The background of the cover is a photograph of a green rolling hill. In the upper portion, three white wind turbines are visible against a pale sky. In the lower portion, a highway runs across the frame with a white semi-truck and several smaller cars. The text is overlaid on the hill.

Alameda County 2009 Crop Report

**Department
of
Agriculture/Weights and Measures**



**ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

DENNIS F. BRAY - COMMISSIONER

SCOTT T. PAULSEN - ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

224 W. WINTON AVENUE, ROOM 184, HAYWARD, CA 94544
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A.G. Kawamura, Secretary
California Department of Food and Agriculture
and
The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Alameda, California

July 8, 2010

It is my pleasure to present the 2009 Alameda County Crop Report. In accordance with Sections 2272 and 2279 of the California Food and Agricultural Code this publication is presented annually and reports statistical information on acreage, yield, and gross value of Alameda County agricultural products.

The 2009 total gross value of Alameda County's agriculture was \$37,167,000. This figure is a decrease of \$4,018,000 (9.8%) from the 2008 gross production value of \$41,185,000.

Fruit and Vegetable crops, for the first time, ranked number one in gross production value at \$14,144,000. This was an increase of \$5,372,000 (61.2%) over last year due primarily to increased yields of wine grapes. Down significantly for a second straight year, Nursery products valued at \$13,679,000 moved into second place. This category, which includes ornamental trees and shrubs, bedding plants, and indoor decoratives, had a decrease of \$5,638,000 (29.2%) compared to 2008 due to reduced sales of ornamental trees and shrubs. Livestock was the third highest valued commodity valued at \$4,775,000, which was a significant decrease of \$3,038,000 (38.9%) from the previous year due to reduction in the number of head.

I would like to emphasize that the numbers in this report are gross values only and do not reflect costs related to production, harvesting, marketing, or transportation. It is also important to note that the overall local economic benefit of our agricultural production is generally thought to be about three times the gross production value.

I sincerely appreciate the cooperation of all the agricultural producers, contributing organizations, and those individuals in Alameda County who provided the necessary information for this report. I would also like to thank all the members of our staff whose hard work and dedication made this report possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis F. Bray
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights and Measures

Annual Crop Report for Year 2009

ALAMEDA COUNTY

Alameda County Board of Supervisors

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

County Administrative Officer

Susan Muranishi

Director, Community Development Agency

Chris Bazar

Deputy Director

Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures

Dennis F. Bray

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ALAMEDA COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE/WEIGHTS & MEASURES
Staff

Deputy Director
Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer of Weights and Measures
Dennis F. Bray

Assistant Deputy Director
Gregory L. Gee

Assistant Deputy Director
Scott T. Paulsen

Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
Robert Blumenthal

Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
Cathy J. Roache

Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
Ronnie K. Eaton

Deputy Sealer of Weights & Measures
Ronald C. Hasemeyer

Agricultural Biologists

Lisa Centoni
Edwin De Villa
Edmund Duarte
Patricia Hunt

Blane Manchester
Kenneth Peek
Tadeusz Pieslak
Alcides Reyes

Justin Riggs
Raghubinder Sahota
Ashenafi Tadesse
Michelle Trudeau

Weights and Measures Inspectors

William Alejandro
Brent Faria

Eric Forsberg
Ivan Gallo
Estella Harris

Frank Jensen
Rodolfo Raras

Pest Detection Supervisor

Cheryl Mailho

Pest Detection Specialists

Mohamed Elhashash
Carmen Franke

Jonathan Gomes
Joanne Greer

Anand Shankar

Insect Trappers/Seasonal

Andrew Ackerman
Sean Eckert
Gavin Edward
Ana Galvis-Martinez
Amare Haileselassie

Mohamed Haj
Darin Hoagland
Mohamed Khair
John Kransky
Khang Lam

Seth Mariconi
Jackie McCort
Bridget Mooney
Rhonda Nave
Reed O'Donnell

Claire Perkins
Lloyd Petroelje
Victor Rabinovich
Nikkolas Radey
Arisa Soontraviratana

Dereje Tamerat

Clerical Support

Ricca Alcantara

Suzette Morgado

Cora Robles

Clarice Walker

FIELD CROPS							
Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Hay, Alfalfa	2009	259	5.73	1,483	Ton	\$129.54	\$192,000.00
	2008	495	5.32	2,635	Ton	\$203.00	\$535,000.00
Hay, Other	2009	4,480	1.80	8,061	Ton	\$82.59	\$666,000.00
	2008	3,795	1.59	6,020	Ton	\$110.37	\$664,000.00
Range & Pasture	2009	183,000			Acre	\$14.25	\$2,608,000.00
	2008	189,000			Acre	\$17.03	\$3,219,000.00
Miscellaneous	2009	293	Includes sugar beets, safflower, corn silage, barley, oats, wheat, beans, irrigated pasture, etc.				\$265,000.00
	2008	10					\$120,000.00
Total	2009	188,032					\$3,731,000.00
	2008	193,300					\$4,538,000.00

