

# ANNUAL REPORT OF AGRICULTURE



## 1992

MERCED COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
MERCED, CALIFORNIA

MICHAEL J. TANNER, Agricultural Commissioner  
GARY CASERI, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner

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## FIELD CROPS ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1992-1991

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
BARLEY	1992	5,390	1.84	9,900	Ton	\$110.00	\$ 1,089,000
	1991	3,770	1.78	6,710	Ton	\$110.00	\$ 738,000
BEANS (Dry Lima)	1992	3,970	1.29	5,120	Ton	\$472.00	\$ 2,417,000
	1991	4,530	1.33	6,020	Ton	\$583.00	\$ 3,510,000
BEANS (Dry Other)	1992	3,610	1.11	4,010	Ton	\$500.00	\$ 2,005,000
	1991	2,950	1.15	3,390	Ton	\$500.00	\$ 1,695,000
CORN (Grain)	1992	6,620	4.42	29,300	Ton	\$130.00	\$ 3,809,000
	1991	6,050	4.14	25,000	Ton	\$136.00	\$ 3,400,000
COTTON (Lint)	1992	76,500	1,394 Lbs.	213,000	500 Lb. Bale	\$340.00	\$72,420,000
	1991	77,200	1,192 Lbs.	184,000	500 Lb. Bale	\$345.00	\$63,480,000
COTTON (Seed)	1992	----	----	80,000	Ton	\$140.00	\$11,200,000
	1991	----	----	69,000	Ton	\$128.00	\$ 8,832,000
HAY (Alfalfa)	1992	69,300	6.92	480,000	Ton	\$ 88.00	\$42,240,000
	1991	74,500	6.96	519,000	Ton	\$ 84.00	\$43,600,000
HAY (Alfalfa-Cube)	1992	5,140	6.60	33,900	Ton	\$110.00	\$ 3,729,000
	1991	6,600	6.40	42,000	Ton	\$105.00	\$ 4,410,000
HAY (Grain)	1992	25,100	3.17	79,600	Ton	\$ 49.10	\$ 3,908,000
	1991	27,400	3.12	85,500	Ton	\$ 69.80	\$ 5,968,000
HAY (Sudan)	1992	780	4.00	3,120	Ton	\$ 45.00	\$ 140,000
	1991	1,280	3.40	4,350	Ton	\$ 55.30	\$ 241,000
OATS (Grain)	1992	3,520	1.36	4,800	Ton	\$125.00	\$ 600,000
	1991	2,450	1.62	4,000	Ton	\$180.00	\$ 720,000
PASTURE (Irrigated)	1992	80,000	----	----	Acre	\$120.00	\$ 9,600,000
	1991	80,000	----	----	Acre	\$120.00	\$ 9,600,000
PASTURE (Other)	1992	555,000	----	----	Acre	\$ 15.00	\$ 8,325,000
	1991	555,000	----	----	Acre	\$ 15.00	\$ 8,325,000
RICE	1992	2,516	3.86	9,700	Ton	\$171.00	\$ 1,659,000
	1991	1,900	3.63	6,900	Ton	\$151.00	\$ 1,042,000
SAFFLOWER	1992	3,280	.91	3,000	Ton	\$278.00	\$ 834,000
	1991	603	.93	560	Ton	\$245.00	\$ 137,000
SILAGE (Corn)	1992	44,800	23.89	1,070,000	Ton	\$ 16.54	\$17,698,000
	1991	46,000	23.34	1,074,000	Ton	\$ 17.80	\$19,117,000
SILAGE * (Other)	1992	47,500	12.28	583,000	Ton	\$ 14.34	\$ 8,360,000
	1991	45,700	11.33	518,000	Ton	\$ 19.84	\$10,277,000
SORGHUM (Grain)	1992	170	2.53	430	Ton	\$106.00	\$ 46,000
	1991	90	1.58	142	Ton	\$ 96.00	\$ 14,000
STRAW	1992	----	----	1,900	Ton	\$ 28.00	\$ 53,000
	1991	----	----	1,400	Ton	\$ 35.00	\$ 49,000
STUBBLE ** (Pasture)	1992	9,800	----	----	Acre	\$ 10.00	\$ 98,000
	1991	8,000	----	----	Acre	\$ 10.00	\$ 80,000
SUGAR BEETS	1992	6,600	27.84	184,000	Ton	\$ 39.31	\$ 7,233,000
	1991	7,900	27.34	216,000	Ton	\$ 38.20	\$ 8,251,000
WHEAT	1992	11,410	2.48	28,300	Ton	\$114.00	\$ 3,226,000
	1991	8,600	2.71	23,300	Ton	\$100.00	\$ 2,330,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	1992	951,206					\$200,689,000
	1991	952,523					\$195,816,000

\* Includes Alfalfa, Barley, Earlage, Oats, Rye, Sorghum, Sudan, Wheat and Winter Forage.

