

# Alameda County 2005 Crop Report



Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures



# Alameda County Farmers' Markets

Alameda County is home to about 25 certified farmers' markets. These open-air markets are open one or two days per week. Some operate all year and some are only open seasonally. They typically offer a wide variety of fresh fruits, vegetables, nuts, processed food products, and other miscellaneous products. By law fresh fruits, vegetables, and nuts must be certified as being produced by the vendor at the market. This means that the consumer can interact directly with the grower. The markets provide an alternative to traditional stores as a source of fresh and wholesome fruits and vegetables. Many farmers' markets offer organic produce and some are organic-only.



Alameda County has a long history of marketing of fruits and vegetables. Some of the first commercial vegetable producers and fruit growers in California were based in Alameda County. Alameda County continues to be a major center for the trade of agricultural commodities, with more than \$ 1.2 billion worth of agricultural products being shipped annually through the Port of Oakland.

The Oakland Produce Market, pictured below, has a long history as a center of trade for fruits and vegetables in the Bay Area. Currently about 20 produce brokers operate out of an area bounded by 4<sup>th</sup> St. on the North, Embarcadero on the South, Broadway on the West, and Harrison St. on the East.



Oakland Produce Market 1930



Oakland Produce Market 1915

*Photos courtesy of Oakland Public Library*



**James E. Sorensen**  
Agency Director

**ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS AND MEASURES DEPARTMENT**

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A.G. Kawamura, Secretary  
California Department of Food and Agriculture  
and  
The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Alameda, California

June 15, 2006

It gives me great pleasure to submit the 2005 Alameda County Crop Report. In accordance with Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agriculture Code this publication is presented annually and reports statistical information on acreage, yield, and gross value of Alameda County agricultural products.

The 2005 total gross value of Alameda County's agriculture was \$43,951,000 which is the highest since 1999. This figure represents an increase of 9.3% from the 2004 gross production value (\$40,194,000) or \$3,757,000.

Nursery Products was again our highest valued commodity. This category, which includes ornamental trees and shrubs, bedding plants, and indoor decoratives, had an increase of \$3,574,000 (+21%) compared to 2004. Livestock was the next highest valued commodity and had an increase of \$845,000 (+11%). This increase is attributed mainly to stronger market prices during the reporting year. Fruit and Nut Crops was our third valued commodity and had a slight decrease of \$504,000 (-6%) due to the drop in wine grape prices. The value of our vegetable crops was almost unchanged. Field crops totals had a slight decrease of \$159,000 (-3%).

I would like to emphasize that the numbers in this report are gross values only and in no way reflect the net income or loss to producers.

My appreciation and thanks to Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner Gregory Gee, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner John Gouvaia, and our staff for collecting and compiling the data for this report. My thanks also to Janie Chambers for production preparation. As always, I wish to express my appreciation for the cooperation of all agricultural producers, contributing organizations, and those individuals who provided the necessary information for this report.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis F. Bray  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures

# GENERAL ALAMEDA COUNTY INFORMATION

County Seat .....	Oakland
County Population, 2005 .....	1,510,303
Land Area (Square Miles) .....	737.5
Water Area (Square Miles).....	83.8
Persons per Square Mile.....	2,048

## 14 Incorporated Cities

Alameda • Albany • Berkeley • Dublin • Emeryville • Fremont • Hayward  
Livermore • Newark • Oakland • Piedmont • Pleasanton • San Leandro •  
Union City

## 6 Unincorporated Areas

Ashland • Castro Valley • Cherryland • Fairview • San Lorenzo • Sunol

Total Assessed Property (Local Roll – 2005).....	\$167,009,041,170
Total Harvested Crop Acreage (2005).....	198,382

Major Roads .....	Interstate 80, Interstate 580, Interstate 680, Interstate 880, Highway 238, Highway 84, Highway 92, Highway 13
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Elevation .....	Sea level to 3,817 ft. at Rose Peak in the southern part of the County
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Average Climate .....	Mild winters and cool summers near the Bay. The eastern portion of the County is moderately warmer; high temperatures in the Livermore Amador Valley average 90°F in July.
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# ANNUAL CROP REPORT FOR YEAR 2005

