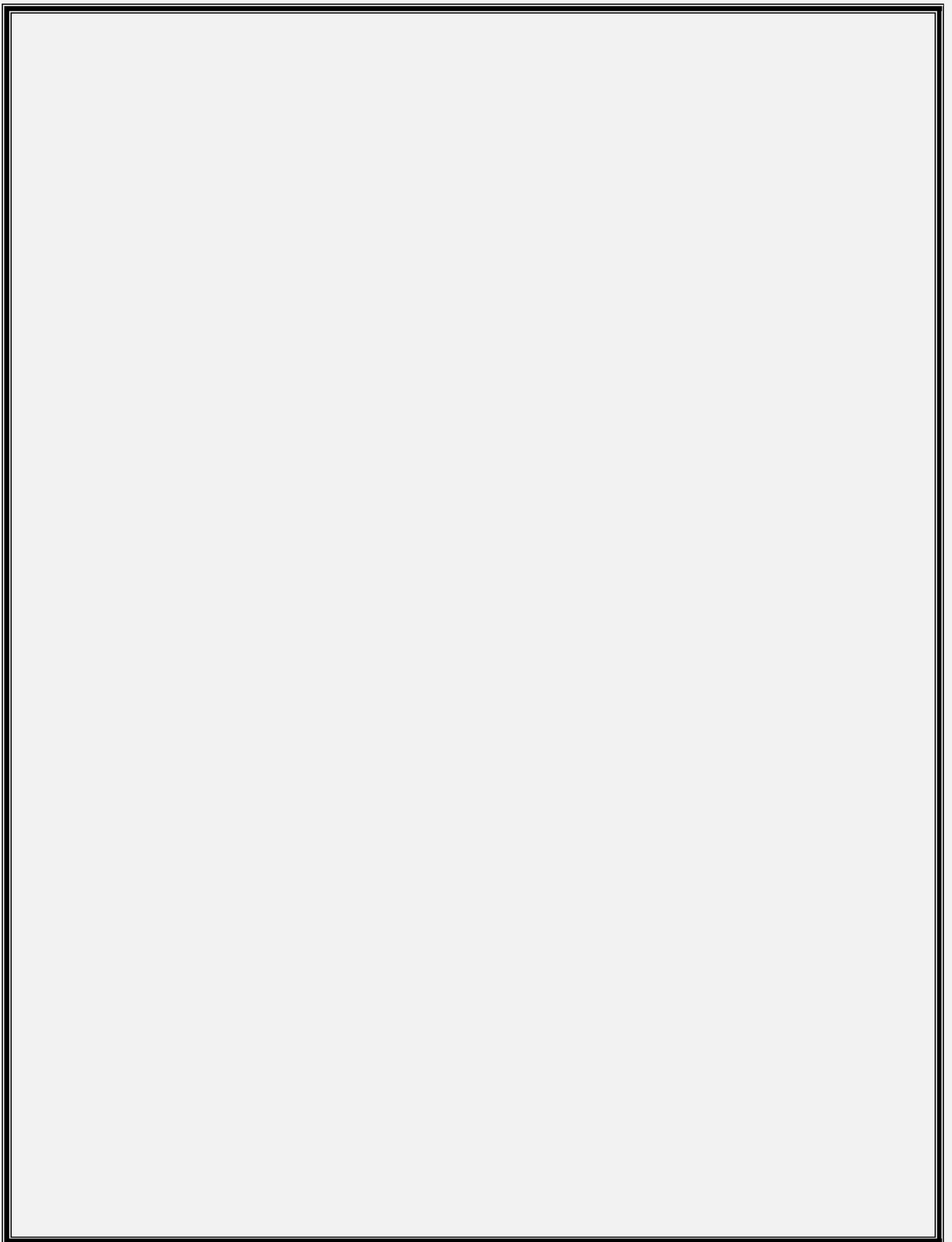


BUTTE COUNTY

2019

CROP & LIVESTOCK REPORT







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

Katharine Quist
Assistant Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer

September 29, 2020

Karen Ross
Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture

The Honorable Butte County Board of Supervisors
Steve Lambert, Chair Tami Ritter
Debra Lucero 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 80th annual crop report that shows the agricultural production and agricultural value in Butte County for the 2019 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 2019 totaled **\$688,369,916**. This is a \$56,571,189 increase over the 2018 gross value total of \$631,798,727. Butte County's 10-year average is \$716,272,922.

