

*Los Angeles
County*

*Agricultural Crop
and Livestock
Report*

~2005~



Kurt E. Floren

Welcome to Our New Department Head

As January 2005 introduced a new year for the multitude of activities and services provided by the Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures, it also saw the appointment of a new Department Head following the retirement of Cato Fiksdal in mid-2004. On January 18, 2005, Kurt E. Floren was appointed as Agricultural Commissioner/ Director of Weights and Measures for the County of Los Angeles.

This was a homecoming for Mr. Floren, as he began his Los Angeles County career in 1981 as a trapper in the Exotic Fruit Fly Detection Program during one of the major Mediterranean Fruit Fly battles and soon became what was then known as a General Detection Trapper, working for the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture in the detection of other pests of major concern such as Oriental Fruit Fly, Mexican Fruit Fly, Gypsy Moth, and Japanese Beetle. After the 1984 merging of the former Department of Agricultural Commissioner and the Department of Weights and Measures, Kurt joined the Weights and Measures program as a regulatory inspector, rising to the rank of Supervisor, Weights and Measures Inspection, in which he directed the activities of the Business Practices/Investigation Division for nine years. There, he oversaw departmental programs such as weighmaster enforcement, packaged commodity inspection, scanner price verification, undercover test purchases, and investigations into fraud and negligence in the marketplace, ensuring that consumers and competing businesses were protected from unfair practices.

In 1999, Kurt was recruited by the County of San Diego Department of Agriculture,Weights and Measures as a Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures to oversee that department's Weights and Measures, Direct Marketing (Certified Farmers' Market), Egg Quality Inspection, Organic Production, and Fruit/Nut/Vegetable Standardization programs. He was subsequently promoted to Deputy Director, adding to his responsibilities managerial oversight of the Plant Pathology and Entomology Laboratories as well as the Pest Exclusion/Plant Quarantine, Pest Detection, and Pesticide Regulatory programs. He ultimately became Assistant Director of the County of San Diego department before being selected by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for his current appointment.

Mr. Floren brings a wide diversity of experience in assuming the position of Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures. Since returning to the County of Los Angeles, he has been appointed by the California Secretary of Food and Agriculture to the Certified Farmers' Market Advisory Committee as well as receiving appointments as Chairman of the Laws and Regulations Committee of the Western Weights and Measures Association, Chairman of the Standardization and Statistics Committee of the California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association (CACASA), Agricultural Commissioner Liaison to the California Structural Pest Control Board and, most recently, as a member of the CACASA Board of Directors. Mr. Floren looks forward to the challenges and promises of sustained agricultural production in Los Angeles County as well as ensuring the safe application of pesticides, protection of safe drinking water and our environment through the work of our Environmental Toxicology Laboratory, the prevention of wildfires through weed hazard abatement, the exclusion of plant pests and pathogens that can threaten statewide agriculture, and the array of other programs conducted by the department.

*For a copy of this crop report, visit our website at:
<http://acwm.co.la.ca.us>*



Kurt E. Floren
Agricultural Commissioner/
Director of Weights and Measures

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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Weights and Measures**

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Robert G. Atkins
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and

the Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles

Mayor Michael D. Antonovich - First District
Gloria Molina - Second District
Zev Yaroslavsky - Fourth District
Yvonne Brathwaite Burke - Third District
Don Knabe - Fifth District

2005 CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT

In 2005, a total gross value of **\$277,844,000** in agricultural crops and commodities was produced in Los Angeles County, a slight decrease of 1.4% from last year's revised total of \$281,917,000. Offsetting production losses created by a 6.4% reduction in nursery production values were significant gains of 22% in fruit and nut crops, 37% in field crops, and 297% in apiary products, driven in some instances by stronger market values and, elsewhere, by a combination of value increases and growth in harvested acreage.

Nursery products remain the number one crop produced in Los Angeles County, constituting 64.9% of the total overall production value this year. Increasing land values, escalating production costs, and shipping restrictions due to quarantines addressing Sudden Oak Death and Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter present continuing challenges to future ornamental nursery product production, but the industry remains strong and resilient.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to each of the producers and individuals who provided information for this report. My thanks are extended to the skilled and dedicated staff of this department who continue to do an excellent job in compiling these important statistics.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt E. Floren
Agricultural Commissioner/
Director of Weights and Measures

This annual publication presents statistical information on acreage, yield, and gross value of agricultural products produced in Los Angeles County. This is published in accordance with Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code. The production values in this report represent gross values and do not reflect the cost of production, net income, or loss to producers.

