

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

JAMES W. STOCKTON
Agricultural Commissioner

ROBERT A. EDWARDS
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1974

Dr. L. T. Wallace, Director
California Department of Food and
Agriculture
The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Kern

In accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 of the California Agricultural Code I am pleased to submit the 1974 Annual Crop Report for the County of Kern.

The estimated value of direct farm marketings in 1974 is \$706,685,575, an increase of better than 18% over 1973. This is gross FOB value, which includes production and preparation costs, but does not represent net income to the farmer. Total harvested acres is 879,413, up by 69,835 acres over 1973.

King Cotton continued to maintain its dominant position in Kern County agriculture. The total value including seed is estimated at \$205,265,000, an increase of \$62,375,000 over 1973, and representing 29% of the total agricultural production in Kern County.

Grapes moved from third to second place in value of production. Bearing acreage was up by 31.5% which accounted for most of the increase, up from 38,541 acres in 1973 to 50,704 acres in 1974. Average tonnage per acre was 8.43 and the average price per ton for all varieties was \$205.08.

Potatoes, one of the most important vegetable crops in Kern County changed little in gross dollar value and acreage from the prior year. Production was up by 8% and price down 6.5%.

Gross dollar value of cattle and calves marketed showed a major decline from 1973. Number of head marketed was down by 10%. Average price per cwt. was down by more than 21.5%. Gross dollar value was \$41,908,000 in 1974 compared to \$59,492,000 in 1973, a decline of 29.5%.

Bearing acreage of almonds jumped from 17,845 acres in 1973 to 23,469 acres in 1974, an increase of 31.5%. Although both acreage and production per acre were higher, lower prices caused a 6% drop in the gross dollar value of almonds.

Total value of citrus was up by 52%, \$21,994,000 in 1974, \$7,569,000 above 1973. Bearing acreage of citrus increased by 16%, up from 14,458 in 1973 to 16,813 in 1974. Increased production as well as an increase in bearing acreage was a major factor in the increased value.

Kern County produces more than 8% of the total agricultural production in the State of California. When we consider that for every dollar derived from direct farm marketings at least another five dollars is generated in related agri-business industries, we can see the impact of agriculture on the economy of Kern County is approaching the 4.25 billion dollar mark and growing.

We sincerely appreciate the cooperation of those who contributed information which made this report possible.

James W. Stockton
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Agricultural Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

James W. Stockton

ASSISTANT AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

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Jesse E. Bridges

Benjam K. Easley

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Charles L. Jackson, Delano-McFarland

Jerry M. McCarthy, Tehachapi

Robert Nousch, Arvin-Lamont

E. D. Pruett, Bakersfield

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Gene Stark, Shafter

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John A. Herpich

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Senior Secretary

Nona Buchanan

Account Clerk II

Sharon Elias

Typist Clerk II

Theresa MacKay

Account Clerk I

Report compiled by Henry Knipp

Cover photograph through the courtesy
of California Tree Fruit Agreement

PERMANENT ACREAGE

Crop	Bearing	Non-bearing	Total
Almonds	23,469	23,394	45,863
Apples	743	718	1,461
Apricots	81	125	206
Avocados	93	20	113
Cherries	27	0	27
Figs	1	2,669	2,670
Grapefruit	3	2,795	2,798
<u>Grapes, All</u>	50,704	31,326	82,030
Raisin	21,968	2,685	24,653
Table	10,584	2,384	12,968
Wine	18,152	26,257	44,409
Kiwi	19	29	48
Lemons	992	3,561	4,553
Limes	0	1	1
Nectarines	407	840	1,247
Olives	210	6,295	6,505
<u>Oranges, All</u>	16,212	6,245	22,457
Navel	12,243	5,476	17,719
Valencia	3,969	769	4,738
Tangerines & Tangelos	601	609	1,210
Peaches	2,643	929	3,572
Pears	395	10	405
Pecans	2	0	2
Persimmons	28	27	55
Pistachios	19	13,412	13,431
Plums	2,051	674	2,725
Pomegranates	105	0	105
Prunes	0	396	396
Walnuts	<u>251</u>	<u>733</u>	<u>984</u>
TOTAL	99,056	93,808	192,864