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



The 2019 Crop report is dedicated to Mrs. Friede Violante. Friede worked for the Butte County Agricultural Commissioner's office for nearly 20 years. She joined our department as extra help on May 30, 1998, and then become a permanent employee on February 5, 2000, serving as an Office Assistant, Office Specialist, and Accounting Specialist.

Friede served diligently and unselfishly in the best interest of the County earning the respect of her colleagues, supervisors and the many citizens served. She did a great job of surveying and invoicing the inspections performed for the Plant Quarantine Field Walk program. She helped design the original Excel database for the Weights & Measures device registration billing program and worked tirelessly tracking and monitoring invoicing payments. Friede excelled at organizing pesticide use enforcement activities which allowed for thorough field inspections and an overall successful program.

Friede brought a great sense of humor and "easy going" demeanor to the office. Her beloved stories about her family, cats, annual pilgrimage to Phoenix Raceway, wrenching on diesel engines, which she learned as a kid helping her dad repair big rig motors and chipmunk laugh could make a dark dreary day bright and happy.

Friede was a long time Paradise resident and unfortunately lost her home and belongings in the Campfire. In spite of the personal tragedy and being displaced, she still brought a great attitude and managed to stay focused on getting her work done. She was an exemplary example of "Butte Strong." In retirement, Friede has been staying busy working on her ranch with her husband, Mike. Some of which include operating a tractor, attending to cows, chickens, turkeys, fruit trees and keeping the lawn green. On behalf of the Butte County Agricultural Commissioner's office, we congratulate Friede on her much-deserved retirement.

Agricultural and Weights & Measures Staff and Associates

Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights & Measures

Louie B. Mendoza Jr.

Assistant Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights & Measures

Katharine Quist

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Dan Shrout, Eric Jennings, Uriah Johnson, Sonia Zarate, & Jennifer Berger

Agricultural Biologist / Weights & Measures Inspector III

Apolinar Barrales

Agricultural Biologist / Weights & Measures Inspector II

George Mendoza

Agricultural Biologist / Weights & Measures Inspector I

Garrett Peters & Danny Maciel

Agricultural Technicians

Lee Hunt, Jose Torres, James Fox, & Lucio Bahena

GIS Technician

George Adams

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 Ag Commodites

Walnuts	\$214,261,031
Rice	\$166,060,830
Almonds	\$140,698,904
Prunes	\$24,850,000
Nursery Stock	\$16,488,171
Apiary, Pollination	\$12,540,000
Cattle & Calves	\$11,428,625
Peaches	\$10,995,831
Rice Seed	\$10,886,400
Harvested Timber	\$8,325,620
Field Crops, Misc.	\$7,650,345
Fruit & Nut, Misc.	\$5,513,640
Olive, Oil	\$3,952,950
Apiary, Other Products	\$3,738,127
Pistachios	\$3,096,600
Almond Hulls	\$2,945,000
Kiwifruit	\$2,165,800
Citrus	\$2,116,270
Livestock, Misc.	\$2,100,000
Pasture, Other	\$1,950,000
Pasture, Irrigated	\$1,800,000
Vegetables	\$1,723,471
Seed, Misc.	\$1,116,000
Milk, Market & Manufacturing	\$1,082,635