\*\* Includes Alfalfa, Barley, Oats and Wheat. Stubble pasture not included in total acreage.

**NURSERY PRODUCTS  
PRODUCTION ACREAGE, SALES AND VALUE 1992-1991**

	YEAR	ACREAGE	TOTAL
TOTAL	1992	1,195	\$ 11,212,000
	1991	1,033	\$ 12,288,000

Includes Budwood, Pits and Cuttings; Citrus, Deciduous Fruit and Nut Trees; Dried Flowers, Grapevines; Greenhouse Plants; Roses; Strawberry Plants, Tomato and Other Vegetable Plants; Semi-Tropical Ornamental and Shade Trees; Shrubs; Ornamental Plants, and Christmas Trees. The separate production and value are not shown to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**OTHER AGRICULTURE  
PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1992-1991**

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
FIREWOOD	1992	20,000	Cords	\$80.00	\$ 1,600,000
	1991	34,700	Cords	\$78.00	\$ 2,707,000
FUEL * (Cogeneration)	1992	99,400	Tons	\$23.19	\$ 2,305,000
	1991	84,900	Tons	\$22.60	\$ 1,919,000
MANURE **	1992	1,028,000	Tons	\$ 4.86	\$ 4,996,000
	1991	1,171,000	Tons	\$ 4.63	\$ 5,422,000
TOTAL	1992				\$ 8,901,000
	1991				\$10,048,000

\* Almond Shells, Cotton Stalks, Gin Trash, Orchard Prunings, Orchard Removal (Recorded in Wet Tons).  
\*\* Livestock, Poultry.

## SEED CROPS ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1992-1991

### CERTIFIED SEED CROPS

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
SEED CROPS *	1992	679	---	---	---	---	\$ 331,000
(Miscellaneous)	1991	896	---	---	---	---	\$ 397,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	1992	679					\$ 331,000
	1991	896					\$ 397,000

### NON-CERTIFIED SEED CROPS

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
BEANS	1992	250	2,240	560,000	Lb.	\$ 0.368	\$ 206,000
	1991	250	2,250	563,000	Lb.	\$ 0.315	\$ 177,000
SEED CROPS **	1992	3,960	---	---	---	---	\$ 1,189,000
(Miscellaneous)	1991	3,409	---	---	---	---	\$ 1,105,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	1992	4,210					\$ 1,395,000
	1991	3,659					\$ 1,282,000

### ALL SEED CROPS

	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	TOTAL
<b>TOTAL</b>	1992	4,889	\$ 1,726,000
	1991	4,555	\$ 1,679,000

\* Includes certified seed from Oats, Rice and Wheat.

\*\* Includes common seed from Cabbage, Carrot, Cucumber, Lettuce, Melons, Oats, Onions, Pepper, Rye, Wheat, Tomato, Broccoli, Squash, Cauliflower, Corn and Garlic.