"MILLION DOLLAR CROPS"

Cotton and Cottonseed	\$205,265,000
Grapes	87,673,000
Potatoes	75,023,000
Alfalfa Hay	56,120,000
Cattle and Calves	41,908,000
Milk, Market and Manufacturing	25,768,900
Almonds	24,800,000
Citrus	21,994,000
Nursery Products	20,693,000
Sugar Beets	15,564,000
Wheat	13,500,000
Carrots	13,114,000
Tomatoes	9,647,000
Lettuce	8,000,000
Barley	7,087,000
Cantaloupes	6,063,000
Sheep and Lambs	6,008,000
Plums	5,468,000
Onions, Dehydrator	5,022,000
Sorghum Grain	4,830,000
Peaches	4,532,000
Silage	3,714,000
Beans, dry edible	3,192,000
Eggs, Chicken, Market	2,983,000
Turkeys	2,965,000
Pasture, Irrigated	2,812,000
Onions, Dry	2,748,000
Range	2,497,000
Watermelons	2,387,000
Rice	2,268,000
Hay, Other	2,200,000
Beans, Snap	1,586,000
Apples	1,394,000
Hay, Grain	1,266,000
Garlic	1,242,000
Pasture, other	1,125,000
Melons, other	1,053,000

FIELD CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Barley	1974	45,000	1.50	67,500	ton	\$105.00	\$ 7,087,000
	1973	52,500	1.60	84,000	ton	72.00	6,048,000
Beans, dry edible	1974	10,500	1.00	10,500	ton	304.00	3,192,000
	1973	7,500	1.14	8,550	ton	580.00	4,959,000
Corn, Field	1974*	xx	xx	xx		xx	xx
	1973	900	2.80	2,520	ton	108.00	272,100
Cotton Lint	1974	314,000	a/1040	b/680,300	bale	c/.48	156,741,000
	1973	258,000	a/ 960	b/516,000	bale	c/.47	116,410,000
Cottonseed	1974			299,000	ton	157.00	46,943,000
	1973			222,000	ton	117.00	25,974,000
Cottonseed, planting	1974			8,320	ton	190.00	1,581,000
	1973			6,620	ton	76.40	506,000
Hay, Alfalfa	1974	115,000	8.00	920,000	ton	61.00	56,120,000
	1973	123,000	8.00	984,000	ton	44.00	43,296,000
Grain	1974	6,500	3.25	21,100	ton	60.00	1,266,000
	1973	6,000	3.16	19,000	ton	45.00	855,000
Other	1974	4,000	10.00	40,000	ton	55.00	2,200,000
	1973	5,000	10.00	50,000	ton	40.00	2,000,000
Pasture, Irrigated	1974	22,500	xx	xx	acre	125.00	2,812,000
	1973	25,000	xx	xx	acre	125.00	3,125,000
Other	1974	75,000	xx	xx	acre	15.00	1,125,000
	1973	73,000	xx	xx	acre	10.00	730,000
Range	1974	2,497,000	xx	xx	acre	1.00	2,497,000
	1973	2,548,000	xx	xx	acre	1.00	2,548,000
Rice	1974	6,300	1.50	9,450	ton	240.00	2,268,000
	1973	1,540	1.60	2,500	ton	180.00	450,000
Safflower	1974*	xx		xx		xx	xx
	1973	4,200	1.15	4,830	ton	165.00	797,000
Silage	1974**	19,000	17.00	323,000	ton	11.50	3,714,000
	1973	8,000	20.00	160,000	ton	6.50	1,040,000
Sorghum Grain	1974	20,000	2.10	42,000	ton	115.00	4,830,000
	1973	18,000	2.00	36,000	ton	100.00	3,600,000

