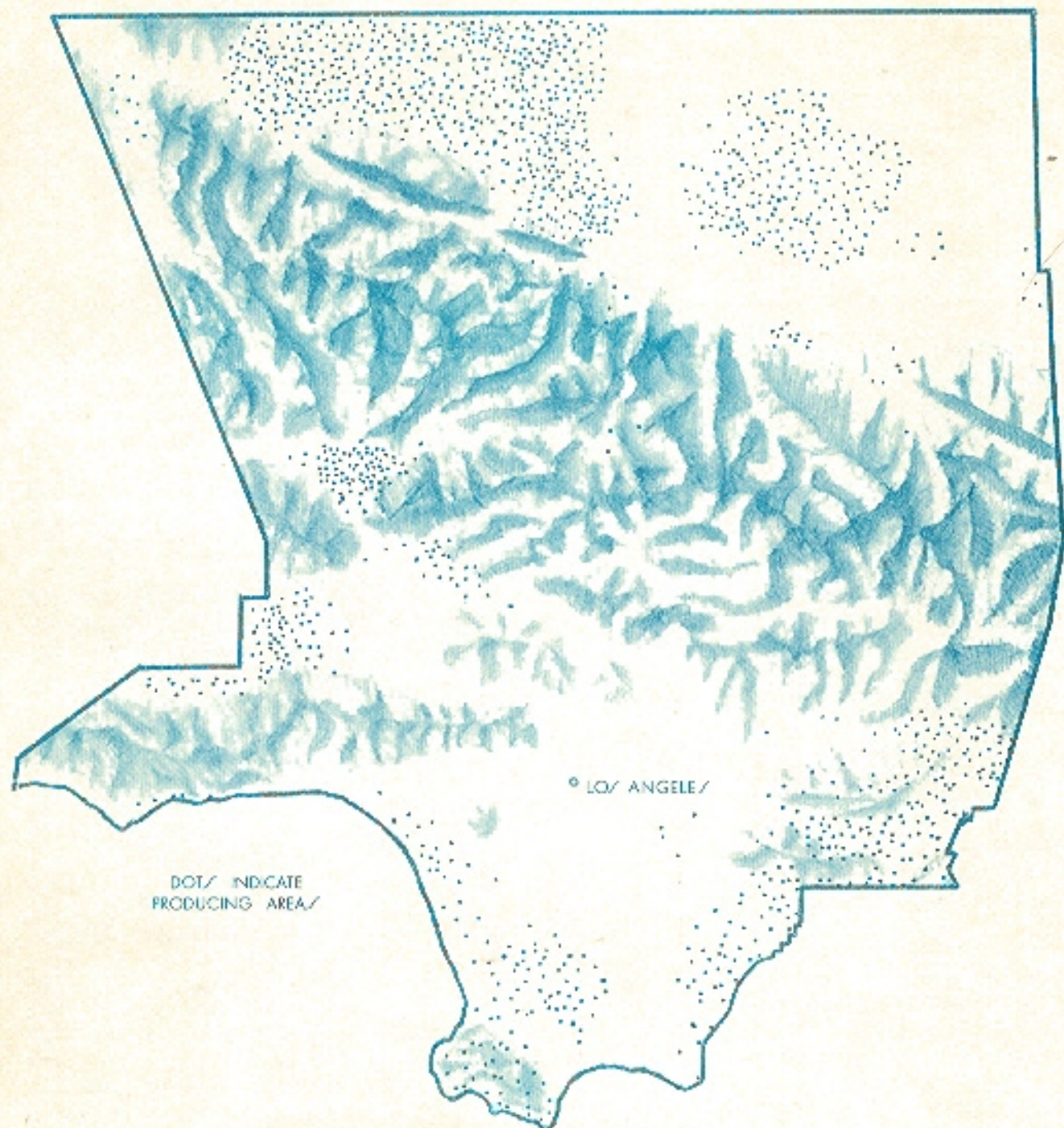


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# CROP REPORT

## LOS ANGELES COUNTY

### 1961



AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CROP REPORT FOR 1961  
(Exclusive of Livestock Production)

Production of plant crops in Los Angeles County in 1961 amounted to \$73,485,100 from 95,635 harvested acres, as compared to \$79,230,100 from 145,664 harvested acres in 1960. Of this decrease of 50,029 acres, over 40,000 acres consisted of dry-farmed grain and hay crops that were planted but not harvested.

