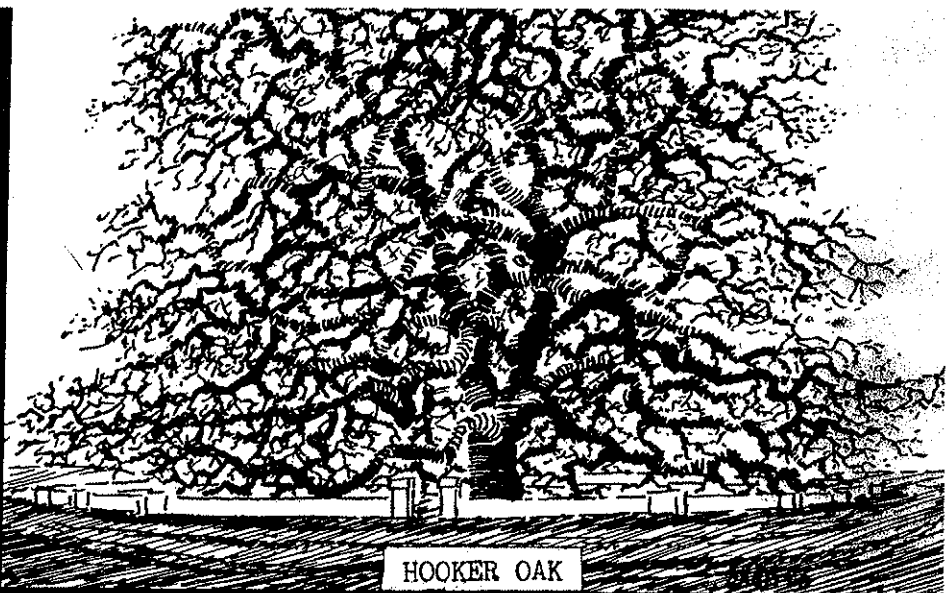


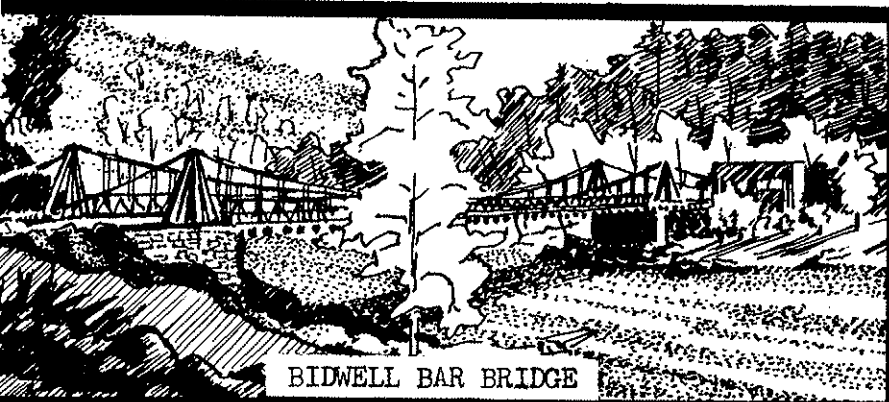


BIDWELL MANSION



HOOKER OAK

# Agricultural Crop Report



BIDWELL BAR BRIDGE

# BUTTE COUNTY

## for 1970

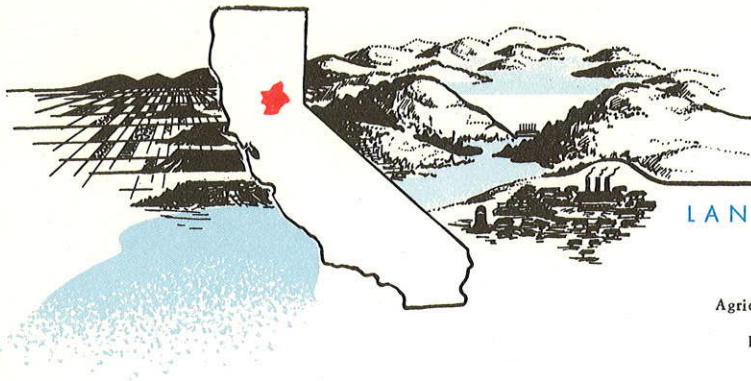


FEATHER FALLS



HONEY RUN COVERED BRIDGE

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

Jere E. Reynolds, Chairman  
Clarence A. Gilman  
Jack J. Madigan  
Jack J. McKillop  
Don L. Maxon

Gentlemen:

I am pleased to submit the thirty-second annual crop report of agricultural production in Butte County for 1970 as required by Section 2279 of the California Agricultural Code.

The gross agricultural production for 1970 is the highest on record, \$68,792,390.

