

BUTTE COUNTY CROP REPORT 2015





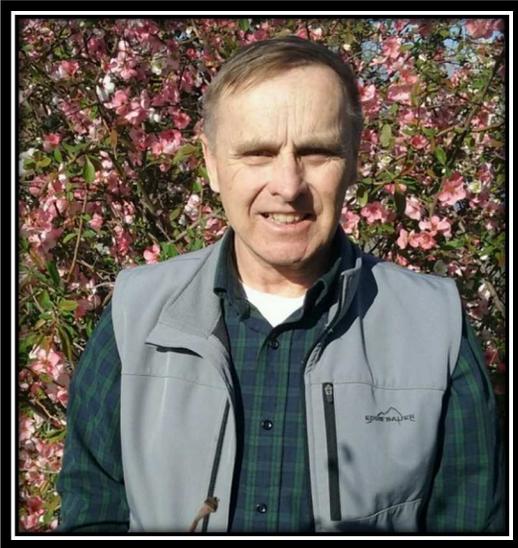
Butte County Agricultural Commissioner's Mission Statement

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.

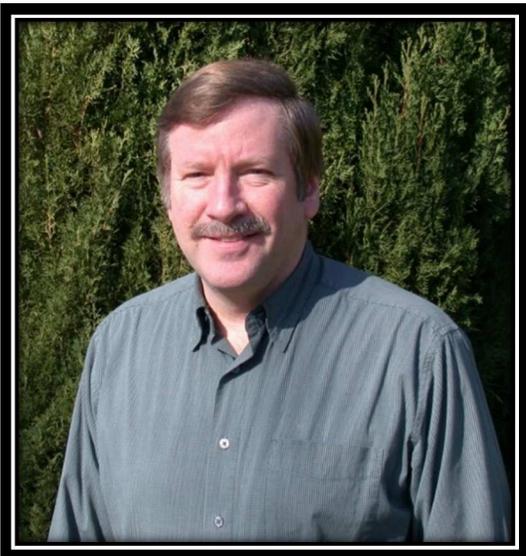
Louie B. Mendoza Jr.

Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights & Measures

The 2015 Crop Report is dedicated to Richard B. Price and Joseph H. Connell



Richard served as the Butte County Agricultural Commissioner Director of Weights & Measures for 27 years. Richard guided the Agricultural Department during challenging times of agricultural regulatory change, and pest prevention programs. Richard oversaw the protection and preservation of agriculture, the number one industry in Butte County, by ensuring a safe and healthy agricultural product. Richard helped secure marketplace confidence by enforcing weights & measures laws and regulations. He protected and promoted the well-being of all agricultural customers and community members through fair and equitable application of agricultural and weights and measures standards, emphasizing education and cooperation, including the use of technology to enhance customer service. At the time of his retirement Richard was the longest serving California Agricultural Commissioner & Sealer.



Joe served as Farm Advisor with the University of California Cooperative Extension office in Butte County for 34 years. His specialty was almonds, olives, citrus and ornamental landscape plants, but his vast knowledge in all areas related to agriculture was invaluable to the citizens of Butte County. His work with almond growers included research on pest and disease management, pruning, frost protection, irrigation, new rootstock and varieties, and timely harvest. Joe was instrumental in establishing the Butte County Master Gardener program and hosted the first Honeybee Tech Transfer Team as part of a nationwide effort to help beekeepers and bee breeders “bee informed” about management practices for producing strong honeybee colonies for pollination of almonds and other crops throughout the United States. He served as County Director of the Extension office from 2011 until his retirement.

Agricultural and Weights & Measures Staff and Associates

Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights & Measures

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August 23, 2016

Karen Ross
Secretary of California Department of Food and Agriculture

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

Paul Hahn
Chief Administrative Officer

Dear Sirs and Madams,

In accordance with provisions of the California Food and Agriculture Code section 2279, I am submitting the 76th annual crop report that shows the agricultural production and agricultural value in Butte County for the 2015 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 2015 totaled **\$772,639,884**. This is a \$38,265,514 decrease over the 2014 gross value total of \$810,905,398. The total increase in gross value of agriculture during 2015 is 18% above our county 10-year average of \$652,450,570.

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.

