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## California Department of Food and Agriculture

## Agricultural Commissioners' Crop Reports

# Imperial County

1907-1920

(information from different sources not consistent with later crop reports)

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, <a href="http://giannini.ucop.edu/">http://giannini.ucop.edu/</a>.

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Before 1907, all the statistics for Imperial County were included with those of San Diego County, of which it was a part until August 15, 1907. 1

Genera Genera	1 Statistics.	
1907-8	1908-9	1909-10
Area- acres 2,560,000 '	2,560,000	2,560,000
Acres assessed 571,712	731,520	621,953
Total value of		
All Property -	\$7,161,382	9,603,566
Expended, Roads \$8,125	\$15,775	\$48,798
Expended, Bridges \$9,850	\$25,305	\$26,012
Public Roads, miles 350	875	1,250
Value Co.blgs. \$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
Irrigating Ditches cost \$3,500,000	\$3,800,000	\$3,500,000
Electric Power plant \$25,000	\$28,475	\$70,640
No.Acres Irrigated 175,343	181,545	207,360
El Tel & Tel lines 50 m. \$24,044	75 m. 842,511	271 m. Telegraph \$38.448 84 m. Telephone \$ 2,000 34 m. El.TRans. \$31,800

List above compiled from the Reports of the California State Agricultural Society, 1908 - 1909 - 1910.

any

In 1911, all agricultural reports were compiled by the California State Board of Agriculture, and the year of 1910 was classified differently, as per abstract below:

#### 1910.

Approximate Land, acres	2,616,960
Number of Farms	1,322
Land in Farms, "	223,662
Improved Land in Farms"	176,069

Total Value of all Farm Property, (including domestic\* animals, poultry and bees, \$2,539,207) \$23,646,067

## Population of incorporated cities and towns.

	El Centro, County Seat 1,610
	Imperial, 1,257
	Brawley, (881
	Calex: co, 797
	Holtville, 729
Total F	opulation for the Valley 13,591

California State Board of Adriculture, 1911-12, pp.300-301.
13th United Sates Census Bulletin, Dept. of Commerce, 1910.

California State Board of Agriculture, 1911-12, p. 22 (State Controllers Dept

<sup>2 &</sup>quot; " " " " p.20

am

## General Statistics. (Continued. )

Value of Products	1907-8	No. Value	1909-10 No. Value
Butter, lbs.	1,248,000	1,584,250 \$316,850	2,738,425 \$958,349
Poultry & E ggs	\$3,000	\$3,275	\$47,357
	No. Value	No Value	No. Value
Live Stock Total	112,961 \$581	,992 72,935 \$491,	351 75,027\$1,729,072
Wool-lbs.	155,870	175,780 \$17,	578 140,000 \$70,000
Cotton	•		Lbs. Value 4,500,000 \$685,000
Cotton Seed -			9,000,000 \$90,000
Fruit & Veg.	es .	Lbs. 3,720,000 \$53,000 Acres Car-leads	- \$222,840 Crates
	2014 The 2014 Fig. (18) U.S. 12 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	8,000 1,859	120,000 \$250,000.

Compiled from the Reports of the California State Agricultural Society, 1908 - 1909 - 1910.

### SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY

PACIFIC SYSTEM

TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

ON REPLY PLEASE EXPER TO

No.

D-204

J. R. DOWNS, COMMUNICIAL AGENT

RIVERSIDE, CAL.

November Nineteen 1913.

Mr.F.W.Waite,

Mr.W.H.Langsdale,

El Centro, Calif.

Gentlemen: -

Referring to conversation recently in regard to data you wish for Imperial Valley: Mr. Stubbs furnishes me with the following which I hope will be of some benefit to you:

IMPERIAL VALLEY CAR LOAD SHIPMENTS FOR TWELVE MONTHS ENDING OCTOBER EXTENX 1913.

- In tons of 2000 poinds. -

Barley	11330	Corn 3300	Hay 32540
Cotton	1920	Meal 930	Honey 470
Wheat	270	Grain 210	Onions 200
Tomatoes	116	B.Corn 50	Apricots 40
Potatoes	30-	Beans 20-	Raisins 15
Cattle	1100	Hogs 545	Sheep 342
CARD HAND HE RE	alle alle (Li ), i	11000	2210-1

FOLLOWING IS ESTIMATE NUMBER OF ANIMALS LOADED PER CAR.
Horses and Mules 28---Cattle 28---Hogs 78---Sheep 120

A. M. Nelson Development Agent Imperial County Courthouse El Centro, Cal.

## BUTTER PRODUCTION IN IMPERIAL COUNTY

All statistics herein have been compiled from official reports of the California State Dairy Bureau.

