

KERN COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
2610 M. Street, Bakersfield, California

1953

Mr. W. C. Jacobsen  
Acting Director  
State Department of Agriculture

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Kern

In accordance with section 65.5 of the Agricultural Code, I hereby submit the Annual Crop Report for Kern County. This report covers the acreage, production and value of all crops produced in the county, including livestock and livestock products. Acreage of permanent crops is reported in actual bearing acres only.

Prices received by growers were generally below the 1952 level, due principally to declining markets. Weather conditions were not completely favorable during the early part of the season and as a result some crops were damaged and others retarded. However, during the balance of the season advantageous conditions prevailed for good growth and a abundant harvest of quality produce.

For eight consecutive years cotton has been our leading commodity, and has returned to the growers more income than any other single crop grown in the county. Acala 4-42 continued to prove its outstanding qualities by producing 738 pounds lint per acre.

Grapes were a high light in the agricultural picture and brought a remunerative return to the growers. At the time the Kern County harvest got underway we were favored with an open market and as a result prices were above normal.

Regardless of the substantial increase in number of acres planted to potatoes, income from this source was 44.6% less than that which was received the previous year. The heavy volume of potatoes which moved out of the county in competition with other potato growing areas caused a surplus, and as a result the market was lowered to such an extent returns to many growers did not cover their costs of production. This is the first year since 1941 that grapes have exceeded potatoes in dollar and cents income to the county.

There has been a substantial increase in the number of acres planted to alfalfa hay, field and sweet corn, but prices received for these crops and cereal grains have been on a downward trend.

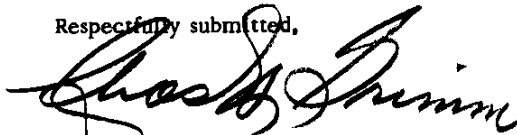
Livestock production remained comparable to 1952 as far as number of head is concerned, but prices continued the decline which has been felt the past two years.

From 659,275 planted acres the return to agriculture amounted to \$207,861,241 which is a decrease of \$24,114,178 or 10.36% under the 1952 totals.

All prices in our crop report are based on f.o.b. market values and do not represent the net amount received by growers. From this income must be deducted the costs of production and preparation for market. Net returns to growers have been substantially reduced by increased growing and production costs.

We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to each person who cooperated by making records and data available to us for this annual crop report.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles W. Grimm,  
Agricultural Commissioner

CWG:abc

## 1953 ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR KERN COUNTY

## CROP ACREAGE - PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Compiled by Charles W. Grimm, Agricultural Commissioner

CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	VALUE
<u>Deciduous Fruits and Nuts</u>			
Apples	32	1,904 bx.	6,188
Apricots	130	4,703 lug	8,936
Apricots, processed		823-1/2 tons	53,528
Berries	80	36,386 cr.	87,326
Berries		13,670 cans	64,933
Figs	5	750 lugs	1,125
Figs, dried		7-1/2 tons	300
Olives	228	493 tons	123,250
Peaches	136	23,408 lugs	58,520
Pears	93	49,700 bx.	211,225
Persimmons	20	5,357 lugs	16,875
Plums	1,786	574,539 lugs	2,039,613
Plums, processed		56 tons	420
Pomegranates	20	3,398 lugs	5,947
Almonds	47	25 tons	6,000
Pecans	20	12 tons	8,400
Walnuts	7	5 tons	2,750
Total	2,604		2,695,336
<u>Citrus Fruit</u>			
Grapefruit	24	7,950 bx.	7,950
Oranges, Navel	1,107	232,119 bx.	754,387
Oranges, Valencia	58	10,662 bx.	23,456
Tangerines	68	22,175 bx.	49,894
Lemons	7	850 bx.	1,105
Total	1,264		836,792
<u>Grapes</u>			
Table	22,079	5,275,560 lugs	19,783,350
Wine	3,712	81,740 tons	2,452,200
Raisin		1,380 tons	186,300
Zante Currants	10	24 tons	3,960
Grapes, Cannery		10,382 tons	571,010
Total	25,801		22,996,820

