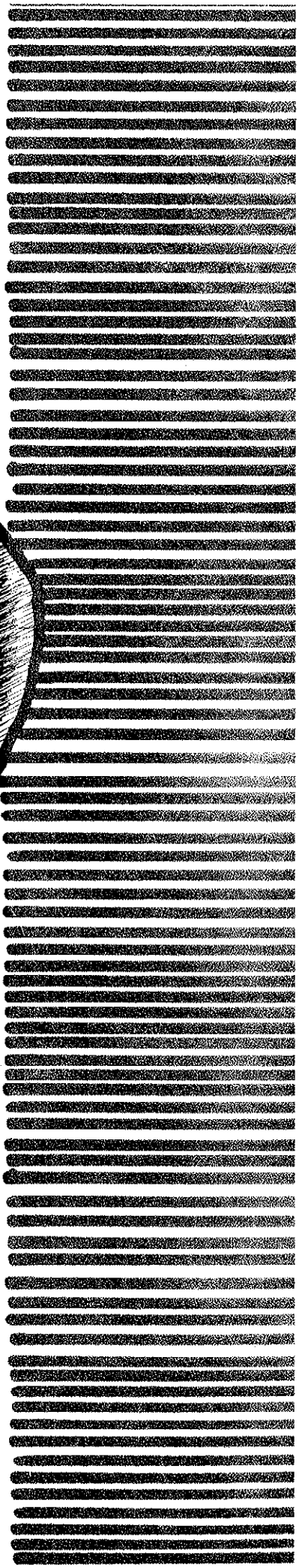
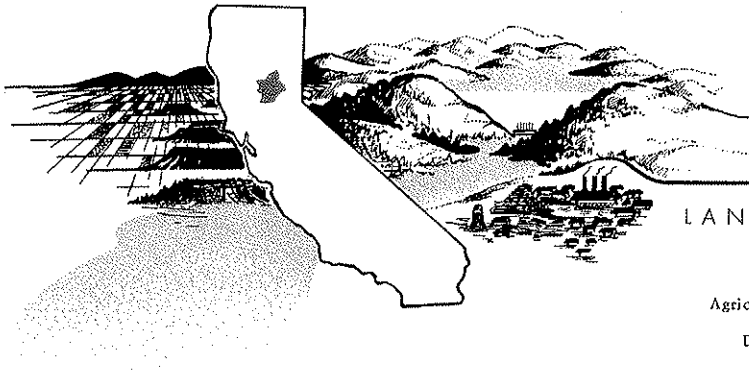


BUTTE COUNTY
CROP REPORT

1969

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER





Butte County

LAND OF NATURAL WEALTH AND BEAUTY

OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

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

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Mr. Jerry W. Fielder, Director
California Department of Agriculture
and
The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Butte

O. E. Dunaway, Chairman
Arley L. Howsden Jack J. McKillop
Don Maxon Jere E. Reynolds

Gentlemen:

I am pleased to submit the thirty-first annual crop report of agricultural production in Butte County for 1969 as required by Section 2279 of the California Agricultural Code.

The gross agricultural production for 1969 is the highest on record, \$65,676,930.

Weather is the determining factor in production and a very wet spring coupled with an abnormally hot summer reduced anticipated yields of various crops.

Values given in this report are F.O.B. gross returns and in no way represent a measure of profit to the producer.

Farmers today are finding it more difficult to stay in business because of "tight money", taxes and the cost-price squeeze. Smaller farmers in particular are having difficult times and are leaving this work because it is no longer profitable for them.

Credit for the assiduous compilation of this report should go to the members of my staff, particularly, R. A. Mackessy, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner.

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

Respectfully submitted

Donald J. Black
Agricultural Commissioner

CROP SUMMARY 1969

Wet, cold weather was predominate the early part of the year with considerable amounts of rain falling as late as the middle of June. One of the heaviest snow packs on record fell this winter. Conversely, the average summer high temperatures were record breakers also which adversely affected growth and production of some crops.

Fortunately, the fall harvest season was long and dry enabling growers to harvest nearly all crops without having to battle the elements.

Field Crops

1969 values were down over two million dollars from 1968. Cold, wet weather through the early part of 1969 delayed or prevented planting of winter seed crops. Some planted fields were lost to flooding.

Acreage was lost in barley and wheat, though an acreage gain was noted in dry beans, safflower and sorghum grain. This is the pattern in wet springs.

Rice suffered a cut in acreage due to a 10% reduction in allotment.

Sugar beet production dropped eight tons per acre due to late planting and an unseasonal hot summer.

Dry beans and rice continued to show a value of over one million dollars.