The third consecutive year of subnormal rainfall resulted in a near failure of dry-farmed hay and grain, and contributed to reduced production from irrigated tree crops. Lower prices per unit received for some of the more important crops also played a part in the reduced returns to farmers.

A light crop of citrus was harvested from 11,953 acres due to poor growing conditions. Returns per unit were higher for navel oranges and lemons but lower for Valencias. Avocado production dropped, but a much better price brought a higher total value than the year before. Because of poor fruit set, pear and peach production declined in the Antelope Valley, resulting in a total value of \$493,000 compared with \$859,500 for these two crops in 1960.

Returns for vegetables declined to \$13,550,900 compared to \$15,451,300 the year before, mainly due to 1,860 less acres planted because of the inroads into agricultural lands of subdivision and freeway construction. Sweet corn and carrot acreage increased 450 acres, with a corresponding increase in production and higher returns.

Field crops dropped about \$2,000,000 due partly to a lower price for alfalfa hay in the Antelope Valley and partly because of the virtual crop failure of dry-farmed grain and hay throughout the county.

Aided by a mild winter and dry spring weather, strawberry production per acre was the highest on record. Prices were high on the early crop, a portion of which was shipped to eastern markets. Total returns were \$3,625,000 from 500 acres.

Nursery stock and cut flowers totaled \$37,038,000, an amount which probably keeps Los Angeles County in first place in the United States in production of horticultural specialties, the same as reported by the Federal Census in 1959.

The honey crop also suffered from the lack of rainfall, with a production of 1,225,000 pounds of honey and 20,445 pounds of beeswax valued at \$180,700.

The number of million-dollar crops remained at eleven, namely, nursery stock, cut flowers, alfalfa hay, strawberries, lemons, Valencia oranges, navel oranges, carrots, celery, sweet corn and green onions.

The format of the report has been changed this year to agree with the standardized form now being put into use throughout the state. U.S. Department of Agriculture payments amounting to \$280,000 are not included.

Valuation figures are based on delivery price at the market or FCB price on commodities shipped out of state. Price, acreage, and yield averages have been checked with 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, and companies, and produce dealers were consulted before final figures were determined. Assistance received from the many persons and agencies interviewed is greatly appreciated.

KENNETH L. WOLFF  
Agricultural Commissioner

April 24, 1962

## FRUIT &amp; NUT CROPS

Acreage, Production, and Value 1961

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
<u>CITRUS FRUITS</u>							
Oranges	1961	2,496	3.8	9,500	ton	\$ 169	\$ 1,800,000
Navel & Misc.	1960	3,231	5.3	17,100		124	2,120,000
Oranges	1961	4,734	5.8	27,550	ton	105	3,500,000
Valencia	1960	6,226	5.3	33,250		114	3,800,000
Lemons	1961	4,503	7.0	31,600	ton	114	3,600,000
	1960	5,381	9.2	49,400		82	4,050,000
Grapefruit	1961	220	11.9	2,625	ton	86	225,000
	1960	276	13.3	3,666		90	330,000
Total	1961	11,953					\$ 9,125,000
	1960	15,114					10,300,000
<u>OTHER FRUITS &amp; NUTS</u>							
Almonds	1961	1,588	.25	240	ton	\$ 630	\$ 151,200
	1960	1,698	.15	254		635	161,400
Apples	1961	54	1.5	81	ton	104	8,400
	1960	83	1.5	124		115	14,300
Apricots	1961	17	2.4	41.3	ton	160	6,600
	1960	37	1.3	48.8		147	7,200
Avocados	1961	2,159	1.0	2,242	ton	369	828,000
	1960	2,535	1.6	4,121		184	760,000
Cherries	1961	20	.6	12.2	ton	328	4,000
	1960	40	.7	31.0		329	10,200
Figs	1961	78	.6	46.8	ton	500	23,400
	1960	96	.9	86.4		300	25,900
Grapes	1961	124	2.4	300	ton	115	34,500
	1960	253	3.2	820		90	73,800
Olives	1961	569	.26	150	ton	130	20,000
	1960	657	.68	450		103	46,400
Peaches	1961	400	2.9	1,150	ton	195	224,500
Freestone	1960	548	3.3	1,830		178	326,800
Pears	1961	261	7.8	2,040	ton	138	280,500
Bartlett	1960	289	12.1	3,512		154	540,700
Walnuts	1961	1,338	.22	300	ton	460	138,000
	1960	2,173	.17	375		500	187,500
Misc. Fruits & Nuts	1961	59					37,500
	1960	72					61,200
Total	1961	6,667					\$ 1,756,600
	1960	8,485					2,215,400