**VEGETABLE CROPS  
ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1992-1991**

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
BEANS, LIMA (Freezer)	1992 1991	1,475 713	1.70 1.91	2,500 1,360	Ton Ton	\$406.00 \$440.00	\$ 1,015,000 \$ 598,000
MELONS (Cantaloupe)	1992 1991	9,420 9,800	358 326	3,372,000 3,195,000	40 Lb. Ctns. 40 Lb. Ctns.	\$ 5.08 \$ 3.55	\$17,130,000 \$11,342,000
MELONS (Watermelon)	1992 1991	1,080 1,685	16.17 17.30	17,500 29,150	Ton Ton	\$ 80.00 \$ 83.00	\$ 1,400,000 \$ 2,419,000
MELONS (Other)	1992 1991	1,510 1,792	10.10 11.36	15,300 20,360	Ton Ton	\$151.00 \$136.00	\$ 2,310,000 \$ 2,769,000
PEAS (Freezer)	1992 1991	990 1,165	1.23 1.91	1,200 2,230	Ton Ton	\$270.00 \$300.00	\$ 324,000 \$ 669,000
PEPPERS, BELL (Market)	1992 1991	715 655	16.93 11.56	12,100 7,570	Ton Ton	\$367.00 \$358.00	\$ 4,441,000 \$ 2,710,000
PEPPERS * (Processing)	1992 1991	---- ----	---- ----	869 450	Ton Ton	\$209.00 \$183.00	\$ 182,000 \$ 82,000
SWEET POTATOES	1992 1991	6,745 5,900	10.45 9.66	70,500 57,000	Ton Ton	\$420.00 \$603.00	\$29,610,000 \$34,371,000
TOMATOES (Market)	1992 1991	6,630 7,300	911 972	6,040,000 7,096,000	25 Lb. Ctns. 25 Lb. Ctns.	\$ 5.37 \$ 4.21	\$32,435,000 \$29,874,000
TOMATOES (Processing)	1992 1991	9,600 10,200	34.75 31.10	334,000 317,000	Ton Ton	\$ 46.75 \$ 54.10	\$15,615,000 \$17,150,000
VEGETABLES ** (Miscellaneous)	1992 1991	3,914 3,355	---- ----	---- ----	---- ----	---- ----	\$ 6,909,000 \$ 5,963,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	1992 1991	42,079 42,565					\$111,371,000 \$107,947,000

\* From Market Acreage and Processing Varieties.

\*\* Includes Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Chili Peppers, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Lettuce, Onions, Oriental Vegetables, Processed Melons, Popcorn, Pumpkin, Radicchio, Spinach, String Beans, Sweet Corn, Squash, Asparagus, and Dried Tomatoes.

## FRUIT AND NUT CROPS ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1992-1991

CROPS	YEAR	ACREAGE HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
ALMONDS	1992	61,950	.68	42,100	Ton	\$2,538.00	\$106,850,000
(Kernel Basis)	1991	62,745	.59	37,000	Ton	\$2,250.00	\$ 83,250,000
ALMONDS	1992	----	----	84,200	Ton	\$ 51.10	\$ 4,303,000
(Hulls)	1991	----	----	74,000	Ton	\$ 53.10	\$ 3,929,000
APRICOTS	1992	1,579	5.25	8,300	Ton	\$ 313.00	\$ 2,598,000
	1991	1,684	5.64	9,500	Ton	\$ 418.00	\$ 3,971,000
FIGS	1992	3,315	1.25	4,140	Ton	\$1,746.00	\$ 7,228,000
(Dry)	1991	3,184	1.11	3,530	Ton	\$1,430.00	\$ 5,048,000
GRAPES	1992	882	2.11	1,860	Ton	\$ 999.00	\$ 1,858,000
(Raisin)	1991	1,260	1.38	1,740	Ton	\$ 983.00	\$ 1,710,000
GRAPES (Raisin	1992	654	10.48	6,850	Ton	\$ 175.00	\$ 1,199,000
to Wine)	1991	218	6.37	1,389	Ton	\$ 132.00	\$ 183,000
GRAPES	1992	11,331	9.56	108,000	Ton	\$ 241.00	\$ 26,028,000
(Wine)	1991	13,108	8.14	107,000	Ton	\$ 218.00	\$ 23,326,000
KIWI	1992	37	7.60	281	Ton	\$1,286.00	\$ 361,000
	1991	37	4.97	184	Ton	\$1,860.00	\$ 342,000
NECTARINES	1992	164	10.98	1,800	Ton	\$ 655.00	\$ 1,179,000
	1991	209	8.44	1,760	Ton	\$ 620.00	\$ 1,091,000
OLIVES	1992	66	3.03	200	Ton	\$ 632.00	\$ 126,000
	1991	23	3.52	81	Ton	\$ 593.00	\$ 48,000
PEACHES	1992	3,469	17.16	59,500	Ton	\$ 220.00	\$ 13,090,000
(Clingstone)	1991	3,202	16.46	52,700	Ton	\$ 224.00	\$ 11,805,000
PEACHES	1992	1,580	17.96	28,400	Ton	\$ 217.00	\$ 6,163,000
(Freestone)	1991	1,630	19.92	32,500	Ton	\$ 181.00	\$ 5,883,000
PISTACHIOS	1992	3,632	1.07	3,890	Ton	\$2,394.00	\$ 9,313,000
	1991	4,244	0.29	1,230	Ton	\$3,250.00	\$ 3,998,000
PLUMS	1992	205	3.19	654	Ton	\$ 334.00	\$ 218,000
	1991	198	3.12	618	Ton	\$ 355.00	\$ 219,000
PRUNES	1992	2,068	1.43	2,960	Ton	\$ 998.00	\$ 2,954,000
	1991	1,897	1.63	3,090	Ton	\$ 922.00	\$ 2,849,000
WALNUTS	1992	6,806	1.32	8,980	Ton	\$1,340.00	\$ 12,033,000
(English)	1991	7,249	1.68	12,200	Ton	\$1,050.00	\$ 12,810,000
MISCELLANEOUS	1992	----	----	3,540	Ton	\$ 594.00	\$ 2,103,000
FROZEN FRUIT	1991	----	----	3,810	Ton	\$ 599.00	\$ 2,282,000
(Berries, Grapes)							
MISCELLANEOUS *	1992	3,936	----	----	---	----	\$ 11,663,000
	1991	3,525	----	----	---	----	\$ 11,974,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	1992	101,674					\$209,267,000
	1991	104,588					\$174,984,000

