



*Library Copy
Do Not Remove*

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORT 1974



Cover Photo: Potted Cyclamen

- **Indoor potted flowering plants continue to hold an important place within the nursery industry in Los Angeles County. All categories of nursery crops reached an all time high of \$59,921,000 for 1974 in the County.**

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
1974 CROP & LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Gross receipts from farm crop and livestock production in Los Angeles County increased to \$158,369,300 in 1974, the highest total since 1967.

Plant crop and apiary product dollar returns were up considerably, reaching \$104,157,300 as compared to a 1973 total of \$88,000,000. Returns from livestock and poultry production totalled \$54,212,000 -- up from the previous year's total of \$48,759,000.

The modest increase in animal production was mainly generated by the increased price of milk. An increased number of laying hens and a slight increase in egg production was the result of restocking of poultry ranches after the Newcastle disease outbreak. Other categories reflected a stable production with slight decline in price.

County-wide, nursery stock and cut flower production continues to lead all crops in total dollar revenue -- over \$64,145,000 in 1974. Total gross sales for all types of nursery stock were over \$9,000,000 above 1973, hitting the sum of \$59,921,000. In the first half of 1974, increase in the volume of nursery stock sales and a slight rise in unit prices more than made up for a slowdown in the second half of 1974. Vegetable bedding plant production showed a heavy gain due to strong interest by the general public in growing their own vegetables. Cut flower producers probably felt the economic downturn more so than the nursery stock or vegetable growers.

All figures reported are gross values and do not reflect net farm income or profit to the producer. Increased production costs -- energy, labor, equipment, and other required input -- have in many cases offset higher prices received for products produced.

The San Fernando Valley - Saugus-Newhall area produced plant crops worth \$19,000,000 in 1974. This region specializes in production of root type crops such as carrots, green onions, radishes and dry onions as well as sweet corn for roadside stand sale. Some 3,000 acres were harvested returning \$7,800,000. Field crops, citrus and walnuts, other vegetables and nursery stock make up the balance of production for the area.

The San Gabriel Valley and Eastern Los Angeles County area produced crops worth \$25,000,000 in 1974. Approximately 160 acres of strawberries returned \$2,000,000 of the total expected county returns of \$3,600,000 from 325 acres. Some 1,300 acres of citrus are still bearing in the area and returned an estimated \$2,000,000. Orange production suffered from rain and cool weather during the bloom period of 1973 affecting the 1974 crop harvest. Receipts were good for lemons from 850 acres. Nursery sales from this area, with much of the stock being shipped out of county or to other states, represents 31% of the County's total nursery production. Farm grown "U-cut" Christmas tree sales also did well. Nursery stock, cut flowers and Christmas tree sales produced \$18,800,000 of the revenue. Grain and hay crops from the Walnut district had favorable growing weather and higher than average price returns.

Avocado production in the Whittier-LaHabra Heights district decreased substantially in 1974 due to the poor set of fall and winter varieties. Price per pound remained high throughout the year. Avocado receipts amounted to \$924,000 for 1974 to Los Angeles County growers.

Livestock and dairy production in the Artesia-Norwalk district continues to decline under the impact of residential and commercial development.

In the Antelope Valley, plant crops returned \$15,500,000, the highest total on record. Alfalfa hay continued to be the number one crop producing \$8,375,000 from 19,800 acres. Growing conditions were generally good for increased yields, but a heavy infestation of alfalfa weevil damaged the first cutting and some water shortages reduced the total tonnage. Barley and wheat grains were harvested from 19,500 acres, an increase of 5,600 acres over 1973. These grains sold for the highest price per hundred weight on record. Sugar beet plantings were affected for the first time with powdery mildew disease. This resulted in less tonnage and lower sugar contents in the beets. Returns for the 1974 crop were about the same as 1973 as higher sugar prices helped compensate for the lower yields and sugar content. The Antelope Valley peach crop production was the highest on record. Pear sales exceeded the million dollar mark for the first time as fruit prices were up more than 50% during a year with good production.