FIELD CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Sugar Beets	1974	11,800	26.70	315,000	ton	\$49.41	\$ 15,564,000
	1973**	24,000	24.29	583,000	ton	20.26	11,812,000
Wheat	1974	45,000	2.00	90,000	ton	150.00	13,500,000
	1973	37,000	1.75	64,700	ton	85.50	5,532,000
Miscellaneous	1974	xx	xx	xx		xx	169,000
	1973	xx	xx	xx		xx	163,800
TOTAL	1974	694,600					\$321,609,000
	1973**	643,640					230,117,900
	1974	2,497,000	Range				
	1973	2,548,000	Range				

a. Pounds lint per acre

b. 480 lb. net weight bales

c. Price per pound

* Included in miscellaneous

** Revised

SEED CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Grain	1974*	3,086	xx	6,352,953	lb.	\$ xx	\$408,800
	1973*	1,944	xx	6,133,323	lb.	xx	267,600
Cowpeas	1974	213	2,520	537,000	lb.	.40	215,000
	1973	451	2,240	1,010,000	lb.	.35	353,500
Vegetable	1974	167	xx	300,500	lb.	xx	51,975
	1973	36	xx	39,600	lb.	xx	14,200
Miscellaneous	1974	540	xx	232,000	lb.	xx	133,500
	1973**	340	xx	44,337	lb.	xx	54,400
Screenings	1974	xx	xx	550	ton	41.50	22,800
	1973	xx	xx	690	ton	37.40	25,800
TOTAL	1974	3,006 <i>4,006</i>					\$832,075
	1973	2,771					715,500

* Includes: Alfalfa, Barley, Oats, Rye, Wheat

**Revised

VEGETABLE CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Beans, Snap	1974	810	5.10	4,130	ton	\$384.00	\$ 1,586,000
	1973	470	3.28	1,540	ton	387.00	596,000
Beans, Snap Processing	1974	1,620	1.44	2,330	ton	175.00	408,000
	1973	1,700	2.16	3,670	ton	97.00	356,000
Cabbage	1974	280	9.94	2,800	ton	89.00	249,000
	1973	365	9.97	3,640	ton	158.00	575,000
Carrots	1974	9,500	16.60	158,000	ton	83.00	13,114,000
	1973	9,400	16.50	155,000	ton	109.00	16,895,000
Corn Sweet	1974	375	3.80	1,425	ton	185.00	264,000
	1973	625	3.90	2,440	ton	162.00	395,000
Garlic	1974	1,325	5.25	6,960	ton	178.50	1,242,000
	1973	755	5.75	4,340	ton	207.00	898,000
Lettuce	1974	4,550	13.25	60,000	ton	135.00	8,000,000
	1973	4,900	10.80	53,000	ton	137.00	7,261,000
Melons Cantaloupe	1974	2,400	11.75	28,200	ton	215.00	6,063,000
	1973	5,860	6.30	37,000	ton	155.00	5,735,000
Melons, Other	1974	555	10.09	5,600	ton	188.00	1,053,000
	1973	600	6.70	4,000	ton	176.00	704,000
Watermelons	1974	1,300	18.00	23,400	ton	102.00	2,387,000
	1973	2,700	15.00	40,500	ton	54.50	2,207,000
Onions, Dry	1974	1,100	26.00	28,600	ton	96.10	2,748,000
	1973	1,400	27.00	37,800	ton	140.00	5,292,000
Onions, Dehydrator	1974	6,350	17.00	108,000	ton	46.50	5,022,000
	1973	6,100	13.00	79,300	ton	49.50	3,925,000
Peppers	1974	525	7.40	3,900	ton	229.00	893,000
	1973	775	5.75	4,450	ton	476.00	2,118,000

