,033,000
Processed	1976			2,700	ton	20	54,000
	1975			1,900	ton	20	38,000
Nectarines	1976	6,682	7.90	52,800	ton	386	20,381,000
	1975	6,177	7.43	45,900	ton	441	20,242,000
Olives	1976	1,571	1.45	2,280	ton	301	686,000
	1975	1,285	2.50	3,210	ton	331	1,063,000
Oranges	1976	19,475					
	1975	19,328					
Navel	1976	15,948	9.12				
	1975	15,801	9.02				
Fresh	1976			116,400	ton	173	20,137,000
	1975			88,400	ton	208	18,387,000
Processed	1976			29,100	ton	6	175,000
	1975			54,100	ton	6	325,000
Valencia	1976	3,462	9.98				
	1975	3,448	9.48				
Fresh	1976			25,600	ton	180	4,608,000
	1975			19,900	ton	191	3,801,000
Processed	1976			9,000	ton	14	126,000
	1975			12,800	ton	14	179,000
Miscellaneous	1976	65	10.75	699	ton	150	105,000
	1975	79	10.00	790	ton	158	125,000
Peaches	1976	9,652					
	1975	10,195					
Clingstone	1976	2,188	10.19				
	1975	2,221	12.34				
Processed	1976			23,800	ton	115	2,737,000
	1975			27,400	ton	131	3,589,000

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976 (continued)

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Per Unit	Unit	Total
			Per acre	Total			
Peaches (continued)							
Freestone	1976	7,464	9.26				
	1975	7,974	8.45				
Fresh	1976			55,000	ton	\$ 327	\$ 17,985,000
	1975			51,800	ton	371	19,218,000
Processed	1976			16,400	ton	100	1,640,000
	1975			15,600	ton	100	1,560,000
Persimmons	1976	65	4.65	300	ton	570	171,000
	1975	65	4.65	300	ton	681	204,000
Plums	1976	9,026	6.20	56,000	ton	592	33,152,000
	1975	8,609	7.33	63,100	ton	456	28,774,000
Pomegranates	1976	747	5.34	3,990	ton	465	1,855,000
	1975	596	4.09	2,440	ton	455	1,110,000
Strawberries	1976	167	13.00	2,170	ton	636	1,380,000
	1975	183	12.19	2,230	ton	575	1,282,000
Walnuts	1976	4,177	1.00	4,177	ton	600	2,506,000
	1975	4,121	1.17	4,820	ton	450	2,169,000
Miscellaneous <sup>c/</sup>	1976	2,245					3,299,000
	1975	<u>1,608</u>					<u>3,700,000</u>
Total	1976	257,574					\$340,409,000
	1975	247,094					282,320,000
	1956	181,196					93,341,117

a/ Includes rain damaged raisins used for distilling (91,500 tons @ \$55/ton), and reflects increased cullage of table grapes.

b/ Dry tons

c/ Includes almond hulls, apples, dried apricots, processed apricots, avocados, fresh boysenberries, cherries, fresh figs, substandard figs, grapefruit, dried nectarines, processed olallieberries, dried peaches, kiwis, olives (oil), fresh and dried pears, pecans, pistachio nuts, processed plums, prunes, quince, tangelos, tangerines.

NURSERY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AREA, SALES AND VALUE - 1976

Item	Year	Production Area Acres	Quantity Sold by Producers	Unit	Value
Herbaceous Ornamentals <sup>a/</sup>	1976	15	1,103,000	<u>b/</u>	\$ 379,000
	1975	6	1,083,000		211,000
Ornamental Trees and Shrubs <sup>c/</sup>	1976	156	555,000	plants	1,562,000
	1975	78	342,000		347,000
Flower Seeds	1976	347	69,400	lbs.	160,000
	1975	250	60,000		150,000
Nursery Other than Ornamentals	1976	23	16,995,000	plants	623,000
	1975	15	44,870,000		<u>884,000</u>
Total	1976	541			\$2,724,000
	1975	349			1,592,000
	1956	N/A			231,025

<sup>a/</sup> Includes cut flowers and cut greens, bedding plants and herbaceous perennials

<sup>b/</sup> Includes flats, dozens, cans and single plants

<sup>c/</sup> Includes Christmas trees

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Unit	Total
		No.of Head	Total Liveweight			
Cattle and Calves						
Beef						
Breeding Stock						
Common	1976	3,760		head	\$ 370.00	\$ 1,391,000
	1975	4,250		head	325.00	1,381,000
Registered	1976	425		head	500.00	212,000
	1975	475		head	500.00	238,000
Feeders	1976	90,000	171,000	cwt.	37.10	6,344,000
	1975	82,000	156,000	cwt.	31.25	4,875,000
Calves	1976	24,900	118,000	cwt.	31.70	3,741,000
	1975	36,000	162,000	cwt.	24.33	3,941,000
Slaughter Stock						
From Feed Lots	1976	383,000	1,455,000 <sup>a/</sup>	cwt.	38.37	55,828,000
	1975	368,000	1,398,000	cwt.	41.06	57,402,000
From Other Sources	1976	14,000	140,000	cwt.	27.00	3,780,000
	1975	12,000	120,000	cwt.	37.00	4,440,000
Dairy						
Breeding Stock	1976	8,650		head	571.00	4,939,000
	1975	8,300		head	445.00	3,694,000
Cull Stock	1976	10,200	122,000	cwt.	21.90	2,672,000
	1975	13,000	156,000	cwt.	17.86	2,786,000
Calves	1976	31,300	78,250	cwt.	31.50	2,465,000
	1975	31,700	79,200	cwt.	28.00	2,218,000
Sheep and Lambs						
Slaughter Stock						
Lambs	1976	45,700	36,600	cwt.	47.50	1,738,000
	1975	38,000	30,400	cwt.	42.94	1,305,000
Sheep	1976	1,750	2,450	cwt.	12.60	30,900
	1975	5,100	7,140	cwt.	10.78	77,000

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976 (continued)

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Unit	Total
		No.of Head	Total Liveweight			
Hogs and Pigs						
Breeding Stock	1976	210		head	\$ 130.00	\$ 27,300
	1975	150		head	125.00	19,000
Feeder Pigs and Slaughter Stock	1976	13,150	28,300	cwt.	47.50	1,344,000
	1975	11,810	26,000	cwt.	45.76	1,190,000
Horses and Mules						
Recreational Stock	1976	825		head	300.00	248,000
	1975	750		head	300.00	225,000
Poultry						
Broilers and Fryers	1976	16,325,000	69,381,000	lb.	.285	19,774,000
	1975	11,172,000	50,274,000	lb.	.280	14,077,000
Other Chickens	1976	17,191,000 <sup>b/</sup>		lb.		5,057,000
	1975	326,000 <sup>c/</sup>		lb.		120,000
Turkeys	1976	3,779,000	75,580,000	lb.	.300	22,674,000
	1975	3,532,000	70,632,000	lb.	.320	22,602,000
Turkey Poults	1976	11,528,000		each	.769	8,865,000
	1975	9,723,000		each	.766	7,448,000
Miscellaneous <sup>d/</sup>	1976					851,000
	1975					<u>3,012,000</u>
Total	1976					\$141,981,000
	1975					131,050,000
	1956					35,317,736

a/ Net feed lot gain

b/ Includes chicks, pullets and old hens

c/ Old hens

d/ Includes chuckars, ducks, pheasants, pigeons, rabbits, and goats

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Crop	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Milk					
Manufacturing	1976	137,000	cwt.	\$ 8.33	\$ 1,141,000
	1975	186,000	cwt.	7.33	1,363,000
Market	1976	6,861,000	cwt.	9.02	61,886,000
	1975	6,247,000	cwt.	8.63	53,912,000
Wool	1976	718,000	lb.	.66	474,000
	1975	700,000	lb.	.55	385,000
Eggs					
Chicken Hatching	1976	1,762,000	dozen	.89	1,568,000
	1975	2,140,000	dozen	.95	2,033,000
Market	1976	9,145,000	dozen	.575	5,258,000
	1975	9,496,000	dozen	.484	4,596,000
Turkey Hatching	1976	4,704,000	each	.35	1,646,000
	1975	4,404,000	each	.35	1,541,000
Total	1976				\$71,973,000
	1975				63,830,000
	1956				20,717,278

JANUARY 1 INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY (In Number of Head)

<u>Item</u>	<u>January 1, 1977</u>	<u>January 1, 1976</u>
Cattle and Calves		
All	355,000	339,000
Milk Cows 2 years and over	58,000	48,000
Cattle and Calves on feed	137,400	172,900
Stock Sheep and Lambs	90,000	87,800
Goats	600	525
Hogs and Pigs	8,300	6,000
Horses	15,900	15,500
Hens and Pullets of laying age	400,000	418,600
Turkey and Breeder Hens	78,400	73,400

APIARY PRODUCTS AND POLLINATION SERVICES: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Item	Year	Production Total	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Apiary Products <sup>a/</sup>					
Honey	1976	739,800	lb.	\$ .41	\$ 303,000
	1975	951,000	lb.	.39	371,000
Beeswax	1976	12,300	lb.	1.36	16,700
	1975	15,800	lb.	1.25	19,800
Pollination <sup>b/</sup>					
Seed Crops					
Alfalfa	1976	111,700	colony	10.60	1,184,000
	1975	126,000	colony	11.00	1,386,000
Other <sup>c/</sup>	1976	6,450	colony	9.70	62,600
	1975	3,040	colony	10.00	30,400
Tree Fruit <sup>d/</sup>	1976	70,800	colony	11.00	779,000
	1975	31,200	colony	10.00	312,000
Cantaloupes	1976	25,100	colony	10.40	261,000
	1975	42,300	colony	10.00	423,000
Total	1976				\$2,606,000
	1975				2,542,000*

a/ Reflects only the bees registered in Fresno County by commercial and semi-commercial beekeepers: 1976 - 28,773 colonies; 1975 - 35,797 colonies.

b/ Reflects value of pollination by all bee colonies located in Fresno County for pollination services during 1976. Estimated total colonies: 129,750.

c/ Cucumbers, onion seed, carrot seed, vegetable seed and other truck crops.

d/ Almonds, cherries, peaches and plums.

