

**1956**  
**MADERA COUNTY**



**AGRICULTURAL CROP REPORT**

1956

MADERA COUNTY  
ANNUAL CROP REPORT  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

W. C. JABOSEN - STATE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Howard T. McLean  
Agricultural Commissioner  
State Quarantine Guardian

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MADERA COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
221 West 7th Street  
Madera, California

To: W. C. Jacobsen, Director  
State Department of Agriculture

To: Madera County Board of Supervisors  
Phillips Eastman, Chairman  
Arthur Wachtman      Thos. W. Chidlaw  
Virgil Gordon      C. C. Clark

Section 65.5 of the Agricultural Code of the State of California requires the Agricultural Commissioner shall compile reports of the condition, acreage, production, and value of the Agricultural products of his County, and that the Commissioner may publish such reports and shall transmit a copy thereof to the Director.

In accordance herewith I respectfully submit our 1956 report, which is the twenty eighth report to be compiled by this office.

Since we are dependent on growers, packers, livestock producers and many others to reveal the information to our representatives, individual figures are held in strictest confidence.

Howard T. McLean  
Agricultural Commissioner

## COMMENTS

COTTON Madera County's cotton crop again leads in gross agricultural value. Production of 70,355 bales on 48,050 acres is the highest per acre yield in the history of the county. Favorable growing and harvesting weather was a big factor, but improved seed and farming practices were also responsible for this record yield. Cotton was followed by Grapes, Alfalfa, Grain, Potatoes and Corn in the order mentioned.

GRAPES Grape yield was good, despite pest problems throughout the growing season, and a favorable price gave a considerable increase in gross income.

ALFALFA Alfalfa placed third in value despite a heavy loss in tonnage. Due to a heavy build up in spotted alfalfa aphid-*Therioaphis maculata*-in August, notwithstanding chemical treatment throughout the county.

The release by this office of 15,950 *Proan palitans* and 46,000 *Aphelinus semiflavus* parasites and the placement of 144 cartons of laboratory reared Fungi pathogens in twenty-one locations showed some promise that a method of biological control might be initiated to alleviate this serious situation.

GRAIN Grain suffered a loss in tonnage due to the extreme wet season.

POTATOES The unprecedented price of potatoes in the spring crop placed them in fifth position.

CORN Corn placed sixth in value, due to heavier yield over past crops.

Slight gains in value were made by beef, milk and poultry, through increased production.

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## FUNCTIONS

The county Agricultural Commissioner's office is charged essentially with law enforcement relating to the agricultural industry. We strive to fulfill these demands and give additional service to the people of Madera County.

Our work is varied and not only does it serve to regulate, by state law, definite practices carried on by the grower, but at the same time gives protection to the general public.

The principal activities of work are divided into the following classifications:

Plant Quarantine, Nursery inspection, Insect-pest surveys, Weed control, Rodent and Animal control, Fruit, Nut, Vegetables, Egg, Honey, Poultry and Rabbit meat Standardization inspection, Apiary inspection, Seed inspection, Field and Orchard inspection and Plant and Pest Control.

FRUIT & NUT CROPS--1956

	Bearing Acreage	Non-bear Acreage	Production	Total Value F.O B. Farm
Almonds	463	218	384 tons	\$ 365,075
Apples	74	4	148 "	11,840
Apricots	58		174 "	22,620
Figs	1,352	559	1,014 "	170,596
Grapes-raisin	14,375	2,121	*25,424 "	4,840,880
			54,867 "	2,117,895
Grapes-table	437	24	4,588 "	193,420
Grapes-wine	3,206	233	33,663 "	1,279,194
Nectarines	74	96	306 "	42,680
Olives	446	74	1,306 "	226,765
Peaches-clingstone	285	310	2,280 "	159,600
Peaches-freestone	841	695	7,401 "	548,887
Plums	132	52	646 "	77,590
Walnuts	56	171	48 "	31,680
				<u>\$ 10,088,722</u>

\*Dried

TRUCK CROPS

	Acreage	Production	
Berries	21	27,100 crates	\$ 43,800
Carrots	40	560 tons	8,000
Corn-sweet	199	39,275 crates	87,290
Melons	354	1,885 tons	52,441
Tomatoes	314	8,000 lugs	8,000
		1,530 tons	34,425
Misc. Vegetables	47	--	44,305
			<u>\$ 278,251</u>

