

KERN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FEBRUARY 17, 1940

In compliance with Section 65.5 of the Agricultural Code, State of California, I have herewith the crop report for 1940. This is the twentieth consecutive annual report by this office of acreage, production and value of agricultural crops of Kern County.

Since we are depending upon the cooperation of growers, shippers and others to reveal the true figures, individual items are held in strict confidence, thus we believe the composite figures are accurate to the extent of our ability to find all sources and assemble the data.

Acreages are calculated as net planted acres, yields in terms of commercial packages or units established by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service and values in f.o.b. prices. The returns thus include cost of picking, hauling, packing and delivering at the first point. We are indebted to many individuals and organizations for splendid response given to the agricultural inspectors and deputies who have helped compile this report.

The total acreage of all crops for 1940 was 327,696. This was a considerable increase over 1939 when we had 284,225 acres. The total return to agriculture for 1940 was \$32,317,084. This was an increase of \$4,301,895 above the returns of 1939.

Carlot shipments increased by 2,035 cars over the 1939 shipments. The total for 1940 being 30,334 car loads. This is just for fruit and vegetables and does not include hay, grain, cotton or other crops. By far the largest commodity was potatoes with a total of 17,840 cars. Grapes were next with 7,046 cars. Next in order was sugar beets with 1,427 cars, lettuce 801 cars, cantaloupes 706 cars. These were the major producing crops in point of volume among the fruits and vegetables.

Livestock continued to head the list in point of value of all commodities produced in 1940 with a total of \$9,065,823.

Cotton was the next crop in value. We had the highest per acre yield year since we have been growing cotton in Kern County and produced 123,000 bales from 71,643 acres. The total value of the cotton crop including 61,500 tons of cotton seed was \$7,582,950.

Potatoes were next in value. From an acreage of 29,625 we produced 5,404,388 sacks of potatoes which brought a return to the county of \$5,944,826.

Deciduous fruits brought in \$723,814. This was an increase of approximately \$100,000 over 1939.

Citrus fruit brought in \$316,022. This was a considerable increase over the 1939 returns.

The value of our grape crop was \$1,973,849. This was one of the crops which failed to bring in as much money as we received in 1939. The value of this crop was \$492,786 less than was received in 1939.

Melons brought \$376,293 which was about \$75,000 more than was received in 1939 for this crop.

We had a considerable increase in our alfalfa acreage which brought a proportionate increase in production. We have now 62,958 acres which produced 251,702 tons of hay valued at \$2,265,318.

Sugar beets was another crop that increased in acreage and value over 1939. We had 3,589 acres in 1940 which brought in \$364,744. This compares with 2,562 acres bringing \$172,263 in 1939

Our grain crop brought less than 1939. Our acreage increased but our value decreased. We had 127,077 acres of grain which brought \$1,028,198 compared with 116,140 acres for 1939 bringing \$1,270,105.

1940 ANNUAL REPORT - CROP ACREAGE - PRODUCTION AND VALUE - KERN COUNTY

Compiled by Lewis A. Burch, Agricultural Commissioner

<u>CROP</u>	<u>ACREAGE</u>	<u>PRODUCTION</u>	<u>TOTAL VALUE</u> (Dollars Only)
<u>DECIDUOUS FRUITS</u>			
Apples	67	1,000 boxes	\$ 1,000
Apricots	491.5	675 tons	54,000
Apricots, dried		2 tons	350
Berries	60	5,120 crates	5,632
Figs	21.5	1,571 lugs	1,571
Figs, dried		4 tons	340
Nectarines	69	2,391 lugs	2,989
Olives	420	415 tons	29,380
Peaches	779.5	1,044 tons	78,300
Peaches, dried		377 tons	60,320
Pears	179	557 tons	41,775
Persimmons	19	10,662 lugs	5,331
Plums	1,660.1	4,722 tons	401,370
Pomegranates	61	12,000 lugs	4,800
Prunes	118.4	11,239 lugs	6,181
Quinces	10	6,525 lugs	3,262
Almonds	100	32 tons	6,400
Pecans	48.5	5 tons	1,500
Walnuts	46	17 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons	3,063
Family Orchard	140	450 tons	15,750
Total	4,290.5		\$723,814
<u>CITRUS FRUIT</u>			
Grapefruit	37	3,925 boxes	1,962
Oranges	1,370.5	183,832 boxes	303,323
Tangerines	87	8,790 lugs	7,911
Lemons	11	1,413 boxes	2,826
Total	1,505.5		\$316,022
<u>GRAPES</u>			
Table	16,263.5	76,364 tons	1,527,280
Wine	1,800	15,728 tons	283,104
Raisins		3,195 tons	150,165
Raisins, Zante C		140 tons	13,300
Total	18,063.5		\$1,973,849

