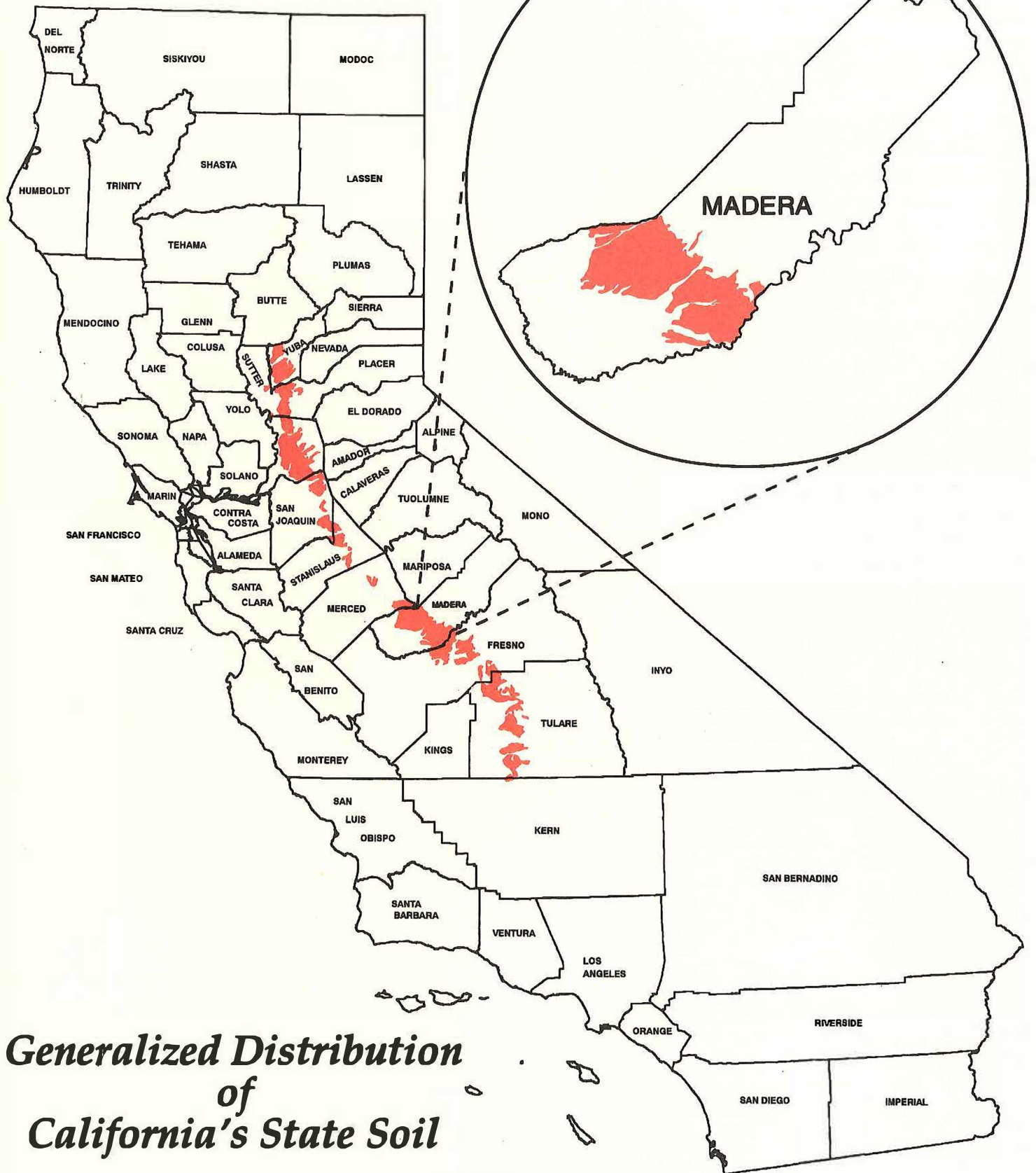


Agricultural Crop Report Madera County, 1997



*Generalized Distribution
of
California's State Soil*

And what is it to work with love? . . .
It is to sow seeds with tenderness and reap the harvest with joy, even as if
your beloved were to eat the fruit.