IMPERIAL COUNTY is second among the 58 counties of California

in butter production.

IMPERIAL SCHWIT makes one-tenuh of the butter made in the state. IMPURIAL COUNTY makes six times more butter than is produced

by the six other Joutson California counties combined.

IMPERIAL COUNTY increased its butter production 235 % and rose from seventh to second place during the last six years.

	IMPERIAL COUNTY Butter Production	SOUTHERN CALL	DFORNIA
Year 1911 1912 1913 1914 1915	Founds 2,585,941 4,112,736 5,583,328 5,712,287 6,734,316 6,780,552	Butter Product County Los Angeles Orange Riverside San Bernardino San Diego Ventura	Pounds 167,286 75,000 229,692 98,300 441,409 29,321

Six other So. California counties 1,035,008 Imperial County 6,780,552 7,815,560 Total production, So. Cal. 1916

CALIFORNIA BUTTER PRODUCTION 1911-1916 Comparative Figures Leading Dairy Counties

-	2.9	011	19	916	PER CENT
County Humboldt Stanislaus Tulare Fresno Kings Merded TMPERIAL	Pounds 5,3%8.332 5,166,E15 3,950,683 3,305,644 3,55%,542 3,102,232 2,385,941	Rank First Second Third Fourth Fifth Sixth	Pounds 5,588,604 9,930,031 4,677.839 4,304,416 3,960,949 4,080,063 6,780,653	Rank Third First Fourth Fifth Seventh Sixth SEUCND	GAIN 8 193 20 11 12 30 235

Gain, 1915-16, Stanislaus, 6, 701 lbs.; Imperial, 446, 256; Humboldt, 0.

"Opportunities for profit in dairying are greater in PMPRIAL VALLEY than in any district that I know of in the United Staces" - E. H. Webster, former chief of the Lairy division, United States Department of Agriculture, former director of Kansas experiment , station, and former associate editor of Hoard's Dairyman, A. M. Nelson Development Agent, Imperial County, El Centro, Cal.

## CALIFORNIA COTTON PRODUCTION - 1916

The Eureau of the Census, United States Department of Commerce, reports the 1916 California cotton crop as 43,664 bales.

Of this number, 39,028 bales were produced in Imperial County and 4,636 bales in Riverside County.

In Imperial Valley, besides the 39,028 bales ginned on the American side, 24,147 bales were ginned on the Mexican side, making a total valley production of 63,175 bales.

California and Baja California total is 67,811 bales. Up to 1916, the Mexican cotton was ginned on the American side and the production included in the California statistics by the Census bureau. For relative purposes, the production of 67,811 bales may be compared with the following record of California cotton production as furnished this 5,986 bales; 1911, 9,790 bales; 1909, 183 bales; 1910, 23,838 bales; 1914, 49,835 bales and 1915, 28,551 bales.

The 1916 California production of 43,664 bales moved the state from 13th to 12th place in cotton producing rank.

In average yield per acre and average price per pound, received by growers for short staple cotton, the American standard, California again in 1916 led all cotton producing states. It was the only state whose growers averaged 20 cents per pound. The Bureau of Crop Estimates also reported that the average price of Durango cotton, which yields as heavily as short staple and composed 30 per cent of the crop, was 26 cents per pound.

The acre return in California was \$80, one third more than the average of the next ranking cotton state and nearly three times the average acre return of the United States. The following table is compiled from the revised reports of the Bureau of Crop Estimates as published in the Monthly Crop Report for June, 1917:

	California Virginia Missouri North Carolina Arkansas Tonnessee Louisiana Georgia South Carolina Tonas Oklahoma Mississipi Florida Alabama UNITED STAT	Average Yield Per Acre 400 :: 310 235 215 209 306 170 165 160 157 154 125 105 79	for	June, 1917:  Average Pric Per pound 20. ¢ 19.5 19. 19.2 19.1 19.2 19.1 19.3 19.3 19.3 19.4 18.5 19.2 19.1	8 4
--	---	--	-----	---	-----

A. M. Nelson Development Agent Imperial County El Centro, Cal.

#### INCREASE IN CROP ACGREAGES AND PROPERTY VALUES IN IMPERIAL

The following table is compiled from official reports of the State Board of Equalization, which are based on the annual census of county assessors:

1917 1910 1913 1914 1916 Total Assessed Property Value \$12,148,180 \$19,067,433 \$25,739,973 \$30,744,665 \$33,062,542

