

CROP REPORT
LOS ANGELES COUNTY



OFFICE OF
AGRICULTURAL
COMMISSIONER

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CROP REPORT FOR 1954
(Exclusive of Livestock Production)

Los Angeles County farmers received \$85,040,200 for plant crops and honey from 224,000 crop acres in 1954. This is a drop of \$8,010,600 from 1953 when 231,000 crop acres were harvested.

Loss of farm land to subdivisions, poor prices for several major crops and low yields for others were principal causes for reduction in value. Citrus diverted to subdivisions totaled 4,070 acres, more than half of which was Valencia oranges.

Citrus returns came to \$19,679,000 compared with \$26,574,000 in 1953. One of the lightest crops of Valencias in many years brought \$5,520,000, almost \$3,000,000 less than the previous year. Lemons netted \$9,200,000 compared with \$11,300,000 in 1953; the crop was big but by-products per ton prices were about half as much as the year before. Avocado yields were poor and value dropped to \$687,500 from \$1,073,200 in 1953.

Deciduous fruit and nut crops brought more money than any time since 1946. Bartlett pears worth \$50,400 in 1953--when the crop was a near failure because of spring frosts--jumped to \$476,000 this year. Peaches, apples, and almonds also showed gains.

Unfavorable weather cut down production of alfalfa and grains. Alfalfa hay was worth \$5,451,000, approximately \$2,000,000 below 1953. Antelope Valley field corn was grown on 5,500 acres with record breaking yields; because of the increase of poultry and livestock industries in the Valley more of this crop will be planted on land formerly in other farm products.

Nursery stock value advanced to \$22,000,000 from \$18,500,000, the year before, stimulated by demand from owners of new homes. There are nearly 2,600 nursery locations in the county.

Million Dollar Crops

Nursery Stock	\$22,000,000	Navel Oranges	\$ 4,710,000
Lemons	\$ 9,200,000	Irrigated Pastures	\$ 1,600,000
Cut Flowers	\$ 8,500,000	Strawberries	\$ 1,435,000
Valencias	\$ 5,520,000	Dry Beans	\$ 1,334,000
Alfalfa Hay	\$ 5,451,000	Carrots	\$ 1,215,000
Celery	\$ 4,920,000	Green Onions	\$ 1,080,000

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 statistician's office, and prices were compared with Federal-State Market quotations. District agricultural inspectors, marketing program committees, the Farm Advisor's office, farmers, growers' associations, land companies, and produce dealers, were consulted before final figures were determined. Assistance received from the many persons and agencies interviewed is greatly appreciated.

PLANT CROP REPORT - LOS ANGELES COUNTY - 1954

CROP	BEARING ACRES	YIELD		VALUE
<u>CITRUS FRUITS*</u>				
Oranges-Navel & Misc.	8,150	1,360,000	Boxes (pkd)	\$ 4,710,000
Oranges-Valencia	16,880	1,500,000	" "	5,520,000
Lemons	8,770	2,340,000	" "	9,200,000
Grapefruit	570	120,000	" "	230,000
Limes	40	320,000	Pounds	19,000
Total	34,410			\$19,679,000
<u>OTHER FRUITS & NUTS</u>				
Almonds	2,090	373,500	Pounds	100,900
Apples	180	16,600	Boxes (45#)	52,300
Apricots	190	8,240	Lugs (25#)	15,200
Avocados**	2,610	250,000	Flats (13#)	687,500
Figs	170	51,000	" (6#)	43,400
Grapes	1,210	4,840	Tons	290,400
Olives	1,400	1,200	"	86,000
Peaches	760	168,500	Lugs (20#)	272,300
Pears	430	133,300	Boxes (50#)	476,000
Walnuts	5,900	11,000	cwt.	178,000
Misc. Fruits & Nuts	200			40,000
Total	15,140			\$ 2,242,000
<u>BERRIES</u>				
Bushberries	50	35,000	Tray (12	105,000
Strawberries	500	700,000	bskt)	1,435,000
Total	550			\$ 1,540,000
<u>FIELD CROPS</u>				
Alfalfa hay	44,100	231,000	Tons	5,451,000
" seed, certified	1,700	799,800	Pounds	280,000
" " , common***	(6,100)	2,897,500	"	724,400
" stubble***	(24,000)			228,000
Beans, dry-blackeye	4,400	77,000	cwt	746,500
" " -garbanzo	1,900	26,000	"	273,500
" " -standard lima	2,400	29,200	"	314,000
Beets, sugar****	90	1,480	Tons	13,400
Corn, field	5,600	206,600	cwt	698,300
" , milo	1,700	52,700	"	150,200
" , silage	600	6,000	Tons	36,000
Cotton	50	71	Bales	12,800
Flower seed	200			110,000
Grain-barley	22,500	356,000	cwt.	854,000
" -oats	350	5,500	"	18,300
" -wheat*****	35,800	132,500	"	483,500
Grain hay	16,000	27,200	Tons	654,000
Irrigated pastures	12,000			1,600,000
Miscellaneous	500			75,000
Total	149,890			\$12,722,900

