



BUTTE COUNTY
2017
CROP REPORT

The cover photo is from Windmill Farm of Gridley, CA owned by Frank & Paula Carli, and is a representation of small farms and direct marketing of agriculture in Butte County. Small farmers provide consumers with locally grown commodities such as nectarines, apples and flowers. Whether they belong to a Community Supported Ag Program, Certified Farmers' Market or utilize a roadside stand, they are all an important part of our community.

When you buy from local farmers, you contribute to the local economy and in turn, benefit from the freshness and variety of seasonally grown crops.





BUTTE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS & MEASURES
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Louie B. Mendoza Jr.
Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer

Tom Pisani
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September 11, 2018

Karen Ross
Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture

The Honorable Butte County Board of Supervisors
Steve Lambert, Chair Larry Wahl
Maureen Kirk Doug Teeter
Bill Connelly

Shari McCracken,
Chief Administrative Officer

Dear Sirs and Madams,

In accordance with provisions of the California Food and Agriculture Code section 2279, I am submitting the 78th annual crop report that shows the agricultural production and agricultural value in Butte County for the 2017 calendar year. Our department has been providing annual crop reports since 1939.

This report is a summary estimate of the acreage, production and gross value of Butte County agricultural products. The values presented in this report are gross values only, and do not reflect net farm income or costs of production and marketing.

The estimated gross value of agricultural production in Butte County for 2017 totaled **\$696,563,214**. This is a \$775,897 increase over the 2016 gross value total of \$695,787,317. The total gross value of agriculture during 2017 is slightly less than our county 10-year average of \$696,650,123.

I wish to extend my appreciation to the many producers, processors and agencies, both private and governmental, who assist with this report by providing us with specific information pertaining to their business. I would also like to thank the staff of the Butte County Agriculture Department for compiling this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Louie B. Mendoza Jr.

Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights & Measures



A Sincere Thank You!

The Butte County Agriculture Department would like to take this opportunity to recognize Sally Loker. Sally worked for the department for eleven years as our Geographic Information System (GIS) Specialist. Sally's knowledge and expertise using established GIS software programs, commands and compilation methods, and her ability to generate and utilize spatial overlays was a huge benefit to the department. Some of Sally's duties included providing request for special services, producing special purpose maps used to determine sensitive pesticide application sites and buffer distances, data compilation and retrieval of GIS data for the department.

Sally felt that her most rewarding project was being able to use ArcGIS to benefit the Agricultural Biologists performing inspections in the field, and on their iPads. In addition to working for the department, Sally has been busy volunteering with the Butte County UC Extension Master Gardening program and the Sierra Club. In the above photo Sally was participating in ice plant eradication at Point Reyes, near San Francisco. Way to go Sally!

In her retirement, Sally has been able to dedicate more time to traveling, playing tennis, yoga, and spending time with her family.

Sally's mantra, "I do it because it's fun!" Well Sally, we hope you are still having fun! We miss you and wish you a very happy and blissful retirement!

Agricultural and Weights & Measures Staff and Associates

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Agricultural Technicians

Lee Hunt, George Mendoza, Evan Padgett, Jose Torres, Cierra Venegas & Brandon Williams

GIS Technician

Sally Loker

USDA Wildlife Specialist

Matt Albertsen

Butte County Agricultural Commissioner's Mission Statement

Protect and perpetuate Agriculture, the #1 industry in Butte County, by ensuring a safe and healthy agriculture product. Promote and provide confidence of buyers and sellers by ensuring fairness in local, national and international trade. Protect and promote the wellbeing of all our customers and our community through the fair, equitable application of agricultural and weights and measures standards, emphasizing education and cooperation, including the use of technology to enhance customer service.

MILLION DOLLAR CROPS

Walnuts	\$254,980,804
Rice	\$145,548,516
Almonds	\$138,194,736
Prunes	\$35,206,770
Nursery Stock	\$13,877,606
Harvested Timber	\$13,529,289
Cattle & Calves	\$11,617,452
Rice, Seed	\$11,054,400
Apiary, Pollination	\$8,622,212
Peaches	\$7,940,700
Fruit & Nut, Misc.	\$5,282,640
Olive, Oil	\$2,899,160
Field Crops, Misc.	\$2,868,800
Apiary, Other Products	\$2,576,000
Kiwifruit	\$2,222,025
Pistachios	\$2,187,850
Almond, Hulls	\$2,160,000
Pasture, Irrigated	\$1,950,000
Pasture, Dry	\$1,950,000
Vegetables	\$1,601,222
Citrus	\$1,484,000
Milk, Market	\$1,187,210
Seed, Misc.	\$1,131,768
Olive, Table	\$1,052,952

