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1954 Annual Crop and

Livestock Report

STANISLAUS COUNTY

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE and DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Cooperating

Joreword

The 1954 Stanislaus County Annual Crop and Livestock Report is listed in this circular. This report has been jointly prepared by the Agricultural Extension Service and the Agricultural Commissioner of the county.

The crop report covers the acreage estimates of fruit and nut crops, along with the gross agricultural income from all crops including fruits and nuts, field and truck crops, livestock, poultry, nursery stock, and seed production crops. This report indicates the gross returns and does not report the net returns to the growers. In order to obtain net income, the cost of producing the farm commodity must be deducted.

Acreages of crops are reported in producing acreages only and do not include the non-bearing acreages of permanent crops. Livestock and livestock products are reported in the number of sales of livestock and their products. Production is reported in units commonly used in marketing county crops and livestock products commercially in Stanislaus County. Prices are reported on a f.o.b. basis, or as gross return to the farmer. There may be some duplications in the gross returns reported in this report because in some instances, such as alfalfa hay, permanent pastures, native pastures, and some feed crops are produced and consumed on the same farm; and the reporting of their sales may be both listed as livestock sales and as sales of field crops.

During the past year this office has, in cooperation with the State Department of Agriculture, made a detailed survey of acreages in the county. This procedure is customarily done every four or five years. In the interim years acreage changes are only tabulated as the information is available to the local office. Therefore, there has been some change in acreages listed between the 1953 permanent crop acreage and the 1954 acreage figures.

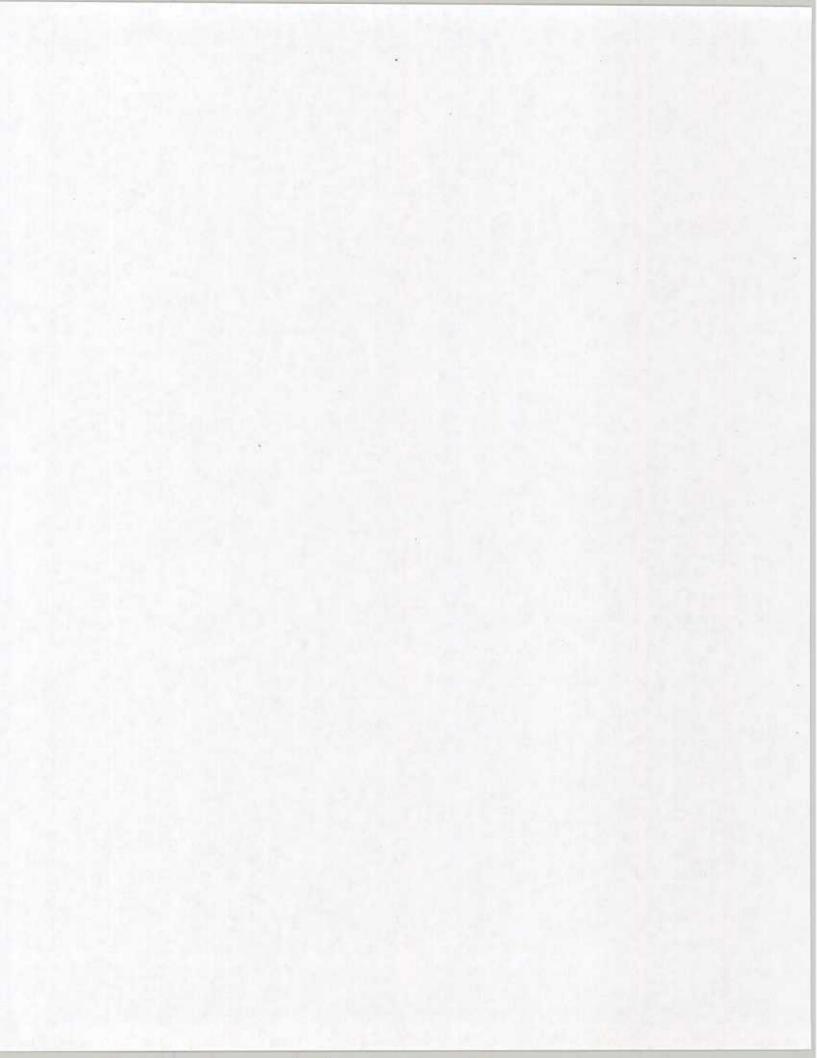
The gross agricultural income for 1954 amounted to \$112,709,676 as compared to \$115,388,782 in 1953, showing a drop of close to \$3,000,000 in gross income.