Louie B. Mendoza Jr.
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights & Measures

MILLION DOLLAR CROPS

1	Walnuts	\$240,900,000
2	Almonds	\$202,092,000
3	Rice	\$138,692,019
4	Prunes	\$43,191,120
5	Peaches	\$14,904,478
6	Nursery Stock	\$14,111,000
7	Harvested Timber	\$13,717,316
8	Cattle & Calves	\$11,655,000
9	Rice (Seed)	\$11,553,070
10	Apiary (Pollination)	\$9,684,521
11	Fruit & Nut (Misc.)	\$7,933,748
12	Olives (Oil)	\$5,816,465
13	Kiwis	\$4,554,450
14	Almond Hulls	\$4,800,000
15	Pistachios	\$4,419,405
16	Field Crop (Misc.)	\$3,983,171
17	Olives (Table)	\$2,685,618
18	Seed (Misc.)	\$2,538,037
19	Irrigated Pasture	\$2,101,950
20	Pasture, Other	\$2,000,000
21	Beans, Dry/Edible	\$1,882,140
22	Vegetables	\$1,743,626
23	Alfalfa	\$1,656,746
24	Citrus	\$1,356,112

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF CROP VALUES

CROP	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
APIARY PRODUCTS	\$ 5,813,000	\$ 7,340,000	\$ 7,977,000	\$ 10,865,340	\$ 10,586,121
FIELD CROPS	\$ 160,306,000	\$ 175,063,000	\$ 220,799,346	\$ 168,290,698	\$ 151,013,590
FRUIT & NUT CROPS	\$ 416,935,000	\$ 469,591,000	\$ 557,225,178	\$ 556,649,028	\$ 532,653,396
LIVESTOCK	\$ 10,366,000	\$ 11,421,000	\$ 12,099,000	\$ 12,520,000	\$ 12,781,800
NURSERY STOCK	\$ 21,728,000	\$ 21,558,000	\$ 29,458,000	\$ 17,819,000	\$ 14,111,000
SEED CROPS	\$ 18,648,000	\$ 16,496,000	\$ 18,510,000	\$ 18,683,294	\$ 14,091,107
VEGETABLE CROPS	\$ 851,000	\$ 872,000	\$ 1,785,000	\$ 1,503,000	\$ 1,743,626
ORGANIC CROPS	N/A	\$ 9,515,000	\$ 13,448,637	\$ 15,935,500	\$ 21,930,572
CROP TOTALS	\$ 634,647,000	\$ 711,856,000	\$ 861,302,161	\$ 802,265,860	\$ 758,911,212
TIMBER	\$ 9,465,000	\$ 9,578,000	\$ 8,292,000	\$ 8,639,538	\$ 13,728,672
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 644,112,000	\$ 721,434,000	\$ 869,594,161	\$ 810,905,398	\$ 772,639,884

FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF PLANT CROP ACRES

CROP	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
FIELD CROPS	370,401	373,484	367,783	337,989	311,061
FRUIT & NUT CROPS	93,083	95,043	96,928	97,237	101,486
SEED CROPS	6,949	6,468	6,923	6,590	6,647
VEGETABLE CROPS	792	789	844	708	817
GRAND TOTAL	471,225	475,784	472,478	442,524	420,011



2015 FRUIT & NUT CROPS ACREAGE STATISTICS

ORCHARD CROPS	BEARING	NON-BEARING	TOTAL
ALMONDS	39,626	1,194	40,820
APPLES	47	0	47
APRICOTS	29	0	29
AVOCADOS	2	0	2
CHERRIES	250	0	250
CHESTNUTS	45	10	55
GRAPES (Table & Raisin)	9	0	9
GRAPES (Wine)	169	1	170
KIWIS	698	0	698
MANDARINS	100	0	100
NECTARINES	7	0	7
OLIVES (Oil)	1,917	0	1,917
OLIVES (Table)	690	0	690
ORANGES	123	0	123
PEACHES, CLINGSTONE	1,509	10	1,519
PEACHES, FREESTONE	41	0	41
PEARS	11	0	11
PECANS	344	0	344
PERSIMMONS	52	12	64
PISTACHIOS	765	0	765
PLUMS	108	0	108
PRUNES	6,807	213	7,020
WALNUTS, ENGLISH	48,180	2,633	50,813
WALNUTS, BLACK	27	1	28
TOTAL	101,556	4,074	105,630