VEGETABLE CROPS	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
<u>POTATOES, TOTAL</u>	1974	36,200	18.50	670,000	ton	\$111.97	\$ 75,023,000
	1973	36,450	17.14	624,600	ton	120.77	75,433,000
<u>Late Spring, TOTAL</u>	1974	34,000	18.94	644,000	ton	111.58	71,860,000
	1973	34,300	17.40	597,000	ton	119.71	71,467,000
Fresh Market	1974			500,000	ton	131.00	65,500,000
	1973			454,000	ton	143.00	64,922,000
Processed	1974			82,000	ton	70.00	5,740,000
	1973			88,000	ton	70.00	6,160,000
Culls	1974			62,000	ton	10.00	620,000
	1973			55,000	ton	7.00	385,000
<u>Winter, TOTAL</u>	1974	2,200	11.95	26,300	ton	120.27	3,163,000
	1973	2,150	12.84	27,600	ton	143.70	3,966,000
Fresh Market	1974			23,200	ton	135.00	3,132,000
	1973			25,600	ton	154.00	3,942,000
Culls	1974			3,100	ton	10.00	31,000
	1973			2,000	ton	12.00	24,000
Pumpkins and Squash	1974	290	11.00	3,190	ton	122.00	389,000
	1973	125	9.75	1,200	ton	136.00	163,000
Tomatoes, Fresh Market	1974	700	6.30	4,400	ton	260.00	1,144,000
	1973	1,000	6.10	6,100	ton	438.00	2,672,000
Tomatoes, Processing	1974	8,050	18.60	149,700	ton	56.80	8,503,000
	1973	5,500	20.00	110,000	ton	34.00	3,740,000
Miscellaneous Includes:	1974*	4,500	xx	38,800	ton	xx	3,800,000
	1973*	4,000	xx	34,500	ton	xx	3,339,000

*Asparagus, Limas, Broccoli, Carrots (culls), Cauliflower, Cucumbers (proc.)
Lettuce (proc.), Melons (proc.), Peas, Peppers (bell, chili, wax, proc.)
Potatoes (fall proc.), Sweet Potatoes, Strawberries, Romaine.

TOTAL	1974	80,430					\$131,888,000
	1973	82,725					132,304,000

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS		PRODUCTION				VALUE	
	YEAR	BEARING ACREAGE	PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Almonds	1974*	23,469	.66	15,500	ton	\$1600.00	\$ 24,800,000
	1973**	17,845	.56	10,060	ton	2630.00	26,459,000
Apples	1974	743	9.30	6,900	ton	202.00	1,394,000
	1973	658	2.18	1,400	ton	315.00	441,000
Avocados	1974	93	.47	44	ton	692.00	30,400
	1973*****	xx	xx	xx		xx	xx
<u>GRAPES, TOTAL</u>	1974	50,704	8.43	427,500	ton	205.08	87,673,000
	1973	38,541	8.14	314,000	ton	217.80	68,392,000
<u>Raisin Varieties</u> Fresh Market	1974	21,968		65,000	ton	575.00	37,375,000
	1973	20,679		50,000	ton	505.00	25,250,000
Raisins, dry weight	1974***			7,500	ton	640.00	4,800,000
	1973			3,400	ton	700.00	2,380,000
Processed	1974			17,000	ton	130.00	2,210,000
	1973			12,600	ton	120.00	1,512,000
Crushed	1974			143,000	ton	74.00	10,582,000
	1973			104,000	ton	80.00	8,320,000
<u>Table Varieties</u> Fresh Market	1974	10,584		43,000	ton	458.00	19,694,000
	1973	9,800		34,000	ton	493.00	16,762,000
Crushed	1974			51,000	ton	67.00	3,417,000
	1973			37,000	ton	85.00	3,145,000
<u>Wine Varieties</u> Crushed	1974	18,152		101,000	ton	95.00	9,595,000
	1973	8,062		73,000	ton	151.00	11,023,000
Nectarines	1974	407	4.80	1,950	ton	402.00	783,000
	1973	426	4.70	2,000	ton	680.00	1,360,000
Olives	1974	210	2.00	420	ton	412.00	173,000
	1973	210	3.35	700	ton	390.00	273,000

* Includes production from young orchards officially classified as non-bearing.
Almond production stated in terms of nut meat equivalents.

