

KERN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA
ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1950

To The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Kern County
and The Director of the State Department of Agriculture

I hereby submit the Annual Crop Report for Kern County as required by Section 65.5 of the Agricultural Code.

This report covers the acreage, production and value of all crops produced in Kern County, including livestock and livestock products. Total value for all crops produced during 1950 is \$186,454,739. This is an all-time high for Kern County and is due largely to increased prices for most commodities. Total acres under cultivation show a reduction of 21,106, which is accounted for in part by the fact that 85,000 acres which had been in cotton the year before were taken out because of the cotton acreage control program. Some of this land was put into other crops and some was summer fallowed in order to clean up weeds and get it in better shape for the 1951 crops.

Cotton continues to be the number one crop. From a reduced acreage we had a considerable increase in yield per acre, 870 pounds lint compared with last year's yield of 750 pounds lint. From 166,000 acres we produced 288,852 bales valued at \$58,363,991, and a seed crop of 106,520 tons valued at \$10,652,000. This was an increase in total value regardless of the larger acreage and greater number of bales last year. The price per pound was also higher than ever before. This does not reflect in the price received by growers but represents the value of the crop during the time of harvest. Many growers sold their crop early for considerably less and in such cases the buyer collected the added premium. The phenomenal yield is largely a result of the new strain of Acala cotton developed at the United States Experimental Farm and the very fine job done by the California Planting Cotton Seed Distributors who reproduced and distributed this variety through the gins where it was made available to every grower at a cost of production price.

Potatoes retained second place in agricultural value regardless of the fact that prices were poor from the start to the finish of the season. From our 65,423 acres we produced 14,727,583 sacks of potatoes valued at \$24,611,848. An increase in acreage and production kept the gross value of this crop in a top position. Grapes were next in line with a total value of \$19,922,507, which is more than double the value of the crop in 1949. This increase can be attributed to young vines coming into production and good prices for both table and wine grapes which prevailed throughout the season.

Cultivation of seed crops has developed into a major industry during the past year. Production of certified seed brought returns of about 2 1/2 million dollars, and uncertified seed brought returns of about one-quarter million dollars. This is an interesting addition to our agricultural development and will no doubt increase from year to year.

It must be kept in mind that prices quoted in this report are gross receipts for the harvested crops loaded on cars ready for shipment. From these prices must be deducted the costs of production, harvesting, packing and preparation for market, and production costs are keeping pace with rising prices received for farm commodities.

Respectfully submitted,

Lewis A. Burtch

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Agricultural Commissioner
County of Kern

1950 ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR KERN COUNTY

CROP ACREAGE - PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Compiled by Lewis A. Burtch, Agricultural Commissioner

<u>CROP</u>	<u>ACREAGE</u>	<u>PRODUCTION</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
<u>Deciduous Fruits and Nuts</u>			
Apples	55	918 bx.	3,672
Apricots	253	17,298 lugs	38,056
Apricots		187 tons	12,155
Berries	70	3,180 cr.	4,770
Berries, processed		26 tons	5,720
Figs	5	1,785 lugs	3,124
Olives	380	893 tons	193,245
Peaches	193	45,513 lugs	91,026
Pears	90	36,017 lugs	144,068
Persimmons	7	13,000 lugs	28,600
Plums	2,065	528,351 lugs	1,902,064
Plums		64 tons	2,730
Pomegranates	7	10,317 lugs	18,055
Prunes	1	400 lugs	300
Almonds	171	29 tons	13,920
Pecans	22	2,250 lbs.	720
Walnuts	6	3,500 lbs.	875
Family Orchard	250	1,250 tons	125,000
Total	3,575		2,588,100
<u>Citrus Fruit</u>			
Grapefruit	30	12,550 bx.	15,688
Oranges, Navel	1,259	101,168 bx.	354,088
Oranges, Valencia	58 (no prod.)		
Tangerines	48	13,498 lugs	26,996
Lemons	8	145 bx.	725
Total	1,403		397,497
<u>Grapes</u>			
Table	25,037	4,403,439 lugs	12,329,629
Wine	4,398	124,876 tons	6,868,180
Raisin		2,165 1/2 tons	530,548
Zante Currants	12	23 tons	6,900
Grapes, Canning		2,675 tons	187,250
Total	29,447		19,922,507

1950 CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	VALUE
<u>Melons</u>			
Watermelons	766	3,200 tons	109,600
Cantaloupes	1,275	96,453 cr.	347,231
Casabas	10	83 tons	4,980
Honey Dews	185	79,677 cr.	171,306
Persians	20	100 tons	6,000
Total	2,256		639,117
<u>Vegetables</u>			
Asparagus	470	46,375 cr.	190,138
Beans, Pink	13	260 sks.	3,380
Beans, Pinto	7	140 sks.	1,820
Carrots	310	109,763 bx.	170,133
Carrots, canning		397 tons	15,265
Celery	100	124,444 cr.	360,888
Corn, Sweet	2,840	464,318 cr.	1,207,227
Cucumbers	15	10,547 lugs	18,457
Lettuce	1,009	107,321 cr.	359,525
Okra	40	647 bbl.	24,586
Onions	1,316	781,546 sks.	953,486
Onions, green	12	2,097 cr.	6,983
Onions, dehydrator	698	20,932 tons	648,892
Peas	2,349	226,346 hamp.	645,086
Potatoes	65,423	14,373,380 sks.	24,434,746
Potatoes, processed		354,203 sks.	177,102
Potatoes, culls		71,474 tons	214,422
Potatoes, Sweet	953	227,217 lugs	454,434
Spinach	100	480 tons	9,600
Squash, Summer	26	4,308 lugs	9,478
Tomatoes	819	213,904 lugs	427,808
Tomatoes, processed		25 1/2 tons	2,678
Turnips	12	2,008 cr.	4,518
Vegetables, misc.	350	350 tons	91,000
Total	76,862		30,431,652
<u>Grain, Dry Farm</u>			
Barley	27,450	137,250 sks.	411,750
Oats	1,700	8,500 sks.	25,500
Wheat	35,500	177,500 sks.	776,563
Total	64,650		1,213,813
<u>Grain, Irrigated</u>			
Barley	41,487	622,305 sks.	1,866,915
Flax	860	30,530 bu.	116,014
Grain Hay	3,000	4,500 tons	90,000
Millet	100	800 sks.	12,000
Milo	15,614	29,330 tons	1,466,500
Oats	4,340	65,100 sks.	195,300
Rye	1,500	22,500 sks.	67,500
Sudan	2,170	13,020 tons	208,320
Wheat	36,700	550,500 sks.	2,408,438
Total	105,771		6,430,987

