

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

1955

Mr. W.C. Jacobsen
Director
State Department of Agriculture

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 the county, including livestock and livestock products. Acreage of permanent crops is reported in actual bearing acres only.

General conditions were favorable throughout 1955 for agricultural production, and cotton continued to lead all other crops in gross income. Allotments reduced the planted acreage from 205,341 in 1954 to 177,815 in 1955, a loss of 27,526 acres, but once again Kern County farmers have broken their own record by producing the outstanding yield of 943 pounds lint per acre.

Potatoes were next in total value. The 1955 acreage was increased by 17.7% and the total production was increased by 25.95% above the previous year. A California State Marketing Order was in effect and only potatoes of U.S. No. 2 grade or better were allowed on the commercial market. Even so, many problems had to be faced with the marketing of 12-1/2 million sacks of potatoes and the net returns to growers were not as favorable as had been anticipated.

Vineyardists had a record production of nearly 6-1/2 million lugs of table grapes. The crop failed to mature as early as usual and as a result the growers were faced with a marketing problem which brought lower prices and a decrease in gross returns compared with a year ago.

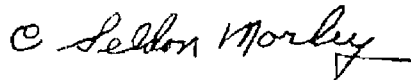
Spotted alfalfa aphid invaded our fields during the latter part of the year. Growers started control measures immediately which saved the over-all yields from being too greatly reduced.

Livestock production and prices were both decreased from a year ago and total returns indicate a gross return of 21% less than last year.

From 660,590 planted acres the return to agriculture amounted to \$206,473,112, a decrease of 8% from the 1954 totals, but still a very impressive picture and one of which we are well proud. 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.

Our thanks and appreciation are extended to each person who cooperated by making records and data available to us for this annual crop report.

Respectfully submitted,



C. SELDON MORLEY
Agricultural Commissioner

1955 ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR KERN COUNTY

CROP ACREAGE - PRODUCTION - VALUE

C. Seldon Morley, Agricultural Commissioner

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	VALUE
<u>Deciduous Fruits and Nuts</u>			
Apples	32	4,619 bx.	14,319
Apricots	122	4,400 lugs	9,460
Apricots, processed		1,540 tons	138,600
Berries	7	7,000 cr.	22,400
Berries		1,492 cans	9,549
Figs	5	4,668 lugs	8,169
Figs, dried		5-1/4 tons	919
Nectarines	2	840 lugs	4,620
Olives	276	448 tons	134,781
Peaches	133	52,945 lugs	275,314
Pears	88	48,653 bx.	182,449
Persimmons	20	8,098 lugs	18,625
Plums	1,785	614,605 lugs	2,581,341
Pomegranates	20	6,051 lugs	11,497
Prunes	6	4,902 lugs	9,804
Almonds	91	166 tons	53,120
Pecans	20	8 tons	5,600
Walnuts	7	5 tons	2,750
Total	2,614		3,483,317
<u>Citrus Fruit</u>			
Grapefruit	7	2,976 bx.	2,976
Oranges, Navel	1,084	313,777 bx.	1,553,196
Oranges, Valencia	44	9,639 bx.	26,507
Tangerines	49	42,828 lugs	124,201
Lemons	7	1,500 bx.	6,750
Total	1,191		1,713,630
Grapes	22,318	6,405,356 lugs	14,412,051
Wine	3,757	102,522 tons	3,178,182
Raisin		3,064 tons	520,880
Zante Currants	10	25 tons	5,675
Grapes, cannery		11,780 tons	589,000
Total	26,085		18,705,788
<u>Melons</u>			
Cantaloupes	555	131,301 cr.	466,119
Watermelons	211	735 tons	24,439
Wintermelons	8	30 tons	1,635
Total	774		492,193