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF CROP VALUES

CROP	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
APIARY PRODUCTS	\$7,977,000	\$10,865,340	\$10,586,121	\$10,586,121	\$11,198,212
FIELD CROPS	\$220,799,346	\$168,290,698	\$151,013,590	\$135,340,039	\$153,907,456
FRUIT & NUT CROPS	\$557,225,178	\$556,649,028	\$532,653,396	\$475,230,758	\$453,611,637
LIVESTOCK	\$12,099,000	\$12,520,000	\$12,781,800	\$14,478,648	\$12,744,180
NURSERY STOCK	\$29,458,000	\$17,819,000	\$14,111,000	\$11,664,000	\$13,877,606
SEED CROPS	\$18,510,000	\$18,683,294	\$14,091,107	\$14,677,834	\$12,186,168
VEGETABLE CROPS	\$1,785,000	\$1,503,000	\$1,743,626	\$1,524,973	\$1,601,222
ORGANIC CROPS	\$13,448,637	\$15,935,500	\$21,930,572	\$23,759,940	\$23,902,017
CROP TOTALS	\$861,302,161	\$802,265,860	\$758,911,212	\$687,262,313	\$683,028,498
TIMBER	\$8,292,000	\$8,639,538	\$13,728,672	\$8,525,004	\$13,534,716
GRAND TOTAL	\$869,594,161	\$810,905,398	\$772,639,884	\$695,787,317	\$696,563,214

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF PLANT CROP ACRES

CROP	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
FIELD CROPS	367,783	337,989	311,061	321,932	309,483
FRUIT & NUT CROPS	96,928	97,237	101,486	101,446	101,409
SEED CROPS	6,923	6,590	6,647	6,176	5,492
VEGETABLE CROPS	844	708	817	674	603
GRAND TOTAL	472,478	442,524	420,011	430,228	416,987



2017 FRUIT & NUT CROPS ACREAGE STATISTICS

ORCHARD CROPS	BEARING	NON-BEARING	TOTAL
ALMONDS	39,575	1,143	40,718
APPLES	47	9	56
APRICOTS	19	0	19
AVOCADOS	3	0	3
CHERRIES	3	0	3
CHESTNUTS	46	43	89
GRAPES (Table & Raisin)	5	0	5
GRAPES (Wine)	137	0	137
KIWIFRUIT	579	5	584
MANDARINS	94	0	94
NECTARINES	5	0	5
OLIVES (Oil)	998	0	998
OLIVES (Table)	333	0	333
ORANGES	118	0	118
PEACHES, CLINGSTONE	1384	221	1605
PEACHES, FREESTONE	40	0	40
PEARS	11	0	11
PECANS	326	105	431
PERSIMMONS	64	38	102
PISTACHIOS	765	67	832
PLUMS	108	0	108
PRUNES	6,719	1,413	8,132
WALNUTS, ENGLISH	49,832	5,218	55,050
WALNUTS, BLACK	18	0	18
TOTAL	101,229	8,262	109,491

Data from California Crop and Livestock Reporting Service and other sources



2017 FRUIT & NUT CROPS ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing (ac)	Yield (tons)	Yield (tons) / Bearing (ac)	Value (\$) / 1 (ton)	Total (\$)
ALMONDS	2017	39,575	29,681	0.75	\$4,656	\$138,194,736
	2016	39,475	33,554	0.85	\$5,600	\$187,902,400
HULLS	2017	--	36,000	--	\$60	\$2,160,000
	2016	--	40,000	--	\$90	\$3,600,000
CITRUS	2017	212	742	3.50	\$2,000	\$1,484,000
	2016	223	491	2.20	\$2,950	\$1,448,450
KIWIFRUIT	2017	579	3,445	5.95	\$645	\$2,222,025
	2016	693	5,891	8.50	\$645	\$3,799,695
OLIVES (OIL)	2017	998	4,840	4.85	\$599	\$2,899,160
	2016	1,499	5,396	3.60	\$584	\$3,151,264
OLIVES (TABLE)	2017	333	1,202	3.61	\$876	\$1,052,952
	2016	505	1,616	3.20	\$874	\$1,412,384
PEACHES	2017	1,384	18,684	13.50	\$425	\$7,940,700
	2016	1,384	21,452	15.50	\$575	\$12,334,900
PISTACHIOS	2017	765	490	0.64	\$4,465	\$2,187,850
	2016	765	765	1.00	\$3,826	\$2,926,890
PRUNES	2017	6,719	16,529	2.46	\$2,130	\$35,206,770
	2016	6,571	7,885	1.20	\$2,359	\$18,600,715
WALNUTS	2017	49,832	119,597	2.40	\$2,132	\$254,980,804
	2016	49,293	138,021	2.80	\$1,700	\$234,635,700
MISC. *	2017	1,012	--	--	--	\$5,282,640
	2016	1,038	--	--	--	\$5,418,360
TOTAL	2017	101,409	--	--	--	\$453,611,637
	2016	101,446	--	--	--	\$475,230,758

