



LOS ANGELES COUNTY — 1976 CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT



Cover Photo

Grape harvest in vineyard on Hastings Ranch, East Pasadena, 1898.
Courtesy of the Historical Photographs Department, Title Insurance
and Trust Company.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

ANNUAL CROP & LIVESTOCK REPORT

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY

1976 CROP & LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Drought conditions in Los Angeles County during 1976 lowered yields in certain crop categories such as hay, grain, bean, cattle, and apiary products. Nevertheless, gross receipts from farm crops and livestock production increased to \$174,195,300; twenty-one million above the figure reported in 1975. Because of high, off-setting increases in vegetables, nursery stock, and irrigated field crops, the county returns were the highest in the past ten years.

Continuing urbanization brought a reduction in acreage of citrus in the eastern portion of the county. Coupled with lower prices during the later half of 1976, receipts were down over one million dollars. Yields were up in almonds, figs, and apples and with an increase in price in avocados and peaches, the total receipts for other fruits reached \$3,415,000. Strawberry acreage increased only slightly over 1975. Ideal growing conditions, improved cultural practices, and higher prices, however, brought \$4,724,000, a gain of one million dollars over 1975.

Grains, hay, and dry bean plantings dependent upon rainfall experienced a reduction of over one million dollars. Barley acreage harvested for grain was reduced by half over the previous year with the remainder cut as poor quality hay or not harvested at all. Reduced plant growth in the county's rangeland decreased estimated values 30%. Apiary products, another commodity effected by the drought, dropped almost in half to \$383,900 in 1976. A thousand acre increase in alfalfa to 20,865 acres and an increase in price and yield brought growers \$12,363,000.

Despite an increase in acreage, slightly lower yields and a price decrease resulted in only a minor change in returns for sugar beets. Total production in field crop values reached \$16,007,300, an increase of \$2,700,000 over 1975.

An increase of 1,000 acres, along with higher prices, resulted in a gain of six million dollars to the county's vegetable farmers. The county's sweet corn crop produced lower receipts due to less acreage and severe damage by birds. Dry onion acreage was up 500 acres and yields increased, but prices dropped from a record high in 1975. A great volume of Los Angeles County's vegetable production is sold at retail. This is reflected in the large returns to growers from tomatoes, squash, sweet corn, melons, and pumpkins. Total returns to the county's vegetable growers was \$26,632,500, an increase of 21% over 1975.

Gross receipts for 1976 from all categories of nursery stock increased by 17% over the 1975 season. The large dollar increase was due mostly to greater volume of plants being sold out of state and a general price increase in all types of nursery stock.

The total nursery dollar figure for 1976 was \$70,370,000. This is the highest figure ever attained for nursery categories in Los Angeles County. Among the record totals, the leading categories were: ornamental trees and shrubs, \$41,000,000; indoor foliage plants, \$11,531,000; bedding plants, \$6,204,000; and ground covers, \$4,350,000.

Generally, total livestock and poultry production showed an increase in 1976 over the previous year. Although there was a decrease in fed cattle due to drought and in turkeys, this was more than offset by fryers and milk production both of which were up during 1976. In addition, the higher egg price minimized the effect of fewer eggs produced.

Valuation figures are based on delivery price at the market or on F.O.B. price for commodities shipped out-of-state. All prices have been compared with Federal-State Market News quotations.

