



Contra Costa County Agricultural Crop Report 2020



Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer's Letter

Karen Ross, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture and
The Honorable Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County

Contra
Costa
County



I am pleased to submit the 2020 Agricultural Crop & Livestock Report for Contra Costa County in accordance with the provisions of Section 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code.

2020 was a year we will never forget – a worldwide Novel Coronavirus pandemic, empty grocery store shelves, devastating wildfires, intense heat and eerie orange skies. As Essential Workers, we distributed N-95 respirators and facemasks to the agriculture industry to safeguard food production and distribution. Distribution of food relies on two key supply chains – one for industry, the other for consumers. While the stay at home orders shifted buying patterns and disrupted the market, demand for Contra Costa agricultural goods was strong, partially because many growers market goods directly to consumers or wholesale direct to retail. Long lines at the grocery stores in 2020 translated to an increase in demand at the U-Pick Farms, Certified Farmers' Markets, and at retail stores. The total gross value of agricultural crops in 2020 was \$109,748,900, which is an increase of \$3,797,900 or 4% from 2019. In general, demand and prices have remained strong for agricultural crops in Contra Costa County.

Crop values vary from year to year due to factors such as production, weather, and market conditions. Some notable changes include an increase in livestock and livestock products due to an increase in the number of head of cattle, apiary products and miscellaneous livestock. The number of organic farms decreased from 20 to 18 this year.

Thirteen crop categories exceeded one million dollars in value for 2020. These categories in decreasing order include cattle and calves, sweet corn, tomatoes, grapes, cherries, miscellaneous vegetable crops, miscellaneous field crops, rangeland, alfalfa hay, irrigated pasture, apricots, walnuts, and apiary products.

It should be emphasized that the values stated in this report are gross receipts and do not include the cost of production, transportation, or marketing of the products. The economic benefit of agricultural production is generally thought to be about three times the gross production value.

I truly appreciate the agricultural producers, farmers, ranchers and organizations that shared information and supported our efforts in completing this report. Special recognition goes to all of the staff who assisted in compiling this information to make this report possible.

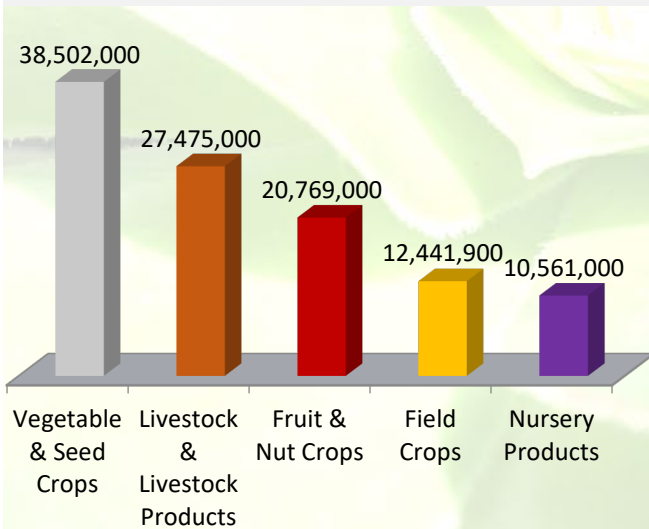
Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Slattengren".