FRUIT & NUT CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Bearing acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
<u>BERRIES</u>							
Bushberries	1961	-			ton	\$	\$
	1960	15	1.8	26.2		859	22,500
Strawberries	1961	500	13.7	6,875	ton	527	3,625,000
	1960	550	12.1	6,655		518	3,448,500
Total	1961	500					\$ 3,625,000
	1960	565					3,471,000
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TOTAL FRUIT & NUT CROPS	1961	19,120					\$24,506,600
	1960	24,164					15,986,400

FIELD CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
Barley	1961	5,000	.69	3,440	ton	\$ 44.75	\$ 154,000
	1960	24,500	.40	9,700		43.30	420,000
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Beans, dry edible							
Blackeye	1961	600	.79	475	ton	141.05	67,000
	1960	1,000	.65	650		230.00	149,500
Garbanzo	1961	-			ton		
	1960	1,600	.48	760		150.00	114,000
Lima	1961	350	.54	190	ton	300.00	57,000
	1960	870	.53	465		290.30	135,000
Cotton lint	1961	165	607 lb.	182	bale	.32 lb.	31,800
	1960	220	775	310		.29	49,000
Cotton seed	1961			82	ton	57.00	4,700
	1960			147		51.00	7,500
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Hay							
Alfalfa	1961	36,500	6.4	232,000	ton	23.50	5,456,000
	1960	37,500	6.3	235,000		27.90	6,546,000
Grain	1961	4,500	1.91	8,600	ton	24.40	210,000
	1960	9,100	1.15	10,500		30.20	317,000

FIELD CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Harvested acreaae	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
Pasture and range							
Irrigated	1961	5,000				\$150.00	\$ 750,000
	1960	6,000				150.00	900,000
Other	1961	200,000					400,000**
	1960	200,000					500,000
Silage							
Corn	1961	-			ton		
	1960	170	25	4,250		6.50	28,000
Sorghum	1961	500	30	15,000	ton	5.00	75,000
	1960	200	35	7,000		5.70	40,000
Sorghum grain	1961	850	2.25	1,912	ton	45.00	86,000
	1960	600	2.15	1,290		42.00	54,200
Straw	1961	-			ton		
	1960			2,000		15.00	30,000
Sugar beets	1961	500	18	9,000	ton	11.20	100,800
	1960	40	23	840		11.43	9,600
Wheat	1961	5,430	.77	4,177	ton	68.90	287,800
	1960	20,500	.24	4,920		64.00	314,300
TOTAL	1961	259,395					\$ 7,680,100
	1960	302,300					9,614,100

SEED CROPS

Alfalfa	1961	(2,500)**	340	850,000	lb.	0.26	\$ 221,000
	1960	(1,500)	395	592,500		0.25	147,500

\* Amount shown for 1961 paid mostly for sheep and cattle grazing on alfalfa and barley stubble; 1960 amount includes \$300,000 paid for such grazing.