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

Farming is becoming more complex each day because of higher production costs, numerous laws and regulations which must be complied with, higher taxes and the ever increasing cost-price squeezes that make it more difficult for the grower to realize a fair margin of profit.

Credit for the 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  
1970

The year was ushered in by very wet months of January and February. Fortunately, spring was heralded in by dry and windy weather allowing for the early planting of most field and truck crops.

Field Crops

1970 values were 2.4% below those of 1969 primarily due to a 10% rice acreage allotment reduction. Rice Stem Rot continues to be an increasing factor in attempts to attain maximum yields of rice.

Dry Beans almost reached the 2 million dollar value mark even though acreage was down. This was a result of more favorable prices.

Safflower acreage and production were down reflecting the abnormal dry spring.

Sugar Beets rejoined the million dollar crop list with good yields and excellent prices.

Seed Crops

Acreage continues to hold its own. Rice seed continues to lead the field in acreage and monetary value.

Vegetable Crops

Both acreage and value dropped considerably because of a decline in canning tomato plantings which resulted in nearly a 50% loss in value for this group of crops.

Fruit and Nut Crops

These commodities came close to dethroning field crops as the leading monetary group of crops in the County. New bearing acreage increased by 2,343 acres.

Almonds continued to lead in total bearing acreage and gross monetary value for a single crop in this category.

Apple production decreased 5 tons per acre due to a late April frost in the Paradise area.

Navel Oranges made a come back with a more realistic price.

Prunes recorded an increase in acreage and production reflecting a 57% increase in value.

Walnut acreage increased over 700 bearing acres. Production was the largest ever recorded averaging over 1 ton per acre. Although the price per ton dropped, \$831,000 was realized over the 1969 crop.

Total fruit and nut crop values increased 12.3% over the previous year.

Nursery and Apiary

Production remained relatively stable.

Cattle and Calves

Increased in numbers and a corresponding value of \$883,000.

Livestock and Poultry

Products realized a 15% decrease in value because of reduced production of eggs and market milk.

The total 1970 crop commodity value increased 4.9% over the 1969 crop.

BUTTE COUNTY FRUIT AND NUT ACREAGE STATISTICS  
1970

Orchard Crops	Bearing Acreage	Non-Bearing Acreage	Total
Almonds	18,314	6,717	25,031
Apples	245	67	312
Apricots	23	0	23
Cherries	10	0	10
Citrus			
Mandarins	31	14	45
Navels	339	12	351
Miscellaneous	12	0	12
Figs	4	0	4
Grapes	48	0	48
Kiwi	4	9	13
Nectarines	7	0	7
Olives	4,605	20	4,625
Peaches, clingstone	4,172	1,374	5,546
Peaches, freestone	215	18	233
Pears	834	254	1,088
Pecans	24	22	46
Persimmons	12	0	12
Pistachio	33	57	90
Plums	7	0	7
Prunes	6,877	1,740	8,617
Walnuts, persian	<u>7,061</u>	<u>3,563</u>	<u>10,624</u>
Total	42,877	13,867	56,744

FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production		Unit	Value	
			Per Acre	Total		Per Unit	Total
Barley	1970	11,300	1.25	14,100	ton	\$ 46.00	\$ 648,000
	1969	10,300	1.1	11,300	ton	50.00	565,000
Beans, dry edible	1970	6,720	.85	5,700	ton	350.00	1,995,000
	1969	8,010	.7	5,610	ton	220.00	1,234,000
Corn	1970	3,000	3.0	9,000	ton	52.00	468,000
	1969	1,430	2.5	3,570	ton	50.00	179,000
Hay, alfalfa	1970	4,800	6.0	28,800	ton	30.00	864,000
	1969	5,200	6.0	31,000	ton	28.00	868,000
Grain	1970	3,520	1.8	6,340	ton	27.00	171,000
	1969	3,500	2.0	7,000	ton	26.00	182,000
Wild	1970	1,580	1.5	2,370	ton	20.00	47,400
	1969	1,500	1.5	2,250	ton	19.00	43,000
Oats	1970	6,170	1.05	6,480	ton	48.00	311,000
	1969	1,720	1.0	1,720	ton	55.00	94,600
Pasture, irrigated	1970	19,000			*acre	80.00	1,520,000
	1969	19,000			*acre	80.00	1,520,000
Other	1970	331,000			*acre	2.50	828,000
	1969	331,000			*acre	2.50	828,000
Rice	1970	54,100	2.65	143,000	ton	98.60	14,100,000
	1969	65,800	2.59	170,000	ton	104.00	17,700,000
Safflower	1970	4,800	.85	4,080	ton	90.00	367,000
	1969	6,400	1.50	9,600	ton	84.00	806,000
Silage, corn	1970	360	19.0	6,840	ton	7.50	51,300
	1969	265	20.0	5,300	ton	7.00	37,100
Sorghum, grain	1970	15,300	2.51	38,400	ton	49.00	1,882,000
	1969	12,100	1.4	16,900	ton	45.50	769,000
Sugar beets	1970	3,260	20.7	67,500	ton	15.20	1,026,000
	1969	3,050	14.3	43,600	ton	12.20	532,000
Wheat	1970	17,000	1.5	25,500	ton	42.00	1,071,000
	1969	<u>10,000</u>	1.32	13,200	ton	46.00	<u>607,000</u>
Total	1970	481,910					\$ 25,349,700
	1969	479,275					\$ 25,964,700