Alfalfa(acres)	32,703	85,000	109,653	95,562	99,123
Barley	43,573	116,000	71,915	83,540	60,658
Cotton	6,538	8,000	38,810	44,116	83,785 #
Cantaloupes	1,111	5,500	11,801 x	13,043 x	14,765 42
Milo	4,327		12,482	52,207	79,935@
Cattle (number	)14,063	42,238	43,896	61,920	77,143
	34,292	52,320	20,262	48,262	59,002
Sheep -	14,835	21,508	11,972	35,843	49,596
Poultry(Doz.)	2,844	4,341	5,187	41,446	10,630

# Cotton-Approximately 55,000 acres on Mexican side.

@ Milo---Census began before cotton planted. Changes since indicate cotton acreage about 70,000 acres; water company census indicates milo acreage as 115,000.

X Cantaloupes -- Includes other melons. Cantaloupe acreage, 1916, 8,500

	1917 census a		
Wheat 2,937 acres	Date palms	20,545 to	rees
Oats 265	Apricots	12,838	м
Potatoes 348	Fig	6,605	d'
Rice 365	Olive	5,910	**
Onions 240-337	Peach	2,726	
Lettuce 823 - 715	Pear	- 8,163	
CONTROL OF		1,491	
	Lemons		
Asparagus 728	orange	6,048	
Tomatoes 480	Grape fruit	46,152	0=
Grapes / 1,500°	SIMMUNOCO		95acro
Melons other	Mules	3,560	The same of the sa
than Cantaloupes	Horses	11,270	
1,285	Bees (hives)	12,465	
1200 785	Ostriches	2,011	
1200 100 +1	anher	.,	
Saura L 18 R Birdla-Rve Compa	mison of Tmay	erial Valle	tr

\$270,978 \$1,056,518

A bird's-wye comparison 1916 1900 1910 40,000 Population 13,591 Assessed \$12,148,180 \$30,744,665 Valuations Value of Products \$ 5,000,000 \$20,000,000 Value of School

Property

A.M. Welson Development Agent Imperial County, El Centro, Cal.

July 1,1917.

## IMPERIAL VALLEY

The Chief General Farming District of Southern California, Excelling in Production of Staple Crops.

FIELD CROPS

Alfalfa--114,491 acres, 1917, increase of 20 % in year. First in California. More than 10% of state production. More than twice rest of So. California, Longest growing season.

Backbone of permanent fertility of Imperial Valley soil. Barley-83,540 acres 1916. First in Sc. Cal. Threshing in April begins national grain harvest. Crop of barley and milo from same land same year.

boll weevil, no harvest-time rains, longest growing season. U.S.Department of Agriculture says California cotton(95% of which is produced in valley) brings higher average price per pound and yieldshigher average per acre than any other state. In 1909 but 324 acres devoted to cotton. LIVESTOCK

Cattle--61,920 head in 1916. First in So. California. Ober twice number in second cattle county. Green feed all year round. No barns needed. Importance of dairy cattle indicated by

following butter production figures:Butter--6,780,552 pounds made in 1916. Second among 58 counties - of California, Makes one-tenth butter of state. Makes six times more butter produced six other 8. Cal. counties

combined. Increased its production 235 % in six years. Swine-48,262 in 1916. First in California. State reports show next county 17,222. 10,000 more other So. Cal. counties.

Sheep--35,843 shown in assessor is report. Exceeds total other

So. Cal. counties. Rain free lambing season.
Poultry--11,446 dozens in 1916. Greateast turkey producting district on Pacific Coast.

Ostriches -- 2,000 largest herd in America. SOME OTHER GROPS

Cantaloupes--13,040 acres 1917, almost twice acreage of second cantaloupe state, Arkansas, which has 6,900 acres. Cal. acreage 17,300 greatest in U.S., all but 4,000 acres in Imperial valley. 4,617 cars shipped 1916.

Miscellaneous -- Table grapes, 1,200 acres, shipped early in June.
Asparagus, 536 acres, twelfth of state acreage, ealiest in market. Dates, superior varieties, 22,000 trees. grape-fruit, superior flavor, 70,000 non-bearing trees. Increasing acreage of lettuce, tomatoes, peas, onions and beans -earliest into gastern markets.

Office of Derelopment Agent El gentro

DIRECTORY

COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS -- IMPERIAL COUNTY July 1, 1917 Abbreviations: RM - Regular Meeting. AM-Annual Meeting. Mem. - Wo. of Members.