\*\* This acreage is included in harvested acreage shown for alfalfa hay.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
Asparagus	1961	40	1.6	64	ton	\$240.00	\$ 15,400
	1960	40	1.2	48		250.00	12,000
Beans, snap	1961	150	5.25	787	ton	243.00	191,300
	1960	200	5.95	1,190		250.00	297,500
Beets, table	1961	275	11.8	3,230	ton	58.90	223,200
	1960	300	11.8	3,544		60.00	212,600
Cabbage	1961	950	14.0	13,320	ton	53.75	716,000
	1960	1,100	12.0	13,200		43.75	577,500
Carrots	1961	1,050	18.2	19,162	ton	67.85	1,300,000
	1960	850	19.5	16,575		66.00	1,094,000
Cauliflower	1961	450	12.4	5,580	ton	55.55	310,000
	1960	600	12.4	7,425		55.55	412,500
Celery	1961	600	30.0	18,000	ton	70.00	1,260,000
	1960	1,200	31.5	37,800		71.70	2,709,000
Chinese Food Veg.	1961	150			ton		975,000
	1960	150					969,000
Corn, sweet	1961	2,200	5.0	10,994	ton	104.00	1,145,000
	1960	1,950	5.2	10,090		108.75	1,097,000
Cucumbers	1961	100	8.0	800	ton	103.00	82,500
	1960	200	9.6	1,920		87.50	168,000
Lettuce, leaf	1961	600	12.0	7,200	ton	70.00	504,000
	1960	600	12.6	7,560		61.10	462,000
Melons							
Cantaloupe	1961	410	9.3	3,826	ton	59.00	225,900
	1960	675	7.0	4,764		69.90	333,000
Casabas & Others	1961	125	6.4	800	ton	46.25	37,000
	1960	120	8.0	960		50.00	48,000
Watermelons	1961	225	10.7	2,400	ton	25.00	60,000
	1960	85	10	850		30.00	25,500
Mushrooms	1961			685	ton	934.00	640,000
	1960			600		960.00	576,000
Mustard & Other Greens	1961	850	9	7,650	ton	62.20	476,000
	1960	800	9	7,200		62.20	448,000

VEGETABLE CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Harvested acres	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per acre	Total		Per unit	Total
Onions							
Dry	1961	350	20.3	7,100	ton	\$ 74.80	\$ 531,000
	1960	1,050	15	15,750		42.00	661,500
Green	1961	800	16	12,800	ton	87.50	1,120,000
	1960	1,100	14	15,400		82.50	1,270,000
Parsnips	1961	50	7.8	390	ton	154.00	60,000
	1960	-					
Peppers	1961	70	5	350	ton	160.00	56,000
	1960	100	5	500		140.00	70,000
Potatoes	1961	480	12.7	6,000	ton	45.80	275,000
	1960	260	16.5	4,290		59.65	298,800
Pumpkins	1961	190	9	1,700	ton	41.35	70,300
	1960	200	9.5	1,900		30.00	57,000
Radishes	1961	1,200	7.9	9,450	ton	80.00	756,000
	1960	1,100	9	9,900		77.80	770,000
Rhubarb	1961	160	6.5	1,040	ton	150.00	156,000
	1960	180	7	1,260		185.00	233,100
Romaine	1961	250	12	3,000	ton	73.30	220,000
	1960	350	12.7	4,462		66.70	297,500
Spinach	1961	350	9	3,150	ton	97.20	306,200
	1960	500	9	4,500		91.70	412,500
Squash							
Italian & Summer	1961	350	4.8	1,680	ton	167.00	280,000
	1960	500	4.8			114.00	274,000
Winter	1961	430	8.5	3,650	ton	65.00	237,200
	1960	425	8.5	3,600		60.00	216,000
Tomatoes	1961	275	10.1	2,778	ton	148.00	411,000
	1960	375	12.3	4,600		118.00	542,600
Turnips	1961	750	9.9	7,425	ton	94.40	701,200
	1960	750	11.2	8,437		73.30	618,700
Miscellaneous	1961	600					240,000
	1960	560					288,000
TOTAL	1961	14,480					\$13,581,200
	1960	16,320					15,451,300

