

PROPERTY OF STANISLAUS COUNTY
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AGRICULTURAL
CROP AND LIVESTOCK
REPORT

STANISLAUS COUNTY
1946

Agricultural Extension Service
and
Department of Agriculture
of
Stanislaus County

FOREWORD

This is the 20th annual crop and livestock report for Stanislaus County which has been compiled and published by the Stanislaus County Agricultural Extension Service. The last six reports have been jointly submitted by the Extension Service and County Agricultural Commissioner.

The 1946 season will show the largest gross agricultural income Stanislaus County has ever recorded. The farmers, shippers, and others responsible for the production and marketing of this record crop and livestock production are to be commended for an outstanding job which they have done this year. As during the past several years, farmers and shippers were faced with many complex problems which had to be overcome, causing additional effort and expense.

Acreages of permanent crops are reported in actual bearing acreage only, other crops in actual planted acreage. Livestock and livestock products are reported in numbers of sales of livestock and their products. Production is reported in units commonly used in marketing county crops and livestock products commercially in this county. Prices are reported on an average f.o.b. basis. This report represents the farmers' gross income. Cost of production, which would include harvesting and handling, must be deducted to get the net farm income. Revenue may be duplicated in some instances where such crops as Ladino clover pasture, alfalfa, native pastures and some of the feed crops may be produced and consumed on the same farm and be reported under both livestock and field crops.

Both the Farm Advisor and the Agricultural Commissioner have made every effort to make this report as accurate as possible. Data have been carefully checked for accuracy with various agencies and information has been obtained from the most reliable sources.

We wish to express our appreciation to all those who have assisted us in getting the necessary information which has made the compilation of this report possible.

A. A. JUNGEMAN
County Farm Advisor

CROP SUMMARY

Stanislaus County produced better than average crops during the 1946 season. The beginning of the season was somewhat behind but with two warm spells, one in April and one in May, the season advanced and became about normal. Then the weather turned moderately warm but below normal weather for June with a fair July, and a short hot spell the beginning of August with the remainder of August and September below normal.

The harvest season after the hot spell in early August was unusually favorable for most crops, especially peaches, tomatoes, and beans. It also made for better quality of walnuts and grapes. Early rains in October were followed with clearing weather doing little damage until most crops were harvested. Practically no loss was encountered during the 1946 harvest due to rain, compared to the 1945 season.

Fruits and Nuts

Almonds -- Almond yields were above normal but not as high as in 1945. Some orchards, however, yielded more than in 1945. Orchards having high production in 1945 showed some decline in production this year. The harvest season was favorable.

Apricots -- One of the largest apricot crops was again produced in the second fairly large crop in succession. The crop was above normal.

Grapes -- The production of grapes was about normal with prices for both wine and raisin grapes higher than the previous year. The market strengthened materially after government controls were lifted. Table grape prices were good too.

Peaches -- The peach season started fairly favorable for the ripening of early varieties until the early midsummers, such as Peaks and Paloros, when a week of high temperatures caused advanced ripening of fruit causing this variety to yield less. From then on the remaining season was favorable and Stanislaus County produced the largest tonnage of peaches in its history to date. Freestone peaches, especially Muirs and Lovells, showed a decline in prices from 1945.

Walnuts -- Yields of mature walnut orchards declined slightly but quality was better than in 1945. Increased yields were shown on younger orchards.

Field Crops

Alfalfa -- The season was unusually good for alfalfa and one of the best years for production and quality. There was practically no loss due to weather. There was some slight damage to a few fields due to the alfalfa caterpillar. Alfalfa seed production was above normal and yields were good.

Beans -- Cool weather in July and August was favorable for a good set of beans and yields were above normal for limas and below normal for blackeyes. The bean acreage has declined for the last three years in succession. Acreage has been used for other crops paying more money, until this year when bean growing has been the most profitable since they were produced in 1918 immediately following World War I. A very favorable harvest season was encountered this year. Yields of first crop blackeye beans were light.

Corn, Field --- An increased acreage of corn for grain on the east side of the county is noticeable.

Corn, for Silage -- Acreage planted to corn for silage was about normal. Yields were good.

Grain Crops -- Grain yields were about normal with acreages of barley slightly increased. The oat acreage remains about the same but wheat has steadily declined in acreage.

Ladino Clover --- Acreage of permanent irrigated pastures, usually classed as Ladino clover, increased about 13,000 acres over the previous year as irrigation water was ample and the season most favorable. Cattlemen, dairymen, and sheepmen are relying more and more on this important forage crop. In the last 15 years the crop has increased from a bare few thousand acres to over 83,000 acres at present. It now exceeds the alfalfa acreage this year by 20,000 acres.

Rice -- The rice acreage has held steady, yields being slightly lower, and prices were very good.

Sudan Grass -- Sudan grass still fills the need for a good quick summer pasture for livestock acreage was about normal.