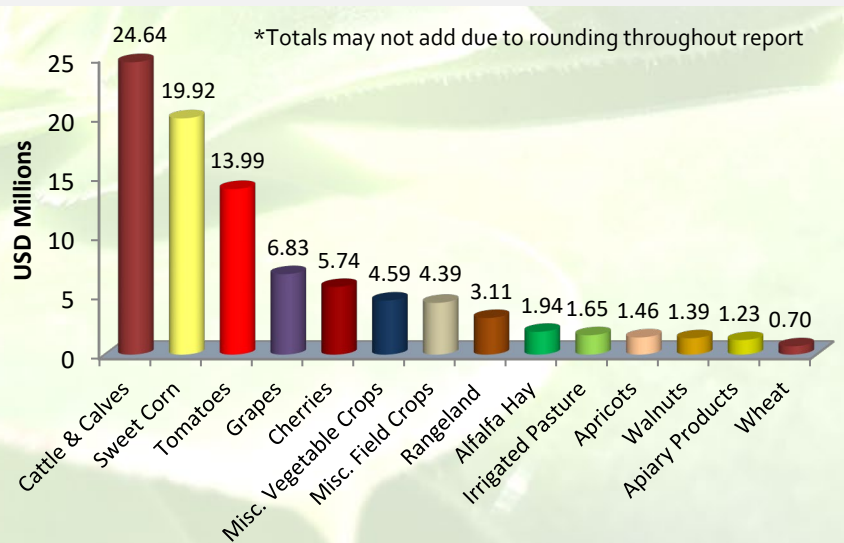
Matt Slattengren
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures



Gross Production Values by Category



Leading Crops



Production Summary

Category	Gross Value		Change in Gross Value	Total Cultivated Acreage		Change in Acreage	Ranking	
	2020	2019	%	2020	2019	%	2020	2019
Vegetable & Seed Crops	\$38,502,000	\$37,226,000	3%	6,532	7,125	-8%	1	1
Livestock & Livestock Products	\$27,475,000	\$22,069,000	25%	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	3
Fruit & Nut Crops	\$20,769,000	\$23,612,000	-12%	4,465	4,469	1%	3	2
Field Crops	\$12,441,900	\$12,618,000	-1%	166,828	173,923	-4%	4	4
Nursery Products	\$10,561,000	\$10,426,000	1%	16	14	14%	5	5
Total	\$109,748,900	\$105,951,000	4%	---	---	---	---	---

Nursery Production

Commodity	Year	Production	Total Value
Nursery Products ¹	2020	16.40 acres	\$10,561,000
	2019	14.19 acres	\$10,426,000
Total	2020	16.40 acres	\$10,561,000
	2019	14.19 acres	\$10,426,000

¹ Includes Bedding Plants, Christmas Trees, Ground Covers, Propagative Materials, Ornamental Trees & Shrubs, Fruit Trees, Cut Flowers.



Livestock & Livestock Products

Commodity	Year	Number of Head	Total Live Weight	Value Per CWT	Total Value
Cattle & Calves	2020	26,771	182,000 lbs.	\$135	\$24,635,000
	2019	17,523	145,000 lbs.	\$140	\$20,326,000
Apiary Products ¹	2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1,232,000
	2019	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$967,000
Misc. Livestock ²	2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1,608,000
	2019	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$776,000
Total	2020				\$27,475,000
	2019				\$22,069,000

¹ Includes honey, wax and pollination.

² Includes chickens, ducks, emus, goats, hogs, llamas, ostriches, pigs, rabbits, sheep, turkeys, milk, wool, and eggs.



Fruit & Nut Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production Per Acre	Harvested Tons	Value Per Ton	Total Value
Apricots	2020	169	2.52 tons	427	\$3,412	\$1,457,000
	2019	167	2.72 tons	454	\$3,451	\$1,566,000
Cherries	2020	824	1.95 tons	1,600	\$3,585	\$5,743,000
	2019	977	1.77 tons	1,730	\$3,666	\$6,342,000
Grapes	2020	1,940	4.70 tons	9,086	\$752	\$6,829,000
	2019	2,136	5.49 tons	11,700	\$809	\$9,470,000
Nectarines	2020	30	2.57 tons	78	\$3,588	\$279,000
	2019	32	4.41 tons	140	\$3,228	\$452,000
Olives	2020	293	2.72 tons	796	\$1,046	\$833,000
	2019	173	3.01 tons	519	\$906	\$470,000
Peaches	2020	123	4.60 tons	567	\$3,118	\$1,769,000
	2019	122	5.00 tons	609	\$3,068	\$1,868,000
Plums & Pluots	2020	46	5.02 tons	233	\$2,757	\$641,000
	2019	47	3.58 tons	169	\$2,734	\$462,000
Walnuts	2020	528	2.05 tons	1,081	\$1,285	\$1,389,000
	2019	492	1.76 tons	866	\$1,920	\$1,663,000
Miscellaneous ¹	2020	512	Various	Various	Various	\$1,829,000
	2019	428	Various	Various	Various	\$2,088,000
Total	2020	4,465				\$20,769,000
	2019	4,574				\$24,381,000

¹ Includes almonds, apples, apriums, Asian pears, berries, citrus, figs, loquats, melons, pears, pecans, persimmons, pistachios, prunes, pomegranates, quinces and strawberries.