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

PAUL B. ENGLER
Agricultural Commissioner

ROBERT J. SCHROEDER, DVM
Department of Health Services

March 31, 1977

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

FRUIT & NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production			Value	
			Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
<u>CITRUS FRUITS</u>							
Oranges	1976	118	4.7	555	Ton	\$ 172.75	\$ 95,900
Navel	1975	283	5.2	1,472	"	172.00	253,000
Oranges	1976	142	5.6	795	"	160.75	128,000
Valencia	1975	201	4.2	844	"	161.00	136,000
Lemons	1976	705	7.9	5,570	"	162.00	902,000
	1975	953	9.0	8,577	"	224.50	1,925,000
Grapefruit	1976	14	5.0	70	"	150.00	10,500
	1975	14	3.4	48	"	125.00	6,000
Misc. Citrus	1976	19					10,700
	1975	--					--
Total	1976	998					1,147,100
	1975	1,451					2,320,000
<u>OTHER FRUITS & NUTS</u>							
Almonds	1976	675	.31	209	"	1,306.00	273,000
	1975	939	--	--	"	--	--
Apples	1976	32	3.5	112	"	223.25	25,000
	1975	29	2.4	69	"	174.00	12,000
Avocados	1976	968	1.4	1,355	"	956.50	1,296,000
	1975	973	1.65	1,605	"	640.00	1,027,000
Cherries	1976	39	1.1	43	"	697.50	30,000
	1975	35	1.3	45	"	667.00	30,000
Figs	1976	17	9.4	160	"	1,518.75	243,000
	1975	23	3.3	76	"	1,645.00	125,000
Grapes (a)	1976	--	--	--	"	--	--
	1975	2	10.0	20	"	100.00	2,000
Peaches	1976	365	5.4	1,971	"	376.50	742,000
Freestone	1975	329	5.9	1,941	"	280.25	544,000

FRUIT & NUT CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production		Unit	Value		
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total	
<u>OTHER FRUITS & NUTS (Cont'd)</u>								
Pears	1976	290	9.5	2,755	Ton	\$	233.50	\$ 643,000
Bartlett	1975	290	9.2	2,668	"		262.25	700,000
Walnuts (a)	1976	--	--	--	--		--	--
	1975	338	1.00	338	Ton		447.00	151,000
Misc. Fruits & Nuts	1976	376						163,000
	1975	40						30,000
Total	1976	2,762						3,415,000
	1975	2,998						2,621,000
<u>BERRIES</u>								
Strawberries	1976	325	21.6	7,020	"		673.00	4,724,000
	1975	319	17.2	5,487	"		632.00	3,468,000
Total Fruit & Nut Crops	1976	4,085						\$ 9,286,100
	1975	4,768						8,409,000

(a) Grape & Walnut figures included in misc. figure

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value		
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total	
Barley	1976	6,200	.29	1,798	Ton	\$	111.25	\$ 200,000
	1975	12,425	.90	11,183	"		107.25	1,199,000
Garbanzo	1976	--	--	--	--		--	--
	1975	220	.40	88	Ton		560.00	49,000
Lima Beans	1976	325	.15	49	"		700.00	34,300
	1975	225	.55	124	"		598.75	74,000

FIELD CROPS (Cont.)

<i>Crop</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Harvested Acreage</i>	<i>Production</i>		<i>Unit</i>	<i>Value</i>		
			<i>Per Acre</i>	<i>Total</i>		<i>Per Unit</i>	<i>Total</i>	
<i>Hay, Alfalfa</i>	1976	20,865	7.5	156,488	Ton	\$	79.00	\$ 12,363,000
	1975	19,850	6.2	123,070	"		65.00	8,000,000
<i>Hay, Grain</i>	1976	8,500	1.2	10,200	"		79.00	806,000
	1975	5,540	2.8	15,512	"		57.50	892,000
<i>Pasture - Irrigated</i>	1976	1,125						213,000
	1975	1,290						217,000
<i>Range Land</i>	1976	175,000						438,000
	1975	176,000						608,000
<i>Sugar Beets (b)</i>	1976	2,088	30.4	63,475	"		20.30	1,289,000
	1975	1,300	35.5	46,150	"		27.50	1,269,000
<i>Wheat</i>	1976	5,000	.42	2,100	"		120.00	252,000
	1975	15,500	.43	6,665	"		118.50	790,000
<i>Misc. Field Crops (c)</i>	1976	820						412,000
	1975	--						216,000
<i>Total</i>	1976	219,923						\$ 16,007,300
	1975	232,350						13,314,000

*Acreage, production
& value of
Seed Crops*

<i>Alfalfa</i>	1976	150(*)	89	13,350	Lbs.	.70	\$	9,400
	1975	450(*)	89	40,050	"	.45		18,000