\* Includes Apples, Fresh Berries, Black Walnuts, Cherries, Citrus, Pecans, Pears, Persimmons, Table Grapes, and Cannery Figs.

## FRUIT AND NUT ACREAGE PLANTING 1992-1987

CROPS	YEAR 1992		YEAR 1987	
	BEARING	NON-BEARING	BEARING	NON-BEARING
ALMONDS	61,951	5,893	64,532	2,317
APPLES	2,640	146	1,812	683
APRICOTS	1,579	103	1,485	200
BERRIES	95	40	31	74
CHERRIES	152	39	138	15
FIGS	3,315	---	3,918	3
GRAPES (Raisin)	1,655	---	2,484	24
GRAPES (Table)	243	6	115	39
GRAPES (Wine)	11,331	294	13,907	430
KIWI	37	---	41	---
MANDARINS	19	11	---	---
NECTARINES	164	37	221	8
OLIVES	66	---	96	---
ORANGES	48	---	51	6
PEACHES (Clingstone)	3,469	540	3,647	462
PEACHES (Freestone)	1,580	373	1,691	251
PEARS	13	8	15	12
PECANS	37	10	86	---
PERSIMMONS	13	---	13	---
PISTACHIOS	4,244	77	3,683	654
PLUMS	205	21	273	29
POMEGRANATES	2	---	---	---
PRUNES	2,068	243	1,636	99
WALNUTS (Black)	2	---	42	18
WALNUTS (English)	6,806	659	7,870	697
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>101,742</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>107,787</b>	<b>6,021</b>



## LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS 1992-1991

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL
EGGS, CHICKEN (Market)	1992	38,342,000	Doz.	\$ 0.48	\$ 18,404,000
	1991	39,347,000	Doz.	\$ 0.68	\$ 26,756,000
EGGS (Hatching)	1992	6,840,000	Each	\$ 0.66	\$ 4,514,000
	1991	7,920,000	Each	\$ 0.69	\$ 5,465,000
MILK (Goat)	1992	14,100	Cwt.	\$25.37	\$ 358,000
	1991	6,480	Cwt.	\$25.38	\$ 164,000
MILK (Market)	1992	24,179,000	Cwt.	\$11.61	\$280,718,000
	1991	23,497,000	Cwt.	\$11.16	\$262,223,000
MILK (Manufacturing)	1992	1,284,000	Cwt.	\$10.94	\$ 14,047,000
	1991	1,259,000	Cwt.	\$10.41	\$ 13,104,000
WOOL	1992	420,000	Lb.	\$ 0.75	\$ 315,000
	1991	394,000	Lb.	\$ 0.63	\$ 248,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	1992				\$318,356,000
	1991				\$307,960,000

## BEE INDUSTRY 1992-1991

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL
BEESWAX	1992	17,900	Lb.	\$ 1.23	\$ 22,000
	1991	17,600	Lb.	\$ 1.05	\$ 18,000
BULK BEES *	1992	7,500	Lb.	\$ 4.00	\$ 30,000
	1991	18,000	Lb.	\$ 4.50	\$ 81,000
HONEY **	1992	1,189,000	Lb.	\$0.514	\$ 611,000
	1991	1,013,000	Lb.	\$0.503	\$ 510,000
POLLINATION ***	1992	139,000	Colony	\$28.44	\$3,953,000
	1991	141,000	Colony	\$28.60	\$4,033,000
QUEENS	1992	2,500	Each	\$ 6.00	\$ 15,000
	1991	5,800	Each	\$ 5.25	\$ 30,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	1992				\$4,631,000
	1991				\$4,672,000

\* Includes bees sold as nuclei.