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



2015 FRUIT & NUT CROPS ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing (ac)	Yield (tons)	Yield (tons) / Bearing (ac)	Value (\$) / 1 (ton)	Total (\$)
ALMONDS	2015	39,626	33,682	0.85	\$6,000	\$202,092,000
	2014	39,241	35,709	0.91	\$6,750	\$241,035,750
HULLS	2015	--	40,000	--	\$120	\$4,800,000
	2014	--	42,000	--	\$120	\$5,040,000
CITRUS	2015	223	647	2.9	\$2,096	\$1,356,112
	2014	224	1366	6.1	\$1,425	\$1,946,550
KIWIS	2015	698	6,282	9	\$725	\$4,554,450
	2014	601	4,808	8	\$1,200	\$5,769,600
OLIVES (OIL)	2015	1,917	8,345	4.4	\$697	\$5,816,465
	2014	1,883	6,591	3.5	\$556	\$3,664,318
OLIVES (TABLE)	2015	690	2,691	3.9	\$998	\$2,685,618
	2014	690	1,518	2.2	\$988	\$1,499,784
PEACHES	2015	1,549	26,333	17	\$566	\$14,904,478
	2014	1,610	33,649	20.9	\$370	\$12,450,130
PISTACHIOS	2015	765	765	1	\$5,777	\$4,419,405
	2014	713	856	1.2	\$5,691	\$4,871,496
PRUNES	2015	6,807	19,740	2.9	\$2,188	\$43,191,120
	2014	7,061	16,382	2.32	\$2,500	\$40,955,000
WALNUTS	2015	48,180	120,450	2.5	\$2,000	\$240,900,000
	2014	44,219	70,308	1.59	\$3,300	\$232,016,400
MISC. *	2015	1,030	--	--	--	\$7,933,748
	2014	1,045	--	--	--	\$7,400,000
TOTAL	2015	101,486	--	--	--	\$532,653,396



2015 FIELD CROP ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing (ac)	Yield (tons)	Yield (tons) / Bearing (ac)	Value (\$) / 1 (ton)	Total
BEANS, DRY EDIBLE	2015	1,235	1,482	1.2	\$1,270	\$1,882,140
	2014	1,939	1,551	0.8	\$1,100	\$1,706,100
ALFALFA	2015	1,597	9,103	5.7	\$182	\$1,656,746
	2014	1,458	10,206	7	\$248	\$2,531,088
PASTURE, IRRIGATED	2015	14,013	--	--	\$150	\$2,101,950
	2014	15,500	--	--	\$117	\$1,813,500
PASTURE, OTHER	2015	200,000	--	--	\$10	\$2,000,000
	2014	235,000	--	--	\$25	\$5,875,000
RICE	2015	87,700	409,121	4.7	\$339	\$138,692,019
	2014	77,800	342,320	4.4	\$441	\$150,963,120
SAFFLOWER	2015	337	404	1.2	\$505	\$204,020
	2014	92	101	1.1	\$490	\$49,490
WHEAT	2015	1,360	2,584	1.9	\$191	\$493,544
	2014	600	1,740	2.9	\$260	\$452,400
MISC. *	2015	4,819	--	--	--	\$3,983,171
	2014	5,600	--	--	--	\$4,900,000
TOTAL	2015	311,061	--	--	--	\$151,013,590

†Values (\$) / 1 (ac)



2015 APIARY PRODUCTS, PRODUCTION & VALUE

	YEAR	PRODUCTION (COLONIES)	VALUE PER COLONY	TOTAL
POLLINATION	2015	57,332	\$169	\$9,684,521
	2014	58,502	\$170	\$9,945,340
OTHER APIARY PRODUCTS	2015	--	--	\$901,600
	2014	--	--	\$920,000
TOTAL	2015			\$10,586,121