\* Revised

APIARY PRODUCTS PRODUCED BY NON-RESIDENT COLONIES<sup>a/</sup>: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1976

Item	Year	Production Total	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Honey	1976	2,596,000	lb.	\$ .41	\$ 1,064,000
	1975	3,422,000	lb.	.39	1,335,000
Beeswax	1976	43,300	lb.	1.36	58,900
	1975	57,100	lb.	1.25	71,400
Total	1976				1,123,000
	1975				1,406,000

a/ Shown for interest only. Not included in Crop Report values.

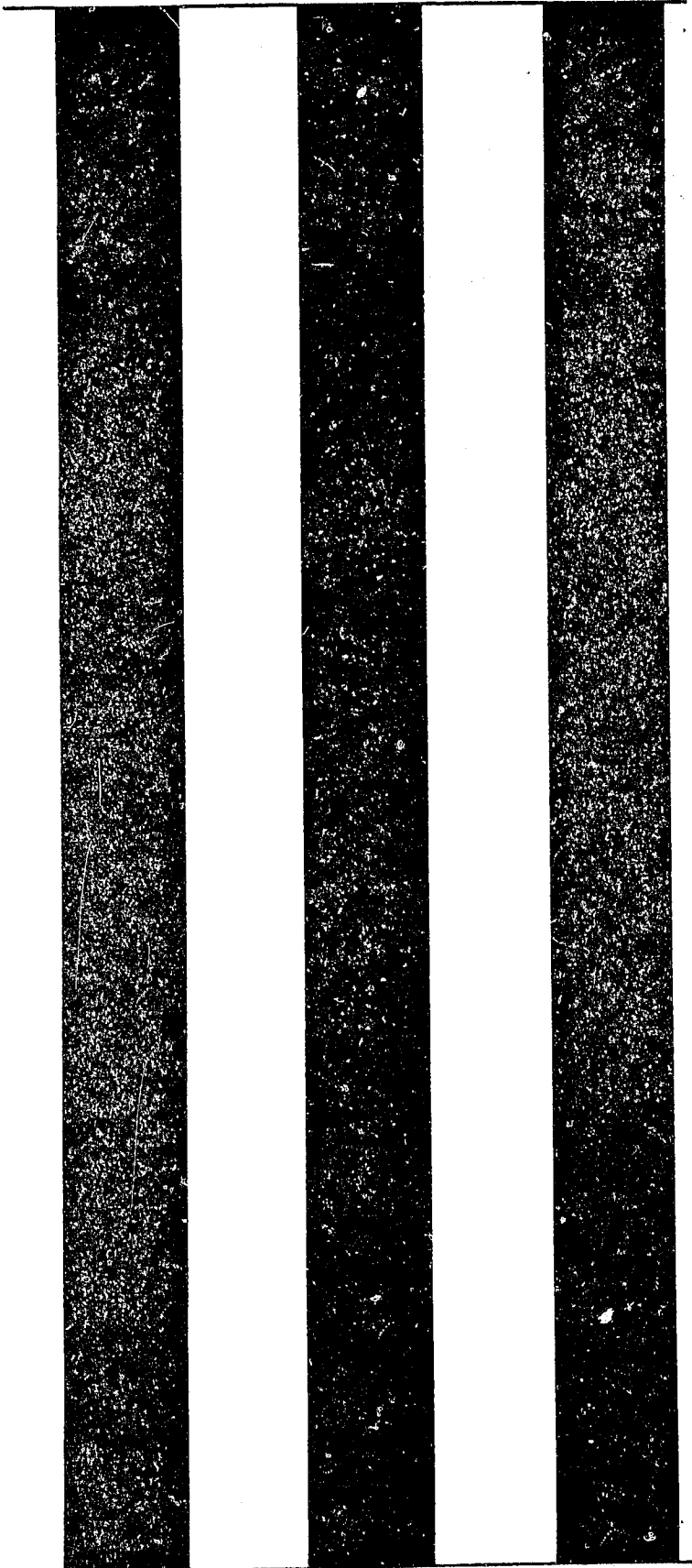
Growth of Fresno County Agriculture as Indicated by Gross Value  
of Agricultural Products Over a Span of Twenty-One Years

1956 - \$330,946,961\*  
1957 - 359,569,750  
1958 - 370,997,930  
1959 - 390,211,120  
1960 - 388,802,520  
1961 - 385,091,740  
1962 - 413,572,210  
1963 - 423,206,000  
1964 - 443,088,000  
1965 - 438,253,000  
1966 - \$452,926,000  
1967 - 438,753,000\*  
1968 - 462,659,000  
1969 - 458,014,000  
1970 - 474,706,000\*  
1971 - 507,930,000  
1972 - 559,307,000\*  
1973 - 828,682,000\*  
1974 - 967,350,000  
1975 - 1,026,356,000\*  
1976 - 1,170,800,000

SIX YEAR COMPARISON STUDY OF GROSS CROP VALUES IN FRESNO COUNTY

	1956	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Field Crops	\$151,385,953	\$173,727,000	\$248,562,000	\$347,460,000	\$340,540,000	\$418,790,000
Seed Crops	10,523,879	13,214,000	15,708,000*	27,116,000	22,218,000	22,213,000
Vegetable Crops	17,834,122	59,725,000	73,012,000	129,778,000	182,264,000	170,104,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	94,275,759	193,032,000	326,235,000	294,634,000	282,320,000	340,409,000
Nursery Products	231,025	1,181,000	2,245,000	1,394,000	1,592,000	2,724,000
Livestock and Poultry	56,035,014	117,620,000	161,747,000	165,814,000	194,880,000	213,954,000
Apiary	661,209	808,000	1,173,000	1,154,000	2,542,000*	2,606,000
Grand Total	\$330,946,961*	\$559,307,000*	\$828,682,000*	\$967,350,000	\$1,026,356,000*	\$1,170,800,000

\*Revised



1977



# Fresno County

## Agricultural Crop Report

# 1977

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
DAVIS

MAY 08 1978

GOV'T. DOCS. - LIBRARY

# county of fresno



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Thomas E. Corn

Agricultural Commissioner

Ronald Atmajian

Assistant Agricultural Commissioner

Richard E. Rominger, Director  
California Department of Food and Agriculture

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Fresno

John R. Donaldson, Chairman  
John Ventura      Bruce Bronzan  
Sharon Levy      Willard H. "Bill" Johnson  
Melvyrn G. Wingett  
County Administrative Officer

In compliance with the Agricultural Code, Section 2279, I am submitting the 30th consecutive annual crop report by this office showing the acreage, production and value of agricultural crops and products produced in Fresno County. The values shown in this report represent gross figures and not net income to growers.

Despite severe drought conditions affecting agricultural production and gross returns, the value of agricultural crops and products totaled \$1,096,071,000 a decrease of only 7% from the previous year.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the staff under the direction of Conrad Schilling, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner, and L. V. Hawley, Senior Agricultural Inspector, for the many hours spent compiling this report.

We are grateful to and appreciative of the information furnished us by the many producers, Extension Service personnel, California Department of Food and Agriculture, grower associations, food processors, beekeepers, packing house managers, and other individuals and agencies. Each person played an important role in finalizing this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Corn  
Agricultural Commissioner

## 1977 CROP REPORT OVERVIEW

### JANUARY

**WEATHER:** Serious drought conditions prevailed throughout the month. Surface water remained at critically low levels. Precipitation between January 1 and January 7 brought .68 inch of rain giving short relief to some crops. Snowpack was recorded at 25% of normal. Limited recharge of ground water and substantial curtailment of surface water was the forecast for the 1977 cropping year. The weather was mostly cold and foggy with an increasing pollutant level.

**FIELD CROPS:** The rain early in the month improved growing conditions for Barley and Wheat. Germination of the newly planted fields was slow due to the cold temperatures. By the end of the month, the small grains began to show need for more rain. Growth was slow due to the cold, foggy weather. The Cotton harvest was completed as the month commenced and the cotton plowdown was 98% complete by the month's end. Growth in newly planted Alfalfa fields was slowed but remained in good condition. Established fields were mostly dormant. Harvesting of Sugar Beets was inactive throughout the month due to wet field conditions.

**FRUITS AND NUTS:** Pruning of Trees was 75% complete by the end of the month. Dormant spraying reached its peak by mid-month and continued for the balance of the month. Pruning in Vineyards was 55% complete by the month's end. Pruning, shredding of brush, wrapping and tying were active throughout the month. Movement of stored Grapes was very slow with quality generally good. Figs were shaped and thinned throughout the month with irrigation commencing toward the end of the month. Picking and packing of Navel Oranges continued with reduced volume and very good quality throughout the month.

**VEGETABLES:** Harvesting of winter vegetables on the Eastside continued throughout the month as field conditions permitted. Green Onions, Chinese Vegetables, Cauliflower, some Leaf Lettuce, Radishes, Swiss Chard, Endive, Mustard Greens and Turnips were among those packed. Westside spring Lettuce plantings were reported in good condition; growth was slow due to low temperatures.

**LIVESTOCK:** Rangeland conditions were critically stressed for most of the month. Notwithstanding the slight relief brought by the rain in the early part of the month, supplemental feeding was active and generally required.

### FEBRUARY

**WEATHER:** Cold at the beginning of the month with fog and overcast days. Warming toward the end of the month; temperatures into the 70's with higher than usual pollutant levels. Extreme apprehension over the continued drought. Reservoirs were at about 30% capacity. Westside irrigation districts reported approximately 19% of last year's surface water available. No rain. Frost reported in some citrus areas.