The greatest drop occurred in the dairy industry where about $2\frac{1}{2}$ million dollars less was reported. Other crops showing decreases in income are beef cattle, poultry, turkeys, clingstone peaches, walnuts, and several other crops. Crops making the greatest gain in comparison with the previous year are grapes, field crops, truck crops and seed crops.

In compiling this report, the Agricultural Commissioner has included the latest data of acreage and permanent crops, while the Agricultural Extension Service has figured yields and prices for the various commodities produced in the county. The agencies have made every effort to compile this report as accurately as possible, having checked with every known source of reliable information on production and prices.

We wish to express our appreciation for the cooperation and assistance of various agencies such as irrigation districts, cooperatives, local business concerns, producers, and others who have made this report possible.

MILO M. SCHROCK County Agricultural Commissioner ALBERT G. VOLZ County Director of Extension



FRUIT AND NUTS

<u>Almonds</u> - The 1954 almond crop showed the lowest yield since 1944. The yield amounted to only 575 pounds per acre. The price received for almonds was the same as it was in 1953.

<u>Apricots</u> -- There was a normal apricot crop in the county. However, the acreage of apricots has been dropping every year until now there is less than 1,800 acres of apricots in the county. The apricot price was about the same as in 1953 except for dried apricots which sold as high as 38¢ per pound.

<u>Peaches, Clingstone</u> - The clingstone peach crop in Stanislaus County was good with a heavy set. In order to limit the production, the State Control Board set a 17% green drop which caused a reduction of some 13,000 tons under that produced for 1953. Because of the heavy set, sizes were not too good and growers experienced some difficulty in sizing some of the early varieties. The price was \$55, the same as in 1953. However, with a lower tonnage sold, the income dropped some \$800,000.

Peaches, Freestone - The freestone peach crop was about normal in the county with about the same tonnage being produced as in 1953. The price of \$50 a ton, a drop of \$5 from last year, was received. There was a considerable increase of the tonnage frozen, with some decrease in the tons that were dried.

<u>Nectarines</u> - - The nectarine acreage is on the increase in Stanislaus County, with a considerable interest in several of the newer varieties which have been selling at premium prices on Eastern markets. The income from nectarines more than doubled the past year; however, some of the early varieties, such as John Rivers, had a very little crop because of delayed defoliation caused by the warm winter.

<u>Cherries</u> - - Cherries are one of the minor crops in this county with only 71 acres in production. There was a normal crop this year with prices fairly good.

<u>Plums</u> - Plums are also a minor crop with only 46 producing acres. Prices of shipped plums were better than a year ago. Some growers received as high as \$200 a ton for shipped plums.

<u>Olives</u> -- The olive crop was about 75% normal, averaging about 3 tons per acre. The price of canned olives varied from \$175 to \$300 a ton; whereas, the price of olives for oil was considerably cheaper and many growers received very little return from olive oil.

<u>Walnuts</u> - The walnut crop in the county was just as good as in other walnut producing areas. The 1954 season was disappointing. Hot weather during the growing season was probably the cause of a large amount of damage, along with lighter sets in some of the varieties. The acreage in the county has increased each year until at the present time there are over 9,000 acres in production. This is approximately a 1,000 acre increase over 1953. Prices on the average for the crop dropped from \$430 a ton in 1953 to \$375 in 1954. Total returns on the crop amounted to \$1,700,000; whereas, the previous year the returns added up to \$2,100,000. <u>Grapes</u> - - Climatic conditions were quite good for the growing of grapes this past season. This, in addition to the pulling out of many of the vines growing under dry land conditions, accounts for a large increase in average yields. Based on average yields, the gross return for the grapes is considerably higher than the past year; although, the price received per ton was down slightly. Indications are that the acreage is now stabilized.