<u>CROP</u>	<u>ACREAGE</u>	<u>PRODUCTION</u>	<u>TOTAL VALUE</u> (Dollars Only)
<u>MELONS</u>			
Watermelons	611	8,073 tons	88,803
Cantaloupes	432	211,800 crates	232,980
Honey dew	230	50,100 crates	42,585
Other Melons	<u>30</u>	15,900 crates	<u>11,925</u>
Total	1,303		\$376,293
<u>VEGETABLES</u>			
Potatoes	29,625	5,404,388 sacks	5,944,826
Onions	420	77,700 sacks	97,125
Sweet Potatoes	631	78,000 lugs	46,800
Peas	1,424	82,550 crates	288,925
Lettuce	813	288,360 crates	360,450
Cabbage	10	639 crates	479
Corn	80	9,483 lugs	5,690
Carrots	30	1,980 crates	1,485
Tomatoes	340	76,050 lugs	95,062
Peppers		245 lugs	184
Cucumbers		126 lugs	94
Green Beans	40	7,483 lugs	4,490
Squash	9	2,043 lugs	1,022
Egg Plant	3	2,433 crates	1,216
Beans-Black Eyes	2,139	9,125 sacks	18,250
Spinach	<u>8</u>	50 crates	<u>38</u>
Total	35,572		\$6,866,136
<u>FIELD CROPS</u>			
Cotton	71,643	123,000 bales	6,137,700
Cotton Seed		61,500 tons	1,445,250
Alfalfa	62,958	251,702 tons	2,265,318
Alfalfa Seed		136,500 pounds	13,923
Silage	1,650	33,000 tons	99,000
Nursery Stock	45		67,500
Honey and Products			24,900
Sugar Beets	<u>3,589</u>	58,359 tons	<u>364,744</u>
Total	139,885		\$10,418,335
<u>GRAIN</u>			
Barley	34,694	2,619 tons	44,523
Millo Maize	12,468	15,855 tons	317,100
Wheat	73,598	22,079 tons	551,975
Grain Hay	3,382	6,764 tons	67,640
Flax	<u>2,935</u>	29,350 bushel	<u>46,960</u>
Total	127,077		\$1,028,198

L I V E S T O C K S O L D

	<u>Number of Head</u>	<u>Total Value</u>
Steers	39,578	\$ 3,522,442
Cows	30,671	1,870,931
Calves	10,548	316,440
Bulls	911	73,791
Hides - Cow	9,467	<u>42,601</u>
		\$ 5,820,205
Sheep	15,000	45,000
Lambs	165,000	1,072,500
Wool	1,700,000 lbs.	<u>408,000</u>
		\$ 1,525,500
Hogs	25,800	\$ 354,750
Turkeys	5,000	10,000
Poultry	142,500	71,250
Eggs	207,800 dozen	<u>48,833</u>
		\$ 130,083
Milk and Butterfat	2,458,569 lbs.	<u>\$ 1,229,285</u>
	Total	\$ 9,065,823
Total acreage of all crops 327,696		
Total value of all crops including livestock		\$30,768,470
Total money received on all Government payments of the AAA program		<u>1,548,614</u>
Total returns to Agriculture		\$32,317,084

1940 Annual Report

---SUMMARY OF RAILWAY & TRUCK SHIPMENTS---

Produce-	Railway Cars	Estimated Cars Via Truck	Total Cars
Almonds	1	1	2
Apples		1½	1½
Apricots	1	53	54
Beans- Black-eyes		3	3
Cantaloupes	344	362	706
Cabbage		2	2
Carrots	4	1½	5½
Casabas		16	16
Corn	2	7½	9½
Eggplant		7	7
Figs		1½	1½
Grapefruit		8½	8½
Grapes	2961½	4084½	7046
Honey Ball Melons		4	4
Honey Dew Melons	110	57	167
Lettuce	638	163	801
Lemons		3½	3½
Nectarines	1½	1	2½
Olives		32	32
Onions	97	32½	129½
Oranges	345½	52½	398
Peaches	17	66½	83½
Pears	41	3½	44½
Peas	232	22	254
Persimmons	11		11
Persian Melons		33	33
Plums	336½	41	377½
Pomegranates	4	8	12
Potatoes	12220	5620½	17840½
Prunes		11	11
Quinces		6½	6½
Squash		2	2
Stringbeans		5	5
Sugar Beets	1427		1427
Sweet Potatoes	2	76	78
Tangerines		9	9
Tomatoes	106	11	117
Walnuts		1	1
Watermelons	296	325	621
Miscellaneous Vegetables		½	½
-Total Cars:--	19198	11136	30334