

Cover Sheet

CROP REPORT **LOS ANGELES COUNTY**



OFFICE OF
AGRICULTURAL
COMMISSIONER

AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT - LOS ANGELES COUNTY - 1944

Plant crops produced in Los Angeles County brought \$105,012,100 in 1944. This total is greater than for any previous year, \$5,938,800 more than in 1943, an increase of 6%. Livestock production figures are not included in this report.

The f.o.b. price for citrus was \$49,075,000, up more than \$3,000,000 over the previous year. Valencia oranges, this county's most valuable individual crop, brought \$25,200,000. The navel orange crop returned \$12,635,000 which was nearly \$3,000,000 more than the year before. The lemon crop was smaller than for several years, particularly during the summer months but the average price per box was high and the crop reached an f.o.b. value of \$10,525,000. A much higher percentage of lemons was marketed in fresh fruit channels than in average years.

Despite a hot spell followed by rains late in the fall which greatly reduced the percentage of marketable walnuts, the large crop was worth \$2,028,000, an increase of 65% over 1943.

Supplies of most deciduous fruits from other growing sections were plentiful. This lowered selling price of such fruits. Reduced acreages decreased returns for the berry crop to \$875,800.

The cool spring and summer were responsible for a poor year for honey and beeswax production. The value dropped from \$936,000 in 1943 to \$124,000 this past year.

Approximately 48,000 crop acres of vegetables were grown in the county, a reduction of 3,000 acres from 1943. Nevertheless, total value of vegetables was nearly identical for the past two years. Based on a five year average, yields of most vegetable crops were about normal. As usual, celery with a value of \$4,704,000, was the most valuable commodity among truck crops. Other vegetables that returned more than a million dollars were cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, green onions, spinach, and tomatoes.

A smaller acreage of field crops and lower than usual production reduced the total value to \$11,304,800 which was less by about \$1,000,000 than the year before.

Farmers' production costs remained high. Ceilings held down prices for many of the county's most important fruits and vegetables, especially those that were scarce and consequently reduced the margin of profit for crops where the production costs increased.

Basis for arriving at valuation was farmers' price at the wholesale market on all crops except citrus. For this commodity the report is made on total f.o.b. price and represents the return to Los Angeles County growers including the cost of picking, hauling, and packing.

Soil building and benefit payments made by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration office are separately estimated in this report, as are honey returns.

In arriving at totals, price, acreage, and yield, averages have been checked with the state crop statistician's office and prices were compared with Federal-State Market News Service quotations. Marketing program committees, the farm advisor's office, several hundred farmers, growers' associations, land companies, and produce dealers were interviewed before final determination of figures used. Assistance received from the many persons and agencies who furnished crop information is greatly appreciated.

HAROLD J. RYAN
Agricultural Commissioner

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COMMODITY	BEARING ACREAGE	YIELD	UNIT	VALUE
CITRUS FRUIT*				
Oranges-Navel & Misc.	13,610	3,730,000	Boxes	\$ 12,635,000
Oranges-Valencia	30,540	6,232,000	Boxes	25,200,000
Lemons	12,220	2,365,000	Boxes	10,525,000
Grapefruit	1,180	235,000	Boxes	670,000
Limes	120	960,000	Pounds	45,000
Total	57,670			\$ 49,075,000
OTHER FRUITS & NUTS				
Almonds	1,040	338,000	Pounds	118,000
Apples	380	57,000	Boxes (45#)	102,600
Apricots	700	245,000	Lugs (25#)	220,500
Avocados**	3,250	700,000	Flats (13#)	1,050,000
Figs	400	240,000	Flats (1 layer-6#)	144,000
Grapes	4,590	12,600	Tons	1,386,000
Olives	1,600	530	Tons	89,600
Peaches-cling	200	70,000	Boxes (20#)	49,000
Peaches-free	660	214,500	Boxes (20#)	289,600
Pears	750	210,000	Standard boxes (50#)	703,500
Persimmons	200	35,000	Lugs (25#)	66,500
Plums	150	41,300	4 bckt. crates (27#)	51,600
Walnuts	16,100	119,300	Cwt.	2,028,000
Misc. Fruits	380			76,000
Total	30,400			\$ 6,374,900
BERRIES				
Bushberries	470	282,000	Crates (12-1/2 pt)	634,500
Strawberries	150	63,800	Crates (12 pts)	223,300
Total	620			\$ 857,800
FIELD CROPS				
Alfalfa hay	47,000	275,000	Tons	6,600,000
Beans-dry	22,500	223,600	Cwt	1,679,000
Bean straw		9,000	Tons	126,000
Beets-sugar	250	3,194	Tons	30,800
Flax	650	7,800	Bushels	25,700
Grain-barley	25,000	275,000	Cwt.	618,800
Grain-oats	500	6,000	Cwt.	15,000
Grain-wheat	26,000	130,000	Cwt.	325,000
Grain-hay	39,000	54,600	Tons	1,365,000
Popcorn	400	4,400	Cwt.	38,500
Silage corn	1,500	13,500	Tons	81,000
Miscellaneous	4,000			400,000
Total	166,800			\$11,304,800

