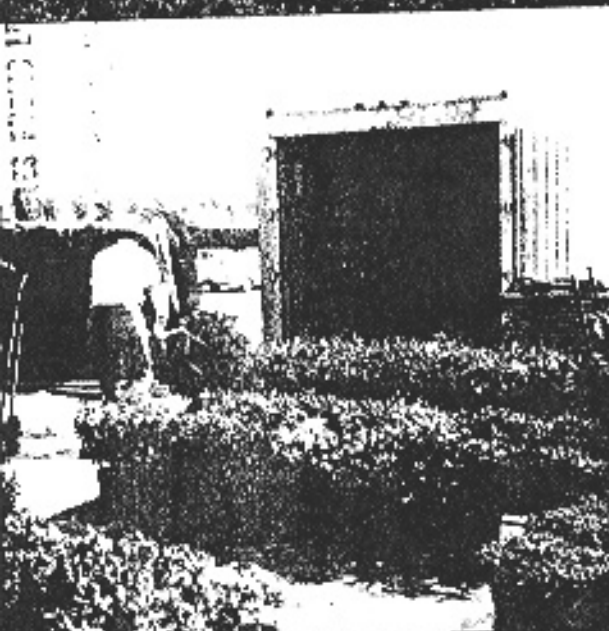
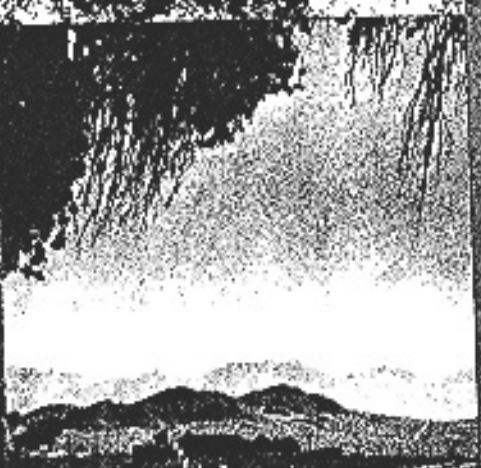


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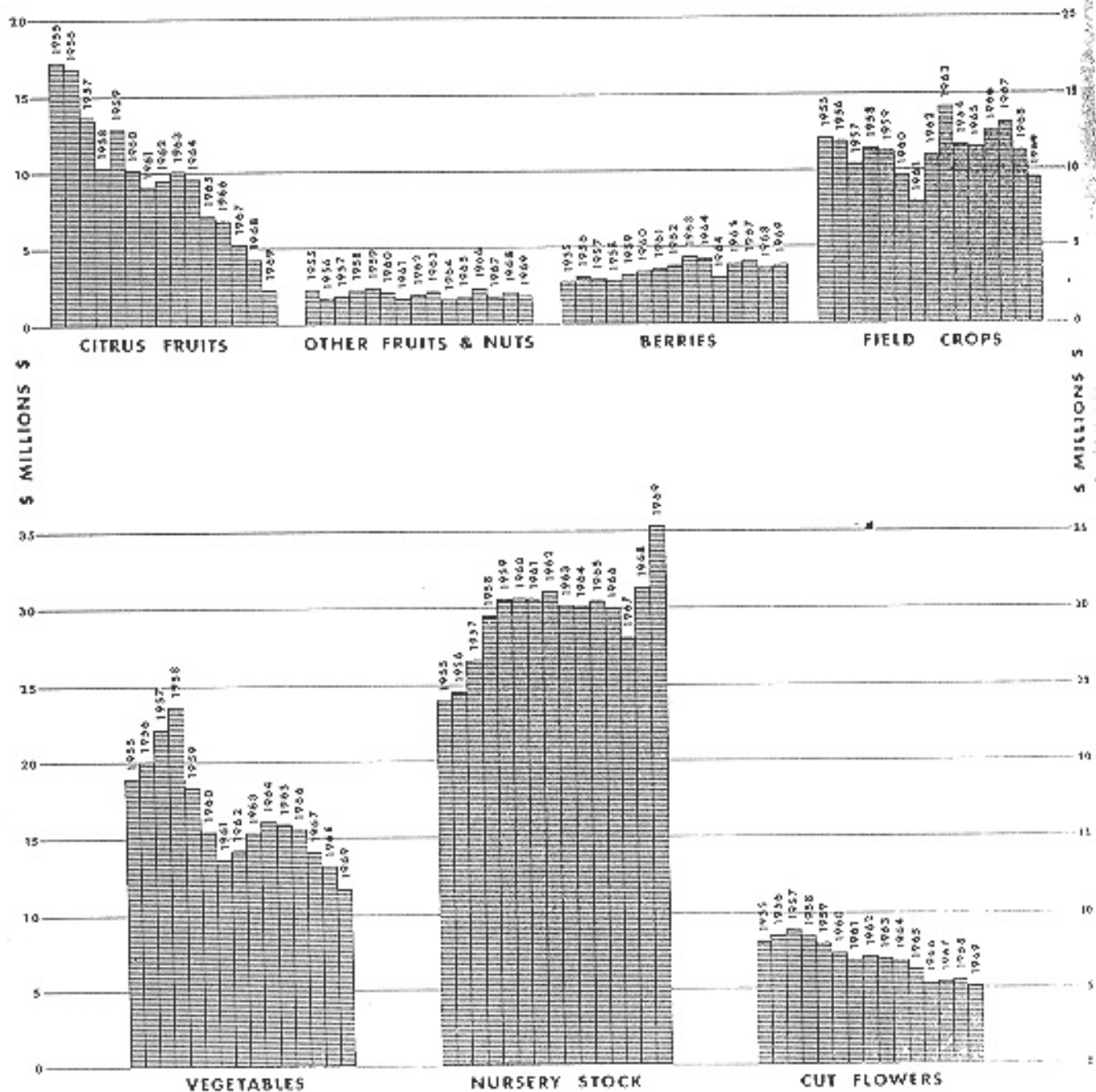


