

CROP REPORT
LOS ANGELES COUNTY



OFFICE OF
AGRICULTURAL
COMMISSIONER

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CROP REPORT FOR 1953
(Exclusive of Livestock Production)

Los Angeles County farmers received \$93,050,800 from plant crops and honey from 231,000 crop acres in 1953. This total represents a drop of \$13,343,200 from 1952 when 245,000 crop acres were farmed.

The reduction was due to a combination of lower prices received by farmers for most crops throughout the year; acreage loss to subdivisions; and the near failure of deciduous fruits and loss to several dry farmed field crops as a result of adverse weather. Spring rains were inadequate and late frosts hit hard.

There were bright spots, however. Lemons from 9,460 acres, due to good production and high prices, yielded a record breaking return of \$11,300,000. Because of above normal yields in the Antelope Valley, 42,500 acres of wheat brought \$1,148,000, the highest return ever known for this crop. Celery growers who enjoyed good prices at the peak production period in the spring, received \$8,120,000 or almost a million dollars more than in 1952. Strawberry production from 550 acres was worth \$1,856,200, a new high. Field corn grown in the Antelope Valley where the poultry industry offers a ready market zoomed to 1,450 acres from only 410 acres the year before.

Citrus returns came to \$26,574,000, as compared to a 1952 total for this crop of \$28,678,000. A preponderance of small sizes plus loss of 2,400 acres of Valencias to subdivision, caused a drop from \$10,557,000 in 1952 to \$8,580,000 this past year.

Peaches, Bartlett pears, and walnuts, were crops that produced lightly because of spring frosts. Certain dry farmed crops, such as garbanzo beans and grain hay, suffered due to insufficient moisture in the spring. Honey production was low because of drought conditions in the spring that prevented flowers from developing.

Alfalfa hay because of both a reduction in acreage and a dip in price, returned \$7,583,000 compared with \$11,800,000 in 1952. However, income from alfalfa seed and stubble used for sheep feed showed an increase of \$15,000.

Value of vegetables totaled \$20,179,100, which was nearly \$2,000,000 below 1952. Crop acres were down 3,435 but lower prices for most vegetables also contributed to the reduction. Spinach, romaine, mustard greens, and endive, which are particularly subject to smog damage, totaled only 1,950 crop acres as compared to 4,700 in 1948.

Million Dollar Crops

Nursery stock	\$18,500,000	Navels	\$6,327,000
Lemons	11,300,000	Strawberries	1,856,200
Cut Flowers	10,000,000	Irrigated pastures	1,430,000
Valencias	8,580,000	Wheat	1,148,000
Celery	8,120,000	avocados	1,073,200
Alfalfa hay	7,583,000	Green onions	1,025,000

Valuation figures are based on delivery price at the market or f.o.b. price on commodities shipped out of state. 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. District agricultural inspectors, marketing program committees, the farm advisor's office, farmers, growers' associations, land companies, and produce dealers were interviewed before final determination of figures was made. Assistance received from the many persons and agencies who furnished crop information is greatly appreciated.

HAROLD J. RYAN
Agricultural Commissioner

PLANT CROP REPORT - LOS ANGELES COUNTY - 1953

<u>CROP</u>	<u>BEARING ACRES</u>	<u>YIELD</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
<u>CITRUS FRUITS*</u>				
Oranges-Navel & Misc	8,830	2,220,000	Boxes(pkd)	\$ 6,327,000
Oranges-Valencia	19,500	3,900,000	" "	8,580,000
Lemons	9,460	2,260,000	" "	11,300,000
Grapefruit	650	180,000	" "	342,000
Limes	40	360,000	Pounds	25,000
Total	38,480			\$26,574,000
<u>OTHER FRUITS & NUTS</u>				
Almonds	1,990	258,400	Pounds	72,400
Apples	190	11,400	Boxes (45#)	51,300
Apricots	200	6,000	Lugs (25#)	10,800
Avocados**	2,700	405,000	Flats (13#)	1,073,200
Figs	190	47,500	" (6#)	35,600
Grapes	1,310	3,930	Tons	275,100
Olives	1,400	110	"	13,200
Peaches	790	11,800	Lugs (20#)	21,300
Pears	430	12,500	Boxes (50#)	50,400
Walnuts	6,550	14,000	cwt.	238,000
Misc.Fruits & Nuts	220			22,000
Total	15,970			\$ 1,863,300
<u>BERRIES</u>				
Bushberries	50	25,000	Tray(12	56,200
Strawberries	550	825,000	" bskt)	1,856,200
Total	600			\$ 1,912,400
<u>FIELD CROPS</u>				
Alfalfa hay	49,000	308,000	Tons	7,583,000
" seed,certified	1,900	693,500	Pounds	180,300
" " ,common***	(3,500)	1,662,500	"	332,500
" stubble***	(25,000)			216,000
Beans, dry-blackeye	5,500	71,500	cwt.	715,000
" " -garbanzo	250	800	"	10,000
" " -standard lima	1,600	19,500	"	213,600
Beets, sugar****	70	890	Tons	8,800
Corn, field	1,450	49,900	cwt	167,100
" , milo	520	15,900	"	47,600
" , silage	500	6,000	Tons	39,000
Cotton	60	66	Bales	11,200
Flower seed	580			261,000
Grain-barley	16,000	232,000	cwt.	675,000
" -oats	400	6,400	"	20,200
" -wheat*****	42,500	319,000	"	1,148,000
Grain hay	17,000	20,000	Tons	500,000
Irrigated pastures	11,000			1,430,000
Miscellaneous	500			75,000
Total	148,830			\$13,633,300