## ALAMEDA COUNTY

### ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

*Scott Haggerty, Vice President..... District 1*  
*Gail Steele ..... District 2*  
*Alice Lai-Bitker ..... District 3*  
*Nate Miley..... District 4*  
*Keith Carson, President ..... District 5*

### COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Susan Muranishi

### DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

James E. Sorensen

### AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Dennis F. Bray

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# COMPARISON SUMMARY

	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Field Crops	\$ 4,928,000	\$ 5,087,000	\$ 4,417,000	\$ 4,232,000	\$ 4,485,000
Vegetable Crops	683,000	682,000	451,000	865,000	975,000
Fruit & Nut Crops	8,580,000	9,084,000	7,902,000	5,413,000	10,104,000
Nursery Products	21,065,000	17,491,000	17,730,000	13,599,000	14,008,000
Nursery Cut Flowers	Included in Nursery Products	Included in Nursery Products	Included in Nursery Products	630,000	1,100,000
Livestock & Poultry	8,695,000	7,850,000	6,842,000	5,175,000	5,758,000
Apiary Products	Included in Livestock & Poultry	Included in Livestock & Poultry	Included in Livestock & Poultry	99,000	74,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$43,951,000</b>	<b>\$40,194,000</b>	<b>\$37,342,000</b>	<b>\$30,013,000</b>	<b>\$36,504,000</b>



## FIELD CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Hay, Alfalfa	2005	753	4.37	3,290	Ton	\$145.00	\$ 477,000
	2004	830	7.7	6,430	Ton	130.00	836,000
Hay, Other	2005	4,820	2.5	12,050	Ton	87.00	1,048,000
	2004	3,624	2.75	9,966	Ton	85.00	847,000
Range Pasture	2005	190,000			Acre	17.57	3,338,000
	2004	189,000			Acre	16.37	3,094,000
Miscellaneous	2005	175	Includes sugar beets, safflower, corn silage, barley, oats, wheat, beans, irrigated pasture, etc.				65,000
	2004	1,250					320,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>195,748</b>					<b>4,928,000</b>
	<b>2004</b>	<b>194,704</b>					<b>\$5,087,000</b>

# FRUIT & NUT CROPS

Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
<b>Grapes (Wine)</b>							
Red	2005	1,551	4.17	6,468	Ton	Various	\$ 5,920,000
	2004	1,814	3.18	5,769	Ton	Various	5,735,000
White	2005	618	4.404	2,721	Ton	Various	2,632,000
	2004	712	4.669	3,326	Ton	Various	3,317,000
Misc. Fruit	2005	116	Includes olives, walnuts, etc.				28,400
	2004	165					32,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2,285</b>					<b>8,580,000</b>
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2,691</b>					<b>\$ 9,084,000</b>

# LIVESTOCK & POULTRY

Item	Year	No. of Head	Total Weight	Unit	Per Unit	Total
<b>Cattle and Calves</b>	2005	12,978	86,366	Cwt.	Var.	\$ 8,550,000
	2004	12,436	80,025	Cwt.	Var.	7,682,000
<b>Misc. Poultry and Livestock Products</b>	2005	Includes rabbits, sheep, wool, lambs, hogs, bees and apiary products.				145,000
	2004					168,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2005</b>					<b>8,695,000</b>
	<b>2004</b>					<b>\$ 7,850,000</b>



# NURSERY PRODUCTS

Item	Year	House Sq. Ft.	Field Acres	Quantity Sold	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Ornamental Trees and Shrubs	2005	665,150	197	1,184,279	Plt.	Various	\$18,133,000
	2004	645,150	198	1,407,352	Plt.	Various	14,839,000
Miscellaneous Nursery Products	2005	286,300	65	Includes bedding plants, indoor decoratives, narcissus, peonies, christmas trees, cut flowers, etc.			2,932,000
	2004	286,860	64				2,652,000
TOTAL	2005	951,450	262				21,065,000
	2004	932,010	262				\$17,491,000

# VEGETABLE CROPS

Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Total
Miscellaneous Vegetables	2005	87	\$683,000
	2004	165	\$682,000

Includes broccoli, cabbage, corn, fava beans, leaf lettuce, greens, pumpkins, tomatoes, squash, etc.