Sweet Potatoes -- The sweet potato acreage has dropped below normal but yields and quality were maintained.

Truck Crops (Vegetables)

Baby Lima Beans --- Approximately 2,000 acres were harvested green for quick-freeze purposes with good yields.

Carrots --- Carrots were grown on the west side. Acreage was small and yields were normal.

Melons --- Acreage of watermelons was larger than in the past few years. Acreage of cantaloupes declined but honeydews, persians and casabas increased. The weather was favorable for yields and quality.

Peas --- Peas for canning was slightly below normal. Yields on the west side were very good.

Spinach --- The spinach acreage was larger than normal. Yields were spotted due to a hot spell during early April but average yields were about normal.

Strawberries --- The county had the largest acreage of strawberries for the past number of years. Yields were about normal.

Sweet Corn --- Acreage of sweet corn is increasing. Yields and quality were good.

Tomatoes --- The season was very favorable for yield and quality of tomatoes, particularly on the west side of the county. The county had one of the largest tomato crops and acreage was larger than usual.

Home Gardens -- Home gardens declined since the war years but still show larger numbers than in pre-war years.

Commercial truck farms have increased in number and acreage

Livestock, Poultry, and Dairying

Beef Cattle -- Numbers of cattle and prices were fairly normal, most cattlemen holding for higher prices during the summer months because of meat control.

Dairying -- Dairy production has remained high in spite of shortage of concentrate dairy feeds earlier in the year. The number of cows increased slightly and dairy production was slightly higher over 1945.

Hogs -- Hogs declined in numbers from 1945 due to feed costs but prices received were higher than in 1945.

Rabbits -- Rabbit production declined among amateur feeders but was increased by commercial producers. Therefore, production remained about the same as a year ago.

Sheep -- Sheep production held up about to last year's total, most lambs being finished on permanent irrigated pastures. Prices received were above those of last year.

Poultry -- Due to shortage of concentrates and feed grains, poultry flocks were cut about 15 to 20 per cent so production declined from 1945.

Turkeys -- Turkey production declined from 1945 because of shortage of feed grains and concentrates. The sale of hatching eggs was thus affected, also the number of meat birds for sale this year compared to the 1945 season. Turkey prices fluctuated violently because of the meat control and the decontrol of meat which lowered turkey prices toward the holiday season.

Honey -- Honey production showed an increase over 1945 and an increase in price received. Income from bees was almost double that of a year ago.

FRUIT, GRAPES, AND NUTS

Crop	Bearing Acreage	PRODUCTION			F.O.B. VALUE	
		Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Value
Almonds	6,400	.55	3,520	Ton	\$520.00	\$ 1,830,400
Apricots	5,411	6.38	34,528	Ton	91.62	3,163,541
(Canned			22,248	Ton	91.00	\$2,024,568)
(Dried			1,411	Ton	615.00	867,765)
(Shipped			516	Ton	105.00	54,180)
(Frozen			2,359	Ton	92.00	217,028)
Boysenberries	25	640.00	16,000	Crate	2.25	36,000
Figs	711	1.50	1,066	Ton	125.00	133,250
Grapes, Raisin	6,851	7	47,957	Ton	65.00	3,117,205
Shipping and Canning	600	7.	4,200	Ton	72.00	302,400
Table	1,323	8.	10,584	Ton	93.00	984,312
Wine	10,797	5.5	59,383	Ton	92.00	5,463,236
Peaches, Clings	11,365	13.34+	151,704	Ton	64.25	9,746,982
Freestones	4,806	13.56+	65,180	Ton	47.59-	3,101,900
(Shipping			2,250	Ton	62.62	140,900)
(Canning			5,200	Ton	56.00	291,200)
(Freezing			2,500	Ton	58.00	145,000)
(Drying			7,890	Ton	320.00	2,524,800)
Walnuts	3,790	.81	3,070	Ton	560.00	1,719,200
Miscellaneous Fruit	1,178			Acre	350.00	412,300
Nursery Stock	119 $\frac{1}{2}$			Acre		414,000
(100 acres = \$250,000)						
(15 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres @ \$8,000 per A. = \$124,000)						
(4 acres = \$40,000)						
Strawberry Nursery	50	20,000,000 plants at \$10 per 1,000				200,000

53,426 $\frac{1}{2}$

\$30,624,726

ACREAGE ESTIMATES OF STANISLAUS COUNTY FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

AS OF 1946

by Stanislaus County Department of Agriculture
Milo M. Schrock, Agricultural Commissioner

