



Agricultural Crop Report



Sonoma County





Dedicated to the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District in recognition of its first five years preserving Sonoma County's farmlands

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OFFICE OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

CALIFORNY California Department of Food and Agriculture

April, 1996

Sonoma County Board of Supervisors: Michael J. Cale, District 1 Jim Harberson, District 2

Ann Veneman, Secretary

Tim Smith, Chairman - District 3 Paul L. Kelley, District 4 Ernie Carpenter, District 5

The 1995 Sonoma County Crop Report reveals yet another record year for the value of agricultural commodities produced. It is befitting to dedicate our annual report to the successes of the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, as we boast another record year in production. The long-term sustainability of our local agricultural industry depends on its economic viability which, in part, relies on community support. The creation of an Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, coupled with its funding mechanism, approved by voters in 1990, is one important indication of the community support that exists for agriculture in Sonoma County.

This record year was substantially supported by strong wine grape and milk production values, which together account for 68% of Sonoma County's \$342,550,200 total. Although wine grape tonnage decreased by 13,103 tons, due to late Spring rains, the average price per ton increased by \$140 per ton, making the 1995 crop the highest value ever produced. Similarly, milk production decreased, but increased prices brought its value to within \$886,000 of last years record. Nursery products increased by almost \$2.2 million, primarily due to the increasing demand for grapevines. Vegetable production increased in value by more than \$1.7 million, as planted acreage increased by 101 acres.

On the negative side, field crop value decreased by nearly \$1.5 million due to the heavy Spring rains. Poor weather also seriously impacted apple and prune production. Apple production decreased by 37,000 tons, lowering the value of the crop by more than \$2.6 million. The prune crop was essentially eliminated, as only 26 dry tons were harvested. This once proud Sonoma County crop continues to decline in acreage, but heavy rains during bloom were especially devastating this past year. Apiary value was down even though honey value was up slightly. Decreased pollenization fees and loss of our only packaged bee producer accounts for the decrease. Livestock and poultry products value decreased by \$1.8 million as milk production decreased and eggs diminished because of the loss of another large producer. Livestock and poultry prices decreased, with losses in turkeys and lamb production accounting for \$232,000.

Despite the negative impacts of the adverse weather conditions, the 1995 crop production value set a new record. Each year as we compile these statistics, we are reminded of the challenges that face the growers of Sonoma County. We all benefit from their continued success. It is the growers that ultimately help insure the preservation of our beautiful countryside, along with all the other related benefits that the entire community enjoys. We applaud them for their work.

I wish to thank all the hardworking growers and ranchers, along with many other individuals and agencies who provided information for this report. The accuracy and value of this report is based largely on information received directly from growers. Special recognition goes to Bonnie Sallee whose hard work in compiling this report will benefit its readers for many years.

Respectfally submitted,

c Lauritzen,

Agricultural Commissioner 2604 VENTURA AVENUE, ROOM 101 · SANTA ROSA, CA 95403-2810 · PHONE (707) 527-2371 · FAX (707) 527-3850 The cover this year honors the efforts of *Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District* during its first five years of operation in helping to preserve agricultural lands in Sonoma County.

Since its inception, the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District has protected 18,827 acres through conservation easements in 62 separate transactions with willing sellers at direct land costs of \$20,557,056. 22 active transactions are currently under negotiation totaling another 10,000 acres. Over 100 additional landowners have expressed recent interest or have applied to work with the District to protect their land forever. Approximately 85% of all lands protected are in active agricultural use.

The Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District is a dependant Special District formed under the California Public Resources Code with the intent to help implement the Open Space and Agricultural Resource Elements of the 1989 Sonoma County General Plan. The boundaries of the District are the same as the boundaries of the County of Sonoma, and the County Board of Supervisors serves ex-officio as the Board of Directors. The District was formed by a 71% positive vote of the County Electorate during the November 1990 elections.

The agricultural lands protected by the District to date include four dairies; 2,094 acres of grapes, apples, hay or other cultivated crops and 13,800 acres of grazing land. The principal preservation efforts of the District, however, are not based on specific types of agricultural use, but rather on importance of the land itself; how it fits into the District's adopted Acquisition Plan, its location, visibility and the level of threat to development or subdivision.

