



LOS ANGELES COUNTY 1970

CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

COUNTY VETERINARIAN

SUMMARY

1966-1970, Inclusive

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Citrus Fruits	\$ 6,974,000	\$ 5,326,000	\$ 4,294,000	\$ 2,312,000	\$ 3,430,800
Other Fruits	2,326,000	1,842,000	2,038,000	1,903,000	2,564,710
Berries	3,970,000	4,132,000	3,507,000	3,776,000	3,476,000
Field Crops	12,562,600	13,216,000	11,349,000	9,551,000	9,146,200
Vegetables	15,512,200	14,068,200	13,075,000	11,555,000	10,886,500
Nursery Stock	29,902,000	28,032,000	31,340,000	35,491,000	36,837,000
Cut Flowers	<u>5,389,000</u>	<u>5,417,600</u>	<u>5,500,000</u>	<u>5,202,000</u>	<u>4,823,000</u>
Total Plant Crops*	\$76,635,800	\$72,033,800	\$71,103,000	\$69,790,000	\$71,164,210
Apiary Products	<u>284,200</u>	<u>251,200</u>	<u>192,000</u>	<u>431,000</u>	<u>234,500</u>
Total Plant Crops* & Apiary Products	\$76,920,000	\$72,285,000	\$71,295,000	\$70,221,000	\$71,398,710
Livestock & Poultry	<u>93,371,650</u>	<u>89,518,500</u>	<u>86,171,500</u>	<u>80,954,000</u>	<u>62,690,000</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$170,291,650	\$161,803,500	\$157,466,500	\$151,175,000	\$134,088,710

* U. S. Department of Agricultural Payments deleted from these totals to conform to state-wide tabulation system for county crop reports.

Cover Photo: Nursery stock growing grounds,
Monrovia Nursery Co., Azusa

L. A. County is the nation's number
one producer of nursery stock with a
gross value for 1970 of \$36,837,000.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

1970 CROP & LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Gross returns from plant crop and livestock production in Los Angeles County during 1970 amounted to \$134,088,710.

Despite some losses due to spring cold and relatively high summer temperatures, total plant crop production was valued at \$71,398,710 -- a 1.5% increase over the previous year. Livestock production declined to \$62,690,000, largely as the result of the continuing exodus of dairies from the County.

As has been the case for the past several years, production costs have continued to rise while gross income reported has remained at about the same level. As a result, little improvement in net income returned to the producer is expected.

Nine crops excluding livestock categories, returned \$1 million dollars or more during the year. They were -- Lemons (\$2,172,000), Avocados (\$1,257,000), Strawberries (\$3,476,000), Alfalfa hay (\$6,273,000), Bean sprouts (\$1,530,000), Sweet corn (\$2,160,000), Green onions (\$1,818,000), Nursery stock (\$36,837,000) and Cut flowers (\$4,823,000).

Citrus crop production recovered substantially from the severe losses experienced the previous year from freezing weather and unprecedented rains. Navel orange yields almost doubled and Valencia orange, lemon and grapefruit yields were much better. Prices were also up considerably, raising the total valuation of citrus crops to \$3,430,800 in 1970.

Other fruits and nut crops returned \$2,564,710. Avocado production remained fairly constant but prices per flat were very high, increasing returns considerably in 1970. Freeze damage in mid-spring severely decreased yields of almonds and lowered production in deciduous fruit orchards.

Strawberry acreage dropped 10% in 1970. Yields per acre were slightly higher because of the absence of late frosts and heavy rainfall during the year, but because of less acreage and lower prices the total valuation was down for the year. The average yield last season was 34,000 pounds per acre and is equal to the State average or over four times the yield per acre of any other producing state in the nation.

Field crop returns were lower in 1970 because of low prices, government grain programs, and poor growing weather. Total valuation from 267,890 acres was \$9,110,000. Alfalfa hay, the major field crop, was down in total value although hay prices were up about \$3.00 per ton from 1969. The barley grain crop produced much better in 1970. Other field crops including wheat, sugar beets, range and irrigated pasture were down slightly in valuation. Cutbacks in dry bean acreage also continued.