Boysenberries - - Boysenberry yields were very good although an examination of the figures does not necessarily reveal this because there was no stripping of the vines for the winerys. Approximately 500 acres were put in and an anticipated additional 200 acres is expected for 1955.

<u>Strawberries</u> - - The early crop was very productive with many of the growers complaining of reduced yields in the second crop; the reduced yields probably being caused by the severe hot weather in August. The price was down slightly, and the outlook for strawberries continues good.

FIELD CROPS

<u>Alfalfa</u> - - Alfalfa hay acreage was down a little and total tonnage was reduced further by the fact that the acreage of Common alfalfa harvested for seed increased by more than 3,000 acres. Hay prices were about the same. Carryover into the 1955 season will be practically none, due to heavy usage during winter months.

Beans - - Total acreage planted to beans shows a slight increase. Increases were mostly in baby limas and miscellaneous varieties. Prices of baby limas dropped considerably and large limas showed a smaller drop. Blackeye prices were somewhat higher, reflecting over-all balance of supply and demand. Outlook may be for lower acreages, due to lower support prices.

<u>Grain</u> - - Barley acreage was up slightly but the income received by farmers was down a little due to lower prices.

Field Corn - - Acreage harvested for grain about doubled with yields about normal. Corn harvested for ensilage increased considerably as dairymen continue to make better use of this excellent feed. There is still room for increase in corn acreage which can be easily used by the local poultry and dairy industry.

Sudan Grass - - Sudan acreage increased moderately. The crop continues to be used mainly for dairy cattle in the irrigated section.

Rice - - Rice acreage increased because of the favorable price outlook (1953 crop report figures were found to be higher than actually was the case). Prices dropped considerably, however, as national supplies continued to pile up in warehouses. Rice yields were down because of the exceptionally cool summer and fall weather.

TRUCK CROPS

<u>Green Lima Beans</u> - - Green lima bean acreage again increased, even though prices were down slightly from 1953. Lower yields were also the case, due to unfavorable growing conditions. <u>Cantaloupes</u> - - County acreage was down in 1954. Early marketing was unsatisfactory but recovered rather well later in the season.

<u>Watermelons</u> - - Planting was increased by 500 acres. Price per ton was down 33% which resulted in a low total value of the crop.

<u>Spinach</u> - - Acreage remained stable but the yield was down 1/2 ton. With a reduction of \$2.50 per ton in price, the deal was somewhat less satisfactory.

<u>Sweet Potatoes</u> - - Acreage was up over 100% from 1953, with yield about the same. Opportunities for increased yield and quality seem to be greater for this crop than for most others.

Tomatoes - - Although the canning price was down, the yield was up by about one ton per acre. Favorable weather late in the season helped the shipping tomato enterprise considerably.

SEED PRODUCTION

Seed Production - - Certified alfalfa seed acreage continued to increase as this crop gains favor with Westside farmers. Yields were about the same as last year but prices were more favorable.

Common alfalfa seed acreage increased from 317 to 3,700 acres, due to a very active market caused by seed failures throughout much of the rest of the world. Outlook for both of these crops appears to be good for the 1955 season.

Ladino Seed Production - - Due to the low price, certified seed production of certified Ladino seed in the county was nonexistant this past year. There were a couple of relatively small fields of common seed harvested, but not sufficient to be considered in preparing this report.

LIVESTOCK, POULTRY, AND DAIRYING

Beef Cattle - - There is a definite trend toward more farm-size feed lots in the county. There is also more supplemental feeding being done on pasture this year. There was good early feed in the Eastside range land, but the feed dried up considerably prior to the last spring rains. Rainfall on Westside range area was very short.