The focus of the District's Acquisition and Expenditure Plans is not only to protect significant agricultural lands, but also to preserve community separators between cities, scenic areas of high visual quality, critical habitat areas, riparian corridors and other areas of biotic significance. The District has an annual Matching Grant Program with the incorporated areas of the County to protect significant urban open spaces. Opportunities exist for the District, working with existing Park Agencies and non-profit organizations, to protect properties offering potential low intensity recreational uses.

District staff have remained active in working with the Sonoma County agricultural community. This has included participation with the Farm Bureau, University of California Cooperative Extension and Agricultural Commissioner to co-sponsor events, such as the 1996 Sonoma County Agricultural Summit.

The goals of the District are clearly focused on protecting those key agricultural lands close to the cities and in other important areas of the County. With fifteen years of sales tax funding remaining, the District, by multiplying what it has accomplished in its first five years, should make a substantial impact on helping to retain a viable and visible agricultural land base for the County.

If you want specific information on what lands the District has protected to date, the Acquisition Plan, or how your land might fit the District's goals, *please call (707) 524-7360*.

SONOMA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT 415 Russell Avenue Santa Rosa, CA 95403 (707) 524-7360 FAX: (707) 524-7370 David Wm. Hansen, General Manager



DECADIT		1	1	
RECAPIT	V	LAI	ļ	ON
		1994		1995
APIARY	\$	108,500	\$	97,400
FIELD CROPS	\$	10,600,200	\$	9,128,900
FRVIT AND NVT CROPS	\$	161,775,300	\$	164,714,900
LIVESTOCK AND POVLTRY	\$	37,519,200	\$	37,287,300
LIVESTOCK AND POVLTRY PRODUCTS	\$	84,937,500	\$	83,104,500
NVRSERY PRODUCTS	\$	28,796,600	\$	30,995,600
VEGETABLE CROPS	\$	15,491,500	\$	17,221,600
TOTAL	\$	339,228,800	\$	342,550,200



FRVIT	A	ND	NV	T (F	ROP	SVN	MMARY			
	10 I I			per e							
		all and a second	>		T	OLL	AR	٧	ALVE		
CROP	YEAR	Stanno Acate	TOWACH	FOTAL TONS		5 KON	SUBTOTAL		TOTAL		
Apples (all)	1995 1994	5,298 5,250	6.45 13.68	34,268 71,841	\$ \$	160.22 113.19		\$ \$	5,490,300 8,131,500		
Processed (a)	1995 1994					5	, ,				
Fresh	1995 1994										
Grapes (wine)	1995 1994	33,189 33,766	4.22 4.53	139,993 153,096	\$ \$	1,134.53 994.67		\$ \$	158,824,800 152,280,700		
Pears, Bartlett (b)	1995 1994	125 177	1.15 6.73	144 1,191	\$ \$	129.17 197.90		\$ \$	18,600 235,700		
Prunes (c)	1995 1994	715 736	0.04 0.81	26 599	\$ \$	1,046.15 1,016.86		\$ \$	27,200 609,100		
Walnuts	1995 1994	317 342	0.21 0.26	65 90	\$ \$	1,122.43 960.00		\$ \$	72,800 86,400		
Misc. (d)	1995 1994							\$ \$	281,200 431,900		
TOTAL	1995 1994							\$ \$	164,714,900 161,775,300		
(a) (b) (c) (d)	Includes fr Dry tons Includes ch	anned, juice/c esh and proce nerries, bush- es, figs, chest	essed. berries, kiw		uts,	plums, Asia	ı pears,				

VE	G	E	Т	A	B	L	E	С	R	0	Ρ	S
CROP			YEA	R				HARVESTED ACREAGE			DOLL/ VALV	
Miscellaneou	s Truck		1995	5				1,111		S	17,22	1,600
farms (e)			1994	l.				1,010		\$	15,49	1,500