** Revised

*** Total production includes raisins on a fresh equivalent basis.
Dry Ratio: 1974 - 4.23 to 1
1973 - 4.32 to 1

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS		BEARING ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
YEAR	PER ACRE		TOTAL	PER UNIT		TOTAL	
<u>CITRUS, ALL</u>	1974	16,813	7.23	121,570	ton	\$180.91	\$ 21,994,000
	1973	14,458	6.11	88,340	ton	163.29	14,425,000
Navels	1974	12,243	6.25	77,000	ton	216.00	16,632,000
	1973	10,487	6.22	65,200	ton	189.25	12,339,000
Valencias	1974	3,969	6.10	24,000	ton	187.50	4,500,000
	1973	3,520	2.71	9,540	ton	152.00	1,450,000
Tangerines and	1974	601	3.44	2,070	ton	220.00	455,000
Tangelos	1973	451	3.14	1,400	ton	280.00	392,000
Processed	1974			18,500	ton	22.00	407,000
	1973			12,200	ton	20.00	244,000
<u>PEACHES, ALL</u>	1974	2,643	6.30	16,650	ton	272.20	4,532,000
	1973	2,083	6.63	13,820	ton	335.30	4,634,000
Fresh Market	1974			8,450	ton	442.50	3,739,000
	1973			7,350	ton	535.50	4,000,000
Processed	1974			8,200	ton	96.70	793,000
	1973			6,470	ton	98.00	634,000
<u>PEARS, ALL</u>	1974	395	4.58	1,810	ton	367.95	666,000
	1973	366	4.07	1,490	ton	301.95	449,900
Fresh Market	1974			1,180	ton	476.00	562,000
	1973			1,160	ton	355.00	412,000
Processed	1974			630	ton	165.00	104,000
	1973			330	ton	115.00	37,900
Plums	1974	2,051	4.15	8,530	ton	641.00	5,468,000
	1973	1,918	2.70	5,200	ton	684.00	3,557,000
Pomegranates	1974	105	5.30	555	ton	312.00	173,000
	1973	105	3.90	410	ton	360.00	147,600
Miscellaneous	1974****	1,423	xx	8,300	ton	xx	2,796,000
	1973****	1,363	xx	11,500	ton	xx	2,768,000
****Includes: Apples (proc.), Apricots, Avocados, Cherries, Figs, Grapefruit, Kiwi, Lemons, Limes, Pecans, Persimmons, Pistachios, Prunes and Walnuts.							
TOTAL	1974	99,056					\$150,482,400
	1973	77,973					122,906,500

<u>NURSERY PRODUCTS</u>		YEAR	ACRES	QUANTITY SOLD BY PRODUCERS	UNIT	VALUE	
						PER UNIT	TOTAL
Grapevines	1974		757	16,390,000	plant	\$.239	\$ 3,917,000
	1973		807	18,260,000	plant	.222	4,054,000
Trees and Shrubs	1974		111	1,139,000	plant	1.20	1,367,000
	1973		124	788,000	plant	1.40	1,103,000
Rose Plants	1974		1,290	21,581,000	plant	.677	14,610,000
	1973		1,160	17,053,000	plant	.542	9,243,000
Plants, Propagative Material and Cut Flowers	1974		163	xx		xx	799,000
	1973		378	xx		xx	3,547,000
TOTAL	1974		2,321				\$20,693,000
	1973		2,469				17,947,000

<u>APIARY PRODUCTS</u>		YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	VALUE	
						TOTAL	
Honey	1974		319,000	lb.	\$.48	\$153,000	
	1973		639,100	lb.	.42	268,400	
Beeswax	1974		5,300	lb.	1.05	5,600	
	1973		10,600	lb.	.72	7,630	
Pollination	1974		16,000	colony	18.00	288,000	
	1973		14,800	colony	16.00	236,800	
TOTAL	1974					\$446,600	
	1973					512,830	