1953 CROP	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	VALUE
<u>Melons</u>			
Watermelons	206	1,386 tons	50,243
Cantaloupes	355	101,663 cr.	381,236
Casabas	5	3 tons	114
<b>Total</b>	<b>566</b>		<b>431,593</b>
<u>Vegetables</u>			
Asparagus	400	17,768 cr.	143,921
Asparagus, processed		214,175 lbs.	23,559
Beans, Blackeye	91	1,440 sks.	14,400
Beans, Blackeye		525 hamp.	1,234
Beans, Fava	20	3,480 hamp.	15,660
Beans, String	80	2,550 hamp.	7,650
Carrots	5	51 tons	1,658
Cabbage	85	11,111 cr.	22,778
Celery	10	8,440 cr.	21,100
Corn, Sweet	2,753	406,996 cr.	1,078,539
Corn, Sweet, processed		839 tons	33,560
Garlic	1	4,250 lbs.	468
Lettuce	871	124,049 cr.	260,503
Okra	78	601,273 lbs.	81,172
Onions	686	285,219 sks.	285,219
Onions, dehydrated	945	21,968 tons	834,784
Peas	1,309	159,981 hamp.	551,934
Potatoes	55,729	12,531,854 sks.	20,301,603
Potatoes, lugs		40,800 lugs	42,840
Potatoes, processed		233,362 sks.	233,362
Potatoes, seed		98,102 sks.	255,065
Potatoes, culls		39,093 tons	129,007
Potatoes, Sweet	477	136,303 lugs	279,421
Tomatoes	285	143,360 lugs	329,728
Turnips	3	400 lugs	560
<b>Total</b>	<b>63,828</b>		<b>24,949,725</b>
<u>Grain</u>			
Barley	56,068	51,738 tons	2,793,852
Corn, Field	2,258	4,159 tons	262,017
Milo	4,890	8,594 tons	446,888
Oats	140	107 tons	6,634
Rice	558	27,960 sks.	139,800
Wheat	42,974	15,237 tons	1,020,879
<b>Total</b>	<b>106,888</b>		<b>4,670,070</b>

CROP	1953	ACREAGE	PRODUCTION	VALUE
<u>Field Crops</u>				
Beets, Sugar		2,321	44,016 tons	588,054
Corn, Broom		613	211 tons	84,400
Cotton		319,954	492,755 bales	77,140,795
Cotton Seed			184,852 tons	9,969,068
Flax		390	12,600 bu.	47,880
Hay, Alfalfa		74,378	520,646 tons	9,892,274
Hay, Grain		4,455	13,293 tons	358,911
Nursery Stock		141		305,000
Pasture, Permanent		21,784		3,812,200
Pasture, Sudan Grass		3,787		94,675
Silage		1,000	15,000 tons	150,000
Sunflower Seed		1,168	1,426,228 lbs.	156,450
<b>Total</b>		<b>429,991</b>		<b>102,599,707</b>
<u>Seed, Certified</u>				
Alfalfa, Atlantic		1,301	621,514 lbs.	174,024
Alfalfa, Buffalo		4,583	2,305,160 lbs.	645,445
Alfalfa, Caliverde		580	259,787 lbs.	79,235
Alfalfa, Narragansett		253	111,520 lbs.	39,032
Alfalfa, Ranger		19,482	11,215,750 lbs.	3,140,410
Alfalfa, Vernal		10	6,427 lbs.	2,249
Alfalfa, Williamsburg		406	447,175 lbs.	125,209
Clover, Kenland Red		100	22,560 lbs.	7,670
Fescue, Alta		178	56,384 lbs.	7,894
Fescue, Goars Tall		50	7,569 lbs.	5,298
Milo, DD 38		10	35,000 lbs.	1,750
Orchard Grass, Akaroa		99	32,176 lbs.	8,688
Sudan, Piper		180	125,500 lbs.	11,295
Sudan, 23		40	18,400 lbs.	1,472
Wheat		310	154,500 lbs.	9,038
<b>Total</b>		<b>27,582</b>		<b>4,258,709</b>
<u>Seed, Common</u>				
Alfalfa, Atlantic, Buffalo, Narragansett, Ranger and Williamsburg			136,693 lbs.	27,338
Alfalfa, California Common		85	17,030 lbs.	3,406
Alfalfa, DePuits		180	160,696 lbs.	46,602
Alfalfa, Hairy Peruvian		5	585 lbs.	146
Beans, Mung		30	23,650 lbs.	2,365
Beet, Sugar		130	533,693 lbs.	64,577
Blue Grass, Merion		10	3,700 lbs.	7,400
Cotton Seed, Planting			12,250 tons	1,568,000
Melilotus indica			96,559 lbs.	4,828
Milo		10	22,500 lbs.	675
Milo, DD 38		76	229,500 lbs.	8,606
Oats, Kanota		30	46,800 lbs.	2,340
Rye		20	20,000 lbs.	800
Sudan, Sweet 372		170	197,500 lbs.	11,850
Sudan, Common Sweet		5	5,300 lbs.	318
Screenings and Cleanings			2,038,822 lbs.	33,691
<b>Total</b>		<b>751</b>		<b>1,782,942</b>