Vegetable crops were harvested from 6,592 acres with the high value per acre crops producing much of the total vegetable valuation. Sweet corn prices were stronger last year with good demand at roadside stands for nearly half the crop. One thousand, four hundred acres of greens and green onions are in steady demand for local markets. Yields of these two crops were slightly less on a reduced acreage. Radishes also continue to drop in acreage because of the loss of good available land. Bean sprout production for Chinese food dishes continues to expand slightly each

year with the increase of popularity for this type of vegetable. Mushroom production and price were better than last year. Total vegetable production in the County grossed \$10,783,000 during the year.

Nursery stock gross receipts rose to \$36,837,000 in 1970. These record returns in large part can be attributed to better information gathering techniques and continuing expansion of the national market. Stronger prices for bedding plants, indoor flowering plants and ground covers also increased gross returns. Cut flowers returned \$4,823,000 despite some reduction in acreage. Growth in the Christmas tree industry continued with some 176 acres now devoted to "Choose and Cut" plantings.

Apiary production decreased substantially from 25,000 colonies of bees, returning \$234,500 in 1970. Lack of adequate rain to sustain native nectar-producing plants reduced honey yields to about one half that of the previous record year.

During 1970 the pressure of urbanization had a pronounced influence on livestock and poultry production in Los Angeles County. Many dairies once located in the southeastern portion of the County have moved to neighboring counties accounting for the loss of approximately \$14,000,000 in milk production. Another factor contributing to the overall production decrease was the weakening egg market and a drop in the total number of eggs produced. Most all other categories showed a modest decline as a consequence of decreased activity.

Valuation figures are based on delivery price at the market or on FOB price for commodities shipped out of state. All prices have been compared with Federal-State Market News quotations. U.S. Department of Agriculture payments amounted to \$708,770 and are not included in the total gross returns reported.

Assistance received from the many individuals and agencies consulted is acknowledged and greatly appreciated.

RALPH W. LIGHTY
Agricultural Commissioner

ROBERT J. SCHROEDER, D.V.M.
County Veterinarian

March 22, 1971

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

FRUIT & NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
CITRUS FRUITS							
Oranges	1970	778	4.7	3,657	Ton	\$133.00	\$ 486,000
Navel & Misc.	1969	948	2.3	2,180	"	96.00	209,000
Oranges	1970	1,305	5.7	7,439	"	100.00	744,000
Valencia	1969	1,427	4.3	6,136	"	39.00	239,000
Lemons	1970	1,605	8.9	14,285	"	152.00	2,172,000
	1969	1,787	7.1	12,688	"	145.00	1,840,000
Grapefruit	1970	64	5.0	320	"	90.00	28,800
	1969	80	2.5	200	"	120.00	24,000
Total	1970	3,752					\$ 3,430,800
	1969	4,242					2,312,000
OTHER FRUITS & NUTS							
Almonds	1970	1,169	.130	152	"	678.00	103,000
	1969	1,183	.168	199	"	646.00	129,000
Apples	1970	24	.93	22	"	114.00	2,510
	1969	24	4.7	113	"	133.00	15,000
Avocados	1970	1,271	1.32	1,678	"	749.00	1,257,000
	1969	1,259	1.42	1,788	"	300.00	536,000
Cherries	1970	23	1.5	35	"	572.00	20,000
	1969	20	3.3	66	"	538.00	35,500
Figs	1970	30	5.3	159	"	881.00	140,000
	1969	28	4.1	115	"	760.00	87,400
Grapes	1970	47	.50	24	"	100.00	2,400
	1969	47	1.0	47	"	95.00	4,500
Olives	1970	39	.50	20	"	180.00	3,600
	1969	39	1.5	59	"	162.00	9,600
Peaches	1970	331	3.8	1,258	"	250.00	314,000
Freestone	1969	309	6.63	2,049	"	234.00	479,000
Pears	1970	286	10.0	2,860	"	206.00	589,000
Bartlett	1969	272	7.8	2,122	"	183.00	388,000
Walnuts	1970	341	.58	200	"	435.00	87,000
	1969	345	.84	290	"	450.00	130,500
Misc. Fruits & Nuts	1970	46					46,200 (R)
	1969	32					25,000 (R)
Total	1970	3,607					\$ 2,564,710
	1969	3,572					1,903,000

(R) Revised figure - Nectarines included 1970 listed separately 1969.