* Figures for crop year November 1, 1943 to October 31, 1944.

** Figures for crop year October 1, 1943 to September 30, 1944.

COMMODITY	ACREAGE	YIELD	UNIT	VALUE
VEGETABLES				
Asparagus	1,500	210,000	Pyramid crate (30#)	756,000
Beans-snap	1,650	330,000	Bushel hamper (30#)	759,000
Beans-green lima	1,800	360,000	Bushel hamper (32#)	600,000
Beets-table	1,250	300,000	Crates (4 doz)	435,000
Broccoli	420	63,000	Crates (42#)	141,800
Cabbage	4,400	44,000	Tons	1,712,000
Carrots	2,750	975,000	Crates (6 doz)	1,838,000
Cauliflower	3,600	1,440,000	Pony crates (12 hds)	1,718,000
Celery	1,920	1,680,000	Half crates	4,704,000
Corn-green	4,000	440,000	Crates (6 doz)	704,000
Cucumbers-pickle	700	4,830	Tons	239,100
Cucumbers-table	770	250,000	Lugs (30#)	362,500
Eggplant	90	15,800	Crates (60#)	61,600
Endive (chicory)	470	164,500	Crates (4 doz)	263,200
Lettuce	800	120,000	Crates (5 doz)	198,000
Melons-cantaloupes	1,150	258,800	Crates	414,000
Melons-water	250	2,250	Tons	56,000
Melons-other	300	69,000	Crates	103,500
Mustard greens	470	199,800	Crates (40#)	209,800
Onions-dry	1,670	1,000,000	Sacks (50#)	900,000
Onions-green	800	320,000	Crates	1,088,000
Parsley	150	97,500	Crates (6 doz)	146,000
Parasnips	220	159,500	Lugs (26#)	239,000
Peas	500	45,000	Bushel hamper (28#)	117,000
Peppers-green	130	13,000	Crates (50#)	47,500
Peppers-dry	560	420	Tons	210,000
Potatoes-sweet	700	133,000	Crates (50#)	332,500
Potatoes-white	1,100	253,000	Sacks (100#)	572,000
Radishes	850	297,500	Crates (6 doz)	461,000
Rhubarb	350	350,000	Flats (20#)	332,500
Romaine	500	150,000	Crates (55#)	315,000
Rutabagas	180	36,000	Sacks (100#)	90,000
Spinach-canning	325	1,520	Tons	41,300
Spinach-table	2,975	1,041,000	Crates (40#)	1,197,000
Squash-Italian	340	93,500	Lugs (30#)	116,900
Squash-summer	530	145,800	Lugs (30#)	182,200
Squash-winter	2,100	14,700	Tons	404,300
Tomatoes-canning	2,200	18,300	Tons	576,500
Tomatoes-market	1,950	780,000	Lugs (32#)	1,404,000
Turnips	1,070	401,300	Crates (3 doz)	441,400
Misc. Vegetables	400			200,000
Total	47,890			\$24,689,600

COMMODITY	ACREAGE	VALUE
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NURSEERY STOCK & CUT FLOWERS

Cut flowers.	1,200	\$ 3,500,000
Nursery stock		9,000,000
Total		\$12,500,000

TOTAL ALL PLANT CROPS		\$104,802,100
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Payments made by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration through the Los Angeles County Agricultural Conservation Association have not been included in the values given in this report. While payments are not complete, the estimate for 1944 totals is:

Soil building practices		\$ 198,000
Harvesting of legume seed		4,500
Sugar Act payments to beet growers		7,500
Total		\$ 210,000

GRAND TOTAL ALL PLANT CROPS		\$105,012,100
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APIARY PRODUCTS

Honey	800,000 pounds	\$ 120,000
Beeswax	10,000 pounds	4,100
Total		\$ 124,100