S ANGELES COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

CROP REPORT - 1969



LOS ANGELES COUNTY PLANT CROP VALUES A FIFTEEN YEAR COMPARISON



LOS ANGELES COUNTY - 1969 CROP SUMMARY

(exclusive of Livestock Production)

Gross returns from plant crop production in Los Angeles County again exceeded \$70 million dollars in 1969 despite the damaging affects of adverse weather and a reduction in harvested acreage.

The \$70,221,000 total received was down 1.5% from the \$71,295,000 realized the previous year, but when coupled with 1969 livestock production of \$80,954,000, will again place Los Angeles County among the twelve leading agricultural counties in California.

Ten crops returned \$1 million dollars or more during the year. They were - Nursery Stock (\$35,491,000), Alfalfa Hay (\$6,464,000), Cut Flowers (\$5,202,000), Strawberries (\$3,776,000), Lemons (\$1,840,000), Green Onions (\$2,207,000), Sweet Corn (\$1,530,000), Chinese Food Vegetables (\$1,735,000), Radishes (\$1,011,000) and Cooking Greens (\$1,072,000).

While the gross farm income reported has remained at about the same level, production costs have continued to rise and little improvement in net income is expected. As is the case in other industries, many farmers are affected by the tight money situation as well as by a continuing cost-of-production upward spiral.

Citrus crop production during 1969 was severely affected when freezing weather followed by unprecedented rains caused returns to drop to \$2,312,000. The navel orange crop was less than half of normal, with much downgraded fruit going to by-products. Freeze damage to valencia oranges and lemons was also heavy. This, coupled with lowering of grade, resulted in a substantial drop in returns.

Other fruits and nuts returned \$1,903,000, with avocado production recovering somewhat from the very poor prior year. While the dollar value of the peach crop was the highest in history, gross receipts were tempered by lower per-unit prices received. Lower cannery prices and a light crop reduced pear returns. Strawberry receipts climbed to \$3,776,000 despite the adverse affect of spring rains.

Poor weather also had its affect on field crop production but it was a decrease in planted acreage that contributed most to the decline of this group to \$9,551,000. Low grain prices, prevention of planting by rains, government program changes and increased pressure due to land speculation activity, all played a part in this acreage reduction.

Los Angeles County's vegetable growers received gross returns totaling \$11,555,000 during 1969 as rains disrupted planting schedules, interfered with harvest, reduced yields and otherwise created problems for the grower. This - coupled with a decline in acreage - more than offset better prices and yields in crops such as carrots, watermelons, winter squash, radishes and dry onions.

Nursery stock gross cash receipts reached \$35,491,000 in 1969. These record returns can be attributed to better information gathering techniques, better prices and an expanded national market. More acreage devoted to production of the high-value crops included in this category also contributed to this increase. Cut flower production - paced by carnations - resulted in a gross return of \$5,202,000 despite weather-caused damage.