(b) No payments for Sugar Act received in 1976

(c) Dollar amount shown for 1976 includes \$237,000 paid for sheep and cattle grazing on alfalfa and barley stubble; 1975 includes \$200,000 for such grazing. Milo, silage, and Sudan grass are the only commodities included in misc. acreage 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
<i>Sprouts</i>	1976	--	--	8,500	Ton	\$ 475.25	\$ 4,040,000
<i>Bean & Alfalfa</i>	1975	--	--	6,600	"	377.50	2,492,000
<i>Beets, table</i>	1976	67	11.8	790	"	116.00	91,600
	1975	83	7.3	606	"	100.00	60,600
<i>Cabbage</i>	1976	185	16.6	3,071	"	128.30	394,000
	1975	209	15.8	3,302	"	119.25	394,000
<i>Carrots</i>	1976	430	29.3	12,599	"	174.50	2,198,000
	1975	300	34.0	10,200	"	180.00	1,836,000
<i>Cauliflower</i>	1976	42	8.5	357	"	135.00	48,200
	1975	51	10.0	510	"	120.00	61,000
<i>Chinese Food Vegetables</i>	1976	291	12.7	3,696	"	150.00	554,000
	1975	293	12.0	3,516	"	162.50	571,000
<i>Corn, sweet</i>	1976	2,025	5.4	10,935	"	244.50	2,674,000
	1975	2,235	4.7	10,504	"	288.75	3,033,000
<i>Lettuce, leaf</i>	1976	250	6.6	1,650	"	218.25	360,000
	1975	330	10.0	3,300	"	200.00	660,000
<i>Melons</i>	1976	150	6.6	990	"	158.50	157,000
<i>Cantaloupe & Miso.</i>	1975	146	8.0	1,168	"	128.50	150,000
<i>Watermelon</i>	1976	175	3.5	612	"	100.00	61,200
	1975	62	2.6	161	"	101.00	16,300
<i>Mushrooms</i>	1976	--	--	1,130	"	1,408.75	1,592,000
	1975	--	--	1,050	"	1,280.00	1,344,000
<i>Mustard & other greens</i>	1976	839	5.5	4,614	"	224.50	1,036,000
	1975	758	4.7	3,562	"	207.00	737,000
<i>Onions, dry</i>	1976	1,200	29.2	35,040	"	130.50	4,573,000
	1975	705	23.1	16,285	"	197.50	3,216,000
<i>Onions, green (d)</i>	1976	--	--	--	"	--	--
	1975	860	12.6	10,836	"	445.00	4,822,000
<i>Pumpkins</i>	1976	130	12.0	1,560	"	97.75	152,000
	1975	106	14.5	1,537	"	80.25	123,000

VEGETABLE CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Radishes	1976	365	7.1	2,592	Ton	\$ 124.00	\$ 321,000
	1975	363	5.7	2,069	"	131.50	272,000
Rhubarb	1976	9	10.0	90	"	262.00	23,600
	1975	25	11.7	293	"	288.00	84,400
Squash, Summer (e)	1976	138	4.2	580	"	451.75	262,000
	1975	106	4.5	477	"	312.25	149,000
Squash, Winter	1976	43	12.0	516	"	79.50	41,000
	1975	73	10.0	730	"	120.00	87,600
Tomatoes, Market (e)	1976	47	12.0	564	"	400.75	226,000
	1975	57	12.0	684	"	283.25	194,000
Turnips	1976	198	12.0	2,376	"	187.50	446,000
	1975	143	15.1	2,159	"	135.75	293,000
Misc. Vegetables	1976	1,626					7,382,000
	1975	267					278,000
Total	1976	8,210					\$26,632,600
	1975	7,172					20,873,900

