

*Contra Costa
County
Agricultural
Crop Report 2021*



Larry Yost



Larry Yost was hired by Contra Costa County Department of Agriculture in 1988. Larry started at the department as an Agricultural Biologist Trainee, spraying weeds especially Artichoke Thistle. He has seen the department through many changes including several office moves and Commissioners.

Larry became a Deputy Agricultural Commissioner of Pesticide Use Enforcement in 1999. After 33 years with the department, he retired in 2021 as the Pest Exclusion & Pest Management Deputy. He is currently enjoying his retirement of bocce ball, bowling and playing with the grandchildren.

Ralph Fonseca started with Contra Costa County Department of Agriculture in 1990.

He worked in all agricultural programs including Fruit and Vegetable Standardization, weed abatement, inspections at UPS facilities, nurseries, and Pesticide Use Enforcement. He was invaluable as a translator for training and outreach with our Spanish speaking community. Ralph was always willing to help with institutional knowledge about laws and regulations. Ralph retired as an Agricultural Biologist III in 2021 after 31 years with the department. He is enjoying traveling and spending time with family.



Ralph Fonseca

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 2021 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.

While 2020 was a year we will never forget, the 2021 overall production values changed very little. Demand for Contra Costa County agricultural goods remained strong partially because many growers market goods directly to consumers or wholesale direct to retail. The total gross value of agricultural crops in 2021 was \$109,440,491 which is a small decrease of \$308,409 from 2020. 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 fruit and nut crops as the demand expanded for fresh fruit at U-Pick farms. Also noteworthy is the decrease in acreage and total value of field crops due to reduction in farming of field corn and industrial hemp. The number of organic farms decreased from 18 to 17 this year with 6,842 acres in production. Twelve crop categories exceeded one million dollars in value for 2021. These categories in decreasing order include cattle and calves, sweet corn, tomatoes, cherries, grapes, rangeland, irrigated pasture, apricots, walnuts, alfalfa hay, apiary products, and peaches.

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 the staff who assisted in compiling the information to make this report possible.



Respectfully Submitted,

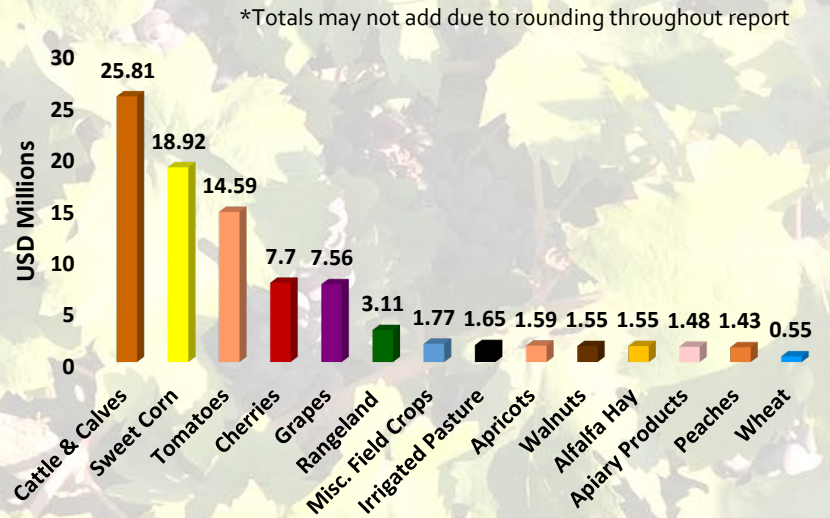
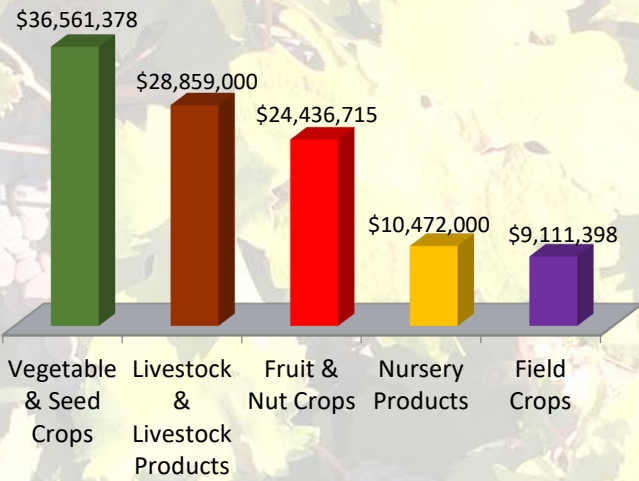
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Matt Slattengren
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures



Gross Production Values by Category

Leading Crops



Production Summary

Category	Gross Value		Change in Gross Value	Total Cultivated Acreage		Change in Acreage	Ranking	
	2021	2020	%	2021	2020	%	2021	2020
Vegetable & Seed Crops	\$36,561,378	\$38,502,000	-5%	6,198	6,532	-1%	1	1
Livestock & Livestock Products	\$28,859,000	\$27,475,000	5%	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	2
Fruit & Nut Crops	\$24,436,715	\$20,769,000	18%	4,597	4,465	2%	3	3
Nursery Products	\$10,472,000	\$10,561,000	-1%	16	16	0%	4	5
Field Crops	\$9,111,398	\$12,441,900	-27%	162,630	166,828	-3%	5	4
Total	\$109,440,491	\$109,748,900	0.2%	---	---	---	---	---

Nursery Production

Commodity	Year	Production	Total Value
Nursery Production ¹	2021	15.71 acres	\$10,472,000
	2020	16.40 acres	\$10,561,000
Total	2021	15.71 acres	\$10,472,000
	2020	16.40 acres	\$10,561,000