<u>Hogs</u> - - There was some curtailment in swine production this past year due to the VE quarantine. Several small garbage feeders went out of business rather than rig up for cooking. Those producers who are cooking garbage are very well satisfied so far with the results they are having.

Sheep - - Number of range sheep remain about constant. There seems to be a small increase in farm-size flocks.

<u>Rabbits</u> - - A substantial increase was shown in the rabbit fryer industry in Stanislaus County over 1953. There has been both an increase in the size of the herds and the number of rabbit raisers. The market is demanding a high quality, dressed, packaged rabbit. The industry needs a good consumer educational program as well as a continued and improved production and management program. <u>Chicken Eggs</u> - - An 8% increase in the number of eggs sold for human consumption was shown in 1954 over 1953. Many new flocks were established and some new producers. The unforgettable year, 1953, of high egg prices and relatively low comparable feed prices was probably the cause of the new influx. The 1954 eggfeed ratio was the widest in many years.

<u>Chicken Meat</u> - - Fryers - Production down and farm income down. Over a year of very unfavorable producer prices forced many people out of business. The larger, more efficient producers are still in business and are making a small profit. Over production in many states has been felt in the West, especially in California.

Hens -- Lowest prices received for hens since the depression days of the '30's. Hens sold for less than 50% of the average 1953 price. Some light-type hens held on the market at 8 cents a pound.

<u>Turkeys</u> - - Meat - Stanislaus County, along with California and the rest of the United States, took a setback in the 1954 turkey crop. There was a small decrease in production and the price was down considerably from 1953. The fryertype turkey was down in both numbers and demand.

Breeder Flocks - Breeder flocks showed a decrease and about 20% less eggs were sold for hatching purposes. Prices received for eggs showed a decrease of 3 cents to 8 cents per egg in 1954 over the average 1953 price.

<u>Dairying</u> - Dairy production in the county increased slightly during the year, however, this was offset by a greater reduction in price, both for manufacturing and market milk. There was another change somewhat to the disadvantage of dairymen who buy their feed late, in that many went into the winter months with a shortage of feed on hand, and later had to pay a higher price. Culling continued at about a usual or slightly higher rate, although a few dairymen felt that they had to carry extra cows to meet their financial commitments. The over-all increase in the size of herds has continued so that the average herd is about 20% higher than it was some four years ago. Due to the surplus of Grade A milk, there has been practically no conversion from Grade B to Grade A facilities. Most of the new barns were constructed to take the place of those that were abandoned. Grade A contracts have continued to be at a premium.

MISCELLANEOUS

<u>Honey</u> - - The honey production from 20,000 hives in the county amounted to 50 pounds per hive. Bees were used for pollinization in fruit crops and also in various seed crops.

ACREAGE ESTIMATES OF STANISLAUS COUNTY FRUIT AND NUT CROPS

1954

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

CROP BEARING ACRES ALMONDS 412 229 Jordanola - - - - -325 6 1,931 Ne Plus Ultra -----697 Nonpareil ------2,726 60 Other Almonds -----74 TOTAL AMONDS 6,460 APRICOTS 174 6 1,587 TOTAL APRICOTS 1.769 CHERRIES 8 1 2 13 Tartarian _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ TOTAL CHERRIES 31 FIGS Black -----19 87 <u>5</u> 111 TOTAL FIGS GRAPES, RAISIN 16 Thompson Seedless ------6,274 13 TOTAL RAISIN VARIETIES 6,303 GRAPES, TABLE Concord l 125 390 154 146 22 69 TOTAL TABLE GRAPES 907