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MILLION DOLLAR COMMODITIES

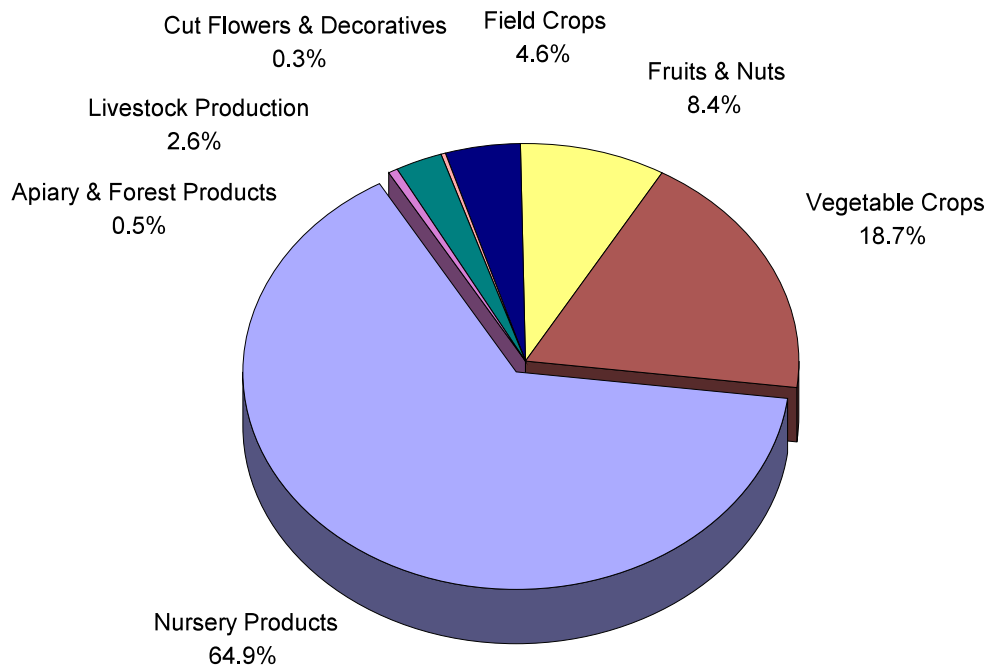
1.	Ornamental Trees and Shrubs	\$107,866,000
2.	Bedding Plants	30,631,000
3.	Dry Onions	28,866,000
4.	Root Vegetables	18,000,000
5.	Orchard Fruit	17,455,000
6.	Alfalfa Hay	8,858,000
7.	Dairy & Livestock	7,319,000
8.	Ground Covers	6,731,000
9.	Indoor Plants, Flowering	5,283,000
10.	Indoor Plants, Foliage	4,331,000
11.	Strawberries	3,303,000
12.	Herbs	2,432,000
13.	Rangeland	2,400,000
14.	Vine Crops	1,504,000
15.	Grain Hay	1,243,000
16.	Apiary	1,223,000

SUMMARY

Commodity	2003	2004	2005
Nursery Products	*179,289,000	\$192,600,000	\$180,325,000
Cut Flowers and Decoratives	667,000	1,091,000	820,000
Fruits and Nuts	18,637,000	19,080,000	23,274,000
Vegetable Crops	*59,245,000	*51,858,000	51,980,000
Field Crops	8,535,000	9,327,000	12,860,000
Livestock Production	8,249,000	7,651,000	7,319,000
Apiary	767,000	303,000	1,223,000
Forest Products	8,000	7,000	43,000
TOTAL	<u>*\$275,397,000</u>	<u>*\$281,917,000</u>	<u>\$277,844,000</u>