NVR	S	E	R	٧	P	R	0	D	V	C	T	S
									DOLL	AR	VAI	LVE
ITEM	YEAR			/NIT OLD	VNIT		SVB TOTA		\$/VNIT	-	TC	TAL
Grapevines (all)	1995		6.0	065,626	plant/cutting					\$	12.80	7,600
orupor mos (mi)	1994			398,124	plant/cutting					\$		9,600
Cuttings	1995		1,(85,466		\$	318,	155	\$0.29			
0	1994		1,2	238,813		\$	397,		\$0.32			
Plants (a)	1995		4,9	980,160		\$	12,489,	397	\$2.51			
	1994			559,311		\$	8,712,		\$2.38			
Ornamentals	1995		1,2	255,024	plant	(b)			\$ 4.92	\$	6,17	3,600
	1994		1,1	138,738	plant				\$ 5.46	\$	6,16	5,000
Bedding Plants	1995		2	202,297	flat				\$ 9.80	\$	1,98	2,600
	1994			317,978	flat				\$ 9.66	\$	3,07	0,900
Cut Flowers	1995									\$	2,46	1,900
	1994									\$	2,91	9,100
Christmas Trees	1995			18,344	each				\$ 25.41	\$	46	6,100
	1994									\$		4,500
Misc. Products (c)	1995									\$	7.10	3,800
	1994									\$		7,500
TOTAL	1995									\$	30,99	5,600
	1994									\$	28,79	6,600
(a)		-			ngs and bench g							
(b)					ll type trade con							
(c)					ut trees, bulbs, eous perennials		-			,		
35,000,000		r	IVT	DOL	RY PRO LAR VAI 986 ~ 1995	.VE	CTS					1
30,000,000	-				/			/		-		
25,000,000							8008					-
20,000,000	-	,										
15,000,000			1		[]	1			L	1		
10,000,000	986 1	987	198	8 19	89 1990	1991	199	2	1993 1	1994	199	5

LIVI	EST	OCK	AN	D	POVLTRY									
		NVMBER	TOTAL LIVE		-[1	DOLLA	R	VALVE						
ITEM	VEAR	HEAD	WEIGHT	VNIT	4	/VNIT	1	TOTAL						
Cattle/Calves	1995 1994	49,836 44,147	286,741 247,283	cwt cwt	\$ \$	50.36 58.40	\$ \$	14,439,800 14,441,000						
Sheep/Lambs	1995 1994	13,391 14,454	14,462 15,610	cwt cwt	\$ \$	69.96 70.97	\$ \$	1,012,000 1,107,900						
Hogs	1995 1994	6,100 5,950	14,486 14,075	cwt cwt	\$ \$	36.98 44.01 *	\$ \$	535,700 619,400						
Turkeys	1995 1994	124,229 153,832	2,260,741 3,739,552	lb. lb.	\$ \$	0.53 0.60	\$ \$	1,208,900 2,239,600						
Miscellaneous (a)	1995 1994						\$ \$	20,090,900 19,111,300						
TOTAL	1995					Contraction of	\$	37,287,300						
* corrected (a)	1994	hicks, ducks, tur					\$	37,519,200						

LIVESTO	CK	AND	PO	VLTRY	1	PRO	DVCTS				
					Di	OLLAR		VALVE			
ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTIO	N	VNIT	\$/	/VNIT		TOTAL			
Milk (Market)	1995 1994	5,869,023 6,062,023	(b)	cwt cwt	\$ \$	12.25 12.08	\$ \$	71,895,500 73,229,200			
Milk (Manufacturing)	1995 1994	72,210 40,598		cwt cwt	\$ \$	11.77 9.92	\$ \$	849,900 402,700			
Wool	1995 1994	116,490 140,403	(c)	lb. lb.	\$ \$	0.70 0.52	\$ \$	81,100 72,600			
Misc. Products (d)	1995 1994		-				\$ \$	10,278,000 11,233,000			
TOTAL	1995						\$	83,104,500			
(b) (c)	1994 Preliminar	y nclude incentive	normante				\$	84,937,500			