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF CROP VALUES

CROP	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
APIARY PRODUCTS	\$10,586,121	\$10,586,121	\$11,198,212	\$11,339,919	\$16,278,127
FIELD CROPS	\$151,013,590	\$135,340,039	\$153,907,456	\$168,499,501	\$178,916,025
FRUIT & NUT CROPS	\$532,653,396	\$475,230,758	\$453,611,637	\$372,212,935	\$410,596,026
LIVESTOCK	\$12,781,800	\$14,478,648	\$12,744,180	\$12,342,133	\$13,894,423
NURSERY STOCK	\$14,111,000	\$11,664,000	\$13,877,606	\$18,806,821	\$16,488,171
SEED CROPS	\$14,091,107	\$14,677,834	\$12,186,168	\$10,288,040	\$12,002,400
VEGETABLE CROPS	\$1,743,626	\$1,524,973	\$1,601,222	\$1,681,283	\$1,723,471
ORGANIC CROPS	\$21,930,572	\$23,759,940	\$23,902,017	\$20,716,243	\$30,145,653
CROP TOTALS	\$758,911,212	\$687,262,313	\$683,028,498	\$615,886,875	\$680,044,296
TIMBER	\$13,728,672	\$8,525,004	\$13,534,716	\$15,911,852	\$8,325,620
GRAND TOTAL	\$772,639,884	\$695,787,317	\$696,563,214	\$631,798,727	\$688,369,916

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF PLANT CROP ACRES

CROP	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
FIELD CROPS	311,061	321,932	309,483	253,644	310,582
FRUIT & NUT CROPS	101,486	101,446	101,409	107,299	108,113
SEED CROPS	6,647	6,176	5,492	5,533	6,144
VEGETABLE CROPS	817	674	603	615	525
GRAND TOTAL	420,011	430,228	416,987	367,091	425,364



2019 FRUIT & NUT CROPS ACREAGE STATISTICS

ORCHARD CROPS	BEARING	NON-BEARING	TOTAL
ALMONDS	39,205	2,002	41,207
APPLES	51	0	51
APRICOTS	15	0	15
CHESTNUTS	85	0	85
GRAPES (Wine)	225	0	225
KIWIFRUIT	573	0	573
MANDARINS	90	0	90
OLIVES (Oil)	1,083	0	1,083
ORANGES	75	0	75
PEACHES	1,722	20	1,742
PECANS	203	16	219
PERSIMMONS	110	10	120
PISTACHIOS	690	25	715
PRUNES	7,100	0	7,100
WALNUTS, ENGLISH	56,312	5,123	61,435
TOTAL	107,539	7,196	114,735

Data from California Crop and Livestock Reporting Service and other sources.



2019 FRUIT & NUT CROPS ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing (ac)	Yield (tons)	Yield (tons) / Bearing (ac)	Value (\$) / 1 (ton)	Total (\$)
ALMONDS	2019	39,205	31,364	0.80	\$4,486	\$140,698,904
	2018	40,411	32,329	0.80	\$4,808	\$155,437,832
HULLS	2019	--	31,000	--	\$95	\$2,945,000
	2018	--	32,000	--	\$97	\$3,140,000
CITRUS	2019	165	949	5.75	\$2,230	\$2,116,270
	2018	200	1,200	6.00	\$2,225	\$2,670,000
KIWIFRUIT	2019	573	3,094	5.40	\$700	\$2,165,800
	2018	560	3,136	5.60	\$663	\$2,079,168
OLIVES (OIL)	2019	1,083	5,415	5.00	\$730	\$3,952,950
	2018	948	4,987	5.26	\$719	\$3,585,653
PEACHES	2019	1,722	23,247	13.50	\$473	\$10,995,831
	2018	1,500	21,000	14.00	\$470	\$9,870,000
PISTACHIOS	2019	690	794	1.15	\$3,900	\$3,096,600
	2018	625	650	1.04	\$4,800	\$3,120,000
PRUNES	2019	7,100	17,750	2.50	\$1,400	\$24,850,000
	2018	7,800	15,912	2.40	\$1,979	\$31,489,848
WALNUTS	2019	56,312	131,207	2.33	\$1,633	\$214,261,031
	2018	53,909	122,374	2.27	\$1,263	\$154,558,362
MISC. *	2019	1,263	--	--	--	\$5,513,640
	2018	1,063	--	--	--	\$5,546,772
TOTAL	2019	108,113	--	--	--	\$410,596,026
	2018	107,299	--	--	--	\$372,212,935

* Misc. includes apples, apricots, cherry, chestnut, fig, nectarine, pear, asian pear, pecan, plum, pomegranate, raisins, table grapes, plums, table olives, etc.