Kahlil Gibran

"Soil is the greatest natural resource of the state of California. In recognition of this, we propose that California adopt a State Soil, acknowledging the agricultural heritage of our state."

This has been the mission of students from Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School in Madera, California. Their effort to recognize soil as the resource supporting the agricultural economy of our state, as well as to underscore the need to conserve agricultural land for future generations, has resulted in adoption of the San Joaquin Soil Series as the official soil of our state.

The San Joaquin Soil Series, a granite-derived soil covering more than 500,000 acres, is found in twelve California counties. Selected from a list of over 1,900 soil types known to exist in California, the San Joaquin Soil Series was first considered as a candidate for state soil status in 1989 by the Professional Soil Scientists of California.

The Madera-based project, under the direction of science instructor Alex Lehman, was initiated in 1993. Mr. Lehman and the students worked in cooperation with the Professional Soil Scientists of California, the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The students analyzed soil samples, using their results as the foundation for their math, English, history, political science, and art studies. The research culminated in the drafting of legislation for an official State Soil, with student testimony before the Assembly. Senate Bill 389, introduced by Senator Dick Monteith and co-sponsored by Assembly Member George House, was signed by Governor Wilson on August 20, 1997.

The intent of the California State Soil project is to raise public awareness of the role soil plays in our everyday lives, forming as it does the foundation of our economy. The project emphasizes agricultural land conservation to ensure our future prosperity. To that end, a steering committee consisting of professors from California State Universities in Fresno and San Luis Obispo, the University of California at Davis, professional soil scientists, and other stakeholders, has come together to promote public outreach and education. A permanent San Joaquin Soil Series profile display and learning center will open at California State University Fresno in the fall of 1998. Extended plans include computer links between classrooms and remote work sites in order to enhance classroom study of soil as well as related agricultural activities.

Our heartfelt thanks go to Daryl Lund, State Resource Inventory Specialist, of the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Niki Vollrath, GIS specialist, for the creation of the cover of this year's crop report.

Madera County Department of Agriculture

Weights and Measures

Robert J. Rolan, Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights & Measures

David A. Robinson, Assistant
Commissioner/Sealer

Ann M. Veneman, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture

and

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Madera

In accordance with the provisions of Section 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code, I am pleased to submit the 1997 Agricultural Crop Report.

The gross production value in Madera County surpassed 1996 yields by 10 percent, reaching a record value of \$788,503,000. Madera orchards generated the largest crop of almonds to date, with a value of \$154,197,000, representing a gain of nearly 48 percent. This report returns to the practice of combining all grape production into a single category, as was done through 1980. The combined grape total of \$280,525,000 exceeded by 26.9 percent the combined total from 1996. Prices received for field crops were generally lower this year, resulting in a nearly 17 percent decline in overall value. Fewer acres of cotton were planted, and cotton production declined \$10,800,000.

The values presented in this report do not represent net income to individual producers, but rather are gross values of agricultural production in Madera County. This production generates substantial economic activity, including labor, transportation, the processing of products and other related industry, none of which are measured in this report.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to our local growers and ranchers, our industry representatives, and the staff of the University of California Cooperative Extension for their generous contribution of information. I am additionally grateful to my staff, in particular Scott Porteous and Marilyn Key, for their efforts in the compilation of this report.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert J. Rolan
Agricultural Commissioner

**1997 AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT
MADERA COUNTY**

Board of Supervisors

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Alfred Ginsburg	District 2
Gail Hanhart McIntyre	District 3
John Silva	District 4
Harry H. Baker Jr., Chairman	District 5

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FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE 1996-1997