1955 CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	VALUE
Vegetables			
Asparagus	206	11,017 cr.	55,085
Asparagus, processed		137-1/2 tons	33,000
Beans, Blackeye	4,299	3,326 tons	465,640
Beans, Fava	65	8,726 hamp.	30,541
Beans, Pink	38	456 sks.	3,648
Carrots	74	2,209 tons	107,689
Celery	31	21,250 cr.	63,750
Corn, Sweet	3,563	688,762 cr.	1,377,524
Cucumbers	10	5,650 lugs	9,323
Garlic	70	286 tons	51,480
Lettuce	438	94,940 cr.	318,049
Okra	40	400,000 lbs.	52,000
Onions	832	409,719 sks.	594,093
Onions, dehydrator	529	8,581 tons	214,525
Peas	1,970	238,872 hamp.	656,898
Peppers, Hot	2	1,100 lugs	4,400
Potatoes	50,938	12,590,988 sks.	31,477,470
Potatoes, lugs		47,540 lugs	106,965
Potatoes, processed		293,656 sks.	425,801
Potatoes, seed		135,187 sks.	378,524
Potatoes, cull		104,118 tons	239,471
Potatoes, Sweet	230	97,735 lugs	210,130
Radishes	35	6,870 lugs	16,488
Spinach	20	116 tons	2,610
Squash, Banana	22	165 tons	9,075
Tomatoes	562	115,935 lugs	295,634
Tomatoes, cannery		440 tons	10,560
Total	63,974		37,210,373
Field Crops			
Beans, Castor	197	261 tons	32,103
Beets, Sugar	7,154	177,521 tons	2,130,252
Corn, Broom	28	13 tons	4,680
Cotton	177,815	352,423 bales	58,676,667
Cotton seed, (not planting)		129,225 tons	5,959,857
Flax	200	6,400 bu.	21,120
Hay, Alfalfa	97,763	609,498 tons	15,846,948
Hay, Grain	8,495	19,819 tons	525,204
Nursery stock	145		399,510
Pasture, Permanent	26,767		2,475,948
Peanuts	250	115 tons	60,950
Safflower	20	25 tons	1,875
Silage	2,900	58,000 tons	580,000
Total	321,734		86,715,114

1955 CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	VALUE
<u>Seed, Certified</u>			
Alfalfa, Atlantic	1,662	571,261 lbs.	177,091
Alfalfa, Buffalo	2,446	1,002,849 lbs.	270,769
Alfalfa, Caliverde	801	554,018 lbs.	141,275
Alfalfa, DuPuits	970	649,329 lbs.	152,592
Alfalfa, Narragansett	2,330	756,588 lbs.	325,333
Alfalfa, Ranger	42,865	24,932,372 lbs.	6,233,093
Alfalfa, Vernal	1,919	1,035,237 lbs.	320,958
Alfalfa, Williamsburg	576	511,495 lbs.	122,759
Barley, Arivat	295	377,100 lbs.	16,970
Barley, Mariout	104	110,000 lbs.	4,950
Beans, Blackeye	252	235,100 lbs.	16,457
Birdsfoot trefoil, Viking	139	5,762 lbs.	5,474
Clover, Kenland Red	86	41,615 lbs.	14,981
Clover, Pennscott Red	72	23,072 lbs.	8,306
Fescue, Goars Tall	222	18,832 lbs.	6,591
Milo, DD 38	40	75,297 lbs.	3,388
Oats, Kanota	20	48,900 lbs.	2,445
Orchard Grass, Akaroa	40	13,000 lbs.	6,500
Sudan, Piper	451	414,700 lbs.	29,029
Sudan, 23	156	117,550 lbs.	8,229
Total	55,446		7,867,190
<u>Seed, Uncertified</u>			
Alfalfa, Atlantic	4	1,500 lbs.	360
Alfalfa, Buffalo	70	28,326 lbs.	6,232
Alfalfa, California Common	2,202	660,737 lbs.	145,362
Alfalfa, Caliverde	15	10,567 lbs.	2,642
Alfalfa, DuPuits	156	145,231 lbs.	31,225
Alfalfa, Narragansett	106	44,180 lbs.	15,463
Alfalfa, Ranger	1,077	626,642 lbs.	125,328
Alfalfa, Vernal	19	10,440 lbs.	2,297
Alfalfa, Williamsburg	13	12,480 lbs.	2,496
Alfalfa, No. 2		293,832 lbs.	41,136
Alfalfa screenings		2,425 tons	67,900
Barley	194	195,550 lbs.	5,867
Beet, Sugar	348	1,473,903 lbs.	178,342
Bluegrass, Merion	153	49,000 lbs.	110,250
Cotton seed, planting		11,744 tons	1,397,536
Rice, Caloro	320	900,000 lbs.	45,000
Sudan, Piper	874	829,184 lbs.	41,459
Sudan, Sweet	370	276,709 lbs.	13,835
Sudan, 23	232	173,608 lbs.	8,680
Wheat, Ramona 50	154	374,300 lbs.	18,715
Total	6,307		2,260,125
<u>Grain</u>			
Barley	86,532	104,601 tons	4,288,641
Corn, Field	19,439	44,339 tons	2,216,950
Milo	39,425	87,093 tons	4,224,011
Oats	213	161 tons	7,406
Rice	5,873	7,209 tons	591,138
Wheat	30,983	27,612 tons	1,794,780
Total	182,465		13,122,926