2019 FIELD CROP ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing (ac)	Yield (tons)	Yield (tons) / Bearing (ac)	Value (\$)/1 (ton)	Total
BEANS, DRY EDIBLE	2019	258	258	1.00	\$1,500	\$387,000
	2018	156	297	1.90	\$1,088	\$323,136
ALFALFA	2019	727	4,725	6.50	\$226	\$1,067,850
	2018	473	3,075	6.05	\$215	\$661,125
PASTURE, IRRIGATED	2019	12,000	--	--	\$150	\$1,800,000
	2018	12,000	--	--	\$150	\$1,800,000
PASTURE, OTHER	2019	195,000	--	--	\$10	\$1,950,000
	2018	145,000	--	--	\$10	\$1,450,000
RICE	2019	96,772	425,797	4.40	\$390	\$166,060,830
	2018	92,250	424,350	4.60	\$380	\$161,253,000
MISC. *	2019	5,825	--	--	--	\$7,650,345
	2018	3,765	--	--	--	\$3,012,240
TOTAL	2019	310,582	--	--	--	\$178,916,025
	2018	253,644	--	--	--	\$168,499,501

* Misc. includes barley, corn, forage hay, hops, oat, ryegrass, sorghum milo, vetch, wheat, industrial hemp, etc.

2019 APIARY PRODUCTS, PRODUCTION & VALUE

	YEAR	TOTAL
POLLINATION	2019	\$12,540,000
	2018	\$8,541,474
OTHER APIARY PRODUCTS*	2019	\$3,738,127
	2018	\$2,798,445
TOTAL	2019	\$16,278,127
	2018	\$11,339,919



*Other apiary products include queens, combs, wax, etc.



2019 REGISTERED ORGANIC STATISTICS

19,780 Acres • 120 Producers • 24 Handlers • 2 Processors • 0 Retailers

Total Value \$30,145,653

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.

2019 VEGETABLE VALUE

2019 Total Value - \$1,723,471

2018 Total Value - \$1,681,283

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

2019 NURSERY ACREAGE & VALUE

2019 Total Acres – 192 ---\$16,488,171

2018 Total Acres - 219 --- \$18,806,821

**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.*

2019 HARVEST TIMBER PRODUCTION & VALUE

	YEAR	PRODUCTION (BFT)*	VALUE
HARVESTED TIMBER**	2019	68,484,000	\$8,325,620
	2018	60,920,000	\$15,911,852
OTHER TIMBER PRODUCTS	2019	--	\$0
	2018	--	\$0
TOTAL	2019	--	\$8,325,620
	2018	--	\$15,911,852