ITEM	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Barley, Irrigated	1997	856	1.60	1,370	Ton	\$130.00	\$ 178,000
	1996	1,665	1.70	2,831	"	149.00	422,000
Beans, Dry a/	1997	2,259	1.03	2,327	"	560.00	1,303,000
	1996	4,342	1.00	4,342	"	600.00	2,605,000
Corn, Field	1997	9,743	4.20	40,921	"	111.00	4,542,000
	1996	12,430	4.40	54,692	"	149.00	8,149,000
Corn, Silage	1997	3,057	26.00	79,482	"	22.00	1,749,000
	1996	3,900	27.00	105,300	"	23.00	2,422,000
Silage, Other b/	1997	1,950	13.40	26,130	"	19.00	496,000
	1996	1,800	13.00	23,400	"	20.00	468,000
Cotton, Lint	1997	37,275	1,338 c/	99,748	Bales	.76 d/	37,904,000
	1996	47,273	1,290 c/	121,964	"	.80 d/	48,786,000
Cotton, Seed	1997	xx	xx	41,570	Ton	176.00	7,316,000
	1996	xx	xx	50,920	"	180.00	9,166,000
Hay, Alfalfa	1997	39,356	7.40	291,234	"	114.00	33,201,000
	1996	36,722	7.30	268,071	"	120.00	32,169,000
Pasture, Irrigated	1997	5,500	xx	xx	"	120.00	660,000
	1996	5,000	xx	xx	"	120.00	600,000
Pasture, Other	1997	381,000	xx	xx	"	8.00	3,048,000
	1996	381,000	xx	xx	"	8.00	3,048,000
Stubble e/	1997	14,500	xx	xx	"	14.00	203,000
	1996	14,000	xx	xx	"	14.00	196,000
Sugar Beets	1997	357	33.50	11,960	"	43.00	514,000
	1996	908	32.00	29,056	"	32.50	944,000

- a/ Includes black-eyes, kidneys, and limas
- b/ Includes alfalfa, oats, and winter forage
- c/ Pounds
- d/ Per Pound
- e/ Includes alfalfa, corn, and grain



FIELD CROPS: ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE 1996-1997

ITEM	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Wheat	1997	28,543	2.40	68,503	Ton	\$123.00	\$ 8,426,000
	1996	27,078	2.60	70,403	"	149.00	10,490,000
Misc. a/	1997	6,024	xx	xx	xx	xx	2,115,000
	1996	9,198	xx	xx	xx	xx	2,571,000
TOTAL	1997	530,420					\$101,655,000
	1996	545,316					122,036,000

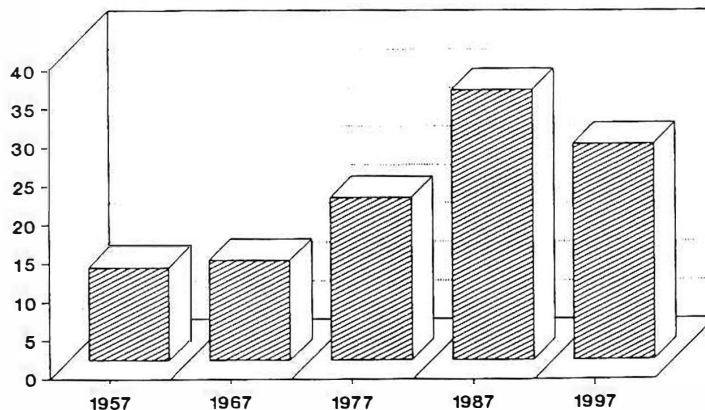
VEGETABLE CROPS, ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE 1996-1997

ITEM	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION			VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Vegetables b/	1997	5,151	xx	xx	xx	xx	\$ 12,746,000
	1996	6,981	xx	xx	xx	xx	11,416,000

a/ Includes dryland grains, oats, rice, sorghum, safflower, and seed crops

b/ Includes carrots, all cabbage, cucumbers, garlic, onions, all melons, all peppers, all squash, all tomatoes, and miscellaneous truck crops

Number of Crops valued at One Million Dollars or More





FRUIT AND NUT CROPS, ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE 1996-1997