1955

SUMMARY

Acreage

	1954	1955
Deciduous Fruits and Nuts	2,559	2,614
Citrus Fruits	1,229	1,191
Grapes	26,119	26,085
Melons	819	774
Vegetables	55,018	63,974
Field Crops	348,034	321,734
Seed, Certified	34,590	55,446
Seed, Uncertified	2,479	6,307
Grain	195,821	182,465
Total	666,668	660,590

Value

Deciduous Fruits and Nuts	\$ 2,546,470	\$ 3,483,317
Citrus Fruits	1,516,782	1,713,630
Grapes	20,573,293	18,705,788
Melons	272,424	492,193
Vegetables	33,733,160	37,210,373
Field Crops	99,427,471	86,715,114
Seed, Certified	6,860,772	7,867,190
Seed, Uncertified	1,798,498	2,260,125
Grain	13,719,450	13,122,926
Beef Cattle	31,249,985	22,324,453
Sheep	4,247,400	4,400,470
Hogs	515,191	178,282
Rabbits	79,320	77,475
Poultry	4,103,434	3,790,140
Dairy Products	3,481,871	3,520,100
Apiary Products	384,448	606,045
Total	\$ 224,509,969	\$ 206,467,621
Agricultural Conservation Payments	20,000	5,491
TOTAL RETURNS TO AGRICULTURE	\$ 224,529,969	\$ 206,473,112

Total Carlot Shipments 65,178 71,874

1955

LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

	<u>NUMBER OF HEAD</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
Purebreds	979	372,020
Steers	101,841	13,320,803
Cows and Heifers	66,148	8,025,075
Calves	4,000	240,000
Bulls	1,243	258,544
Hides-Cow	46,605	104,861
Hides-Calf	3,150	3,150
Total		22,324,453
Sheep	9,922	81,360
Lambs	169,950	3,439,788
Wool	1,806,350 lbs.	848,985
Pelts	16,854	30,337
Total		4,400,470
Hogs	6,064	178,282
Total		178,282
Rabbits	75,000	75,000
Pelts	33,000	2,475
Total		77,475
Chickens	321,000	481,500
Fryers	525,500	409,890
Ducks	5,000	7,500
Geese	2,500	6,250
Squab	10,000	8,000
Turkeys	40,000	244,800
Eggs	6,420,000 doz.	2,632,200
Total		3,790,140
Milk, Market	- pounds milk fat 3,111,000 lbs.	3,515,000
Milk, Manufacturing	- pounds milk fat 6,000 lbs.	5,100
Total		3,520,100
Grand Total of All Livestock and Livestock Products		34,290,920
Apiary Products		
Beeswax	30,272 lbs.	15,741
Honey	4,540,800 lbs.	590,304
Total		606,045