BRAWLEY: Brawley Chamber of Commerce

Officers

RV 2d and 4th Fridays. AN 2d Friday in March. Mem. 122
Pres., W.P. Casey Vice-pres., Harry Staub
Secty., E.F. Morris Treas., 1st ational bank
W.H. Best J. Neville T.Ecgar
G.F. Boarts J.D.Reavis T.P. Casey Directors W.H. Best C.F. Boarts Harry Staub

CALEXICO: Calexico Chamber of Commerce

Officers Pres. , Frank D. HevenerVice-pres., C.T. Wardlaw

Directors Frank W. Roach Treas. H.H. Griswold
W.T.Aitken C.T. Wardlaw
Sidney McHarg L.W. Jones Sidney McHarg L.M. Jones

EL CENTRO: El Centro Chamber of Commerce Mem. 160

Officers

RM Thursday nights AM 1st Fri after 1st Mon. in Jan.
Pres. F. B. Fuller 1st Vice Pres., C.W.Barton
2d Vice Pres, KO. King Exac. Secty., Jos. F. Seymour
Com'l Secty., W. H. Compton Treas., T.T. Cock
F.B. Fuller C.W. Barton T.T. Cock
Jos. F. Seymour Jr. M.O. King W.S. Fawcett
Clifford Coggins A.L. Hichmond G.W. Anderson
W.E. Clements J.L. Travers Directors F.B. Fuller

HOLTVILLE: Holtville Commercial Club

RM 2d Thursday AM 1st Tuesday in Feb. Mem. 70 Pres. M.G. Blanchard 1st Vice Pres., L.F. Shaw
21 Vice F, Warren Currier Treas. R. W. Hoover
Secty. Will H. Rogers
M.G. Blanchard Fred Jarboe L.F. Shaw
Watren Currier R.G. Webster Jas. T. Co Officers

Directors M.O. Blanchard L.F. Shaw Jas. T. Coyle B.R. Crandall C.H. Eckert

Imperial Ad Club DUPERIAL:

Rit Last Priday of month AM 1st Wed. of Oct. Mem. 89
Pres., N. A. Nackey Vice-Pres., C.W. Waite
Secty., C. Houston Smith Treas. O.W.Larson Officers

Directors N.A. Nackey L.J. Thomas L.J. Harris Chas. S. Waite Allison Peck O.W. Larson

COUNTY: Board of Supervisors.

What and, - 1.F. Shaw, Holtville: W.F. Beal, Brawley; P.E. Carr, Calexico; W.H. Brooks, El Centro; J. T. Rice, Imperial. Development Agent for Board, A.M.

Nelson, Courthouse, El Centro.

County Farm Bureau, Courthouse, El Centro.

President, W.H. Packard, Vice pres. S.O.Robinson.

Sacty., A.M. Nelson Tressurer, C.F. Boarts Associated Chambers of Cormerce . P. I. Dougherty, Adviser Jos. F. Jeymour, chairman, El Centro )

## IMPARIAL COUNTY.

	1919.	1920.	1921.
CROP		-	-
Corn acres			
bushels	51,111		
Oats acres	544		
bushels			
Wheat acres			
bushels			
Barley acres	18,225		
bushels			
Graim sorghpms acres			
Rough rice acres	,012,000		
bushels			
Dry edible beans acres	2		
bushels	32		
Alfalfa acres	48,508		
tons	96,430		
Small graims cut hay acres	7,362		
tons	6,634		
Annual legumes as hayacres	287		
tons	396		
Silage crops acres	1,252		
tons	12,802		
Corn for forage acres	1,004		
tons	1,989		
Grain Sorghums for - acres	2,395		
forage tons	4,415		
Root crops, forage - acres	2		
tons	9		
Potatoes acres	8		
bushels	228		
Tomatoes acres			
tons			
Lettuce acres			
crates			
Spinach acres tons			
Cabbage acres tons			
Cauliflower acres			
crates			
Sweet potatoes acres			
bushels			
Strawberries acres			
crates			
Other berries acres			
crates			
Cantaloupes acres			
crates			
Melons acres	10.00		
tons			
Celery acres		7 2 7	
crates	FC 070		
Cotton acres	56,938		
bales	26,343		