**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.*



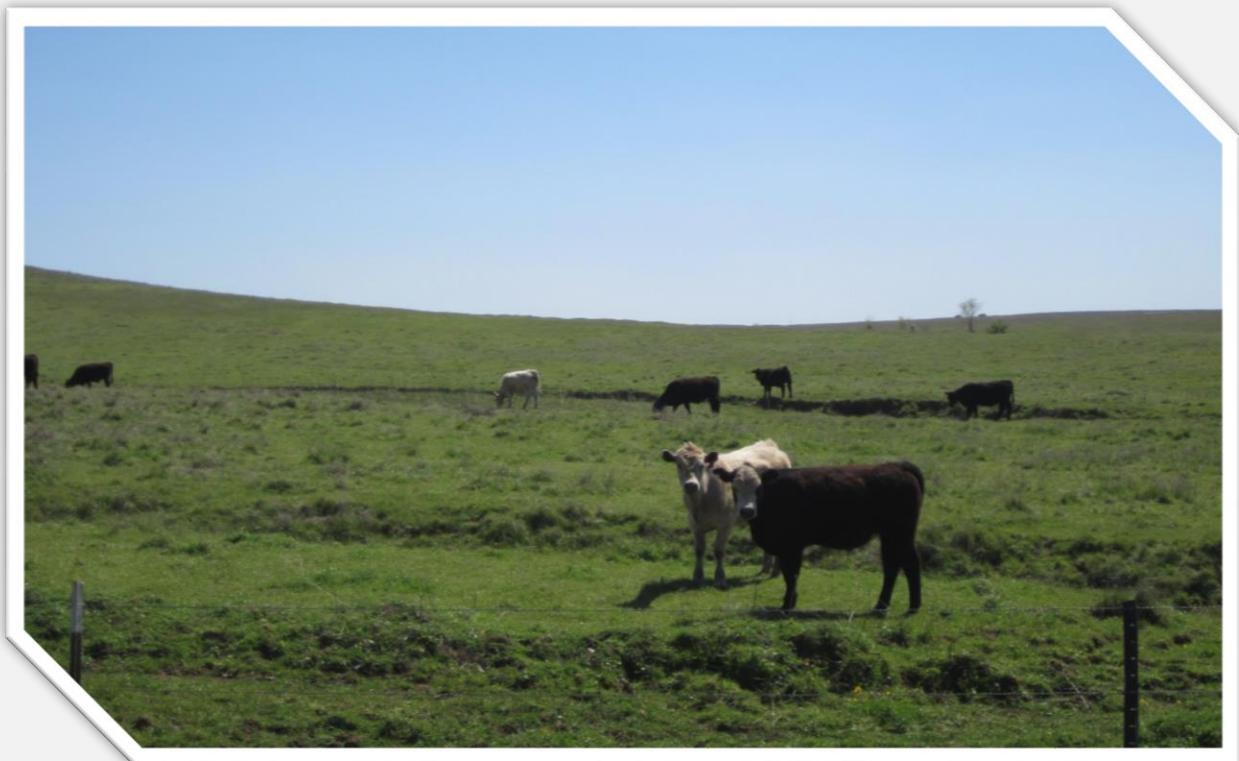
2019 LIVESTOCK

	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVE WEIGHT (CWT)	VALUE/CWT	TOTAL
CATTLE & CALVES	2019	14,700	67,625	\$169.00	\$11,428,625
	2018	14,200	65,325	\$172.50	\$11,268,532
SHEEP	2019	1,600	2,567	\$142.50	\$365,798
	2018	1,700	2,724	\$154.50	\$419,496
MISC.*	2019	--	--	--	\$2,100,000
	2018	--	--	--	\$654,075
TOTAL	2019	--	--	--	\$13,894,423
	2018	--	--	--	\$12,342,133

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

2019 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	TOTAL
MILK, MARKET & MANUFACTURING	2019	\$1,082,635
	2018	\$1,196,710



2019 SEED ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

CROP	YEAR	ACREAGE	YIELD / ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE	TOTAL
RICE	2019	5,400	9,600	51,840,000	lbs.	\$0.21	\$10,886,400
	2018	5,233	9,400	49,190,200	lbs.	\$0.20	\$9,838,040
MISC.*	2019	744	--	--	--	--	\$1,116,000
	2018	300	--	--	--	--	\$450,000
TOTAL	2019	6,144	--	--	--	--	\$12,002,400
	2018	5,533	--	--	--	--	\$10,288,040

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



2019 PHYTOSANITARY EXPORTS

In 2019, a total of 2,020 phytosanitary certificates were issued and exported to 70 countries and 9 states within the United States. Shipments included a variety of fruits, vegetables, grains, beans, lumber and plants. Almonds, rice and walnuts are the top three exported commodities. In addition, approximately 744 seed field acres were inspected and certified during the 2019 season.