2015 ORGANIC CROP STATISTICS



Registered Organic Producers*

92 Producers – 10,868 Acres

14 – Handlers

2 – Processor

1 - Retailer

\$21,930,572 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.*

2015 VEGETABLE VALUE

\$ 1,743,626 - 2015 Total Value

\$ 1,503,000 - 2014 Total Value

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

2015 NURSERY ACREAGE & VALUE

137 - 2015 Total Acres \$ 14,111,000 - 2015 Total Value

173 - 2014 Total Acres \$ 17,819,000 - 2014 Total Value

**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.*

2015 HARVEST TIMBER PRODUCTION & VALUE

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION (BFT)	VALUE
HARVESTED TIMBER	2015	60,559,000	\$13,717,316
	2014	42,799,000	\$8,628,351
OTHER TIMBER PRODUCTS	2015	--	\$11,356
	2014	--	\$11,187
TOTAL	2015	--	\$13,728,672

**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.*



2015 LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

ITEM	YEAR	NO. OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVE WT.	\$ PER HEAD	TOTAL
CATTLE & CALVES	2015	12,600	63,000	\$185.00	\$11,655,000
	2014	12,500	62,000	\$185.00	\$11,470,000
SHEEP	2015	1,800	2,400	\$157.00	\$376,800
	2014	1,800	2,400	\$145.00	\$348,000
MISC.	2015	--	--	--	\$750,000
	2014	--	--	--	\$702,000
TOTAL	2015	--	--	--	\$12,781,800



2015 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	\$ PER UNIT	TOTAL
MILK, MARKET	2015	52,636	Cwt	\$16.83	\$885,864
	2014	51,930	Cwt	\$22.00	\$1,142,460
MILK, MANUFACTURING	2015	--	Cwt	--	\$11,700
	2014	--	Cwt	--	\$15,000
TOTAL	2015		Cwt	--	\$897,564

2015 SEED ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

CROP	YEAR	ACREAGE	VALUE / ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	CROP	TOTAL
RICE	2015	4,639	8,044	37,316,116	lbs.	\$0.31	\$11,553,070
	2014	4,402	9,100	40,058,200	lbs.	\$0.32	\$12,818,624
MISC.	2015	2,008	--	--		--	\$2,538,037
	2014	2,188	--	--		--	\$5,864,670
TOTAL	2015	6,647	--	--		--	\$14,091,107

**Miscellaneous includes onion, carrot, sunflower, pumpkin, watermelon, squash, cucumber, bean, alfalfa and melon seed.*

2015 PHYTOSANITARY EXPORTS

In 2015, a total of 2,116 phytosanitary certificates were issued and exported to 68 countries and 15 states within the United States. Shipments included a variety of fruits, vegetables, grains, beans, lumber and plants. In addition, approximately 978 seed field acres were inspected and certified during the 2015 season.



2015 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 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 991 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, and 157 Asian Citrus Psyllid traps.

PEST EXCLUSION

Approximately 4,383 shipments were inspected for live exotic pests including the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter and Sudden Oak Death resulting in the issuance of 37 Notice of Rejections.

PEST MANAGEMENT

Weed Control Projects

		Control Activity	Chemical	Distribution
Skeleton Weed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Herbicide	Aminnopyralid	5 sites ~ 15 acres
Knap Weed, species	<i>Centaurea species</i>	Herbicide	Aminnopyralid	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 2015 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

A Century of Weights & Measures in Butte County

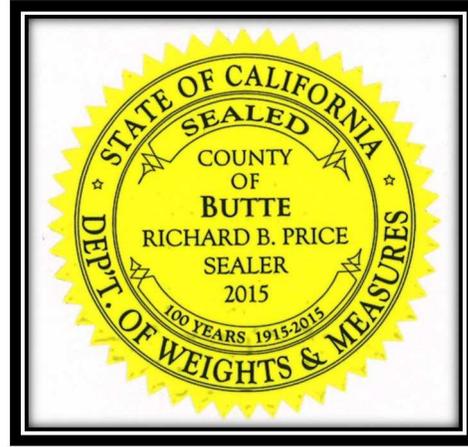
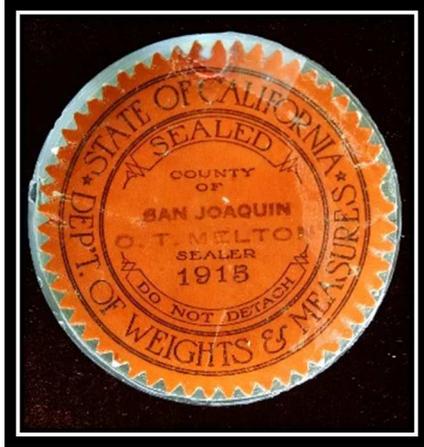
2015 marked the 100 year anniversary of Weights and Measures in Butte County. One of the functions of the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer is to ensure equity in the marketplace.

