

C. SELDON MORLEY
Agricultural Commissioner

JAMES W. STOCKTON
Assistant Commissioner



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BAKERSFIELD
93302

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1966

Earl Coke, Director
California Department of Agriculture

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Kern

The Annual Crop Report for the County of Kern is submitted in accordance with Section 65.5 of the Agricultural Code. The values quoted are gross figures and do not represent net income to the farmers of this county.

The total value of all crops produced amounted to an estimated \$301,712,260 which is 1.4% below the revised 1965 valuation of \$351,279,710. It can be appreciated that the percentage of decrease is not much more when we realize that some of the greatest money producing crops were on the minus side when compared with a year ago.

In 1947 cotton became the number one crop in Kern County and has held that position for nineteen years. Now there has been a change and the number one position is claimed by beef cattle with a total valuation of \$65,588,000. It is the first time in the history of county crop reporting that a segment of the livestock industry has exceeded the valuation of a planted crop. Fewer head of cattle moved through the feed yards during the year. Average price per pound was higher, but the net result was still a 7% reduction in gross value to producers from the \$69,574,000 received in 1965.

Cotton is still the major planted crop despite a reduction in acreage from 171,700 to 156,200. Unfavorable weather conditions and one of the worst years on record for insect damage contributed to a 32% decrease from \$78,736,800 in 1965 to \$53,820,000 in 1966. Production estimates available at this time indicate it is the first year since 1955 that the average yield has been less than one thousand pounds net lint per acre.

Potato growers suffered a complete reversal from the outstanding 1965 season. Demand was poor throughout the late spring season, many cars rolled unsold, prices were extremely low, and growers found it difficult to get back their cost of production.

On the brighter side, alfalfa hay was one of the best income crops of the year. Yields were up, price per ton was up, and the result was a 30% increase above 1965 figures.

Grape growers were beset by many problems but were still able to post a gain from the prior year and increase gross value by 15%.

The ten most valuable crops in Kern County listed in order of their importance are as follows: beef cattle, cotton, potatoes, grapes, alfalfa hay, barley, milk, navel oranges, sugar beets, sheep and lambs and sorghum grain.

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Despite all efforts put forth to keep pink bollworm out of Kern County it was discovered in the Cantil area in October. Stringent regulations have been put into effect. Growers and all others concerned are cooperating to the fullest extent in an effort to prevent further spread of the pest into the great San Joaquin Valley.

We are grateful to Kern County farmers for supplying our personnel with the information contained in this report, and to all others who continue to cooperate by helping to make the report as accurate and complete as possible.

Respectfully submitted,


C. Seldon Morley
Agricultural Commissioner

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AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
C. Seldon Morley

ASSISTANT AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
James W. Stockton

DEPUTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS

Jesse E. Bridges
Robert A. Edwards

DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL INSPECTORS

Charles C. Bennett, Wasco	Jerry M. McCarthy, Delano
Charles L. Jackson, McFarland	Robert H. Prunty, Edison
Louis B. Krauter, Tehachapi	Gene Stark, Shafter
William H. Lewis, Mettler Station	Frank Wheeler, Arvin

AGRICULTURAL INSPECTORS

Edward E. Busby	E. D. Pruett
Benjamin K. Easley	Jack F. Sampson
Edmund B. Freeman	Laurance P. Shelton
Richard Keith	Ernest D. Stanbery
Robert L. Nousch	Louis C. Tedrow
Thomas N. Pratt	Van A. Tout

TRAPPERS

William F. Douglas	Clarence E. Jensen
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OFFICE

Alice B. Cook Senior Secretary	Lucille M. Hunter Account Clerk II
Esther A. Wright Typist Clerk II	Ila M. Moon Account Clerk I

Report compiled by Alice B. Cook

Cover photograph by Gene R. Russell

1966

PERMANENT ACREAGE

	Bearing	Non-bearing	Total
Almonds	315	3,589	3,904
Apples	152	450	602
Apricots	35	85	120
Avocados	--	9	9
Cherries	1	14	15
Figs	1	--	1
Grapefruit	5	--	5
Grapes, Raisin	21,495	309	21,804
Table	10,909	628	11,537
Wine	4,990	207	5,197
All	37,394	1,144	38,538
Lemons	--	67	67
Nectarines	322	5	325
Olives	152	75	227
Oranges, Navel	2,525	5,119	7,644
Tangerines	100	315	415
Valencia	483	3,164	3,647
Peaches	2,105	197	2,302
Pears	285	76	361
Pecans	4	1	5
Persimmons	9	--	9
Pistachio Nuts	--	2	2
Plums	2,086	352	2,438
Pomegranates	90	--	90
Quince	--	3	3
Walnuts	9	96	105