**Emeryville stockyards 1915**



**Port of Oakland**

## Pest Detection

7,607 insect detection traps were deployed for exotic insects pests, and serviced 94,907 times during the year.

There were 927 yellow panel traps deployed in urban areas for detection of Glassy-winged Sharpshooter, with 10,277 servicings for the year.

Exotic insect pest finds included 3 Japanese Beetles, 2 Gypsy Moths and 1 Oriental Fruit Fly.

The following economically significant pests were the main targets of this effort: Mediterranean Fruit Fly, Mexican Fruit Fly, Oriental Fruit Fly, Melon Fly, Gypsy Moth, Japanese Beetle, Khapra Beetle, and Glassywinged Sharpshooter.



# SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORTING

## County Biological Control

Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Scope of Program
Yellow Starthistle ( <i>Centaurea solstitialis</i> )	Bangasternus orientalis Eustenopus villosus Urophora sinunaseva Chaetorellia succinea	6 sites

## Organic Farming Statistics

	Number of Registered Organic Producers	Est. Acreage
Miscellaneous Crops	2	73

## Pest Management and Eradication

Pest	Agent/Mechanism	Scope of Program
Puna Grass ( <i>Stipa brachychaeta</i> )	Mechanical	One site/2 acres
Golden Thistle ( <i>Scolymus hispanicus</i> )	Chemical	720 acres

## Pest Exclusion

Inspection of incoming shipments of plant products and other high risk articles to prevent the introduction of pests and diseases harmful to California's agricultural industry. 488 Glassy-winged sharpshooter (GWSS) traps were deployed in various nurseries, with 6,489 servicings for the year.

Type of Shipment	Number Inspected	Number Rejected
Parcel Carriers (Post Office, UPS, Federal Express, Etc.)	19,904	132
Trucks	776	9
Household Goods (for Gypsy Moth)	129	1
	Shipments Incoming	Number Rejected
GWSS	5,084	9

## Equine Statistics\*

Resources did not allow for an active field inventory of equine for 2005 and a reporting process remains in preliminary stages. 8,000 horses can be accounted for in Alameda County, however, numbers may be as high as 13,000. Horses are used in a number of categories including: recreation, non-racing competition, working, racing, breeding and other uses. Future reporting will contain this information along with arena, stall and acreage information. Most importantly, we hope to illustrate the economic benefit the equine industry contributes to the entire county. Our project is a continuing process of designing a system to accurately gather this data.

**ALAMEDA COUNTY**  
**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/SEALER**  
**STAFF**

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**Agricultural Commissioner**  
**Sealer of Weights and Measures**