* Revised

Year 2005 Crop Value Summary Total Value: \$277,844,000



NURSERY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Green House Square Feet	Field Acres	Total Value	
Ornamental Trees	2005	3,039,000	1,583	\$107,866,000	▼
	2004	7,747,000	1,713	119,666,000	
Bedding Plants	2005	1,862,000	140	\$30,631,000	▼
	2004	1,794,000	177	38,586,000	
Indoor Plants, Flowering	2005	719,000	6	\$5,283,000	▼
	2004	821,000	6	5,392,000	
Indoor Plants, Foliage	2005	470,000	6	\$4,331,000	▲
	2004	561,000	1	3,332,000	
Ground Covers	2005	980,000	34	\$6,731,000	▲
	2004	391,000	28	4,080,000	
Miscellaneous *	2005	151,000	1,401	\$25,483,000	▲
	2004	505,000	1,149	21,544,000	
TOTAL	2005	7,221,000	3,170	\$180,325,000	▼
	2004	11,819,000	3,074	192,600,000	

* Includes perennials, vegetable plants, bonsai plants, orchids, sod, palm trees, and cacti.

CUT FLOWERS & DECORATIVES

Item	Year	Green House Square Feet	Field Acres	Total Value	
Miscellaneous *	2005	67,000	86	\$820,000	▼
	2004	137,000	104	1,091,000	

* Includes lilacs, pompoms, freesias, fruit blossoms, mums, snapdragons, yarrow, delphiniums, Christmas trees, and other miscellaneous.

FRUIT & NUT CROPS

Item	Year	Acreage	Production Per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total Value	
Strawberries	2005	121	11.6	1,407	Ton	\$2,348	\$3,303,000	▲
	2004	101	17.9	1,808		1,276	2,307,000	
Avocados	2005	101	1.0	101	Ton	\$1,204	\$122,000	▲
	2004	59	1.2	71		1,454	103,000	
Cherries	2005	150	0.7	105	Ton	\$3,800	\$399,000	▼
	2004	140	0.8	112		3,800	426,000	
Apples	2005	150	5.3	795	Ton	\$1,200	\$954,000	▲
	2004	150	5.0	750		900	675,000	
Grapes	2005	325	3.6	1,186	Ton	\$811	\$962,000	▲
	2004	225	2.7	608		1,450	882,000	
Orchard Fruit	2005	1,073	Include nectarines, peaches, pears, plums, oranges, tangerines, apricots, lemons, and grapefruits.				\$17,455,000	▲
	2004	1,072					14,645,000	
Miscellaneous	2005	30	Includes figs, pistachios, raspberries, other miscellaneous fruit, and nut crops.				\$79,000	▲
	2004	27					42,000	
TOTAL	2005	1,950					\$23,274,000	▲
	2004	1,774					19,080,000	

VEGETABLE CROPS

Item	Year	Acreage	Production Per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total Value	
Dry Onions	2005	2,677	29.0	77,614	Ton	\$372	\$28,866,000	▲
	2004	2,891	27.5	79,502		286	22,738,000	
Root Vegetables	2005	5,361	Includes carrots, potatoes, radishes, beets, turnips, and other root vegetables.				\$18,000,000	▼
	2004	7,403					*24,865,000	
Herbs	2005	167	Includes cilantro, parsley, chives, mint, thyme, and other herb vegetables.				\$2,432,000	▲
	2004	80					1,739,000	
Table Greens	2005	50	Includes spinach, kale, oriental specialties, and lettuce.				\$398,000	▼
	2004	85					610,000	
Vine Crops	2005	134	Includes cucumbers, green beans, melons, pumpkins, squash, tomatoes, watermelons, and zucchini.				\$1,504,000	▲
	2004	175					1,382,000	
Miscellaneous	2005	384	Includes bell peppers, cacti, celery, chard, sweet corn, green onions, Mexican onions, and other miscellaneous.				\$780,000	▲
	2004	150					524,000	
TOTAL	2005	8,773					\$51,980,000	▲
	2004	10,784					*51,858,000	

* Revised

FIELD CROPS

Item	Year	Acreage	Production Per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total Value	
Alfalfa Hay	2005	5,521	8.7	47,874	Ton	\$185	\$8,858,000	▲
	2004	5,746	8.2	47,117		135	6,361,000	
Grain Hay	2005	2,694	3.4	9,073	Ton	\$137	\$1,243,000	▲
	2004	2,370	3.2	7,584		88	667,000	
Rangeland	2005	200,000					\$2,400,000	▲
	2004	200,000					2,000,000	
Miscellaneous	2005	1,381 *					** \$359,000	▲
	2004	774 *					** 299,000	
TOTAL	2005	9,596 ***					\$12,860,000	▲
	2004	8,890 ***					9,327,000	

* Acreage excludes stubble.