Over 14,000 acres of grain land went into federal grain and wheat stabilization programs.

Seed Crops

Though there was an acreage loss of 1,400, values were off only \$110,000 compared to 1968 because of favorable production and price.

Vegetable Crops

A loss in gross value of \$300,000 due to a 500 acre drop in tomatoes and other vegetables.

Fruit and Nut Crops

The aggregate value of all fruit and nut crops totaled \$25,171,000, nine percent over last year's value of \$22,972,000. Fruit and nut crops bloomed late under cold and heavy rainfall conditions. In spite of this the set of most fruit and nut crops was good with the exception of prunes. Hot weather contributed to smaller peach sizes reflecting less tonnage per acre. Weather conditions were very favorable during harvest.

A five million dollar gross in almonds over 1968 continues to lead all values in fruit and nuts. With the exception of olives and prunes most prices for fruits and nuts were down considerably.

Apiary Products

A drop in value of package bees was more than made up in honey returns and pollination fees.

Livestock and Poultry

Cattle and pigs increased in numbers and value, while sheep and lambs continue to decline. Increase over 1968 amounted to \$811,000.

BUTTE COUNTY FRUIT AND NUT ACREAGE STATISTICS
1969

Orchard Crops	Bearing Acreage	Non-Bearing Acreage	Total
Almonds	17,216	7,067	24,283
Apples	244	68	312
Apricots	23	0	23
Cherries	10	0	10
Citrus			
Mandarins	21	24	45
Navels	323	28	351
Miscellaneous	12	0	12
Figs	4	0	4
Grapes	48	0	48
Kiwi	2	11	13
Nectarines	7	0	7
Olives	4,603	19	4,622
Peaches, clingstone	4,109	1,748	5,857
Peaches, freestone	215	18	233
Pears	819	269	1,088
Pecans	19	27	46
Persimmons	12	0	12
Pistachio	28	62	90
Plums	7	0	7
Prunes	6,506	2,101	8,607
Walnuts, persian	<u>6,332</u>	<u>3,762</u>	<u>10,094</u>
Total	40,560	15,204	55,764

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Barley	1969	10,300	1.1	11,300	ton	\$ 50.00	\$ 565,000
	1968	23,400	1.43	33,500	ton	42.40	1,420,000
Beans, dry edible	1969	8,010	.7	5,610	ton	220.00	1,234,000
	1968	4,030	1.0	4,030	ton	298.00	1,201,000
Corn	1969	1,430	2.5	3,570	ton	50.00	179,000
	1968	3,420	3.5	12,000	ton	44.00	528,000
Hay, alfalfa	1969	5,200	6.0	31,000	ton	28.00	868,000
	1968	7,000	6.0	42,000	ton	26.00	1,092,000
Grain	1969	3,500	2.0	7,000	ton	26.00	182,000
	1968	4,130	2.0	8,260	ton	22.00	182,000
Wild	1969	1,500	1.5	2,250	ton	19.00	43,000
	1968	2,000	1.3	2,600	ton	18.00	46,800
Oats	1969	1,720	1.0	1,720	ton	55.00	94,600
	1968	2,660	1.25	3,320	ton	50.00	166,000
Pasture, irrigated	1969	19,000			*acre	80.00	1,520,000
	1968	19,000			*acre	80.00	1,520,000
Other	1969	331,000			*acre	2.50	828,000
	1968	331,000			*acre	2.50	828,000
Rice	1969	65,800	2.59	170,000	ton	104.00	17,700,000
	1968	74,200	2.55	189,000	ton	96.80	18,295,000
Safflower	1969	6,400	1.50	9,600	ton	84.00	806,000
	1968	3,700	.69	2,550	ton	80.60	206,000
Silage, corn	1969	265	20.0	5,300	ton	7.00	37,100
	1968	355	20.0	7,100	ton	6.00	42,600
Sorghum, grain	1969	12,100	1.4	16,900	ton	45.50	769,000
	1968	4,820	1.5	7,230	ton	42.00	304,000
Sugar beets	1969	3,050	14.3	43,600	ton	12.20	532,000
	1968	4,040	22.5	90,900	ton	13.40	1,218,000
Wheat	1969	10,000	1.32	13,200	ton	46.00	607,000
	1968	<u>20,000</u>	1.25	25,000	ton	40.00	<u>1,000,000</u>
Total	1969	479,275					\$ 25,964,700
	1968	503,755					\$ 28,049,400