ITEM	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Almonds a/	1997	42,514	1.17	49,741	Ton	\$3,100.00	\$154,197,000
	1996	41,160	.63	25,931	"	4,020.00	104,243,000
Almond Hulls	1997	xx	xx	99,483	"	84.00	8,357,000
	1996	xx	xx	51,862	"	84.00	4,356,000
Apples b/	1997	3,138	9.09	28,524	"	605.00	17,257,000
	1996	3,070	9.20	28,244	"	682.00	19,262,000
Figs	1997	9,199	1.73	15,914	"	718.00	11,426,000
	1996	8,381	1.65	13,829	"	1,040.00	14,382,000
Grapes, Raisin	1997	43,761	xx	xx	"	xx	126,545,000
	1996	43,499	xx	xx	"	xx	102,938,000
Dried	1997	30,112	3.02	90,938	"	872.00	79,298,000
	1996	29,931	2.07	61,957	"	1,000.00	61,957,000
Crushed	1997	10,438	11.72	122,345	"	186.00	22,756,000
	1996	10,376	9.30	96,497	"	191.00	18,431,000
Fresh	1997	3,211	8.90	28,578	"	857.00	24,491,000
	1996	3,192	7.10	22,663	"	995.00	22,550,000
Grapes, Table	1997	2,577	7.90	20,358	"	974.00	19,829,000
	1996	2,521	6.42	16,185	"	998.00	16,153,000
Grapes, Wine c/	1997	40,990	xx	xx	"	xx	129,489,000
	1996	39,481	xx	xx	"	xx	101,977,000
Red Varieties	1997	16,466	11.27	185,572	"	333.00	61,795,000
	1996	15,886	8.35	132,648	"	337.00	44,702,000
White Varieties	1997	24,524	12.16	298,212	"	227.00	67,694,000
	1996	23,595	10.60	250,107	"	229.00	57,275,000

a/ Meat basis

b/ Total production & value includes apples harvested from non-bearing acreage

c/ Includes table grapes crushed

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS, ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE 1996-1997

ITEM	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	PRODUCTION		UNIT	VALUE	
			PER ACRE	TOTAL		PER UNIT	TOTAL
Nectarines	1997	651	7.70	5,013	Ton	\$ 750.00	\$ 3,760,000
	1996	707	5.22	3,691	"	706.00	2,606,000
Olives	1997	1,805	4.28	7,728	"	692.00	5,346,000
	1996	1,781	7.26	12,930	"	682.00	8,818,000
Oranges	1997	4,281	15.70	67,212	"	212.00	14,249,000
	1996	4,288	12.80	54,886	"	233.00	12,788,000
Peach, Free	1997	1,090	7.70	8,393	"	488.00	4,096,000
	1996	1,075	8.50	9,138	"	759.00	6,936,000
Pistachios a/	1997	17,517	1.25	21,896	"	2,550.00	55,835,000
	1996	17,157	1.02	17,500	"	2,880.00	50,400,000
Plums	1997	1,308	7.87	10,294	"	741.00	7,628,000
	1996	1,362	7.43	10,120	"	669.00	6,770,000
Prunes b/	1997	1,293	3.60	4,655	"	849.00	3,952,000
	1996	1,253	3.30	4,135	"	900.00	3,722,000
Walnuts	1997	890	1.35	1,202	"	1,400.00	1,683,000
	1996	876	1.41	1,235	"	1,700.00	2,100,000
Misc. c/	1997	1,680	xx	xx	xx	xx	4,324,000
	1996	1,623	xx	xx	xx	xx	5,477,000
TOTAL	1997	172,694					\$567,973,000
	1996	168,267					462,928,000

a/ Total production and value includes pistachios harvested from non-bearing acreage

b/ Dried weight

c/ Includes apricots, cherries, cling peaches, kiwis, lemons, pears, pecans, tangerines, tangelos, persimmons, and pomegranates

*Revised



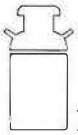
APIARY PRODUCTS 1996-1997

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION TOTAL	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Honey	1997	640,320	Pound	\$.58	\$ 371,000
	1996	525,540	"	.85	447,000
Pollination	1997	114,119	Colony	42.25	4,822,000
	1996	112,710	"	38.00	4,283,000
TOTAL	1997				\$ 5,193,000
	1996				4,730,000



LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY: PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1996-1997

