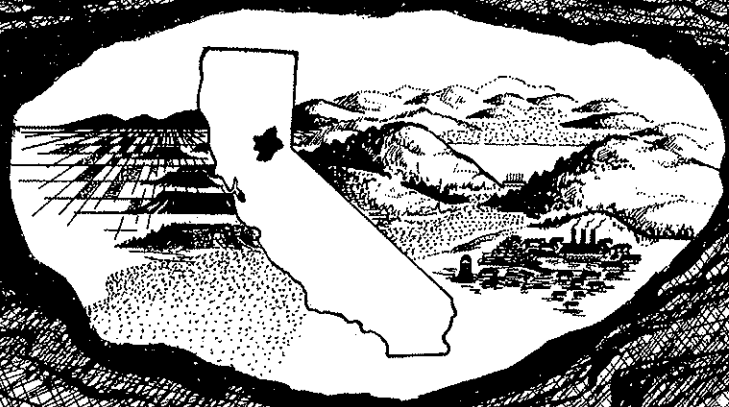
Butte County



1966 agricultural crop report

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

Butte County

LAND OF NATURAL WEALTH AND BEAUTY

OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

Donald J. Black
Agricultural Commissioner
R. A. Mackessy
Deputy Commissioner

AGRICULTURAL BUILDING
Nelson Avenue, Oroville, California 95965
Mail: P. O. Box 1229
Telephone: 533-1230; Ext. 262

Mr. Earl Coke, Director
California Department of Agriculture
and
The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Butte

Arley L. Howsden, Chairman
O. E. Dunaway — Jack J. McKillop
Donald L. Maxon — Leslie J. Pryde

Gentlemen:

Section 65.5 of the California Agricultural Code requires that the Agricultural Commissioner compile a report covering conditions, acreage, production and value of the agricultural products of his county. I am pleased to submit Butte County's twenty-eighth annual crop report.

Worthy of note is the fact that this year's crop value was the highest in the county's history, over 57 million dollars.

The value of all crops is given as F.O.B. gross returns only and is not intended to show net returns to the growers.

Acknowledgement is given to members of the staff for the compilation of this report.

Special thanks is expressed to the many individuals, agencies and producers for their excellent cooperation in making this report possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald J. Black

Donald J. Black
Agricultural Commissioner

CROP SUMMARY
1966

Commonly known is the fact that agricultural production is dependent upon many factors, the most important one being climatic conditions. As is the perennial case in California, it seems, this was another unusual climatic year.

The spring was ushered in by abnormally dry weather with temperatures reaching record high levels by mid-March. These conditions allowed early field and truck crop ground preparation and planting, but lack of rainfall from February through June adversely affected yields of some dry land crops.

The early spring allowed rice growers to plant sooner than normal, although strong spring winds at times halted planting operations and uprooted some plants necessitating the replanting of some acreage. The average yield of 2.79 tons of rice per acre, the highest ever recorded, were made this year. Acreage allotments were also increased 10% which put this crop over the 18 million dollar mark.

A hot spell that began in late July and continued three weeks into August depressed yields of some bean and seed crops and produced ideal conditions for a rapid buildup of insect populations. Such populations resulted in above normal damage to bean, milo and corn crops.

The low prune yield is thought to be the result of the unusual warm spring weather, whereas the favorable peach yields are credited to the lack of late summer rains that jeopardized the crop the previous year.

Almond and walnut yields were among the highest ever recorded in the county which were accredited to an ideal spring and harvest season.

Harvest of all field crops and fruits and nuts progressed faster than normal as weather conditions were ideal for harvest completion.

Total values of all commodities increased $5,339,655.00 over 1965.