FIELD CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Barley	1966	93,400	1.71	160,000	ton	\$ 50.50	\$ 8,080,000
	1965	95,400	1.57	150,000	ton	49.00	7,350,000
Beans, dry edible	1966	16,000	1.08	17,300	ton	150.00	2,595,000
	1965	12,100	1.21	14,600	ton	200.00	2,920,000
Beans, Castor	1966	205	1.00	205	ton	200.00	41,000
	1965	180	1.00	180	ton	184.00	33,100
Corn, Field	1966	1,300	3.23	4,200	ton	53.00	223,000
	1965	1,380	2.30	3,170	ton	56.50	179,000
Cotton Lint	1966	156,200	a/ 975	b/318,000	bales	c/.2900	46,110,000
	1965*	171,700	a/1225	b/439,330	bales	c/.3200	70,292,800
Cottonseed	1966			121,250	ton	60.00	7,275,000
	1965*			167,200	ton	47.00	7,858,000
Cottonseed, planting	1966			5,750	ton	75.70	435,000
	1965			8,500	ton	68.90	586,000
Hay, Alfalfa	1966	120,000	8.89	1,067,000	ton	28.00	29,876,000
	1965	138,000	7.25	1,000,000	ton	23.00	23,000,000
Grain	1966	12,000	3.35	40,200	ton	30.00	1,206,000
	1965	14,100	3.26	46,000	ton	29.00	1,334,000
Other Tame	1966	3,400	5.85	19,900	ton	26.00	517,000
	1965	2,250	6.00	13,500	ton	22.00	297,000
Oats	1966	xx	xx	xx		xx	xx
	1965	710	1.48	1,050	ton	48.00	50,400
Pasture, Irrigated	1966	21,000	xx	xx	acre	100.00	2,100,000
	1965	25,000	xx	xx	acre	100.00	2,500,000
Other	1966	36,500	xx	xx	acre	9.50	347,000
	1965	55,000	xx	xx	acre	9.50	522,000
Range	1966	2,698,000	xx	xx	acre	1.00	2,698,000
	1965	2,700,000	xx	xx	acre	1.00	2,700,000
Peanuts	1966	689	0.866	597	ton	358.00	214,000
	1965	651	0.816	531	ton	347.00	184,000

- a. Pounds lint per acre
 b. 500 lb. gross weight bales
 c. Price per pound
 * Revised

FIELD CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Rice	1966	1,900	2.53	4,800	ton	\$ 100.00	\$ 480,000
	1965	1,900	2.47	4,700	ton	96.00	451,000
Safflower	1966	17,500	1.31	23,000	ton	100.00	2,300,000
	1965	5,570	1.17	6,500	ton	82.00	533,000
Silage	1966	6,200	24.60	153,000	ton	7.00	1,071,000
	1965	6,270	23.90	150,000	ton	7.30	1,095,000
Sorghum grain	1966	41,300	2.26	93,200	ton	44.50	4,147,000
	1965	26,800	2.39	64,000	ton	45.00	2,880,000
Sugar beets	1966	20,000	20.20	404,000	ton	11.40	4,606,000
	1965	20,000	23.50	470,000	ton	9.70	4,559,000
Wheat	1966	20,000	1.20	23,900	ton	54.50	1,303,000
	1965	13,400	1.16	15,600	ton	51.00	796,000
Miscellaneous (Oats) (Straw)	1966	1,250	xx	1,300	ton	xx	21,300
	1965	1,210	xx	1,210	ton	xx	20,200
TOTAL	1966	568,844 2,698,000 Range					\$115,645,300
	1965*	591,621 2,700,000 Range					130,140,500

* Revised

CERTIFIED SEED CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Alfalfa,	1966	2,990	451	1,348,000	lb.	\$.38	\$ 512,000
Ranger	1965	4,260	446	1,900,000	lb.	.34	646,000
Proprietary and	1966	5,210	423	2,204,000	lb.	.39	860,000
Other Varieties	1965	6,305	321	2,025,000	lb.	.385	779,500
Barley	1966*	771	3,013	2,323,000	lb.	.04	92,900
	1965	724	3,012	2,181,000	lb.	.03	65,400
Cowpeas,	1966	773	1,635	1,264,000	lb.	.08	101,000
Blackeye	1965	111	1,090	121,000	lb.	.10	12,100
Oats	1966*	152	2,355	358,000	lb.	.04	14,300
	1965	332	1,840	611,000	lb.	.03	18,300
Wheat,	1966	xx	xx	xx		xx	xx
Ramona 50	1965	103	1,592	164,000	lb.	.05	8,200
Miscellaneous	1966	207	xx	226,000	lb.	xx	45,000
(Clover)	1965	110	xx	76,900	lb.	xx	24,600
(Milo)							
(Peanuts)							
(Wheat)							
TOTAL	1966	10,103					\$1,625,200
	1965	11,945					1,554,100