The Gardena-South Bay district is one of the major growing areas producing better than 30% of the county-wide total of nursery stock. Bean sprouts, mushrooms, greens, leaf lettuce, radishes, other vegetables and strawberries contributed to our total metropolitan and southern area crop production of \$44,000,000 for 1974.

Valuation figures are based on delivery price at the market or on F.O.B. price for commodities shipped out-of-state. All prices have been compared with Federal-State Market News quotations. United States Department of Agriculture payments dropped to \$90,485 from the \$168,761 reported the previous year and are not included in the 1974 total gross returns reported.

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


PAUL B. ENGLER
Agricultural Commissioner


ROBERT J. SCHROEDER, DVM
Department of Health Services

April 7, 1975

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

FRUIT & NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
<u>CITRUS FRUITS</u>							
Oranges	1974	295	4.2	1,239	Ton	\$ 188.00	\$ 233,000
Navel & Misc.	1973	446	3.8	1,695	"	158.00	268,000
Oranges	1974	453	3.7	1,676	"	174.60	293,000
Valencia	1973	544	2.5	1,360	"	116.00	158,000
Lemons	1974	1,023	7.8	7,979	"	257.00	2,051,000
	1973	1,124	6.7	7,475	"	211.00	1,577,000
Grapefruit	1974	20	4.2	84	"	140.00	11,800
	1973	30	6.7	201	"	149.25	30,000
Total	1974	1,791					2,588,800
	1973	2,144					\$ 2,033,000
<u>OTHER FRUITS & NUTS</u>							
Almonds	1974	941	.255	240	Ton	1,042.00	250,000
	1973	941	.088	83	"	1,640.00	136,000
Apples	1974	29	3.6	104	"	125.00	13,000
	1973	27	3.8	103	"	155.25	16,000
Avocados	1974	924	1.25	1,155	"	800.00	924,000
	1973	1,039	1.50	1,559	"	703.00	1,096,000
Cherries	1974	35	2.6	91	"	693.00	63,000
	1973	29	2.6	75	"	600.00	45,000
Figs	1974	21	6.0	126	"	1,588.00	200,000
	1973	22	5.0	110	"	1,480.00	162,800
Grapes	1974	2	12.0	24	"	125.00	3,000
	1973	2	10.0	20	"	100.00	2,000
Peaches	1974	361	7.3	2,635	"	313.00	825,000
Freestone	1973	317	6.7	2,124	"	282.50	600,000
Pears	1974	290	12.3	3,567	"	291.50	1,040,000
Bartlett	1973	286	13.1	3,746	"	187.00	700,000
Walnuts	1974	338	1.00	338	"	325.50	110,000
	1973	338	1.17	395	"	494.00	195,000
Misc. Fruits & Nuts	1974	82					75,000
	1973	50					100,000
Total	1974	3,023					3,503,000
	1973	3,053					\$ 3,052,800

FRUIT & NUT CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production		Unit	Value		
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total	
<u>BERRIES</u>								
Strawberries	1974	325	20.7	6,728	Ton	\$	535.10	\$ 3,600,000
	1973	400	20.7	8,280	"		478.50	3,962,000
<hr/>								
Total Fruit & Nut Crops	1974	5,139						\$ 9,691,800
	1973	5,597						9,047,800

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value		
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total	
Barley	1974	10,067	.87	8,758	Ton	\$	116.25	\$ 1,018,000
	1973	12,000	.94	11,280	"		87.25	984,000
Garbanzo	1974	220	.35	77	"		559.00	43,000
	1973	270	.40	108	"		540.00	58,300
Lima Beans	1974	130	.85	111	"		409.00	45,100
	1973	130	.80	104	"		800.00(**)	83,200
Hay, Alfalfa	1974	20,380	6.5	132,470	"		67.00	8,875,000
	1973	22,475	6.50	146,088	"		55.00	8,035,000
Hay, Grain	1974	6,200	1.7	10,540	"		55.00	580,000
	1973	5,235	2.2	11,517	"		43.50	501,000
Pasture - Irrigated	1974	1,500						338,000
	1973	1,500						345,000
Range Land	1974	180,000						450,000
	1973	155,000						310,000

FIELD CROPS (Cont.)