NURSERY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production area		Quantity sold by Producers	Unit	Value	
		House acres	Field acres			Per acre	Total
<u>Nursery Crops</u>							
Deciduous fruit & nut trees	1961		20	250,000	Plant	\$ .75	\$ 187,500
	1960		20	220,000		.60	132,000
Vegetable plants - greenhouse grown	1961	14		1,400,000	Flats	.77	1,080,000
	1960	20		1,600,000		.72	1,150,000
Ornamental trees & shrubs	1961		1,200				22,212,500
	1960		1,295				22,100,000
Bedding plants & ground cover	1961		75	1,135,000	Flats	2.25	2,550,000
	1960		95	1,200,000		2.45	2,937,000
Indoor decorative plants	1961	33					2,100,000
	1960	35					1,750,000
Cactus & succulents	1961		45				675,000
	1960		60				855,000
Bulbs, rhizomes, roots, dichondra seed, etc.	1961		573				1,710,000
	1960		515				1,625,000
TOTAL	1961	47	1,913				\$30,515,000
	1960	55	1,985				30,549,000
<u>Cut Flowers &amp; Decoratives</u>							
Carnations	1961	65		59,000,000	Bloom	.04	2,360,000
	1960	60		54,000,000		.04	2,160,000
Chrysanthemums Standard	1961	45		6,750,000	Bloom	.20	1,350,000
	1960	55		5,000,000		.19	950,000
Pompom	1961		130	380,000	Bunch	1.20	455,000
	1960		175	330,000		1.20	395,000
Gladiolus	1961		5	15,000	Doz. Spike	1.00	15,000
	1960		25	73,000		1.02	75,000
Roses	1961	7		5,250,000	Bloom	.06	315,000
	1960	8		6,000,000		.06	360,000
Miscellaneous	1961		428				2,305,000
	1960		517				3,321,000
TOTAL	1961	117	563				\$ 6,800,000
	1960	123	717				7,261,000

APIARY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production		Value	
		Total	Unit	Per unit	Total
Honey	1961	1,225,000	lb.	\$ .14	\$ 171,500
	1960	1,600,000		.13	208,000
Beeswax	1961	20,445	lb.	.45	9,200
	1960	27,300		.43	11,600
Pollination	1961	250	Colony	2.00	500
	1960	600		2.00	1,200
Total	1961				\$ 181,200
	1960				220,800

TOTAL PLANT CROPS AND APIARY PRODUCTS

\$73,485,100

S U M M A R Y  
1957-1961 Inclusive

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
Citrus Fruits	\$13,740,000	\$10,400,000	\$13,028,000	\$10,300,000	\$ 9,125,000
Other Fruits & Nuts	1,813,500	2,275,900	2,304,100	2,215,400	1,756,600
Berries	2,980,000	2,804,000	3,236,000	3,471,000	3,625,000
Field Crops	10,466,700	11,484,500	11,349,300	9,761,600	7,901,100
Vegetables	22,114,800	23,512,900	18,297,900	15,451,300	13,581,200
Nursery Stock	26,600,000	29,432,000	30,458,000	30,549,000	30,515,000
Cut Flowers	<u>8,300,000</u>	<u>7,900,000</u>	<u>7,478,800</u>	<u>7,251,000</u>	<u>6,800,000</u>
Total Plant Crops*	86,015,000	87,839,300	86,151,200	79,009,300	73,303,900
Apiary Products	<u>181,600</u>	<u>378,200</u>	<u>66,600</u>	<u>220,800</u>	<u>181,200</u>
Total Plant Crops & Apiary Products	\$86,196,600	\$88,187,500	\$86,217,800	\$79,230,100	\$73,485,100

\*U.S. Department of Agricultural Payments deleted from these totals in order to conform to new statewide legislation system for county crop reports.