

KERN COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
2610 M. Street, Bakersfield, California

1952

Mr. A. A. Brock
State Director of Agriculture

and

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Kern

In accordance with section 65.5 of the Agricultural Code, I hereby submit the Annual Crop Report for Kern County. This report covers the acreage, production and value of all crops produced in Kern County, including livestock and livestock products. Acreage of permanent crops is reported in actual bearing acres only.

The 1952 season got off to an unusual and spectacular start. Cold weather during the early part of the growing season was unfavorable for the cotton crop, followed by earthquakes in July and August which did much to upset the normal farming operations in certain areas. Cotton production was reduced from 779 pounds lint per acre to 729 pounds lint per acre. Grades were generally below those of a year ago, due principally to climatic conditions and premature defoliation. Although about the same acreage was planted to cotton the revenue from this crop was 31-1/2 million dollars less than last year.

A gross income of \$37,424,952 was received from 43,685 acres of potatoes. This represented an increase of 6,538 acres over 1951. Potato growers were fortunate in being able to supply a food crop to the nation at a time when a shortage of supply threatened a potato famine throughout the country.

Grape growers produced a smaller crop this past year, and although prices were not unusually high a fair return was received for quality fruit on an early market. Prices for wine grapes were generally below those of a year ago.

Substantial increases were made in grain crops, alfalfa hay and certified seed.

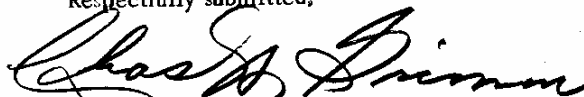
A general increase is shown in the number of animals on farms, particularly in small herds, but due to a decline in prices the overall income to the livestock industry is about 3 million dollars less than last year.

Total returns to agriculture for the year 1952, including livestock, amounted to \$231,975,419. This is \$12,797,918 less than the 1951 income, in spite of the fact that 40,125 additional acres were brought under cultivation. This is the first year since 1940 that agriculture in Kern County has not shown a substantial increase.

All prices in our crop report are based on f.o.b. market values and do not represent the net amount received by growers. From this income must be deducted the costs of production and preparation for market.

We wish to thank the many individuals who cooperated by making their records and other data available to us, which was of great assistance in the compiling of this report.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles W. Grimm
Agricultural Commissioner

CWG:abc

1952 ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR KERN COUNTY

CROP ACREAGE - PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Compiled by Charles W. Grimm, Agricultural Commissioner

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	VALUE
<u>Deciduous Fruits and Nuts</u>			
Apples	32	1,036 bx.	3,989
Apricots	130	3,628 lug	10,703
Apricots, processed		355 ton	35,500
Berries	120	13,500 cr.	33,075
Figs, dried	5	6 ton	780
Olives	213	763 ton	67,961
Peaches	103	44,883 lugs	134,649
Pears	93	22,694 bx.	53,331
Persimmons	20	15,617 lugs	39,043
Plums	1,772	552,454 lugs	2,292,684
Pomegranates	16	5,347 lugs	7,218
Almonds	47 (no prod.)		
Pecans	20 (no prod.)		
Walnuts	7	5 ton	2,125
Family Orchard	260	1,300 ton	130,000
Total	2,838		2,811,058
<u>Citrus Fruit</u>			
Grapefruit	24	4,147 bx.	8,087
Oranges, Navel	1,117	153,199 bx.	651,096
Oranges, Valencia	60	7,340 bx.	11,010
Tangerines	68	26,365 bx.	68,549
Lemons	7	660 bx.	2,475
Total	1,276		741,217
<u>Grapes</u>			
Table	22,695	6,397,707 lugs	15,994,268
Wine	4,078	56,815 ton	937,448
Raisin		3,783 ton	662,025
Zante Currants	10	25 ton	5,625
Grapes, processed		7,294 ton	364,700
Total	26,783		17,964,066

1952 CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	VALUE
<u>Melons</u>			
Watermelons	72	670 tons	29,648
Cantaloupes	208	33,510 cr.	98,855
Casabas	10	24 tons	960
Total	290		129,463
<u>Vegetables</u>			
Asparagus	550	22,071 cr.	69,524
Asparagus, processed		333,647 lbs.	35,633
Beans, Fava	40	8,250 bu.	33,000
Carrots	40	680 tons	27,200
Celery	40	21,841 cr.	45,866
Corn, Sweet	2,116	440,322 cr.	1,210,886
Lettuce	590	60,748 cr.	209,581
Okra	75	700,000 lbs.	94,500
Onions	645	382,870 sks.	1,110,323
Onions, dehydrated	584	9,540 tons	381,600
Peas	1,430	203,201 hamp.	548,643
Potatoes	43,685	10,060,729 sks.	36,721,661
Potatoes		2,777 lugs	7,637
Potatoes, processed		104,616 sks.	198,770
Potatoes, seed		79,267 sks.	380,482
Potatoes, cull		17,908 tons	116,402
Potatoes, Sweet	391	132,289 lugs	449,783
Squash	7	24 tons	720
Tomatoes	185	94,585 lugs	222,275
Vegetables, misc.	360	360 tons	57,600
Total	50,738		41,922,086
<u>Grain, Dry Farm</u>			
Barley	17,977	10,881 tons	652,860
Oats	174	103 tons	7,313
Wheat	70,961	41,358 tons	2,812,344
Total	89,112		3,472,517
<u>Grain, Irrigated</u>			
Barley	9,801	11,032 tons	661,920
Corn, Field	580	1,450 tons	95,700
Flax	350	12,250 bu.	45,938
Grain Hay	1,890	2,835 tons	121,905
Millet	180	2,520 sks.	37,800
Milo	2,454	4,322 tons	293,896
Oats	463	463 tons	32,873
Rice	75	2,625 sks.	13,913
Sudan	2,099	6,297 tons	236,138
Wheat	9,036	9,096 tons	618,528
Total	26,928		2,158,611