* Portion bought roadside

NONCERTIFIED SEED CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Alfalfa, Common and Other Varieties	1966	6,260	397	2,487,000	lb.	\$.36	\$ 895,000
	1965	7,490	288	2,155,000	lb.	.36	776,000
Grain (Barley)	1966*	523	xx	724,000	lb.	.04	29,000
(Oats)	1965	145	xx	382,000	lb.	.03	11,500
(Wheat)							
Miscellaneous (Cowpeas)	1966**	805	xx	373,000	lb.	xx	104,000
(Grass)	1965	666	xx	857,000	lb.	xx	208,000
Vegetable	1966	380	xx	318,000	lb.	.33	105,000
	1965	219	xx	122,000	lb.	.71	86,600
Screenings and Cleanings	1966	xx	xx	1,410	ton	21.40	30,200
	1965	xx	xx	1,070	ton	24.00	25,700
TOTAL	1966	7,968					\$1,163,200
	1965	8,520					1,107,800

* Portion bought roadside and some dryland

** Varieties of Cowpeas other than Blackeye

VEGETABLE CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Beans, Snap	1966	257	3.58	921	ton	\$279.00	\$ 257,000
	1965*	xx	xx	xx		xx	xx
Carrots	1966	2,370	14.20	33,700	ton	82.50	2,780,000
	1965	1,450	14.55	21,100	ton	50.00	1,055,000
Corn, Sweet	1966	2,680	3.42	9,160	ton	116.00	1,063,000
	1965	3,220	4.04	13,000	ton	118.00	1,534,000
Garlic	1966	430	5.63	2,420	ton	135.00	327,000
	1965	615	6.99	4,300	ton	120.00	516,000
Lettuce	1966	765	9.86	7,540	ton	81.00	611,000
	1965*	xx	xx	xx		xx	xx
Melons	1966	3,390	9.47	32,100	ton	119.00	3,820,000
Cantaloupe	1965	3,440	7.67	26,400	ton	103.00	2,719,000
Other Melons	1966	386	10.00	3,860	ton	132.00	510,000
	1965	450	10.73	4,830	ton	170.00	821,000
Watermelons	1966	2,150	14.40	30,900	ton	32.60	1,007,000
	1965	2,090	13.01	27,200	ton	29.30	797,000
<u>Onions, TOTAL</u>	1966	3,739	22.80	85,200	ton	47.44	4,042,000
	1965	2,891	22.31	64,500	ton	43.16	2,784,000
Dry	1966	879	23.40	20,600	ton	99.00	2,039,000
	1965	711	22.36	15,900	ton	80.30	1,277,000
Dehydrator	1966	2,860	22.60	64,600	ton	31.00	2,003,000
	1965	2,180	22.29	48,600	ton	31.00	1,507,000
Peas, Green	1966	776	1.69	1,310	ton	162.00	212,000
	1965	485	4.10	1,990	ton	207.00	412,000
Potatoes, Sweet	1966	329	6.50	2,140	ton	184.00	394,000
	1965	358	5.28	1,890	ton	162.00	306,000

