

ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1941
TO THE STATE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND THE COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS

In compliance with Section 65.5 of the Agricultural Code, State of California, I have herewith the crop report for the year 1941. This is the twenty-first consecutive annual report by this office of acreage, production and value of agricultural crops of Kern County.

Since we are depending upon the cooperation of growers, shippers and others to reveal the true figures, individual items are held in strict confidence, thus we believe the composite figures are accurate to the extent of our ability to find all sources and assemble the date.

acres are calculated as net planted acres, yields in terms of commercial packages or units established by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service and values in f.o.b. prices. The returns thus include cost of picking, hauling, packing and delivering at the first point. We are indebted to many individuals and organizations for the splendid response given to the agricultural inspectors and deputies who have helped compile this report.

The total acreage of all crops for 1941 was 377,357½. This was a considerable increase over 1940 when we had 327,696 acres. The gross return to agriculture of 44,197,220 was far greater than all of our earlier estimates and exceeded last year's returns by almost twelve million dollars. Net returns to growers were not as great in proportion as costs of labor, fertilizer, machinery and other expenses increased almost in proportion to the increase in prices of crops.

Carlot shipments increased by 1,588 cars over the 1940 shipments. The total for 1941 being 31,922 car loads. This is just for fruit and vegetables and does not include hay, grain, cotton or other crops. By far the largest commodity was potatoes with a total of 18,447½ cars. Grapes were next with 6,819 cars. Next in order was sugar beets with 1,210 cars, cantaloupes 1,011 cars and lettuce 801 cars. These were the major producing crops in point of volume among the fruits and vegetables.

Livestock production accounted for \$13,326,820 which was an increase of \$4,260,997 over last year.

Of the field crops cotton produced the greatest return of any single crop in spite of the fact that it was the lowest production per acre we have had in many years. This was a result of cold rainy weather at planting time and a slow growing season followed by rainy and foggy weather at harvest time, increased prices taking up the loss in total gross returns, but the harvesting and growing costs increased to a point when few growers made as much as last year.

Potatoes were next in value. From an acreage of 34,320 we produced 5,523,300 sacks of potatoes which brought a return to the county of \$5,247,135. This crop was also beset with many troubles including late blight which reduced our yield considerable.

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Deciduous fruits brought in \$994,437. This was an increase of approximately \$165,623 over 1940.

Citrus fruit brought in \$220,423. This was a considerable decrease over the 1940 returns.

The value of our grape crop was \$4,102,275. Prices were much better on this crop than the preceding year and returned to the county \$2,128,426 over last season.

Melons brought in \$843,338 which was about \$467,045 more than was received in 1940 for this crop.

Alfalfa is one of our stable crops and prices were much better in 1941 than they were in 1940. From 62,928 acres we produced 314,640 tons which brought \$3,775,680. This is an increase of \$1,510,362 over the 1940 crop.

Sugar beets decreased in acreage over 1940 due to inability of growers to get the acreage allotment. The acreage was 2,464 from which we produced 43,960 tons valued at \$307,720. We expect an increase in acreage of this crop next year.

We had a big increase in acreage of most grain crops and also a big rise in price. The total acreage of grain was 166,670 valued at \$3,706,358 which is an increase of \$2,678,160 over 1940.

1941 ANNUAL REPORT -CROP ACREAGE -PRODUCTION AND VALUE
KERN COUNTY

Compiled by Lewis A. Burch, Agricultural Commissioner

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	TOTAL VALUE
			Dollars Only
<u>Deciduous Fruits</u>			
Apples	67	2,075 lugs	\$1,556.00
Apricots	459	105,085 lugs	105,085.00
Apricots, dried		689 tons	155,025.00
Berries	60	5,150 crates	5,150.00
Figs	5	25½ tons fresh	2,550.00
		33 tons dry	3,300.00
Nectarines	116	15,068 lugs	15,068.00
Olives	472	758½ tons	136,530.00
Peaches	791	62,485 lugs	65,609.00
Peaches, Cannery		2,478 tons	49,560.00
Peaches, dried		92 tons	16,560.00
Pears	104	8,504 boxes	19,174.00
Persimmons	20	5,600 lugs	4,760.00
Plums	1,507	334,179 lugs	334,179.00
Pomegranates	22	9,417 lugs	7,063.00
Quinces	10	2,314 lugs	1,388.00
Almonds	88	18½ tons	5,920.00
Pecans	22	6 tons	1,800.00
Walnuts	20	14 tons	4,200.00
Family Orchard	150	600 tons	60,000.00
Total	3,913		TOTAL \$ 994,437.00