FRUIT & NUT CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production			Value	
			Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
<u>BERRIES</u>							
Strawberries	1970	470	17.4	8,178	Ton	\$425.00	\$ 3,476,000
	1969	525	14.8	7,770	"	486.00	3,776,000
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Total Fruit & Nut Crops	1970	7,829					\$ 9,471,510
	1969	8,339					7,991,000

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Barley	1970	12,400	1.05	13,020	Ton	\$ 50.40	\$ 656,000
	1969	13,900	.64	8,896	"	52.00	463,000
Garbanzo	1970	30	.50	15	"	280.00	4,200
	1969	160	.20	32	"	250.00	8,000
Lima	1970	150	.60	90	"	275.00	24,700
	1969	425	.65	276	"	318.00	87,800
Hay, Alfalfa	1970	28,500	6.20	176,700	"	35.50	6,273,000
	1969	30,800	6.55	202,000	"	32.00	6,464,000
Hay, Grain	1970	5,650	2.3	13,000	"	33.50	436,000
	1969	7,000	2.4	16,800	"	29.00	487,000
Pasture - Irrigated	1970	2,850					558,000
	1969	3,000					570,000
Range Land	1970	210,000					265,000
	1969	220,000					330,000

FIELD CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Silage - Sorghum	1970	210	10.0	2,100	Ton	\$ 8.00	\$ 16,800
	1969	200	10.0	2,000	"	8.00	16,000
Sorghum grain	1970	100	1.9	190	"	57.50	10,900
	1969	100	2.1	210	"	52.00	10,900
Sugar beets (f)	1970	1,500	22.0	32,550	"	15.30	498,000
	1969	1,800	25.0	45,000	"	15.00	675,000
Wheat	1970	6,500	.55	3,575	"	52.00	186,000
	1969	6,700	.45	3,015	"	53.00	160,000
Misc. Field Crops (f)	1970						182,000
	1969						230,000
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Total	1970	267,890					\$ 9,110,600
	1969	284,585					9,527,000

Acreage, production
& value of
Seed Crops

Alfalfa	1970	500(*)	209	104,600	Lbs.	\$.34	\$ 35,600
	1969	750(*)	100	75,000	"	.32	24,000

(f) Does not include estimated \$103,000 Sugar Act payments for 1970 or \$138,220 for 1969.

(f) Amount shown for 1970 includes \$169,000 paid for sheep and cattle grazing on alfalfa and barley stubble; 1969 amount includes \$169,000 for such grazing. Oats and Straw also included in misc. figure.

(*) Included in harvested acreage shown for alfalfa hay.

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Bean Sprouts	1970	-	-	4,500	Ton	\$340.00	\$ 1,530,000
	1969	-	-	4,500	"	333.00	1,498,500
Beets, table	1970	75	10.1	758	"	89.00	67,500
	1969	70	11.1	770	"	84.00	64,700
Cabbage	1970	285	10.0	2,850	"	80.00	228,000
	1969	360	10.0	3,600	"	86.00	310,000
Carrots	1970	260	25.0	6,500	"	90.00	585,000
	1969	260	26.0	6,760	"	109.00	737,000
Cauliflower	1970	45	11.1	500	"	68.00	34,000
	1969	25	14.0	350	"	72.00	25,200
Celery	1970	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1969	12	25.0	300	Ton	80.00	24,000
Chinese Food Vegetables	1970	50	20.0	1,000	"	105.00	105,000
	1969	100					(R) 235,000
Corn, sweet	1970	2,400	5.00	12,000	"	180.00	2,160,000
	1969	2,550	5.00	12,750	"	120.00	1,530,000
Lettuce, leaf	1970	150	13.0	1,950	"	90.50	176,000
	1969	145	10.0	1,450	"	118.00	171,000
Melons -Cantaloupe	1970	125	10.8	1,350	"	82.00	111,000
	1969	115	8.3	955	"	106.00	101,000
-Watermelon	1970	155	5.7	884	"	45.25	40,000
	1969	80	9.3	744	"	55.00	40,900
Mushrooms	1970	-	-	850	"	1,140.00	969,000
	1969	-	-	800	"	1,000.00	800,000
Mustard & other greens	1970	805	11.0	8,855	"	106.00	939,000
	1969	835	12.0	10,020	"	107.00	1,072,000
Onions, dry	1970	275	23.5	6,463	"	85.00	549,000
	1969	230	19.0	4,370	"	98.00	428,000
Onions, green	1970	600	19.3	11,580	"	157.00	1,818,000
	1969	710	21.0	14,910	"	148.00	2,207,000