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Silage - Sorghum	1974	120	1.6	192	Ton	\$ 130.25	\$ 25,000
	1973	700	5.0	3,500	"	52.00	182,000
Sugar beets (f)	1974	1,075	25.7	27,628	"	59.75	1,651,000
	1973	1,500	28.5	42,750	"	19.00	812,000
Wheat	1974	14,000	.50	7,000	"	140.00	980,000
	1973	7,900	.38	3,002	"	93.50	281,000
Misc. Field Crops (f)	1974						286,000
	1973						252,000
Total	1974	233,692					\$14,291,100
	1973	206,710					11,843,500

Acreage, production
& value of
Seed Crops

Alfalfa	1974	500(*)	75	55,000	Lbs.	\$.60	\$ 33,000
	1973	200(*)	150	7,500	"	.86	6,500

(f) Does not include estimated \$64,875.00 Sugar Act payments for 1974 or \$73,038.00 for 1973.

(f) Amount shown for 1974 includes \$286,000 paid for sheep and cattle grazing on alfalfa and barley stubble; 1973 includes \$252,000 for such grazing. Straw also included in misc. figure.

(*) Included in harvested acreage shown for alfalfa hay.

(**) High unit value figure was caused by the entire 1973 lima bean crop being sold for seed use.

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Bean Sprouts	1974	--	--	5,334	Ton	\$ 375.00	\$ 2,000,000
	1973	--	--	5,100	"	373.00	1,902,000
Beets, table	1974	80	5.6	448	"	100.50	45,000
	1973	40	6.2	248	"	104.00	25,800
Cabbage	1974	205	16.8	3,444	"	112.25	386,000
	1973	325	12.2	3,965	"	93.50	371,000
Carrots	1974	400	27.0	10,800	"	180.00	1,944,000
	1973	400	30.0	12,000	"	132.00	1,584,000
Cauliflower	1974	45	7.3	329	"	115.50	38,000
	1973	50	11.9	595	"	90.00	53,600
Chinese Food Vegetables	1974	290	11.5	3,335	"	147.00	490,000
	1973	115	11.5	1,323	"	130.00	172,000
Corn, sweet	1974	1,740	4.8	8,352	"	291.00	2,430,000
	1973	1,715	4.4	7,546	"	222.00	1,675,000
Lettuce, leaf	1974	225	7.5	1,688	"	199.50	337,000
	1973	335	6.6	2,211	"	209.25	463,000
Melons Cantaloupe	1974	50	6.6	330	"	138.00	46,000
	1973	70	7.9	553	"	108.00	59,700
Watermelon	1974	100	5.0	500	"	84.00	42,000
	1973	30	7.0	210	"	100.00	21,000
Mushrooms	1974	--	--	1,000	"	1,200.00	1,200,000
	1973	--	--	800	"	1,240.00	992,000
Mustard & other greens	1974	1,025	5.0	5,125	"	200.00	1,025,000
	1973	825	4.5	3,713	"	155.00	576,000
Onions, dry	1974	285	17.6	5,016	"	70.00	351,000
	1973	280	17.5	4,900	"	90.00	441,000
Onions, green	1974	675	12.6	8,505	"	361.00	3,070,000
	1973	575	11.7	6,728	"	333.75	2,245,000
Pumpkins	1974	95	12.0	1,140	"	125.00	142,000
	1973	108	13.9	1,501	"	70.00	105,000