Apiary production from 25,000 colonies of bees rose sharply to \$431,000 in 1969. Honey production was more than three times that of the previous year as heavy spring rains and a mild summer expanded the sources of honey flow and extended the season.

Valuation figures are based on delivery price at the market or on FOB price for commodities shipped out of state. All prices have been compared with Federal-State Market News quotations. U. S. Department of Agriculture payments amounted to \$760,240 and are not included in the total gross returns reported.

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

RALPH W. LICHTY
Agricultural Commissioner

March 26, 1970

SUMMARY

	1965-1969, Inclusive				
	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>
Citrus Fruits	\$ 7,280,000	\$ 6,974,000	\$ 5,326,000	\$ 4,294,000	\$ 2,312,000
Other Fruits	1,800,000	2,326,000	1,842,000	2,038,000	1,903,000
Berries	3,110,000	3,970,000	4,132,000	3,507,000	3,776,000
Field Crops	11,566,600	12,562,600	13,216,000	11,349,000	9,551,000
Vegetables	15,924,800	15,512,200	14,068,200	13,075,000	11,555,000
Nursery Stock	30,459,000	29,902,000	28,032,000	31,340,000	35,491,000
Cut Flowers	<u>6,282,000</u>	<u>5,389,000</u>	<u>5,417,600</u>	<u>5,500,000</u>	<u>5,202,000</u>
Total Plant Crops*	\$76,422,400	\$76,635,800	\$72,033,800	\$71,103,000	\$69,790,000
Apiary Products	<u>341,600</u>	<u>284,200</u>	<u>251,200</u>	<u>192,000</u>	<u>431,000</u>
Total Plant Crops* & Apiary Products	\$76,764,000	\$76,920,000	\$72,285,000	\$71,295,000	\$70,221,000

*U.S. Department of Agriculture Payments deleted from these totals to conform to state-wide tabulation system for county crop reports.

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	1969	948	2.3	2,180	Ton	\$ 96.00	\$ 209,000
Navel & Misc.	1968	955	4.7	4,488	"	234.00	1,050,000
Oranges	1969	1,427	4.3	6,136	"	39.00	239,000
Valencia	1968	1,456	2.2	3,203	"	192.00	615,000
Lemons	1969	1,787	7.1	12,688	"	145.00	1,840,000
	1968	1,734	8.6	14,912	"	170.00	2,535,000
Grapefruit	1969	80	2.5	200	"	120.00	24,000
	1968	83	8.3	6,889	"	136.00	94,000
Total	1969	4,242					\$ 2,312,000
	1968	4,228					4,294,000
<u>OTHER FRUITS & NUTS</u>							
Almonds	1969	1,183	.168	199	"	646.00	129,000
	1968	1,391	.279	388	"	640.00	248,000
Apples	1969	24	4.7	113	"	133.00	15,000
	1968	24	4.0	96	"	131.25	13,000
Avocados	1969	1,259	1.42	1,788	"	300.00	536,000
	1968	1,241	.65	807	"	461.00	372,000
Cherries	1969	20	3.3	66	"	538.00	35,500
	1968	21	2.00	42	"	500.00	21,000
Figs	1969	28	4.1	115	"	760.00	87,400
	1968	25	3.0	75	"	667.00	50,000
Grapes	1969	47	1.0	47	"	95.00	4,500
	1968	47	1.5	70.5	"	99.00	7,000
Nectarines	1969	14	14.0	196	"	327.00	64,000
	*1968						
Olives	1969	39	1.5	59	"	162.00	9,600
	1968	38	1.0	38	"	302.00	11,500
Peaches	1969	309	6.63	2,049	"	234.00	479,000
Freestone	1968	320	5.4	1,728	"	250.00	432,000
Pears	1969	272	7.8	2,122	"	183.00	388,000
Bartlett	1968	272	14.2	3,862	"	155.00	599,000
Walnuts	1969	345	.84	290	"	450.00	130,500
	1968	350	1.10	385	"	550.00	212,000
Misc. Fruits & Nuts	1969	32					25,000
	1968	40					72,000
Total	1969	3,672					\$ 1,903,000
	1968	3,777					2,038,000

FRUIT & NUT CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production			Value	
			Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
<u>BERRIES</u>							
Strawberries	1969	525	14.8	7,770	Ton	\$486.00	\$ 3,776,000
	1968	525	16.7	8,768	"	400.00	3,507,000
Total Fruit & Nut Crops	1969	8,439					\$ 7,991,000
	1968	8,530					9,839,000

* Included in Miscellaneous figure 1968.