										_															
	F	1	E	L	D		C	R	0	1	PS														
			HARVE	STED	TON/	TOTAL			DOLLA	R	VALVE														
CROP	YEA	R		EAGE	ACRE	TONS	VNIT	L	\$/VNIT		TOTAL														
Hay, Oat	1995	-	STATISTICS IN CONTRACTOR	10,006	2.25	22,539	ton	S	78.09	S	1,760,000														
Ilay, Oat	1994			13,904	2.36	32,791	ton	\$	78.66	\$	2,579,400														
Hay, Volunteer	1995			2,281	1.86	4,234	ton	S	51.06	\$	216,200														
may, volunteer	1994			1,982	1.86	3,680	ton	\$	48.32	\$	177,800														
Green Chop (a)	1995	5		440	10.92	4,806	ton	\$	13.34	\$	64,100														
oron onep (ii)	1993			902	11.56	10,423	ton	\$	13.66	\$	142,400														
Oats, Grain	1995	5		630	0.84	- 532	ton	\$	209.59	S	111,500														
	1994			590	1.05	617	ton	\$	220.06	\$	135,800														
Ensilage, Corn (a)	1995			453	19.12	8,663	ton	\$	38.70	\$	335,300														
	1994		1994							470	20.27	9,525	ton	\$	44.87	\$	427,400								
Oats, Silage (a)	1995		1995		1995			4,921	19.40	95,470	ton	\$	33.70	\$	3,217,300										
	1994			7,033	12.23	85,993	ton	\$	39.89	\$	3,430,300														
Straw	1995																			272	ton	\$	36.76	\$	10,000
	1994	4				2,520	ton	\$	36.35	\$	91,600														
Pasture, Irrigated	1995	5		9,550		ac		\$	100.00	\$	955,000														
	1994	4		9,400			acre	\$	100.00	\$	940,000														
Grassland	1995)6,500			acre	\$	10.00	\$	2,065,000														
	1994	4	2(06,700			acre	\$	10.00	\$	2,067,000														
Woodland	1995			73,000			acre	\$	1.00	\$	173,000														
	1994		17	73,000			acre	\$	1.00	\$	173,000														
Miscellaneous (b)	1995									S	221,500														
-	1994	4								\$	435,500														
TOTAL	199	5								\$	9,128,900														
	1994	4								\$	10,600,200														
(a)	Much	oft	he green c	hop and	ensilage is	not sold, bu	t used or	n the	farm. The	valu	ie is														
	detern	nine	d by its fee	ed equiv	alent of hay	after it is cu	it, loade	d and	d ensiled.																
(b)	Inclue	des a	lfalfa, bar	ley, saffl	lower, whea	it, rye, vetch	, sudan,	etc.																	

AP1	AR	V	PR	0	D	V	C	T	S		ŞI.
ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTIO	N		V	NIT			DOLLA \$/VNIT	R	VALVE TOTAL
Honey	1995	52,086				lb.		\$	1.02	\$	52,900
	1994	49,204				lb.		\$	0.63	\$	30,900
Wax	1995	1,325				lb.		\$	1.58	\$	2,100
	1994	968				lb.		\$	1.55	\$	1,500
Packaged Bees	1995	(nothing for 19	995)			lb.		\$		\$	0
	1994	3,800				lb.		\$	3.50	\$	13,300
Pollination	1995									\$	42,400
	1994									\$	62,800
TOTAL	1995									\$	97,400
	1994									\$	108,500

	MILLION DOLLAR	CI	ROPS
1.	WINE GRAPES	\$	158,824,800
2.	MARKET MILK	\$	71,895,500
3.	MISC. LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY	\$	20,090,900
4.	VEGETABLES	\$	17,221,600
5.	CATTLE AND CALVES	\$	14,439,800
6.	GRAPEVINES	\$	12,807,600
7.	MISC. LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS	\$	10,278,000
8.	MISC. NURSERY PRODUCTS	\$	7,103,800
9.	NURSERY ~ ORNAMENTALS	\$	6,173,600
10.	APPLES \sim LATE VARIETIES	\$	4,299,700
11.	OAT SILAGE	\$	3,217,300
12.	NURSERY ~ CUT FLOWERS	\$	2,461,900
13.	NURSERY \sim BEDDING PLANTS	\$	1,982,600
14.	OAT HAY	\$	1,760,000
15.	TURKEYS	\$	1,208,900
16.	APPLES ~ GRAVENSTEINS	\$	1,190,600
17.	SHEEP AND LAMBS	\$	1,012,000