* Included in miscellaneous

VEGETABLE CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
<u>Potatoes, TOTAL</u>	1966	53,640	16.31	874,630	ton	\$ 36.32	\$31,771,800
	1965	58,000	15.36	890,870	ton	83.72	74,587,400
Late Spring, <u>TOTAL</u>	1966	46,900	17.21	807,000	ton	35.20	28,410,000
	1965	49,700	16.10	800,300	ton	88.12	70,524,000
Fresh Market	1966			535,000	ton	40.00	21,400,000
	1965			604,000	ton	105.00	63,420,000
Processed	1966			133,000	ton	48.00	6,384,000
	1965			143,000	ton	48.00	6,864,000
Culls	1966			139,000	ton	4.50	626,000
	1965			53,300	ton	4.50	240,000
<u>Winter, TOTAL</u>	1966	6,740	10.03	67,630	ton	49.71	3,361,800
	1965	8,300	10.91	90,570	ton	44.86	4,063,400
Fresh Market	1966			50,000	ton	60.00	3,000,000
	1965			77,600	ton	48.00	3,725,000
Processed	1966			8,430	ton	38.50	325,000
	1965			6,360	ton	49.00	312,000
Culls	1966			9,200	ton	4.00	36,800
	1965			6,610	ton	4.00	26,400
<u>Tomatoes, TOTAL</u>	1966	2,481	12.79	31,734	ton	32.33	1,026,000
	1965	1,036	14.92	15,460	ton	61.51	951,000
Fresh Market	1966	521	1.79	934	ton	112.00	105,000
	1965	236	12.12	2,860	ton	177.00	506,000
Processed	1966	1,960	15.70	30,800	ton	29.90	921,000
	1965	800	15.75	12,600	ton	35.30	445,000
Miscellaneous	1966	1,130	xx	5,110	ton	xx	746,000
(Asparagus)	1965	1,660	xx	6,850	ton	xx	1,069,000
(Beans, Green)							
(Beans, Fava)							
(Cucumbers)							
(Squash)							
 TOTAL	1966	74,523					\$48,566,800
	1965	75,695					87,551,400

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS	YEAR	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	PER UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL				TOTAL
Apples	1966	152	3.81	579	ton	\$239.00	\$	138,000
	1965	62	5.82	361	ton	188.00		67,900
Almonds	1966	315	1.58	498	ton	1060.00		528,000
	1965**	xx	xx	xx		xx		xx
<u>Grapes, TOTAL</u>	1966	37,394	7.00	261,753	ton	116.38		30,462,000
	1965	36,927	7.82	288,837	ton	92.01		26,577,000
<u>Raisin Varieties</u>	1966	21,495						
	1965	21,167						
Fresh Market	1966			59,000	ton	233.00		13,747,000
	1965			53,200	ton	210.00		11,172,000
Raisins, dry weight	1966*			6,530	ton	226.00		1,476,000
	1965*			6,360	ton	224.00		1,425,000
Processed	1966			16,700	ton	55.00		918,000
	1965			10,000	ton	50.00		500,000
Crushed	1966			37,500	ton	34.50		1,294,000
	1965			72,700	ton	28.00		2,036,000
<u>Table Varieties</u>	1966	10,909						
	1965	10,923						
Fresh Market	1966			44,300	ton	224.00		9,923,000
	1965			37,200	ton	212.00		7,886,000
Crushed	1966			30,200	ton	24.60		743,000
	1965			37,100	ton	23.00		853,000
<u>Wine Varieties</u>	1966	4,990						
	1965	4,837						
Crushed	1966			46,300	ton	51.00		2,361,000
	1965			48,300	ton	56.00		2,705,000

* Total production includes raisins on a fresh equivalent basis

Dry ratio: 1966 - 4.25 to 1 = 27,753

1965 - 4.77 to 1 = 30,337

** Included in miscellaneous

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS	YEAR	BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Citrus							
Grapefruit	1966	5	11.60	58	ton	\$ 80.00	\$ 4,640
	1965	7	9.00	63	ton	80.00	5,040
Oranges, Navel	1966	2,525	11.60	29,300	ton	160.00	4,688,000
	1965*	1,992	14.40	28,700	ton	133.00	3,817,000
Oranges, Valencia	1966	483	24.00	11,600	ton	135.00	1,566,000
	1965*	209	20.40	4,260	ton	113.00	481,000
Tangerines	1966	100	14.90	1,490	ton	180.00	268,000
	1965*	94	11.00	1,030	ton	160.00	165,000
Nectarines	1966	322	3.60	1,160	ton	293.00	340,000
	1965	384	3.44	1,320	ton	258.00	341,000
<u>Peaches, TOTAL</u>	1966	7,105	6.91	14,550	ton	169.35	2,464,000
	1965	2,027	6.40	12,980	ton	167.72	2,177,000
Fresh Market	1966			7,120	ton	273.00	1,944,000
	1965			6,770	ton	267.00	1,808,000
Processed	1966			7,430	ton	70.00	520,000
	1965			6,210	ton	59.50	369,000
<u>Pears, TOTAL</u>	1966	285	10.77	3,070	ton	148.53	456,000
	1965**	xx	xx	xx		xx	xx
Fresh Market	1966			1,500	ton	220.00	330,000
	1965**			xx		xx	xx
Processed	1966			1,570	ton	80.00	126,000
	1965**			xx		xx	xx
Plums	1966	2,086	3.62	7,550	ton	313.00	2,363,000
	1965	2,080	4.19	8,720	ton	212.00	1,849,000
Pomegranates	1966	90	4.69	422	ton	71.00	30,000
	1965	84	1.61	135	ton	73.00	9,860
Miscellaneous (Apricots)	1966	202	xx	1,190	ton	xx	204,000
(Olives)	1965	618	xx	6,860	ton	xx	954,000
(Persimmons)							
TOTAL	1966	46,064					\$43,511,640
	1965	44,484					36,443,800