1952 CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	VALUE
<u>Field Crops</u>			
Alfalfa	56,607	396,249 tons	12,679,968
Beets, Sugar	1,252	30,458 tons	413,620
Corn, Broom	260	85 tons	42,500
Cotton	320,000	466,440 bales	72,694,674
Cotton Seed		170,576 tons	10,575,712
Nursery Stock	141		218,375
Permanent Pasture	20,086		3,515,050
Silage	1,000	15,000 tons	150,000
Total	399,346		100,289,899
<u>Seed, Certified</u>			
Alfalfa, Atlantic	1,151	706,239 lbs.	282,496
Alfalfa, Buffalo	4,441	2,702,062 lbs.	1,080,825
Alfalfa, Caliverde	173	101,449 lbs.	65,942
Alfalfa, Narragansett	48	20,871 lbs.	12,001
Alfalfa, Ranger	19,316	13,911,431 lbs.	5,564,572
Alfalfa, Williamsburg	136	185,417 lbs.	101,979
Clover, Kenland Red	84	24,369 lbs.	18,277
Fescue, Goars Tall	10	7,942 lbs.	2,780
Oats, Kanota	15	25,460 lbs.	1,273
Orchard Grass, Akaroa	58	44,231 lbs.	14,154
Total	25,432		7,144,299
<u>Seed, Uncertified</u>			
Alfalfa, Atlantic			
Buffalo and Ranger		150,000 lbs.	37,500
Alfalfa, Calif. Common	440	87,856 lbs.	17,571
Barley, Arivat	138	85,800 lbs.	3,303
Beet, Sugar	119	569,413 lbs.	68,899
Birdsfoot Trefoil	2	642 lbs.	642
Carrot	28	24,450 lbs.	8,558
Cotton Seed, Planting		16,000 tons	2,080,000
Vetch, Hairy	80	6,000 lbs.	1,500
Total	807		2,217,973
<u>Apiary Products</u>			
Beeswax		14,665-1/2 lbs.	5,573
Honey		2,199,875 lbs.	230,987
Rental for alfalfa seed pollination		4,040 Colonies	28,280
Total			264,840

1952
LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

	NUMBER OF HEAD	VALUE
Purebreds	1,161	503,200
Steers	131,584	26,940,508
Cows and Heifers	56,443	9,229,559
Calves	2,038	220,104
Bulls	2,983	826,888
Hides-Cow	77,992	389,960
Hides-Calf	2,038	2,446
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Total		38,112,665
Sheep	6,000	72,000
Lambs	142,000	3,763,000
Wool	1,562,000 lbs.	781,000
Pelts	14,200	31,950
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Total		4,647,950
Hogs	11,900	565,250
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Total	11,900	565,250
Rabbits, domestic	140,000	175,000
Pelts	138,500	12,465
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Total		187,465
Chickens	583,150	816,410
Ducks	5,000	7,500
Geese	1,000	3,500
Squab	10,000	7,500
Turkeys	73,000	427,050
Eggs	6,300,000 doz.	3,906,000
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Total		5,167,960
Milk, Market	-pounds milk fat 2,869,000 lbs.	4,073,980
Milk, Manufacturing	-pounds milk fat 26,000 lbs.	29,120
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Total		4,103,100
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Grand Total of All Livestock		52,784,390

1952
S U M M A R Y

ACREAGE

	1951	1952
Fruit and Nut Crops	3,692	2,838
Citrus Fruit	1,421	1,276
Grapes	29,618	26,783
Melons	979	290
Vegetables	44,709	50,738
Grain, Dry Farm	82,047	89,112
Grain, Irrigated	22,449	26,928
Field Crops	387,440	399,346
Seed, Certified	10,711	25,432
Seed, Uncertified	359	807
Total	583,425	623,550

VALUE

Fruit and Nut Crops	\$2,647,638	\$2,811,058
Citrus Fruit	1,016,495	741,217
Grapes	16,618,937	17,964,066
Melons	423,845	129,463
Vegetables	28,796,550	41,922,086
Grain, Dry Farm	846,720	3,472,517
Grain, Irrigated	1,554,346	2,158,611
Field Crops	130,959,867	100,289,899
Seed Certified	4,042,763	7,144,299
Seed Uncertified	2,361,669	2,217,973
Apiculture	398,708	264,840
Beef Cattle	39,845,766	38,112,665
Sheep	5,341,300	4,647,950
Hogs	778,680	565,250
Rabbits	203,338	187,465
Poultry	4,919,175	5,167,960
Dairy Products	3,922,540	4,103,100
Total	\$244,678,337	\$231,900,419
Agricultural Conservation Payments	95,000	75,000

TOTAL RETURNS TO AGRICULTURE	\$244,773,337	\$231,975,419
Total Carlot Shipments	45,293	44,859