Afghanistan	Algeria	Argentina
Australia	Austria	Bahrain
Belarus	Belgium	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Brazil	Bulgaria	Cambodia
Chile	China	Cyprus
Costa Rica	Czech Republic	Denmark
Dominican Republic	Egypt	Estonia
France	French Polynesia	Germany
Ghana	Greece	Guatemala
Hong Kong	India	Indonesia
Israel	Italy	Japan
Jordan	Korea, Democratic People's Republic	Korea, Republic of
Kuwait	Latvia	Lebanon
Libya	Lithuania	Maldives
Malaysia	Mexico	Mongolia
Morocco	Nepal	Netherlands
New Zealand	Pakistan	Panama
Peru	Philippines	Poland
Samoa	Saudi Arabia	Singapore
Slovakia	South Africa	Spain
Sweden	Switzerland	Taiwan
Thailand	Trinidad & Tobago	Turkey
Ukraine	United Arab Emirates	United Kingdom
Viet Nam		

2019 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 1,002 traps were placed throughout the County to detect the presence of pests. The trap total included 299 Mediterranean, Oriental and Melon Fruit Fly traps, 77 Japanese Beetles traps, 214 traps for the Gypsy Moth, 233 Glassy-winged Sharpshooter traps, 145 Asian Citrus Psyllid traps, and 34 European Grapevine Moth traps.

PEST EXCLUSION

Approximately 4,447 shipments were inspected for live exotic pests including the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter and Sudden Oak Death resulting in the issuance of 4 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>Sesbania punicea</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	Multiple locations in Oroville
Broom, species				
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

Weights & Measures

Let it Roll

California is the one state that “lets it roll” when it comes to inspecting truck scales. Across the rest of the state Weights & Measures officials utilize weight trucks as rolling standards when performing these inspections. A rolling standard is essentially a movable object that contains known standards (test weights). Currently, our weight truck carries 20,000 pounds of weight standards located on top of the bed of the truck. When performing a rolling standards test, county officials drive the weight truck onto the scale and perform a series of tests to determine if the scale is correct.



Rolling Standards Test on Truck Scale

Static Standards Test on Truck Scale



In other states, the static test method is the common testing procedure for inspecting truck scales. This method is performed by using a crane or forklift to remove the standards from the truck or trailer then placing each weight onto the truck scale to conduct the test. In comparison to the rolling standard method, the static test procedure is much more time consuming and with over 100 commercially used,

registered truck scales in Butte County, we would not be able to test them all annually with our existing equipment and staff of three.

In 1997, California conducted a statewide truck scale survey to compare the static and rolling standards test methods. One hundred truck scales were tested using each method. The static test method found 14 of those scales having tolerance errors that the rolling standards test method did not. As a result, the state recommended to the counties that the rolling standards test might not be a reliable test method. In response, County Weights & Measures officials argued that the survey results were skewed because the survey procedures did not account for scale errors in the increasing/decreasing load and section scale test using the rolling standards method. These errors were only counted on the static test procedures. This issue was forwarded onto the California Agricultural Commissioner and Sealers Association (CACASA) and a “Rolling Standards Research Subcommittee” was formed. The subcommittee spent three years working on the issue and collecting data, which included another survey comparing the two test methods. The results of the second survey were quite different from the first. Identical test results between the two test methods in all but three scales tested. During this time, the subcommittee also put in place a working list of best management practices for counties to follow to maintain the accuracy and integrity of their weight trucks. Some of which included annual and more frequent truck tare calibrations anytime a weight truck is submitted for any maintenance repairs. Keeping a careful eye on all fluid levels and tracking an accurate inventory of items kept on the truck.



Weight Truck Calibration

From there on, California counties were able to continue using rolling standards to test truck scales. The benefit to counties in terms of budget resources, productivity and inspection time cannot be overstated. Often, it is easy to understate the time, energy and effort the Agricultural Commissioners & Sealers spend working on CACASA committees and issues, but it should never be taken for granted. This is just one important example of the value of the organization and how their work helps keep it rolling.