ITEM	YEAR	HEAD	LIVEWEIGHT	UNIT	PER UNIT	TOTAL
Cattle & Calves	1997	38,011	262,276	CWT.	\$61.00	\$15,999,000
	1996	33,053	228,066	"	56.00	12,772,000
Hogs	Reported in Other Livestock and Poultry Products					
	1996	5,000	4,500	"	65.00	293,000
All Chickens	1997	3,900,170	20,514,894	Pound	.307	6,298,000
	1996	3,104,000	15,706,240	"	.328	5,152,000
Turkeys	1997	936,271	19,183,670	"	.345	6,618,000
	1996	2,291,730	42,997,913	"	.448	19,263,000
TOTAL	1997					\$28,915,000
	1996					37,480,000



LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1996-1997

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	UNIT	TOTAL
Milk, Market	1997	5,143,928	CWT.	\$12.30	\$63,270,000
	1996	4,626,887	"	13.47	62,324,000
Milk Manufacturing	1997	84,369	"	12.16	1,026,000
	1996	298,401	"	13.90	4,148,000
Other Livestock & Poultry Products a/	1997	xx	xx	xx	1,959,000
	1996	xx	xx	xx	1,727,000
TOTAL	1997				\$66,255,000
	1996				68,199,000

NURSERY PRODUCTS: ACREAGE AND VALUE 1996-1997

ITEM	YEAR	FIELD ACRES	TOTAL VALUE
Nursery Stock b/	1997	390	\$ 4,541,000
	1996	503	5,324,000

FOREST PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1996-1997

ITEM	YEAR	PRODUCTION	UNIT	TOTAL VALUE
Timber	1997	5,504	MBF	\$ 1,225,000
	1996	5,006	"	1,635,000

a/ Includes market eggs, fertilizer, hogs, wool, sheep and lambs

b/ Includes citrus, figs, grapevines, pistachios, Christmas trees, and ornamentals

AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT SUMMARY 1996-1997

ITEM	YEAR	HARVESTED ACREAGE	VALUE
Apiary	1997		\$ 5,193,000
	1996		4,730,000
Field Crops	1997	530,420	\$101,655,000
	1996	545,316	122,036,000
Fruit & Nut Crops	1997	172,694	567,973,000
	1996	168,267	462,928,000
Livestock & Poultry	1997		28,915,000
	1996		37,480,000
Livestock & Poultry Products	1997		66,255,000
	1996		68,199,000
Nursery	1997	390	4,541,000
	1996	503	5,324,000
Timber Products	1997	5,504 MBF	1,225,000
	1996	5,006	1,635,000
Vegetable Crops	1997	5,151	12,746,000
	1996	6,981	11,416,000
TOTAL	1997		\$788,503,000
	1996		713,748,000

COMPARISON OF AGRICULTURAL VALUES

1997	\$788,503,000	* 1990	\$526,297,000
1996	713,748,000	* 1989	478,466,000
* 1995	603,267,000	* 1988	449,690,000
* 1994	615,011,000	* 1987	430,633,000
* 1993	621,410,000	* 1977	222,427,000
		* 1967	80,372,000
* 1992	602,187,000	* 1957	62,191,000
		* 1947	49,091,000
* 1991	482,250,000	* 1937	9,845,000

* Revised

MILLION DOLLAR CROPS

CROP	1997 RANK	1997 STANDINGS	1996 RANK
Grapes	1	\$280,525,000	*
Almonds	2	154,197,000	1
Milk, Market	3	63,270,000	4
Pistachios	4	55,835,000	5
Cotton, Lint	5	37,904,000	6
Hay, Alfalfa	6	33,201,000	7
Apples	7	17,257,000	9
Cattle and Calves	8	15,999,000	13
Oranges	9	14,249,000	12
Vegetables	10	12,746,000	14
Figs	11	11,426,000	11
Wheat	12	8,426,000	15
Almond Hulls	13	8,357,000	24
Plums	14	7,628,000	20
Cotton, Seed	15	7,316,000	16
Turkeys	16	6,618,000	8
Chickens	17	6,298,000	22
Olives	18	5,346,000	17
Apiary/Pollination	19	4,822,000	23
Corn, Field	20	4,542,000	18
Nursery Stock	21	4,541,000	21
Peach, Free	22	4,096,000	19
Prunes	23	3,952,000	26
Nectarines	24	3,760,000	28
Pasture, Other	25	3,048,000	27
Corn, Silage	26	1,749,000	30
Walnuts	27	1,683,000	31
Beans, Dry	28	1,303,000	29
Timber	29	1,225,000	32
Milk, Manufacturing	30	1,026,000	25