A P	P	L E			P	R	0		D		U	(3	Т	I		0	N	
)		\$				[D	0	L	L	A	R		V	A	L	UE	2
		BHARD	ACENER	10154694 101AL 1015						\$ TON SUBTORIAL TOT								÷	
CROP	YEAR	Blitte		LONS		4°02 m		\$	TON	V		- with	500	>	'	гот	AL	Constant of	
Gravenstein	1995	1,68	6	4.34		7,	319		162.						\$1	-	,600		
	1994	1,66	0	11.74			189	2004	113.'						\$2	,216	5,200)	
Fresh	1995						534		521.			\$ 2							
	1994						524		533			\$ 3							
Canned	1995 1994						926 227		138. 134.			\$2 \$4		349					
Juice/cider/	1995						393		136.			\$ 5							
vinegar	1994						551		80			\$7							
Dried	1995	(a)					966		117.'			\$ 1							
	1994						88					\$6							
Late Apples	1995	3,61	2	7.46		26,9	949	\$	159.	55							9,70		
	1994	3,59	0	14.58	3	52,	351	\$	112.9	99					\$5	,91	5,300	C	
Fresh	1995						215		524				37,						
ε	1994						,311		487				39,1						
Canned	1995						251		149.					1,416					
	1994						779		117.2					,899					
Juice/cider/	1995 1994						277		130. 98.					,270					
		()				23,8								9,919					
Dried	1995 1994	(a.)					206 395		148 106.					3,505 7,345					
TOTAL	1995	5,29	8	6.47		34,2			160.			ΨL	001	,010	<u>ا</u>	40	0,30	0	
101111	1994	5,25		13.68		/	841		113.1								1,500		
		(a) Gree				,													

	Т	I	М	В	E	R		Η	A	R	V	E	S	Т
		(Informational Only)												
													DOLL	AR
CROP		YEAR	,		PRODU	JCTION		τ	JNIT (b))		VALU	JE(c)	
Timber		1995			26,3	30,000		b	oard fe	et		\$	11,60	008,800
		1994			34,6	500,000		b	oard fe	et		\$	19,2	20,000
		199434,600,000board feet(b) Board feet is the quantity of timber cut and scaled(c) Value of the timber immediately before cutting												