Citrus Fruit

Grapefruit	35	2,748 boxes	2,748.00
Oranges	1450	155,580 boxes	194,475.00
Tangerines	83	21,400 lugs	21,400.00
Lemons	8	900 boxes	1,800.00
Total	1,576		TOTAL \$ 220,423.00

Grapes

Table	15,116	85,650 tons	3,426,000.00
Wine	1,928	11,771 tons	225,420.00
Raisins		5,811 tons	435,825.00
Raisins, Zante Currants	164	167 tons	15,030.00
Total	17,208		TOTAL \$4,102,275.00

Melons

Watermelons	535	6,708 tons	87,204.00
Cantaloupes	1,837	324,824 crates	487,236.00
Honey Dews	575	207,358 crates	259,197.00
Other Melons	15	8,819 crates	9,701.00
Total	2,962		TOTAL \$ 843,338.00

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	TOTAL VALUE
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Vegetables

Potatoes	34,320	5,523,300 sacks	\$5,247,135.00
Potato culls for stock feed		24,615 tons	49,230.00
Peas	1,575	180,902 hampers	180,902.00
Onions Commercial	325	70,481 sacks	88,101.00
Onion Seed	191	9,500 pounds	33,250.00
Onions (Salt)	33	232 tons	4,640.00
Sweet Potatoes	516	180,604 lugs	252,846.00
Lettuce	1,583	256,246 crates	384,369.00
Lettuce		600 crates	600.00
Sweet Corn	208	4,400 crates	5,500.00
Carrots	195	11,900 crates	8,925.00
Tomatoes	2,918	463,610 lugs	579,512.00
Peppers	5	1,000 lugs	1,000.00
Garlic	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	300 sacks	900.00
Squash	2	300 lugs	300.00
Beans - Black Eyes	2,500	25,000 bags	50,000.00
Beans - Fava		3,386 pounds	13,544.00
Spinach	210	21,000 crates	42,000.00
Asparagus	900 (not full bearing)	20,543 crates	30,814.00
Total	45,483$\frac{1}{2}$		Total \$6,973,568.00

Field Crops

Cotton	72,453	87,000 bales	6,307,500.00
Cotton seed		37,600 tons	1,880,000.00
Alfalfa	62,928	314,640 tons	3,775,680.00
Alfalfa seed		23,900 pounds	7,170.00
Silage	1,650	33,000 tons	132,000.00
Nursery Stock	50		100,000.00
Honey & Products			41,500.00
Sugar Beets	2,464	43,960 tons	307,720.00
Total	139,545		Total \$12,551,570.00

Grain

Barley	35,000	17,500 tons	560,000.00
Milo	15,000	15,000 tons	405,000.00
Wheat	95,720	71,770 tons	2,368,410.00
Grain Hay	7,105	10,657 tons	117,227.00
Flax	9,192	9,192 bushels	183,840.00
Oats (Oat hay)	2,331	2,331 tons	25,641.00
Sudan	2,322	4,624 tons	46,240.00
Total	166,670		Total \$ 3,706,358.00

LIVE STOCK SOLD

	Number of Head	Total Value
Steers	44,939	\$5,167,985.00
Cows and heifers	34,935	2,655,060.00
Calves	12,556	452,016.00
Bulls	1,263	141,456.00
Hides - Cow	20,987	251,064.00
Hides - Calf	6,103	27,464.00
		\$8,695,045.00
Sheep	10,000	50,000.00
Lambs	170,000	1,530,000.00
Wool	2,000,000 lbs.,	600,000.00
		\$2,180,000.00
Hogs	29,500	663,750.00
		\$663,750.00
Turkeys	30,000	90,000.00
Poultry	400,000	200,000.00
Eggs	850,000 dozen	255,000.00
		\$545,000.00
Milk and Butterfat	2,762,278 pounds	\$1,243,025.00
		\$1,243,025.00
	Grand Total of all livestock	\$13,326,820.00
Total acreage of all crops	377,357 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Total value of all crops including livestock		\$42,718,789.00
Total money received on all Government payments of the AAA program		\$ 1,478,431.00
Total returns to Agriculture		\$44,197,220.00