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	1974		55	1,553,000	Flats	\$ 3.88	\$ 6,026,000
	1973		58	1,579,000	"	3.42	5,400,000
Cacti-Succulents	1974		13				180,000
	1973		16				244,000
Geranium cuttings	1974		144	11,902,000	Cuttings	.08	952,000
	1973		150	10,500,000	"	.07	735,000
Ground cover	1974		94	1,230,500	Flats	3.38	4,159,000
	1973		93	1,245,000	"	2.98	3,710,000
Turf (sod & stolon)	1974		62				261,000
	1973		59				240,000
Ornamental trees & shrubs	1974		1,650	28,405,700	Plants	1.25	35,507,000
	1973		1,610	30,100,000	"	1.03	31,003,000
Miscellaneous Bulbs, Roots, Dicondra seed & other specialties	1974		54				622,000
	1973		57				731,000
Vegetable plants	1974	15		902,650	Flats	2.24	2,022,000
	1973	12		698,000	"	1.36	949,000
Indoor plants foliage	1974	33		12,754,000	Pots	.52	6,632,000
	1973	25		5,654,000	"	.64	3,618,000
Indoor potted flowering	1974	30		1,285,000	"	2.08	2,673,000
	1973	35		1,673,500	"	1.67	2,795,000
Orchid plants	1974	7					887,000
	1973	9					1,240,000
Total	1974	85	2,072				59,921,000
	1973	81	2,043				\$50,665,000

CUT FLOWERS & DECORATIVES

Item	Year	Production Area		Quantity Sold By Producers	Unit	Value	
		House Acres	Field Acres			Per Unit	Total
Carnations	1974	21		10,360,000	Blooms	\$.07	\$ 725,000
	1973	31		12,000,000	"	.06	720,000
Christmas trees	1974		291	56,300	Trees	13.60	765,000
	1973		227	35,000	"	10.50	368,000
Chrysanthemums -Stand. & disbuds	1974	10		810,000	Blooms	.35	284,000
	1973	15		1,100,000	"	.28	308,000
-Pompon	1974	25	35	200,000	Bundle	2.80	560,000
	1973	35	45	207,000	"	2.95	612,000
Orchids, cut all varieties	1974	17					595,000
	1973	19					665,000
Miscellaneous (cut greens & other cut flowers)	1974		259				1,295,000
	1973		270				1,242,000
Total	1974	73	585				\$ 4,224,000
	1973	100	542				3,915,000

TOTAL ALL PLANT CROPS 1974	Acres <u>247,891</u>	Value <u>\$103,187,900</u>
-------------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------------

APIARY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Value	
		Total			Per Unit	Total
Honey	1974	2,008,000		Lbs.	\$.40	\$ 803,200
	1973	1,350,000		"	.43	580,000
Beeswax	1974	33,000		"	1.25	41,200
	1973	22,500		"	.72	16,200
Pollination	1974	12,500		Colonies	10.00	125,000
	1973	14,500		"	8.00	116,000
Total	1974					969,400
	1973					\$ 712,200

GRAND TOTAL PLANT CROPS AND APIARY PRODUCTS 1974	<u>\$104,157,300</u>
--	----------------------

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY: INVENTORY, PRODUCTION & VALUE

Species	Year	Inventory	Production		Unit	Value		
			No. of Head	Total Liveweight		Per Unit	Total	
<u>CATTLE & CALVES</u>								
Dairy								
Cows	1974	15,000	--	--	--	\$ --	\$ --	--
	1973	17,000	--	--	--	--	--	--
Cull Cows	1974	--	5,000	5,000,000	Cwt.	26.77		1,339,000
	1973	--	2,700	2,700,000	"	32.91		889,000
Calves	1974	1,000	12,000	--	Head	25.00		300,000
	1973	1,000	8,000	--	"	80.00		640,000
Heifers	1974	1,800	1,800	--	"	350.00		630,000
	1973	1,600	1,500	--	"	400.00		600,000
Beef								
Feeder Calves	1974	5,000	8,500	1,700,000	Cwt.	40.33		686,000
	1973	6,000	9,000	1,800,000	"	54.89		988,000
Fed Steers & Heifers	1974	13,300	40,000	12,000,000	"	41.74		5,009,000
	1973	25,000	41,000	12,300,000	"	44.27		5,445,000
<u>SHEEP & LAMBS</u>								
Breeding Stock	1974	32,000	--	--	--	--		--
	1973	49,000	--	--	--	--		--
Fat Lambs	1974	29,000	30,000	2,400,000	Cwt.	39.26		942,000
	1973	28,000	30,000	2,400,000	"	35.33		848,000
<u>HOGS & PIGS</u>								
Slaughter Hogs	1974	3,300	4,000	480,000	Cwt.	33.97		163,000
	1973	3,000	3,600	432,000	"	38.56		167,000
<u>BROILERS & FRYERS</u>								
	1974	200,000	1,035,000	3,622,500	Lb.	.258		935,000
	1973	505,000	2,540,000	8,890,000	"	.248		2,205,000
<u>OTHER CHICKENS</u>								
Hens	1974	--	428,000	1,499,000	Lb.	.061		91,000
	1973	--	380,000	1,330,000	"	.134		178,000
Laying Hens	1974	612,000	--	--	--	--		--
	1973	545,000	--	--	--	--		--
Roasters	1974	571,000	1,500,000	8,250,000	Lb.	.350		2,888,000
	1973	385,000	404,000	2,222,000	"	.340		755,000
<u>TURKEYS</u>								
	1974	300,000	1,530,000	30,600,000	Lb.	.278		8,507,000
	1973	260,000	1,138,000	22,760,000	"	.348		7,920,000