\*\* Honey produced by 35,700 colonies in 1992 and 35,100 colonies in 1991 owned by resident beekeepers.

\*\*\* Pollination colonies include all required to pollinate crops grown in Merced County.

## LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1992-1991

ITEM	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	LIVEWEIGHT	UNIT	VALUE	
					PER UNIT	TOTAL
CATTLE AND CALVES	1992	114,500	827,000	Cwt.	\$59.00	\$ 48,793,000
	1991	115,000	826,000	Cwt.	\$62.00	\$ 51,212,000
CHICKENS (Fryers and Broilers)	1992	74,515,000	371,830,000	Lb.	\$0.293	\$110,305,000
	1991	90,183,000	415,744,000	Lb.	\$0.290	\$120,566,000
CHICKENS (Other)	1992	1,032,000	4,407,000	Lb.	\$0.164	\$ 723,000
	1991	1,198,000	4,385,000	Lb.	\$0.223	\$ 978,000
GOATS	1992	1,200	----	Each	\$62.00	\$ 74,000
	1991	1,053	----	Each	\$56.00	\$ 59,000
HOGS AND PIGS	1992	45,900	101,200	Cwt.	\$56.60	\$ 5,728,000
	1991	39,900	88,000	Cwt.	\$61.24	\$ 5,389,000
POULTRY * (Miscellaneous)	1992	75,000	150,000	Lb.	\$ 2.96	\$ 444,000
	1991	76,000	151,000	Lb.	\$ 3.03	\$ 457,000
SHEEP AND LAMBS	1992	58,700	69,000	Cwt.	\$63.00	\$ 4,347,000
	1991	61,800	72,300	Cwt.	\$55.00	\$ 3,977,000
TURKEYS	1992	4,129,000	82,456,000	Lb.	\$0.375	\$ 30,921,000
	1991	4,065,000	84,511,000	Lb.	\$0.369	\$ 31,185,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	1992					\$201,835,000
	1991					\$213,823,000

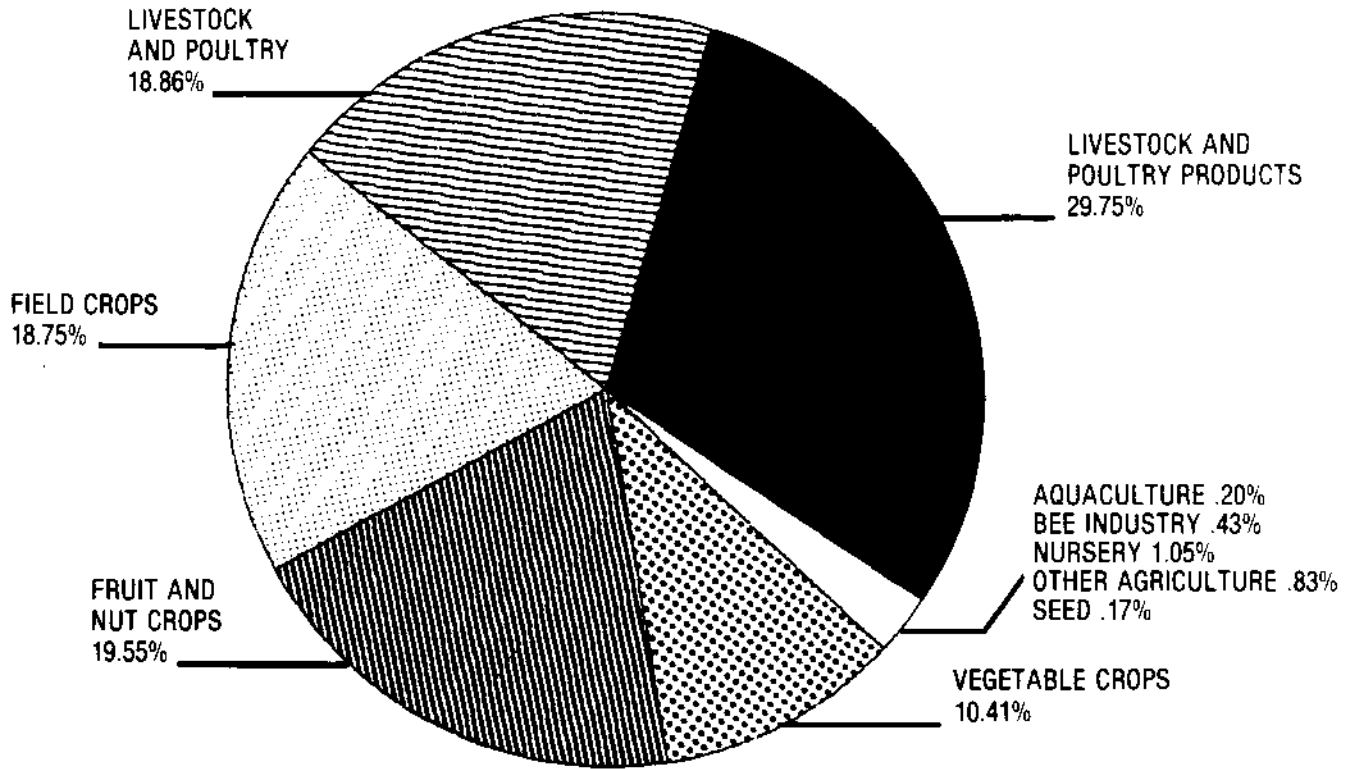
\* Chuckar, Pheasant, Squab.

## AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1992-1991

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL
FISH *	1992	860,000	Lb.	\$ 2.55	\$ 2,193,000
	1991	621,000	Lb.	\$ 1.85	\$ 1,149,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	1992				\$ 2,193,000
	1991				\$ 1,149,000

\* Catfish, Trout, Bass.

## PERCENTAGE COMPARISON CHART



### GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS\*

BARLEY .....	\$ 91,000	HONEY .....	\$ 43,000	SORGHUM .....	\$ 10,000
CORN .....	\$ 513,000	OATS .....	\$ 4,000	WHEAT .....	\$ 744,000
COTTON .....	\$ 8,166,000	RICE .....	\$ 1,256,000	WOOL .....	\$ 758,000

### CROPS NOT HARVESTED IN 1992\*\*

ALMONDS .....	19 Acres	NURSERY STOCK .....	30 Acres	PRUNES .....	80 Acres
BELL PEPPERS .....	30 Acres	OATS .....	150 Acres	RADICCHIO .....	20 Acres
CANTALOUPE .....	125 Acres	ONIONS .....	50 Acres	RAISINS .....	119 Acres
LETTUCE .....	152 Acres	PISTACHIOS .....	612 Acres	WALNUTS .....	5 Acres

\* Amounts not included in total value of each crop for 1992. (Source: ASCS Office)

\*\* The reported planted acreages were not harvested due to crop failures, adverse weather, poor market or inability to harvest and transport.

## COMMODITY VALUE CROP COMPARISON SUMMARY 1992-1967

COMMODITIES	1992	1991	1987	1982	1977	1972	1967
AQUACULTURE	\$ 2,193,000	\$ 1,459,000	---	---	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---
WEE. INDUSTRY	\$ 4,631,000	\$ 4,672,000	\$ 3,385,000	\$ 3,616,000	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 632,600	\$ 318,000
FIELD CROPS	\$ 200,689,000	\$ 195,816,000	\$ 174,576,000	\$ 171,140,000	\$ 111,041,500	\$ 61,909,200	\$ 40,200,600
FRUIT AND NUTS	\$ 209,267,000	\$ 174,984,000	\$ 209,000,000	\$ 109,865,000	\$ 100,481,500	\$ 40,578,170	\$ 20,587,300
LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY	\$ 201,835,000	\$ 213,823,000	\$ 206,816,000	\$ 170,649,000	\$ 119,294,800	\$ 57,198,600	\$ 39,040,110
LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS	\$ 318,356,000	\$ 307,960,000	\$ 256,988,000	\$ 208,651,000	\$ 104,095,500	\$ 55,281,400	\$ 32,035,700
NURSERY PRODUCTS	\$ 11,212,000	\$ 12,288,000	\$ 8,244,000	\$ 9,214,000	\$ 6,430,000	\$ 3,427,800	\$ 1,794,000
OTHER AGRICULTURE	\$ 8,901,000	\$ 10,048,000	---	---	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---
SEED CROPS	\$ 1,726,000	\$ 1,679,000	\$ 1,985,000	\$ 2,015,000	\$ 3,683,000	\$ 1,232,000	\$ 1,201,800
VEGETABLE CROPS	\$ 111,371,000	\$ 107,947,000	\$ 81,488,000	\$ 67,880,000	\$ 60,742,800	\$ 24,370,000	\$ 18,118,340
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,070,181,000</b>	<b>\$1,030,676,000</b>	<b>\$942,482,000</b>	<b>\$743,030,000</b>	<b>\$507,369,100</b>	<b>\$244,629,770</b>	<b>\$153,295,850</b>