FIELD CROPS: Dry-land Barley and Wheat were in very poor condition with severely stunted growth and chlorosis evident. Some curtailment of irrigation in barley and wheat as growers reserved water allocations for future needs. Where irrigation water was available, barley and wheat were in excellent condition. Newly planted Alfalfa grew well; some in emergent stage by mid-month with planting continuing active throughout the month. Seed Alfalfa was being sheeped off. Westside growers were very concerned about possible forced abandonment of fields due to lack of water. Sugar Beets looked poor due to drought stress. Planting was curtailed and some planned fields were left fallow. Field work was active in future Cotton fields; preirrigation, cultivation, and fertilizer and herbicide applications were in progress.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Dormant spraying in Stone Fruit peaked at the beginning of the month and neared completion by the end of the month. Deciduous Tree Fruit pruning was active during the month. It was essentially complete by the end of the month. Pruning was active in Vines as tying, irrigation and cultivation continued. Figs and Almonds were being irrigated as growers tried for deep penetration in anticipation of reduced seasonal water availability. Growers with wells were very apprehensive about the above-normal underground water draw. Tree planting and grafting in Peach and Plum orchards occurred. By the end of the month, the Almonds were in bloom with bees on location. Bee flights were difficult and erratic due to windy weather. Westside almond growers were speculating on possible forced abandonment of orchards due to lack of water. Citrus growers on the Eastside were also apprehensive; well drillers were working to capacity. Navels were packed all month with good quality. First feather growth on trees was observed by the second week of the month and was more evident by the month's end. Lemons and Tangelos were packed in good volume with good quality. Frost damage was mostly incidental.

VEGETABLES: Lettuce grew well with active weeding and thinning occurring. Fresh market and processing Tomatoes were planted; an over all acreage reduction was anticipated due to the drought. Preplant soil preparations continued. Freezer Spinach did well, responding to the warmer weather at the end of the month. Green Peas were doing well. Seed Onions were being hand weeded and Field Onions cultivated in the Clovis District. By the end of the month freezer Broccoli was looking good. Harvesting and packing of Chinese Vegetables, Green Onions, Red Lettuce, Turnip Greens, Radishes, Napa and Endive continued.

LIVESTOCK: Rangeland grasses were headed out by the end of the month. Range was in very poor condition; grazing was impossible in some cases. Severe financial losses, forced thinning, and increased supplemental feeding were reported.

### MARCH

WEATHER: During the first week, nighttime temperatures ranged from 28°F. to 30°F. for a duration of two to three hours. A warming trend was evident by the end of the month. Daytime temperatures ranged from 70°F. to 80°F. with soil temperatures in the mid-50's. Rain showers in the last half of the month brought minimal relief to the drought stricken County. High winds were reported throughout most of the month.

FIELD CROPS: Irrigated Wheat and Barley made good progress throughout the month. The situation remained critical for growers dependent on rain. Applications of 2,4-D continued as wind permitted. Some premature heading out was reported. Cotton planting commenced by the end of the month with many growers using the skip row technique. Alfalfa growth was slow due to the low morning temperatures and was suffering from extensive problems from aphids and weevils. Control measures were used where bee activity allowed. Sugar Beet harvest continued in light volume. Some earlier plantings began to emerge by mid-month. Some young beets were plowed under as a water allocation measure. The Safflower fields benefited from the rains and had emerged by the end of the month. Growth was good.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Vines progressed well throughout the month with some leafout by the end of the month. Pesticide applications for cut worms were active during most of the month. The Almond bloom was complete by month's end. Peaches continued to bloom. Nectarine bloom was essentially complete by the end of the month. No damage to stone fruit from the high winds was reported. Figs began to leaf out about mid-month. Packing of Navel Oranges for domestic channels continued. The export market was noted as active. Granulation was a problem with the larger sized Navels. Packing of Lemons and Minneolas continued throughout the month.

VEGETABLES: Eastside vegetable activity continued with harvesting and packing of Radishes, Green Onions, Turnips, Collard Greens, Parsley and Chinese Vegetables. Hot cap planting remained active throughout the month. Sanger river bottom freezer Cauliflower was in full swing by the end of the month. Freezer Spinach was progressing normally. Westside vegetable activity continued with harvesting of freezer Broccoli and Spinach. Some fresh pack Tomatoes were emerging by mid-month. Plantings for processing Tomatoes continued.

LIVESTOCK: Rangeland remained under critical stress. End of the month rains provided considerable relief, but continued improvement of rangelands was noted as dependent on future rains.

#### APRIL

WEATHER: Continued fair in Fresno County throughout the month. A general warming trend prevailed with temperatures ranging from a low of 42°F. to a high of 91°F. No precipitation was recorded.

FIELD CROPS: Dry-land Barley and Wheat did poorly all month, showing drought stress which was worsened by gusty winds. Some fields had been abandoned by the end of the month. Others were sheeped off or cut for hay where there was sufficient growth to salvage. Where growers had sufficient water, irrigated Small Grains did well. Heads were long and heavy by the end of the month. Oats were harvested for hay and green chop; quality was generally good. Alfalfa Hay was being cut. Toward the end of the month there were reports of lack of dew causing excessive drying. Some Seed Alfalfa was sheeped off. Irrigation occurred as necessary. Cotton preirrigation, bed preparation and planting continued throughout the month. Stands generally looked good; growers were striving for maximum use of available irrigation water. The current season's Sugar Beets had emerged and were being thinned, irrigated, and weeded. Last season's crop continued to be harvested. Rice fields were

bordered and flooded; fertilizer was applied by aircraft. Safflower did well all month. By the end of the month, head formation had begun in the Firebaugh District. Corn emerged by mid-month. Field Peas were up and grew well all month. Insect damage was a problem throughout the county as higher than usual numbers of aphids and weevils were reported.

FRUITS AND NUTS: High activity in Vineyards all month. Treatment for cutworms continued as buds pushed rapidly. Leafing out had just begun in the lighter soils at the beginning of the month; all vineyards leafed out by month's end. Cover crops were being disced under at mid-month. As the month progressed, sulfur-ing for mildew control occurred along with vine suckering, irrigation, gibberellin applications, and other routine cultural practices. At the end of the month, the Thompson Seedless bunch count averaged 29.4. Bunch sizes were reported large. Considerable sleeper or delayed growth was noted; growers also reported an abnormal amount of dead arm condition. Some of this may have been due to the dry winter. At the beginning of the month, late varieties of Plums were still being pruned. Routine irrigation of Stone Fruit occurred throughout the month. There was considerable spraying for thrips control in Nectarines at the beginning of the month; operations finished by mid-month. Thinning was started for all Stone Fruit; growers reported good fruit set except for some orchards of early Plums. Some pesticide applications for twig borer control occurred. Pears finished blooming by mid-month. Almond irrigation continued throughout the month. Fig orchards were disced and rolled throughout the month; smoothing the soil followed irrigation. Catkins appeared in Walnuts. Olives and Avocados progressed well. Navel Orange harvest and packing continued. Cullage became increasingly heavy due to granulation and drying. The warm weather appeared to be hastening the drying condition of the fruit. Citrus bloom was estimated at 60 to 100% by the end of the month, depending on the variety and location of the grove. At the end of the month, Valencia harvest was estimated at about 2-3 weeks away. Some pesticide applications for thrips, mites and worm control. Efforts continued to assure adequate water for citrus; well drillers continued to work at capacity. Lemons showed freeze damage at the beginning of the month, especially in the smaller sizes. Export demand for citrus was strong.

VEGETABLES AND BERRIES: Westside Head Lettuce continued to be harvested all month. Quality was excellent at the beginning of the month, but started to deteriorate by the end of the month as warm weather and drying winds stressed the lettuce. Asparagus harvest continued in both the Selma and Firebaugh Districts. Volume was reduced by the end of the month due to warm weather which caused problems with spreading. Westside Freezer Peas harvest peaked this month and neared completion by the month's end. Over-all quality was excellent. There was still some planting of Tomatoes at the beginning of the month. All Tomatoes had emerged by the end of the month. Warm weather encouraged rapid growth in young tomatoes; routine cultural practices continued. Hothouse Tomatoes progressed well. Hothouse Cucumbers were harvested all month. Hot caps were removed from Squash at the beginning of the month. Cantaloupe planting was started this month. Sweet Potato hot beds greened up; slips were almost ready to transplant by the end of the month. Eastside Freezer Spinach was harvested throughout the month. Green Onions, Radishes, Cauliflower, Romaine, Red Lettuce, Butter Lettuce, Endive, Italian Squash and Summer Squash were also being picked and packed on the Eastside. Garlic and Onions continued to make good progress with some pesticide applications as necessary. The Strawberry harvest began this month, peaking toward the end of the month. Quality was excellent. Boysenberries began blooming toward the end of the month.

RANGELAND AND LIVESTOCK: By the end of the month, foothill grazing was essentially depleted. Supplemental feeding was required throughout the industry.

More reports of wells going dry. Water table continued to drop at an increasing rate. Well drillers worked to capacity. There was considerable apprehension on the Eastside over possible future loss of orchards.

## MAY

WEATHER: Fresno County received 1.0 inch of rain during the month of May, bringing the seasonal total to 7.40 inches. Seasonal average is 10.08 inches. Temperatures dropped with the storm, but rose again by the end of the month.