* Revised

** Included in miscellaneous

NURSERY PRODUCTS

	YEAR	ACRES	QUANTITY SOLD BY PRODUCERS	UNIT	VALUE	
					PER UNIT	TOTAL
Citrus Trees	1966	43	203,000	plant	\$2.75	\$ 558,000
	1965	80	374,000	plant	2.60	972,000
Trees and Shrubs	1966	72	602,000	plant	.55	331,000
	1965	76	580,000	plant	.55	319,000
Rose Plants	1966	650	9,821,000	plant	.35	3,437,000
	1965	496	7,353,000	plant	.35	2,574,000
Plants, propagative material and cut flowers	1966	212	xx		xx	396,000
	1965	204	xx		xx	293,000
TOTAL	1966	977				\$4,722,000
	1965	856				4,158,000

APIARY PRODUCTS	YEAR	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
		TOTAL			PER UNIT	TOTAL
Honey	1966	423,000		lb.	\$.11	\$ 46,500
	1965	433,000		lb.	.105	45,500
Beeswax	1966	7,050		lb.	.40	2,820
	1965	7,220		lb.	.43	3,100
Pollination	1966	7,680		colony	4.50	34,600
	1965	6,810		colony	4.50	30,600
TOTAL	1966					\$ 83,920
	1965					79,200

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY	YEAR	NO. OF HEAD	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			TOTAL	LIVEWEIGHT		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Cattle and calves	1966	452,000	2,915,000		cwt.	\$22.50	\$ 65,588,000
	1965	504,000	3,236,000		cwt.	21.50	69,574,000
Sheep and lambs	1966	197,000	189,000		cwt.	22.60	4,271,000
	1965	208,000	190,000		cwt.	22.00	4,180,000
Hogs	1966	3,300	6,930		cwt.	23.00	159,000
	1965	3,920	7,970		cwt.	19.00	151,000
Horses	1966	xx	xx			xx	538,000
	1965	xx	xx			xx	394,000
Fryers	1966	332,000	1,162,000		lb.	.178	207,000
	1965	593,000	2,075,000		lb.	.172	357,000
Chickens, other	1966	376,000	1,692,000		lb.	.08	135,000
	1965	471,000	2,355,000		lb.	.06	141,000
Turkeys	1966	629,000	10,693,000		lb.	.23	2,459,000
	1965	766,000	14,457,000		lb.	.225	3,253,000
Rabbits	1966	13,000	52,000		ea.	1.15	15,000
	1965	12,700	50,800		ea.	1.05	13,300
Game birds and Squab	1966	xx	xx			xx	120,000
	1965	xx	xx			xx	114,000
TOTAL	1966						\$ 73,492,000
	1965						78,177,300

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Milk					
Market	1966	1,751,000	cwt.	\$ 4.39	\$ 7,687,000
	1965*	1,618,000	cwt.	4.03	6,521,000
Manufacturing	1966	4,130	cwt.	3.68	15,200
	1965*	2,400	cwt.	3.17	7,610
Wool	1966	2,200,000	lb.	.473	1,041,000
	1965	1,956,000	lb.	.419	820,000
Eggs, chicken	1966	7,949,000	doz.	.435	3,458,000
Market	1965	10,219,000	doz.	.37	3,781,000
Miscellaneous	1966	xx	xx		701,000
	1965	xx	xx		938,000
TOTAL	1966				\$ 12,902,200
	1965*				12,067,610

* Revised

JANUARY 1 INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY, 1966-1967
(In number of head)

ITEM	January 1, 1966	January 1, 1967
* <u>All cattle and calves</u>	400,700	388,200
* Cattle on feed	161,466	151,700
* Milk cows, two years and over	17,000	18,700
* Stock sheep and lambs	192,200	187,900
* Hogs	4,200	3,900
Hens and pullets of laying age	394,750	423,050

* Estimates of California Crop and Livestock Reporting Service