VEGETABLE CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Pumpkins	1970	140	12.0	1,680	Ton	\$ 50.00	\$ 84,000
	1969	160	10.0	1,600	"	50.00	80,000
Radishes	1970	615	9.0	5,535	"	125.00	692,000
	1969	820	9.0	7,380	"	137.00	1,011,000
Rhubarb	1970	90	8.0	720	"	150.00	108,000
	1969	80	10.0	800	"	160.00	128,000
Squash, Summer	1970	80	6.0	480	"	237.50	114,000
	1969	90	5.0	450	"	240.00	108,000
Squash, Winter	1970	62	9.7	601	"	50.00	30,000
	1969	55	8.4	462	"	60.00	27,800
Tomatoes, Mkt.	1970	65	9.7	631	"	319.00	201,000
	1969	75	13.0	975	"	327.00	319,000
Turnips	1970	100	8.5	850	"	87.00	74,000
	1969	300	9.2	2,760	"	85.00	235,000
Misc. Vegetables	1970	215					272,000
	1969	275					400,000
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Total	1970	6,592					\$10,886,500
	1969	7,347					11,555,000

(R) Revised figure - 1969 listing included Bean Sprouts now listed separately in 1970.

NURSERY PRODUCTS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Item	Year	Production Area		Quantity Sold By Producers	Unit	Value	
		House Acres	Field Acres			Per Unit	Total
Nursery Crops							
Bedding Plants	1970		62	1,300,000	Flats	2.70	\$ 3,510,000
	1969		68	1,064,000	"	2.75	2,926,000
Cacti-Succulents	1970		11				187,000
	1969		10				201,000
Geranium cuttings	1970		151	9,900,000	Cuttings	.065	644,000
	1969		173	8,800,000	"	.060	528,000
Ground cover	1970		98	1,100,000	Flats	2.25	2,475,000
	1969		99	1,050,000	"	2.10	2,205,000
Turf (sod & stolon)	1970		96				300,000
	1969		107				446,000
Ornamental trees & shrubs	1970		1,435	20,873,000	Plants	1.10	22,960,000
	1969		1,430	-		-	22,880,000
Miscellaneous Bulbs, Roots, Dichondra seed & other specialties	1970		40				165,000
	1969		46				100,000
Vegetable plants	1970	13		1,017,000	Flats	1.10	1,119,000
	1969	14		1,095,000	"	1.00	1,095,000
Indoor plants foliage	1970	12		1,150,000		1.82	2,093,000
	1969	11		-		-	1,964,000
Indoor potted flowering	1970	46		2,350,000		1.15	2,702,000
	1969	45		-		-	2,220,000
Orchid plants	1970	8					682,000
	1969	8					526,000
Total	1970	79	1,893				\$36,837,000
	1969	78	1,933				35,491,000

CUT FLOWERS & DECORATIVES

Item	Year	Production Area		Quantity Sold By Producers	Unit	Value	
		House Acres	Field Acres			Per Unit	Total
Carnations	1970	44		22,000,000	Blooms	.0550	\$ 1,210,000
	1969	46		23,000,000	"	.0575	1,322,000
Christmas trees	1970		176	32,500	Trees	8.75	284,000
	1969		134	25,000	"	9.00	225,000
Chrysanthemums	1970	15		614,000	Blooms	.24	147,000
-Stand. & disbuds	1969	15		600,000	"	.24	144,000
-Pompon	1970	54	43	280,500	Bundle	3.00	842,000
	1969	54	43	282,600	"	3.00	848,000
Orchids, cut	1970	24					900,000
all varieties	1969	25					938,000
Miscellaneous	1970		300				1,440,000
(Glads., roses, cut greens & other cut flowers)	1969		338				1,725,000
Total	1970	137	519				\$ 4,823,000
	1969	140	515				5,202,000

TOTAL ALL PLANT CROPS	Acres	Value
1970	284,939	\$71,164,210

APIARY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
		Total		Per Unit	Total
Honey	1970	1,200,000	Lbs.	.15	\$ 180,000
	1969	2,500,000	"	.15	375,000
Beeswax	1970	20,000	"	.60	12,000
	1969	37,000	"	.50	18,500
Pollination	1970	8,500	Colonies	5.00	42,500
	1969	7,500	"	5.00	37,500
Total	1970				\$ 234,500
	1969				431,000