1953  
LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

	<u>NUMBER OF HEAD</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
Purebreds	1, 172	480, 520
Steers	132, 819	21, 719, 891
Cows	18, 146	1, 356, 958
Heifers	35, 823	4, 170, 514
Calves	9, 555	687, 960
Bulls	1, 963	318, 693
Hides-Cow	86, 209	193, 970
Hides-Calf	9, 510	9, 510
<b>Total</b>		<b>28, 938, 016</b>
Sheep	6, 500	58, 500
Lambs	145, 000	2, 773, 125
Wool	1, 520, 000 lbs.	805, 600
Pelts	9, 700	22, 310
<b>Total</b>		<b>3, 659, 535</b>
Hogs	11, 001	522, 548
<b>Total</b>	11, 001	522, 548
Rabbits, domestic	120, 000	120, 000
Pelts	42, 000	3, 360
<b>Total</b>		<b>123, 360</b>
Chickens	362, 880	508, 032
Fryers	540, 000	594, 000
Ducks	5, 000	7, 500
Geese	4, 200	15, 750
Squab	11, 000	8, 800
Turkeys	76, 650	429, 240
Eggs	7, 257, 600 doz.	3, 919, 104
<b>Total</b>		<b>5, 482, 426</b>
Milk, Market - pounds milk fat	2, 710, 000 lbs.	3, 604, 300
Milk, Manufacturing - pounds milk fat	17, 000 lbs.	17, 170
<b>Total</b>		<b>3, 621, 470</b>
<b>Grand Total of All Livestock</b>		<b>42, 347, 355</b>
<u>Apiary Products</u>		
Beeswax	11, 200 lbs.	4, 592
Honey	1, 680, 000 lbs.	201, 600
<b>Total</b>		<b>206, 192</b>

1953  
S U M M A R Y

Acreage

	1952	1953
Deciduous Fruits and Nuts	2,838	2,604
Citrus Fruit	1,276	1,264
Grapes	26,783	25,801
Melons	290	566
Vegetables	50,738	63,828
Grain	116,040	106,888
Field Crops	399,346	429,991
Seed, Certified	25,432	27,582
Seed, Common	807	751
<b>Total</b>	<b>623,550</b>	<b>659,275</b>

Value

Deciduous Fruits and Nuts	\$ 2,811,058	\$ 2,695,336
Citrus Fruit	741,217	836,792
Grapes	17,964,066	22,996,820
Melons	129,463	431,593
Vegetables	41,922,086	24,949,725
Grain	5,631,128	4,670,070
Field Crops	100,289,899	102,599,707
Seed, Certified	7,144,299	4,258,709
Seed, Common	2,217,973	1,782,942
Beef Cattle	38,112,665	28,938,016
Sheep	4,647,950	3,659,535
Hogs	565,250	522,548
Rabbits	187,465	123,360
Poultry	5,167,960	5,482,426
Dairy Products	4,103,100	3,621,470
Apiary Products	264,840	206,192
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 231,900,419</b>	<b>\$ 207,775,241</b>
<b>Agricultural Conservation Payments</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>86,000</b>
<b>TOTAL RETURNS TO AGRICULTURE</b>	<b>\$ 231,975,419</b>	<b>\$ 207,861,241</b>

<b>Total Carlot Shipments</b>	<b>44,859</b>	<b>55,436</b>
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