FIELD CROPS: Barley harvest had started on the Westside by the end of the month. Wheat continued to mature slowly with considerable acreage still in the soft dough stage. Dry-land Grain was still being baled for hay in those cases where it would not make a seed crop; most had been baled by the end of the month. Oat Hay was being cut and baled, harvest peaked at the end of the month. Cotton continued to grow with growth slowed by cool weather; normal pest control operations continued. Harvest of previous season's Sugar Beets continued in reduced volume. Young sugar beets grew well with normal cultural activities; some growers experienced problems with leaf hoppers. Safflower continued to mature. Seed Alfalfa fields progressed normally with bee pollination activity starting this month. Sweet Potatoes were being transplanted from hot beds to fields this month.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Routine Vineyard cultural operations in progress with continued sulfuring and irrigation. The final weighted bunch count for Thompson Seedless was determined to be 31.4 bunches per vine. Routine cultural activities for Stone Fruit continued during the month. Fruit continued to size well. The early stone fruit harvest began as the month closed. Springgold, Armgold, Springcrest, Springtime, Royalgold Peaches were packed. Normal cultivation of Almonds, Pecans and Walnuts continued. Almonds sized well. Olives were blooming this month. Navel Orange harvest completed this month as Valencia Orange harvest began; Valencia quality good. Kiwi Fruit were in bloom at the beginning of the month.

VEGETABLES AND BERRIES: Strawberry harvest peaked and was completed this month. Bushberries nearing harvest at month's end; quality appeared good. Asparagus harvest was completed by the end of the month, as was Freezer Pea harvest. Westside Head Lettuce ended at the beginning of the month. Many fields were not fully harvested due to problems with tipburn and slime. Some fields were sheeped off prior to discing under. Processing and Fresh-Pack Tomato growers were concerned about high levels of leaf hoppers that had already caused extensive plant damage at mid-month. By the month's end there were marked symptoms of curly top virus evident in some fields. There were continued reports of forced irrigation water curtailment in some fields and resultant abandoned portions. Cantaloupe planting was complete at the beginning of the month. Blackeye Beans were up and showing good stands. Bush Beans were growing rapidly. Summer Vegetables in general grew well as temperatures warmed. On the Eastside Zucchini, Yellow Squash, Summer Squash, Green

Onions, Freezer Spinach, Chinese Peas, Butter, Red and Romaine Lettuce, Radishes and Carrots were harvested during the month. Hothouse Cucumbers and Tomatoes were harvested in Reedley this month. Red and White Dry Onions were also harvested on the Eastside in good volume.

LIVESTOCK AND RANGE: Rain came too late to be of any real benefit to rangeland. Supplemental feeding continued. Water supplies in some areas helped a little by the rain.

## JUNE

WEATHER: Temperatures ranged from a nighttime low of 55°F. to a high of 106°F. during the day. Warm temperatures and the normal seasonal progression of crops resulted in more frequent irrigation demands. Light, scattered showers toward the middle of the month were insufficient to ease the drought stress and the accelerating overdraft situation.

FIELD CROPS: Barley harvest was in full swing by the third week of the month and was past its peak by the end of the month. Wheat harvest commenced and continued throughout the month. Yields in Small Grains varied with water availability. Harvesting of Oat Hay and Alfalfa Hay continued. Seed Alfalfa fields were irrigated and treated for insect control. Field Corn and Silage Corn were up and doing well. The warm weather caused good growth in Cotton throughout the month. Routine cultural practices continued. Sugar Beets, Watermelon, Safflower, and Rice all progressed well throughout the month.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Grapes were sizing well from about mid-month with routine cultivation and pest control operations continuing throughout the month. Harvesting of numerous varieties of Peaches, Plums, Nectarines and Apricots continued throughout the month. Pecans and Almonds progressed normally during the month; irrigation continued. Growers prepared for harvest as Figs started sizing. Valencia Oranges continued to be packed; normal irrigation and insect control continued. Quality remained good. Navel Orange harvest was completed at the onset of the month. Olives were sizing well; the reported average size one-half inch in diameter.

VEGETABLES AND BERRIES: Boysenberry harvest began at the start of the month and neared completion by the month's end. Quality was reportedly good. Cantaloupes progressed with good bloom and eventual good sizing of fruit. Asparagus harvest was completed in the first week of the month. Harvest of Squash, Green Onions, String Beans, Radishes, Dry Onions, Red Onions, Tomatoes, Peppers and Cucumbers continued. Canning Tomatoes continued to progress well. Melons were blooming with routine cultural practices continuing.

LIVESTOCK: Rangeland foothills remained dry all month. Continued supplemental feeding and watering was required by most stockmen.

## JULY

WEATHER: Continued hot weather with a high of 101°F. recorded. Lack of precipitation increased overdraft and caused a general lowering of the underground water table. Irrigation water demand was high with most surface deliveries being completed by the end of the month.

FIELD CROPS: The Barley harvest was essentially complete by the month's end. Certified Seed Oats and Wheat harvests neared completion with good yields reported. Firebaugh District Rice showed normal growth. Alfalfa Hay continued in all cultural stages and Seed Alfalfa fields were drying in preparation for harvest. Milo planted for second crop was generally looking good and heading out. Safflower fields were mature and continued in the preharvest drying stage. Cotton bloom started with some boll formation occurring by the end of the month. Required pesticide applications were minimal. Blackeyes reported in good condition with some drying. Carrot Seed was harvested in the Clovis District. Field Corn was maturing rapidly by late July with some fields in the dough stage. Sugar Beets made normal progress with a moderate volume of digging late in the month.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Pesticide use in Vineyards increased as hot weather stimulated insect population growth and resulting damage. Delight and Cardinal grapes were being packed; the Perlette harvest was completed. Black Varietals were beginning to color. Thompsons showed some irregular berry development. Wine Grapes looked good. Small fruit size and compacted harvest schedules, due to weather, caused some problems for Tree Fruit growers. Packing continued in volume through the end of the month. Valencia Orange packing peaked at mid-month with increased cullage due to granulation and drying. 1977 Navel crop set was reported below that of 1976. Soft Shell Almonds were drying and cracking by month's end. Olive crop appeared to be average.

VEGETABLES AND MELONS: Westside melon harvest peaked at the end of July with Cantaloupe and Honeydew showing good quality and excellent maturity. Dry Onions and Garlic were harvested throughout the month. Fresh Pack Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Eggplant, String Beans, Squash, Bell Peppers, Green Onions, Radish and Sweet Corn continued to be packed. Processing Tomato harvest was underway late in the month with yields of 22 to 25 tons per acre. Sanger river bottom Cauliflower land had been preirrigated for transplanting at mid-month. Fall Lettuce fields were being prepared for planting.

APIARY AND LIVESTOCK: Bees were in fair to good condition with most colonies working in seed alfalfa. Range was non-existent in the foothills with fewer cattle being held in feedlots.

## AUGUST

WEATHER: Fresno County received light, intermittent showers late in the month with insignificant damage reported. Drought stress continued to be evident in many crops. Premature leaf drop noted in some almond orchards. Over-all temperatures for the month continued to increase with a high of 102°F. and a low of 59°F. Continued lowering of the underground water table as overdraft remained high.

FIELD CROPS: Rice fields were heading out while Barley and Wheat harvests were nearing completion. Milo on the Westside was in the early milk and late bloom stage; Eastside milo was generally in the head stage. Cotton looked good with continued irrigation and some required pesticide activity for worm, lygus and mite control. Bottom bolls were beginning to open. Alfalfa Hay was in varied cultural stages with some reported weed problems and pesticide applications to control armyworm. Seed Alfalfa harvest started with yields reported as fair to good; yield varied with availability of irrigation water. Sugar Beet harvest continued in moderate volume, dropping late in the month. Safflower harvest started in early August and neared completion by month's end. Field Corn continued to mature normally. Sweet Potato digging and packing in reduced volume.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Raisin Thompson tray lay started by the end of the month. Control measures were still required for mites, leaf hoppers and omnivorous leaf rollers. Harvest and packing of Table Thompsons increased with improved quality late in the month. Red Malaga, Ribier and Rish Baba were packed in light volume; quality was fair to good. Zante Currant tray lay began at the end of the month. Peaches, Plums and Nectarines continued to be packed. The Almond harvest commenced in most parts of the county. Figs started maturing in the first week of August with some ground drop and harvest noted by the month's end. Valencia Orange harvest neared 75% completion by the last week of the month. Navel Orange size increased normally as irrigation and pesticide applications continued. Walnuts were being irrigated. Pomegranates continued to size and color. Olives were at 3/4 inch size.

VEGETABLES AND MELONS: Cantaloupe and Honeydew packing and shipping was active the first week of the month with a noticeable reduction in activity as the harvest drew to an end. The Westside Processing Tomato harvest passed its peak by the last week in August. Eastside harvest of Tomatoes, Chili Peppers, Bell Peppers, Eggplant, Chinese Vegetables, Cucumbers, Green Onions, Squash, and Bitter Melons continued. Sanger river bottom Cauliflower fields looked good with some beet armyworm control measures required during the month.

LIVESTOCK: The number of cattle held in feed lots appeared to follow the downward trend noted in previous months.

## SEPTEMBER

WEATHER: Raisin drying conditions were good throughout the month; some cooling was noted. Temperatures ranged from a low of 52°F. to a high of 104°F. No precipitation was recorded.

FIELD CROPS: Field Corn and Sudan Grass were being cut for silage with post-harvest shredding and disking of stalks occurring. Milo development continued; most fields were heading out. Rice harvest was underway by the end of the month. Alfalfa Hay was in various stages of growth. Pesticide applications for worm control continued. Seed Alfalfa harvest was complete by the month's end with some sheeping off of regrowth. Safflower harvest was complete early in the month. Harvesting of Sugar Beets was slow. Blackeye harvest continued with some fields still requiring pest control practices. Defoliation of Cotton was very active as fields reached maturity; harvesting started in some areas. Limited preirrigation in Barley and Wheat occurred where water was available.

## JULY

WEATHER: Continued hot weather with a high of 101°F. recorded. Lack of precipitation increased overdraft and caused a general lowering of the underground water table. Irrigation water demand was high with most surface deliveries being completed by the end of the month.