(d) Green Onions figures included in misc. vegetable

(e) High unit price is due to large amounts sold at retail

NURSERY PRODUCTS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

<i>Item</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Production Area</i>		<i>Quantity Sold By Producers</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Value</i>	
		<i>House Acres</i>	<i>Field Acres</i>			<i>Per Unit</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Nursery Crops</i>							
<i>Bedding plants</i>	1976		47	1,410,000	Flats	\$ 4.40	\$ 6,204,000
	1975		48	1,500,000	"	3.90	5,850,000
<i>Cacti-Succulents</i>	1976		7				175,000
	1975		6				188,000
<i>Geranium cuttings</i>	1976		80	8,130,000	Cuttings	.11	894,000
	1975		86	7,900,000	"	.09	711,000
<i>Ground cover</i>	1976		98	1,130,000	Flats	3.85	4,350,000
	1975		96	1,085,800	"	3.40	3,692,000
<i>Turf (sod & stolon)</i>	1976		63				355,000
	1975		58				271,000
<i>Ornamental trees & shrubs</i>	1976		1,658	30,375,000	Plants	1.35	41,000,000
	1975		1,650	24,500,000	"	1.30	31,850,000
<i>Miscellaneous Bulbs, Roots, Dicandra seed & other specialties</i>	1976		62				1,044,000
	1975		54				701,000
<i>Vegetable plants</i>	1976	14		480,500	Flats	2.30	1,105,000
	1975	16		690,000	"	2.40	1,656,000
<i>Indoor plants foliage</i>	1976	55		17,210,964	Pots	.67	11,531,000
	1975	50		15,803,300	"	.60	9,482,000
<i>Indoor potted flowering</i>	1976	41		1,248,000	"	2.08	2,596,000
	1975	34		1,411,000	"	2.00	2,822,000
<i>Orchid plants</i>	1976	5					1,116,000
	1975	6					968,000
<i>Total</i>	1976	115	2,015				\$ 70,370,000
	1975	106	1,998				58,191,000

CUT FLOWERS & DECORATIVES

Item	Year	Production Area		Quantity Sold By Producers	Unit	Value	
		House Acres	Field Acres			Per Unit	Total
Carnations	1976	19		9,953,000	Blooms	\$.085	\$ 846,000
	1975	21		11,400,000	"	.075	855,000
Christmas trees	1976		216	50,500	Trees	13.90	702,000
	1975		273	56,000	"	14.50	812,000
Chrysanthemums -Stand. & disbuds	1976	10		967,000	Blooms	.36	348,000
	1975	7		639,000	"	.32	204,000
-Pompon	1976	15	35	211,000	Bundle	3.10	654,000
	1975	18	36	197,000	"	3.00	591,000
Orchids, cut all varieties	1976	10					385,000
	1975	15					525,000
Miscellaneous (cut greens & other cut flowers)	1976		243				1,355,000
	1975		258				1,290,000
Total	1976	54	495				\$ 4,290,000
	1975	61	567				4,277,000

TOTAL ALL PLANT CROPS	Acres	Value
1976	234,897	\$126,595,400

APIARY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Value	
		Total			Per Unit	Total
Honey	1976	\$ 675,000		Lbs.	\$.38	\$ 257,000
	1975	1,314,000		"	.40	526,000
Bee wax	1976		11,250	"	1.15	12,900
	1975		21,900	"	1.00	22,000
Pollination	1976		11,400	Colonies	10.00	114,000
	1975		11,400	"	10.00	114,000
Total	1976					\$ 383,900
	1975					662,000

GRAND TOTAL PLANT CROPS AND APIARY PRODUCTS 1976	\$126,979,300
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LIVESTOCK & POULTRY: INVENTORY, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Species	Year	Inventory	Production		Unit	Value	
			No. of Head	Total Liveweight		Per Unit	Total
<u>CATTLE & CALVES</u>							
<i>Dairy</i>							
Cows	1976	13,500	--	--	-- \$	--	\$ --
	1975	12,500	--	--	--	--	--
Cull Cows	1976	--	4,500	4,500,000	Cwt.	25.20	1,134,000
	1975	--	4,200	4,200,000	"	21.60	907,000
Calves	1976	1,000	10,500	--	Head	14.00	147,000
	1975	750	10,000	--	"	10.00	100,000
Heifers	1976	1,500	1,200	--	"	300.00	360,000
	1975	1,500	1,400	--	"	300.00	420,000
<i>Beef</i>							
Feeder Calves	1976	2,400	3,300	660,000	Cwt.	31.70	209,000
	1975	4,000	5,000	1,000,000	"	28.00	280,000
Fed Steers & Heifers	1976	6,300	23,000	6,900,000	"	38.10	2,629,000
	1975	10,200	43,000	12,900,000	"	41.20	5,009,000
<u>SHEEP & LAMBS</u>							
<i>Breeding Stock</i>							
	1976	32,000	--	--	--	--	--
	1975	31,000	--	--	--	--	--
Fat Lambs	1976	28,600	30,000	2,400,000	Cwt.	47.50	1,140,000
	1975	25,000	29,500	2,360,000	"	42.00	991,000
<u>HOGS & PIGS</u>							
<i>Slaughter Hogs</i>							
	1976	3,000	4,500	550,000	Cwt.	43.30	234,000
	1975	3,200	4,200	504,000	"	45.30	228,000
<u>BROILERS & FRYERS</u>							
	1976	525,000	1,907,000	7,628,000	Lb.	.258	1,968,000
	1975	98,000	585,000	2,340,000	"	.253	592,000
<u>OTHER CHICKENS</u>							
<i>Hens</i>							
	1976	--	306,000	1,071,000	Lb.	.089	95,000
	1975	--	347,000	1,215,000	"	.055	67,000
Laying Hens	1976	464,000	--	--	--	--	--
	1975	577,000	--	--	--	--	--
Roasters	1976	492,000	1,740,000	11,310,000	Lb.	.347	3,925,000
	1975	415,000	1,683,000	10,940,000	"	.345	3,774,000
<u>TURKEYS</u>							
	1976	140,000	962,000	17,316,000	Lb.	.301	5,212,000
	1975	252,000	1,157,000	20,826,000	"	.328	6,831,000