* Misc. includes apples, apricots, cherry, chestnut, fig, nectarine, pear, asian pear, pecan, plum, pomegranate, etc.



2017 FIELD CROP ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing (ac)	Yield (tons)	Yield (tons)/ Bearing (ac)	Value (\$)/ 1 (ton)	Total
BEANS, DRY EDIBLE	2017	429	558	1.30	\$1,098	\$612,684
	2016	849	730	0.86	\$1,046	\$763,580
ALFALFA	2017	470	3,135	6.67	\$156	\$489,060
	2016	1,349	10,657	7.90	\$137	\$1,460,009
PASTURE, IRRIGATED	2017	13,000	--	--	\$150	\$1,950,000
	2016	14,013	--	--	\$150	\$2,101,950
PASTURE, OTHER	2017	195,000	--	--	\$10	\$1,950,000
	2016	200,000	--	--	\$10	\$2,000,000
RICE	2017	93,444	411,154	4.40	\$354	\$145,548,516
	2016	95,045	446,712	4.70	\$275	\$122,845,800
SAFFLOWER	2017	122	92	0.75	\$300	\$27,600
	2016	219	399	1.82	\$440	\$175,560
WHEAT	2017	3,432	4,702	1.37	\$98	\$460,796
	2016	3,839	4,991	1.30	\$140	\$698,740
MISC. *	2017	3,586	--	--	--	\$2,868,800
	2016	6,618	--	--	--	\$5,294,400
TOTAL	2017	309,483	--	--	--	\$153,907,456
	2016	321,932	--	--	--	\$135,340,039

* Misc. includes barley, corn, forage hay, hops, mustard, oat, ryegrass, sorghum milo, sudan grass, vetch etc.

2017 APIARY PRODUCTS, PRODUCTION & VALUE

	YEAR	PRODUCTION (COLONIES)	VALUE PER COLONY	TOTAL
POLLINATION	2017	46,506	\$185.40	\$8,622,212
	2016	46,388	\$176.52	\$8,188,410
OTHER APIARY PRODUCTS	2017	--	--	\$2,576,000
	2016	--	--	\$2,092,000*
TOTAL	2017			\$11,198,212
	2016			\$10,280,410*

*Corrected





2017 REGISTERED ORGANIC STATISTICS

13,104 Acres • 106 Producers • 20 Handlers • 3 Processors • 1 Retailer
\$23,902,017 Total Value

Includes alfalfa, almonds, apples, berries, cherries, cut flowers, grapes, herbs, kiwi fruit, livestock, dairy, mandarins, nursery stock, olives, peaches, persimmons, prunes, rice, safflower, tomatoes, vegetables, vetch, walnuts and wild rice.

2017 VEGETABLE VALUE

2017 Total Value - \$1,601,222
2016 Total Value - \$1,524,973

**Vegetable Values reflect Certified Producer commodities such as asparagus, broccoli, corn, cucumbers, melons, onions, squash, tomatoes, strawberries, etc.*