Dennis F. Bray

**Assistant Agricultural Commissioner**

James D. Newey

**Chief Deputy Sealer of Weights and Measures**

Joseph J. Ayres

**Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner**

Gregory Gee

**Deputy Agricultural Commissioners**

Ronnie Eaton

John Gouvaia

**Pest Detection Supervisor**

Cheryl Mailho

**Agricultural Biologists**

Robert Blumenthal

Edwin De Villa

Edmund Duarte

Patricia Hunt

Blane Manchester

Kenneth Peek

Tadeusz Pieslak

Alcides Reyes

Cathy Roache

Raghubinder Sahota

James Smith

Ashenafi Tadesse

Michelle Trudeau

Rene Vega

**Weights and Measures Inspectors**

William Alejandro

Brent Faria

Estella Harris

Ronald Hasemeyer

Frank Jensen

**Weights and Measures Assistants**

Ivan Gallo

Eric Forsberg

**Pest Detection Specialists**

Mohamed Elhashash

Carmen Franke

Jonathan Gomes

Joanne Greer

Anand Shankar

**Insect Trappers/Seasonal**

Lisa Centoni

Mikael Dooha

Sean Eckert

Sandra Frost

Shawn Harrild

Seth Mariconi

Bridget Mooney

Leslie Morra

Rhonda Nave

Reed O'Donnell

Kristi Ojigbo

Anni Pattee

Lloyd Petroelje

Rudy Raras

Ryan Reed

Justin Riggs

Tim Ryan

Shawn Seufert

Dereje Tamerat

**Clerical Support**

Cora Robles, Secretary II

Kristy Garcia

Oscar Magtibay

Sabina Munoz

Clarice Walker

# Certified Farmers' Markets (CFM) in Alameda County

## **BAYFAIR MALL CFM**

*California Farmers'  
Market Association  
Bayfair Mall  
Year Round*

## **CENTERVILLE CFM**

*Centerville Business  
Association  
Bonde Way at Fremont Blvd  
Seasonal*

## **EAST OAKLAND CFM**

*East Oakland Faith  
Deliverance Center  
73rd Ave &  
International Blvd  
Year Round*

## **SATURDAY BERKELEY CFM**

*Ecology Center  
Center & MLK Jr Wy  
Year Round*

## **TUESDAY BERKELEY CFM**

*Derby between  
MLK Jr Wy & Milvia  
Year Round*

## **NORTH SHATTUCK CFM**

*Shattuck Ave & Rose St  
Year Round*

## **EAST OAKLAND**

### **SENIOR CENTER CFM**

*Friends of Oakland Seniors  
9255 Edes Ave at Jones Ave  
Year Round*

## **MILLSMONT CFM**

*Me Too Youth  
Foundation  
Macarthur Blvd between  
Seminary and 61st Ave  
Seasonal*

## **MANDELA CFM**

*Familyhood Connection  
5th & Mandela Parkway  
Oakland  
Year Round*

## **FREMONT CFM**

*Marin County  
Farmers' Market Association  
Fremont Blvd and Bay St  
Year Round*

## **HAYWARD CFM**

*Main & B Sts  
Year Round*

## **GRAND LAKE CFM**

*Splash Pad Park  
Grand Ave & Macarthur Blvd  
Year Round*

## **JACK LONDON SQUARE CFM**

*Pacific Coast Market  
Association  
Jack London Square  
Oakland  
Year Round*

## **ALAMEDA CFM**

*Taylor and Webster Sts  
Year Round*

## **PLEASANTON CFM**

*W. Angela and Main  
Year Round*

## **KAISER-OAKLAND CFM**

*3601 Howe St  
Oakland  
Year Round*

## **KAISER-FREMONT CFM**

*39400 Paseo Padre Parkway  
Fremont  
Year Round*

## **KAISER-HAYWARD CFM**

*27400 Hesperian  
Hayward  
Year Round*

## **KAISER-UNION CITY CFM**

*3555 Whipple Rd  
Union City  
Year Round*

## **LIVERMORE CFM**

*2nd St Plaza  
Seasonal*

## **UNION CITY CFM**

*Smith St & Watkins St  
Year Round*

## **FRUITVALE CFM**

*The Unity Council  
34th Avenue & E. 12th St  
Oakland  
Year Round*

## **OLD OAKLAND CFM**

*Urban Village Farmers'  
Market Association  
9th between Clay & Broadway  
Oakland  
Year Round*

## **MONTCLAIR VILLAGE CFM**

*LaSalle Ave between  
Mountain Blvd &  
Moraga Ave  
Oakland  
Year Round*

## **CASTRO VALLEY CFM**

*Urban Village Farmers'  
Market Association  
BART parking lot  
Redwood Rd & Norbridge Ave  
Castro Valley  
Seasonal*

A link to the current listing of all Alameda County farmers' markets can be found on our web page at [www.acgov.org/cda/awm/agprogrms/commercial/market.htm](http://www.acgov.org/cda/awm/agprogrms/commercial/market.htm)