* Per acre value

SEED CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Per Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total			Per Unit	Total
Alfalfa	1969	* 204	418	85,300	lb.	\$.34	\$	29,000
	1968	* 100	386	38,600	lb.	.40		15,400
Barley	1969	410	2,000	820,000	lb.	.04		32,800
	1968	420	2,500	1,050,000	lb.	.032		33,600
Beans	1969	2,030	1,300	2,639,000	lb.	.12		317,000
	1968	1,170	1,480	1,732,000	lb.	.16		277,000
Oats	1969	3,240	2,000	6,480,000	lb.	.038		246,000
	1968	4,290	2,000	8,580,000	lb.	.04		343,000
Oats & Vetch mixed	1969	2,020						133,000
	1968	3,000						231,000
Rice, certified & non-certified	1969	3,420	4,100	14,022,000	lb.	.071		996,000
	1968	3,380	4,400	14,872,000	lb.	.071		1,056,000
Vetch	1969	860	650	559,000	lb.	.07		39,100
	1968	190	300	57,000	lb.	.065		3,700
Wheat	1969	100	2,500	250,000	lb.	.03		7,500
	1968	1,030	1,300	1,339,000	lb.	.03		40,200
**Miscellaneous	1969	1,311						365,000
	1968	<u>1,320</u>						<u>276,000</u>
Total	1969	13,391					\$	2,165,400
	1968	14,800					\$	2,275,900

* Acreage recorded in field crops

** Canary Grass, Dichondra, Harding Grass, Ladino Clover, Melons and Cucurbits, Mustard, Peas, Sudan Grass, Turnips

VEGETABLE CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Per Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total			Per Unit	Total
*Miscellaneous	1969	3,500					\$	1,335,000
	1968	4,060					\$	1,635,000

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

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Almonds	1969	17,216	1.15	19,800	ton	\$ 610.00	\$ 12,078,000
	1968	16,365	.699	11,400	ton	638.00	7,273,000
Hulls	1969			20,500	ton	6.00	123,000
	1968			13,200	ton	5.00	66,000
Apples	1969	244	13.8	3,370	ton	80.20	270,000
	1968	349	13.1	4,570	ton	120.00	548,000
Olives	1969	4,603	1.56	7,180	ton	368.00	2,642,000
	1968	4,673	2.23	10,400	ton	347.00	3,609,000
Oranges, Navel	1969	323	6.04	1,950	ton	80.50	157,000
	1968	343	5.83	2,000	ton	115.00	230,000
Mandarins & Tangerines	1969	21	3.0	63	ton	222.00	14,000
	1968	21	5.0	105	ton	200.00	21,000
Peaches, Clingstone	1969	4,109	13.0	53,400	ton	74.00	3,952,000
	1968	4,042	14.0	56,600	ton	76.00	4,302,000
Freestone	1969	215	12.0	2,580	ton	65.00	168,000
	1968	246	9.63	2,370	ton	77.60	184,000
Pears	1969	819	6.78	5,550	ton	80.50	447,000
	1968	702	6.27	4,400	ton	115.00	506,000
Prunes, dried	1969	6,506	1.46	9,500	ton	310.00	2,945,000
	1968	5,711	1.89	10,800	ton	273.00	2,948,000
Walnuts, Persian	1969	6,332	.763	4,830	ton	454.00	2,193,000
	1968	6,102	.78	4,760	ton	660.00	3,142,000
*Miscellaneous	1969	184					182,000
	1968	<u>190</u>					<u>143,000</u>
Total	1969	40,572					\$ 25,171,000
	1968	38,744					\$ 22,972,000

* Apricots, Avocados, Black Walnuts, Bushberries, Cherries, Miscellaneous Citrus, Figs, Grapes, Kiwi Fruit, Nectarines, Pecans, Persimmons, Pistachio, Plums, Strawberries

NURSERY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AREA, SALES AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production Area		Sold by Producers	Unit	Per Unit	Value
		House Sq. Ft.	Field Acres				Total
Conifer Seedlings	1969		4.0	1,800,000	plant	\$.022	\$ 39,600
	1968		5.0	614,000	plant	.022	13,500
*Miscellaneous	1969	10,000	32.0	302,000	plant		391,000
	1968	<u>10,000</u>	<u>26.0</u>	238,000	plant		<u>411,600</u>
Total	1969	10,000	36.0				\$ 430,600
	1968	10,000	31.0				\$ 425,100

* Includes broad leaved evergreens, coniferous evergreens, deciduous fruit, nut and shade trees, shrubs, kiwi vines, grapevines, herbaceous perennials, indoor decorative plants, bulbs, rhizomes, roots, bedding plants, miscellaneous citrus, specimen olive trees