2017 NURSERY ACREAGE & VALUE

2017 Total Acres - 163 ---\$13,877,606
2016 Total Acres - 137 --- \$11,664,000

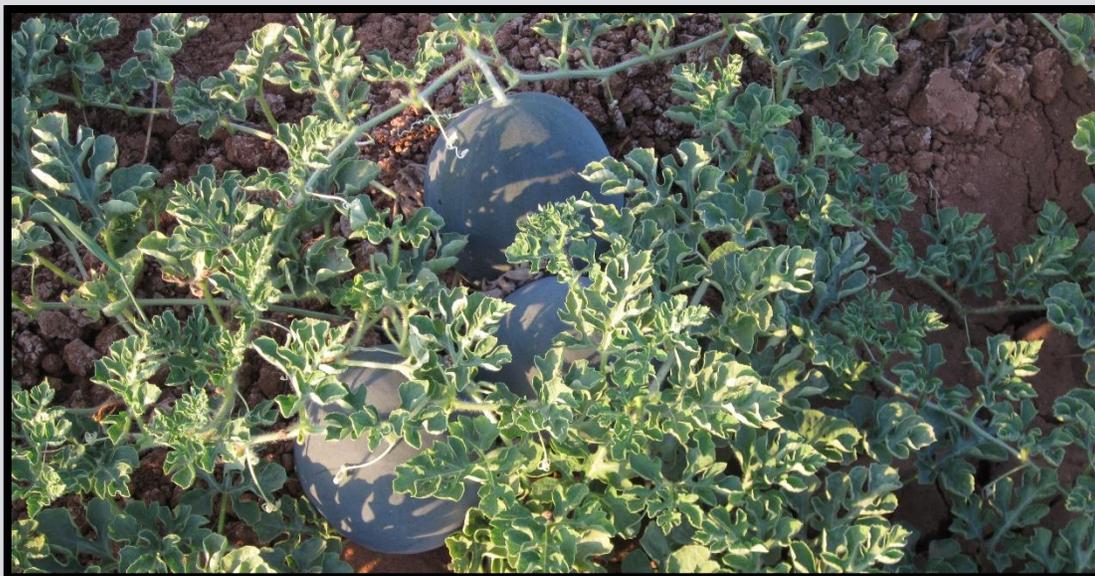
**Nursery data includes broad leaved evergreens, coniferous evergreens, deciduous fruit, nut and shade trees, shrubs, kiwi vines, herbaceous perennials, indoor decorative plants, bulbs, rhizomes, bedding plants, and specimen trees.*

2017 HARVEST TIMBER PRODUCTION & VALUE

	YEAR	PRODUCTION (BFT)	VALUE
HARVESTED TIMBER	2017	61,485,000	\$13,529,289
	2016	43,811,000	\$8,518,497
OTHER TIMBER PRODUCTS	2017	--	\$5,427
	2016	--	\$6,507
TOTAL	2017	--	\$13,534,716
	2016	--	\$8,525,004

**Board feet is the quantity of timber cut and scaled.*

***Timber production and value data are provided by State Board of Equalization, Timber Tax Division.*



2017 LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVE WEIGHT (CWT)	VALUE/CWT	TOTAL
CATTLE & CALVES	2017	12,700	64,008	\$181.50	\$11,617,452
	2016	12,600	63,504	\$212.00	\$13,462,848
SHEEP	2017	1,800	2,664	\$164.50	\$438,228
	2016	1,800	2,400	\$142.00	\$340,800
MISC.	2017	--	--	--	\$688,500
	2016	--	--	--	\$675,000
TOTAL	2017				\$12,744,180
	2016	--	--	--	\$14,478,648

Misc. may include hogs, poultry, goats, etc.

2017 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	\$ PER UNIT	TOTAL
MILK, MARKET	2017	65,411	Cwt	\$18.15	\$1,187,210
	2016	42,988	Cwt	\$16.65	\$715,750
MILK, MANUFACTURING	2017	--	Cwt	--	\$9,500
	2016	--	Cwt	--	\$9,500
TOTAL	2017	--	Cwt	--	\$1,196,710
	2016	--	Cwt	--	\$725,250



2017 SEED ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

CROP	YEAR	ACREAGE	YIELD / ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE	TOTAL
RICE	2017	4,700	9,800	46,060,000	lbs.	\$0.24	\$11,054,400
	2016	4,639	9,965	46,227,635	lbs.	\$0.27	\$12,481,461
MISC.	2017	792					\$1,131,768
	2016	1,537					\$2,196,373
TOTAL	2017	5,492					\$12,186,168
	2016	6,176					\$14,677,834

*Miscellaneous may include bean, carrot, cucumber, melon, onion, pumpkin, squash, sunflower, watermelon seed, etc.

2017 PHYTOSANITARY EXPORTS

In 2017, a total of 2,142 phytosanitary certificates were issued and exported to 63 countries and 10 states within the United States. Shipments included a variety of fruits, vegetables, grains, beans, lumber and plants. In addition, approximately 792 seed field acres were inspected and certified during the 2017 season.