<u>CROP</u>	<u>ACRES BEARING</u>	<u>ACRES NON-BEARING</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ALMONDS	6,400	1,488	7,888
Drake	765	18	783
Eureka	38	25	63
I.X.L.	640	64	704
Jordanola	15	---	15
Lewelling	17	---	17
Mission (Texas)	1,632	670	2,302
NePlus Ultra	641	136	777
Nonpareil	2,190	557	2,747
Peerless	29	10	39
Other varieties	433	8	441
APPLES	5		5
APRICOTS	5,411	9	5,420
Blenheim-Royal	806	3	809
Moorpark-Hemskirk	136	---	136
Tilton	3,356	6	3,362
Other varieties	1,113	---	1,113
CHERRIES	170		170
Bing	35	---	35
Bl. Republican	11	---	11
Chapman	3	---	3
Lambert	5	---	5
Royal Ann	85	---	85
Tartarian	31	---	31
CHESTNUTS (ALL)	20		20
FIGS	711		
Black	334	---	334
Calimyrna	62	---	62
Kadota	244	---	244
White Adriatic	71	---	71
GRAPEFRUIT (MARSH)	10		10
GRAPES (RAISIN)	7,451	634	
Muscat	249	6	255
Sultana	30	---	30
Thompson	7,110	627	7,737
Zante Currant	62	1	63
GRAPES (TABLE)	1,323	16	
Concord	6	---	6
Emperor	176	---	176
Malaga	788	---	788
Red Malaga	211	---	211
Ribier	72	---	72
Tokay	40	---	40
Other	30	16	46

<u>CROP</u>	<u>ACRES BEARING</u>	<u>ACRES NON-BEARING</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
GRAPES (WINE)	10,797	845	11,642
Alicante	2,907	105	3,012
Burger	95	---	95
Carignane	5,214	403	5,617
Colombar	17	---	17
Palomino	141	173	314
Grenache	181	15	196
Mission	305	37	342
Zinfandel	1,521	76	1,597
Other (white)	120	---	120
" (dark)	296	36	332
NECTARINES	131	---	131
Gower	21	---	21
Quetta	39	---	39
Stanwick	33	---	33
Other varieties	38	---	38
OLIVES	255	---	255
Ascolano	1	---	1
Barouni	1	---	1
Manzanillo	111	---	111
Mission	116	---	116
Sevillano	1	---	1
Other varieties	25	---	25
ORANGES	44	---	44
Navel	38	---	38
Other	3	---	3
Seedling	3	---	3
PEACHES (CLING)	11,365	3,101	14,466
Gaume	1,519	112	1,631
Halford	2,635	346	3,031
Hauss	26	---	26
Johnson	85	20	105
Libbee	6	---	6
Paloro	2,461	204	2,665
Peak	947	326	1,273
Phillips	1,936	1	1,937
Sims	233	47	280
Tuscan	296	---	296
Other	1,171	2,045	3,216
PEACHES (FREESTONE)	4,806	407	5,213
Babcock	5	---	5
Crawford	21	---	21
Early Elberta	20	---	20
Elberta	718	227	945
Hale	339	19	358
Lovell	1,990	101	2,091
Muir	1,076	2	1,078
Salway	10	---	10
Other	627	58	685

<u>CROP</u>	<u>ACRES BEARING</u>	<u>ACRES NON-BEARING</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
PEARS (Bartlett)	57	.	57
PECANS (ALL)	73		73
PERSIMMONS	8		8
Hachiya	3	---	3
Other	5	---	5
PLUMS	183	2	185
Beauty	1	---	1
Kelsey	44	---	44
President	59	---	59
Santa Rosa	26	2	28
Tragedy	14	---	14
Wickson	17	---	17
Other	22	---	22
POMEGRANATES	8		8
Wonderful	5		5
Other	3		3
PRUNES	207		207
French	92	---	92
Imperial	5	---	5
Sugar	110	---	110
QUINCES (ALL)	7	---	7
WALNUTS	3,790	561	4,351
Concord	122	15	137
Eureka	886	104	990
Franquette	1,068	278	1,346
Mayette	155	89	244
Payne	1,315	63	1,378
Placentia	83	---	83
Miscellaneous	161	12	173
TOTAL ALL	53,232	7,063	60,295

FIELD CROPS

Crop	Acreage	PRODUCTION			F.O.B. VALUE	
		Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Value
Alfalfa	63,101	6.4	403,846	Ton	\$27.50	\$11,105,765
Barley	59,770	16.25	971,262	Cwt.	3.00	2,913,786
Beans, Dry	40,769	16.00	652,304	Cwt.	13.25	8,643,028
Bean Straw	25,000	1.00	25,000	Ton	12.00	300,000
Corn, Grain	487	23.2	11,298	Cwt.	3.20	36,153
Corn, Silage	4,396	10.0	43,960	Ton	8.00	351,680
Cotton	50	425.0	21,250	Lb.	.31	6,587
Grain Sorghum	507	16.00	8,112	Cwt.	3.15	25,552
Hay, Grain	18,207	1.60	29,131	Ton	23.00	670,013
Hay, Wild	10,250	1.25	12,812	Ton	19.00	243,428
Oats	12,372	11.00	136,092	Cwt.	3.25	442,299
Pasture, Range	283,000			Acre	1.25	353,750
Permanent Irrigated (Ladino)	83,230			Acre	45.00	3,745,350
Sudan Grass	6,217			Acre	25.00	155,425
Stubble	74,061			Acre	1.25	92,576
Rice	2,866	33.5	96,011	Cwt.	4.25	408,046
Sugar Beets	396	11.75	4,653	Ton	14.00	65,142
Sweet Potatoes	1,038	8,000	8,304,000	Lb.	.04 $\frac{1}{2}$	373,680
Wheat	919	10.6	9,741	Cwt.	3.50	34,093
	686,636					\$29,966,353