BUTTE COUNTY FRUIT AND NUT ACREAGE STATISTICS
1966

Orchard Crops	Bearing Acreage	Non-Bearing Acreage	Total
Citrus			
Mandarins	15	16	31
Navels	334	25	359
Miscellaneous	12		12
Almonds	14,231	5,617	19,848
Apples	341	60	401
Apricots	34		34
Avocados	1		1
Cherries	4	12	16
Figs	4		4
Grapes	64	3	67
Nectarines	7		7
Olives	4,671	69	4,740
Peaches, cling	3,335	1,622	4,957
Peaches, freestone	293	20	313
Pears	454	424	878
Pecans	18	37	55
Persimmons	12		12
Pistachio	26	49	75
Plums	8		8
Prunes	4,793	3,268	8,061
Walnuts, persian	5,257	2,967	8,224
Walnuts, black	162	15	177
Total	34,076	14,204	48,280

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production Per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Value Total
Barley	1966	21,700	1.2	26,000	ton	$ 48.00	$ 1,248,000
	1965	22,200	1.25	27,700	ton	47.00	1,302,000
Beans, dry edible	1966	7,610	.7	5,330	ton	175.00	923,000
	1965	5,790	1.0	5,790	ton	204.00	1,181,000
Corn	1966	3,000	3.0	9,000	ton	55.00	495,000
	1965	3,370	3.2	10,800	ton	51.00	551,000
Hay, alfalfa	1966	8,700	6.0	52,200	ton	26.00	1,357,000
	1965	8,600	6.58	56,600	ton	24.00	1,358,000
Grain	1966	4,000	2.5	10,000	ton	23.00	230,000
	1965	4,000	2.5	10,000	ton	22.00	220,000
Other	1966	2,000	1.0	2,000	ton	20.00	40,000
	1965	0	0	0		0	0
Oats	1966	4,670	1.8	8,410	ton	46.00	387,000
	1965	3,500	1.1	3,850	ton	45.00	173,000
Pasture, irrigated	1966	20,000		*	acre	60.00	1,200,000
	1965	20,000		*	acre	60.00	1,200,000
Other	1966	331,000		*	acre	3.50	1,158,000
	1965	331,000		*	acre	3.50	1,158,000
Rice	1966	62,900	2.79	175,000	ton	97.00	16,975,000
	1965	57,500	2.65	152,000	ton	100.00	15,237,000
Safflower	1966	7,000	.8	5,600	ton	95.00	532,000
	1965	12,000	.8	9,600	ton	87.00	835,000
Silage	1966	530	20.0	10,600	ton	6.50	68,900
	1965	750	23.5	17,600	ton	5.46	96,100
Sorghum, grain	1966	10,000	2.07	20,700	ton	46.00	952,000
	1965	10,500	2.5	26,200	ton	43.50	1,140,000
Sugar beets	1966	2,710	21.8	59,100	ton	12.60	745,000
	1965	3,100	19.4	60,100	ton	11.50	691,000
Wheat	1966	6,900	1.5	10,300	ton	50.00	515,000
	1965	5,500	.9	4,950	ton	48.30	239,000
Total	1966	492,720					$ 26,825,900
	1965	487,810					$ 25,381,100

* Per acre value

SEED CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production Per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Value Total
Alfalfa	1966	*795	361	287,000	lb.	$ .383	$ 110,000
	1965	*612	320	196,000	lb.	.35	68,600
Barley	1966	1,145	1,790	2,050,000	lb.	.032	65,600
	1965	790	2,500	1,975,000	lb.	.031	61,200
Beans	1966	2,680	1,500	4,020,000	lb.	.13	523,000
	1965	2,530	1,700	4,301,000	lb.	.114	490,000
Oats	1966	3,400	2,100	7,140,000	lb.	.031	221,000
	1965	1,470	1,000	1,470,000	lb.	.04	58,800
Oats & Vetch mixed	1966	3,800					296,000
	1965	3,770					164,000
Rice, certified	1966	2,900	5,400	15,600,000	lb.	.071	1,108,000
	1965	1,600	5,100	8,160,000	lb.	.071	579,000
Safflower	1966	200	1,100	220,000	lb.	.055	12,100
	1965	930	1,500	1,395,000	lb.	.046	64,200
Vetch	1966	340	336	114,000	lb.	.04	4,560
	1965	1,330	430	572,000	lb.	.045	25,700
Wheat	1966	370	2,740	1,014,000	lb.	.035	35,500
	1965	290	4,120	1,195,000	lb.	.035	41,800
**Miscellaneous	1966	805					137,000
	1965	1,595					184,000
Total	1966	15,640					$ 2,512,760
	1965	14,305					$ 1,737,300

* Acreage recorded in field crops
** Canary Grass, Horse Beans, Millet, Peas, Sudan Grass, Melons and Cucurbits.