Algeria	Argentina	Australia
Austria	Bahrain	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Brazil	Bulgaria	Cambodia
Canada	China	Costa Rica
Croatia	Czech Republic	Denmark
Egypt	France	French Polynesia
Georgia	Germany	Greece
Hong Kong	Iceland	India
Indonesia	Iraq	Israel
Italy	Japan	Jordan
Kazakhstan	Korea, Republic of	Kuwait
Latvia	Lebanon	Lithuania
Malaysia	Mexico	Morocco
Netherlands	New Zealand	Nicaragua
Norway	Pakistan	Phillippines
Poland	Portugal	Samoa
Saudi Arabia	Serbia	Singapore
South Africa	Spain	Sweden
Switzerland	Taiwan	Thailand
Turkey	Ukraine	United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom	Uzbekistan	Viet Nam

2017 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL REPORT

This report summarizes the varied activities and the methods used to prevent and control the spread of exotic pests in Butte County.

The Pest Exclusion, Detection, Management, and Eradication programs serve to protect the County from an infestation of introduced pests. Through monitoring and quick response to small infestations, damaging pest populations can be controlled before they require a large-scale response.

Biological Control provides a method of sustainable pest control with a minimum impact to the environment.

PEST DETECTION

A total of 1,026 traps were placed throughout the County to detect the presence of pests. The trap total included 300 Mediterranean, Oriental and Melon Fruit Fly traps, 77 Japanese Beetles traps, 214 traps for the Gypsy Moth, 243 Glassy-winged Sharpshooter traps, 157 Asian Citrus Psyllid traps, and 35 European Grapevine Moth traps.

PEST EXCLUSION

Approximately 4,068 shipments were inspected for live exotic pests including the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter and Sudden Oak Death resulting in the issuance of 8 Notice of Rejections.

PEST MANAGEMENT

Weed Control Projects

		Control Activity	Chemical	Distribution
Skeleton Weed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Herbicide	Aminopyralid	5 sites ~ 15 acres
Knap Weed, species	<i>Centaurea species</i>	Herbicide	Aminopyralid	3 sites ~ 35 acres
Oblong Spurge	<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	Paradise 1 site in Thermalito 1 site Chico
Sesbania	<i>Sebania punicea</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	Multiple locations in Oroville
Broom, species – In 2016 a total of 92 linear miles were treated with herbicide in Butte County				
Spanish	<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	Multiple County Locations
French	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	Multiple County Locations
Scotch	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	Multiple County Locations
Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Bio-control	Various Agents	>500 acres in Oroville
White Horsenettle	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	1 site South Gridley Hwy 99
Winged Water Primrose	<i>Ludwigia decurrens</i>	Herbicide	Glyphosate	Limited locations in Richvale

Insect Control Projects

		Control Activity	Chemical	Distribution
Glassy-winged Sharpshooter	<i>Homalodisca vitripennis</i>	Insecticide	Imidacloprid	Chico, Eradicated

Butte County Weights and Measures

Happy Over Hopper Scales

Hopper scales play an important role in determining the weighing accuracy of commodities in Butte County. Annually, millions of dollars of commodity sales occur using hopper scales and the Butte County Weights & Measures Division is all too enthusiastic to test them to make sure they are correct. A hopper scale is generally a scale that has a containment vessel, the design influenced by the physical properties of the commodity being weighed. Hopper scales can weigh continuous amounts of commodities that flow into batches for packing and or bulk purposes where the product must stay within a closed compartment to prevent any product loss from occurring. For example, when weighing products like stone aggregates, rice grains, granular fertilizers or pesticides. Load cells attached to the hopper scale send the weight readings to a weight indicator, which displays the mass. The design of the hopper can vary according to the needs of the operation. The shape of the load-receiving element is generally a funnel-type that allows materials that are loaded into the hopper to discharge from the bottom of the hopper. Afterwards, the commodity is typically loaded into trucks or railway cars.

The unique design of the weighing element along with their weight capacity range makes testing hopper scales a challenging task. Hopper scales are tested in accordance with national standards and test weights are used in combination with the product material to determine scale accuracy. During the inspection, test weights are connected to the hopper load-receiving element with the use of chains, hoisted off the ground with come-a-longs and pulleys, and suspended freely. The readout display must agree with the amount of the hanging weights. With the test weights lowered back down onto the ground, product material is added into the hopper equaling the weight of the previously tested weights. This process is repeated up to three times if necessary to reach scale capacity, sometimes up to 50,000 pounds! In order to test a single hopper scale it typically takes between two to three hours if everything goes smoothly and when it does, it makes us very happy.