FIELD CROPS -- 1956

	Acreage	Production	Total Value F.O.B. Farm
Alfalfa	46,802	257,411 tons	\$ 5,148,220
Barley	83,503	35,838 tons	1,677,218
Beans	373	4,476 sacks	31,332
Beans-castor	98	61 tons	8,575
Beets-sugar	2,443	51,303 tons	564,333
Corn-field	8,178	20,445 tons	1,226,700
Corn-silage	3,347	50,205 tons	251,025
Corn-grain sorghum	3,806	5,709 tons	296,868
Cotton	48,050	lint-70,355 bales seed-28,142 tons	12,312,125 1,801,088
Grain hay	1,520	2,280 tons	50,160
Oats	2,788	2,509 tons	130,468
Potatoes	1,318	345,995 sacks	1,907,799
Potatoes-sweet	95	20,950 baskets	54,725
Rice	1,703	54,496 sacks	226,158
Seed	814	241 tons	145,520
Wheat	9,529	2,916 tons	196,538
Irrigated Pasture	47,800	--	1,673,000
Stubble	82,244	--	82,244
			<hr/> \$27,784,096

ANIMAL PRODUCTION

	Amount Sold	
Beef cattle and calves	61,079 head	\$ 9,901,048
Hogs	5,500 head	115,500
Sheep-lambs	24,361 head	431,411
wool	182,750 lbs.	100,513
Milk fat	5,455,000 lbs.	5,337,470
Poultry-turkeys	745,600 birds	4,267,053
chickens	620,740 birds	388,697
eggs	1,248,500 dozens	442,072
Fertilizer	26,912 tons	70,368
		<hr/> \$21,054,132

MISCELLANEOUS

Nursery stock	530,000 plants	\$	29,050
Bees-honey	492,000 lbs.		61,500
beeswax	8,100 lbs.		4,860
pollination	4,700 hives		16,600
Agri. Conservation payments			97,003
			<u>209,013</u>

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LUMBER

Stumpage	46,367,000 board feet	\$	695,505
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SUMMARY--1956

TOTAL VALUE OF:

Fruit & Nut crops	\$10,008,722
Truck crops	278,261
Field crops	27,734,096
Animal production	21,054,132
Miscellaneous	209,013
Lumber	695,505
	<u>\$50,109,729</u>

SUMMARY OF INCOME FOR TWENTY FIVE YEARS  
AS REPORTED

Year	Fruit	Truck	Field	Misc.	Animal	Lumber	Total
1932	\$1,386,100	27,500	\$1,436,100	\$	\$	\$	\$2,849,700
1933	2,036,875	30,300	2,297,350				4,364,525
1934	1,975,240	65,220	3,212,090	13,250			5,265,800
1935	2,083,340	86,870	2,910,350	73,500			5,154,060
1936	2,328,165	134,338	5,391,230	144,000			7,997,733
1937	2,786,900	164,520	6,823,720	70,000			9,845,140
1938	1,745,830	198,725	4,668,690	719,800			7,333,045
1939	1,795,200	263,135	5,043,615	723,450			7,825,450
1940	1,665,825	188,280	5,997,630	994,246	3,887,475		12,733,456
1941	3,191,825	283,060	7,547,620	971,633	5,086,160		17,080,303
1942	3,795,820	467,045	9,567,590	520,080	8,557,290		22,907,825
1943	7,216,000	1037,100	11,939,360	606,410	9,955,082		30,753,952
1944	9,037,365	865,105	10,971,490	203,110	11,847,490		32,924,990
1945	8,227,865	826,300	12,357,000	280,720	11,856,720		33,548,335
1946	12,323,855	858,210	20,885,690	241,770	14,368,540	1,087,470	49,765,535
1947	5,660,625	641,895	24,689,040	198,178	16,384,015	1,517,250	49,091,003
1948	5,297,680	808,680	24,946,860	93,109	18,909,860	1,373,750	51,430,054
1949	4,348,640	447,145	20,739,980	130,205	16,505,155	812,200	42,983,325
1950	8,864,545	351,580	27,884,150	147,145	17,814,500	1,879,080	56,941,000
1951	6,280,580	506,020	35,805,870	178,870	23,058,195	2,540,720	68,370,255
1952	5,593,730	216,575	34,472,590	156,915	20,232,105	963,840	61,635,755
1953	6,325,820	344,880	28,453,640	109,175	18,895,705		54,129,220
1954	7,375,080	397,510	29,384,535	144,490	18,383,230		55,684,845
1955	7,691,240	361,980	25,579,975	96,955	18,776,790		52,506,940
1956	10,088,722	278,261	27,784,096	209,013	21,054,132	695,505	60,109,729