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production			Value	
			Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Barley	1969	13,900	.64	8,896	Ton	\$ 52.00	\$ 463,000
	1968	12,200	1.10	13,420	"	50.00	671,000
Garbanzo	1969	160	.20	32	"	250.00	8,000
	1968	330	.40	132	"	240.00	31,700
Lima	1969	425	.65	276	"	318.00	87,800
	1968	475	.55	261	"	320.00	83,500
Hay, Alfalfa	1969	30,800	6.55	202,000	"	32.00	6,464,000
	1968	33,050	7.2	237,960	"	29.00	6,901,000
Hay, Grain	1969	7,000	2.4	16,800	"	29.00	487,000
	1968	7,000	2.5	17,500	"	30.00	525,000
Oats	1969	500	1.0	500	"	50.00	25,000
	*1968						
Pasture - Irrigated	1969	3,000					570,000
	1968	4,500					945,000
Range Land	1969	220,000					330,000
	1968	220,000					550,000

FIELD CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production			Value	
			Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Silage - Sorghum	1969	200	10.0	2,000	Ton	\$ 8.00	\$ 16,000
	1968	400	9.0	3,600	"	7.50	27,000
Sorghum grain	1969	100	2.1	210	"	52.00	10,900
	1968	70	1.6	112	"	47.00	5,300
Sugar beets (#)	1969	1,800	25.0	45,000	"	15.00	675,000
	1968	1,834	30.0	55,020	"	14.50	798,000
Wheat	1969	6,700	.45	3,015	"	53.00	160,000
	1968	17,380	.41	7,126	"	52.00	371,000
Misc. Field Crops (#)	1969						230,000
	1968						270,000
Total	1969	284,585					\$ 9,527,000
	1968	297,239					11,178,000

Acreage, production
& value of
Seed Crops

Alfalfa	1969	750(*)	100	75,000	Lbs.	\$.32	\$ 24,000
	1968	1,465(*)	334	489,310	"	.35	171,000

- * Included in Misc. Field Crops.
- (#) Does not include estimated \$138,220 Sugar Act payments for 1969 or \$91,930 for 1968.
- (#) Amount shown for 1969 includes \$169,000 paid for sheep and cattle grazing on alfalfa and barley stubble; 1968 amount includes \$230,000 for such grazing. Oats and Straw also included in misc. figure.
- (*) Included in harvested acreage shown for alfalfa hay.

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production			Value	
			Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Beets, table	1969	70	11.0	770	Ton	\$ 84.00	\$ 64,700
	1968	100	11.3	1,130	"	76.00	86,000
Cabbage	1969	360	10.0	3,600	"	86.00	310,000
	1968	500	11.25	5,650	"	90.00	509,000
Carrots	1969	260	26.0	6,760	"	109.00	737,000
	1968	250	30.0	7,500	"	72.00	540,000
Cauliflower	1969	25	14.0	350	"	72.00	25,200
	1968	75	14.0	1,050	"	69.00	72,000
Celery	1969	12	25.0	300	"	80.00	24,000
	1968	45	45.0	2,025	"	93.00	188,000
Chinese Food Veg.	1969	100					1,735,000
	1968	130					1,637,000
Corn, sweet	1969	2,550	5.00	12,750	"	120.00	1,530,000
	1968	2,700	5.00	13,500	"	140.00	1,890,000
Lettuce, leaf	1969	145	10.0	1,450	"	118.00	171,000
	1968	100	10.0	1,000	"	120.00	120,000
Melons -Cantaloupe	1969	115	8.3	955	"	106.00	102,000
	1968	155	11.0	1,705	"	96.00	164,000
-Watermelon	1969	80	9.3	744	"	55.00	40,900
	1968	135	8.0	1,080	"	45.00	49,000
Mushrooms	1969			800	"	1,000.00	800,000
	1968			800	"	1,000.00	800,000
Mustard & other greens	1969	835	12.0	10,020	"	107.00	1,072,000
	1968	900	12.3	11,070	"	119.00	1,317,000
Onions, dry	1969	230	19.0	4,370	"	98.00	428,000
	1968	350	23.7	8,295	"	70.00	581,000
Onions, green	1969	710	21.0	14,910	"	148.00	2,207,000
	1968	800	21.0	16,800	"	143.00	2,402,000
Pumpkins	1969	160	10.0	1,600	"	50.00	80,000
	1968	175	10.0	1,750	"	40.00	70,000
Radishes	1969	820	9.0	7,380	"	137.00	1,011,000
	1968	1,050	7.98	8,380	"	118.00	989,000