FRUIT & NUT CROPS							
Crop	Year	Bearing Acreage	Per Acre	Total	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Grapes, Wine Red	2009	1,752	4.85	8,503	Ton	Various	\$9,778,000.00
	2008	2,019	3.60	7,265	Ton	Various	\$7,234,000.00
Grapes, Wine White	2009	658	5.49	3,607	Ton	Various	\$4,247,000.00
	2008	507	4.24	2,152	Ton	Various	\$1,352,000.00
Misc. Fruit & Nut	2009	213	Includes olives, walnuts, strawberry, etc.				\$119,000.00
	2008	295					\$186,000.00
Total	2009	2,623					\$14,144,000.00
	2008	2,821					\$8,772,000.00

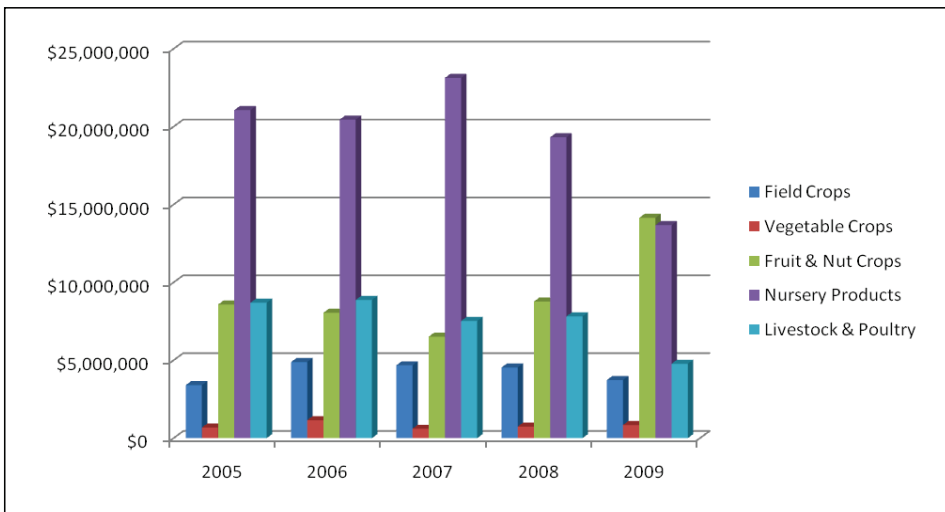
VEGETABLE CROPS						
Crop	Year	Harvested Acreage				Total
Miscellaneous	2009	83	Includes broccoli, cabbage, corn, fava beans, leaf lettuce, greens, pumpkins, tomatoes, squash, etc.			\$838,000.00
Vegetables	2008	74				\$745,000.00

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY						
Item	Year	No. of Head	Total Weight	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Cattle & Calves	2009	8,342	50,627	Cwt.	Various	\$4,650,000.00
	2008	13,235	81,276	Cwt.	Various	\$7,757,000.00
Misc. Poultry and Livestock Products	2009	Includes rabbits, sheep, wool, lambs, hogs, bees and apiary products				\$125,000.00
	2008				\$56,000.00	
Total	2009					\$4,775,000.00
	2008					\$7,813,000.00

NURSERY PRODUCTS							
Item	Year	House Sq. Ft.	Field Acres	Quantity Sold	Unit	Per Unit	Total
Ornamental Trees and Shrubs	2009	705,150	163	879,676	Plant	Various	\$12,564,000.00
	2008	775,150	211	1,154,482	Plant	Various	\$18,310,000.00
Miscellaneous Nursery Products	2009	311,800	10	Includes bedding plants, indoor decoratives, narcissus, peonies, Christmas trees, cut flowers, etc.			\$1,115,000.00
	2008	253,100	54			\$1,007,000.00	
Total	2009	1,016,950	173				\$13,679,000.00
	2008	1,028,250	265				\$19,317,000.00

COMPARISON SUMMARY, 2005 - 2009

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Field Crops	\$3,731,000	\$4,538,000	\$4,674,000	\$4,883,000	\$3,403,000
Vegetable Crops	838,000	745,000	601,000	1,153,000	683,000
Fruit & Nut Crops	14,144,000	8,772,000	6,516,000	8,049,000	8,580,000
Nursery Products	13,679,000	19,317,000	23,130,000	20,451,000	21,065,000
Livestock & Poultry	4,775,000	7,813,000	7,520,000	8,876,000	8,695,000
Totals	\$37,167,000	\$41,185,000	\$42,441,000	\$43,412,000	\$42,426,000



SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE REPORT

COUNTY BIOLOGICAL CONTROL		
Biological control (biocontrol) is the reduction of pest populations through the use of natural enemies such as parasitoids, predators, pathogens, antagonists, or competitors.		
PEST	AGENTS	SCOPE OF PROGRAM
YELLOW STARHISTLE <i>(Centaurea solstitialis)</i>	Bud Weevil (<i>Bangasternus orientalis</i>)	Most areas of county
	Seedhead Gall Fly (<i>Urophora sirunaseva</i>)	Most areas of county
	Seedhead Fly (<i>Chaetorellia</i> spp.)	Most areas of county
	Hairy Weevil (<i>Eustenopus villosus</i>)	Most areas of county
	Rust Fungus (<i>Puccinia jaceae</i> var. <i>solstitialis</i>)	Released in 3 areas

ORGANIC FARMING		
CROP	REGISTERED PRODUCERS	ESTIMATED ACREAGE
Miscellaneous	3	75

URBAN FARMING		
TYPE	NUMBER	ESTIMATED ACREAGE
Community Gardens	15	45
School Gardens	190	65

PEST MANAGEMENT AND ERADICATION

Weeds (Common Name/Scientific Name)		Control Method	Scope of Program (No. Sites / Treated Acres)
Puna Grass	<i>Stipa brachychaeta</i>	Mechanical removal	1 Site / 2 Acres
Golden Thistle	<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	Monitoring	720 Acres
Iberian Thistle	<i>Centaurea iberica</i>	Chemical/Mechanical	1 Site / 10 Acres
Dalmatian Toadflax	<i>Linaria genistifolia</i>	Mechanical removal	1 Site / 1 Acre
Japanese Dodder	<i>Cuscuta japonica</i>	Mechanical removal	34 Sites
Artichoke Thistle	<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	Chemical/Mechanical	Many sites / 45 acres
Purple Star Thistle	<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	Chemical/Mechanical	Many sites / 18 acres
Pampas Grass	<i>Corederia selloana</i>	Chemical/Mechanical	1 site / 2 acres
Lens-Podded Hoary Cress	<i>Cardaria chalepensis</i>	Chemical/Mechanical	4 sites / 5 acres
White Horsenettle	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	Chemical/Mechanical	2 sites / 0.5 acres
Rush Skeletonweed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Mechanical removal	1 site / 0.1 acre
Invasive Spartina	<i>Spartina</i> spp.	Chemical/Mechanical	3 sites / 30 acres

PEST EXCLUSION

Pest exclusion is the first line of defense to prevent detrimental, non-native pests from entering the county. The County Agriculture Department inspects shipments of plant products and other high-risk articles daily at various shipping terminals to enforce quarantines intended to prevent the introduction of harmful pests.

TYPE OF SHIPMENT	SHIPMENTS INSPECTED	SHIPMENTS REJECTED
PARCEL CARRIER TRUCKS	11,415	241 (180 pests)
HOUSEHOLD GOODS	141	2 (0 viable pests)
NURSERY	3,814	4

LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH PROGRAM

COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS	621
TRAPS IN NURSERIES	53 (No female adults found)
BUSINESSES UNDER COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT	
CROP PRODUCERS	7
COMMUNITY GARDENS/DIRECT MARKETS	33
RETAIL AND PRODUCTION NURSERIES	166
GREENWASTE FACILITIES	40

PEST DETECTION

Pest detection is the second line of defense to prevent detrimental, non-native pests from becoming established within a large area – say, an entire county or state – when it is not believed practical to eradicate a pest throughout the whole area. Insect traps are placed and monitored to detect whether a pest is present in a particular location.

TARGET PEST	HOSTS	NUMBER OF TRAP SERVICINGS
Mediterranean fruit fly	Fruit trees	87,345
Mexican fruit fly	Fruit trees	
Melon fruit Fly	Vegetable gardens	
Oriental fruit fly	Fruit trees	
Other fruit flies	Fruit trees and vegetables	
Gypsy moth	Shade trees	
Japanese beetle	Turf, Roses	
European pine shoot moth	Pine trees	
Trogoderma beetle	High-hazard articles	
Glassy-winged sharpshooter	Landscape and nursery plants	13,898
Light brown apple moth	Ornamental and commercial crops	23,395

Finds of targeted pests in 2009 included 1 Oriental fruit fly in Fremont and 43,391 Light brown apple moths throughout the county. The County Agriculture Department deployed a total of 7,197 traps to detect the presence of non-native insect pests, and serviced the traps 124,638 times during the year.

EQUINE STATISTICS

Commercial use of horses is now considered an agricultural use for purposes of the Williamson Act. This category includes the breeding and training of race horses, competition horses, and ranch horses for the purpose of commercial sale.

TYPE	NUMBER
Race Horses	2000
Competition Horses	1000
Ranch Horses	1500
Recreation / Pleasure*	5000

*Ineligible for Williamson Act as being of economic benefit to agriculture; however, this category of horses is recognized for its ancillary benefit.