\* Per acre value

SEED CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Production			Value	
			Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Alfalfa	1970	* 190	322	61,200	lb.	\$ .38	\$ 23,300
	1969	* 204	418	85,300	lb.	.34	29,000
Barley	1970	550	1 850	1 018,000	lb.	.04	40,700
	1969	410	2 000	820,000	lb.	.04	32,800
Beans	1970	1,240	1 680	2,083,000	lb.	.214	446,000
	1969	2,030	1,300	2,639,000	lb.	.12	317,000
Oats	1970	3,050	1 900	5,795,000	lb.	.039	226,000
	1969	3,240	2 000	6,480,000	lb.	.038	246,000
Oats & Vetch mixed	1970	3,130					232,000
	1969	2,020					133,000
Rice, certified & non-certified	1970	5,000	4 000	20,000,000	lb.	.07	1,400,000
	1969	3,420	4 100	14,022,000	lb.	.071	996,000
Vetch	1970	420	650	273,000	lb.	.11	30,000
	1969	860	650	559,000	lb.	.07	39,100
Wheat	1970	280	2 150	602 000	lb.	.038	22,900
	1969	100	2 500	250,000	lb.	.03	7,500
**Miscellaneous	1970	1,510					589,390
	1969	<u>1,311</u>					<u>365,000</u>
Total	1970	15,370					\$ 3,010,290
	1969	13,391					\$ 2,165,400

\* 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			Value	
			Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
*Miscellaneous	1970	1,856					\$ 671,450
	1969	3,500					\$ 1,335,000

\* 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	1970	18,314	1.17	21,400	ton	\$ 611.00	\$13,075,000
	1969	17,216	1.15	19,800	ton	610.00	12,078,000
Hulls	1970			25,600	ton	7.00	179,000
	1969			20,500	ton	6.00	123,000
Apples	1970	245	8.74	2,140	ton	120.00	257,000
	1969	244	13.8	3,370	ton	80.20	270,000
Olives	1970	4,605	1.23	5,660	ton	204.00	1,155,000
	1969	4,603	1.56	7,180	ton	368.00	2,642,000
Oranges, Navel	1970	339	6.76	2,290	ton	154.00	353,000
	1969	323	6.04	1,950	ton	80.50	157,000
Mandarins & Tangerines	1970	31	2.32	72	ton	230.00	16,600
	1969	21	3.0	63	ton	222.00	14,000
Peaches, Clingstone	1970	4,172	13.3	55,500	ton	82.00	4,551,000
	1969	4,109	13.0	53,400	ton	74.00	3,952,000
Freestone	1970	215	7.68	1,650	ton	84.30	139,000
	1969	215	12.0	2,580	ton	65.00	168,000
Pears	1970	834	6.31	5,260	ton	125.00	658,000
	1969	819	6.78	5,550	ton	80.50	447,000
Prunes, dried	1970	6,877	2.25	15,500	ton	300.00	4,650,000
	1969	6,506	1.46	9,500	ton	310.00	2,945,000
Walnuts, Persian	1970	7,061	1.07	7,560	ton	400.00	3,024,000
	1969	6,332	.763	4,830	ton	454.00	2,193,000
*Miscellaneous	1970	222					211,400
	1969	184					182,000
Total	1970	42,915				\$	28,269,000
	1969	40,572				\$	25,171,000

\* 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	Value	
		House Sq. Ft.	Field Acres			Per Unit	Total
Conifer Seedlings	1970		4.0	1,500,000	plant	\$ .022	\$ 33,000
	1969		4.0	1,800,000	plant	.022	39,600
*Miscellaneous	1970	10,000	19.5	185,000	plant		367,500
	1969	<u>10,000</u>	<u>32.0</u>	302,000	plant		<u>391,000</u>
Total	1970	10,000	23.5				\$ 400,500
	1969	10,000	36.0				\$ 430,600