COUNTRIES RECEIVING MADERA COUNTY PRODUCE IN 1997

Argentina	Fiji	Norway
Austria	Greece	Netherlands
Australia	Germany	New Zealand
Belgium	Hong Kong	Panama
Brazil	India	Philippines
Cambodia	Indonesia	Russia
Canada	Israel	Saudi Arabia
Canary Islands	Italy	South Africa
Chile	Japan	Spain
Colombia	Korea	Sweden
Costa Rica	Lebanon	Taiwan
Denmark	Macau	Thailand
Egypt	Malaysia	Turkey
Ecuador	Mexico	United Arab Emirates
France	Nepal	United Kingdom
		Venezuela

* Combined grape total not used 1981-1996

PERMANENT CROP ACRES

CROP	1967	1977	1987	1996	1997		
					Bearing Acres	Non-Bearing	Total Acres
Almonds	8,028	17,980	34,685	45,142	42,514	5,734	48,248
Apples	52	95	1,714	3,269	3,138	233	3,371
Apricots	62	42	135	76	76	13	89
Cherries	--	--	--	123	76	47	123
Citrus							
Lemons	--	92	92	82	82	--	82
Oranges	2,517	3,189	3,850	4,410	4,281	81	4,362
* Tangerines	49	262	410	472	430	38	468
TOTAL CITRUS	2,566	3,543	4,352	4,964	4,793	119	4,912
Figs	2,923	4,581	6,877	9,591	9,199	425	9,624
Grapes							
Raisin	27,868	29,120	41,524	44,298	43,761	2,064	45,825
Table	634	417	2,507	2,692	2,577	207	2,784
Wine, Red	6,160	11,600	12,853	17,645	16,466	1,787	18,253
Wine, White	890	4,872	25,796	26,409	24,524	2,796	27,320
TOTAL GRAPES	35,552	46,009	82,680	91,044	87,328	6,854	94,182
Kiwis	--	44	171	152	104	--	104
Nectarines	185	290	785	770	651	42	693
Olives	785	1,732	1,732	1,805	1,805	20	1,825
Peaches							
Clingstone	1,980	439	477	818	770	52	822
Freestone	1,313	466	1,363	1,130	1,090	94	1,184
TOTAL PEACHES	3,293	905	1,840	1,948	1,860	146	2,006
Pears	--	--	--	38	33	5	38
Pecans	16	67	127	74	74	--	74
Persimmons	18	--	6	15	15	--	15
Pistachios	--	10,587	18,184	19,134	17,517	2,086	19,603
Plums	427	672	1,215	1,483	1,308	80	1,388
Pomegranates	2	44	58	20	20	--	20
Prunes	--	425	735	1,375	1,293	82	1,375
Walnuts	1,013	1,307	2,047	917	890	41	931
TOTAL PLANTED ACRES	54,922	88,323	157,343	181,940	172,694	15,927	188,621

* Includes Tangerines, Mandarins, and Tangelos

MADERA COUNTY ANNUAL SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL REPORT

COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

<u>PEST</u>	<u>AGENT/MECHANISM</u>	<u>PROGRAM SCOPE</u>
Yellow Star Thistle <i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	Seed Head Weevil <i>Bangasternus orientalis</i>	2 Sites
Puncture Vine <i>Tribulus maruanum</i>	Seed and Stem Weevil <i>Microlarinus lareynii</i> <i>Microlarinus lypriformis</i>	Countywide
Klamath Weed <i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Klamath Weed Beetle <i>Chrysolina quadrigemina</i>	3 Sites
Ash Whitefly <i>Siphoninus phyllyreae</i>	Wasp <i>Encarsia nr. inaron</i>	Countywide
Russian Thistle <i>Salsoia iberica</i>	Seed Head Weevil <i>Coleophora klimeschiella</i>	3 sites