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production Per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Value Total
*Miscellaneous	1966	3,130					$ 1,155,000
	1965	2,100					582,000

* Carrots, Corn, Cucumbers, Melons, Onions, Peppers, Pumpkins, Rutabagas, Squash, Tomatoes, Turnips.

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production Per Acre	Production Total	Unit	Value Per Unit	Value Total
Almonds	1966	14,231	.93	13,300	ton	$ 630.00	$ 8,379,000
	1965	14,021	.82	11,500	ton	630.00	7,245,000
Hulls	1966			17,300	ton	10.50	182,000
	1965			14,000	ton	6.50	91,000
Apples	1966	341	11.3	3,850	ton	104.00	401,000
	1965	336	9.07	3,050	ton	139.00	424,000
Olives	1966	4,671	1.1	5,140	ton	225.00	1,156,000
	1965	4,694	1.29	6,060	ton	210.70	1,276,900
Oranges, Navel	1966	334	8.6	2,870	ton	120.00	344,000
	1965	329	5.66	1,860	ton	60.70	113,000
Mandarins & Tangerines	1966	15	3.7	55	ton	200.00	11,000
	1965	7	6.7	47	ton	176.00	8,270
Peaches, Clingstone	1966	3,335	12.5	41,700	ton	68.50	2,856,000
	1965	3,255	8.0	26,000	ton	67.90	1,765,000
Freestone	1966	293	11.1	3,230	ton	61.30	198,000
	1965	298	10.5	3,130	ton	50.20	157,000
Pears	1966	454	5.65	2,570	ton	80.00	206,000
	1965	415	.81	337	ton	138.00	46,500
Prunes, dried	1966	4,793	1.09	5,220	ton	340.00	1,775,000
	1965	4,576	2.36	10,800	ton	216.00	2,333,000
Walnuts, Black	1966	162	7.81	1,270	ton	55.00	69,800
	1965	131	7.86	1,030	ton	44.00	45,300
Persian	1966	5,257	.71	3,750	ton	420.00	1,575,000
	1965	4,766	.6	2,860	ton	430.00	1,230,000
* Miscellaneous	1966	191					86,000
	1965	189					62,000
Total	1966	34,077					$ 17,238,800
	1965	33,017					$ 14,796,970

* Apricots, Avocados, Bushberries, Cherries, Figs, Miscellaneous Citrus, Grapes, Nectarines, Pecans, Persimmons, Pistachio, Plums, Strawberries.

NURSERY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AREA, SALES AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production Area: House Sq. Ft.	Production Area: Field Acres	Sold by Producers	Unit	Value: Per Unit	Value: Total
Conifer Seedlings	1966		7.0	901,000	plant	$ .02	$ 18,000
	1965		7.0	968,000	plant	.013	12,600
Deciduous Fruit & Nut Trees	1966		25.0	268,000	plant	1.20	321,000
	1965		36.0	225,000	plant	1.16	262,000
*Ornamental Trees & Shrubs	1966		1.0	17,100	plant	1.15	19,700
	1965		1.0	16,800	plant	1.19	20,000
**Miscellaneous	1966	10,000	1.0				18,500
	1965	10,000	1.0				21,800
Total	1966	10,000	34.0				$ 377,200
	1965	10,000	45.0				$ 316,400

* Includes broad leaved evergreens, coniferous evergreens, deciduous shade trees and shrubs and miscellaneous citrus.

