

KERN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1945

To The Honorable Board of Supervisors and the
Director of the State Department of Agriculture

I herewith submit the Annual Crop Report as required by Section 65.5 of the Agricultural Code.

There was an increase of 121,542 tons over 1944 in the total production of all crops. This increased production and value was brought about by converting acreage of dry farmed crops of low value into irrigated crops of higher returns per acre. This will account for the decrease in total cultivated acreage, plus some abandonment of poor yielding dry farm crops.

The record made by Kern County farmers in 1945 is an outstanding record of increased production in face of shortages of equipment, fertilizer and many essential materials, as well as an acute shortage of labor. War prisoners helped to harvest the crops and with this additional help there were no losses due to inability to get the crops harvested.

The report shows an increase in value over the 1944 returns of \$21,346,096. The War Food Administration did not force the growers to convert their Thompson Seedless into raisins this year and they were sold on the fresh grape market, which brought considerable more money than had been received the past two years as raisins. The price of potatoes averaged higher than the year before and brought greater returns. The yields were somewhat lower than the previous year in spite of the fact there was an increase of about 5,000 acres in plantings. Cotton plantings were increased by approximately 4,500 acres and prices were a little better. There was also an increase in the price of alfalfa hay. More cattle were marketed than the year before, which brought a considerable increase in the total returns for livestock. Dairy products also showed a considerable increase.

I wish to emphasize again that these prices are GROSS farm prices, F.O.B. shipping point and include the cost of production, harvesting and preparation for market. The net income to farmers was not increased in proportion to the gross sales due to higher operating costs and lower efficiency from inexperienced agricultural labor, higher costs on shook, and other items in the packaging and handling of crops.

The car lot shipments of fruits and vegetables increased from 45,882 cars to 47,546 cars, and the acreage of these crops increased from 100,931 acres to 106,136 acres.

Respectfully submitted,

Lewis A. Burtch
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Agricultural Commissioner
Kern County

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1945 ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR KERN COUNTY

CROP ACREAGE - PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Compiled by Lewis A. Burtch, Agricultural Commissioner

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	Dollars only TOTAL VALUE
<u>Deciduous Fruits</u>			
Apples	24	3,425 bx.	10,275
Apricots	427	31,137 lugs	77,843
Apricots, cannery		583 tons	37,895
Apricots, dried		7 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons	3,625
Berries	85	8,500 cr.	21,250
Figs	5	1,167 lugs	2,626
Figs, dried		19 tons	4,750
Nectarines	64	12,376 lugs	30,940
Olives	457	143 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons	28,700
Peaches	690	100,405 lugs	200,810
Peaches, cannery		1,182 tons	53,190
Peaches, dried		67 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons	31,725
Prunes	27	4,863 lugs	15,805
Pears	80	45,794 lugs	103,037
Persimmons	5	4,000 lugs	10,000
Plums	1,467	479,942 lugs	1,439,826
Pomegranates	11	6,000 lugs	12,000
Quinces	15	54 tons	3,240
Almonds	79	36 tons	25,920
Pecans	23	1,600 lbs.	480
Walnuts	22	5,600 lbs.	1,260
Family Orchard	175	800 tons	80,000
Total	3,656		2,195,197
<u>Citrus Fruit</u>			
Grapefruit	35	20,000 bx.	50,000
Oranges, Navel	1,364	206,665 bx.	981,659
Valencia	84	19,401 bx.	97,005
Tangerines	83	19,000 lugs	47,500
Lemons	8	3,200 bx.	19,200
Total	1,574		1,195,364
<u>Grapes</u>			
Table	16,227	5,868,323 lugs	10,856,398
Wine	2,003	49,010 tons	3,063,125
Raisin		9,001 tons	1,710,190
Zante Currants	134	199 tons	49,750
Total	18,364		15,679,463