TRUCK CROPS (VEGETABLES)

Crop	Acreage	PRODUCTION			F.O.B. VALUE	
		Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Value
Cantaloupes	448	200	89,600	Crate	\$ 3.25	\$ 291,200
Carrots	165	15	2,475	Ton	50.00	123,750
Honeydews and Casabas	1,427	10	14,270	Ton	35.00	499,450
Lima Beans (for freezing)	2,000	3200	640,000	Lb.	.06	384,000
Peas	2,404	1.75	4,207	Ton	78.00	328,146
Spinach	2,878	4.5	12,951	Ton	24.00	310,824
Strawberries	75	600	45,000	Crate (9# each)	2.07	93,150
Sweet Corn	260	125	32,500	Crate (65# each)	2.25	73,125
Tomatoes	5,364	16	85,824	Ton	26.00	2,231,424
Watermelons	2,121	12	25,452	Ton	30.00	763,560
Other Garden Truck Crops	956			Acre	230.00	219,880
	18,098					<hr/> \$5,318,509

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

<u>Kind</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Per Unit</u>		<u>Value</u>
*Beef Cattle	42,000 head	\$62.00 each	\$2,604,000	
	22,500 fed		<u>652,000</u>	\$ 3,256,000
*Dairy, Butterfat	19,278,000 lbs.	\$ 1.06 per lb.	20,434,680	
Meat and breeding stock			<u>2,850,000</u>	23,284,680
Honey - 9,000 hives 50 lbs. per colony		\$.20 per lb.	90,000	
Wax 4,440 lbs.		.41½ per lb.	1,842	
3,000 queen bees		1.00 each	3,000	
900 3-lb. packages		4.00 per pkg.	3,600	
1,000 Colonies for pollinization		1.00 per col.	<u>1,000</u>	99,442
Horses and Mules	300 (sold)			24,000
Poultry, Eggs	4,409,650 doz.	\$.46 each doz.	2,028,439	
Meat	350,000 lbs.	.36 each	126,000	
Hens	190,000 @ 3½ lbs.	.27 per lb.	<u>179,550</u>	2,333,989
Rabbits, Fryers	64,441	\$.75 each	48,331	
Skins and Breeding Stock			<u>10,427</u>	58,758
*Sheep, Lambs	24,000	13.00 each	312,000	
Ewes	21,000	7.50 each	157,500	
Fed Lambs	100,000 @ 15 lbs	16.00 per cwt	240,000	
(Ewe	176,000 lbs.	.48 per lb	84,480	
Wool (
(Lamb	200,000 lbs.	.42 per lb.	<u>84,000</u>	877,980
Swine	12,000	45.00 each		540,000
Turkeys, Meat	913,000	6.84 each	6,244,920	
Eggs	5,000,000	.32 each	<u>1,600,000</u>	7,844,920
				\$38,319,769

*Subsidy payments included.

SEED CROP PRODUCTION

Crop	Acreage	PRODUCTION			F.O.B. VALUE	
		Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Value
Alfalfa	675	315	212,625	Lb.	\$.43*	\$ 91,428
Cantaloupe	30	216	6,480	Lb.	.50	3,240
Cucumbers	6	127	762	Lb.	.45	343
Gourds	25	320	8,000	Lb.	.35	2,800
Ladino	300	125	37,500	Lb.	1.20	45,000
Pumpkin	82	260	21,320	Lb.	.35	7,462
Squash	318	190	60,420	Lb.	.30	18,126
Watermelon	612	245	149,940	Lb.	.30	44,982
	2,048					<u>\$213,381</u>

*Includes A.C.A. payment of 7¢ per lb.

S U M M A R Y

<u>Item</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Estimated Value</u>
Fruit, Grapes, and Nuts	53,426 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$30,624,726
Field Crops	686,636	29,966,353
Truck Crops (Vegetables)	18,098	5,318,509
Seed Crop Production	2,048	213,381
Livestock and Poultry		<u>38,319,769</u>
	760,127 $\frac{1}{2}$	<u>\$104,442,738</u>