* Crop year ending October 31, 1954

** " " " September 30, 1954

*** Acreage not included in total acreage of field crops.
Included in the 44,100 acres of alfalfa hay.

**** Returns do not include Sugar Act Payments.

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

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CROP	CROP ACRES	YIELD	UNIT	VALUE
<u>VEGETABLES</u>				
Asparagus	320	56,000	Crates (32#)	\$ 252,000
Beans, snap	700	105,000	" (70#)	656,300
" , green lima	350	35,000	" (80#)	158,000
Beets, table	420	192,000	" (3 doz.)	192,000
Broccoli	100	15,000	" (42#)	33,800
Cabbage	2,300	630,000	" (80#)	882,000
Carrots	900	810,000	Sacks (50#)	1,215,000
Cauliflower	1,200	600,000	Crates (12 head)	575,000
Celery	2,100	2,520,000	" (sturdy)	4,920,000
Chinese food veg.	200		"	400,000
Corn, sweet	1,700	340,000	" (5 doz.)	850,000
Cucumbers, pickle	60	360	Tons	21,600
" , table	400	280,000	Lugs (30#)	350,000
Endive	200	80,000	Crates (3 doz)	104,000
Greens, mustard & misc.	600	240,000	"	264,000
Lettuce	350	140,000	" (3 doz)	210,000
Melons, cantaloupes, & misc.	900	225,000	" (55#)	360,000
Melons, water	110	1,350	Tons	25,200
Onions, dry	800	740,000	Sacks (50#)	740,000
" , green	1,200	540,000	Crates (8 doz.)	1,080,000
Parsley	100	100,000	" (6 doz.)	150,000
Parsnips	300	225,000	Lugs (26#)	393,700
Peppers, dry	140	175	Tons	61,200
" , green	120	24,000	Crates (50#)	60,000
Potatoes, sweet	100	30,000	Lugs (32#)	60,000
" , white	70	23,800	cwt	59,500
Pumpkin	150	1,500	Tons	30,000
Radishes	1,100	467,000	Crates (6 doz.)	537,000
Rhubarb	120	144,000	Flats (20#)	230,400
Romaine	500	400,000	Crates (3 doz.)	500,000
Spinach	800	320,000	" (4 doz.)	448,000
Squash, Italian	400	180,000	Lugs (30#)	270,000
" , summer	300	135,000	" (30#)	216,000
" , winter	1,100	8,250	Tons	247,500
Tomatoes, canning	600	10,200	"	234,600
" , market	550	700	Lugs (32#)	539,000
Turnips	600	240,000	Crates (2 1/2 doz.)	324,000
Misc.vegetables	500			300,000
Total	22,460			\$17,949,800

NURSERY STOCK AND CUT FLOWERS

Cut Flowers	1,400			\$ 8,500,000
Nursery stock				22,000,000
Total				\$30,500,000

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AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION PAYMENTS

Agricultural Conservation Programs	\$ 79,200
Wheat Crop Insurance Payments	40,000
Sugar Act Payments to Beet Growers	2,300
Total	\$ 121,500

GRAND TOTAL ALL PLANT CROPS \$84,755,200

APIARY PRODUCTS

Honey	2,100,000 pounds	\$ 252,000
Beeswax	35,000 "	15,000
Pollination Services	3,500 colonies	18,000
Total		\$ 285,000

TOTAL PLANT CROPS AND APIARY PRODUCTS \$85,040,200

S U M M A R Y
1950-1954 Inclusive

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
Citrus Fruits	\$31,638,300	\$ 32,031,000	\$ 28,678,000	\$26,574,000	\$19,679,000
Other Fruits & Nuts	2,147,000	2,749,500	3,215,000	1,863,300	2,242,000
Berries	1,110,000	1,361,300	1,845,000	1,912,400	1,540,000
Field Crops	11,870,800	15,996,800	18,804,800	13,633,300	12,722,900
Vegetables	18,690,300	23,109,000	22,146,600	20,179,100	17,949,800
Nursery Stock & Cut Flowers	29,500,000	31,500,000	31,000,000	28,500,000	30,500,000
A.S.C. Payments	265,700	595,400	256,600	248,700	121,500
<u>Total Plant Crops</u>	95,222,100	107,343,000	105,946,000	92,910,800	84,755,200
Apiary Products	183,700	227,000	448,000	140,000	285,000
<u>Total Plant Crops & Apiary Products</u>	\$95,405,800	\$107,570,000	\$106,394,000	\$93,050,800	\$85,040,200