BEARING ACRES

CROP

GRAPES			
	Alicante Bouschet	884	
	Burger	36	
	Carignane	4,911	
	Chasselas	192	
	Grenache	890	
	Mission	472	
	Palomino	361	
	Petit Sirah	7	
	Zinfandel	422	
	Other Wine - White	172	
	Other Wine - Dark	448	
	TOTAL WINE GRAPES	8,795	
	TOTAL ALL GRAPES	•	16,0
NECTAR			
	Gower	8	
· .	Quetta	47	
	John Rivers	65	
	Other Nectarines	110	
	TOTAL NECTARINES	230	
OT TURG	(All Varieties)	1.07	
OPTATO		401	
PEACHE	S, CLINGSTONE		
	Andora	669	
	Carolyn	148	
	Cortez	970	
	Fortuna	1,503	
		1,570	
	Gomes (Stuart)	1,507	
	Halford	3,040	
		114	
	Paloro		
	Peak		
	Phillip	1,331 303	
	Other Clings	174	
	TOTAL CLINGSTONE PEACHES	1,195	
PEACHE	S, FREESTONE		
	Early Elberta	6	
	Elberta	1,332	
	Hale	119	
	Lovell	629	
	Muir	146	
	Rio Oso Gem	183	
	Other Freestones	167	
	TOTAL FREESTONE PEACHES	2,582	
	TOTAL ALL PEACHES		16,
			,
PLUMS	(All Varieties)	46	
	· · ·	• •	

BEARING ACRES

CROP

WALNUTS	
Concord	122
Eureka	2,385
Franquette	3,016
Hartley	539
Mayette	690
Payne	1,700
Placentia	22
Miscellaneous	512
Seedling – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – –	<u>78</u>
TOTAL WAINUTS	064, 9

TOTAL ALL

50,809

	Bearing		Production		F.O.E	B. Value
Crop Almonds	Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Value
	6,460	575	1,857	Ton	\$ 460.00	\$ 854,220
Apricots	1,769	589	10,389*	Ton		993,385*
(Canned			7,341	Ton	90.00	660,690)
(Dried	1,650 (gi	reen)	275 Dry	7 Ton	750.00	206,250)
(Shipped -	fresh mark	cet	40	Ton	100.00	4,000)
(Frozen			300	Ton	90.00	27,000)
(Apricot p	pits		니뵤	Ton	20,00	225)
(By-produc	ets		1,058	Ton	90.00	95,220)
Peaches, Clings	3		154 , 445*	Ton		8,439,400*
(Canned			149,630	Ton	55.00	8,229,650)
(Dried - 1	00 (green t	ton)	61½ D	ry Ton	270.00	16,605)
(Spiced			3,312	Ton	40.00	132,480)
(By-produc	ets		1,058	Ton	55.00	58,190)
(Fresh			45	Ton	55.00	2,475)
Peaches, Freest	one 2,735	9.8	26,849*	Ton		1,425,480*
(Canned			13,897	Ton	50.00	694 , 850)
(Dried 8,2	297 (green t	ton)	1,383 Dr	y To n	360.00	497 , 880)
(Shipped			1 , 845	Ton	50.00	92,250)
(Frozen			1,360	Ton	50.00	68,000)
(By-produc	cts		1 , 450	Ton	50.00	72,500)
Nectarines	229		1,310	Ton	100.00	131,000
Cherries	71		113*	Ton		39,200*
(Canned &	processed		50	Ton	280.00	14,000)
(Shipped &	k sold fres	h	63	Ton	400.00	25,200)
Plums	46	6.	276	Ton	150.00	41,400
<u>Olives</u>			1,200*	Ton		160,800*
(0il	401	3 T/A	480	Ton	50.00	24,000)
(Pickling			720	Ton	190.00	136,800)
*Accumulated Total			- 8-			