FIELD CROPS: The Barley harvest was essentially complete by the month's end. Certified Seed Oats and Wheat harvests neared completion with good yields reported. Firebaugh District Rice showed normal growth. Alfalfa Hay continued in all cultural stages and Seed Alfalfa fields were drying in preparation for harvest. Milo planted for second crop was generally looking good and heading out. Safflower fields were mature and continued in the preharvest drying stage. Cotton bloom started with some boll formation occurring by the end of the month. Required pesticide applications were minimal. Blackeyes reported in good condition with some drying. Carrot Seed was harvested in the Clovis District. Field Corn was maturing rapidly by late July with some fields in the dough stage. Sugar Beets made normal progress with a moderate volume of digging late in the month.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Pesticide use in Vineyards increased as hot weather stimulated insect population growth and resulting damage. Delight and Cardinal grapes were being packed; the Perlette harvest was completed. Black Varietals were beginning to color. Thompsons showed some irregular berry development. Wine Grapes looked good. Small fruit size and compacted harvest schedules, due to weather, caused some problems for Tree Fruit growers. Packing continued in volume through the end of the month. Valencia Orange packing peaked at mid-month with increased cullage due to granulation and drying. 1977 Navel crop set was reported below that of 1976. Soft Shell Almonds were drying and cracking by month's end. Olive crop appeared to be average.

VEGETABLES AND MELONS: Westside melon harvest peaked at the end of July with Cantaloupe and Honeydew showing good quality and excellent maturity. Dry Onions and Garlic were harvested throughout the month. Fresh Pack Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Eggplant, String Beans, Squash, Bell Peppers, Green Onions, Radish and Sweet Corn continued to be packed. Processing Tomato harvest was underway late in the month with yields of 22 to 25 tons per acre. Sanger river bottom Cauliflower land had been preirrigated for transplanting at mid-month. Fall Lettuce fields were being prepared for planting.

APIARY AND LIVESTOCK: Bees were in fair to good condition with most colonies working in seed alfalfa. Range was non-existent in the foothills with fewer cattle being held in feedlots.

## AUGUST

WEATHER: Fresno County received light, intermittent showers late in the month with insignificant damage reported. Drought stress continued to be evident in many crops. Premature leaf drop noted in some almond orchards. Over-all temperatures for the month continued to increase with a high of 102°F. and a low of 59°F. Continued lowering of the underground water table as overdraft remained high.

FIELD CROPS: Rice fields were heading out while Barley and Wheat harvests were nearing completion. Milo on the Westside was in the early milk and late bloom stage; Eastside milo was generally in the head stage. Cotton looked good with continued irrigation and some required pesticide activity for worm, lygus and mite control. Bottom bolls were beginning to open. Alfalfa Hay was in varied cultural stages with some reported weed problems and pesticide applications to control armyworm. Seed Alfalfa harvest started with yields reported as fair to good; yield varied with availability of irrigation water. Sugar Beet harvest continued in moderate volume, dropping late in the month. Safflower harvest started in early August and neared completion by month's end. Field Corn continued to mature normally. Sweet Potato digging and packing in reduced volume.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Raisin Thompson tray lay started by the end of the month. Control measures were still required for mites, leaf hoppers and omnivorous leaf rollers. Harvest and packing of Table Thompsons increased with improved quality late in the month. Red Malaga, Ribier and Rish Baba were packed in light volume; quality was fair to good. Zante Currant tray lay began at the end of the month. Peaches, Plums and Nectarines continued to be packed. The Almond harvest commenced in most parts of the county. Figs started maturing in the first week of August with some ground drop and harvest noted by the month's end. Valencia Orange harvest neared 75% completion by the last week of the month. Navel Orange size increased normally as irrigation and pesticide applications continued. Walnuts were being irrigated. Pomegranates continued to size and color. Olives were at 3/4 inch size.

VEGETABLES AND MELONS: Cantaloupe and Honeydew packing and shipping was active the first week of the month with a noticeable reduction in activity as the harvest drew to an end. The Westside Processing Tomato harvest passed its peak by the last week in August. Eastside harvest of Tomatoes, Chili Peppers, Bell Peppers, Eggplant, Chinese Vegetables, Cucumbers, Green Onions, Squash, and Bitter Melons continued. Sanger river bottom Cauliflower fields looked good with some beet armyworm control measures required during the month.

LIVESTOCK: The number of cattle held in feed lots appeared to follow the downward trend noted in previous months.

## SEPTEMBER

WEATHER: Raisin drying conditions were good throughout the month; some cooling was noted. Temperatures ranged from a low of 52°F. to a high of 104°F. No precipitation was recorded.

FIELD CROPS: Field Corn and Sudan Grass were being cut for silage with post-harvest shredding and disking of stalks occurring. Milo development continued; most fields were heading out. Rice harvest was underway by the end of the month. Alfalfa Hay was in various stages of growth. Pesticide applications for worm control continued. Seed Alfalfa harvest was complete by the month's end with some sheeping off of regrowth. Safflower harvest was complete early in the month. Harvesting of Sugar Beets was slow. Blackeye harvest continued with some fields still requiring pest control practices. Defoliation of Cotton was very active as fields reached maturity; harvesting started in some areas. Limited preirrigation in Barley and Wheat occurred where water was available.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Raisin Thompsons were 70% to 80% boxed by the last week of the month. Table Thompsons packing neared completion; quality was good with some sizing and maturity problems noted. Other table varieties packed included Ribier, Emperor, Calmeria, Red Malaga and Rish Baba. Wine grape harvest was in full volume. Varieties packed included Muscat, Zinfandel, Alicante Bouschet, Grenache, Carrignane and Thompson Seedless. Stone Fruit packing decreased. Quality was generally good. Some tree pruning began late in the month. The Almond harvest was 50% complete and continued active. Fig harvest was active early in the month and slowed as the month ended. Harvesting of Pomegranates began early this month. Some reduction in size over previous years was noted in early varieties; later varieties were experiencing maturity problems. Walnuts matured as some early varieties were harvested. Navel Oranges continued to size well; irrigation and pesticide applications remained active. Valencia packing neared completion; volume light.

VEGETABLES: The volume of Cantaloupe packed this month continued to decline as the season wound to a close. Continued harvesting of Green Onions, Tomatoes, Bell Peppers, Eggplant, Radishes, Bitter Melons, Okra, Chinese Vegetables and Chili Peppers. Sweet Potatoes were packed in light volume. Fall Lettuce made good progress; irrigation continued. Cauliflower developed well; some pesticide applications were made for worm control. Broccoli and Freezer Limas progressed normally.

LIVESTOCK: Feed yard numbers were down. The foothills remained dry and bare.

## OCTOBER

WEATHER: Cooler autumn weather prevailed this month. No precipitation was recorded as conditions remained generally fair. Temperatures ranged from a high of 90°F. to a low of 42°F. The air pollutant level was high.

FIELD CROPS: Cotton harvest began and moved into full swing during the month. Yields were variable; quality was excellent. Gins were running at full capacity by the end of the month. Defoliation activity neared completion by month's end. Harvesting of Rice began early in the month and continued active. Earlier planted winter Barley started to emerge. Land preparation for winter Grains continued active throughout the month. Blackeye harvest remained active and in various stages. Milo reached full maturity early in the month; harvest began about mid-month. Sugar Beets were in various stages of growth with limited harvesting occurring. Cutting of Alfalfa Hay declined toward the end of the month. Field and Silage Corn harvest continued; volume was reduced by month's end. Seed Alfalfa harvest was completed during the first week of the month.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Table Thompson harvest was completed by mid-month. Packing of Juice Grapes continued throughout the month in light volume as the season wound to completion. By the end of the month over 90% of the sun-dried Raisins were boxed. The raisin industry was relieved to have made a successful crop in view of last year's disastrous rain damage. Tree Fruit packing slowed as the season drew to a close. Almond and Walnut harvests neared completion with some continued activity in later varieties. Harvesting of Pomegranates remained active; maturity problems continued while quality was generally good. Olive and Avocado harvests continued in reduced volume. By the end of the month, early variety Navel

Oranges began breaking color; fruit sizing progressed well. Persimmon packing remained active for most of the month and neared completion at the month's end. A few Kiwi were harvested during the month.

VEGETABLES: Head Lettuce harvest moved into full swing; quality was good to excellent with isolated problems of tip burn. Harvesting of Processing Tomatoes was completed early in the month. Cauliflower made good progress and neared harvest condition by the month's end. Vegetables harvested this month included Green Onions, Squash, Tomatoes, Okra, Radishes, Eggplant, Chinese Vegetables, Blackeyes, Pumpkins and Cucumbers.

LIVESTOCK: Very little change. Hillsides were still dry and bare. Feed yard head were down slightly. Sheep were grazing on stubble fields. Rain desperately needed.

### NOVEMBER

WEATHER: Generally colder temperatures dominated during November. High for the month was 72°F. and the low was 39°F. Light precipitation was reported early in the month; the balance of the month was dry with patchy night and early morning fog.

FIELD CROPS: Cotton harvest continued active throughout the month; quality remained excellent. The harvest reached 99% completion for the first picking with the second picking nearing 75% completion. During the month, the Director, California Department of Food and Agriculture, changed the San Joaquin Valley "plowdown" date from February 1, 1978 to January 1, 1978. Planting date for the next season was established at March 20, 1978. Winter Grain preplanting and planting operations remained active throughout the month. Planting activity was largely dependent on availability of irrigation water. Harvesting of Sorghum neared completion by month's end. Alfalfa Hay was reported in all stages of growth; harvesting activities tapered off toward the end of the month. Harvesting of Sugar Beets continued in reduced volume. Some field corn was cut for silage. Soil preparation for the 1978 Cotton and Safflower crops was active throughout the month.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Harvesting of Table and Juice Grapes was reported complete by the third week of November. Routine dormant cultural operations in Vineyards increased as the month progressed; irrigation, pruning and tying occurred. Deciduous Fruit orchards were being pruned and irrigated; some fertilizing was reported. The Walnut harvest was essentially complete by the end of the month; quality remained good. Pruning of Almond orchards began about mid-month; young trees were being shaped for mechanical harvesting. Fig packing slowed as the season neared completion. Olive and Avocado harvests were complete by the second week in the month. Picking and packing of Lemons began about mid-month. The Navel Orange harvest began early in November; color and maturity were reported stable. Varying degrees of frost damage were found in some orchards. Water soaking and crystals were present in some packed lots. Picking and packing of Satsumas active; volume good.