General Alameda County Information

County Seat.....	Oakland
County Population, 2009	1,556,657
Land Area (Square Miles)	737.5
Water Area (Square Miles)	83.8
Persons Per Square Mile	2,111

14 Incorporated Cities

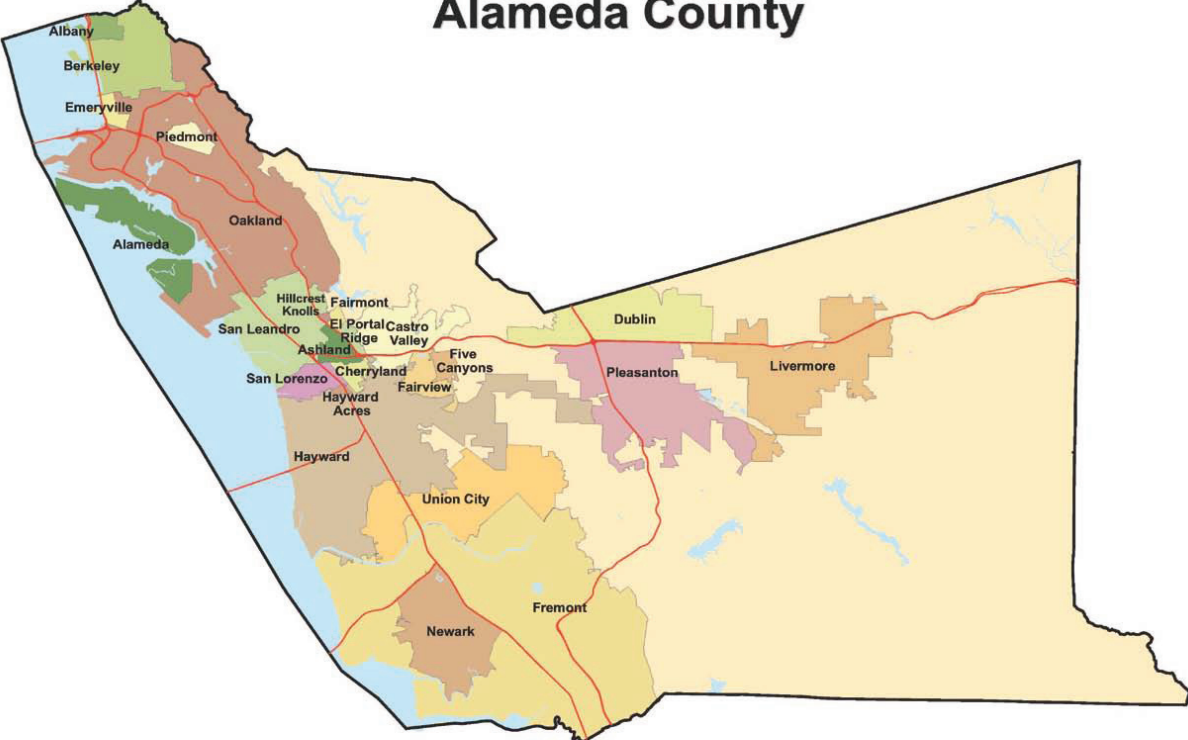
Alameda • Albany • Berkeley • Dublin • Emeryville • Fremont • Hayward • Livermore
Newark • Oakland • Piedmont • Pleasanton • San Leandro • Union City

6 Unincorporated Areas

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

Total Assessed Property Value (Lien date Jan. 1, 2010)....	\$199,686,160,435
Total Harvested Crop Acreage	190,934
Major Roads	Interstate 80, Interstate 580, Interstate 680, Interstate 880, Highway 238, Highway 84, Highway 92, Highway 13
Elevation	Sea level to 3,817 feet at Rose Peak in southern part of county
Average Climate	Mild winters and cool summers near San Francisco Bay. The eastern portion of the county is moderately warmer; high temperatures in the Livermore-Amador Valley average 90°F in July.

Alameda County



ALAMEDA COUNTY

Mission

To enrich the lives of Alameda County residents through visionary policies and accessible, responsive, and effective services.

Vision

Alameda County is recognized as one of the best counties in which to live, work, and do business.

Values

Integrity, honesty, and respect fostering mutual trust.

Transparency and accountability achieved through open communications and involvement of diverse community voices.

Fiscal stewardship reflecting the responsible management of resources.

Customer service built on commitment, accessibility, and responsiveness.

Excellence in performance based on strong leadership, teamwork and a willingness to take risks.

Diversity recognizing the unique qualities of every individual and his or her perspective.

Environmental stewardship to preserve, protect and restore our natural resources.

Social responsibility promoting self-sufficiency, economic independence and an interdependent system of care and support.

Compassion ensuring all people are treated with respect, dignity, and fairness.

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