## IMPERIAL COUNTY (CONTINUED) -2-

CROP		1919	1920	1921
Reference and the second	non bearing trees	Market and the second s		
mpprob,	ппп	- 148		
	bushels harvested			
Dagahag	non bearing trees	- 1,142		
1 9201195	HOIL DEATING CLOSS	- 688		
	bushels harvested	- 449		
Pagana	non bearing trees	- 2,838		202
Pears,	non hasting ones	779		
	bushels harvested	- 376		
Plums	non bearing trees			
& Prun		- 190		
	bushels harvested	- 168		
Apri-	non bearing trees	- 208		
cots	пп	- 1,868		
0000	bushels harvested	- 1,786		
Figs	non bearing trees	-		
1100	11 11	-		
	tons harvested			
Olives	non bearing trees	-		
OTTLOOP,	in in in	-		
	tons harvested	-		
Orenges	non bearing trees	- 1,428		
OT OTTE OF	11 11	- 2,512		
	boxes harvested	- 1,719		
Lamans	non bearing trees	- 208		
Tiguronto,	11011 0007 7110 01000	- 478		
	boxes harvested	- 418		
Grape-	non bearing trees			
fruit,	Hou periling alone	-		
LIULO,	boxes harvested	_		
Almanda	non bearing trees	_		
AIMONUS	HOLL DAGITLE OFFICE	_		
	pounds harvested	-		
Title Theory does				
Wainuts	non bearing trees	- 400		
	manuala hammachad			
0.00	pounds harvested	- 28 600		
Grapes,	non bearing vines	20,000		
		246,684		
	pounds harvested	T, 011,001		
Avacade	8,	2		
	non bearing trees	100	1965- 55	

## IMPERIAL COUNTY PUBLICITY COMMISSION

EL CENTRO CALIFORNIA

## INCREASE IN LIVE STOCK, CROP ACREAGES AND PROPERTY VALUES IN IMPERIAL COUNTY

The following Table is compiled from Official Reports which are based on the annual census of county assessors:

	1910	1912	1914	1916	1918	1919	1920
Tota Assessed							
Property Value	\$12,148,180	\$19,067,433	\$25,739,973	\$30,744,665	\$35,859,028	\$40,350,450	\$73,197,093
FIELD CROPS						3.13405.3445.5	********
Alfalfa - Acres	32,703	85,000	109,653	95,562	98,274	96,040	92,229
Barley	43,573	116,000	71,915	83,540	69,761	75,292	69,430
Cotton	6,538	8,000	38,810	44,116	77,216	61,217	126,081
Cantaloupes	1,111	5,500	11,801	13,043	12,214	13,392	18,710
Milo	4,327	******	12,482	52,207	81,648	67,816	35,590
Wheat	1777777		*******	1,866	9,050	37,288	9,506
LIVE STOCK				*			0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000
Cattle Number	r 14,063	42,238	43,896	61,920	59,622	72,563	66,520
Hogs	34,292	52,320	20,262	48,262	34,194	29.127	28,403
Sheep	14,825	21,508	11,972	35,843	47,596	107,886	65,207
Poultry - Dozen	2,844	4,341	5,187	11,446	9,920	10,572	9,502

## OTHER FIGURES FROM THE 1920 CENSUS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Acres Asparagus 860	-			VALUE OF P	RODUCTS
Tomatoes 1222	A BIRDS-EY	Butter	\$3,377,000		
Peas 1658		Cantaloupes	9.208,000		
Onions 420	IMPERIA	OF AL VALLEY		Cotton and its	7,200,000
Melons, other than				By-Products	23,957,000
Cantaloupes 3207 Oats 526	1900	0 1910	1920	Grapes	494.000
Strawberries 670	Population 0	13,591	43,383	Grain	5,007.040
Cantaloupes 18719	Assessed Valuation 0	\$9,615,066	\$73,197,093	Honey	260,400
Cotton 126081	Value of Products 0	\$5,000,000	\$65,000,000	Live Stock Vegetables	4,752,300 1,809,500
Mules 3314 Horses 10349 Bees - Stands 13160	Total Exports Products Consume	ed Locally 13,4	509,549. 490,461.	Watermelons	276,960

and

C. statestics

#### Imperial County - the 12th of the 59 Counties in California.

. . .

In 1900, no census report.

In 1910, Imperial County's agricultural statistics were:

Value of crops and livestock products , , \$ 2,394,818.00
In 1920,
Value of crops and livestock products . . . \$20,195,367.00

Therefore, in January 1920, it became the 12th of the fifty nine (59) agricultural counties of California. The gross amount may be inflated somewhat, but that was equally true all over the state and in the Whated States after the World War.

In 1910, Number of Farms . . 1322 (1) In 1920, Number of Farms . . 2843 (2)

In 1910, Value all farm property (1) \$23,648,067.00 In 1920, Value all farm property (2) \$69,171,454.00

NOTE: - For further statistics See Appendix "B".

<sup>1 13</sup>th U. S. Census Bulletin, Department of Commerce, 1910.

U. S. Census, Department of Commerce Pamphlet, 1920, 50 Agricultural leading counties U. S. Released for newspapers, November 1921.