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY (Cont.)

Species	Year	Inventory	Production		Unit	Value	
			No. of Head	Total Liveweight		Per Unit	Total
<u>CHICKS</u>	1974	--	7,729,000	--	Each	\$.184	\$ 1,422,000
	1973	--	6,767,000	--	"	.144	974,000
<u>OTHER LIVESTOCK</u> (Ducks, Poults, Goats, Rabbits)	1974	--	--	--	--	--	336,000
	1973	--	--	--	--	--	200,000
<u>HORSES</u>	1974	56,000	4,000	--	Head	450.00	1,800,000
	1973	56,000	5,000	--	"	450.00	2,250,000
Total	1974						\$25,048,000
	1973						24,059,000

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION & VALUE

Product	Year	Production	Unit	Value		
				Per Unit	Total	
<u>MILK</u> Market	1974	2,767,000	Cwt.	\$ 8.36	\$23,132,000	
	1973	2,700,000	"	6.93	18,711,000	
Manufacturing	1974	5,500	"	7.02	39,000	
	1973	7,700	"	4.68	36,000	
<u>WOOL</u>	1974	327,000	Lb.	.67	219,000	
	1973	315,000	"	.33	104,000	
<u>EGGS</u>	1974	12,444,000	Dozen	.464	5,774,000	
	1973	11,082,000	"	.512	5,674,000	
Total	1974				\$29,164,000	
	1973				24,654,000	
GRAND TOTAL LIVESTOCK & POULTRY PRODUCTION						\$54,212,000

SUMMARY

1970-1974, Inclusive

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>
Citrus Fruits	\$ 3,430,800	\$ 3,290,000	\$ 2,549,900	\$ 2,033,000	\$ 2,588,800
Misc. Fruits & Nuts	2,564,710	2,240,240	2,366,900	3,052,800	3,503,000
Berries	3,476,000	3,006,000	2,760,450	3,962,000	3,600,000
Field Crops	9,146,200	9,102,600	8,774,700	11,850,000	14,324,100
Vegetables	10,886,500	10,063,200	10,036,200	11,853,100	15,027,000
Nursery Stock	36,837,000	40,641,000	46,245,000	50,665,000	59,921,000
Cut Flowers	4,823,000	4,556,000	4,507,000	3,915,000	4,224,000
Total Plant Crops*	\$ 71,164,210	\$ 72,899,040	\$ 77,240,150	\$ 87,330,900	\$103,187,900
Apiary Products	234,500	540,000	328,480	712,200	969,400
Total Plant Crops* & Apiary Products	\$ 71,398,710	\$ 73,439,040	\$ 77,568,630	\$ 88,043,100	\$104,157,300
Livestock & Poultry	62,690,000	49,766,000	43,099,000	48,759,000	54,212,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$134,088,710	\$123,205,040	\$120,667,630	\$136,802,100	\$158,369,300

*U. S. Department of Agricultural Payments not included in these totals to conform to state-wide tabulation system for county crop reports.