### TWELVE LEADING FARM COMMODITIES 1992

1. MILK	\$294,765,000 (1)	7. ALFALFA	\$ 45,969,000 (6)
2. CHICKENS	\$111,528,000 (2)	8. TURKEYS	\$ 30,921,000 (9)
3. ALMONDS	\$106,850,000 (3)	9. SWEET POTATOES	\$ 29,610,000 (8)
4. COTTON	\$ 72,420,000 (4)	10. GRAPES, WINE	\$ 27,227,000 (11)
5. CATTLE	\$ 48,793,000 (5)	11. PEACHES	\$ 19,253,000 (13)
6. TOMATOES	\$ 48,050,000 (7)	12. EGGS	\$ 18,404,000 (10)

(Number in parenthesis denotes 1991 ranking)

# MERCED COUNTY SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE 1992 BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

PEST	ORGANISM	SCOPE OF PROGRAM*
GRAPELEAF SKELETONIZER <u>Harrisina brillians</u>	<u>Ametadoria misella</u> (Parasitic Fly) <u>WGLS Granulosis</u> (Virus) <u>Apanteles harrisinae</u> (Parasitic Wasp)	Countywide
PUNCTURE VINE <u>Tribulus terrestris</u>	<u>Microlarinus larenvii</u> (Seed Weevil) <u>Microlarinus lypriformis</u> (Stem Weevil)	Countywide
MILK THISTLE <u>Silybum marianum</u>	<u>Rhinocyllus conicus</u> (Seed-Head Weevil)	Countywide
ITALIAN THISTLE <u>Carduus tenuiflorus</u>	<u>Rhinocyllus conicus</u> (Seed-Head Weevil)	Limited
YELLOWSTAR THISTLE <u>Centaurea solstitialis</u>	<u>Bangasternus orientalis</u> (Seed-Head Weevil)	Two Sites
RUSSIAN THISTLE <u>Salsola iberica</u>	<u>Coleophora klimeschiella</u> (Case Bearing Moth) <u>Coleophora parthenida</u> (Russian Thistle Borer)	Seven Sites
WATER HYACINTH <u>Eichornia crassipes</u>	<u>Sameodes albiguttalis</u> (Hyacinth Moth) <u>Neochetina eichorniae</u> (Mottled Hyacinth Weevil)	Six Sites
ASH WHITEFLY <u>Siphoninus phillyrea</u>	<u>Encarsia partenopea</u> (Parasitic Wasp)	Countywide
KLAMATH WEED <u>Hypericum perforatum</u>	<u>Chrysolina quadrigemina</u> (Leaf Feeding Beetle)	Two Sites

\* Represents total number of individual sites, trees, acres, etc., incorporated in program efforts (survey, trap, servicings, releases, etc.)