** Value includes irrigated pasture, sudan hay, oat hay, and grazing privileges on stubble.

*** Excluding rangeland and stubble.

DAIRY & LIVESTOCK

Item	Year	Total Value	
	2005	\$7,319,000	▼
	2004	7,651,000	

APIARY

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total Value
Honey	2005	1,349,760	Lb.	\$0.82	\$1,106,000 ▲
	2004	160,627		1.73	278,000
Beeswax	2005	14,141	Lb.	\$1.56	\$22,000
	2004	11,000		2.00	22,000
Miscellaneous	2005				\$95,000 ▲
	2004				3,000
TOTAL	2005				\$1,223,000 ▲
	2004				303,000

FOREST PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Total Value
Firewood *	2005	\$43,000 ▲
	2004	7,000

* Figures obtained from USDA Forest Services, Angeles National Forest.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORTING

Organic Farming Statistics

<u>Crops</u>	<u>Estimated Acres</u>	
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Apples	1	1
Apricots	6	7
Avocados	8	2
Cantaloupes	1	0
Cherries	1	3
Citrus	5	23
Grapes	27	28
Herbs (including sprouts)	23	5
Peaches	10	14
Pears	3	0
Persimmons	2	0
Pomegranates	2	0
Miscellaneous	0	5
Vegetables	19	29
TOTAL	<u>108</u>	<u>117</u>

<u>Year</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Acres</u>
2005	15	108
2004	14	117

PEST DETECTION ACTIVITIES

Pest	Number of Traps Pest Detection	Specimens Trapped
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	5,010	3
Melon Fly	4,994	0
Oriental Fruit Fly	4,994	6
Mexican Fruit Fly	4,973	2
Guava Fruit Fly	4,994	9
Gypsy Moth	3,700	2
Japanese Beetle	3,080	6
Khapra Beetle	297	0
European Pine Shoot Moth	13	0
European Corn Borer	12	0
TOTAL	<u>32,067</u>	<u>28</u>

PEST ERADICATION ACTIVITIES

Pest	Method	Scope of Program
Guava Fruit Fly	Male annihilation	2 treatment areas
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	Continued preventative program: sterile Medfly release countywide	Approximately 12.2 billion steriles released
Red Imported Fire Ant	Bait treatments	116 properties

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL ACTIVITIES

Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Scope of Program
Mediterranean Fruit Fly	Sterile Release	12,208,458,960 sterile Medflies released

PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES

Pest Exclusion Violations	Number of Violations Issued
Infested/Presumed Infested	482
Markings	43
Failure to Hold	24
Burrowing and Reniform Nematodes	6
Caribbean Fruit Fly	14
Citrus Pests	12
Commercially Unclean	1
European Corn Borer	1
European Pine Shoot Moth	1
Federal Foreign Quarantines	3
Federal (Hawaiian) Quarantine	1
Federal (Puerto Rico) Quarantine	1
Imported Fire Ant	6
Mishandling	1
Misuse/Nursery Stock Certificate	1
Reasonable Cause to Presume Infested	4
Sudden Oak Death	3
Unauthorized Movement	1
Walnut and Pecan Pests	1
Weed Pests	4
West Indian Sugarcane Root Borer	5
 TOTAL	 <u>615</u>

PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES

<u>Pest Intercepted</u> Common Name/ <i>Genus species</i>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Source*</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u> Pest Interceptions
Albopicta scale <i>Acutaspis albopicta</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	2
Apple snail <i>Pomacea sp.</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	2
Armored scale <i>Pseudischnaspis bowreyi</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	1
Bark beetle <i>Xyloborus sp.</i>	Orchid	Quar	1
Big headed ant <i>Pheidole megacephala</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	21
Boxwood scale <i>Pinnaspis buxi</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	30
California red scale <i>Aonidiella auranti</i>	Cycad	Nurs	1
Chaff scale <i>Parlatoria pergandii</i>	Citrus	Nurs	2
Chinese rose beetle <i>Adoretus sinicus</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	8
Citrus leafminer <i>Phyllocnistis citrella</i>	Citrus	Nurs/Pub	3
Coconut mealybug <i>Nipaecoccus sp.</i>	Palm	Nurs	7
Coconut scale <i>Aspidiotus destructor</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	15
Cricket <i>Trigonidomorpha sjostedti</i>	Dracaena	Quar	2
Croton whitefly <i>Orchamoplatus mammaeferus</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	2
Cycad aulacaspis scale <i>Aulacaspis yasumatsui</i>	Cycad	Quar	17
Diaprepes root weevil <i>Diaprepes abbreviatus</i>	Coral tree	Pub	2
Eucalyptus leaf beetle <i>Chrysophtharta m-fuscum</i>	Eucalyptus	Pub	1

PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES

<u>Pest Intercepted</u> Common Name/ <i>Genus species</i>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Source*</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u> Pest Interceptions
Fig wax scale <i>Ceroplastes rusci</i>	Palm	Quar	4
Glassy scale <i>Inglisia vitrea</i>	Bay leaves	Quar	1
Glassy-winged leafhopper <i>Homalodisca coagulata</i> (adults)	Nursery plants	Nurs	367
Glassy-winged leafhopper <i>Homalodisca coagulata</i> (eggs)	Nursery plants	Nurs	528
Great southern white <i>Ascia monuste</i>	Cycad	Quar	1
Green garden looper <i>Chrysodeixis eriosoma</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	11
Green shield scale <i>Pulvinaria psidii</i>	Nursery plants	Nurs	5
Hopper <i>Protalebrella brasiliensis</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	8
Katydid <i>Conocephalus saltator</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	4
Katydid <i>Phaneroptera furcifera</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	2
Leafhopper <i>Agallia sp.</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	79
Leafhopper <i>Gyponana germari</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	16
Lesser snow scale <i>Pinnaspis strachani</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	8
Limacodid moth <i>Darna pallivitta</i>	Palm	Quar	1
Little fire ant <i>Wasmannia auropunctata</i>	Ginger Sweet potato	Quar	3
Long horned beetle <i>Sybra alternans</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	3
Long-legged ant <i>Anoplolepis gracilipes</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	4

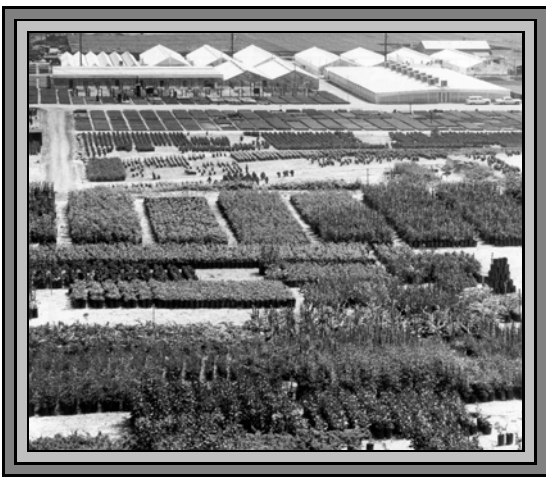
PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES

<u>Pest Intercepted</u> Common Name/ <i>Genus species</i>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Source*</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u> Pest Interceptions
Lygaeid bug <i>Nysius sp.</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	66
Magnolia white scale <i>Pseudaulacaspis cockerelli</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	79
Pacific beetle cockroach <i>Diploptera punctata</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	3
Pickle worm <i>Diaphania nitidalis</i>	Cucumber	Quar	17
Planthopper <i>Kallitaxila granulata</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	38
Planthopper <i>Melormenis antillarum</i>	Basil	Quar	4
Purple scale <i>Lepidosaphes beckii</i>	Citrus	Quar	1
Pyriform scale <i>Protopulvinaria pyriformis</i>	Nursery plants	Nurs	3
Red wax scale <i>Ceroplastes rubens</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	6
Rufous scale <i>Selenaspidus articulatus</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	12
Slant-faced grasshopper <i>Atractomorpha sinensis</i>	Basil	Quar	8
Slug <i>Meghimatium striatum</i>	Dracaena	Quar	3
Slug <i>Veronicella sp.</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	17
Snail <i>Bradybaena similaris</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	13
Snail <i>Zachrysia provisoria</i>	Palm	Quar	2
Soil mealybug <i>Geococcus coffeae</i>	Palm	Quar	1
Soil mealybug <i>Rhizoecus americanus</i>	Palm	Quar	1