WINE GRAPE PRODUCTION ~ RED

		A C	R	E S]	PRO) D	U C	Т	I O N
		LL V	NON-			TONS		DOLLA	R	VALUE
VARIETY	YEAR	BEARING	BEARING	TOTAL			\$	PER TON		TOTAL
Cabernet Franc	1995	506	26	532		2,091	\$	1,243.80	\$	2,600,800
	1994	479	46	525		2,128	\$	1,171.85	\$	2,493,200
Cabernet	1995	6,425	456	6,881		24,608	\$	1,261.12	\$	31,033,000
Sauvignon	1994	6,437	513	6,950		27,546	\$	1,143.95	\$	31,511,000
Carignane	1995	294	0	294		711	\$	780.00	\$	554,700
	1994	316	0	316		906	\$	524.89	\$	475,600
Merlot	1995	2,834	916	3,750		12,709	\$	1,476.11	\$	18,760,300
	1994	2,591	577	3,168		12,814	\$	1,372.97	\$	17,593,000
Meunier	1995	111	10	121		388	\$	825.40	\$	320,600
	1994	148	0	148		351	\$	795.80	\$	279,100
Gamay	1995	207	16	223		761	\$	686.49	\$	522,100
	1994	199	32	231		935	\$	623.30	\$	582,500
Petite Sirah	1995	275	19	294		634	\$	1,080.49	\$	684,800
	1994	261	40	301		677	\$	901.84	\$	610,800
Petite Verdot	1995	48	31	79		195	\$	1,273.15	\$	248,700
	1994	43	13	56		174	\$	1,407.05	\$	244,800
Pinot Noir	1995	2,978	124	3,102		12,459	\$	994.06	\$	12,385,100
	1994	3,105	113	3,218		12,802	\$	808.39	\$	10,349,300
Sangiovese	1995	48	80	128		470	\$	1,216.51	\$	571,400
	1994	30	78	108		270	\$	1,073.29	\$	290,200
Syrah-shiraz	1995	134	48	182		567	\$	1,207.50	\$	684,900
	1994	120	25	145		503	\$	1,157.79	\$	581,800
Zinfandel	1995	3,908	238	4,146		18,582	\$	1,000.50	\$	18,591,000
	1994	4,039	212	4,251		14,581	\$	740.58	\$	10,798,200
Other Reds	1995	427	58	485		1,068	\$	941.75	\$	1,005,700
	1994	382	48	430		1,223	\$	878.56	\$	1,086,800
TOTAL REDS	1995	18,195	2,022	20,217		75,243	\$	1,169.06	\$	87,963,100
	1994	18,150	1,697	19,847		74,909	\$	1,026.53	\$	76,896,300
TOTAL ALL	1995	33,189	3,141	36,330		139,993	\$	1,134.52	\$	158,824,800
WINE GRAPES	1994	33,374	2,686	36,060		153,096	\$	994.67	\$	152,280,700
	1777 7 77		A 17 77 A	7 37 0				77 4 75	7 73 03	
THE F			CODUC	ING	WI	NE GR			T R T	T E 2
	TONNAGE DOLLARS PER TON									
1992 ~ 1995 1992 ~ 1995										
Tonnage					Dollar	ž,				
70,000					1,600					5000
60,000		A. A			1,400					
50,000	1.1				1,200 1,000					
40,000			2.0		300					
30,000					600					
20,000					400					
10,000					200	- -				
0 1992	1993	1994	199	88888SSI	0	1992	1993	1994		1995
Chardon	Chardonnay Cabernet Chardonnay Cabernet Chardonnay Cabernet Kinfandel Kinfan									

FRUIT,	NUT an	nd Gl	RAPEVINE	ACREAGE
CROP	BEAF	LING	NON-BEARING	TOTAL
Apples	5	298	98	5,396
Cherries		3	C	3
Figs		3	C	3
Wine Grapes	33	,189	3,141	. 36,330
Kiwi		28	C	28
Peaches		5	C	5
Pears		125	1	. 126
Plums	×	9	C	9
Prunes		715	20	735
Walnuts		317	0	317
Miscellaneous		22	0	22
TOTAL AGRIDACID	39	714	3,260	42,974

INVENTORIES	OF	LIVESTOCK	AND	POULTRY
(ITEM	Number o	of Head as of January 1, 1	995)	NUMBER
Cattle and Calves, all				102,525
	ows and l s and ove		(37,000)	
	ows and 1 s and ove		(25,800)	
Sheep and Lambs, all				16,400
Hogs				3,050
Laying Hens and Pullets				612,485
Turkey Breeders				23,112

COMMERCIAL	FISH	CATCH	~	1994
	(Informa	tion Only)		
SPECIES		POUNDS		VALUE
Crab, Dungeness		854,328	\$	1,266,430
Urchin, Red		1,337,200	\$	1,236,750
Salmon, Chinook		382,621	\$	802,396
Sole, Dover		983,166	\$	282,045
Thornyheads		258,094	\$	186,171
Rockfish, unspecified		420,222	\$	165,206
Rockfish, Chilipepper		343,222	\$	157,105
Swordfish		34,043	\$	133,687
Sablefish		197,747	\$	109,367
Tuna, Albacore		80,206	\$	76,347
Rockfish, Bocaccio		179,240	\$	67,581
Rockfish, China		24,282	\$	46,164
Sole, Petrale		52,713	\$	45,836
Rockfish, Widow		121,233	\$	43,813
Lingcod		91,922	\$	42,143
Sole, English		108,901	\$	37,935
Rockfish, Group Bolina		10,497	\$	34,161
Rockfish, Group Red		50,247	\$	28,779
Halibut, California		8,379	\$	21,578
Sole, Rex		53,048	\$	19,256
Other		180,518	\$	140,857
TOTAL		5,771,829	\$	4,943,607

The figures are provided by the California Department of Fish and Game. The 1995 figures will not be available until later in the year.