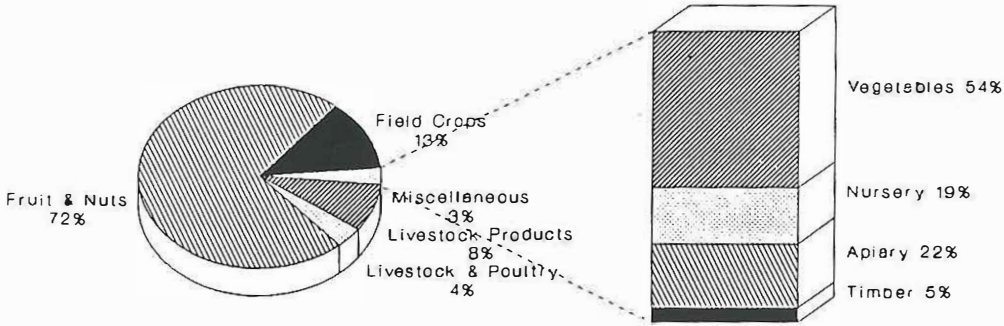
COUNTY PEST ERADICATION

<u>PEST</u>	<u>AGENT/MECHANISM</u>	<u>PROGRAM SCOPE</u>
Pink Bollworm <i>Pectinophora gossypiella</i>	Mechanical/ Host Free Period	37,275 acres

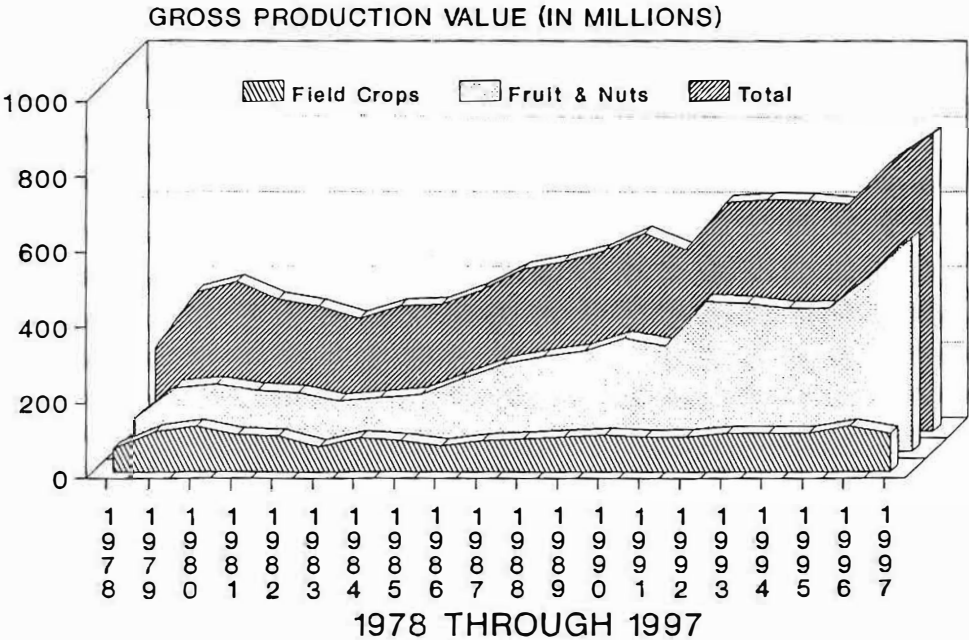
ORGANIC FARMING STATISTICS

<u>CROP</u>	<u>NUMBER OF FARMS</u>	<u>ESTIMATED ACRES</u>
Various Crops	13	1,825

MADERA COUNTY 1997 TOTAL CROP VALUE



GROWTH IN MADERA COUNTY AGRICULTURE OVER A TWENTY YEAR SPAN



Errata. The total value in 1997 for combined grape production should be \$275,863,000, an increase of 24.8% over 1996. This error is found in our cover letter and in the Million Dollar Crop list, on page 8. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.