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY		NO. OF HEAD	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
YEAR			TOTAL	LIVEWEIGHT		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Cattle and Calves	1974	190,000	1,251,000	cwt.	\$33.50		\$41,908,000
	1973	212,000	1,390,000	cwt.	42.80		59,492,000
Sheep and Lambs	1974	152,000	155,000	cwt.	38.76		6,008,000
	1973	166,000	178,000	cwt.	33.07		5,886,000
Hogs	1974	3,100	4,400	cwt.	35.25		155,000
	1973	3,400	4,860	cwt.	38.55		187,000
Fryers	1974*	xx	xx		xx		xx
	1973	486,000	1,944,000	lb.	.35		680,000
Chickens, other	1974	280,000	1,120,000	lb.	.061		68,000
	1973	282,000	1,128,000	lb.	.134		151,000
Turkeys	1974	353,000	8,472,000	lb.	.35		2,965,000
	1973	463,000	9,260,000	lb.	.50		4,630,000
Rabbits	1974	17,000	76,500	lb.	.40		30,600
	1973	17,500	70,000	lb.	.38		26,600
Game birds and Squab	1974	xx	xx		xx		26,000
	1973	xx	xx		xx		43,200
TOTAL	1974						\$51,160,600
	1973						71,095,800

*No production reported

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS		PRODUCTION	UNIT	VALUE	
				PER UNIT	TOTAL
Milk Market	1974	3,104,000	cwt.	\$8.30	\$25,763,000
	1973*	2,812,000	cwt.	6.21	17,463,000
Manufacturing	1974	820	cwt.	7.23	5,900
	1973*	6,500	cwt.	5.23	34,000
Wool	1974	1,370,000	lb.	.60	822,000
	1973	1,631,000	lb.	.85	1,386,000
Eggs, chicken Market	1974	4,661,000	doz.	.64	2,983,000
	1973	5,911,000	doz.	.60	3,547,000
TOTAL	1974				\$29,573,900
	1973*				22,430,000

*Revised

JANUARY 1 INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY, 1974-1975
(In number of head)

	January 1, 1974	January 1, 1975
<u>*All cattle and calves</u>	268,000	302,000
* Cattle on feed	106,200	70,000
* Milk cows, two years and over	23,600	26,900
* Stock sheep and lambs	146,200	151,300
* Hogs	4,900	5,000
Hens and pullets of laying age	345,348	224,000
* Estimates of California Crop and Livestock Reporting Service		

1974 SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAM PAYMENTS

Sugar Beets	\$588,000
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S U M M A R Y

	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ACREAGE</u>	<u>ESTIMATED VALUE</u>
Field Crops and Rangeland	1974	694,600 2,497,000	\$321,609,000
	1973	643,640 2,548,000	230,117,900
Seed Crops	1974	3,006	832,075
	1973	2,771	715,500
Vegetable Crops	1974	80,430	131,888,000
	1973	82,725	132,304,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	1974	99,056	150,482,400
	1973	77,973	122,906,500
Nursery Products	1974	2,321	20,693,000
	1973	2,469	17,947,000
Apiary Products	1974		446,600
	1973		512,830
Livestock and Poultry	1974		51,160,600
	1973		71,095,800
Livestock and Poultry Products	1974		29,573,900
	1973*		22,430,000
TOTAL HARVESTED ACREAGE	1974	879,413	
Includes 25,000 acres Dry Farm Barley and Wheat			
RANGELAND	1974	2,497,000	
TOTAL VALUE	1974		\$706,685,575
TOTAL HARVESTED ACREAGE	1973	809,578	
Includes 22,000 acres Dry Farm Barley and Wheat			
RANGELAND	1973	2,548,000	
TOTAL VALUE*	1973		\$598,029,530

*Revised