1950 CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	VALUE
<u>Field Crops</u>			
Alfalfa	58,794	411,558 tons	6,996,486
Beans, Castor	847	423 1/2 tons	89,473
Beets, Sugar	8,595	167,684 tons	2,013,885
Corn, Field	2,006	2,682 tons	160,920
Cotton	166,000	288,852 bales	58,363,991
Cotton Seed		106,520 tons	10,652,000
Mint	58		16,500
Nursery Stock	766		271,572
Pasture, Permanent	10,581		1,581,675
Safflower	6,000	3,000 tons	225,000
Silage	650	5,200 tons	78,000
Total	254,297		80,719,502
<u>Seed, Certified</u>			
Alfalfa, Atlantic	213	125,034 lbs.	97,527
Alfalfa, Buffalo	1,030	512,898 lbs.	271,836
Alfalfa, Ranger	1,986	1,188,881 lbs.	630,107
Cotton, A 4-42		9,021 tons	1,443,360
Milo, Double Dwarf	10	3,600 lbs.	360
Sudan 23	16	8,203 lbs.	984
Total	3,255		2,444,174
<u>Seed, Uncertified</u>			
Alfalfa, Chilian	340	80,352 lbs.	19,284
Alfalfa, Ranger	20	11,718 lbs.	4,101
Carrot	34	18,783 lbs.	6,950
Clover, Burr	18	5,000 lbs.	2,000
Lettuce	147	43,733 lbs.	43,733
Oats, Kanota	70	65,000 lbs.	2,763
Safflower	560	370 tons	41,599
Sugar Beet	150	767,700 lbs.	92,892
Total	1,339		213,322
<u>Seed, Foundation</u>			
Clover, Kenland Red	20	2,244 lbs.	3,366
Clover, Ladino	4 1/2	600 lbs.	1,800
Fescue, Goars Tall	11	450 lbs.	450
Total	35 1/2		5,616
<u>Apiary Products</u>			
Beeswax		12,780 lbs.	5,495
Honey		851,840 lbs.	76,666
Rental for alfalfa seed pollination		8,960 colonies	51,490
Total			133,651

LIVESTOCK SOLD

	<u>NUMBER OF HEAD</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
Purebreds	1,650	907,500
Steers	61,600	18,480,000
Cows and Heifers	31,593	6,982,053
Calves	19,100	1,547,100
Bulls	2,100	793,800
Hides-Cow	20,923	167,384
Hides-Calf	9,417	50,381
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Total		28,928,218
Sheep	9,000	117,000
Lambs	126,000	3,187,800
Wool	1,313,700 lbs.	656,850
Pelts	10,000	27,500
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Total		3,989,150
Hogs	13,173	790,380
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Total	13,173	790,380
Rabbits, domestic	280,500	350,625
Pelts	279,000	27,900
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Total		378,525
Chickens	446,500	625,100
Ducks	5,000	7,250
Geese	1,250	4,688
Squab	10,000	7,500
Turkeys	45,750	234,240
Eggs	5,581,250 doz.	3,348,750
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Total		4,227,528
Milk, Market - pounds milk fat	2,847,000 lbs.	2,898,000
Milk, Manufacturing - pounds milk fat	22,000 lbs.	19,000
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Total		2,917,000
Grand Total of All Livestock		41,230,801

S U M M A R Y

Acreage

	1949	1950
Fruit and Nut Crops	3,006	3,575
Citrus Fruit	1,319	1,403
Grapes	24,557	29,447
Melons	2,743 1/2	2,256
Vegetables	67,583 1/2	76,862
Grain, Dry Farm	59,995	64,650
Grain, Irrigated	91,896	105,771
Field Crops	312,896	254,297
Seed, Certified		3,255
Seed, Uncertified		1,339
Seed, Foundation		35 1/2
Total	563,996	542,890 1/2

Value

Fruit and Nut Crops	\$ 2,204,618	\$ 2,588,100
Citrus Fruit	533,101	397,497
Grapes	9,765,050	19,922,507
Melons	1,076,289	639,117
Vegetables	36,556,523	30,431,652
Grain, Dry Farm	738,952	1,213,813
Grain, Irrigated	4,410,164	6,430,987
Field Crops	70,585,433	80,719,502
Seed, Certified		2,444,174
Seed, Uncertified		213,322
Seed, Foundation		5,616
Apiculture	40,100	133,651
Beef Cattle	16,650,143	28,928,218
Sheep	3,361,325	3,989,150
Hogs	740,200	790,380
Rabbits	402,600	378,525
Poultry	2,906,555	4,227,528
Dairy Products	3,178,200	2,917,000
Total	\$ 153,149,253	\$ 186,370,739
Agricultural Conservation Payments	77,000	84,000
TOTAL RETURNS TO AGRICULTURE	\$ 153,226,253	\$ 186,454,739

Total Carlot Shipments	57,314	66,755 1/2
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