\* 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	1970	192,000	lb.	\$ .14		\$ 26,900
	1969	339,800	lb.	.13		44,200
Beeswax	1970	3,370	lb.	.58		1,950
	1969	5,790	lb.	.55		3,200
Package Bees	1970	77,500	lb.	1.30		101,000
	1969	82,000	lb.	1.30		107,000
Queen Bees	1970	29,000	each	1.35		39,100
	1969	28,700	each	1.35		38,700
Pollination	1970	30,500	colony	3.20		97,600
	1969	30,700	colony	2.66		81,700
Nuclei	1970	600	each	5.50		3,300
	1969	900	each	5.33		<u>4,800</u>
Total	1970					\$ 269,850
	1969					\$ 279,600



LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production		Unit	Per Unit	Value	
		No. of Head	Total Live Weight			Total	Total
Cattle and Calves	1970	37,700	279,000	cwt.	\$ 28.20	\$ 7,868,000	
	1969	36,300	254,000	cwt.	27.50	6,985,000	
Sheep and Lambs	1970	12,400	12,100	cwt.	25.00	302,000	
	1969	12,000	12,600	cwt.	22.40	282,000	
Hogs and Pigs	1970	10,100	21,200	cwt.	23.40	496,000	
	1969	10,500	22,000	cwt.	22.80	502,000	
*Miscellaneous	1970						337,000
	1969						346,000
Total	1970						\$ 9,003,000
	1969						\$ 8,115,000

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

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Item	Year	Production	Unit	Per Unit	Value	
					Total	Total
Milk, Market	1970	158,000	cwt.	\$ 5.94	\$	939,000
	* 1969	182,000	cwt.	5.69		1,036,000
Manufacturing	1970	63,000	cwt.	4.56		287,000
	* 1969	63,400	cwt.	4.21		267,000
Eggs, Chicken Market	1970	1,500,000	doz.	.352		528,000
	1969	2,140,000	doz.	.356		762,000
Eggs, Hatching Chicken & Turkey	1970					17,600
	1969					2,530
Wool	1970	135,000	lb.	.35		47,000
	1969	138,000	lb.	.53		73,100
Total	1970					\$ 1,818,600
	1969					\$ 2,140,630

\*Revised

PAYMENTS UNDER AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION COMMITTEE

	1970	1969
Agricultural Conservation Program	\$ 146,535	\$ 67,307
Cropland Adjustment Program	10,953	10,959
Wool Incentive Payments	43,720	40,196
Sugar Beet Payments	145,979	112,185
Feed Grain Program	311,195	409,715
Wheat Stabilization Program	<u>121,132</u>	<u>123,445</u>
*Total	\$ 780,000	\$ 764,000

\*Total figures rounded

JANUARY 1 INVENTORIES OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

	1971	1970
Cattle and Calves, All	57,000	56,000
Milk cows 2 years and over	2,400	2,700
Cattle and Calves in feed lots	1,600	1,600
Sheep and Lambs, All	14,700	20,000
Stock Sheep	7,000	10,100
Hogs and Pigs, All	6,200	6,000
Hens and Pullets of laying age	103,000	107,000

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF CROP VALUES

Commodities	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Field Crops	\$ 26,505,900	\$ 24,895,000	\$ 28,049,400	\$ 25,964,700	\$ 25,349,700
Seed Crops	2,512,760	1,985,700	2,275,900	2,165,400	3,010,290
Vegetable Crops	1,155,000	1,011,000	1,635,000	1,335,000	671,450
Fruit and Nut Crops	17,238,800	17,696,400	22,972,000	25,171,000	28,269,000
Nursery Stock	377,200	429,700	425,100	430,600	400,500
Livestock and Poultry	9,178,500	8,769,300	* 9,378,400	* 10,255,630	10,821,600
Apiary Products	<u>223,705</u>	<u>200,830</u>	<u>222,380</u>	<u>279,600</u>	<u>269,850</u>
Grand Total	\$ 57,191,865	\$ 54,987,930	*\$ 64,958,180	*\$ 65,601,930	\$ 68,792,390
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Payments	\$ 588,000	\$ 394,000	\$ 458,000	\$ 764,000	\$ 780,000

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF PLANT CROP ACREAGES

Commodities	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Field Crops	492,720	507,710	503,755	479,275	481,910
Seed Crops	15,640	14,655	14,800	13,391	15,370
Vegetable Crops	3,130	3,350	4,060	3,500	1,856
Fruit and Nut Crops	<u>33,915</u>	<u>35,850</u>	<u>38,744</u>	<u>40,572</u>	<u>42,915</u>
Grand Total	545,405	561,565	561,359	536,738	542,051

\* Revised