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY (Cont.)

Species	Year	Inventory	Production			Value	
			No. of Head	Liveweight	Unit	Per Unit	Total
<u>OTHER LIVESTOCK</u>							
(Ducks, Poults, Goats, Rabbits, Chicks)	1976	--	--	--	--	\$ --	\$1,115,000
	1975	--	--	--	--	--	340,000
<u>HORSES</u>	1976	56,500	4,000	--	Head	450.00	1,800,000
	1975	56,000	4,000	--	"	450.00	1,800,000
Total	1976						\$19,968,000
	1975						23,165,000

Product	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
				Per Unit	Total
<u>MILK</u> Market	1976	2,245,000	Cwt.	\$9.39	\$21,081,000
	1975	1,881,000	"	9.39	17,663,000
Manufacturing	1976	260	Cwt.	8.46	2,000
	1975	2,600	"	8.13	21,000
<u>WOOL</u>	1976	267,000	Lb.	.633	169,000
	1975	327,000	"	.41	135,000
<u>EGGS</u>	1976	9,475,000	Dozen	.575	5,448,000
	1975	11,732,000	"	.498	5,843,000
<u>WORMS</u>	1976	274,000	Lb.	2.00	548,000
Total	1976				\$27,248,000
	1975				23,662,000

GRAND TOTAL LIVESTOCK & POULTRY PRODUCTION 1976

\$47,216,000

SUMMARY

1972-1976, Inclusive

	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>
<i>Citrus Fruits</i>	\$ 2,549,900	\$ 2,033,000	\$ 2,588,800	\$ 2,320,000	\$ 1,147,100
<i>Misc. Fruits & Nuts</i>	2,366,900	3,052,800	3,503,000	2,621,000	3,415,000
<i>Berries</i>	2,760,450	3,962,000	3,600,000	3,468,000	4,724,000
<i>Field Crops</i>	8,774,700	11,850,000	14,324,100	13,332,000	16,016,700
<i>Vegetables</i>	10,036,200	11,853,100	15,027,000	20,873,900	26,632,600
<i>Nursery Stock</i>	46,245,000	50,665,000	59,921,000	58,191,000	70,370,000
<i>Cut Flowers</i>	4,507,000	3,915,000	4,224,000	4,277,000	4,290,000
<i>Total Plant Crops*</i>	\$ 77,240,150	\$ 87,330,900	\$103,187,900	\$105,082,900	\$126,595,400
<i>Apiary Products</i>	328,480	712,200	969,400	662,000	383,900
<i>Total Plant Crops* & Apiary Products</i>	\$ 77,568,630	\$ 88,043,100	\$104,157,300	\$105,744,900	\$126,979,300
<i>Livestock & Poultry</i>	43,099,000	48,759,000	54,212,000	46,827,000	47,216,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$120,667,630	\$136,802,100	\$158,369,300	\$152,571,900	\$174,195,300

*U.S. Department of Agricultural Payments not included in these totals to conform to state-wide tabulation system for county crop reports.

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
155 W. WASHINGTON BLVD.
LOS ANGELES, CALIF. 90015