	Bearing		Production			O. B. Value
Crop	Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Value
Figs	111	2 Ton				\$ 15,750*
(Canned &	Shipped		70	Ton	\$125.00	8,750)
(Dried		150 Green	50 Dr	y Ton	140.00	7,000)
Walnuts	9 , 335	980 #/A	4,572	Ton	375.00	1,714,500
Black Waln	uts		6,606 sa	cks	1.00	6,606
<u>Misc. Fruit</u>	90			Acre	300.00	27,000
Boysenberries	359	6.02	2,160*			604,800*
(Canned			750	Ton	280.00	210,000)
(Shipped			10	Ton	280,00	2,800)
(Frozen			1,400	Ton	280.00	392,000)
Strawberries	300	8,600#/A	2,580,000	Lbs.	.15	387,000
Grapes						
Wine	8,795	7.5	65, 695 *	Ton		2,423,557*
(Winery			56,805	Ton	37.50	2,130,187)
(Shipped			8,890	Ton	33.00	293,370)
<u>Raisin & Tab</u>	<u>ole</u> 7,210	9	64,890*	Ton		2,242,220*
(Golden Ra	aisin		12,500 G	reen Ton	35.00	437,500)
(Canned			1,300	Ton	55.00	71,500)
(Shipped			1,750	Ton	60.00	105,000)
(Wine	37,911		49,340 [.]	Ton	33.00_	<u>1,628,220)</u> 19,506,318
Nursery Stock			279 * :	Bearing Ac	reage 😫	1,483,626*
(Deciduous	Fruits and	Nuts	30	455 , 48	5 plants	193,404)
(Berry pla	nts		80	1,136,75	0 plants	92,770)
(Vegetable	plants		7	5 ,0 50,00	0 plants	20,375)
(Roses and	Ornamental	S	162	1.253.22	5 plants	1,177,077)

*Accumulated Total

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KIND	AMOUNT	PER UNIT		VALUE
	Mkt. milk 9,175,000 lbs. Mfg. milk 16,048,000 lbs. eding stock		\$ 9,817,250 12,677,920 1,970,240	
Goats - Mfg. m Fresh Meat and Bre	milk 5,500 gals		142,900 5,500 <u>4,700</u>	\$24,465,410* 153,100*
Beef Cattle	15,000 feeders 30,000 clover slaughter o: fleshy feeders		2,700,000	
	4,000 cows and breeding a 10,000 fed cattle	220.00 head stock 250.00 head	6,600,000 560,000 2,500,000	12,360,000*
Sheep, Lambs Ewes Wool	5,000 feeders 43,500 slaughter 2,000	15.00 head 22.00 head 7.50 head	75,000 957,000 15,000	
Ewes Lamb	80,000 lbs. 100,000 lbs.	•65 pound •48 pound	52,000 48,000	1,147,000*
Swine	12,000	45.00 head	540,000	540,000
Horses & Mules	200	80.00 head	16,000	16,000
	hives, 50 lbs. per hive 7,500 lbs.	$ll^{\pm}_{\pm}\phi$ per lb. 47¢ per lb.	112,500 3,525	
	<u>Crops</u> - O hives for pollinization	2.00 per hive	10,000	
	<u>1005</u> - 0 acres, 12,000 hives	3.00 per hive	36,000	162,025*
Poultry, Eggs Hatching egg Turkey hatch	- Commercial 9,641,275 doz s 760,000 doz ing eggs 4,500,000 doz	84 per doz.	4,145,748 638,000 1,170,000	5,953,748*
Poultry, Meat	or 2,702,817 lbs	15 per lb.	405,422	
Fryers	1,769,330 @ 3# or 5,307,990 lbs		1,273,917	
Turkeys (Inc	16,360,000 lbs.	•	4,580,800	6,260,139*
Rabbits, Fryer Breeding sto Skins, ferti	or 366,800 lbs		84,364 25,500 6,000	<u>115,864</u> * \$51,173,286