APIARY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production Total	Unit	Per Unit	Value
					Total
Honey	1969	339,800	lb.	\$.13	\$ 44,200
	1968	*			
Beeswax	1969	5,790	lb.	.55	3,200
	1968	1,670	lb.	.65	1,080
Package Bees	1969	82,000	lb.	1.30	107,000
	1968	93,800	lb.	1.35	126,600
Queen Bees	1969	28,700	each	1.35	38,700
	1968	23,800	each	1.35	32,100
Pollination	1969	30,700	colony	2.66	81,700
	1968	22,800	colony	2.08	47,400
Nuclei	1969	900	each	5.33	4,800
	1968	2,210	each	6.90	<u>15,200</u>
Total	1969				\$ 279,600
	1968				\$ 222,380

* Crop Failure

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Per Unit	Value
		No. of Head	Total Live Weight			Total
Cattle and Calves	1969	36,300	254,000	cwt.	\$ 27.50	\$ 6,985,000
	1968	34,200	248,000	cwt.	24.60	6,101,000
Sheep and Lambs	1969	12,000	12,600	cwt.	22.40	282,000
	1968	16,300	17,600	cwt.	20.40	359,000
Hogs and Pigs	1969	10,500	22,000	cwt.	22.80	502,000
	1968	6,710	14,200	cwt.	19.60	278,000
*Miscellaneous	1969					346,000
	1968					<u>566,000</u>
Total	1969					\$ 8,115,000
	1968					\$ 7,304,000

* Catfish, Meat Poultry, Partridges, Pheasants, Pullet replacements, Rabbits, Turkeys

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Per Unit	Value
					Total
Milk, Market	1969	195,000	cwt.	\$ 5.77	\$ 1,125,000
	*1968	168,000	cwt.	5.62	944,000
Manufacturing	1969	60,500	cwt.	4.19	253,000
	*1968	85,100	cwt.	4.17	355,000
Eggs, Chicken Market	1969	2,140,000	doz.	.356	762,000
	*1968	1,988,000	doz.	.30	596,000
Eggs, Hatching Chicken & Turkey	1969				2,530
	1968				107,000
Wool	1969	138,000	lb.	.53	73,100
	1968	154,000	lb.	.47	<u>72,400</u>
Total	1969				\$ 2,215,630
	*1968				\$ 2,074,400

* Revised

PAYMENTS UNDER AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION COMMITTEE

	1969	1968
Agricultural Conservation Reserve	\$ 0	\$ 13,929
Agricultural Conservation Program	67,307	78,035
Cropland Adjustment Program	10,959	10,953
Wool Incentive Payments	40,196	45,307
Sugar Beet Payments	112,185	175,363
Feed Grain Program	409,715	51,792
Wheat Stabilization Program	<u>123,445</u>	<u>82,847</u>
*Total	\$ 764,000	\$ 458,000

* Total figures rounded

JANUARY 1 INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

	1970	1969
Cattle and Calves, All	56,000	62,600
Milk cows 2 years and over	2,700	3,400
Cattle and Calves in feed lots	1,600	2,160
Sheep and Lambs, All	20,000	32,000
Stock Sheep	10,100	18,000
Hogs and Pigs, All	6,000	6,500
Hens and Pullets of laying age	107,000	99,400

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF CROP VALUES

Commodities	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Field Crops	\$ 25,381,100	\$ 26,505,900	\$ 24,895,000	\$ 28,049,400	\$ 25,964,700
Seed Crops	1,737,300	2,512,760	1,985,700	2,275,900	2,165,400
Vegetable Crops	582,000	1,155,000	1,011,000	1,635,000	1,335,000
Fruit and Nut Crops	14,796,970	17,238,800	17,696,400	22,972,000	25,171,000
Nursery Stock	316,400	377,200	429,700	425,100	430,600
Livestock and Poultry	9,164,100	9,178,500	8,769,300	* 9,378,400	10,330,630
Apiary Products	<u>206,340</u>	<u>223,705</u>	<u>200,830</u>	<u>222,380</u>	<u>279,600</u>
Grand Total	\$ 52,184,210	\$ 57,191,865	\$ 54,987,930	*\$ 64,958,180	\$ 65,676,930
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Payments	\$ 631,000	\$ 588,000	\$ 394,000	\$ 458,000	\$ 764,000

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF PLANT CROP ACREAGES

Commodities	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Field Crops	487,810	492,720	507,710	503,755	479,275
Seed Crops	14,305	15,640	14,655	14,800	13,391
Vegetable Crops	2,100	3,130	3,350	4,060	3,500
Fruit and Nut Crops	<u>33,017</u>	<u>33,915</u>	<u>35,850</u>	<u>38,744</u>	<u>40,572</u>
Grand Total	537,232	545,405	561,565	561,359	536,738

* Revised