1945 CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	Dollars Only TOTAL VALUE
<u>Melons</u>			
Watermelons	658	4,680 tons	285,480
Cantaloupes	1,164	182,405 cr.	638,418
Honey Dews	100	16,353 cr.	40,883
Others	80	24 tons	1,920
Total	2,002		966,701
<u>Vegetables</u>			
Asparagus	409	33,220 cr.	215,930
Beans, Blackeye	455	691 bags	4,215
Beans, Fava	70	1,300 hamp.	2,600
Beans, String	100	8,701 hamp.	29,583
Broccoli	615	52,219 cr.	208,876
Cabbage	78	36,000 cr.	108,000
Carrots	395	18,233 cr.	51,964
Carrot Seed	65	19,500 lb.	16,575
Cauliflower	150	42,611 cr.	74,569
Corn, Sweet	2,059	240,641 cr.	782,083
Cucumbers	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	4,220 lugs	10,550
Endive-Romaine	11	189 cr.	378
Garlic	2	600 lb.	150
Lettuce	1,556	218,047 cr.	872,188
Lettuce Seed	570	177,000 lb.	354,000
Onions, Com'l	1,331	514,242 sks.	1,542,726
Onion Seed	12	3,300 lb.	4,950
Peas	6,807	388,155 hamp.	1,261,504
Peppers	125	2,894 cr.	11,576
Popcorn	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	6,600 lb.	660
Potatoes	60,765	11,269,607 sks.	29,864,459
Potato culls, stock feed		30,000 tons	30,000
Rutabaga	40	33,600 sks.	84,000
Squash, Summer	71 $\frac{1}{2}$	744 lugs	2,232
Spinach	100	1,910 cr.	3,343
Sweet Potatoes	352	114,350 lugs	457,400
Tomatoes	4,042	582,806 lugs	2,476,926
Turnips	44	7,204 sks.	18,010
Vegetables, Misc.	300	300 tons	90,000
Total	80,539 $\frac{1}{2}$		38,579,447

1945 CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	Dollars Only TOTAL VALUE
<u>Field Crops</u>			
Cotton	65,000	91,000 bales	10,351,250
Cotton Seed		36,400 tons	1,965,600
Mint	150	12,000 lb.	60,000
Alfalfa	82,000	451,000 tons	9,471,000
Alfalfa Seed		17 tons	14,620
Flower Seed	25	2,500 lb.	1,875
Silage	575	2,875 tons	57,500
Nursery Stock	90		247,500
Guayule	764	403,400 lb.	72,612
Honey		420,000 lb.	50,400
Beeswax		12,000 lb.	5,100
Queen Bees		10,000 ea.	8,000
Sugar Beets	5,664	70,734 tons	831,125
Peanuts	73 $\frac{1}{2}$	56,040 lb.	4,763
Total	154,341 $\frac{1}{2}$		23,141,345
<u>Grain</u>			
Oats	4,000	3,965 tons	190,320
Barley	51,500	38,758 tons	1,744,110
Milo	6,505	8,586 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons	446,498
Wheat	58,100	48,373 tons	2,515,396
Grain Hay	5,000	7,500 tons	165,000
Flax	1,000	14,500 bu.	48,575
Oat Hay	7,000	10,500 tons	283,500
Sudan	2,000	4,000 tons	80,000
Permanent Pasture	1,000		160,000
Total	136,105		5,633,399

LIVESTOCK SOLD*

	<u>NUMBER OF HEAD</u>	<u>Dollars Only TOTAL VALUE</u>
Steers	41,159	6,266,458
Cows & Heifers	51,345	6,007,365
Calves	23,848	894,300
Bulls	1,737	267,498
Hides-Cow	94,241	612,567
Hides-Calf	23,848	71,544
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Total		14,119,732
Sheep	19,275	96,375
Lambs	175,228	2,190,350
Wool	1,922,750 lb.	711,418
Pelts		17,523
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Total		3,015,666
Hogs	12,000	483,600
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Total		483,600
Turkeys	49,500	284,625
Poultry	544,500	898,425
Eggs	1,222,000 doz.	672,100
Ducks	8,800	22,000
Geese	1,650	6,353
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Total		1,883,503
Milk	9,170,000 gal.	4,126,500
Ice Cream Mfg.	568,000 gal.	624,800
Ice Milk Mfg.	54,000 gal.	40,500
Pounds Butter Mfg.	58,535 lb.	28,097
Cottage Cheese	633,000 lb.	113,940
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Total		4,933,837
Grand total of all livestock		24,436,338
Total acreage of all crops	396,582	
Total tonnage of all crops incl. livestock	1,623,655	
Total value of all crops including livestock		111,827,254
AAA Soil Building Practices and Range Conservation		<u>205,000</u>
Total returns to Agriculture		112,032,254

*Statistics on livestock for calendar year of 1944.
1945 not available until after July.