VEGETABLES: The Head Lettuce harvest reached its peak this month; quality improved to good and excellent. Spring Lettuce planting was active and neared completion by the end of the month. Harvesting of Sweet Potatoes slowed as the season drew to a close. Harvesting of Freezer Lima Beans, Peppers and Pumpkins was complete early in the month. Soil preparation for Tomatoes, Peppers and Onions was active. Some onion sets were planted later in the month. Other vegetables harvested this month were Cabbage, Beans, Eggplant, Cauliflower, Green Onions, Tomatoes, Radishes, Chinese Vegetables, Spinach and Turnips.

LIVESTOCK: Light showers were of insignificant benefit to the dry, bare rangeland. Some grass germination was noted in the higher foothills. More rain needed.

## DECEMBER

WEATHER: The first half of December was cold and dry. By mid-month rain came to Fresno County and over two inches was accumulated in some areas of the county by the end of the month. Rain was a sign of hope for Fresno County growers and its affects were generally beneficial. Those crops benefited by the rain were foothill grazing land, winter grains, alfalfa, Spring lettuce and stone fruit. Temperatures ranged from a high of 67°F. to a low of 33°F.

FIELD CROPS: Planting of Winter Grains continued at a reduced pace as most growers completed their planting operations. Earlier planted fields were emerging about mid-month and grew well for the balance of the month as a result of the rains. Cotton harvest was essentially complete by the end of the month. Compliance with the January 1, 1978 plowdown deadline was hampered by rain. Some growers began preparing for the next season's crop. Harvesting of Alfalfa Hay occurred in reduced volume. The current season's Sugar Beet crop progressed normally throughout the month. Land preparation for next season's Safflower crop was slow due to wet field conditions.

FRUITS AND NUTS: Pruning and tying of Vines was active early in the month but slowed as rain made the vineyards too wet for entry. Movement of storage Grapes was slow; quality reported fair. Deciduous Orchards were being pruned and topped as weather and soil conditions permitted. The rains benefited dormant spraying operations. Almond growers were deep irrigating in an attempt to replenish depleted moisture supplies; pruning remained active as field conditions permitted. The Pecan harvest continued at a slow pace due to wet field conditions. Harvesting of Navel Oranges continued throughout the month as weather permitted. Isolated lots continued to show freeze damage. Over-all quality was good to excellent; selective picking and packing continued. Picking and packing of Lemons continued throughout the month. Satsuma Mandarins were harvested; volume light.

VEGETABLES: Planting of Spring Lettuce was completed early in the month and emergence began toward the end of the month. Rain was very beneficial to the young lettuce plants. Land preparation for Tomatoes, Peppers, Melons and other Spring Vegetables continued throughout the month as weather permitted. The Fall Lettuce harvest was essentially complete by the end of the month. Freezer Broccoli and Cauliflower were reportedly growing well all month. Onions continued in varied

stages of growth. Other vegetables harvested this month included Radishes, Broccoli, Turnips, Green Onions, Eggplant, Spinach, Chinese Vegetables, Cauliflower, Romain and Hothouse Cucumbers.

LIVESTOCK: By the end of the month rangeland was showing definite benefit from the rains. Germination of native pasture was stimulated on both the Eastside and Westside foothills. More rain was needed to see full recovery of pasture and rangeland.

## 1977 IN RETROSPECT

Severe drought conditions greatly affected agricultural production and gross returns to Fresno County growers. Water table levels dropped significantly below normal and surface water availability was at a minimum throughout most of the year. Snow pack was recorded at 25% of normal. In brief, the impact of restricted water supplies resulted in a 7% decrease in gross returns in 1977.

**FIELD CROPS:** The gross value of Field Crops decreased by some 28.5%. Total production and prices were generally down. Barley suffered a 15.6% reduction in value. Rice, Sorghum Grain, Wheat and Sugar Beet acreages dropped significantly due to lack of water.

**SEED CROPS:** Acreage decreased by 15% in 1977 while total value of the Seed Crops remained essentially unchanged despite the drought.

**VEGETABLE CROPS:** A 14% reduction in acreage coupled with reduced yields resulted in a 19.1% reduction in the over-all value of Vegetable Crops notwithstanding a general increase in prices. Affected most significantly were the high water usage crops such as Cantaloupes and Fresh Tomatoes. Acreage of low value crops was generally down as growers attempted to allocate scarce water to crops of higher value.

**FRUIT AND NUT CROPS:** The gross value of Fruit and Nut Crops increased by approximately 22%. Increased production (up 14%) and increased prices (up 41%) for the 1977 Orange crop were a major contribution to the over-all increase in Fruit and Nut value. Grapes made a strong recovery after the 1976 disaster. Specifically, Raisin production was up 35% while price returned to a slightly higher-than-historically-normal price. Production of Table Varieties for the fresh market was up 51%; prices increased 27%. Prices and production of Wine Varieties also increased 14% respectively. Olive production dropped significantly due to adverse weather conditions during the bloom stage.

**NURSERY PRODUCTS:** Nursery Products netted a 16% increase in total value. The number of production areas decreased by some 48%.

**LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY:** Drought conditions greatly affected livestock sales and prices in 1977 as growers tried to reduce herd size throughout the year. A 13% increase in Poultry production more than compensated for the slightly depressed poultry prices; the net result was a 19% increase in total value. This increase in value moved Poultry up to become Fresno County's third leading crop. In all, Livestock and Poultry increased in value by 3%.

**LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS:** Total value increased by 1%. Significant changes were in Manufacturing Milk which decreased in production by 70.5% and in Chicken Hatching Eggs which increased by 44%.

**APIARY PRODUCTS AND POLLINATION SERVICES:** Total value was up 3.3%. This was chiefly due to increased sales of stored beeswax, the price of which increased over 32%.

FRESNO COUNTY'S 10 LEADING CROPS

<u>Crop</u>	<u>1977 Rank</u>	<u>1977 Dollar Value</u>	<u>1976 Rank</u>	<u>1975 Rank</u>
Grapes	1	\$ 265,081,000	2	2
Cotton	2	193,643,000	1	1
Poultry	3	68,017,000	6	6
Cattle & Calves	4	65,587,000	3	4
Dairy Products	5	64,861,000	4	5
Tomatoes	6	56,369,000	5	3
Barley	7	43,084,000	8*	8
Oranges	8	35,566,000	-	-
Alfalfa Hay	9	33,852,000	9*	9
Lettuce	10	32,132,000	-	-

\*Revised

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1977

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
Barley	1977	233,000	2.00	466,000	ton	\$ 90.30	\$ 42,080,000
	1976	231,000	2.00	462,000	ton	108.00	49,896,000*
Beans, dry	1977	5,460	.71	3,880	ton	527.00	2,045.00
	1976	6,620	.84	5,560	ton	490.00	2,724.00
Corn	1977	15,200	2.73	41,500	ton	98.00	4,067,000
	1976	20,000	2.64	52,800	ton	100.00	5,280,000*
Cotton Lint	1977	329,000	936 <sup>a</sup> /	642,000 <sup>b</sup> /	bale	.54 <sup>c</sup> /	173,340,000
	1976	315,000	1087	713,000	bale	.65	231,725,000
Cotton Seed	1977			257,000	ton	79.00	20,303,000
	1976			285,000	ton	114.00	32,490,000
Hay							
Alfalfa <sup>d</sup> /	1977	85,000	6.42	546,000	ton	62.00	33,852,000
	1976	90,000	6.90	621,000	ton	76.00	47,196,000
Other	1977	10,100	1.80	18,200	ton	43.40	790,000
	1976	10,200	1.76	18,000	ton	63.50	1,143,000
Pasture and Range							
Alfalfa <sup>e</sup> / stubble	1977	76,500			acre	8.00	612,000
	1976	80,000			acre	8.00	640,000
Barley and Wheat stubble <sup>e</sup> /	1977	143,000			acre	3.75	536,000
	1976	100,000			acre	3.50	350,000
Cantaloupe <sup>e</sup> /	1977	7,210			acre	3.25	23,400
	1976	9,000			acre	3.25	29,200
Irrigated Pasture	1977	40,000			acre	100.00	4,000,000
	1976	40,000			acre	100.00	4,000,000
Native Range	1977	1,300,000			acre	2.00	2,600,000
	1976	1,300,000			acre	4.00	5,200,000
Rice	1977	5,000	2.30	11,500	ton	186.00	2,139,000
	1976	13,000	2.04	26,500	ton	131.00	3,472,000*
Safflower	1977	8,970	.81	7,270	ton	235.00	1,708,000
	1976	5,500	1.35	7,420	ton	297.00	2,204,000
Screenings	1977			634	ton	20.00	12,700
	1976			1,670	ton	53.00	88,500

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1977 (continued)