U-Pick Farms



<http://harvest4you.com>

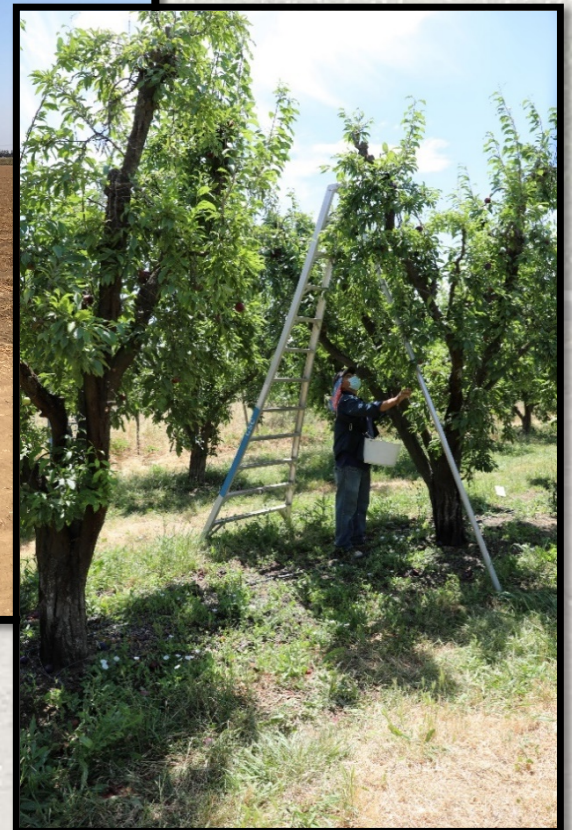


Field Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production Per Acre	Tons Harvested	Unit	Value Per Unit	Total Value
Alfalfa Hay	2020	2,112	4.84	10,220	Ton	\$190.00	\$1,935,000
	2019	3,642	3.88	14,100		\$184.00	\$2,594,000
Cereal Hay	2020	2,974	1.75	5,200	Ton	\$126.00	\$657,000
	2019	3,919	1.88	7,370		\$120.00	\$884,000
Irrigated Pasture	2020	5,450	n/a	n/a	Acre	\$302.00	\$1,645,900
	2019	5,450	n/a	n/a		\$300.00	\$1,635,000
Rangeland	2020	148,000	n/a	n/a	Acre	\$21.00	\$3,108,000
	2019	149,000	n/a	n/a		\$18.00	\$2,682,000
Wheat	2020	2,267	1.87	4,240	Ton	\$166.00	\$703,000
	2019	2,989	1.90	5,680		\$168.00	\$954,000
Misc. ¹	2020	6,035	Various	Various	Var.	Various	\$4,393,000
	2019	8,924					\$3,879,000
Total	2020	166,828					\$12,441,900
	2019	173,924					\$12,628,000



¹ Includes barley, corn silage, field corn, forage hay, hay (wild), industrial hemp, rye, safflower, silage, straw, Sudan grass, and sorghum.





Vegetable & Seed Crops

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production Per Acre	Tons Harvested	Value Per Ton	Total Value
Tomatoes ¹	2020	2,805	63.73 tons	179,000	78.00	\$13,990,000
	2019	2,925	63.00 tons	184,000	60.00	\$10,977,000
Sweet Corn	2020	3,112	10.50 tons	32,600	\$611	\$19,924,000
	2019	3,484	9.90 tons	34,500	\$587	\$20,247,000
Misc. ²	2020	615	Various	Various	Various	\$4,588,000
	2019	715				\$6,002,000
Total	2020	6,532				\$38,502,000
	2019	7,124				\$37,226,000

¹ Includes fresh and processing tomatoes.