VEGETABLE CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Rhubarb	1969	80	10.00	800	Ton	160.00	\$ 128,000
	1968	70	12.0	840	"	195.00	164,000
Squash, Summer	1969	90	5.0	450	"	240.00	108,000
	1968	90	5.0	450	"	260.00	117,000
Squash, Winter	1969	55	8.4	462	"	60.00	27,800
	1968	115	7.5	863	"	42.00	36,000
Tomatoes, Mkt.	1969	75	13	975	"	327.00	319,000
	1968	310	12.0	3,720	"	130.00	484,000
Turnips	1969	300	9.2	2,760	"	85.00	235,000
	1968	300	12.0	3,600	"	100.00	360,000
Misc. Vegetables	1969	275					400,000
	1968	300					500,000
Total	1969	7,347					\$11,555,000
	1968	8,650					13,075,000

NURSERY PRODUCTS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Item	Year	Production Area		Quantity Sold by Producers	Unit	Value	
		House Acres	Field Acres			Per Unit	Total
<u>Nursery Crops</u>							
Bedding Plants	1969		68	1,064,000	Flats	2.75	\$ 2,926,000
	1968		70	1,033,000	"	2.56	2,644,000
Cacti-Succulents	1969		10				201,000
	1968		12				300,000
Geranium cuttings	1969		173	8,800,000	Cuttings	.06	528,000
	1968		159	12,000,000	"	.06	720,000
Ground cover	1969		99	1,050,000	Flats	2.10	2,205,000
	1968		96	763,000	"	2.28	1,740,000
Turf (sod & stolon)	1969		107				446,000
	1968		110				472,000
Ornamental trees & shrubs	1969		1,430				22,880,000
	1968		1,330				19,600,000
Miscellaneous Bulbs, Roots Dichondra seed & other specialties	1969		46				100,000
	1968		46				489,000
Vegetable plants	1969	14		1,095,000	Flats	1.00	1,095,000
	1968	7		991,000	"	.95	941,000
Indoor plants foliage	1969		11				1,964,000
	1968		12				2,346,000
Indoor potted flowering	1969		45				2,220,000
	1968		42				1,928,000
Orchid plants	1969		8				526,000
	1968		9				560,000
Total	1969	78	1,933				\$35,491,000
	1968	70	1,823				31,340,000

CUT FLOWERS & DECORATIVES

Item	Year	Production Area		Quantity Sold by Producers	Unit	Value	
		House Acres	Field Acres			Per Unit	Total
Carnations	1969	46		23,000,000	Blooms	.0575	\$ 1,322,000
	1968	50		28,750,000	"	.0525	1,509,000
Christmas trees	1969		134	25,000	Trees	9.00	225,000
	1968		100				175,000
Chrysanthemums -Stand. & disbuds	1969	15		600,000	Blooms	.24	144,000
	1968	15		600,000	"	.24	132,000
-Pompon	1969	54	43	282,600	Bundle	3.00	848,000
	1968	45	83	305,000	"	2.60	793,000
Orchids, cut all varieties	1969	25					938,000
	1968	25					1,052,000
Miscellaneous (Glads., Roses, Cut Greens & other cut flowers)	1969		338				1,725,000
	1968		340				1,839,000
Total	1969	140	515				\$ 5,202,000
	1968	135	525				5,500,000

TOTAL ALL PLANT CROPS \$69,790,000

APIARY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Value	
		Total		Per Unit	Total
Honey	1969	2,500,000	Lbs.	.15	\$ 375,000
	1968	972,000	"	.14	136,000
Beeswax	1969	37,000	"	.50	18,500
	1968	16,200	"	.70	11,300
Pollination	1969	7,500	Colonies	5.00	37,500
	1968	10,000	"	4.50	45,000
Total	1969				\$ 431,000
	1968				192,000

GRAND TOTAL PLANT CROPS AND APIARY PRODUCTS \$70,221,000