FIELD CROPS

		P	roduction		F.0.1	3. Value
Crop	Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Value
Beans, Dry						
Blackeyes	18,600	11.0	205,000	Cwt.	\$ 9.50	\$ 1,947,500
Baby Limas	11,400	25.0	285,000	Cwt.	5.80	1,653,000
Large Limas	3,700	27.8	103,000	Cwt.	10.25	1,055,750
Other Varieties	11,500	16.5	190,000	Cwt.	9.50	1,805,000
(Including Kidneys)					
Bean Straw				_		700 000
Blackeyes	15,000	0.8	12,000	Ton	10.00	120,000
Lima Bean Silage	8,000	2.5	000و20	Ton	2.00	40,000
Grain				0	0.00	
Barley	70,000	15.0	1,050,000	Cwt.	2.30	2,415,000
Corn, Grain	2,600	30.0	78,000	Cwt.	3.30 6.00	257,400
Corn, Ensilage	9,800	11.0	107,800	Ton Cwt.	2,70	646,800 29,700
Grain Sorghum	500	22.0	11,000	Cwt.	2.55	304,980
Oats	9,200	13.0	119,600	Cwt.	4.30	515,011
Rice	4,130	29.0	770 , 770 4 , 900	Cwt.	3.35	16,415
Wheat	350	14.0	4 g 700	040.		(±++e
Hay	75,000	6.7	502,500	Ton	20.00	10,050,000
Alfalfa	15,000	1.9	28,500	Ton	18.50	527,250
Grain	5,000	0.8	4,000	Ton	15.00	60,000
Wild	5,000	0.0			-	
Sugar Beets	2,165	24.0	51,960	Ton	13.00	675,480
Pasture						1 217 7222
Irrigated (Ladino)	100,915			Acre	45.00	4,541,175
Range	260,000	دانية دعه جموعي	تحريف ملم المع	Acre	4.00	1,040,000
Stubble	16,000	ويلك ويبن جديد خدي	ويري محمد معين ويسير	Acre	1.50	24,000 111,000
Sudan grass	3,700	يري مري سيريون ا	ڪ نڌ ڪن ڪني	Acre	30.00	000 و للل
Miscellaneous				A	100.00	180,000
Field Crops	1,800			Acre	100.00	TOO
	644,360					\$ 28,015,461

TRUCK CROPS (VEGETABLES)

		E	roduction		F.O.E	3. Value
Crop	Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Value
Broccoli	650	. 5,000	3,250,000	Lbs.	\$.07	\$ 227,500
Lima Beans						
(Processing)	9,000	2,500	22,500,000	Lbs.	•075	1,687,500
Melons Cantaloupes	1,300	230	299,000	Packed Crates	2.25	672,750
Honeydews	3,070	8.0	24,560	Ton	24.00	589,440
Watermelons	1,840	11.0	20,240	Ton	19.00	384,560
Other Melons	820	9.0	7,380	Ton	23.00	169,740
Peas	5,400	1.3	7,020	Ton	64.00	449,280
Spinach	1,240	5.5	6,820	Ton	22.50	153 , 450
Sweet Potatoes	720	130	93, 600	50#	2.75	257,400
				Baske	ts	
Tomatoes Processing	7,200	18.4	132,480	Ton	20.00	2,649,600
Shipping	3,600	14.0	50, 400	Ton	44.00	2,217,600
Other Garden and	1 500			Aamoo	175 00	707 500
Truck Crops	4,500	فكالب غبيبو ضعية		Acres	175.00	787,500
	39,340					\$10,246,320
		SEED CROF	PRODUCTION			
Alfalfa						
Certified Common	6,350 3,700	650 800	4,127,500 2,960,000		.31 .23	\$ 1,279,525 680,800
Ladino	-					
Common	50	140	7,000) Lbs.	•30	2,100
Peas	860	14.0	12,040) Cwt.	6.00	72,240
Miscellaneous	2,000		بي هي هد بي	Acre	125.00	250,000

* <u>s u m m a r y</u> *

ITEM	ACREAGE	ESTIMATED VALUE
Fruit, Grapes, Nuts and Berries	37,911	\$ 19,506,318
Field Crops	644,360	28,015,461
Truck Crops (Vegetables)	39,340	10,246,320
Livestock and Poultry		51,173,286
Nursery Stock	279	1,483,626
Seed Crop Production	<u>12,960</u> 734,850	2,284,665 \$112,709,676