PEST EXCLUSION ACTIVITIES

<u>Pest Intercepted</u> Common Name/ <i>Genus species</i>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Source*</u>	<u>Scope of Program</u> Pest Interceptions
Soil mealybug <i>Rhizoecus hawaiiensis</i>	Palm	Quar	1
Soil mealybug <i>Rhizoecus hibisci</i>	Palm	Quar	3
Spiraling whitefly <i>Aleurodicus dispersus</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	143
Stellate scale <i>Vinsonia stellifera</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	16
Striped mealybug <i>Ferrisia sp.</i>	Nursery plants Cut foliage	Quar/Nurs	2
Sweet potato weevil <i>Cylas formicarius</i>	Sweet potato	Quar	3
Taro planthopper <i>Tarophagus colocasiae</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	1
Thrips <i>Liothrips sp.</i>	Tamarind	Quar	1
Tropical fire ant <i>Solenopsis geminata</i>	Basil	Quar	3
Tropical palm scale <i>Hemiberlesia palmae</i>	Bay leaves	Quar	1
West Indian flatid <i>Melormenis antillarum</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	3
Whitefly <i>Aleurocerus sp.</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	2
Whitefly <i>Aleurotrachelus sp.</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	6
White footed ant <i>Technomyrmex albipes</i>	Cut foliage	Quar	80
TOTAL			<u>1,701</u>

Source* : Nurs: Nursery Pub: Public Quar: Quarantine



Greenhouses 1969



Front Entrance 2006



Overview of Nursery 2003



HORTICULTURAL CRAFTSMEN[™]
SINCE 1926

Our County has lost its oldest and largest contiguous nursery acreage to urbanization. Our Department has valued the 80-year relationship with Monrovia Growers. Many residents and visitors will miss the view from the hilltop - the mosaic patchwork of color that epitomizes the nursery industry.

Los Angeles County has been home to Monrovia Growers since its founding in 1926 when Harry Rosedale pioneered the concept of growing plants in containers rather than planting them in the ground and uprooting for sale. His innovation in growing plants entirely in "cans" was a significant development and Monrovia quickly set itself apart from its competitors.

Today, with over 2,200 plant varieties and five growing locations nationwide, Monrovia is one of the world's largest producers of container-grown plants, shipping millions of plants annually. The company has introduced hundreds of patented plants, 300 of which are Monrovia exclusives. Monrovia produces more than 22 million plants each year at its nurseries in Visalia, CA; Dayton, OR; Springfield, OH; La Grange, NC; and Cairo, GA.

In 1954, when Monrovia moved the nursery to Azusa from its original location in the city of Monrovia, this area was primarily agricultural, with numerous commercial nurseries and citrus groves. By the 1990's, Monrovia remained the only agricultural entity in a community that had grown tremendously in population. The nursery was surrounded by homes, a college, and shopping centers.

In September 2004, Monrovia completed the sale of the 500-acre nursery property in Azusa. It has been approved for development of 1,250 homes and 50,000 square feet of retail shopping. There will also be a school, numerous parks, a community recreation center and a transit center for the future Foothill expansion of the Metro Gold Line.

Acknowledgments

We sincerely thank Monrovia Growers and Katie Bloome for the article and permission to publish photographs of the nursery. A special word of thanks to all who assisted in creating this edition of the crop report: Inspectors Cynthia Werner and Christine Belden for their photographs; Inspectors Erineo Ada, Christine Belden, Tom Herrera, Gary Mork, Michael Sium, Adrian Zavala, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer Jim Wiseman, and the Entomology Laboratory Staff, Dr. Gevork Arkelian and Sonya Carlos, who assisted in gathering and compiling the statistics; Administrative Assistant Karen Wong, who generated the completed statistical report and layout. Particular thanks to Richard G. Sokulsky, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner, for supervising the completion of this year's report.