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
Silage							
Corn	1977	12,200	18.50	226,000	ton	\$ 17.00	\$ 3,842,000
	1976	13,300	19.00	253,000	ton	14.00	3,542,000
Sorghum	1977	1,350	16.00	21,600	ton	17.00	367,000
	1976	2,350	18.00	42,300	ton	14.00	592,000
Other	1977	2,500	15.00	37,500	ton	15.50	581,000
	1976	2,400	15.50	37,200	ton	14.00	521,000
Sorghum Grain	1977	3,650	1.80	6,570	ton	85.00	558,000
	1976	14,150	1.86	26,300	ton	92.75	2,439,000
Straw	1977			5,830	ton	28.00	163,000
	1976			6,000	ton	25.00	150,000
Sugar Beets	1977	10,900	18.31	200,000	ton	22.79	4,558,000
	1976	30,300	33.10	1,003,000	ton	20.60	20,662,000
Wheat	1977	27,200	2.19	59,600	ton	92.40	5,507,000
	1976	52,000	2.12	110,000	ton	105.00	11,550,000*
Other <sup>f/</sup>	1977	12,100					1,547,000
	1976	<u>3,620</u>					<u>269,000</u>
Total	1977	2,102,000					\$305,231,000
	1976	2,149,000*					426,163,000*
	1957	2,920,439					164,561,645

a/ Pounds of lint per acre

b/ 480 pounds net weight bales

c/ Price per pound, 500 pound bales

d/ Includes bales, cubes and green chop

e/ Not included in total acreage figures

f/ Includes oats, miscellaneous grains, and overripe cantaloupes for livestock feed

\*Revised

SEED CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1977

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
Alfalfa Certified	1977	22,300	640	14,272,000	1b.	\$ .95	\$ 13,558,000
	1976	19,800	519	10,276,000	1b.	.96	9,865,000
Alfalfa Non-Certified	1977	10,700	610	6,527,000	1b.	.87	5,678,000
	1976	14,540	536	7,793,000	1b.	.94	7,325,000*
Total All Alfalfa Seed	1977	33,000		20,799,000	1b.		19,236,000
	1976	34,340		18,069,000	1b.		17,190,000*
Barley Certified	1977	4,200	4,100	17,220,000	1b.	.05	861,000
	1976	6,850	4,425	30,311,000	1b.	.06	1,819,000
Barley Non-Certified	1977	1,000	3,100	3,100,000	1b.	.046	143,000
	1976	1,700	3,400	5,780,000	1b.	.056	324,000
Cotton <sup>a/</sup>	1977	10,650		6,701,000	1b.	.073	524,000 <sup>b/</sup>
	1976	8,300		9,706,000	1b.	.060	723,000
Vegetable <sup>c/</sup>	1977	1,450					650,000
	1976	1,210					1,125,000
Other <sup>d/</sup>	1977	2,350					632,000
	1976	5,320					1,024,000
Total	1977	42,000					\$22,046,000
	1976	49,400					22,205,000*
	1957	67,245*					12,393,952

a/ Not included in total acreage for "Seed Crops"

b/ Includes acreage approved @ \$17 per acre

c/ Carrots, lettuce, onion, parsley and tomatoes

d/ Certified and non-certified blackeye cowpeas, certified and non-certified brome grass, certified rye grass, certified and non-certified oats, certified and non-certified rice, certified and non-certified safflower, certified and non-certified wheat.

\*Revised

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1977

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
Beans Snap fresh	1977	2,600	1.5	3,900	ton	\$ 336	\$ 1,310,000
	1976	530	4.2	2,230	ton	396	883,000
Chinese Vegetables	1977	400	11.9	4,760	ton	161	766,000
	1976	265	19.0	5,040	ton	110	554,000
Cucumbers	1977	150	11.8	1,770	ton	308	545,000
	1976	375	12.6	4,720	ton	192	906,000
Eggplant	1977	200	6.2	1,240	ton	450	558,000
	1976	200	11.6	2,320	ton	258	599,000
Garlic	1977	2,090	5.3	11,100	ton	237	2,631,000
	1976	1,660	5.2	8,630	ton	256	2,209,000
Lettuce							
Head	1977	12,300	12.9	159,000	ton	200	31,800,000
	1976	10,200	11.4	116,000	ton	188	21,808,000
Leaf	1977	185	10.5	1,940	ton	171	332,000
	1976	475	6.0	2,850	ton	210	598,000
Melons							
Cantaloupes	1977	14,400	12.0	173,000	ton	178	30,794,000
	1976	18,900	13.2	249,000	ton	219	54,531,000
Casaba	1977	175	6.0	1,050	ton	198	208,000
	1976	196	6.4	1,250	ton	168	210,000
Cranshaw	1977	240	2.5	600	ton	340	204,000
	1976	365	7.7	2,810	ton	252	708,000
Watermelons	1977	250	13.2	3,300	ton	77	254,000
	1976	810	9.4	7,610	ton	81	616,000
Onions							
Dry	1977	675	15.6	10,500	ton	115	1,208,000
	1976	1,200	16.0	19,200	ton	79	1,517,000
Green	1977	90	14.5	1,300	ton	472	614,000
	1976	350	18.0	6,300	ton	267	1,682,000
Peppers							
Bell	1977	230	11.5	2,640	ton	362	956,000
	1976	300	8.8	2,640	ton	225	594,000

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1977 (continued)

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
Peppers (continued)							
Chili Fresh	1977	350	4.0	1,400	ton	\$ 700	980,000
	1976	330	6.8	2,240	ton	360	806,000
Radishes	1977	350	4.5	1,580	ton	217	343,000
	1976	400	5.7	2,280	ton	192	438,000
Squash							
Summer	1977	250	10.0	2,500	ton	304	760,000
	1976	350	7.2	2,520	ton	305	769,000
Winter	1977	100	5.0	500	ton	320	160,000
	1976	200	10.0	2,000	ton	190	380,000
Sweet Potatoes	1977	650	9.0	5,850	ton	260	1,521,000
	1976	650	9.0	5,850	ton	238	1,392,000
Tomatoes							
Fresh							
Cherry	1977	285	10.0	2,850	ton	800	2,280,000
	1976	440	11.2	4,930	ton	400	1,972,000
Regular	1977	350	20.0	7,000	ton	450	3,150,000
	1976	2,540	13.0	33,000	ton	365	12,045,000
Processed	1977	38,650	23.5	908,000	ton	56.1	50,939,000
	1976	38,700	26.0	1,006,000	ton	47.4	47,684,000
Other Vegetables <sup>a/</sup>	1977	7,230					5,299,000
	1976	16,200*					17,178,000*
Total	1977	82,200					\$137,612,000
	1976	95,600*					170,079,000*
	1957	27,599					22,109,734

<sup>a/</sup> Includes asparagus, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower (frozen), chili peppers (processed), cucumbers (hothouse grown), honeyball and honeydew melons, lima beans (processed), shredding lettuce, mustard greens, onions (processed), peas, Persian melons, snap beans (processed), spinach, sweet corn, Swiss chard, tomatoes (hothouse grown).

\*Revised

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1977

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
Almonds	1977	16,862	.51	8,600	ton	\$ 1,495	\$ 12,857,000
	1976	14,143	1.04	14,700	ton	720	10,584,000
Apricots	1977	423	7.74	3,270	ton	244	798,000
	1976	390	6.55	2,550	ton	204	520,000*
Boysenberries <sup>a/</sup>	1977	199	4.41	878	ton	798	701,000
	1976	159	4.24	674	ton	502	338,000*
Figs Dried	1977	7,852	.70	5,500	ton	1,204	6,622,000
	1976	9,772	.47	4,590	ton	1,150	5,278,000
Grapes	1977	193,090	7.99				
	1976	178,689	8.78				
Raisin Varieties	1977	147,375					
	1976	143,850					
Canned	1977			11,300	ton	159	1,797,000
	1976			12,200	ton	135	1,647,000
Crushed	1977			401,000	ton	110	44,110,000
	1976			513,000	ton	79	40,527,000
Dried	1977			157,000	ton <sup>b/</sup>	840	131,880,000
	1976			116,000	ton	1,048	121,568,000
Fresh	1977			39,200	ton	741	29,047,000
	1976			38,000	ton	354	13,452,000
Table Varieties	1977	6,807					
	1976	6,900					
Crushed	1977			31,800	ton	110	3,498,000
	1976			33,500	ton	81	2,714,000
Fresh	1977			24,200	ton	581	14,060,000
	1976			16,000	ton	457	7,312,000
Wine Varieties	1977	38,908					
	1976	27,939					
Crushed	1977			295,000	ton	113	33,335,000
	1976			209,000	ton	99	20,691,000
Fresh	1977			25,100	ton	293	7,354,000
	1976			11,000	ton	310	3,410,000

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1977 (continued)

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Lemons	1977	833	7.90				
	1976	790	10.45				
Fresh	1977			2,430	ton	\$ 293	\$ 712,000
	1976			5,530	ton	291	1,609,000
Processed	1977			4,150	ton	44	183,000
	1976			2,700	ton	20	54,000
Nectarines	1977	7,013	9.58	67,200	ton	337	22,646,000
	1976	6,682	7.90	52,800	ton	386	20,381,000
Olives	1977	1,587	.58	920	ton	430	396,000
	1976	1,571	1.45	2,280	ton	301	686,000
Oranges	1977	19,846					
	1976	19,475					
Navel	1977	15,933	10.21				
	1976	15,948	9.12				
Fresh	1977			127,000	ton	222	28,194,000
	1976			116,400	ton	173	20,137,000
Processed	1977			36,000	ton	15	540,000
	1976			29,100	ton	6	175,000
Valencia	1977	3,734	11.20				
	1976	3,462	9.98				
Fresh	1977			32,500	ton	200	6,500,000
	1976			25,600	ton	180	4,608,000
Processed	1977			9,300	ton	31	288,000
	1976			9,000	ton	14	126,000
Miscellaneous	1977	179	10.70	1,920	ton	23	44,200
	1976	65	10.75	699	ton	150	105,000
Peaches	1977	9,338					
	1976	9,652					
Clingstone	1977	1,728	14.39				
	1976	2,188	10.19				
Processed	1977			24,900	ton	120	2,988,000
	1976			23,800	ton	115	2,737,000

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1977 (continued)