## MERCED COUNTY SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE 1992 PEST EXCLUSION

PEST INTERCEPTED	SOURCE	SCOPE OF PROGRAM
Ozonium Root Rot	Miscellaneous Plants/UPS	13 Rejections/Destroyed
Apple Maggot	Apples/Oregon/UPS	1 Rejection/Destroyed
Gypsy Moth	Household Goods	1 Rejection/Pest Removed
Japanese Beetle	Soil/UPS	1 Rejection/Destroyed
Foreign Soil	Paku-Paku Wreath/Philippines	3 Rejections/Destroyed
Soybean Cyst	Miscellaneous Plants/UPS, Truck	5 Rejections/Destroyed
Pine Shoot Beetle	Scotch Pine/UPS	1 Rejection/Destroyed
Carob Moth	Dates/UPS	1 Rejection/Destroyed
European Corn Borer	Dahlias/UPS	1 Rejection/Destroyed
Caribbean Fruit Fly	Mango/UPS	2 Rejections/Destroyed
Citrus Canker	Kaffir Limes/Asian Market Makeng Peppers	6 Rejections/Destroyed
Burrowing Nematode	Stephanotis/UPS	1 Rejection/Destroyed
Chinese Wax Scale	Citrus/Nursery	3 Rejections/Treated
Soybean Cyst Nematode	Cherry Tree/UPS	1 Rejection/Destroyed
Gypsophyllia Panicuttata	Flower Seeds/UPS	2 Rejections/Destroyed

## ORGANIC FARMING 1992 CROPS

CROP	NUMBER OF FARMS	ACRES
SWEET POTATOES	4	390
ALMONDS	5	172
GRAPES	1	50
PLUMS	1	8
PEACHES	1	7
ASIAN PEARS	1	3
POPCORN	1	20
WALNUTS *	1	4
PERSIMMONS *	1	1

\* Non-certified programs.



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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MICHAEL J. TANNER  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Director of Weights and Measures  
Director of Animal Control  
GARY CASERI  
Assistant Agricultural Commissioner

TO: HENRY J. VOSS, DIRECTOR, CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AND THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MERCED COUNTY:

MICHAEL BOGNA, CHAIRMAN  
GLORIA CORTEZ KEENE  
ANN KLINGER

DEAN PETERSON  
JERRY O'BANION

It is with pleasure that I submit the 1992 Agricultural Crop Report as required by the California Food and Agriculture Code, Section 2279, and the Sustainable Agriculture Report required by Section 2272.

I am pleased to report that Merced County gross agriculture production value has surpassed one billion dollars for the fourth straight year at \$1,070,181,000. This is 3.83% higher, \$39,505,000, than last year, but still below the all-time high for the County. The agricultural industry continued to face some adverse and challenging times in 1992. The sixth consecutive year of drought and shortage of water was only slightly tempered by the "fabulous February" rains. The increasing costs of production, processing and marketing inputs, along with the depressed California and worldwide economy, all contributed to keeping the gain down. However, the producers continue to forge ahead and strive to meet the many challenges as can be seen by the production figures in this report.

Almonds more than reversed last year's loss, showing the greatest gain in value of all commodities, up \$23,600,000 to \$106,850,000, thus maintaining its third place ranking. Yield was up 180 pounds per acre and price was up 12.8%. Milk, the County's number one agricultural commodity, accounting for 27.5% of the total gross agriculture value, was up \$19,438,000 as a result of increased production and 4% increase in price.

Cotton, with the highest production per acre on record for the County at 1,394 pounds of lint, was valued at \$72,420,000, up \$8,940,000. Cantaloupes jumped \$5,788,000 reaching \$17,130,000 as production and price rose significantly. Pistachios, rebounding from their down year, increased in value by \$5,315,000. Increased value of significance was also realized in wine grapes, market tomatoes, cotton seed, dried figs and bell peppers.

For the second year in a row, chicken fryers and broilers, the County's number two commodity, plunged in value to \$111,528,000, losing \$10,016,000 as 15,834,000 fewer birds were produced. Chicken eggs fell by \$8,352,000 to \$18,404,000 as price was down 20 cents per dozen and production down slightly.

Sweet potatoes, after showing the greatest gain in value of all commodities in 1991, dropped \$4,761,000 to \$29,610,000 as price declined by 30.3%. However, acreage and production were up. Cattle and calves lost \$2,419,000 as production was down slightly and price down 4.8%.

Other commodities showing significant decreases in value include grain hay, other silage, processing tomatoes, corn silage, apricots and alfalfa hay.

This report addresses the acreage, production and gross value of agricultural production in Merced County. It does not attempt to reflect net farm income or costs of production and marketing. This report also emphasizes an average production and average value of gross receipts. Value is based on farmgate prices except for fresh packed commodities which reflect an FOB, freight on board, price.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to those persons who have provided the information and assistance necessary for my staff to compile this report under the direction of Loyd McCollum, Agricultural Biologist III. My thanks to the growers and industry members of Merced County who truly make AGRICULTURE our number one and most valued industry.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Tanner  
Agricultural Commissioner