** Includes grapevines, herbaceous perennials, indoor decorative plants, bulbs, rhizomes, roots, bedding plants, etc.

APIARY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production Total	Unit	Value: Per Unit	Value: Total
Honey	1966	101,000	lb.	.13	$ 13,100
	1965	362,000	lb.	.12	43,400
Beeswax	1966	1,690	lb.	.50	845
	1965	6,000	lb.	.44	2,640
Package Bees	1966	94,000	lb.	1.35	127,000
	1965	69,500	lb.	1.25	86,900
Queen Bees	1966	41,000	each	1.29	52,900
	1965	38,900	each	1.25	48,600
Pollination	1966	19,800	colony	1.48	29,300
	1965	17,200	colony	1.44	24,800
Nuclei	1966	112	each	5.00	560
	1965	0		0	0
Total	1966				$ 223,705
	1965				$ 206,340

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production: No. of Head	Production: Total Live Weight	Unit	Value: Per Unit	Value: Total
Cattle and Calves	1966	31,000	217,000	cwt.	$ 23.80	$ 5,165,000
	1965	30,600	214,000	cwt.	23.00	4,922,000
Sheep and Lambs	1966	18,000	19,500	cwt.	20.00	390,000
	1965	19,400	21,300	cwt.	22.50	479,000
Hogs and Pigs	1966	15,000	31,500	cwt.	23.80	750,000
	1965	21,200	44,500	cwt.	21.40	952,000
*Miscellaneous Poultry	1966					344,000
	1965					384,000
Total	1966					$ 6,649,000
	1965					$ 6,737,000

* Meat Poultry, Partridges, Pheasants, Rabbits, Turkeys.

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Value: Per Unit	Value: Total
Milk, Market	1966	175,000	cwt.	$ 5.31	$ 929,000
	*1965	164,000	cwt.	5.05	828,000
Manufacturing	1966	105,000	cwt.	4.01	421,000
	*1965	112,000	cwt.	3.42	383,000
Wool	1966	175,000	lb.	.557	97,500
	1965	173,000	lb.	.55	95,100
Eggs, Chicken Market	1966	2,533,000	doz.	.36	912,000
	1965	2,782,000	doz.	.34	946,000
Eggs, Hatching Chicken & Turkey	1966				182,000
	1965				175,000
Total	1966				$ 2,541,500
	*1965				$ 2,427,100

* Revised

PAYMENTS UNDER AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION COMMITTEE

	1966	1965
Agricultural Conservation Reserve	$ 16,233	$ 16,234
Agricultural Conservation Program	83,196	86,305
Wool Incentive Payments	30,039	19,028
Sugar Beet Payments	97,858	107,509
Feed Grain Program	252,527	313,311
Wheat Stabilization Program	108,150	88,945
*Total	$ 588,000	$ 631,000

*Total figures rounded

JANUARY 1 INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

	1967	1966
Cattle and Calves All	55,800	53,500
Milk cows 2 years and over	3,800	4,400
Cattle and Calves in feed lots	2,700	2,850
Sheep and Lambs All	27,000	28,000
Stock Sheep	15,000	15,400
Sheep and Lambs on feed	12,000	12,600
Hogs and Pigs All	6,500	11,000
Hens and Pullets of laying age	124,000	130,000
Turkey Breeder Hens	8,400	5,400

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF CROP VALUES

Commodities	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Field Crops	$ 22,796,100	$ 22,766,000	$ 26,102,000	$ 25,381,100	$ 26,825,900
Seed Crops	1,235,580	1,039,600	1,237,900	1,737,300	2,512,760
Vegetable Crops	1,703,300	1,331,130	1,473,000	582,000	1,155,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	13,093,080	13,947,810	17,207,730	14,796,970	17,238.800
Nursery Stock	307,400	273,460	278,670	316,400	377,200
Livestock and Poultry	9,101,620	9,091,570	8,148,150	* 9,164,100	9,190,500
Miscellaneous	201,200	168,290	162,950	206,340	223,705
Grand Total	$ 48,438,280	$ 48,617,860	$ 54,610,400	*$ 52,184,210	$ 57,523,865
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Payments	$ 688,000	$ 582,000	$ 737,000	$ 631,000	$ 588,000

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF PLANT CROP ACREAGES

Commodities	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Field Crops	499,829	505,659	492,160	487,810	492,720
Seed Crops	19,024	11,784	11,783	14,305	15,640
Vegetable Crops	3,850	2,958	3,693	2,100	3,130
Fruit and Nut Crops	31,146	32,788	33,962	33,017	34,077
Grand Total	553,849	553,189	541,598	537,232	545,567

*Revised