MADERA COUNTY - 1956

	Bearing Acres	Non-bearing Acres	Total Acres
<b>Almonds</b>			
Davey	-	74	74
Drake	45	--	45
I.X.L.	9	--	9
Jordanola	31	2	33
Texas-Mission	77	32	109
One Plus Ultra	15	--	15
Nonpariel	270	109	379
Peerless	12	1	13
Others	4	--	4
	<u>463</u>	<u>218</u>	<u>681</u>
<b>Apples</b>			
Delicious-Golden	23	1	24
Delicious-Red	21	1	22
Jonathan	5	--	5
Others	25	2	27
	<u>74</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>78</u>
<b>Apricots</b>			
Elenheim & Royal	19	--	19
Moorpark	1	--	1
Tilton	37	--	37
Others	1	--	1
	<u>58</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>58</u>
<b>Figs</b>			
Black Mission	401	--	401
Calimyrna	440	310	750
White Adriatic	505	249	754
Others	6	--	6
	<u>1,352</u>	<u>559</u>	<u>1,911</u>
<b>Grapes, Raisin</b>			
Muscat	523	102	625
Sultana	54	4	58
Thompson Seedless	13,626	2,014	15,640
Zante Currant	172	1	173
	<u>14,375</u>	<u>2,121</u>	<u>16,496</u>
<b>Grapes, Table</b>			
Cardinal	2	--	2
Cornichon	8	--	8
Emperor	3	--	3
Italia	--	18	18
Malaga	400	--	400
Ribier	24	6	30
	<u>437</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>461</u>

	Bearing Acres	Non-bearing Acres	Total Acres
<b>Grapes, Wine</b>			
Alicante Bouschet	380	2	382
Aleatico	2	---	2
Alvarelho	7	---	7
Barbera	4	---	4
Burger	30	---	30
Carignane	1,642	78	1,720
Feher Szagos	140	---	140
Golden Chasselas	1	---	1
Grenache	261	113	374
Malavoisie	12	---	12
Mataro	55	---	55
Mission	64	---	64
Palomino	442	26	468
Tinta Cao	8	---	8
Tinta Maderia	31	---	31
Touriga	12	---	12
Salvador	3	---	3
Zinfandel	112	14	126
	<u>3,206</u>	<u>233</u>	<u>3,439</u>
<b>Nectarines</b>			
Freedom	---	10	10
John Rivers	27	17	44
Jordana	15	5	20
Le Grand	20	9	29
Panamint	---	1	1
Princess	---	3	3
Quetta	12	24	36
Rose	---	3	3
Sun Grand	---	5	5
Sun Rise	---	9	9
Others	---	10	10
	<u>74</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>170</u>
<b>Olives</b>			
Manzanillo	280	36	316
Mission	99	---	99
Sevillano	60	38	98
Others	7	---	7
	<u>446</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>520</u>
<b>Peaches, Cling</b>			
Carolyn	47	40	87
Cortez	12	40	52
Coy	2	---	2
Fortuna	9	40	49
Giblin	155	40	195
Halford	27	65	92
Howard	---	40	40
Peak	33	---	33
Others	45	---	45
	<u>285</u>	<u>310</u>	<u>595</u>

	Bearing Acres	Non-bearing Acres	Total
<b>Peaches, Freestone</b>			
Blazing Gold	--	8	8
Champion	--	10	10
Curry	1	--	1
Elberta, Early	24	3	27
Elberta	148	53	201
Gold Dust	--	8	8
Gottwald	--	1	1
Hale	40	5	45
Hard October Gems	--	27	27
John Douglas	--	134	134
John G.	--	30	30
Kirkman Gems	550	114	664
Early Kirkman	--	49	49
Late Kirkman	--	88	88
Lovell	19	--	19
Merrill Beauty	8	--	8
Merrill 49'er	--	5	5
Merrill Gems	--	5	5
Merrill Halloween	--	5	5
Merrill Splendor	--	4	4
Muir	12	--	12
Nector	--	15	15
Red Haven	--	49	49
Rio Oso Gem	4	73	77
Others	35	9	44
	<u>841</u>	<u>695</u>	<u>1,536</u>
<b>Plums</b>			
Duarte	16	--	16
El Dorado	27	2	29
Kelsey	24	--	24
Nubiana	--	7	7
Nubiana, Late	--	3	3
Queen Ann	--	10	10
Red Roy	--	3	3
Santa Rosa	52	4	56
Santa Rosa, Late	5	13	18
Standard	8	--	8
Others	--	10	10
	<u>132</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>184</u>
<b>Walnuts, English</b>			
Eureka	32	9	41
Franquette	10	4	14
Hartley	4	111	115
Mayette	2	--	2
Payne	2	8	10
Others	6	23	29
	<u>56</u>	<u>155</u>	<u>211</u>
<b>Walnuts, Black</b>			
Black	--	16	16

Total acres in trees	Bearing	Non-Bearing
Total acres in vines	3,781	2,179
	<u>18,018</u>	<u>2,378</u>
	21,799	4,557

GRAND TOTAL

26,356 acres