* Crop year ending October 31, 1953

** " " " September 30, 1953

*** Acreage not included in total acreage of field crops. Included in the 49,000 acres of alfalfa hay.

**** Returns do not include Sugar Act Payments

***** " " " " " Wheat Crop Insurance Payments

Los Angeles County Crop Report

CROP	CROP ACRES	YIELD	UNIT	VALUE
VEGETABLES				
Asparagus	420	63,000	Crates (32#)	267,700
Beans, snap	600	93,000	" (70#)	558,000
" , green lima	450	40,500	" (80#)	170,000
Beets, table	450	202,500	" (3 doz)	202,500
Broccoli	100	16,000	" (42#)	32,000
Cabbage	2,500	625,000	" (80#)	781,300
Carrots	700	600,000	Sacks (50#)	900,000
Cauliflower	1,800	720,000	Crates (12 heads)	648,000
Celery	2,200	2,800,000	" (sturdy)	8,120,000
Chinese food veg.	200			350,000
Corn, sweet	1,800	335,000	" (5 doz)	670,000
Cucumbers, pickle	350	2,100	Tons	117,600
" , table	450	337,500	Lugs (30#)	337,500
Endive	250	100,000	Crates (3 doz)	125,000
Lettuce	350	122,500	" (3 ")	110,300
Melons, cantaloupes and misc.	1,400	364,000	" (55#)	655,200
Melons, water	150	1,600	Tons	24,800
Mustard, greens	400	160,000	Crates (4 doz)	160,000
Onions, dry	1,350	945,000	Sacks (50#)	661,500
" , green	1,300	565,000	Crates (8 doz)	1,025,000
Parsley	170	204,000	" (6 doz)	245,000
Parsnips	200	130,000	Lugs (26#)	162,500
Peppers, dry	250	312	Tons	143,500
" , green	150	30,000	Crates (50#)	75,000
Potatoes, sweet	150	45,000	Lugs (32#)	90,000
" , white	500	126,000	cwt	170,500
Pumpkins	100	800	Tons	20,000
Radishes	1,200	516,000	Crates (6 doz)	541,800
Rhubarb	120	120,000	Flats (20#)	198,000
Romaine	500	300,000	Crates (3 doz)	330,000
Spinach, market	800	320,000	" (4 doz)	400,000
Squash, Italian	300	150,000	Lugs (30#)	202,500
" , summer	300	135,000	" (30#)	189,000
" , hanana	1,000	5,500	Tons	192,500
Tomatoes, canning	620	9,800	"	225,400
" , market	600	420,000	Lugs (32#)	483,000
Turnips	700	280,000	Crates (2 1/2 doz)	294,000
Misc. Vegetables	600			300,000
Total	25,480			\$20,179,100

NURSERY STOCK AND CUT FLOWERS

Cut Flowers	1,500			\$10,000,000
Nursery stock				18,500,000
Total				\$28,500,000

Los Angeles County Crop Report

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION PAYMENTS

Agricultural Conservation Programs	\$ 200,000
Wheat Crop Insurance Payments	46,700
Sugar Act Payments to Beet Growers	2,300
Total	\$ 248,700

GRAND TOTAL ALL PLANT CROPS \$92,910,800

APIARY PRODUCTS

Honey	875,000 pounds	\$ 105,000
Beeswax	13,000 "	6,000
Pollination Services	8,800 colonies	29,000
		\$ 140,000

TOTAL PLANT CROPS AND APIARY PRODUCTS \$93,050,800

S U M M A R Y
1949-1953 Inclusive

<u>CROP</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
Citrus Fruits	\$24,866,700	\$31,638,300	\$ 32,031,000	\$ 28,678,000	\$26,574,000
Other Fruits & Nuts	2,904,500	2,147,000	2,749,500	3,215,000	1,863,300
Berries	886,800	1,110,000	1,361,300	1,845,000	1,912,400
Field Crops	11,407,800	11,870,800	15,996,800	18,804,800	13,633,300
Vegetables	17,031,700	18,690,300	23,109,900	22,146,600	20,179,100
Nursery Stock & Cut Flowers	30,000,000	29,590,700	31,500,000	31,000,000	28,500,000
F.M.A. Payments	219,800	265,700	595,400	256,600	248,700
<u>Total Plant Crops</u>	<u>87,308,300</u>	<u>95,222,100</u>	<u>107,343,000</u>	<u>105,946,000</u>	<u>92,910,800</u>
Apiary Products	93,280	183,700	227,000	428,000	140,000
<u>Total Plant Crops & Apiary Products</u>	<u>\$87,401,580</u>	<u>\$95,405,800</u>	<u>\$107,570,000</u>	<u>\$106,394,000</u>	<u>\$93,050,800</u>