	HORSES	
	(Informational Only)	
	AVERAGE	TOTAL
HEAD	PER HEAD	VALUE
15,040	\$4,047	\$60,869,537
Stallions and Geldings	Mares	Yearlings
7,298	6,727	1,015

These figures were furnished by Dr. Carlo Benito, Professor of Economics at Sonoma State University. The Survey was done as a class project. The number of head was determined by actual count and the value was established through a survey and the Stable News. These figures are the same as the 1994 report.



Sonoma County 1995 Sustainable Agriculture Report

By Priscilla Lane

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL PROGRAM

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL	# OF RELEASE SITES
Yellow Starthistle Seedhead Weevil (Bangasternus orientalis)	3
Yellow Starthistle Seedhead Gall Fly (Urophora sirunaseva)	2
Yellow Starthistle Hairy Weevil (Enstenopus villosus)	2

ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS

COMMODITY	# OF PRODUCERS	COMMODITY	# OF PRODUCERS
Eggs	4	Fruits and Nuts	391
Vegetables	90	Wine Grapes	17
Milk	1		

PEST DETECTION

TRAPPING: 10,510 trap servicings for exotic insect pests. (Includes Mediterranean and Oriental Fruit Fly, Melon Fly, Gypsy Moth, Japanese Beetle, Khapra Beetle and Western Grapeleaf Skeletonizer)

ENTRYWAY SURVEY: 809 miles and 124 properties were surveyed for the presence of noxious weed and disease pests.

WEED SURVEY

PEST	GROSS ACRES TREATED	PEST	GROSS ACRES TREATED
Artichoke Thistle	250	Distaff Thistle	50
Iberian Starthistle	1000	Purple Starthistle	250

PEST EXCLUSION

A total of 3,176 premise inspections for incoming shipments of plant material were made by the Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner's Office. Inspections occurred at the Express Carriers, Nurseries, Post Office, Rail Road and United Parcel Service. 230 rejections of plant material were made. Rejected plant material was either destroyed or reconditioned and released. Listed below are a few of the economically important pest species intercepted in 1995:

Quack Grass	Iberian Starthistle	Violet Leaf Midge
<i>Elytrigia repens</i>	<i>Centaurea iberica</i>	<i>Dasineura affinis</i>
Gypsy Moth	Magnolia White Scale	Croton Whitefly
<i>Lymantria dispar</i>	Pseudaulacaspis cockerelli	Orchamoplatus mammaeferis

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL DAY GRAND PRIZE ESSAY

The following winning essay, from the Agricultural Day essay contest, sponsored by the Northbay Chapter of California Women for Agriculture, Sonoma County Farm Bureau and the Press Democrat, is reprinted with permission from Ashley Inman and her parents.

Ashley is a third grade student at Pacific Christian Academy in Graton. Her award winning essay describes what farming in Sonoma County means to her.

WHAT FARMING IN SONOMA COUNTY MEANS TO ME

"I like cows because they give us milk and food to eat. We have flowers in our state because God wanted our world to look pretty and colorful and full of life. I like our world because it's beautiful. We have food and animals that provide things to eat. Chickens provide us with eggs and meat.

I like trees because they give us oxygen and helps our environment. I like grass so that I can roll and lay on it and when it rains our world looks greener.

The most important thing in Sonoma County is grapes and apples. I like baby lambs because they are cute. Cows provide meat such as beef, steak and liver. Milk from cows makes our bones strong.

I like flowers in Sonoma County because they add color to everything. Some bees take honey from flowers. When baby calves drink their mother's milk, they grow like crazy.

Someday when I grow up I want to live on a farm and raise animals and make the world a better place to live that's clean with fresh air to breathe."

1996 Staff

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