² Includes asparagus, artichokes, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cardoon, carrots, cauliflower, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic, ginseng, green beans, greens, herbs, kohlrabi, lettuce, melons, mushrooms, okra, onions, peas, peppers, potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, squash, and wheat grass.

Weights and Measures



Transforming California's transportation and fueling infrastructure towards zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) is a key part of the state's strategy to decrease greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, leverage renewable energy sources, and reduce petroleum consumption. ZEV technology includes hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) that use hydrogen gas as motor vehicle fuel and battery electric vehicles (BEVs) that use electricity stored in onboard battery platforms as motor vehicle fuel. The County Weights and Measures inspectors, together with the CA Division of Measurement Standards (DMS), tested and certified the second hydrogen fuel dispenser in the City of Concord.

DMS' BEV projects include the development of standards used to test the accuracy of commercial electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE); establishment of certification procedures for the standards used to test EVSE; creation of type evaluation procedures to certify EVSE for commercial use; and development of inspection and test procedures for county sealers to use when testing commercial EVSE. DMS works closely with county officials who perform most of the routine field inspecting, testing, and sealing of devices used for commercial purposes.



During the covid-19 pandemic lockdown and easing period, the County Weights and Measures Division remained operational and continued its commitment to support the growers and ranchers in testing and certifying 104 seasonal and livestock weighing scales. Inspectors conducted investigations at retail locations to detect price gouging and overcharges. Inspections of fuel stations to detect fraudulent activities, e.g., payment card skimmers and investigations of weights and measures-related activities that would create disruption to California's food distribution, including transportation systems are essential functions of the County Weights and Measures Division.

Mission Statement

The Contra Costa County Department of Agriculture, under the direction of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Department of Pesticide Regulation, and Division of Measurement Standards, is responsible for conducting regulatory and service activities pertaining to the agricultural industry and the consumers of our County. The primary goal of this office is to promote and protect agriculture while safeguarding the public and the environment. Our work as County Weights and Measures officials in the community ensures a safe place to live and a fair marketplace for trade.

STAFF 2020

Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights & Measures

Matt Slattengren

Assistant Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer of Weights and Measures

Jose Arriaga

Deputy Agricultural Commissioners

Beth Slate, Larry Yost

Deputy Sealer of Weights and Measures

Gil Rocha

Agricultural Biologists

Simone Ackermann, Karen Adler, Keri Brumfield, Ralph Fonseca, Ivan Godwyn, David Hallinan, Omar Luna, Lucas Pattie, Wil Schaub, Greg Spurlock, Jorge Vargas, Janessa Weingand

Weights & Measures Inspectors

Gabriel Adebote, Patrick Bowen, Christine Buelna, Ngozi Egbuna, Harmeet Gil, Chris Michaels

Agricultural & Standards Aides

Karin Linnen, Shannon Smith

Administrative Support

Roxann Crosby, Stephanna Hidalgo, Chrystal Thompson

Pest Detection, Pest Management & Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Staff

Ana De Abreu, Danilo Angcla, Elizabeth Cass, Nancy Dennis, Beth Jessen, Warren Kawamoto, John Luzar, David Maderios, Rick Mata, Linda Mazur, Brian Pell, Eldren Prieto, Sarah Ratto, Laura Matta-Russo, Lance Sickler, Daniel Sinz, Lindsay Skidmore, Joshua Vanguarda, Michael Voeltz, Stephen Vollmer, Oscar Zaldua

Pest Quarantine Detector Canine

Major



<http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/1542/Agriculture-Weights-Measures>



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
Department of Agriculture Weights & Measures

2380 Bisso Lane Suite A, Concord, CA 94520

TEL (925) 608-6600 FAX (925) 608-6620

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