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	2021	28,600	187,000 lbs.	\$138	\$25,806,000
	2020	26,771	182,000 lbs.	\$135	\$24,635,000
Apiary Products ¹	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1,480,000
	2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1,232,000
Misc. Livestock ²	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1,573,000
	2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1,608,000
Total	2021				\$28,859,000
	2020				\$27,475,000

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	2021	169	2.80 tons	473	\$3,370	\$1,594,010
	2020	169	2.52 tons	427	\$3,412	\$1,457,000
Cherries	2021	1,012	1.76 tons	1,781	\$4,325	\$7,702,825
	2020	824	1.95 tons	1,600	\$3,585	\$5,743,000
Grapes	2021	1,836	5.29 tons	9,712	\$778	\$7,555,936
	2020	1,940	4.70 tons	9,086	\$752	\$6,829,000
Olives	2021	238	4.79 tons	1,140	\$1,052	\$1,199,280
	2020	293	2.72 tons	796	\$1,046	\$833,000
Peaches	2021	121	3.86 tons	467	\$3,060	\$1,429,020
	2020	123	4.60 tons	567	\$3,118	\$1,769,000
Plums & Pluots	2021	46	4.08 tons	188	\$2,700	\$507,600
	2020	46	5.02 tons	233	\$2,757	\$641,000
Walnuts	2021	541	1.77 tons	958	\$1,618	\$1,550,044
	2020	528	2.05 tons	1,081	\$1,285	\$1,389,000
Miscellaneous ¹	2021	634	Various	Various	Various	\$2,898,000
	2020	512				\$1,829,000
Total	2021	4,597				\$24,436,715
	2020	4,465				\$20,769,000

¹ Includes almonds, apples, apriums, Asian pears, berries, citrus, figs, loquats, melons, mulberries, nectarines, 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	2021	1,730	4.39	7,595	Ton	\$204.00	\$1,549,380
	2020	2,112	4.84	10,200		\$190.00	\$1,935,000
Cereal Hay	2021	3,530	1.21	4,271	Ton	\$113.00	\$482,623
	2020	2,974	1.75	5,200		\$126.00	\$657,000
Irrigated Pasture	2021	5,450	n/a	n/a	Acre	\$302.00	\$1,645,900
	2020	5,450	n/a	n/a		\$302.00	\$1,645,900
Rangeland	2021	148,000	n/a	n/a	Acre	\$21.00	\$3,108,000
	2020	148,000	n/a	n/a		\$21.00	\$3,108,000
Wheat	2021	2,060	1.86	3,831	Ton	\$145.00	\$555,495
	2020	2,267	1.87	4,240		\$166.00	\$703,000
Misc. ¹	2021	1,860	Various	Various	Var.	Various	\$1,770,000
	2020	6,035					\$4,393,000
Total	2021	162,630					\$9,111,398
	2020	166,828					\$12,441,900

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	2021	2,760	62.92 tons	173,659	84.00	\$14,587,356
	2020	2,805	63.73 tons	179,000	78.00	\$13,990,000
Sweet Corn	2021	3,040	10.86 tons	33,014	\$573	\$18,917,022
	2020	3,112	10.50 tons	32,600	\$611	\$19,924,000
Misc. ²	2021	398	Various	Various	Various	\$3,057,000
	2020	615				\$4,588,000
Total	2021	6,198				\$36,561,378
	2020	6,532				\$38,502,000

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

The Contra Costa County Division of Weights and Measures promotes a fair and equitable marketplace by performing inspections of retail packages and commercial weighing and measuring devices. These efforts certify that the sales of harvested crop, livestock, animal feed, vehicle fuel, and other commodities are based on a precise weight or measure. Contra Costa County has over 35,000 commercial devices that require testing. Nearly 17,000 devices need to be tested annually. Just over 18,000 are tested less frequently per regulations.



Measuring Devices	Commercial Devices
Vehicle Fuel Station Meters	8,362
Electric Sub Meters	6,759
Water Sub Meters	11,896
Vapor/ LPG/ LNG/ CNG Meters	3,776
Taxi Meters	102
Hydrogen Meters	6

Advertisement & Transaction Verification	Commercial Devices
Petroleum Gas Stations	265
Retail Price Verification	5557

Weighing Devices	Commercial Devices
Cannabis/ Light Capacity Retail Scales	2,243
Heavy Capacity Retail Scales	266
Vehicle/ Railway Scales	103
Prescription/ Jeweler Scales	33
Livestock/ Animal Scales	14
Other Weighing Devices	2

Quality Assurance	Audited
Weighmaster Locations	102
Consumer Complaint Investigations	83

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 2021

Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights & Measures

Matt Slattengren

Assistant Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer of Weights and Measures

Jose Arriaga

Deputy Agricultural Commissioners

Ivan Godwyn, Erin Herbst, Beth Slate, Larry Yost

Deputy Sealer of Weights and Measures

Gil Rocha

Agricultural Biologists

Simone Ackermann, Karen Adler, Keri Brumfield, Ralph Fonseca, David Hallinan, Omar Luna, Lucas Pattie, Wil Schaub, Greg Spurlock, Molly Trump, 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

Stephanna Hidalgo

Pest Detection, Pest Management & Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Staff

Ana De Abreu, Danilo Angcla, Elizabeth Cass, Nancy Dennis, Luis Franco, Beth Jessen, Warren Kawamoto, John Luzar, Gerald Malpass, Rick Mata, Linda Mazur, Eldren Prieto, Sarah Ratto, Laura Matta-Russo, Lance Sickler, Lindsay Skidmore, Stephen Vollmer, Tom Webb, Jessica Yount, 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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