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
Peaches (continued)							
Freestone	1977	7,610	12.72				
	1976	7,464	9.26				
Fresh	1977			75,100	ton	\$ 323	\$ 24,257,000
	1976			55,000	ton	327	17,985,000
Processed	1977			21,700	ton	110	2,387,000
	1976			16,400	ton	100	1,640,000
Persimmons	1977	64	5.69	364	ton	896	326,000
	1976	65	4.65	300	ton	570	171,000
Plums	1977	9,128	7.42	67,700	ton	432	29,246,000
	1976	9,026	6.20	56,000	ton	592	33,152,000
Pomegranates	1977	746	5.39	4,020	ton	380	1,528,000
	1976	747	5.34	3,990	ton	465	1,855,000
Strawberries	1977	160	13.25	2,120	ton	595	1,261,000
	1976	167	13.00	2,170	ton	636	1,380,000
Tangerines <sup>c/</sup>	1977	547	3.81	2,080	ton	227	472,000
	1976	525	2.42	1,270	ton	220	279,000
Walnuts	1977	4,081	1.22	4,980	ton	686	3,416,000
	1976	4,177	1.00	4,177	ton	600	2,506,000
Miscellaneous <sup>d/</sup>	1977	1,720					2,963,000
	1976	1,717					3,013,000
Total	1977	273,489					\$414,406,000
	1976	257,747*					340,640,000*
	1957	178,220					108,928,755

a/ Includes Fresh and Processed

b/ Dry tons

c/ Includes Tangelos and Mandarins

d/ Includes almond hulls, apples, dried apricots, processed apricots, avocados, cherries, fresh figs, substandard figs, grapefruit, limes, dried nectarines, processed olallieberries, dried peaches, kiwis, olives (oil), fresh and dried pears, pecans, pistachio nuts, processed plums, prunes, quince.

\*Revised

NURSERY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AREA, SALES AND VALUE - 1977

Item	Year	Production Area Acres	Quantity Sold by Producers	Unit	Value
Herbaceous Ornamentals <sup>a/</sup>	1977	14	545,000	<u>b/</u>	\$ 355,000
	1976	15	1,103,000		379,000
Ornamental Trees and Shrubs <sup>c/</sup>	1977	99	565,000	plants	1,903,000
	1976	156	555,000		1,562,000
Flower Seeds	1977	150	34,500	lbs.	90,000
	1976	347	69,400		160,000
Nursery Other than Ornamentals	1977	16	28,000,000	plants	810,000
	1976	<u>23</u>	16,995,000		<u>623,000</u>
Total	1977	279			\$3,158,000
	1976	541			2,724,000

a/ Includes cut flowers and cut greens, potted plants, bedding plants and herbaceous perennials

b/ Includes flats, dozens, cans and single plants

c/ Includes Christmas trees

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1977

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Value	
		No.of Head	Total Liveweight		Per Unit	Total
Cattle and Calves						
Beef						
Breeding Stock						
Common	1977	9,060		head	\$ 325.00	\$ 2,944,000
	1976	3,760		head	370.00	1,391,000
Registered	1977	525		head	500.00	262,000
	1976	425		head	500.00	212,000
Feeders	1977	72,000	137,000	cwt.	36.40	4,987,000
	1976	90,000	171,000	cwt.	37.10	6,344,000
Calves	1977	20,900	96,100	cwt.	33.70	3,239,000
	1976	24,900	118,000	cwt.	31.70	3,741,000
Slaughter Stock						
From Feed Lots	1977	296,000	1,022,000 <sup>a/</sup>	cwt.	40.28	41,166,000
	1976	383,000	1,455,000	cwt.	38.37	55,828,000
From Other Sources	1977	7,000	70,000	cwt.	27.00	1,890,000
	1976	14,000	140,000	cwt.	27.00	3,780,000
Dairy						
Breeding Stock	1977	8,150		head	627.00	5,110,000
	1976	8,650		head	571.00	4,939,000
Cull Stock	1977	12,600	187,000	cwt.	22.10	4,133,000
	1976	10,200	122,000	cwt.	21.90	2,672,000
Calves	1977	31,600	79,000	cwt.	23.50	1,856,000
	1976	31,300	78,200*	cwt.	31.50	2,463,000*
Sheep and Lambs						
Slaughter Stock						
Lambs	1977	46,200	37,000	cwt.	50.50	1,868,000
	1976	45,700	36,600	cwt.	47.50	1,738,000
Sheep	1977	1,770	2,480	cwt.	10.90	27,000
	1976	1,750	2,450	cwt.	12.60	30,900

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1977 (continued)

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Value	
		No.of Head	Total Liveweight		Per Unit	Total
Hogs and Pigs						
Breeding Stock	1977	190		head	\$ 140.00	\$ 26,600
	1976	210		head	130.00	27,300
Feeder Pigs and Slaughter Stock	1977	16,200	35,200	cwt.	54.17	1,907,000
	1976	13,150	28,300	cwt.	47.50	1,344,000
Horses and Mules						
Recreational Stock	1977	908		head	300.00	272,000
	1976	825		head	300.00	248,000
Poultry						
Chickens <sup>b/</sup>	1977	39,737,000		each	.728	28,929,000
	1976	33,516,000		each	.741	24,835,000*
Turkeys	1977	4,416,000	88,316,000	1b.	.350	30,911,000
	1976	3,779,000	75,580,000	1b.	.300	22,674,000
Turkey Poults	1977	10,903,000		each	.750	8,177,000
	1976	11,528,000		each	.769	8,865,000
Miscellaneous <sup>c/</sup>	1977					227,000
	1976					851,000
Total	1977					\$137,932,000
	1976					141,983,000*
	1957					35,737,793

a/ Net feet lot gain

b/ Includes broilers, fryers, breeders, chicks, pullets, old hens and old roosters

c/ Includes chuckars, ducks, pheasants, pigeons, rabbits, goats, fish and earthworms

\*Revised

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1977

Crop	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Milk					
Manufacturing	1977	40,400	cwt.	\$ 8.49	\$ 343,000
	1976	137,000	cwt.	8.33	1,141,000
Market	1977	6,770,000	cwt.	9.53	64,518,000
	1976	6,861,000	cwt.	9.02	61,886,000
Wool	1977	767,000	lb.	.70	537,000
	1976	718,000	lb.	.66	474,000
Eggs					
Chicken Hatching	1977	2,539,000	dozen	.92	2,336,000
	1976	1,762,000	dozen	.89	1,568,000
Market	1977	7,386,000	dozen	.450	3,324,000
	1976	9,145,000	dozen	.575	5,258,000
Turkey Hatching	1977	5,532,000	each	.35	1,936,000
	1976	4,704,000	each	.35	1,646,000
Total	1977				\$72,994,000
	1976				71,973,000
	1957				20,854,461

JANUARY 1 INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY (In Number of Head)

<u>Item</u>	<u>January 1, 1978</u>	<u>January 1, 1977</u>
Cattle and Calves		
All	369,000	355,000
Dairy Cows and Heifers that have Calved	50,500	51,000*
Cattle and Calves on Feed	116,700	137,400
Stock Sheep and Lambs	100,000	93,900*
Goats	600	600
Hogs and Pigs	7,500	8,300
Horses	16,100	15,900
Chicken and Turkey Breeder Hens	450,000	478,400

\*Revised

APIARY PRODUCTS AND POLLINATION SERVICES: PRODUCTION AND VALUE - 1977

Item	Year	Production Total	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
Apiary Products <sup>a/</sup>					
Honey	1977	807,000	lb.	\$ .42	\$ 339,000
	1976	739,800	lb.	.41	303,000
Beeswax	1977	102,000	lb.	1.80	184,000
	1976	12,300	lb.	1.36	16,700
Pollination <sup>b/</sup>					
Seed Crops					
Alfalfa	1977	107,000	colony	11.15	1,193,000
	1976	111,700	colony	10.60	1,184,000
Other <sup>c/</sup>	1977	3,620	colony	9.50	34,400
	1976	6,450	colony	9.70	62,600
Tree Fruit <sup>d/</sup>	1977	65,000	colony	10.86	706,000
	1976	70,800	colony	11.00	779,000
Cantaloupes	1977	21,700	colony	10.87	236,000
	1976	25,100	colony	10.40	261,000
Total	1977				\$2,692,000
	1976				2,606,000
	1957				661,894 <sup>e/</sup>

a/ Reflects only the bees registered in Fresno County by commercial and semi-commercial beekeepers: 1977 - 35,875 colonies; 1976 - 28,773 colonies

b/ Reflects value of pollination by all bee colonies located in Fresno County for pollination services during 1977. Estimated total colonies: 140,700

c/ Cucumbers, onion seed, carrot seed, vegetable seed and other truck crops

d/ Almonds, cherries, plums

e/ Does not include pollination services

Growth of Fresno County Agriculture as Indicated by Gross Value  
of Agricultural Products Over a Span of Twenty-One Years

	1957	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Field Crops	\$164,561,645	\$248,562,000	\$347,460,000	\$340,540,000	\$426,163,000*	\$305,231,000
Seed Crops	12,393,952	15,708,000*	27,116,000	22,218,000	22,205,000*	22,046,000
Vegetable Crops	22,109,734	73,012,000	129,778,000	182,264,000	170,079,000*	137,612,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	108,928,755	326,235,000	294,634,000	282,320,000	340,640,000*	414,406,000
Nursery Products	330,810	2,245,000	1,394,000	1,592,000	2,724,000	3,158,000
Livestock and Poultry	56,592,254	161,747,000	165,814,000	194,880,000	213,956,000*	210,926,000
Apiary	<u>661,894</u>	<u>1,173,000</u>	<u>1,154,000</u>	<u>2,542,000*</u>	<u>2,606,000</u>	<u>2,692,000</u>
Grand Total	\$365,579,044	\$828,682,000*	\$967,350,000	\$1,026,356,000*	\$1,178,373,000*	1,096,071,000

\*Revised

SIX YEAR COMPARISON STUDY OF GROSS CROP VALUES IN FRESNO COUNTY