Alfred James Storey was the first Sealer of Weights & Measure in Butte County. He was appointed in 1915 by the Butte County Board of Supervisors. A quote from his biography read “He is faithfully serving the best interest of the public of Butte County, in the conduct of his responsible office, and is quick to detect and bring to justice the unscrupulous dealer whose short yard-stick and false balance are still, as in the days of Solomon, an abomination to the Lord.” From that point forward Weights and Measures officials have been charged with the task of ensuring that items bought and sold in the marketplace are fair, equitable and honest.



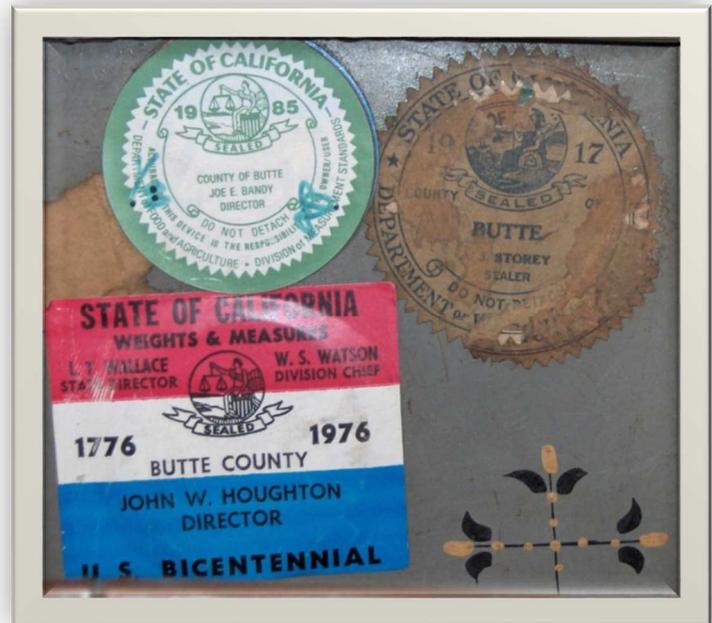
Since 1915 Weights & Measures officials have been performing tests regarding mass, volume, liquid, area, and length on devices such as scales and meters, and commodities like packaged goods and cords of firewood. The purpose of the testing is to determine accurate outcomes for buyers and sellers. Once the device is deemed accurate the inspector adheres an official seal to the face of the equipment to inform the consumer that it was tested and found correct. The seals are two inches in diameter with the emblem of the Great State of California the Roman goddess Minerva holding a spear and shield. The seal color changes annually and the Sealer’s name may also change depending on whether or not a new Agricultural

Commissioner/Sealer has been appointed. To celebrate the 100 year anniversary of Weights and Measures service in Butte County our office duplicated the design of the original 1915 seal. The only exception was to the color. We hope the 2015 design draws attention to the seals and illuminates the 100 years of Weights and Measures services provided by Butte County.



Many changes have taken place over the years and now there is much more to evaluate and examine than there were 100 years ago. Advances in technology have led to equipment becoming increasingly more sophisticated in its speed, delivery and recording capabilities. Today, checking the accuracy of a device is only part of the inspection. Many devices are now interfaced with computer software systems which require us to examine the different ways computer generated data can be manipulated to facilitate fraud. One example would be the added effort of opening the housing units of gas pumps to search for credit/debit card skimmer devices, which can be used to illegally retrieve card and personal pin numbers.

Although many things have changed, the department's purpose still remains the same. The dedicated employees of the Butte County Agriculture/Weight and Measures Department continue to serve the community the same way they always have with an unparalleled commitment to excellence and a fervent desire to serve the public. The same way Alfred James Storey did a century ago.



A variety of old seals from the past.