GRAND TOTAL PLANT CROPS AND APIARY PRODUCTS 1970	\$71,398,710
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LIVESTOCK & POULTRY: INVENTORY, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Species	Year	Inventory	Production			Value		
			No. of Head	Total Liveweight	Unit	Per Unit	Total	
<u>CATTLE & CALVES</u>								
Dairy Cows	1970	35,000	--	--	--	\$ --	\$ --	
	1969	43,800	--	--	--	--	--	
Cull Cows	1970	--	10,000	10,000,000	Cwt.	21.00	2,100,000	
	1969	--	13,000	13,000,000	"	20.00	2,600,000	
Calves	1970	2,500	33,000	--	Head	32.00	1,056,000	
	1969	3,900	38,000	--	"	30.00	1,140,000	
Heifers	1970	2,500	3,000	--	"	250.00	750,000	
	1969	5,700	4,800	--	"	235.00	1,128,000	
<u>Beef</u>								
Feeder Calves	1970	7,300	3,400	680,000	Cwt.	32.60	222,000	
	1969	9,300	3,300	660,000	"	30.30	200,000	
Fed Steers & Heifers	1970	30,000	40,000	12,500,000	"	29.30	3,663,000	
	1969	32,200	57,000	17,600,000	"	28.70	5,050,000	
<u>SHEEP & LAMBS</u>								
Breeding Stock	1970	32,000	--	--	--	--	--	
	1969	26,000	--	--	--	--	--	
Fat Lambs	1970	24,000	26,250	2,100,000	Cwt.	27.20	571,000	
	1969	26,300	32,000	2,570,000	"	27.40	703,000	
<u>HOGS & PIGS</u>								
Slaughter Hogs	1970	3,500	3,350	405,000	Cwt.	26.40	107,000	
	1969	7,500	6,000	1,450,000	"	21.80	317,000	
<u>BROILERS & FRYERS</u>								
	1970	604,000	3,054,400	10,690,000	Lb.	.168	1,796,000	
	1969	604,000	3,787,000	13,255,000	"	.173	2,293,000	
<u>OTHER CHICKENS</u>								
Hens	1970	--	808,500	3,638,250	Lb.	.072	262,000	
	1969	--	1,019,000	4,585,500	"	.055	252,000	
Laying Hens	1970	1,155,000	--	--	--	--	--	
	1969	1,359,000	--	--	--	--	--	
Roasters	1970	335,000	1,361,200	7,487,000	Lb.	.200	1,497,000	
	1969	419,000	1,503,000	8,267,000	"	.210	1,736,000	
<u>TURKEYS</u>								
	1970	437,000	919,000	18,380,000	Lb.	.228	4,191,000	
	1969	340,000	935,000	18,690,000	"	.219	4,093,000	
<u>CHICKS</u>								
	1970	--	16,873,000	--	Each	.139	2,350,000	
	1969	--	16,498,000	--	"	.141	2,326,000	

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY (Cont.)

Species	Year	Inventory	Production			Value	
			No. of Head	Total Liveweight	Unit	Per Unit	Total
<u>OTHER LIVESTOCK</u>							
(Ducks, Poults,	1970	--	--	--	--	\$ --	\$ 287,000
Goats, Rabbits)	1969	--	--	--	--	--	418,000
<u>HORSES</u>	1970	50,000	4,500	--	Head	425.00	1,913,000
	1969	49,000	4,700	--	"	400.00	1,880,000
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Total	1970						\$20,765,000
	1969						24,136,000

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION & VALUE

Product	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
<u>MILK</u>					
Market	1970	5,951,000	Cwt.	\$ 5.75	\$34,218,000
	1969	8,107,000	"	5.63	47,022,000
Manufacturing	1970	8,710	"	4.37	38,000
	1969	59,500	"	4.44	264,000
<u>WOOL</u>					
	1970	157,000	Lb.	.37	58,000
	1969	246,000	"	.378	93,000
<u>EGGS</u>					
	1970	23,485,000	Dozen	.318	7,468,000
	1969	27,628,000	"	.335	9,255,000
<u>GOATS' MILK</u>					
	1970	530,000	Qt.	.27	143,000
	1969	826,000	"	.27	223,000
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Total	1970				\$41,925,000
	1969				56,857,000
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GRAND TOTAL LIVESTOCK & POULTRY PRODUCTION					\$62,690,000

LOS ANGELES COUNTY PLANT CROP VALUES *A FIFTEEN YEAR COMPARISON*

